# LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

Ninth Session (Fourteenth Lok Sabha)



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## LOK SABHA DEBATES

#### **LOK SABHA**

Monday, November 27, 2006/Agrahayana 6, 1928 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

# WELCOME TO MOROCCAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I wish to inform you that we have the pleasure of visit by very distinguished guests here.

On behalf of the Hon. Members of the House and on my own behalf, I have great pleasure in welcoming His Excellency Mr. Abdelwahed Radi, President of the House of Representatives and the members of the Moroccan Parliamentary Delegation who are on a visit to India as our honoured guests.

They arrived in India on Sunday, 26 November, 2006. They are now seated in the Special Box. We wish them a happy and fruitful stay in our country. Through them we convey our greetings and best wishes to His Majesty the King Mohammed VI, the Parliament, the Government and the friendly people of the Kingdom of Morocco.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you to raise it after the Question Hour.

...(Interruptions)

DR. M. JAGANNATH (Nagar Kurnooi): Sir, please allow me to raise a very important matter. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There is a time for everything. If you sit quietly, I will give you a chance to raise it after the Question Hour. If you do not disturb now, I will give you a chance.

....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Ram Gopal ji, you know about it better than me.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

DR. M. JAGANNATH: Mr. Speaker, Sir. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Jagannath, will you please take your seat? Please do justice to yourself. I will give you a chance at 12 o' clock.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV (Sambhai): Mr. Speaker, Sir, shall I get a chance or not? ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will give you a chance. I have committed. I will allow him at 12 o' clock. My friend, please take your seat. You have not spoken earlier. Please do not be misguided by some of my friends.

Now, Q. No. 61 - Shri Abdul Rashid Shaheen.

...(Interruptions)

DR. M. JAGANNATH: Mr. Speaker. Sir. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What are you trying to do? Tell me.

DR. M. JAGANNATH: Sir, the hon. Labour Minister has made a statement ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Will you please take your seat now? I would not give you any opportunity at 12 o' clock. Nothing is being recorded.

(Interruptions)...\*

MR. SPEAKER: You are behaving like a child.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have said that I would allow you at 12 o' clock. You are disturbing the House.

...(Interruptions)

<sup>\*</sup> Not recorded

DR. M. JAGANNATH: Sir, I never wanted to disturb the House. The Minister has made a statement. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is being recorded. I would not give you any chance. Not even one word will go on record.

(Interruptions)...\*

MR. SPEAKER: All right, you go on. I will ask the hon. Members to decide what to do.

...(Interruptions)

DR. M. JAGANNATH: Sir, please give me one minute. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will not allow half a second to you. Will you sit down now?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You deserve something more.

[Translation]

This is not the place to joke.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow that serious concern to be raised after the Question Hour.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Jagannath, I warn you. I am giving you a third warning.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is impossible to tolerate this.

...(Interruptions)

DR. M. JAGANNATH: Sir, the Ministers are coming and making statements. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Will you sit down now? Let all the hon. Members decide what to do. Please do not record.

(Interruptions)...\*

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Jagannath, you are wasting the valuable time of the House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will name him today.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)...\*

MR. SPEAKER: What are you trying to do Dr. Jagannath? I have promised that I will give you a chance at 12 noon. In spite of other hon. Members also saying that the hon. Visitors are here, you are unnecessarily creating scenes and disturbing the House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You have lost your senses. Country's image, country's problems; nothing matters to you. This Parliament is a matter of your playing thing.

...(Interruptions)

DR. M. JAGANNATH: Sir, it is a very serious matter.

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry, I will not allow you to speak now. It is the valuable time of the Question Hour; and you are wasting it.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Shaheen, please put your Supplementary.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Jagannath, You think, you are getting a great cherish by this.

DR. M. JAGANNATH: No. Sir. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Jagannath, take your seat now.

11.03 hrs.

## **ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Abdul Rashid Shaheen, Q. No. 61

<sup>\*</sup> Not recorded

<sup>\*</sup> Not recorded

#### **Employment Opportunities**

+

## \*61. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

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

- (a) the number of employment opportunities generated under the new economic reforms during the financial year;
- (b) the target of employment opportunities to be generated during the next financial year; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government on the achievement of the targets fixed?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

Reliable estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained through quinquennial National Sample Surveys carried out by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO). Last such survey for which results have been published relates to the year 2004-05. As per these surveys, the employment, as per usual status approach which was of the order of 397 million in 1999-2000 has gone up to 459 million in 2004-05. On an average, therefore, around 12.4 million persons were provided employment per year during the period 2000-05.

Tenth Plan envisaged creation of around 50 million employment opportunities; 30 million through normal growth process and 20 million through special employment generation schemes. Therefore, on an average, 10 million employment opportunities were envisaged per year.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Sir, the hon. Minister has given a very simple answer to this very serious Question. The two questions were previously put in this Parliament. It contains their answers; and one simple addition that the Government had achieved, and which they have provided, was the figure of 12.4 million jobs per year, which they have provided.

Well, in the same answer, it has been mentioned that the Planning Commission had envisaged 10 million jobs per year. So, it is a happy news that the Government has created 12.4 million jobs per year. If it is a firm statement, i would like to know from the Government that how is it that the numbers in the unemployment sector and in the employment exchanges are swelling up right from 27 million to 49 million when there is also a retrenchment in the farm workers by nine per cent, which means that 19 million workers have been retrenched; and the other sectors have not been addressed? We are also looking that there are suicidal deaths because of unemployment.

MR. SPEAKER: Please put your question. It is not a matter of debate now.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Sir, one of the researches shows that 68.4 per cent people are unemployed. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister that if he has given the firm figure, what are the methods by which it has been calculated; and what are the plans they have adopted for achieving it?

MR. SPEAKER: Please. Question Hour is for eliciting information and not for making speeches. You have to be very pointed.

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir. there has been a rapid growth in the economy of our country, and we have taken various measures. For example, we have taunched the Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. The other major developmental schemes that we have taunched for villagers include Bharat Nirman and the Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana. So, there are several schemes, which we have taunched, which have greatly benefited the people of this country.

Sir, the target fixed was 10 million job, which we have achieved. Rather, we have crossed over to 12.4 million jobs in this country, and in the next Five Year Plan, we have a larger target.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister that what are the plans for skill upgradation into the labour sector, which can enable them to enter into the job market, as the infrastructural development is picking pace very fast.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, silence please.

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Sir, we are upgrading our I.T.Is in the country. In the first phase, we had taken up 100 I.T.Is and in the coming years, in the second phase, we are upgrading another 400 I.T.Is to bring them at par with world class technology.

At the same time, just in the morning, I had a

convention with the European Union. They and India are cooperating to upgrade the skills of our labours with the cooperation of CIL

## [Translation]

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SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to tell the hon'ble Minister that the unemployment is increasing with such a pace that the people of the villages all over the country are migrating to urban centers. In reply to the question the hon'ble Minister has told about the extent of increase in unemployment and the rate at which it is increasing. I would like to know from the Minister the number of unemployed as on date in the country and the rate at which it is further increasing. Along with that I would also like to know whether the Government propose to provide unemployment allowance to the people in view of the increasing unemployment as is being done by the popular government of Uttar Pradesh under the Chief Ministership of hon'ble Mulayam Singh.

## [English]

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: We do not have any particular scheme at the moment to provide unemployment allowances. On the contrary, we would like to give employment to the people for which we have launched a Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. We have now covered 200 districts. We have a plan further to increase it to other districts as well.

MR. SPEAKER: Please put specific question and get specific answer. I would not allow more than five supplementaries.

#### [Translation]

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, just now hon'ble Minister has told that efforts are being made to generate employment every year. I would like to bring it to the notice of the hon'ble Minister that every year staffs and workers in Coal India Limited and SAIL are being retrenched. Ten years back 7 lakh workers were working in it, however, now their number has reduced to only 4 fakh 50 thousand. Likewise similar is situation in CIL. 30 percent employees have been retrenched in nearly 10 years. I would like to ask the hon'ble Minister whether the Government propose to give instructions to both the public sector undertakings to stop the retrenchment of staffs.

#### [English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is a very pointed and brief supplementary. Thank you.

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES. Various sectors are following various technologies by which there is every chance of reduction in the labour. But ultimately the productivity of each company has to be increased if we have to keep the economy of the country growing. If in one sector there is reduction of labour, then, definitely, in the other sector the labour engagement will increase, and we are on the rise as far as the economy is concerned. Now we are able to achieve growth in economy at the rate of eight per cent and above. When it goes to 10 per cent, definitely there will be a marked increase in employment in the country.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri Adhir Chowdhury, you put a very specific question.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: As per the statement, the Minister has stated that employment, as per usual status approach which was of the order of 397 million in the year 1999-2000, has gone up to 459 million. I think the Minister must admit that there are other parameters also that are absent in terms of current weekly status and current days status. The Minister also admits that the growth of economy is now around eight per cent. It is not in commensurate with the growth of employment because India is a labour surplus economy. As employment is a Concurrent Subject, may I ask the hon. Minister which States are lagging behind in generating employment?

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Sir, India is basically on rural employment and our effort, as I have said, is to take employment to every State rather than our saying that in major States there is less opportunity. Our effort is to see that all the States are covered and uniformly employment increases.

#### [Translation]

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell the hon'ble Minister that the youth in Jharkhand are heading towards extremism due to unemployment. They have taken shelter in forests after getting themselves fully armed with rifles and guns because even after 50 years of independence they do not have any means to earn even Rs. 1500 to 2000 in their villages. So I would like to ask the hon'ble Minister whether the Government are making efforts to formulate any scheme to provide suitable employment to youth who are either migrating to cities from their villages or are heading towards extremism so that they could earn their livelihood in their villages and support their families. Secondly by what time it will be done.

#### [English]

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Sir. our entire effort is

to Questions

to bring the dropouts back to the mainstream, provide them technical education so that they would be gainfully engaged. As far as Jharkhand is concerned, I think there will be more and more employment opportunities provided in the State of Jharkhand so that the problem raised by the hon. Member that the people are fleeing to other activities, we can arrest it and provide them employment.

#### [Translation]

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SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Sir, my question is that the unemployment is drastically increasing in the country and till now we have failed to check it. I would like to know the time by which employment is likely to be provided to youth registered in the employment exchanges all over the country especially in Uttar Pradesh.

## [English]

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Sir, employment is not only the responsibility of the Centre but it is also the responsibility of the States as well. As and when the industries develop in the States, people from the rural areas will get into industries. Today about 65 to 70 per cent of the people are engaged in rural employment, agriculture and so on. We need more technical institutions by which we can see that the rural youth are able to get technical education and they will be absorbed and the effort is on both by the centre and the States in providing education to the youth.

SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA: Thank you, Sir. There is a ban on recruitment in Government service and in PSUs. I would like to know the total number of candidates who are at present seeking employment on compassionate grounds in place of those who died in harness while working in Government and in the PSUs and whether the Government would take steps to provide employment to these persons.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you collect the information and give it to the hon. Member.

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Thank you, Sir.

#### [Translation]

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, when the issue of reforms and implementation is raised then

## [English]

The Government announces some programme and gives some advertisement. It is a very serious matter in Maharashtra.

#### [Translation]

When it comes to implementation, fraudulent activities increase. You are all aware that a scam is taking place in the Ministry of labour similar to the stamp paper scamp of Telgi related to the Ministry of Finance. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask question.

#### [English]

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Sir, I am directly coming to the Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Please do so.

## [Translation]

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Mr. Speaker, Sir\* ...(Interruptions)

#### [English]

MR. SPEAKER: No, I am sorry. I cannot allow. No Notice is there. You know that. You have been a Minister.

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Sir, I have met the hon. Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: Very well. Maybe you met the Minister. You are also a Minister.

#### ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not violate the rules.

#### [Translation]

#### **Consumer Cases**

\*62. SHRIMATI KALPNA RAMESH NARHIRE: SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI:

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

- (a) whether the half-yearly review regarding the number of cases pending in the consumer courts has been made recently:
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of complaints received, disposed of and pending with the National Consumer Commission as on date;
- (c) whether any action plan has been prepared; for speedy disposal of the pending complaints;
  - (d) if so, the details thereof;

<sup>\*</sup> Not recorded

to Questions

the quantum of funds allocated to the States to set up consumer fora in the States; and

Oral Answers

the details of consumer fora constituted by such States?

#### [English]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRI-BUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the house.

Disposal of cases filed in the Consumer Fora **(a)** are being monitored/reviewed on a regular basis.

#### Details are as follows:-**(b)**

Cases filed since inception	Cases disposed of since inception	Cases pending	% of total disposal
45375	36928	8447	81.38%

(c) and (d) The Consumer Protection Act, 1986 and the Rules & Regulations framed thereunder stipulate time norms for disposal of cases by the Consumer Fora.

In order to facilitate the National Commission in speedy disposal of cases Government have taken the following measures:-

- A project for computerization and computer networking of the National Commission and other consumer fora has been initiated to promote e-governance. transparency, efficiency and systematizing of working of Consumer Fora.
- (ii) The number of posts of Members in the National Commission has been increased from five to nine to facilitate constitution of more Benches.
- (iii) The National Commission has been empowered to hold Circuit Benches at eleven notified places outside Delhi.
- **(e)** The State Governments are responsible for setting up State Commissions and District Fora in their respective States as per the Consumer Protection Act, 1986. However, in order to supplement the efforts of the State Governments in strengthening/meeting the gaps in infrastructure of the Consumer Fora, the Central Government has extended a grant of Rs.61.80 crores

during 1995-99, Rs.10.20 crores during 2004-05 and Rs.13.49 crores so far during the current financial year, to State Governments.

The number of Consumer Fora set up in each State/UT is given in the Annexure.

#### Annexure

SI. No.	Name of State/ UTs	No. of State Commission	No. of District Fora
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	1	29
2	Andaman and Nicoba Islands	r 1	1
3	Arunachai Pradesh	1	16
4	Assam	1	23
5	Bihar	1	38
6	Chandigarh	1	2
7	Chhattisgarh	1	16
8	Dadra and Nagar Hav	reli 1	1
9	Daman and Diu	1	2
10	Delhi	1	10
11	Goa	1	2
12	Gujarat	1	26
13	Haryana	1	19
14	Himachal Pradesh	1	12
15	Jammu and Kashmir	1	2
16	Jharkhand	1	22
17	Karnataka	1	30
18	Kerala	1	14
19	Lakshadweep	1	1
20	Madhya Pradesh	1	45
21	Maharashtra	1	38
22	Manipur	1	8
23	Meghalaya	1	7
24	Mizoram	1	8
25	Nagaland	1	11
26	Orissa	1	31
27	Pondicherry	1	1

1	2	3	4
28	Punjab	1	17
29	Rajasthan	1	33
30	Sikkim	1	4
31	Tamil Nadu	1	30
32	Tripura	1	4
33	Uttar Pradesh	1	70
34	Uttaranchai	1	13
35	West Bengal	1	21
	Total	35	607

#### [Translation]

SH.RIMATI KALPNA RAMESH NARHIRE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per the report of 30 November, 2005 the number of cases registered with the National Commission of Maharashtra State was 32,465 and out of those cases only 18, 274 cases were disposed and as per the report of 30 September, 2005 Maharashtra district Fora has registered a total of 1,64,450 cases and out of these only 1,45,786 cases have been disposed.

Sir, I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister the reason for proportional fall in the disposal of consumer cases in Maharashtra?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: The situation is not like that.

#### [English]

Sir, 81.31 per cent cases have already been disposed. Practically, most of the States are doing well. In fact, in some of the States where there were certain problems because of vacancies of some judges, vacancies of the members and non-availability of infrastructure, we are trying to contact the States. The Government of India has taken this particular subject with various States and we have requested them to complete this and expedite the work. The overall performance in respect of three States is quite good. That includes Maharashtra also.

MR. SPEAKER: The implementation is done by the State Government.

## [Translation]

SHRIMATI KALPNA RAMESH NARHIRE: I would like to know whether the Government have received the Statewise details of consumers related cases and whether there has been delay in disposal of cases within stipulated time limit?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: This is right. As far the position of the states is concerned I have information till 21 November 2006. As per the information the average of overall disposal of cases in the states of the country as on date is 71.53. As far the cases of Maharashtra is concerned, the percent of total disposal is 56.65. If the Members want to get the information about other States as well, I am ready to lay the information on the Table of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Srichand Kriplani - Not present.

Shri Raghuraj Singh Shakya.

SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if a consumer moves the Court for the settlement of a dispute over a commodity worth Rs. 500 then in reality he spends more than Rs. 1000 and still justice remains elusive. We come across all such kinds of complaints. The hon'ble Minister has definitely tried to get a solution. Through you, I would like to know from the Government if they would like to simplify the judicial process taking cognizance of the problems faced by the consumers so that speedy justice could be given to the consumers because delay in getting justice has discouraged the consumer to move the courts?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I said in the beginning that several kinds of action have been taken to expedite the disposal of cases. There were many vacancies in several states which have practically been filled up only now. It has shown improvement therein. We have proposed the setting up of circuit benches where there is delay. Efforts have been made to expedite disposal there at two places. The States have been informed and the districts in which more cases are pending, these kinds of circuit benches can be set up there to expedite the disposal of cases.

SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister if he is taking any steps to print the address and telephone numbers of the Regional Consumer Forum on the payment receipt to save the consumers from these problems, if so, the time by which it is going to be implemented? If the receipt would bear the Consumer Forum address and telephone number, they will be able to seek redressal of their problem in time and avail its benefits. So by what time he is likely to issue directions to the sellers?

#### [English]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, this is a suggestion for action.

SHRI BRAHMANANDA PANDA: Hon. Speaker, Sir, I

would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has any promotion mechanism to make the consumer aware of various judgements delivered for consumers in the country towards preserving their rights.

MR. SPEAKER: What do you want to know from the hon, Minister?

SHRI BRAHMANANDA PANDA: Is there any promotion mechanism to popularize the judgement that is delivered by various courts?

MR. SPEAKER: You only want to know about the favourable judgements and not about all the judgements. This is another suggestion for action. Hon. Minister, you have got many suggestions.

MR. SPEAKER: Now. Q. No. 63. Shri Anandrao V. Adsul.

## ...(Interruptions)

DR. M. JAGANNATH: Sir, the hon. Labour Minister made a policy statement in Hyderabad yesterday. This is a very serious matter. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will request the hon. Leaders of various Parties to tell me what to do in this circumstance.

#### ...(Interruptions)

DR. M. JAGANNATH: Sir, it was a policy matter. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Do you want the House to run? Please tell me about it.

#### ...(Interruptions)

DR. M. JAGANNATH: Sir, he came to Hyderabad, and made the statement. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are deliberately disturbing the House.

#### ...(Interruptions)

DR. M. JAGANNATH: Sir, he made a policy statement outside the House even when the House was in Session.

MR. SPEAKER: Only Shri Adsul's question is to be recorded. Please put your supplementary, and ignore him.

#### (Interruptions)...\*

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Jagannath, i think that you should walkout of the House in protest.

#### ...(Interruptions)

DR. M. JAGANNATH: Sir. the Parliament is in Session. He held a Press Conference in Hyderabad, and made a policy statement there. ...(Interruptions)

#### 11.27 hrs.

(At this stage, Dr. M. Jagannath and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.)

MR. SPEAKER: I will request all the Leaders to tell me what to do with these cases. You are deliberately doing it, and you are creating disturbance in the House.

#### ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Give me the slip, and I will name him. I implore on all of you to please go to your seats.

## ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please give me the names of these hon. Members.

#### ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will request the hon. Leaders of different Parties to please advice the Chair as to what should be done in these circumstances. Do you want the House to be held to ransom? So many important issues are being discussed in the House. I have committed, and I have promised him that I shall give him an opportunity.

#### ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Under Rule 373 I have got the power to name you, and then you are bound to withdraw from this House.

#### ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will request you once again. I earnestly request you to go to your seat. I will give you an opportunity after the Question Hour. You are deliberately doing it because you think that you will get more publicity by doing this. You are making a nuisance of yourself. Please go to your seat.

## ...(Interruptions)

#### 11,29 hrs

(At this stage, Dr. M. Jagannath and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.)

MR. SPEAKER: I have committed myself, and I shall give it to you. I told this to you earlier also. What is this going on?

<sup>\*</sup> Not recorded

#### ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry. You are bringing the whole institution to shame.

#### ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is the reason that all and sundry people are making comments about the Parliament, and the Parliamentarians. People are making comments against us because of persons like you. Important issues on employment, etc. are being discussed, but, unfortunately, you are raising non-issues without any sense.

DR. M. JAGANNATH: Sir, this is also a very very important issue. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: He will not listen. Under Rule 373, shall I direct you to leave the House?

## ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Important questions are being asked and answered.

#### ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Do you know how much time you have wasted today? I will give you the last chance after 'Zero Hour'.

DR. M. JAGANNATH: You should give me the first chance.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no sense of shame even. What can I do?

#### ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Q. No. 63, Shri Anandrao Vithoba Adsul.

## **Ban on Employment of Children**

\*63. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: MS. INGRID MCLEOD:

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

- (a) whether an order banning child labour has been recently notified by the Government;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof:
- (c) whether the Union Government has asked the State Governments and sought support from Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in enforcing the ban on employment of children as domestic servants and as labourers in exteries:

- (d) if so, the response of the State Governments and the NGOs thereto:
- (e) whether the Government has formulated any scheme for rehabilitation of such children so withdrawn from work due to the ban on child labour:
- (f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the *modus* operandi to be followed and the funds allocated therefor;
- (g) whether the Government has appointed any monitoring committee to look into the implementation of abolition of child labour; and

#### (h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (h) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

- (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986, Government has recently issued a Notification prohibiting employment of children in the following two Occupations with effect from 10.10.06.
  - (i) Employment of children as domestic workers/ servants
  - (ii) Employment of children in dhabas (roadside eateries), restaurants, hotels, motels, tea-shops, spas and other recreational centers etc.
- (c) and (d) As the State Governments are the appropriate government for implementation of the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 in their respective areas, the State Governments have been advised to take all appropriate measures for the effective implementation of this notification. In this connection, the then Union Labour Minister had written to all the Chief Ministers and the Union Labour Secretary had also taken it up with the Chief Secretaries of all the State Governments/UTs. Government of India has also held consultations with the State Governments, NGOs, and other stake holders at Zonal level all over the country during the months of September and October 2006 before the ban became effective. During these Zonal Conferences held at Bangalore (Southern Zone), Guwahati (North Eastern Zone), Ranchi (Eastern Zone), Amritsar (Northern Zone) and Goa (Western Zone), the State Governments discussed their action plans for affecting the ban and for the rehabilitation of these children. All the State

Governments have assured that the notification will be duly implemented alongwith rehabilitation of the affected children, wherever required. NGOs and other members of the civil society were also requested during the consultations for their suggestions as also to supplement the efforts of the government in creating awareness generation, and providing rehabilitation in terms of food, clothing and shelter. The NGOs have assured support wherever necessary.

(e) and (f) Government is implementing the National Child Labour Scheme in 250 districts of 20 states in the country. Another, 21 districts have been taken up under the INDUS project, an Indo-US Child Labour Project. Under the Scheme, children withdrawn from work are provided education, nutrition, vocational training, stipend and health care etc. In addition, to take care of the special needs of the children who would be withdrawn from work from these two occupations, the shelter homes and Child Line, an emergency toll free helpline under the Ministry of Women and Child Development would be used to provide immediate help to these children in terms of food, clothing and shelter. This is being provided from the existing budgetary provisions.

(g) and (h) A Central Monitoring Committee headed by Union Secretary (L&E) monitors the implementation of Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 as well as the National Child Labour Project Scheme in the country. Its members include representatives from other Central Governments viz. M/o. Human Resource Development. (Dept. of School Education), Wo. Women and Child Development, M/o. Rural Development, M/o. Social Justice and Labour Secretaries of all concerned States, in addition Ministry of Labour and Employment has also recently held meetings with representatives of other Ministries like Ministry of Women and Child Development, Mo. Human Resource Development, Mo. Rural Development, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and M/o. Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation to ensure coordination and convergence among these Ministries in the rehabilitation measures and to address other issues related to the implementation of the recent Notification dated 10th October 2006.

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: As per national Census 2001, there are 1.26 crore working children in the country of the age group of 5 to 14 years. As per the current budget, only Rs.607 crore has been provided, which means 26 paise per child per day. Unless the rehabilitation of the child is properly done, the problem will remain a problem for ever. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what steps have been taken by the

Ministry for proper rehabilitation, and how it will monitor and fix the accountability for the implementation of this Act?

MR. SPEAKER: Good question.

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Sir, we have already introduced the Scheme in 250 districts and we would like to extend this Scheme to other districts of the country as well. Under this Scheme, we have been able to bring 3,78,285 children to the mainstream, provide them education for three years, and then they will be put into main schools so that they are taken away from employment in hazardous industries. Fifteen occupations and 57 processes have been declared as hazardous. We will be taking a step-by-step approach. We will not be able to deal with it in one go, but ultimately, we would like to bring all the children into the mainstream.

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Sir, the Act alone will not do, we will have to go to the root of the problem to find out why the child is working. When the parents of a child is not alive, that child is compelled to work; if the earning member of a family is no more, the child has to go to work. There are instances where the step-mother is compelling the child to go to work.

MR. SPEAKER: Not all step-mothers are like that.

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Not all step-mothers, but probably, it is also one of the many reasons why a child is working. We have to go to the root of this problem. Unless we go to the root of this problem, we cannot solve the problem. The present budgetary provision is not sufficient to do all the things. Even if you increase the budgetary provision, if proper implementation is not there, if accountability is not there, if the help is not extended by the State Governments and the NGOs, then it will not happen.

MR. SPEAKER: Society has to play its role. Please put your question.

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Takinţi into consideration all those things, what will the Ministry a?

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Our major effort is to see that the income of the parents is increased. The hon. Member referred to orphaned children and also the children who are getting step-motherly treatment, rather than being compelled by step-mothers. As I have already conveyed, we have taken up 200 districts for implementing Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme to benefit those who are below the poverty line. The children of those families whose income is less or who are in the special

schools will be given necessary support. Where a child is found to be working in an eatery or in such other place, the employer is supposed to pay Rs. 20,000, and if the employer fails, the State is going to pay Rs. 5,000. With the interest generated out of this money, we will be taking care of those families.

MS. INGRID MCLEOD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister has the Government considered achieving rehabilitation in a specific timeframe, and what is the specific target for rehabilitation in the next one year.

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: As I have already conveyed, the children detected are sent to schools where they will be given three years of education. At the same time, we have conveyed to the States that parents of such children should be given assistance under Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme and that other schemes meant for below the poverty line people should be extended to the families of these children so that they will be able to study.

SHRIMATI ARCHANA NAYAK: Hon. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister of Labour and Employment as to whether the Government has drawn any specific plan to rehabilitate the children withdrawn from jobs, and if so, the details regarding the number of such children rehabilitated and the areas where they have been rehabilitated, specifically in the State of Orissa, during the current financial year.

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Sir, we have extended this scheme to 13 States. As I have told you, we will be extending this scheme to other States in the next Five-Year Plan. As of now, in Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Delhi we have these provisions. Gradually we will be extending this to other States including Orissa.

SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how the Government proposes to enforce the ban on children working in homes as domestic help. Would the Government authorize the Labour Inspector to enter private homes of citizens if a home owner is suspected to be employing children as domestic help?

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: We have given a toll-free number. Our NGOs are also working in this direction. The State Governments have also got a survey and the States are taking action. I have written to all the States to see that this is enforced. Whenever there is a complaint, definitely we will be taking action.

[Translation]

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to extend my thanks particularly to Adsul Saheb that he has put such an important question and would like to thank you also for providing me an opportunity to speak. The children were considered a very important national resource in this very Parliament in the year 1975. A law to this effect was passed in the year 1986 but it took 13 years for its implementation. This notification was issued in the year 2006. It took 20 years to issue this notification when children are considered a very important resource. A large number of children are working. The number of children engaged in work is equal to number of unemployed people in the country. These children are in need of special protection. As an hon'ble Member was saying earlier that

[English]

They are children in distress.

[Translation]

That is why they have to work. He should take immediate action without delay. I do not wish to talk about the time frame because already a very long period has elapsed. I would like to know whether he is taking any measures to give protection, education to children in order to make them good human beings?

[English]

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Sir, the scheme is already in place. As I have told you, we have already covered about 250 Districts and we will be covering other States as well.

MR. SPEAKER: Specific question please.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to ask a specific question.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Always specific.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister is giving the same reply to every question and stating that he is implementing this scheme in hundred fifty to two hundred districts.

MR. SPEAKER: He is stating the facts and the facts will prevail.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, we should get to the root of the problem which he is evading. Children are engaged in work not because they are in search of it but because their parents want it. On the one hand they are oppressed with the burden of debt taken from a rich money lender of the village and on the other hand they are compelled to work owing to the family pressure. The Government are formulating a scheme for the education and rehabilitation of children. However, there are parents who are blind of both eyes and are not in a position to work. I would like to know from the Government whether or not they are taking any measure in respect of children whose parents are dependent on them? The Hon'ble Minister should give the reply in 'Yes' or 'No'.

## [English]

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: This is the main issue which we have taken up. Sir, you would note that Self-Help Groups are organized in various places. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is our programme which brings children to the mainstream and to give them education and midday meals. We are also having the Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. Our Schemes are directed to provide help to the families who live below the poverty line.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you take suggestions from him.

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Yes, Sir.

PROF. BASUDEB BARMAN: In regard to the replies given to the portions (g) and (h) of Question No.63, I would request the hon. Minister to enlighten us with the findings of the Central Monitoring Committee of Ministry of Labour and Employment.

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: A large number of cases have been reported. We are trying to provide financial assistance to the families also. We have registered cases against the employers who were found guilty. They were given punishment also. Hence, I would say that all the measures are being taken to provide help to the children.

MR. SPEAKER: Shrimati Ranjeet Ranjan, I am giving you the opportunity as this matter is concerning the children.

#### [Translation]

SHRIMATI RANJEET RANJAN: Through you, I would like to add one thing that we are seeking to ban child

labour. There is a very touching reference in this regard particularly when one finds beggars holding new born babies or 'infants' at traffic red lights of any city. I have seen and even heard it that they hire these infants on daily basis and pay Rs. 100 or 50 to their mothers. Those children who are speechless are made to suffer in scorching heat and talms is asked in their names. What action is being taken by him in this matter?

## [English]

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: I think, this matter comes under the Ministry of Child and Women Welfare. This can be directed to the concerned Ministry.

#### [Translation]

SHRIMATI RANJEET RANJAN: They are also working.

#### [English]

MR. SPEAKER: I am requesting the hon. Minister to inform the hon. Minister for Child and Women Welfare and give you the response.

I compliment you for raising this issue. But it is not quite appropriate to ask this question. However, it is a serious matter.

#### [Translation]

SHRIMATI RANJEET RANJAN: This is also a kind of labour.

SHRI KIREN RIJIJU: My question is regarding imposing ban on child labour. Shrimati Ranjeet Ranjan has asked question related to it. I would like to submit that all the child labourers we find in cities, they have gangs.

#### [English]

There is a racket. So also mafia

## [Translation]

They tarnish the image of the country. I have seen that no concrete action has been taken by the Government. What action is proposed to be taken by the Government to eradicate such nefarious activity and punish the persons involved in it.

#### [English]

MR. SPEAKER: Similar answer!

## Agricultural Production Affected due to **Drought and Floods**

#### SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU: **\*64**. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- whether agricultural production has decreased due to delayed monsoon, excessive floods and drought in various States of the country;
- if so, the loss of crops on this account during the last three years. State-wise:
- the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to compensate the farmers suffering losses as a result thereof:
- (d) whether targets fixed for agriculture in the Tenth Five Year Plan have been achieved:
  - if so, the details thereof: (e)
- whether the Planning Commission had suggested some reforms for this sector:
- if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken thereon:
- whether some decisions have also been taken in this regard in the Conference of the Agriculture Ministers in the recent past; and

#### (i) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRI-BUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (i): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

- (a) and (b) Agricultural production is generally affected by delayed monsoon/rainfall, excessive floods and drought. State wise position relating to southwest monsoon (June-September) rainfall vis-a-vis normal rainfall, along with production of kharif cereals, pulses, oilseeds, Jute & mesta, Sugarcane and cotton for the test three years is given in the Annexure-I enclosed.
- Financial assistance in the wake of natural calamities is provided to the affected States under two schemes viz. Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF). Based on the recommendations of the Finance Commission, each State

is required to open a CRF Account and is allocated certain amounts as per the award of the Finance Commission. The corpus of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) is contributed by the Government of India and the State Governments in the ratio of 75:25. The central contribution is released to the States in two equal instalments; first in June and the second in December. The State Level Committee headed by Chief Secretary of the concerned State is fully empowered to operate the CRF, in accordance with terms and norms approved by the Government of India. The extant norms, inter-alia, provide assistance to the affected farmers in the form of agriculture input subsidy for damage of crops due to natural calamities. Additional financial assistance is provided in the wake of a calamity of a severe nature from NCCF. Besides, the farmers are also compensated for the loss in production through National Agriculture insurance Scheme.

Reserve Bank of India has also issued standing guidelines to the banks for providing relief to the farmers in the areas affected by natural calamities. These guidelines have been issued to enable the banks to take uniform and concerted action expeditiously, particularly to provide the financial assistance to the farmers affected by natural calamities.

(d) and (e) Tenth Five Year Plan had targeted a growth rate of 4% in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of Agriculture and Allied sectors, which was revised to 2.2% during the Mid Term Appraisal of the Tenth Plan. The actual performance in the first 4 years of the Tenth Plan is given below:

Growth of Agriculture and Allied sectors GDP at factors cost (at 1999-00 prices)

(Figures in percentages)

(
riculture, Forestry & Fishing sectors GDP
(-) 6.9
10.0
0.7
3.9
1.9
4.0
isal 2.2

The information giving the targets and production of various crops during Tenth Five Year Plan is given in the Annexure-II enclosed.

(f) and (g) To enhance the agricultural productivity, the Mid Term Appraisal of the Tenth Five Year Plan prepared by the Planning Commission has suggested to increase public investment in agriculture and irrigation; to carry forward essential reforms to conserve water and soil, check degradation of natural resources and to rejuvenate support systems like extension and credit and the delivery systems of inputs such as seeds, fertilizers etc. and make agricultural research more responsive to

the needs of the agriculture sector. The Government of India has initiated several schemes to implement these reforms.

(h) and (i) A conference of State Agriculture Ministers was held in December, 2004 wherein initiatives related, inter-alia, to National Horticulture Mission, Micro Irrigation, Dryland Farming and National Mission on Bamboo were discussed. In pursuance of the deliberations, while National Horticulture Mission and Micro Irrigation schemes are already under implementation, the setting up of National Rainfed Area Authority and Bamboo Mission have also been approved.

Annexure-I
Agricultural Production Affected Due to Drought and Floods

States/Ye	er .	Ra	inf <b>al</b> l (in N	AM)		Kharif Production (in '000 tonnes)							
i.		Normal	Actual	% of Normal	Rice	Coarse Cereals		Ollseeds	Pulses	Jute & Mesta**	Sugarcane	Cotton	
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Andhra Pradesi	h												
	2004	608	503	83	6393	1655	8048	1597	378	458	15739	2190	
	2005	608	732	120	6376	2571	8947	1311	467	457	17480	2181	
	2006	608	620	102	6723	1723	8446	941	292	492	18353	1578	
Assam													
	2004	1434	1437	100	<b>28</b> 61	18	2879	13	5	435	884	1	
	2005	1434	1255	88	2828	19	2847	14	5	609	787	1	
	2006	1434	1103	77	2305	16	2321	15	12	605	960	1	
Bihar													
	2004	1048	934	89	2306	439	2745	6	81	1180	4112	0	
	2005	1048	819	78	3239	438	3677	6	83	1492	4346	0	
	2006	1039	910	88	3488	516	4004	5	91	1321	4249	0	
Chhattisgarh													
	2004	1206	1027	85	4383	186	4569	86	82	2	16	1	
	2005	1206	1081	90	5012	156	5168	92	78	3	30	0	
	2006	1206	1078	89	3566	143	3709	63	97	3	32	0	
Gujarat													
	2004	678	681	100	1154	1662	2816	2417	379	0	14570	4725	
	2005	678	960	142	1331	1776	3107	3836	420	0	14580	7380	
	2006	678	1026	151	1079	1027	2106	2271	313	0	14000	6500	

1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1,0	11	12
Haryana												<del></del>
	2004	462	356	77	3023	815	<b>3</b> 838	3	45	0	8060	207
	2005	462	471	102	3210	737	3947	8	40	0	8180	1499
	2006	462	281	61	3025	1012	4037	12	89	0	9780	1663
Himachal Prac	lesh											
	2004	774	421	54	122	746	868	2	8	0	62	C
	2005	774	709	92	109	638	747	2	8	0	33	C
	2006	774	593	77	114	564	678	3	10	0	38	C
lammu and Ki	shmir											
	2004	514	387	75	492	507	999	3	13	0	1	0
	2005	514	450	88	518	505	1023	3	12	0	0	0
	2006	514	679	132	200	828	1028	3	20	0	0	0
lharkhand												
	2004	1105	890	81	1857	305	1962	3	118	6	142	0
	2005	1105	716	. 65	1558	244	1802	20	119	6	142	0
	2006	1093	1209	111	1918	380	2298	11	135	5	142	0
(arnataka												
	2004	835	73	9	2491	4875	7366	1062	512	3	14276	688
	2005	835	950	114	3557	4993	<b>85</b> 50	1007	610	3	16203	480
	2006	835	781	94	3013	2493	5506	625	429	5	16203	335
erala												
	2004	2206	1728	78	577	1	578	2	0	0	283	4
	2005	2143	2245	05	543	0.	543	1	0	0	430	8
	2006	2143	2021	94	213	4	217	2	2	0	212	5
Madhya Prade	sh											
	2004	989	814	82	1169	2224	<b>339</b> 3	4071	496	1	2148	626
	2005	989	1003	101	1656	2700	4356	4818	428	1	2425	745
	2006	989	993	100	1287	1784	3071	4128	475	2	1772	479
Asharashtra												
	2004	1005	941	94	2098	3717	5815	2351	1173	36	20475	2939
	2005	1005	1227	122	2347	4152	6499	3051	1025	36	36197	3626
	2006	1005	1215	121	2647	4127	6774	3312	1235	34	57059	4145

Oral Answers

32

1		2	3 ·	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Orissa						<del></del>						
	2004	1160	1047	90	5884	161	6045	84	176	146	860	111
	2005	1160	1158	100	6156	157	6313	93	187	122	1073	145
	2006	1165	1550	133	7395	127	7522	<b>58</b> '	158	138	843	74
Punjab												
	2004	502	278	55	10437	430	10887	8	22	.0	5170	2087
	2005	502	464	. 92	10193	409	10602	7	18	0	4860	2395
	2006	502	437	87	9600	431	9931	30	25	0	5700	2544
Rajasthan												
	2004	418	336	80	150	4538	4688	1568	500	0	277	765
	2005	418	376	90	153	3436	3589	1545	356	0	483	880
	2006	418	487	117	201	5352	5553	961	727	0	300	722
Tamil Nadu												
	2004	316	346	109	4516	651	5167	539	83	1	23396	195
	2005	316	294	93	5438	826	6264	703	81	0	38035	213
_	2006	316	248	78	4893	510	5403	<b>555</b>	119	3	23951	73
Ittar Pradesh												
	2004	856	627	73	9550	2690	12230	101	567	0	118715	5
	2005	856	725	85	11130	2579	13700	120	633	0	125473	1
<b></b>	-2006	856	595	70	11728	2734	14467	154	626	0	121428	5
Uttaranchal		4000	4 400	44.4	700	007		-	44		0444	
	2004	1223	1400	114	560	325	875	27	14	0	6441	0
	2005 2006	1223	1334 955	109 78	584 580	305 319	869	18 21	21 22	0	6134	0
West Bengal	2000	1223	900	76	360	318	000	21	22	U	9900	·
Meet Deriga	2004	1334	1341	101	10626	- 114	10742	132	34	7935	1033	3
	2005	1334	1167	87	10464	100	10564	137	36	7944	1100	6
	2006	1334	1421	107	10130	132	10262	8	59	8240	1350	3
Others			· - <b>- ·</b>					-				•
	2004				1789	313	2102	74	31	69	428	13
	2005				1657	253	1910	46	734	74	*396	.42
	2006				1740	289	2029	<b>6</b> 1	31	79	432	-14
Ali India												
•	2004	893	781	67	72230	26362	98592	14149	4717	10272	237088	16428
	2005	893	879	98	78039	28994	105033	16838	4663	10747	278387	19572
	2006	892	887	99	75739	24511	100250	13239	4987	10927	283404	18141

Note: \* Thousand bales of 170 Kgs. each

<sup>\*\*</sup> Thousand Bales of 180 Kg. each

Annexure-II

Targets and Achievements of Production of major crops during 2002-03 to 2006-07

(Million Tonnes)

34

Crop	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07 (Kharif only)	
	Targets	Achieve- ments	Targets	Achieve ments	Targets	Achieve ments	Targets	Achieve ments*	Targets	Achieve ments\$
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Rice	93.00	71.82	93.00	88.53	93.50	83.13	87.80	91.04	80.78	75.74
Wheat	78.00	65.76	78.00	72.15	79.50	68.64	75.53	69.48	•	-
Coarse Cereals	33.00	26.07	34.00	37.60	36.80	33.46	36.52	34.67	28.69	24.51
Pulses	16.00	11.13	15.00	14.91	15.30	13.13	15.15	13.11	5.78	4.97
Foodgrains	220.00	174.77	220.00	213.19	225.10	198.36	215.00	208.30	115.25	105.22
Oilseeds	27.00	14.84	24.70	25.19	26.20	24.35	26.58	27.73	18.12	13.24
Sugarcane	320.00	287.38	320.00	233.86	270.00	237.09	237.50	278.39	270.00	283.40
Cotton #	15.00	8.62	15.00	10.25	15.00	16.43	16.50	19.57	18.50	18.14
Jute & Mesta @	12.00	11.28	12.00	11.17	11.80	10.27	11.28	10.75	11.28	10.93

<sup>#</sup> Million Bales of 170 kg. each

#### [Translation]

SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the agricultural sector of the country is facing crisis due to severe drought, floods and delayed monsoon. Many farmers have committed suicide due to that crisis. The people of the country are raising the slogan - 'save the farmer, save agriculture, save the country.' I would like to ask the Government as to what kind of steps are going to be taken by them to save the farmers, agriculture and the country?

#### [English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is not a matter to be raised in Question Hour. What will you do it the Minister says that all steps have been taken?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, he main Question relates to decreased production due to delayed monsoon, excessive floods and drought and I have given detailed State-wise information about the total damage, total target and individual position. Secondly, the Government of India has also taken a number of steps. We have the provision of Calamity Relief Fund and the National Calamity Contingency Fund. Based on the recommendations of the Finance Commission, each State is required to open a

CRF Account and is allocated a certain amount as per the award of the Finance Commission. If the hon. Member see the information for the last three years, because of flood, drought and various other calamities the financial support has been provided by the Government to various States from NCCF. In the year 2004-05, the assistance provided was Rs.2560.99 crore, 2005-06, Rs.3000 crore and in 2006-07, it was Rs. 1962 crore.

In addition, there are a number of other schemes like the National Insurance Scheme and some of the reforms suggested by the Planning Commission. The Government of India has already taken steps in this regard, like the Integrated Cereal Development Programme for Wheat, a similar programmes for rice-based cropping, coarse grains cropping, sugarcane based cropping and so on. Like that, a number of actions have been taken by the Government with regard to cotton and sugarcane also and financial support has been provided. Recently, certain new initiatives have been taken by the Government of India, like, the National Horticulture Mission, Micro Irrigation Mission, Bamboo Mission, etc. An important decision has also been taken recently with regard to setting up of the National Rainfed Area Authority. Basically, the job of the Authority is to prepare a perspective plan outlining national strategy and roadmap for the holistic and sustainable development

Million Bales of 180 kg each

Advance Estimates as on 15 07 2006

<sup>\$</sup> Advance Estimates as on 15.09 2006

to Questions

of the rainfed farming area. Sixty per cent of our agriculture is dependent on erratic monsoon. Therefore, unless and until we give the topmost priority to those types of farming or those types of farmers we will not be able to resolve the issue. That is the reason we want to give more weightage to this programme.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Murmu, please put a specific question.

## [Translation]

SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU: Sir, Swaminathan Committee is related to agriculture sector. The Government might have received the report of the said committee. We want a discussion on that report during the current session itself. Are the Government prepared to hold a discussion on the report in the current session, if not, the reasons therefor?

## [English]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: The Government of India has received Swaminathan Committee's detailed Report. In total, there are five reports which we have received. The recommendations of Swaminathan Committee Report have been circulated to various Ministries and we are obtaining their comments. Some time, in the month of December, I would like to call a meeting of the State Agriculture Ministers and would like to put Swaminathan Committee's recommendations before it. We will take the final recommendations in that meeting and ultimately the Government will take a final view on it. If the august House wishes to discuss the recommendations of Swaminathan Committee in this Session, I would be happy to accept this proposal.

#### [Translation]

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, 65 percent of the population of our country depend on agriculture sector for their livelihood. The growth of GDP in our country has been 8%, but the corresponding figure in the agricultural sector for the last four years has been only 1,9%. I am glad to note that since the UPA Government came into power, around 4% growth has been recorded in the agricultural sector last year. The question which I want to ask is that during the last budget session, the Government had taken a historic decision to provide loans at the interest rate of 7 percent to marginal and small farmers. Today in our country 80% of the farmers are marginal farmers, the real problem being faced by them is that they are provided loans at high rates. I would like to state that the Government of Madhya Pradesh has not yet implemented this decision. I would like to ask what kind of steps are being taken against the States which haven't acted on this decision. This is what I would like to ask.

SHRI GANESH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the implementation of this decision has been started. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, implementation of the said decision has already started only two months back. For the last 8 months farmers had been repaying the loans at 15% rate of interest. I would like to say this. ...(Interruptions)

#### [English]

MR. SPEAKER: Let us not be too sensitive. All State Governments are entitled to full respect. They are doing their job in their own spheres and whatever the Central Government can do, they have to say.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: In the last Budget Speech, the hon. Finance Minister made an announcement that up to Rs.3 lakh, crop loan will be provided to the farmers at a seven per cent rate of interest. This crop loan will be provided by the commercial banks. RRBs and the cooperative banks. On the crop loan which has been provided by the commercial banks and the regional banks, they are charging seven per cent rate of interest throughout India. There was a complaint from the cooperative banks that unless and until the Government of India take the responsibility of subvention to the cooperative banks, they will not be able to implement it. I had called a meeting of all the Chief Ministers which was attended by the Chief Ministers of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and a number of other Chief Ministers. They gave a proposal that they have no objection to the implementation of the scheme but the responsibility for the losses to the cooperative banks has to be taken by somebody. About 15 days back, the Union Cabinet has decided to take that responsibility and we are going to provide subvention upto two per cent to the cooperative banks also. That is why, those cooperative banks which provided money to village agricultural cooperative societies, now they would be able to provide money at seven per cent rate of interest. Their losses have been accepted by the Government of India.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Due to the existing CRF guidelines, whatever relief the flood and drought affected farmers are getting is a pittance. Therefore, there have been umpteen demands from the Opposition benches that the CRF guidelines should be revised so that there is an upward revision in the relief they get. Therefore, one year back, the present UPA Government constituted a Group of Ministers including the Finance Minister, the Home Minister and the hon. Minister of Agriculture. I want to know how many meetings of this Group of Ministers have taken place and whether they are going to revise the CRF guidelines, if so, by what time frame?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: This particular proposal was discussed in the Group of Ministers. The Group of Ministers has come to a final conclusion and certain decisions have been taken. I would collect all this information. I have no problem in putting all this information on the Table of the House.

Oral Answers

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Sir, my question was whether there will be upward revision or not.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: We have accepted that suggestion of revision. Revision has been made and whatever revision has been made, I am ready to furnish the information to the House.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, I am basing my supplementary on irrigation. It involves flood and drought. Drought is affecting agriculture because there is extreme lack of irrigation in the country. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, in view of the persistent drought in the country, what steps the Government is taking to augment the area of irrigation? Also, whether it is true that 400 projects are lying. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It does not come under the purview of this question. He is not the Irrigation Minister.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, I am asking, what steps the Government is taking to tackle drought and because of that what steps they have taken for irrigation?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Generally, most of these irrigation projects. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAKASH PARANJPE: This problem of irrigation could be solved if the rivers are connected. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry this is not going on record.

#### (Interruptions)...\*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, the responsibility to provide Budgetary support to the irrigation projects is vested with the State Governments. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is nice to have a lively House, but not in this manner.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: There are many State Governments who are taking effective steps and are providing more Budgetary support for their respective Irrigation Departments to complete these projects. The Government of India has introduced a new scheme, called the AIDP, that is, those projects which are incomplete for

many years, the Government India is ready to provide a Budgetary support to expedite the work of those schemes and whenever we get a proposal from the State Governments, the Ministry of Water Resources provide money to the State and with that money there is a progress in certain States. But that is not enough. It is because in the last five to seven years the total Budgetary provisions for the irrigation projects were only to the tune of 0.35 per cent of the total Plan. This issue has been seriously taken by the Government of India. Under the Bharat Niman it was decided to provide substantial financial support to complete the incomplete projects and support the States.

However, I entirely agree with the hon. Member that since 60 per cent of our agriculture is totally dependent on erratic monsoon and unless and until we are able to make a provision for permanent water sources, farmers will not be able to resolve the basic problem of food security in the country. Therefore, we would like to accord the topmost priority for irrigation projects.

MR. SPEAKER: The next Question is very important. Let us go to the next.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Socoker. Sir. the Central Government have declared 7 percent rate of interest for the bank loans taken by the farmers for agricultural purposes but I can say with full conviction that the rate of interest of bank loans taken by the farmers is not 7 percent instead the rate of interest is 14-15%. My question to the hon'ble Minister is that when a declaration has been made in the budget six months ago about the rate of interest to be 7% on the bank loans taken by the farmers, why is that this decision has not been implemented till date? Besides, half the relief given to the farmers at the time of losses due to floods and drought from the National Disaster Fund is in the form of cash but the other half of the relief package consists of bread and rice flakes which never reaches the needy people. Mr. Speaker, Sir, will the Government issue directions to ensure new bank rates in Bihar?. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir. please allow a half an hour discussion on this issue.

MR. SPEAKER: Aren't you aware that for half an hour discussion there are certain rules to follow. Please follow the procedure.

[English]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, the 7 per cent up to

Not recorded

Rs. 3,00,000 crop loan scheme is applicable throughout India. On the issue that has been raised by the hon. Member I would like to submit that if this is not being implemented in the State of Bihar, then it is a very serious matter. We would go into the details and we would see that the entire execution of the scheme is done in the State of Bihar as well. Those who are not implementing the scheme, appropriate action will be taken against them.

MR. SPEAKER: Q. No. 65 - Shri Hannan Mollah.

#### Suicide by Farmers

## \*65. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of relief provided or proposed to be provided to the farmers in the suicide prone districts of the country under the special rehabilitation package, Statewise:
- whether the incidents of suicide by farmers have continued despite the declaration of the relief package:
- (c) if so, the details of such cases reported, Statewise:
- whether any study to assess the reasons for the same has been conducted.
  - (e) if so, the details thereof:
- whether the Government proposes to constitute a National Commission study group to make a comprehensive study on the problems of farmers and suggest measures for their redressal; and
  - (g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRI-BUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR); (a) to (g): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) The Government of India has recently approved a rehabilitation package for mitigating distress of tanners in 31 suicide prone Districts in the four States of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Kamataka and Kerala. The package aims at establishing a sustainable and viable farming and livelihood support system through debt relief to tarmers, improved supply of institutional credit, crop centric approach to agriculture, assured irrigation facilities,

watershed management, better extension and farming support services, and subsidiary income opportunities through horticulture, livestock, dairving, fisheries, etc. The Package involves a total amount of Rs. 16978.69 crore. The State-wise break-up is as under:

Andhra Pradesh Rs.9650.55 crore Karnataka Rs.2689.64 crore Kerala Rs.765, 24 crore Maharashtra Rs.3873.26 crore

- (b) to (e) The rehabilitation package was announced in respect of the six districts of the Vidarbha region of Maharashtra on 1st July, 2006, in respect of the other 25 districts in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala, the package was approved on 29th September. 2006. The total number of suicide by farmers in the six districts of the Vidarbha region from July to October, 2006, as reported by the State Government (as per the report of Divisional Commissioner, Amravati) is 542. The details of suicide by farmers in respect of the other 25 districts after the declaration of the package, are being obtained and will be laid on the Table of the House. The emerging trend in respect of Maharashtra indicates that number of suicide by farmers due to agriculture related causes is on decline. In respect of the remaining states, it is too early to assess its impact at ground level as the package has recently been approved for implementation.
- (f) and (g) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

MR. SPEAKER: I have taken up this Question at least to have it on record.

Now Question Hour is over.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

#### Rise in Prices

[English]

\*66. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

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

whether the prices of essential commodities including sugar, edible oil, cereals and vegetables continue to spiral despite the efforts made by the Government to control prices leading to a huge gap in the rate of growth in price and per capita income;

- if so, the details thereof and the reasons (b) therefor:
- (c) whether the Government proposes to give more powers to the Pricing Regulatory Authority and invoke the provisions of Essential Commodities Act, 1955 to improve availability of essential commodities and control its prices:
  - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other remedial steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS. FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRI-BUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) The prices of certain essential commodities such as wheat, pulses, sugar and edible oils have registered an upward trend over the past few months. The main reasons for rise in prices are shortfall in domestic supplies relative to demand and hardening of international prices. However, prices of sugar, tur dal and gram dal have declined over the past one month at several centres.

- (c) and (d) The Government has invoked the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act in August. 2006 enabling fixing of stock limits and licensing requirements in respect of wheat and pulses
- Government have already taken several steps for checking the rise in prices of essential commodities. Some of the important steps taken are given below:-
- State Trading Corporation has already contracted for import of 55 lakh tonnes of wheat to supplement domestic availability, of which 22.65 lakh tonnes of wheat have been received by FCI till 21.11.06.
- Private trade has been permitted to import wheat at zero duty from 9th September, 2006 as against the normal applicable duty of 50 per cent. The customs duty was earlier reduced to 5 per cent on June 27, 2006.
- (iii) Customs duty on import of pulses was reduced to zero on June 8, 2006 and a ban was imposed on export of pulses with effect from June 27, 2006.
- (iv) Import of sugar was permitted at zero duty and its export was banned till the end of the current financial year with effect from June 22, 2006.

#### **Drug Prices**

## SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: SHRI RANEN BARMAN:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

whether the Government has recently released (a) the first list of some generic drugs whose prices have been reduced:

to Questions

- **(b)** if so, the details thereof including the range of reduction in price levels of such drugs;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to keep a check on drug prices;
- whether the Government has finalised the National Pharmaceutical Policy:
- if so, the details and the salient features thereof: and
- the time by which the new policy is likely to be announced?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (f) Pharma companies have agreed to voluntarily restrict the trade margins for generic medicines to 15% for wholesalers and 35% for retailers. A compilation of the list of 886 such medicines, whose prices have been voluntarily reduced by 11 companies as a result of this cap on trade margins has been brought out. The list is available on this Department's website www.chemicals.gov.in. Copies of the list have also been placed in the Parliament Library. It covers formulations in all dosage forms such as tablets, capsules and syrups, etc. which find usage in the treatment of a large number of diseases. The medicines covered are anti diabetics, antibiotics, cough syrups, painkillers as well as those used during the surgical operations, for the cure of the infectious diseases and for the treatment of hypertension etc. The voluntary reduction in prices of these medicines ranges between 0.26% and 74.53%.

The drug policies of the Government as amended from time to time are directed towards making available quality drugs at reasonable prices to the consumers in the country.

A Draft Cabinet Note on National Pharmaceutical Policy, 2006 is under finalisation. Some of the salient features include strengthening of Drug Regulatory System. (by Health Department), strengthening of patent office infrastructure, (by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion), focus on Research and Development -Process Development, Drug Discovery, Drug Development and Clinical Trials, Human Resources Development in Pharmaceutical Sciences through more institutes like, National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), rationalisation of Excise duty on Pharmaceuticals, streamlining system of bulk procurement of drugs by Government, promotion of generic drugs, the

to Questions

poor especially BPL families, schemes of interest subsidy for implementation of Schedule M of Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 for Good Manufacturing Practices, scheme for settlement of old dues under Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1979, re-structuring of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA), price control to be applied to the specific drugs as listed under National List of Essential Medicine, 2003. There are several other features in the proposed policy aimed at benefiting the common man. The proposed draft policy also includes special schemes for Below Poverty Line people. After the finalisation, the draft policy would be placed before the Cabinet for approval. No specific time frame can be mentioned about the announcement of the policy.

#### **Drought Affected States**

## \*68. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: SHRI GANESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether certain parts of the country are currently in the grip of drought;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the extent of loss suffered by each State as a result thereof during the current year;
- (d) the States visited by the Central teams to assess the situation with the findings thereof;
- (e) the assistance and foodgrains sought, Statewise; and
- (f) the actual amount released and foodgrains provided to overcome the problem as on date, Statewise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRI-BUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (f): This year, in view of deficient rainfall in part of the country during South-West Monsoon (June-September) period, preliminary reports were received from the Governments of Assam, Bihar, Karnataka and Nagaland intimating emerging drought/drought-like situation of varying magnitude. Reports of drought/drought-like situation in parts of Arunachal Pradesh and West Bengal were also received. Senior Officers from the Department visited Assam. Nagaland and West Bengal for preliminary assessment of the situation. However, till date the Governments of Assam, Karnataka and West Bengal have formally declared parts of their respective States as facing drought situation, as indicated below:

Assam - 22 districts

Karnataka - 128 taluks

West Bengal - 6 districts

The primary responsibility for taking necessary measures in the wake of natural calamities (including drought) is that of the State Governments concerned. There is ready availability of funds with the State Governments under Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for taking necessary measures. The Centre and State Governments contribute to this Fund in the ratio of 3:1. The Central share is released in 2 half-yearly instalments. Need for providing additional assistance from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) in the case of calamities of severe nature, where the funds available in the State's CRF are found to be inadequate to tackle the situation, is considered on receipt of a Memorandum from the State Governments, as per the prescribed procedure.

So far, Memorandum seeking central assistance in the wake of drought has been received from the Government of Karnataka only. The State Government has sought financial assistance of Rs. 1262.95 crores from NCCF and release of 5.74 lakh MTs of food grains for undertaking relief employment programmes. An Inter-Ministerial Central Team visited the drought affected areas of the State from 9th to 11 November, 2006 for an on-the spot assessment of the situation. Further action in this regard will be taken as per the existing procedure. As an interim ad-hoc measure, 50,000 MTs of rice has been allocated to Karnataka, under the special component of Sampooma Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) scheme, for taking up relief employment works in the affected areas.

No other State has so far submitted any Memorandum/request for financial assistance or for allocation of food grains, for the current drought.

[Translation]

## Revenue Generation by DD/AIR

- \*69. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Doordarshan (DD) and Akashvani despite having strong networks have not been able to generate the targeted revenue for the last several years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore; and

(c) the remedial steps being taken in this regards?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Doordarshan and All India Radio have a wide network but primarily they maintain the character of a Public Service Broadcaster. Both AIR and Doordarshan have to inform, educate and entertain the masses across the length and breadth of the country. Their first and foremost priority always remains to enrich the quality of life of the masses through the broadcasts and commercial revenue is secondary. Prasar Bharati have informed that Doordarshan has exceeded its target in the last three financial years and the commercial revenue earned by the AIR has doubled during the last four financial years despite there being no hike in its tariff rate. AIR has exceeded its target of revenue earnings in the last three financial years except for the year 2004-05. During the financial year 2005-06, AIR achieved an all time record of Rs.268.83 crores.

A comparative chart of target and revenue earned by Doordarshan and AIR during the last three financial years is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### Statement

(Rupees in Crores)

Year	Target chart of AIR	Revenue earned by AIR	Target chart of Doordarshan	Revenue earned by Door- darshan
2003-04	126	141.04	525	530.23
2004-05	251.15	156.67	525	665.27
2005-06	237.18	268.83	600	946.96

[English]

#### **Ganga Action Plan**

\*70. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR: SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

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

- (a) whether water of Ganga is more polluted today than in 1985 when the Ganga Action Plan was conceived first;
- (b) If so, whether even after spending Rs.1000 crore, the quality of water in this river has worsened;

- (c) if so, the reasons therefore:
- (d) whether the Hon'ble Supreme Court has criticised the Centre as well as the concerned States for not taking enough steps even after utilizing a huge amount of money from the public exchequer; and
- (e) if so, the remedial steps taken or being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No. Sir.

- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) Does not arise.
- (d) The Hon'ble Supreme Court during its hearing of a Public Interest Litigation case has recently asked the Central Government as well as the concerned States to file a status report regarding Ganga Action Plan (GAP).
- To control the pollution of the river Ganga, (e) Ministry has taken several steps, which include works of installation of Sewage Treatment Plants, Interception and Diversion of Sewerage, Low Cost Sanitation, Improved Wood Based Crematoria, River Front Development etc. Under the Ganga Action Plan, 639 schemes of pollution abatement have been completed leading to the creation of an additional sewage treatment capacity of 1693 million liter per day (mid). Further, to tackle the uncovered pollution load in the river, the Government has Master Plans and Feasibility Studies for the sewerage and nonsewerage components for four towns, namely, Kanpur, Lucknow, Allahabad & Varanasi through a Development Study relating to the "Water Quality Management Plan for Ganga" conducted by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). In this regard, a loan agreement with the Japan Bank for International cooperation (JBIC) has already been signed for implementation of the pollution abatement works in Ganga at Varanasi. Assistance has also been sought from the above agency for similar projects at Allahabad, Lucknow and Kanpur. A tabular statement-l giving the change in water quality at different monitoring stations between 1986 and 2006 is enclosed. A graphical . representation of the change in water quality of Ganga versus increase in upstream population at different monitoring points over the years is given in the enclosed statement-II.

to Questions

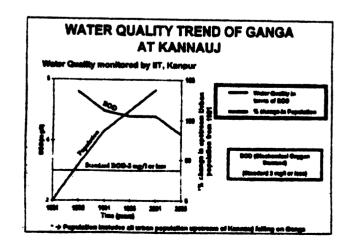
Written Answers

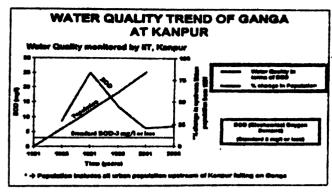
Water Quality	Data for	River	Ganga
(Summer Ave	rage i.e.	March	-June)

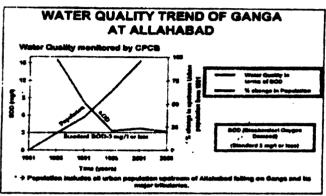
S.No.	Station/Location		1986	2006		
		DO (mg/l)	BOD (mg/l)	DO (mg/l)	BOD (mg/l)	
1.	Rishikesh	8.1	1.7	8.30	1.00	
2.	Hardwar D/S	8.1	1.8	8.10	1.30	
3.	Garhmukteshwar	7.8	2.2	7.70	2.10	
4.	Kannauj U/S	7.2	5.5	7.35	1.11	
<b>5</b> .	Kannauj D/S	NA	NA	6.45	4.20	
6.	Kanpur U/S	7.2	7.2	6.20	6.80	
<b>7</b> .	Kanpur D/S	6,7	8.6	3.90	6.80	
8.	Allahabad U/S	6.4	11.4	7.10	4.90	
9.	Allahabad D/S	6.6	15.5	8.50	3.20	
10.	Varanasi U/S	5.6	10.1	8.70	2.10	
11.	Varanasi D/S	5.9	10.6	8.65	2.25	
12.	Patna U/S	8.4	2.0	7.40	2.05	
13.	Patna D/S	8.1	2.2	8.10	2.30	
14.	Rajmahal	7.8	1.8	7.20	1.95	
15.	Palta	NA	NA	6.96	2.58	
16.	Uluberia	NA	NA	6.46	2.64	

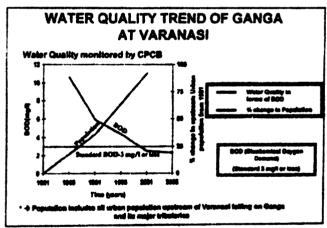
Bathing Water Quality Criteria: DO equal to or more than 5.0 mg/l BOD equal to or less than 3.0 mg/l

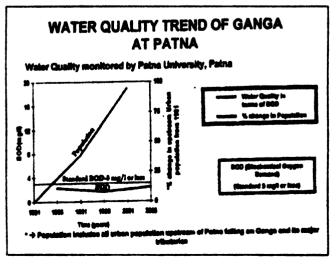
#### Statement-II











[Translation]

#### **Terminal Markets**

\*71. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR: SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has decided to set up terminal markets for agricultural produce with the private/co-operative sector participation in the country;
  - (b) If so, the details and locations thereof;
  - (c) the salient features of these terminal markets;
  - (d) the funds released for the purpose; and
- (e) the time by which the said scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (e) The Ministry of Agriculture has decided to set up Modern Terminal Markets in the country. The market would provide storage infrastructure, logistic support including transport services & cool chain support and value addition service facilities such as cleaning, grading, sorting, packaging and patientsation of produce and advising the farmers on modern production techniques. Each of these services would be provided on payment of user charges.

The Terminal Markets would be built, owned and operated by a Corporate/Private/Cooperative entity (Private Enterprise) either on its own or through adoption of an outsourcing model. The private enterprise could be a consortium of entrepreneurs from agri-business, cold chain, logistics, warehousing, agri-infrastructure and related background. They would operate on a Hub-and-Spoke Format, wherein the Terminal Market (the hub) would be linked to a number of collection Centres (the spokes). The spokes would be conveniently located at key production centres to allow easy farmer access and the catchment area of each spoke would be based on meeting the convenient needs of the farmers, operational efficiency and effective capital unilization of the investment. The commodities to be covered by the markets include fruits, vegetables, flowers, aromatics, herbs, meat, poultry and other non-perishables.

The approved scheme is not location specific and State Governments can set up Terminal Markets by a competitive bidding process depending upon the requirement of production area and economic viability of

the project. The scheme will be implemented in those States which undertake reforms in their laws dealing with Agricultural Marketing to provide direct marketing and setting up of markets in private/cooperative sector.

The State Governments would provide support for creation of a conducive regulatory and legal framework for establishment and operation of the project and provision of a level playing field to the private enterprise. The Central Government will lend its support to the initiative by providing financial support to the project by way of equity participation upto a maximum of 49% of project equity. The disinvestments of Government equity shall be done at an appropriate time at market/fair value.

An amount of Rs. 150.00 crore has been earmarked under National Horticulture Mission for implementation of the scheme during 2006-07. The scheme has been approved by the Government on 2nd November, 2006. Private enterprise requiring least amount of equity will be selected, through competitive bidding process. So far, no funds have been released under the scheme. The above scheme will be implemented in Public Private Partnership during the remaining period of the Tenth Five Year Plan.

[English]

#### Shortage of Fertilizers

172. SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL: SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) The demand and supply of fertilizers recorded in the country during the current financial year, State-wise;
- (b) whether there is a wide gap between demand and supply of fertilizers especially urea, Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP) and other mixed phosphate fertilizers throughout the country during the Rabi season;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore; and
- (d) the remedial steps taken/being taken by the Government to meet the shortage, monitor the distribution and check the black marketing of fertilizers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) A Statement indicating the State-wise demand and availability/supplies of fertilizers namely Urea, DAP and MOP for just concluded Kharif 2006 in the current financial year is enclosed.

(b) The demand for Rabi 2006-07 has been

assessed at 127.09 LMT for Urea, 48.19 LMT for DAP and 18.58 LMT for MOP. The indigenous production of urea and DAP during the season has been estimated to be about 102.71 LMT and 23.61 LMT and the requirement of MOP is totally met from imports as there are no indigenous sources for its production. The gap between the assessed requirement and indigenous availability are being filled through imports and other measures.

Urea is the only fertifizer, which is under partial movement, distribution and price control of the Government. Other fertifizers like DAP, MOP etc. are decontrolled

fertilizers and the availability of these fertilizers depends upon market forces of demand and supply. The State Governments are free to import/procure the material from manufacturers/importers.

- (c) Does not arise.
- (d) State Governments are primarily responsible for ensuring sale of fertilizers at Statutory/Indicative MRP's. They have been specifically advised vide a letter dated 7th November, 2006 to check malpractices, if any.

Statement
Requirement, Statewise, Availability, Sales of Closing Stocks of UREA, DAP & MOP during Kharif 2006

Qty. in ('000) Mts.

		UF	REA				DAP			M	IOP_	
Name of State	Req.	Availability	Sales	Closing	Req.	Availability	Sales	Closing	Req.	Availability	Sales	Closing
	Kharif	During	During	Stock	Kharif	During	During	Stock	Kharif	During	During	
	2006	Kharif. 06	Kharif. 06	as on 30.09.2006	2006	Kharif. 2006	Kharif	as on 30.9.2006	2006	Kharif 2006	Kharif	as on 30.9.2006
				30.09.2000		2000	2000	30.9.2000		2000	2000	30.8.2000
Andhra Prades	h 1 <b>35</b> 0.00	1197.38	1160.00	<b>3</b> 6.47	334.00	374.59	348.50	26.09	232.00	150.61	143.21	7.40
Karnataka	660.00	739.20	707.09	32.11	300.00	356.59	337.60	18.99	190.00	155.16	148.80	6.36
Kerala	82.00	81.00	73.51	7.49	12.00	16.74	14.31	2.43	70.00	58.78	58.45	0.33
Tamil Nadu	400.00	468.31	438.05	30.26	160.00	233.74	201.78	31.96	200.00	130.65	1 <b>29</b> .33	1.32
Gujarat	700.00	702.59	685.12	17.47	275.00	282.22	197.54	84.68	65.00	61.31	53.93	7.38
Madhya Prade	sh 410.00	444.92	418.89	26.03	220.00	317.66	246.98	70.68	25.00	44.43	43.18	1.25
Chhattisgarh	400.00	393.74	379.45	14.29	<b>8</b> 3.00	89.28	76.00	13.28	42.00	40.29	39.19	1.10
Maharashtra	1100.00	1193.14	1154.53	38.61	325.00	410.00	388.84	21.16	125.00	99.63	94.17	5.46
Rajasthan	500.00	424.95	389.62	35.33	260.00	235.85	199.53	36.32	7.00	6.69	5.74	0.95
Haryana	750.00	707.58	686.44	21.14	160.00	259.93	134.82	125.11	20.00	15.90	15.31	0.59
Punj <b>a</b> b	1250.00	1249.52	1160.23	89.29	240.00	372.35	227.96	144.39	55.00	32.52	32.52	0.00
Jammu and Kashmir	72.00	64.36	51.60	12.76	36.00	19.57	17.79	1.78	11.00	7.72	3.25	4.47
Uttar Pradesh	2450.00	2403.39	2255.17	148.22	400.00	666.12	398.78	267.34	80.00	59.74	56.71	3.03
Uttaranchal	88.00	124.99	120.11	4.88	12.00	12.78	7.42	5.36	6.00	2.28	2.20	0.08
Bihar	900.00	702.03	669.78	32.52	200.00	148.71	99.91	48.80	100.00	37.43	36.5	0.93
Jharkhand	124.00	109.14	100.99	8.15	70.00	55.14	48.23	6.91	6.00	0.33	0.32	0.01
Orissa	340.00	308.21	294.80	13.41	56.00	78.13	65.75	12.38	62.00	45.89	45.06	0.83
West Bengal	450.00	448.05	439.55	8.50	130.00	202.67	171.39	31.28	128.00	69.80	64.52	5.28
Assam and Other N.E.	154.15	150.35	129.22	21.13	28.80	20.60	16.21	4.39	35.31	24.31	23.36	0.95
Other Total	57. <b>38</b>	51.17	50.64	0.53	8.69	17.87	6.5	11.37	7.16	3.61	3.6	0.01
Ali India	12237.53	11964.00	11365.68	598.32	3310.49	4170.54	3205.84	964 70	1468.47	1047.08	999.35	47.73

[Translation]

#### Settling up of Fertilizer Plants Abroad

- SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:
- the total amount spent by the Government during the last three years for setting up of fertilizer plants abroad:
  - (b) the plants which have started production; and
- the plants which are lagging behind the (c) schedule along with the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) No, Sir. No expenditure has been incurred by the Government during the last three years for setting up of fertilizer plants abroad. However, Krishak Bharati Cooperative Ltd. (KRIBHCO), a Multi State Cooperative Society, in which Government of India holds more than 51% equity, has contributed an equity of US \$ 80.00 million in the Joint Venture Oman India Fertilizer Company (OMIFCO) in Oman between February, 1998 and August, 2003. The OMIFCO Fertilizer plant at Sur, Oman has started commercial production in July, 2005

#### **Procurement Price of Wheat**

- \*74. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:
- whether the Government has adopted a new (a) policy of determining the procurement price of wheat for the year 2007 much before the commencement of procurement season;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof:
- (c) whether the said policy is proposed to be continued for the future also:
- if so, the whether the policy will be extended (d) to other crops as well:
- (e) if so, the reasons for delay in declaration of procurement prices of other crops of Rabi season;
- whether the target for procurement of paddy has been increased for Government stocks this year; and
- if so, the extent of increase affected this year in comparison to the previous year?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRI-BUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (e) The procurement price is considered keeping in view the emerging situation in the peak marketing season. In the past, a higher price was offered, specially in the case of wheat, by providing a bonus over and above MSP fixed by the Government, However, the Minimum Support Price for the rabi crops of 2006-07 season to be marketed in 2007-08 have already been fixed on 27/30th October, 2006. The details are as under:

Crop	Minimum Support Price (Rs. per quintal)		
Wheat	750		
Barley	565		
Gram	1445		
Masur (lentil)	1545		
Rapeseed/Mustard	1715		
Safflower	1565		

(f) and (g) According to the estimates given by the State Food Secretaries during the Kharif Meeting held on 26th August, 2006, it is estimated that 270 lakh tonnes of rice (including paddy in terms of rice) is expected to be procured in Kharif Marketing Season 2006-07 in comparison to 276.56 lakh tonnes purchased in Kharlf Marketing Season 2005-06.

## Inter-Linking of Rivers

## \*75. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- whether the work on inter-linking of rivers is (a) not gaining momentum;
  - (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- the details of efforts being made by the (c) Government for its completion; and
- the time by which this project is likely to be (d) completed?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Interlinking of rivers (ILR) programme has been duly included in the National Common Minimum Programme of the UPA Govt.

which envisages that the Govt. will make a comprehensive assessment of the feasibility of linking the rivers of the country starting with the southern rivers in a fully consultative manner. A power point presentation was made by MOWR before the Hon'ble Prime Minister on October 11, 2004 in which the Union Minister of Finance, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, Member, Planning Commission and Principal Secretary to PM were present among others. After above presentation and comprehensive assessment of feasibility of interlinking of rivers in the country, it was decided to continue programme of ILR with focus on Peninsular Component.

- All the reports prepared by NWDA are circulated to concerned State Govts. The State Govt. officers are invariably invited to all the important meetings e.g. Annual General Meeting of NWDA Society. Governing Body, Technical Advisory Committee etc. A group headed by Chairman, Central Water Commission (CWC) has been constituted in June. 2002 to discuss with the States for arriving at a consensus regarding sharing of surplus waters and preparation of detailed project report by NWDA. Five peninsular links have been identified as priority links for consensus building between the concerned States. The Group has held seven meetings in respect of these 5 tinks, three for Ken-Betwa link, two for Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal link, one for Godavari (Polavaram)-Krishna (Vijayawada) link and one for Par-Tapi-Narmada & Damanganga-Pinial links. Preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for one priority link viz. Ken-Betwa under Peninsular Component has been taken up by NWDA after signing of a tripartite agreement between the Govt. of India and concerned States of Madhya Pradesh & Uttar Pradesh on 25.08.2005. The States of MP and Raiasthan have also agreed in principle for the preparation of DPR of Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal link.
- (d) The implementation of inter basin water transfer proposals depends on the consensus and cooperation of the concerned States.

#### **Export of PDS Rice**

- \*76. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding export of rice meant for distribution under Public Distribution System;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon:
- (c) whether the inter-relation between production, procurement, distribution and export of rice during the

previous year has been affected due to diversion of such rice:

- (d) If so, the details thereof, and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government to check recurrence of such diversions?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRI-BUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Based on a news item telecast by a TV Channel on 16.10,2006. regarding export of PDS rice, a factual position was called for from the Government of Gujarat. The Government of Guiarat reported that on inspection of a premises/godowns of a firm in Chudva. District Kutch, it was noted that the firm had stored 6401.508 MTs rice at seven different places for which the firm failed to produce purchase bills. Stacking of rice bags was haphazard, so that it was difficult to count. Moreover, most of rice bags had labels of FCI, so there was reason to believe that these rice may be of PDS quota, District Supply Officer (DSO) of the Government of Guiarat seized 3401.200 MT basmati rice and 3000.308 MT non-basmati rice. The Collector, Kutch released 3401.200 MT basmati rice as basmati rice is not distributed under PDS.

- (c) and (d) There is no shortage of rice in the country and the requirement under Public Distribution System are being fully met.
- The Government is taking necessary steps to curb diversion/leakage of TPDS foodgrains A system to monitor distribution of foodgrains and other goods being distributed under PDS is already in place. Under the System, the responsibility for distribution of foodgrains and other goods through PDS outlets lies with the respective State Government. However, after consulting all the State Food Ministers/Food Secretaries, an Action Plan has been prepared on ways to curb leakages/ diversions under TPDS. The Action Points include undertaking a campaign for review of BPL/AAY families to eliminate ghost ration cards; to take strict action against the guilty under the PDS (Control) Order; to involve elected members of the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in distribution of foodgrains at the Fair Price Shop (FPS) level and leave of FPS ticences to Self Help Groups (SHGs), Gram Panchayats, Cooperatives, etc.; display of all Below Poverty Line (BPL)/Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) lists; display of district-wise and Fair Price Shop wise allocation of foodgrains on websites and other prominent places for public scrutiny; door step delivery of foodgrains; timely availability of foodgrains; computerization of TPDS to ensure distribution of foodgrains in a transparent and

to Questions

effective manner. In addition, the Government has also taken steps to introduce electronic transfer of funds to FCI and issued instructions for display of banners/Boards on the wind shield as well as rear end of the truck/vehicles carrying PDS articles indicating details of State Government, destination, commodity and Agent's name.

[English]

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## **MSP for Crops**

## SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- whether the Union Government has set the (a) Minimum Support Price (MSP) for various crops to be procured for the Public Distribution System;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof, crop-wise;
- whether the private entrepreneurs had in the (c) recent past offered better prices to farmers which resulted in low procurement by the Government agencies;
- if so, whether the Union Government has considered these aspects while announcing the MSP;
- if so, whether the Union Government proposes to review/has reviewed MSP for wheat and rice for 2006-07:
  - **(f)** if so, the details thereof; and
  - (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRI-BUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Minimum Support Price (MSP) for various kharif and rabi crops of 2006-07 season are given below:

Minimum Support Prices for the Kharif Crops of 2006-07 Season

(Fixed on 27.7.2006)

Commodity	Variety	Minimum Support Price (Rs. per quintal)
1	2	3
Paddy	Common	580
	Grade A	610
Jowar	•	
Hybrid	-	. 540

1	2 '	3	
Maldandi	•	555	
Bajra	-	540	
Maize	•	540	
Ragi	•	540	
Tur (Arhar)	•	1410	
Moong	-	1520	
Urad	•	1520	
Groundnut-	in-shell -	1520	
Soyabean	Yellow	1020	
	Black	900	
Sunflower 8	Seed -	1500	
Sesamum	•	1560	
Nigerseed	•	1220	
Cotton	Medium Stable Length	1770	
	Long Stable Length	1990	

Minimum Support Prices for the Rabi Crops of 2006-07 Season to be Marketed in 2007-08

(fixed on 27/30th October, 2006)

Crop	Minimum Support Price (Rs. per quintal)		
Wheat	750		
Barley	565		
Gram	1445		
Masur (lentil)	1545		
Rapeseed/Mustard	1715		
Safflower	1565		

In the case of paddy crop of 2006-07 season, Government announced an additional incentive bonus of Rs.40 per quintal over the MSP of Rs.580 and Rs.610 per quintal respectively fixed for Common and Grade A varieties. MSP of Wheat crop of 2006-07 season has been increased by Rs. 100 per quintal over the preceding season i.e. 2005-06 to Rs.750 per guintal.

(c) to (g) The changes brought in the Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Act, with the objective of providing more options to the farmers by way of having the choice to sell their produce to prospective buyers, has also brought in greater degree of competition in the market. As a consequence of such reforms, farmers have got better prices. This can be observed from the fact that the Government could not procure the required quantity of wheat at the fixed MSP.

The Government fixes the MSPs for various agricultural commodities taking into account the recommendations of Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP), the views of State Governments and concerned Central Ministries as well as considers other relevant factors, which in the opinion of the Government, are important for fixation of MSPs. In view of this, currently there is no other proposal to review MSP for wheat and rice for 2006-07.

## Violation of Programme and Advertisement Codes

\*78. DR. M. JAGANNATH: SHRI K.S. RAO:

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Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROAD-CASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether despite the directions issued to the satellite TV channels to desist from showing advertisements for promotion of consumption of liquor, vulgarity/obscenity, certain channels continue to show advertisements glorifying obscenity, projecting derogatory images of women and also programmes/serials which have indecent/vulgar themes;
- (b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken against such TV channels for flouting the Programme and Advertisement Codes; and
- (c) the steps proposed to be taken to ban such advertisements/programmes on TV channels?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Certain instances have been brought to the notice of the Government.

(b) and (c) Whenever specific instances of violation of the Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder are brought to the notice of the Government, action is initiated. The Government have constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee to monitor violation of the Programme and Advertising Codes. The Committee recommends action on receipt of complaints or even on suo-motu basis. Thereafter action is taken as per rules. Vide Notification dated 2-8-2006 (Statement-I), no advertisement which violates the Code for self-regulation in advertising, as adopted by the Advertising Standard Council of India, Mumbal for exhibition in India, shall be carried in the cable service. By another Notification dated 9-8-2006 (Statement-II), certain conditions have been imposed for advertisement of a product on cable service that uses a brand name or logo, which is also used for

cigarettes, tobacco products, wine, alcohol, liquor or other intoxicants. All such advertisements have to be previewed and certified by Central Board of Film Certification suitable for unrestricted public exhibition prior to telecast or transmission or retransmission.

#### Statement-I

The Gazette of India: Extraordinary
Part (II) - Section 3 - Sub-section (i)
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

#### **NOTIFICATION**

New Delhi, dated: the 2nd August 2006

G.S.R 459(E): In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 22 of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 (7 of 1995), the Central Government hereby makes the following rules further to amend the Cable Television Networks Rules, 1994, namely:-

- 1. (1) These rules may be called Cable Television Networks (Amendment) Rules, 2006.
  - (2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the official Gazette.
- 2. In the Cable Television Networks Rules, 1994.
- (i) in rule 6, in sub-rule (1) after clause (0) the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:-

"Provide that no film or film song or film promo or film trailer or music video or music albums or their promos, whether produced in India or abroad, shall be carried through cable service unless it has been certified by the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) as suitable for unrestricted public exhibition in India".

- (ii) in rule 7, for sub-rule (9) the following shall be substituted, namely:-
- "(9) No advertisement which violates the Code for self-regulation in advertising, as adopted by the Advertising Standard Council of India (ASCI), Mumbai, for public exhibition in India, from time to time, shall be carried in the cable service".

[F.No. 2302/1/2001-BC-III (Part)]

(N. Baijendra Kumar), Jt. Secy.

Note: The principal rules were published in Gazette of India, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i) vide number GSR 729(E) dated the 29th September and subsequently amended by GSR 459 (E) dated the 8th October, 1998 and GSR 710 (E) dated the 8th September, 2000, and GSR 282 (E) dated the 11th May, 2006.

#### Statement-II

The Gazette of India: Extraordinary
Part (II) - Section 3 - Sub-section (i)
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

## **NOTIFICATION**

New Delhi, the 9th August 2006

G.S.R. 469(E). In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 22 of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 (7 of 1995), the Central Government hereby makes the following rules further to amend the Cable Television Network, Rules, 1994, namely:-

- (1) These rules may be called the Cable Television Networks (Amendment) Rules. 2006.
  - (2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.
- In the Cable Television Network Rules, 1994, in rule 7, in sub-rule (2), in clause (viii), after sub-clause (A), the following shall be inserted, namely:-

"Provided that a product that uses a brand name or logo, which is also used for cigarettes, tobacco products, wine, alcohol, liquor or other intoxicants, may be advertised on cable service subject to the following conditions that -

- the story board or visual of the advertisement must depict only the product being advertised and not the prohibited products in any form or manner;
- (ii) the advertisement must not make any direct or indirect reference to the prohibited products;
- (iii) the advertisement must not contain any nuances or phrases promoting prohibited products;
- (iv) the advertisement must not use particular colours and layout or presentations associated with prohibited products:
- (v) the advertisement must not use situations typical for promotion of prohibited products when advertising the other products:

Provided further that all such advertisements shall

be previewed and certified by the Central Board of Film Certification suitable for unrestricted public exhibition prior to telecast or transmission or retransmission";

[File No. 804/3/2005-BC-III/BC-II]

(N. Baijendra Kumar), Jt. Secy.

Note: - The principal rules were published in the Gazette of India, Part II, Section 3, sub-section (i) vide number G.S.R. 729(E), dated the 29th September, 1994 and subsequently amended by G.S.R. 459(E) dated the 8th October, 1996 and G.S.R. 282 (E), dated 11th May, 2006.

#### Ban on Sugar Export

\*79. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:

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

- (a) whether sugar cooperative societies from various parts of the country have urged the Government to lift ban on export of sugar;
  - (b) if so, the details in this regard,
- (c) whether the production of sugar in the country is now sufficient and surplus sugar is available for export;
  - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps initiated by the Government to lift the ban on export of sugar and also to ensure availability of sugar in the domestic market at controlled prices?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories Ltd., the Maharashtra Rajya Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Sangh Ltd. and Gujarat State Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories Ltd., in their representations dated 7th September, 2006, 11th August, 2006 and 17th November, 2006 have urged the Government to lift the ban on export of sugar.

(c) to (e) Taking into account the estimated production of sugar during the current 2006-07 sugar season and the carry over stocks from the 2005-06 sugar season, after meeting the requirement for internal consumption of sugar and buffer norms, there would be surplus stocks of sugar which can be exported.

The Government is actively considering lifting ban, on export of sugar. The exports of sugar would be regulated by export release orders to ensure adequate availability of sugar in the domestic market at reasonable prices.

#### New Pricing Scheme for Urea Units

\*80. PROF. M. RAMADASS: SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM:

Written Answers

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- whether the Government has formulated a policy for Stage-III of New Pricing Scheme (NPS) for urea units as recommended by the Working Group headed by Dr. Y.K. Alagh:
- if so, the details thereof and the salient features (b) of the policy;
  - (c) if not, the reasons for delay; and
  - (d) the time by which it is likely to be formulated?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (d) Formulation of a policy for Stage-III of New Pricing Scheme (NPS) for urea units keeping in view the recommendations of the Working Group headed by Dr. Y.K. Alagh is under consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

#### Coverage of FM in Maharashtra

670. SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL: SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROAD-CASTING be pleased to state:

- the details of the number of FM stations in Maharashtra alongwith the percentage area of the State covered by FM broadcasting;
- whether there is any proposal to extend FM (p) coverage to other areas;
- if so, whether any proposal has been received (c) in this regard;
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and
  - (e) the time by which it is likely to be finalized?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) At present, there are 16 Government AIR FM radio stations and 5 private FM radio stations running in the State of Maharashtra. AIR FM signals cover 24.3% of area and 44.15% of the population in Maharashtra.

(b) to (e)Yes, Sir, 3 more AIR FM radio stations i.e., at Shiridi, Oras and Amravti have been approved in the 10th Plan. Besides, Letters of Intent (LOI) have been issued under Phase II of private FM radio broadcasting to run 31 channels in Maharashtra. The operationalization of these channels are expected by the end of next financial year, at the latest.

[English]

#### **Production of Single Super Phosphate**

- 671. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:
- the details of production of Single Super (a) Phosphate (SSP) recorded in the country during the last three years, year-wise:
- (b) the subsidy provided to fertilizer units producing SSP during the said period; and
- (c) the number of SSP manufacturing units in the country, State-wise?

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) Year-wise production and subsidy paid to SSP units by the Government in the country during the last three years is given below:-

Year	Production (Lakh MT)	Subsidy given (Rs. in crore) #
2003-2004	24.80	155.32
2004-2005	23.87	140.99
2005-2006	26.96	194.65

<sup>#</sup> The figures of payment of concession are subject to variation subsequent to final settlement of claims based on sales certified by the concerned State Governments.

State-wise number of SSP units in the country is given below:-

Name of the State	Number of SSP units
1	2
Rajasthan	16
Madhya Pradesh	11
Maharashtra	13
Andhra Pradesh	8

to Questions

1	2
Uttar Pradesh	7
Gujarat	6
West Bengal	5
Tamil Nadu	2
Chhattisgarh	2
Karnataka	1
Bihar	1
Total	72

#### [Translation]

#### **Development of Forests in Gujarat**

#### 672. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR: SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL:

Written Answers

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

- whether the Government of Guiarat has (a) submitted any project for the development of forests;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof:
- whether the Government has approved the (c) above project;
  - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the development work carried out in Gujarat consequently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. The Government of Gujarat has submitted Gujarat Forestry Development Project for the development of forests. The project will be of 8 years duration, starting from 2007-08 to 2014-15. The project activities will be confined to the forest areas of Eastern tribal belt of the State, Reserve Grasslands in Raikot District. Mangroves in Kori Creek, Kachch Coast, Marine National Park and Jam Nagar Division. The project activities, interalia include Forest Development & Management. Wildlife Conservation & Development and Community/ Tribal Development. The total cost of the Project is Rs. 830.27 crores including Rs. 135 crores as State share. The loan agreement between Government of India and Government of Japan has not been signed as yet. This project is included in FY 2006 JBIC, ODA, Loan package. As the project is yet to start, no development work under the project has been carried out in Gujarat State so far.

#### [Enalish]

#### Fall in Price of Urea

- 673. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: WIII the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:
- whether there has been fell in the International price of urea during the recent months, and
  - 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) No Sir, the price of urea has been showing a rising trend during the recent months. The prices have gone up from around US\$255 per MT CFR Indian ports during September 2006 to around US\$290 per MT CFR in November 2006.

#### Assistance from SDF

- 674. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) the proposals received from the Government of Karnataka for assistance to sugar mills from Sugar Development Fund (SDF) during the last five years;
- the amount sanctioned and released to the sugar mills during the said period;
- whether the assistance sanctioned for summa mills particularly Bhadra SSK, Doddabathi, Davangere has not been released so far:
  - (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken to ensure early release of the funds?

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 proposals for sanction of financial assistance from SDF pertaining to various schemes received during the period 2001-02 to 2006-07 (upto 31.10.2006) are as under:

Year	No. of Application received
2001-02	2
2002-03	1
2003-04	4
2004-05	2
2005-06	5
2006-07	1

(b) The amount sanctioned and released during the above mentioned period is as under:

(In lakhs)

Year	Sanctioned	Released	
2001-02	Nil	NII	
2002-03	Nil	Nil	
2003-04	231.30	Nil	
2004-05	369.94	Nil	
2005-06	416.69	272.44	
2006-07	. Nil	Nil	
(upto 31.10.2006)			

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The Sugar Development Fund Rules, 1983, provide that the Central Government shall authorise payment of loan from fund only to such sugar undertakings which have fully repaid all the sums which have become due in respect of Sugar Development Fund and Levy Sugar Price Equalization Fund. In addition, the sugar mills have to fulfill the terms and conditions as given in the Administrative Approval i.e. signing of Tripartite Agreement, furnishing of security for loan and interest thereon, opening of no lien account in the bank and production of proof of deposit of 10% of the cost of schemes/projects before disbursement/release of loan.

M/s Bhadra SSK, Doddabathi, Davangere, has outstanding SDF dues on account of previous cane development loan from SDF and as such instalment of frosh loan could not be disbursed. The sugar mill has been advised to repay the outstanding dues at the earliest under intimation to the Government of Karnataka. The other sugar mills are required to fulfill the terms and conditions as per SDF Rules and Administrative Approval.

#### Cost of Production of Urea

- 675. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Naphtha, fuel oil and gas are used as fuel for production of urea in the country;
- (b) if so, whether the cost of production has been found to be varying based on the fuel used in production;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the production cost of urea produced during 2006-07; and

(d) the percentage of each of the said fuel being used at present in the country by fertilizer producers?

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) Natural gas, naphtha, fuel oil (FO) and low sulphur heavy stock (LSHS) are primarily used as feedstock and fuel in the manufacture of urea. Cost of production of urea is, among other things, dependent upon the cost of feedstock and fuel. For gas based units, cost of feedstock constitutes about 60% of the total cost of production of urea, whereas for naphtha and FO/LSHS based units, it is up to 75% of the total cost of production.

In the year 2006-07, the weighted average concession rate of different groups based on concession rates of urea units notified till 20.11.2006 is given below:

SI.N	o. Group	Provisional weighted average concession price of units in each group (Rs/MT of urea)
1.	Gas Pre-92	5497
2.	Gas - Post-92	7188
3.	Naphtha - Pre-92	17243
4.	Naphtha — Post-92	12489
5.	FO/LSHS	11430
6.	Mixed	9437
	Total	9480

(d) Percentage of each feedstock and fuel used in manufacture of urea in 2005-06 is as follows:

G	as N	aphtha	FO	LSHS	Coal
5	7	23	3	10	7

#### Protection of New Bird Species

- 676. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether a new bird scientifically known an Liocichia Bugunorum has been discovered in Arunachal Pradesh making it the first ornithological found in the country in more than half a century;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and

the steps being taken to Preserve and promote (c) the same?

Written Answers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As part of a study undertaken by the Kaati Trust, Pune and Arunachal Pradesh Forest Department under the Eaglenest Biodiversity Project - 1 (2003-2006), a new species of bird, scientifically known as Liocichia bugunorum, has been discovered in Arunachal Pradesh.

The habitat of the bird is already a part of a Wildlife Sanctuary which is well protected and conserved.

[Translation]

#### Satellite Radio Broadcasting Service

677. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY: PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: SHRIMATI RUPATAI D. PATIL:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROAD-CASTING be pleased to state:

- whether the Government proposes to introduce Satellite Radio Broadcasting Service all over the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the policy of the Government in this regard;
- whether a number of private sector companies have shown their interest in it: and
- if so, the details thereof and the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (d) Presently, All India Radio is providing 20 satellite channels in Ku-Band on Direct to Home (DTH) platform. Signals can be received with the help of a small sized dish antenna and a set top box. Also, All India Radio has proposed experimental satellite broadcasting in portable and mobile mode during 11th Plan. However, its implementation is subject to approval and availability of funds.

M/s World Space is providing Satellite Service on the basis of approval of Foreign Investment and Promotion Board under Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion since 2000. TRAI's recommendations on Satellite Radio and participation by private companies are being evaluated for adoption.

(Enalish)

#### Decline in Rice Procurement

- 678. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- whether procurement of rice for public distribution is likely to be less during the current year as compared to last year:
  - (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- whether the shortfall in procurement is likely to create shortage in rice availability under the Public Distribution System thereby affecting the poor 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 (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) As per the estimates given by the State Food Secretaries during the Kharif meeting held on 26th August, 2006, the procurement of rice in Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2006-07 is likely to be 270 lakh tonnes in comparison to 276.56 lakh tonnes procured in KMS 2005-0€. This figure of 270 lakh tonnes is well above the annual requirement of rice for the TPDS and other welfare scheme 3.

[Translation]

#### Repair and Renovation of Chambal Canal

679. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- whether the Government of Rajasthan has (a) prepared and submitted a project report to Union Government for repairing and renovation of Chambal canal:
- if so, the details thereof indicating the action taken by the Government so far in this regard;
- whether the said proposal has also been considered in the meeting of core group;
- if so, the details of the recommendations made, by the core group; and
- (e) the time by which the said project is likely to be cleared by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes Sir, the Government of Rajasthan had submitted proposals for correction of system deficiencies of 36 distribution systems of Chambal Project.

- (b) and (c) The total estimated cost and culturable command area covered by these systems were Rs. 56.16 crore and 1.42 lakh hectare respectively. The proposals were considered by the Core group of Ministry of Water Resources for approval of CAD proposals, in its 13th meeting held on 23rd August, 2006.
- (d) and (e) The State Government officials were advised by the Core Group to give priority to those distributaries where Command Area Development (CAD) works have already been completed. The Core Group also felt that in the absence of rehabilitation of the main and branch canals, correction of deficiencies in the distributaries only may not serve useful purpose and therefore the distributaries on the head of which full supply discharge is assured should only be taken up for correction. It further observed that only those minors/distributaries shall be considered where WUAs have been formed under the Participation of Farmers in the Management of Irrigation Systems Act 2002 of Rajasthan and not under cooperative societies act. The State Government was also advised to give assurance that the systems shall be handed over to the WUAs elected under the above mentioned Act. The State Government was advised to send a list of proposals on those distributaries which fulfill the above conditions.

The clearance of the project will depend upon the promptness with which the State Government replies to the observations of the Central Appraising Agencies.

#### **Development of Pastures**

- 680. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) the amount sanctioned and released for the development of pastures in the country particularly in Punjab during the last three years and the current years, State-wise:
- (b) whether any amount out of the sanctioned amount is yet to be released for the said purpose by the Union Government;
  - (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (d) the time by which the remaining amount is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) A Centrally Sponsored Fodder Development Scheme with Grassland Development, including Grass Reserves as one of its component, is being implemented since 2005-06. The amount released during 2005-06 and in the current year, Statewise, is given in the enclosed statement. No proposal for Grassland Development, including Grass Reserves, has been received from Punjab during 2005-06 and in the current financial year 2006-07.

- (b) No. Sir.
- (c) and (d) Do not arise

#### Statement

The funds released during 2005-06 and current year 2006-07 for Grassland Development including Grass Reserves Statewise.

(Rs. in lakhs.)

		(113. 111 123/113.)
State	2005-06	2006-07
Gujarat	155.57	
Himachal Pradesh	100.00	
Jammu and Kashmir	58.40	
Karnataka	50.00	
Mizoram	100.00	
Nagaland	80.00	90.00
Rajasthan	9.9	
Sikkim	110.00	
Tamil Nadu	24.00	
Tripura	25.25	
Uttranchal	90.00	
West Bengal	40.00	
Total	843.12	90.00

[English]

#### **Opening of New CIPET Centres**

- 681. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of centres of Central Institute of Plastic Engineering and Technology (CIPET) presently functioning in the country and its main functions;

- (b) whether the Government has any proposal to open more such centres in the country;
- (c) if so, the locations identified and the amount sanctioned for the purpose; and
- (d) the time by which the new centres are likely to be opened?

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) There are at present 15 extension Centres of CIPET functioning in various States of the country. The main functions of CIPET are to provide technically trained manpower and technical services to the Plastic and allied industries. Out of these, three new Centres are in the process of being set up at Panipat (Hary 1na), Jaipur (Rajasthan) and Aurangabad (Maharashtra), at a total cost of Rs.61.50 crore, to be shared equally between the Government of India and the respective State Governments.

[Translation]

#### **Acquisition of Coal Mines**

- 682. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has decided to acquire coal mines overseas in view of the future need of coking coal;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the places where the SAIL has succeeded in acquisition of mines abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) to (c) For establishing long term security in the sourcing of coking coal, SAIL has plans to acquire equity stakes in overseas mines and is currently exploring the possibilities of forging strategic alliances with overseas coal mining companies. Some proposals are currently under consideration and examination for their suitability. No equity stake has been taken in any overseas mine as yet.

[English]

#### Amendments in Factories Act. 1948

683. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has cleared amendments to Factories Act, 1948 to allow women to work in night shifts;
- (b) if so, the details of the protective clauses that have been incorporated in the proposed amendments to provide protection to women when they work in night shifts; and

#### (c) if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Government has cleared the proposal to make suitable amendments in the Factories Act, 1948 allowing flexibility for women to work in night shifts. It provides for protection clauses like provision of adequate safeguards in the factory as regards occupational safety and health, equal opportunity for women workers, adequate protection of their dignity, honour and safety, their transportation from the factory premises to the nearest point of their residence. The bill in this regard was introduced in Lok Sabha on 16.08.2005 and is pending to be taken up for discussions and passing. As far as provision of lighting and creche are concerned, these are already covered under the provisions of the Factories Act, 1948.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Fishing Harbour at Jakhau

- 684. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Union Government has received a comprehensive report on the escalation of cost of construction of fishing harbour at Jakhau and the revised estimate thereof from the Covernment of Gujarat;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the assistance is likely to be provided?

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

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

#### **Brahmaputra Board**

- 685. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister, of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of various flood and erosion control projects taken up for execution during Tenth Plan in Assam

through Government of Assam and Brahmaputra Board indicating total outlay, annual allocation alongwith its utilization progress made and target set for completion; and

Written Answers

(b) the details of projects for which clearance is awaited project-wise and the reason for delay in sanction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The details of various flood and erosion control projects taken up for execution through the Govt of Assam during Tenth Plan as indicated by Govt. of Assam are as under:-

#### (i) Central Loen Assistance/Centre Sector Schemes:

A total of 35 Nos. of schemes were taken up. Out of this, 15 Nos. of schemes have been completed and the works of 20 Nos. of schemes are in progress. There is a total allocation of Rs. 81 crores, out of which an amount of Rs.42.90 crores had already been released and utilised. The target date of completion of the schemes is March, 2007.

#### (ii) Additional Central Assistance (A.C.A.)

A total of 67 Nos. of schemes were funded from A.C.A. Out of these, 24 Nos. are completed schemes and liabilities are to be cleared from A.C.A. Others are on-going schemes and will be completed by March/07.

#### (NI) Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources:

There are 29 Nos. of schemes out of which 28 Nos. are completed and 1 No. is on-going and will be completed by March/07. A total sum of Rs.38.04 crores was received and utilized.

#### (iv) Joint River Commission

3 Nos. of schemes were executed and completed. A total amount of Rs.1.30 crores was allotted and released from Govt. of India. An amount of Rs.0.26 crore was so far utilised.

### (v) North Eastern Council

There is only one scheme on which 95% work has been completed. Balance will be completed by December, 07. Allocation for this scheme is Rs.4.95 crores and expenditure incurred is Rs.4.5 crore.

The flood and erosion control projects taken up for execution by Brahmaputra Board during Tenth Plan are

Pagladia Dam Project, Harang Drainage Development Scheme and New Schemes for Majuli in Assam. Dibang Projects etc.

The new schemes at present consists of six projects in Assam as noted below:-

- (i) Avulsion of Brahmaputra Board at Dholla Hatighuli
- (ii) Avulsion of Brahmaputra Board at Dholla Hatighuli
- (iii) Protection of Majuli Island from flood and erosion (immediate measure)
- (iv) Barbhag Drainage Development Scheme
- (v) Amjur Drainage Development Scheme
- (vi) Protection of Majuli Island from flood and erosion Phase-I

The schemes at serial (i), (ii) and (iii) above have been completed. The target for completion of other schemes is end of Tenth Five Year Plan. However, the schemes at serial numbers (iv), (v) and (vi) are likely to spill over to XI Plan.

The details of total outlay, annual allocation and utilisation of funds by Brahmaputra Board are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) In respect of Govt. of Assam, eleven schemes have been cleared by Central Water Commission but clearance from Planning Commission is yet to be received. For another seven schemes, no clearance has been obtained from Central Water Commission as well as from Planning Commission. There are no projects of Brahmaputra Board for which clearance is awaited.

#### Statement

List of Schemes under Execution by Assam State Government under "Critical Flood Control and Anti Erosion Schemes in Brahmaputra and Barak Valley under State Sector

SI. No.	Name of the scheme		
1	2		
1	A/E measures including widening Dikhow bund L/B at different reaches from Namdang outfall to Dikhow-mukh.		
2	R/S to Bhugdoi L/B from J B Road to Change- lihati including A/E works.		

to Questions

1	2	1	2
3	Protection of Dainigaon (Hatisal Neemati) and adjoining areas against the erosion of river Brahmaputra.  Protection of Matmara areas including Dhakua-	16	Strengthening of Dhubri town protection works from Siva Mandir to Sikh Temples Stone spur no. 3 & 7 including construction of revetment and apron in between timber dampener No.225 for a reach of 280 m.
	khana town including from erosion of river Bramaputra Ph -I (Consruction of Bull heads).	17	A/E to protect Hatsingimari and its adjoining
5	R/S to flood embt. along Kollong river from Raha to Jagi R/B and Azrabari to railway bridge		area from the erosion of river Brahmaputra and Jinjiram (Revised).
6	L/B Ph-I (Revised).  Drainage of Patidarang and its adjoining low	18	Construction Retirement of R/B of river Aie at Saster including A/E measures.
Ü	lying areas under Mangaldoi Civil sub-Division including reconstruction of sluice culvert at 17th km of B/Dyke rom Rangamati to Kurua.	19	Improvement of flood embt. along L/B of river Barak from Uttar Krisnapur to Tarapur Ch. 13780 m to 17250 m and Ch. 19946 m to 22740 m.
7	Protection of Garal area from Garal to Majirgaon from erosion of river Brahmaputra Phase-I.	20	Protection of Katilichara Bazar from the erosion of River Katakhal on its LIB (ch.2590.00 m to 3060.00 m).
8	A./E measures against bank erosion of river Brahmaputra at different reaches of North Guwahti town from Aswaklanta Hills to Dihlng Sattra.	21	R/S to Barak Dyke along R/B of Barak from Ganigram to Katigaragh Ph-III (ch. 18000 m to 24150 m).
9	Construction of retirement from ch 27.80 km to 31.15 km of B/Dyke on L/B on Gumi to Kolatuli to link the bridge protection of embankment at	22	Construction of retirement from ch.19.46 km to 24.60 km of B/Dyke from Kaharmuza to Balikuchi at Bowratal to Fetengaparan area.
10	Alikash.  Strengthening the B/Dyke on left bank from	23	A/E measures of Dikhow B/B at different reaches near Simulaguri and Nazira.
	Palasbari to Gumi (From ch-19890 m to 21200 m along with A/E measures ch-19600 m to 20280 m & 20490 m to ch 20590.	24	R/S of Dikhow R/B embt. from Darbar field to Dikhowmukh including A/E measures phase-II.
11	A/E measures against B/B from erosion of river Pagladiya at different reaches (Protection work	25	A/E measures on B/B of the river Dikhow at different reaches near Sibsagar town.
	at 11th, 14th, 20th, 27th, 35th Km L/B and 37th Km at R/B).	26	Protection of Palashbari town from the erosion of river Brahmaputra.
12	A/E measures to protect the Larkuchi area from the erosion of river Brahmaputra (breach closing and protection work at 29th km on R/B of B/Dyke from Adabari to Kukarjan).	27	A/E measures for protection of Nagaghuil and Maijan area from the erosion of river Brahmaputra.
13	Strengthening & Extension of Goalpara Town Protection from erosion of river Brahmaputra on stone spur no-2 to its D/S.	28	Protection of Matmara area including Dhakua- khana town from the erosion of river Brahma- putra Ph-II (Const. of Bull-head and land spur).
14	R/S of m/e along B/B of Pohumara from railwayline to B/B PWD road on R/B and to Nowkuchi village on L/B.	29	Construction of retirement of Subansiri dyke, from Bhimepora ghat to Na all village at 26th to 31st km.
15	Opening the Harijan Channel at Barpeta Town.	30	R/S of B/Dyke from Biswanath to Panpur.

1	2
31	Protection of Kapurpura area including Bhuran- gaon town from the erosion of river Brahmaputra (Constn. of land spur and tie bund) Ph-I.
32	Closing of breach by constructing a short-retirement of B/Dyke from Palashbari to Gumi along with A/E measures from ch. 17,300 M to ch.19,000 M.
33	A/E measures to protect the B/Dyke L/Bank from Palashbari to Gumi from the erosion of river Brahmaputra at ch. 8700 M to ch. 9500 M including widening of Embmkment at ch. 8525 M to 9025 M.
34	Protection of Dhubri town from the erosion of the river Bahadurtari and Newghat area.
35	A/E measures to protect Golokganj town and its adjoining area from the erosion of river Gangadhar.

#### **Upper Krishna Project**

686. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Upper Krishna Project has been completed and made operational:
- (b) if so, the initial estimated and the final cost incurred on the project;
- (c) whether the project has been pending for a long time;
- (d) If so, the date since when it has been pending along with the reasons for delay;
  - (e) the area to be benefited from this project;
- (f) the number of families affected due to the project;
- (g) whether all the affected families have been rehabilitated; and
- (h) If not, the reasons therefor and the time by which they are likely to be rehabilitated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Upper Krishna Project is being executed in two stages. The status of completion of projects is as under:

#### Stage-I

- Phase-I Completed and is operational
- Phase-II and III works are under execution

#### Stage-II - Works are under progress

- (b) Initially, Upper Krishna Stage-I was approved by Planning Commission for Rs.58.20 crore and first revision was for Rs.283.65 crore and approved by the Planning Commission. It was further revised to Rs. 1214.97 crore by Planning Commission. The revised project cost as reported by project authorities is Rs.6003.19 crore. The Stage-II work has been approved by Planning Commission in December, 2000 for Rs.2358.86 crore. The revised cost as reported by project authorities is Rs.3476.40 crore.
- (c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The work of Stage-I and Stage-II started in year 1960 and 1996 respectively. The project got delayed mainly due to land acquisition problems faced by the State.
- (e) Contemplated annual irrigation in Stage-I and Stage-II are 4.59 lakh hectare and 1.97 lakh hectare respectively.
- (f) to (h) 93,247 number of families are affected due to Upper Krishna Stage-project. Out of this 82,142 families have already been rehabilitated. The balance resettlement and rehabilitation work is in progress by State Government.

#### [Translation]

#### Bird Flu Vaccine

- 687. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Union Government has developed a vaccine to check Bird Flu:
- (b) if so, whether the said vaccine has been put up for sale in the market;
- (c) if so, whether the Union Government has fixed its price; and
  - (d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) to (d) The Technology for production of vaccine is available for commercialization. However, the basic facility of biosafety level-III required for production of this vaccine

is not available with any manufacturer at present. The price of the vaccine will be fixed depending on the production cost when the vaccine is manufactured on large scale.

[English]

#### **Poliution at Tai Mahai**

#### 688. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: SHRIMATI SUSMITA BAURI:

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

- (a) whether the Government has formulated or proposes to formulate any plan to make the Taj Mahal and its adjoining areas pollution free; and
  - (b) 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 formulated comprehensive plan for abatement of pollution around Taj Mahal and Agra city. The pollution abatement measures taken inter-alla include the following:

- Restriction on plying of petrol and diesel vehicle around 500 mts. of Taj Mahal;
- Prohibition on establishment or expansion of polluting industries:
- Closure of brick kilns within 20 kms. of Tai Mahal;
- Closure of coal/coke based industries and shifting to natural gas;
- Supply of ultra low sulphur diesel for vehicles;
- Improvement of city roads and construction of bypass roads;
- Solid Waste Management for improvement of environmental conditions;
- · Creation of Green Belt; and
- Preparation and implementation of Action Plan for improvement of Air quality.

#### Illegal Mining

- 689. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether illegal mining activities in the Brij region of Rajasthan and Vasant Kunj in Delhi are taking place unabatedly causing serious environmental pollution to the heritage structures and Bio-diversity park;
- (b) if so, the number of illegal mining cases that have come to the notice of the Government during the last three years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Government of Rajasthan have informed that occasional illegal mining in Tehsil Deeg and Kaman, District Bharatpur in the Brij Region, Rajasthan have been reported. No scientific study has, however, been carried out to assess the environmental pollution in the Region. Government of NCT of Delhi have informed that no illegal mining is noticed in the Vasant Kunj area at present.

- (b) Government of Rajasthan have reported 348 cases of illegal mining in the Brij Region and Government of NCT of Delhi have reported 27 cases of illegal mining.
- (c) Government of Rajasthan have filed complaints in the competent Courts and in Police Stations. Penalties have been recovered and material and tools have been seized. Government of NCT of Delhi have booked cases of illegal mining in the Vasant Kunj Police Station. Regular patrolling of Vasant Kunj area is carried out to guard against illegal mining.

#### Possession of Iron Ore Mines by SAIL

- 690. SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) is facing some problems to get the possession of Chiria and Rawghat iron ore mines;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the remedial steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) to (c) Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) had submitted proposals for renewal of mining leases for Chirla Iron ore mines. Three out of six leases are under deemed extension and the other three are under litigation between SAIL and State Government of Jharkhand in the Hon'ble High Court of Jharkhand. Vigorous efforts are being made by SAIL and the Ministry of Steel at various levels to settle the matter amicably.

In case of Rowghat, the matter was taken up by the Ministry of Steel. The Ministry of Mines vide their Gazette Notification No.G.S.R.438(E) dated 20/7/06 and Corrigendum No.G.S.R. 542(E) dated 8/9/06 have reserved the Raodongri in the sub-blocks of Rowghat F Deposit in favour of SAIL. The process for grant of mining lease and related statutory clearances is under progress.

#### **Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme**

691. PROF. M. RAMADASS: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

to Questions

- (a) whether the outcome budget with respect to Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) for the year 2005-06 has shown positive and encouraging results;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons for shortfall in achieving the targets;
- (d) the steps proposed to taken to achieve optimal results:
- (e) whether the Government proposes to shift the focus of the programme from completion of project to creation of irrigation potential for optimal utilization of public money; and

#### (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) The out come budget for 2005-06 envisages creation of irrigation potential of 9.25 lakh hectare through AIBP. However, details of the irrigation potential created under AIBP are to be provided by the States for the year 2005-06, who are executing agencies for the projects included in AIBP as well. As per out come budget, an outlay of Rs.4500 crore and provision of Central Grant of Rs.1680 crore has been made against which Central grant released to the States during 2005-06 was Rs. 1900.3142 crore.

(e) and (f) Under Bharat Nirman, AIBP has been focuseed to meet the target of creation of irrigation potential and completion of ongoing projects.

#### **Bids from FM Licence**

692. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government did not receive bids for 57 licences and 23 successful bidders have surrendered in the second phase of FM radio licences;
  - (b) If so, the factors attributed thereto;
- (c) whether the Government has taken care of these factors before initiating process of granting FM licences of 100 cities;
  - (d) if so, the details thereof:
- (e) the details of revenue collected through licences for FM radios during the last three years citywise; and
- (f) the expected revenue generation from the second phase?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (d) During the Second Phase of Private FM radio broadcasting, 337 channels were put on bid out of which 280 channels were successfully bid. While no bids were received for 28 channels, bids received in respect of 29 channels were rejected as the same was less than the Reserve One Time Entry Fee (OTEF). As per the clause 1.2.2 of the Tender Document (available at www.mib.nic in), the total number of channels allocated to an applicant and its related entities shall not exceed the overall limit of 15% of the total channels allocated. Hence, two companies which had acquired more than 15% of the total bid channels, i.e. 45, had to surrender the excess channels.

- (e) The details of revenue collected through licenses for FM radios during the last three years city-wise are given in the enclosed statement.
- (f) The expected revenue generation from second phase is Rs. 38,16,46,091/- per annum.

Statement

Revenue collected through Licenses for Private FM Radios during the last three years City-wise

			Revenue 2005-06			Revenue 2004-05	Revenue 2003-04
S.No.	Name of the City	OTEF in Rupees	Migration Fee	License Fee	Total Revenue	)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Agartala	1,620,000			1,620,000		
2	Agra	75,710,140			75,710,140		
3	Ahmedabad	351,255,500	87,813,875	5,640,309	444,709,684	12,002,043	33,723,800
4	Ahmednagar	9,085,002			9,085,002		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5	Aizawal	1,207,000			1,207,000		
3	Ajmer	13,800,090			13,800,090		
7	Akola	3,310,000			3,310,000		
В	Aligarh	2,700,090			2,700,090		
Ð	Allahabad	35,000,590			35,000,590		
10	Amritsar	78,610,090			78,610,090		
11	Asansol	27,055,090			27,055,090		
12	Aurangabad	42,459,000			42,459,000		
13	Bangalore	851,820,094	141,970,016	11,379,344	1,005,169,454	80,948,460	89,930,000
14	Barelly	5,400,090			5,400,090		
15	Bhopai	109,959,990			109,959,990		
6	Bhubaneshwa	ar 18,675,090			18,675,090		3,174,000
7	Bikaner	2,700,090			2,700,090		
8	Bilaspur	4,720,002			4,720,002		
9	Chandigarh	261,210,590			261,210,590		
20	Chennai	486,803,890	162,267,964	9,495,665	658,567,519	79,346,974	66,000,000
21	Cochin	276,120,511			276,120,511		
22	Coimbatore	191,500,000	63,833,333	3,132,485	258,465,818	54,880,073	44,303,800
23	Daman	1,105,002			1,105,002		
4	Delhi	1,111,261,094	666,756,657	26,302,457	1,804,320,208	244,642,303	213,750,000
25	Dhule	2,160,000			2,160,000		
26	Gangtok	5,307,101			5,307,101		
27	Gorakhpur	1,800,000			1,800,000		
28	Gulbarga	20,105,900			20,105,900		
29	Guwahati	12,291,090			12,291,090		
0	Gwalior	25,595,990			25,595,990		
11	Hissar	16,514,490			16,514,490		
32	Hyderabad	467,111,390			467,111,390		
33	Indore	142,520,890	47,506,962	2,885,979	192,913,831	68,693,064	11,902,500
34	Itanagar	1,303,000			1,303,000		

87	Written Answers	NOVEMBER 27, 2008	to Questions	88

1 2		3	4	5	6	7	8
5 Ja	balpur	47,491,000			47,491,000		2,909,500
6 Ja	ripur	258,060,955			258,060,955		
7 Ja	alandhar	92,500,090			92,500,090		
18 Ja	algaon	6,860,100			6,860,100		
9 Ja	ımmu	10,107,090			10,107,090		
io Ja	ımshedpur	25,015,990			25,015,990		
1 Jh	nansi	2,700,090			2,700,090		
2 Jo	odhpur	45,007,090			45,007,090		
13 Ka	nnur	57,626,135	•		57,626,135		
4 Ka	anpur	165,615,090			165,615,090		
5 Ka	amal	16,110,000			16,110,000		
16 Ko	olhapur	44,200,000			44,200,000		
17 Ko	olkata	235,611,294	94,244,518	5,444,634	335,300,446	22,505,765	20,000,000
8 Ko	ota	14,290,090			14,290,090		
19 Ka	ozhikode	111,200,100			111,200,100		
iO Lu	ıcknow	241,055,000	120,527,500	3,501,375	365,083,875	27,521,519	73,398,800
51 Ma	aduri	167,112,000			167,112,000		
2 Ma	angalore	64,210,590			64,210,590		
3 ML	umbai	733,961,094	978,614,792	29,823,479	1,742,399,365	510,797,917	549,258,904
4 Mu	uzzaffarpur	1,510,000			1,510,000		
55 My	ysore	62,231,990			62,231,990		
i6 Na	<b>ag</b> pur	116,055,100			116,055,100		
57 Na	anded	2,501,000			2,501,000		
58 Na	asik	61,159,000			61,159,000		
9 Pa	anaji	42,168,990			42,168,990		
80 Pa	atiala	35,310,090			35,310,090		
31 Pa	aina	51,300,000			51,300,000		
32 Pc	ondicherry	85,910,990			85,910,990		•
83 Pu	une	254,255,100	84,751,700	6,589,555	345,596,355	2,071,830	70,092,500
34 R	aipur	58,710,004			58,710,004		

1	2	3	4	5	. 6	7	8
65	Rajahmundry	21,101,030	-		21,101,030	)	
66	Rajkot	78,759,590			78,759,590	)	
67	Ranchi	17,650,989			17,650,989	)	
68	Rourkela	3,370,090			3,370,090	)	
69	Sangli	5,536,000			5,536,000	)	
70	Shilong	3,014,000			3,014,000	l	
71	Shimla	25,840,090			25,840,090		
72	Sholapur	8,620,990			8,620,990		
73	Siliguri	21,055,501			21,055,501		
74	Srinagar	6,120,090			6,120,090		
75	Surat	96,120,990			96,120,990		
76	Triuvandrum	149,421,489			149,421,489		
77	Thrissur	88,494,499			88,494,499		
78	Tiruchy	81,500,500			81,500,500		
79	Tiruneiveli	19,700,160	10,467,050	1,331,398	31,498,608	52,750,439	42,584,500
80	Tirupati	56,750,990			56,750,990		
81	Tuticorin	30,001,400			30,001,400		
<b>82</b>	Udalpur	18,377,090			18,377,090		
<b>B</b> 3	Vadodara	136,319,890			136,319,890		
84	Varanasi	50,800,000			50,800,000		
85	Vijayawada	133,020,000			133,020,000		
86	Vizag	120,139,990	40,046,663	1,165,000	161,351,653	7,604,400	6,612,500
B7	Warangal	16,625,460			16,625,460		
	Total				11,561,478,486	1,163,764,787	1,227,640,804

**Baglihar Hydro Electric Project** 

693. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:
Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has resolved the Baglihar Project issue;
  - (b) If not, the reasons therefor;

- (c) the progress made in this regard so far; and
- (d) the stage at which the matter stands as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF , WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The Neutral Expert appointed by the World Bank is to resolve the Baglihar Project issues raised by Pakistan.

(o) The Neutral Expert has held five meetings with the Parties viz. the Government of India and the Government of Pakistan. Government of India submitted various documents required by the Neutral Expert upto the fifth meeting as well its Counter Memorial and Reply submitted by Pakistan during the process. Government of India also arranged the visits by Pakistan Team of engineers and also by the Neutral Expert along with the Parties to the project site and its physical model. Government of India also deputed eminent legal and technical experts to place its views effectively before the Neutral Expert.

Written Answers

(d) The fifth meeting held in November, 2008 was the final one before the Neutral Expert could render his decision.

#### **Production of Foodgrains**

694. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA:
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:
SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:
SHRI RAMJILAL SUMAN:
SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:
SHRI G.V. HARSHA KUMAR;
SHRI RAGHUVEER SINGH KOSHAL:
SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY:
SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the production of foodgrains including wheat and paddy has been declining over the years and is expected to be lower than the targets during the current season:
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the expected shortfall in production of foodgrains, grain-wise;
- (c) the findings of the study conducted for boosting foodgrain production;
- (d) the details of the incentive package finalized for increasing wheat production;
- (e) whether the said package is proposed to be extended to other crops also; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it 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) and (b) Following table gives the production of foodgrains, grainwise, for the years 2001-02 to 2005-06 and their target and production for the year 2006-07 (kharlf only):

(Million Tonnes)

							<del></del>	
Crop	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06#	2006-	-07 (Kharif)*
							Target F	Production
Rice	84.98	93.34	71.82	88.53	83.13	91.04	78.04	75.74
Wheat	69.68	72.77	65.76	72.15	68.64	69.48		
Coarse	31.08	33.37	26.07	37.60	33.46	34.67	28.69	24.51
Cereals								
Pulses	1: 07	13.37	11.13	14.91	13.13	13.11	5.78	4.97
Foodgrains	196.81	212.85	174.77	213.19	198.36	208.30	115.25	105.22

<sup>#</sup> Fourth Advance estimates as on 15.07.2006

Foodgrains production has been fluctuating during the years 2000-01 to 2005-06 For the current agriculture year 2006-07, kharif foodgrains as per the 1st advance estimates released on 15.09.2008, is estimated at 105.22 million tonnes against the target of 115.25 million tonnes.

(c) For boosting foodgrains production, besides

regional variations in productivity, reasons for low productivity/ production such as delayed field operations, low level of mechanization, low seed replacement rate, lack of irrigation under rain-fed conditions, imbalanced use of fertilizers, infestation of weeds and pests/diseases and lack of appropriate varieties need to be addressed.

<sup>\*</sup> First Advance estimates as on 15.9.2008 (Kharlf only)

- (d) Government has formulated an action plan which includes targeting about 50 per cent area under wheat for enhancing wheat productivity by identifying specific districts in the wheat growing States. Further, for increasing wheat production, Government has announced a Minimum Support Price (MSP) of Rs.750/- per quintal for the 2006-07 marketing season which shows an increase of Rs.100/- per quintal over the previous year MSP.
  - (e) and (f) At present, there is no such proposal.

[Translation]

#### **Hiring of TV Studios**

- 695. YOGI ADITYA NATH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether some studios of television centres in Uttar Pradesh are running in hired accommodation:
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which construction of its own buildings for each television centre is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (c) Only one Studio Centre at Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh is operating from a rented building. Construction of Doordarshan's own Studio building at Gorakhpur has almost been completed and installation of Studio set up in this building is expected to be completed during 2007.

[English]

#### **Forest Survey of India Report**

- 698. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to State:
- (a) whether the Forest Survey of India (FSI) has submitted several reports on the factual verification and the state of forests in the country; and
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government on these reports, especially about the factual verification on deforestation in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes Sir, Forest Survey of India (FSI) is mandated to carry out the assessment of the forest cover of the country on a biennial basis and present its findings

In a publication titled 'State of Forest Report' (SFR). So far Forest Survey of India has brought out nine such Reports beginning from State of Forest Report, 1987 (SFR-1987) and the latest one being State of Forest Report, 2003 (SFR-2003).

- (b) State of Forest Reports are sent to the States and Union Territories to facilitate them in identifying areas of deforestation and taking appropriate action. In addition, the Government of India has taken the following steps:
- (i) Central assistance is provided to the State Governments for protection of forests against fires, illicit felling and encroachment and also for afforestation and regeneration of degraded forests and adjoining forest lands.
- (ii) 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.
- (iii) Management measures like working of forests according to approved Working Plans, rationalizing of felling and transit regulations for tree species grown on non-forest private lands to promote large-scale afforestation in non-forest areas.
- (iv) People's participation in forestry activities through Joint Forest Management (JFM) and Forest Development Agencies.

[Translation]

## Employment Opportunities to Educated Youth

697. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN": DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

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

- (a) whether unemployment among educated persons has declined during the last decade;
- (b) if so, the estimated average number of educated unemployed for the year 1995-98 and also in the year 2004-05; and
- (c) the sectors which provided additional employment opportunities to these educated youths and 'percentage of increase in each sector during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FER-

Written Answers

industry-wise distribution of employment during 1999-2000 and 2004-05 is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement Distribution of Employment by Industry (In Millions)

Industry	Total Em	ployment	
_	1999-2000	2004-05	
Agriculture	238.0	268.57	
Mining & Quarrying	2.3	2.75	
Manufacturing	48.0	53.71	
Electricity, gas & water supply	1.3	1.38	
Construction	17.6	25.71	
Trade	37.3	47.29	
Transport, Storage &	14.7	17.45	
Communication			
Financial Services	5.1	6.89	
Community Social & Pers.	33.2	35.81	
Service			
Total Employment	397.0	459.10	

#### Foodgrains for PDS

698. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRI-BUTION be pleased to state:

- the quantum of various commodities allocated and released under Public Distribution System (PDS) during 2006-07; and
- the details of changes effected in per capita (b) allocation 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 (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) The Commodity-wise details of the allocation and offtake during the current year (upto September 2006), under Public Distribution System (PDS), is as under:

Foodgrains -

(in '000 Tonnes)

to Questions

Commodity	Allocation	Offtake
Wheat	9122.670	4978.620
Rice	21476.130,	9241.400
Coarse Grains	221.498	120.918

There has been no change in the per capita allocation during the last three years and the current year. The allocation of foodgrains is made at the rate of 35 kg per family per month w.ef 1-4-2002.

#### (II) Levy Sugar -

Quantity allocated under PDS (in MT) during Sugar Season 2005-06 (October 2005 to September 2006)	Quantity allocated under PDS (in MT) during two months of Sugar Season 2006-07 (October-November, 2006)
19.83	3.60

Since the levy percentage has been reduced to 10% of the domestic production, the availability for levy allocation varies depending upon the levels of domestic production. Therefore, supply of levy sugar, as per the levy quota of each State/Union Territory cannot be made.

There has been no change in per capita allocation of levy sugar under PDS since 1.2.2001.

(iii) SKO - Details are given in the enclosed statement-I and II.

#### Statement

	1st Quarter of 2006-07 (April to June, 2006) (in MTs)	2nd Quarter of 2006-07 (July to Sept., 2006) (In MTs)	3rd Quarter of 2006-07 (October to Dec., 2006) (In MTs)
1	2	3	4
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1454	1454	1454
Andhra Pradesh	129289	129289	129290
Arunachai Pradesh	2314	2314	2314

Written Answers

1	2	3	4
Assam	64501	64502	64502
Bihar	161857	161857	161858
Chandigarh	3266	3267	3267
Chhattisgarh	36734	36734	36735
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	695	695	696
Daman and Diu	529	529	530
Delhi	42121	42121	42121
Goa	4803	4803	4803
Gujarat	185989	185940	185940
Haryana	36404	36405	36405
Himachal Pradesh	12634	12634	12634
Jammu and Kashr	nir14489*	14489*	21733
Jharkhand	52793	52794	52794
Karnataka	115369	115369	115370
Kerala	54077	54077	54077
Lakshadweep	400 #	000 #	395
Madhya Pradesh	122152	122152	122152
Maharashtra	319219	319219	319219
Manipur	4976	4977	4977
Meghalaya	5100	5100	5100
Mizoram	1554	1554	1554
Nagaland	3328	3328	3328
Orissa	78744	78744	78744
Pondicherry	3064	3064	3064
Punjab	59298	59298	59298
Rajasthan	99728	99728	99728
<b>Sikkim</b>	1395	1395	1396
Tamii Nadu	139732	139732	139732
Tripura	7708	7708	7708
Uttar Pradesh	310443	310443	310443

1	2	3	4
Uttaranchal	22462	22462	22462
West Bengal	188025	188026	188026
Total	2286596	2286203	2293849

<sup>\*</sup> Allocation for J&K State (other than Ladekh region) is given in two blocks i.e. Summer (April -September) @ 40% of annual allocation and Winter (October-March) @ 60% of annual allocation. This allocation is for other than Ladakh region of J&K State. For Ladakh region State Government of J&K is allowed to uplift the entire year's allocation i.e. 3600 MTs of SKO during summer months i.e. May to October, when the road remains open.

#### Statement-II

State-wise Per Capita Allocation of SKO (Figures in KG)

2006-07	2005-06	2004-05	2003-04
2	3	4	5
16.32	16.32	16.07	16.58
6.83	6.83	6.67	7.02
8.48	8.48	8.48	8.66
9.69	9.69	9.45	9.54
7.81	7.81	7.62	7.69
14.50	14.50	14.50	14.68
7.07	707	6.89	6.97
12.62	12.62	12.62	12.94
13.40	13.40	13.40	13.88
12.22	12.22	12.22	12.97
14.29	14.29	14.29	15.23
14.70	14.70	14.70	15.03
6.91	6.91	6.74	6.97
8.32	8.32	8.32	8.74
7.55	7.55	7.50	7.90
7.85	7.85	7.85	7.93
	2 16.32 6.83 8.48 9.69 7.81 14.50 7.07 12.62 13.40 12.22 14.29 14.70 6.91 8.32 7.55	2 3 16.32 16.32 6.83 6.83 8.48 8.48 9.69 9.69 7.81 7.81 14.50 14.50 7.07 707 12.62 12.62 13.40 13.40 12.22 12.22 14.29 14.29 14.70 14.70 6.91 6.91 8.32 8.32 7.55 7.55	2       3       4         16.32       16.32       16.07         6.83       6.83       6.67         8.48       8.48       8.48         9.69       9.69       9.45         7.81       7.81       7.62         14.50       14.50       14.50         7.07       707       6.89         12.62       12.62       12.62         13.40       13.40       13.40         12.22       12.22       12.22         14.29       14.29       14.29         14.70       14.70       14.70         6.91       6.91       6.74         8.32       8.32       8.32         7.55       7.55       7.50

<sup>#</sup> Advance allocation for Lakshadweep for six months (April -September, 2006) has already been conveyed.

1	2	3	4	5
Karnataka	8.75	8.75	8.75	9.11
Kerala	6.79	6.79	6.63	7.04
Lakshadweep	13.12	13.12	13.12	14.43
Madhya Pradesh	8.09	8.09	7.89	8.06
Maharashtra	13.20	13.20	12.96	13.44
Manipur	8.33	8.33	8.33	8.47
Meghalaya	8.85	8.85	8.85	8.93
Mizoram	6.98	6.98	6.98	7.25
Nagaland	6.69	6.69	6.39	6.48
Orissa	8.58	8.58	8.37	8.48
Pondicherry	12.59	12.59	12.38	13.20
Punjab	9.77	9.77	9.59	10.31
Rajasthan	7.06	7.06	7.02	7.19
Sikkim	10.33	10.33	9.77	10.88
Tamil Nadu	9.00	9.00	8.78	9.04
Tripura	9.66	9.66	9.43	9.60
Uttar Pradesh	7.48	7.48	7.30	7.42
Uttaranchal	10.60	10.60	10.14	11.01
West Bengal	9.38	9.38	9.33	9.52
Total	8.92	8.92	8.78	903

[English]

#### **Ranking of Tiger Reserves**

699. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Tiger Reserves in the country presently;
- (b) whether the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources has made any ranking of Tiger Reserves in the country;
- (c) if so, the rank of Sunderbans Tiger Reserve therein and the criteria followed by the said organization in such ranking of Tiger Reserves;

- (d) whether any shortcomings have been reported in such ranking; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps taken/being taken by the Government for improvement of Sunderbans Tiger Reserve?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) There are 28 tiger reserves in the country presently.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Tiger reserves have been assessed by a panel of independent experts based on 45 parameters using the format of the World Commission on Protected Areas of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN). The assessment reports have been peer reviewed by the IUCN. Based on the above assessment, Sunderban Tiger Reserve has been categorized as 'Very good'.

In all, 45 parameters have been used to assess the evaluation elements pertaining to planning, inputs, processes and outputs in each Tiger Reserve. The scoring criteria on each individual parameter have been standardized in the methodology to reduce subjectivity of the evaluation and have been assessed quantitatively to arrive at a composite score for each Reserve. The composite score is then assessed on a scale of 4 grades: Very Good, Good, Satisfactory and Poor. These parameters are meant to assess the management effectiveness of each Reserve and have been adapted to the Indian context from the Management Effectiveness Assessment Framework (MEAF) provided by the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA).

(d) and (e) Lack of applied research in a number of fields, lack of better amenities for staff and illegal fishing in core area, honey collection, irregular and incomplete immunization of village cattle, delay in payment of exgratia/compensation for human deaths and cattle kills due to carnivores are main shortcomings observed during evaluation. However, the steps taken by Government of India for conservation of wild animals in the country including Sunderbans Tiger Reserve are given in the enclosed statement.

#### Statement

Steps taken by the government for protection and conservation of tigers and other wildlife in country are as under:

 Legal protection has been provided to wild animals against hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

- (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 wild life offence.
- (iv) Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehended and prosecute wildlife offenders.
- (v) Government of India has set up Regional and Subregional 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. The Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act, 2006 has been enacted and the National Tiger Conservation Authority has been created w.e.f. 4th September, 2006, based on the enabling provisions in the said Act. Action has also been taken for creating the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau.

#### **National Coastal Protection Programme**

700. SHRI M. SHIVANNA: SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Coastal Protection Programme (NCPP) has since been finalized:
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
  - (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Union Government has received any project proposal from the Government of Karnataka for inclusion under NCPP:
  - (e) If so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether any commission has been constituted in this regard; and
  - (g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No Sir, the National Coastal Protection Project (NCPP) has not been finalized.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) The NCPP has been planned for seeking external funding, an approach paper on coastal protection prepared by Ministry of Water Resources has been forwarded to Asian Development Bank (ADB) by Department of Economic Affairs (DEA). ADB has approved administering technical assistance to the Government of India for technical study on "Integrated Coastal Management and Related Investment Development". The ADB Inception Mission visited the states involved in the technical assistance and held discussions with them.
- (d) and (e) The Government of Karnataka has submitted a proposal for an estimated cost of Rs.135.95 crore in March, 2002 for inclusion in the proposed National Coastal Protection Project (NCPP).
  - (f) No Sir.
  - (g) Does not arise.

#### Telecast of 'A' Certificate Films and Serials

701. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROAD-CASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to allow films and serials with 'A' certificate to be shown during late hours;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the orders of Bombay High Court in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has set up a committee to draft the content of code for TV:
  - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which the said committee is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) This is one of the suggestions received by Government from various sources.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The details of the Committee are given in the enclosed statement-I and II.
  - (e) The tenure of the committee is till 31.12.2006.

#### Statement-I

# No. 3104/7/2003-BC (III) Government of India Ministry of Information & Broadcasting

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.

Dated: October 3, 2005

Subject: Constitution of a Committee for reviewing the Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable TV Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder and the Guidelines for certification of films

1952.

It has come to the notice of the Central Government that the guidelines for certification of films for CBFC (Central Board of Film Certification) and the Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable TV Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder, do not cover in detail all aspects of the content of films and television programmes. A need has been felt to elaborate and update these Codes and guidelines in order to give them greater specificity and detail and introduce new provisions as found necessary, which are in accordance with contemporary community standards with a view to minimize scope for subjective discretion and facilitate self regulation.

prescribed under the Cinematograph Act,

2. In pursuance of the above the Central Government hereby constitutes a committee with the following members:

(i)	Secretary, Ministry of I&B	Chairman
(ii)	Add!. Secretary, M/o I&B	Member
(iii)	Joint Secretary, M/o Health & Family Welfare	Member

(iv)	Joint Secretary, D/o Women &, Child Development, M/o HRD	Member
(v)	Joint Secretary, Ministry of Law	Member
(vi)	Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs	Member
(vii)	DG, Doordarshan	Member
(viii)	DG, All India Radio	Member
(ix)	Joint Secretary (Films), Ministry of I&B	Member
(x)	Joint Secretary (Broadcasting), Mo I&B	Member
(xi)	Secretary, National Human Rights Commission or nominee (not below the rank of Joint Secretary)	Member
(xii)	Secretary, National Commission for Women or nominee (not below the rank of Joint Secretary)	Member
(xiii)	Secretary, National Commission for Minorities or nominee (not below the rank of Joint Secretary)	Member /
(xiv)	Director (BC), Ministry of I&B	Convener
	and Representative of -	
(xv)	Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC)	Member
(xvi)	Film & Television Producers' Guild of India	Member
(xvii)	Film Federation of India	Member
(xviii)	Indian Broadcasters Foundation	Member
(xix)	Radio Group (FM Radio)	Member
(xx)	Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI)	Member
(xxi)	Advertising Agencies Association of India (AAAI)	Member
(xxii)	Cable Operators Association of India	Member
(xxiii)	Indian Music Industry (IMI)	Member
(xxiv)	Confederation of Indian	Member

Industry (CII)

(CFAR)

New Delhi

(xxv)

(xxvi)

(xxvii)

(xxviii)

(xxix)

Federation of Indian Chamber

All India Democratic Women's

Consumer Coordination Council

Center for Media Studies (CMS),

Association (AIDWA)

of Commerce and industry (FICCI)

Center for Advocacy &. Research

Member

Member

Member

Member

Member

(xxx)	Vidya Sagar Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (VIMHANS), New Delhi	Member
(xxxi)	Department of Sociology, JNU	Member
(xxxii)	People for Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA)	Member

#### Terms of Reference:

- The Terms of Reference of the Committee will be as follows:-
  - (i) Revise and harmonize the CBFC Guidelines and the Cable Television Programme/Advertising Codes and AIR Code in accordance with contemporary community standards and the laws in force.
  - (ii) Amplify the provisions of the Guidelines/Codes with a view to enable the Film/TV/Radio industry to use them for self-regulation and minimize the scope of their subjective interpretation, on the lines of OFCOM/Australian codes.
  - (iii) Examine the need and desirability of introducing a screening/broadcasting policy to ensure wholesome content for family viewing/listening.
  - (iv) Recommend suitable structure and procedure for self-regulation of content by the industry and other related matters.
- 4. The Committee may develop its own methodology and consult any experts or specialists considered necessary for arriving at their recommendations.
- The Committee will submit its report within three months from the date of its first meeting.
- Secretarial assistance to this Committee will be provided by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.
- 7. Hindi version will follow.

(Seema Jere Bisht) Director (BC) Tele: 23381863

#### Statement-II

No. 3104/7/2003-BC-III (Vol. II)

Government of india

Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
(BC-III Section)

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi Date: 6th September, 2006

Subject: Constitution of a Committee for reviewing Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder and the guidelines for certification of films

In amplification of orders dated 03.10.2005 constituting a Committee for reviewing Programme and

prescribed under Cinematograph Act, 1952.

Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder and the guidelines for certification of films prescribed under Cinematograph Act, 1952 and orders dated 22 06.2006 extending the period of this Committee till 31.08.2006, the period of this Committee is further extended upto 31.12.2006. The Committee will submit its report on or before 31.12.2006.

- 2. This issues with the approval of Hon'ble Minister of Information & Broadcasting.
- 3. Hindi version will follow.

(Prawin Kumari) Director (BC) Tele: 23381246

To

All the members.

CC: Sr. PPS to Secretary/PPS to AS/PS to JS(B)/.PS to Dir(Films)/PA to Dir(BC).

#### **Problems Affecting Cash Crops**

702. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to formulate an integrated action plan for resolving problems affecting cash crops in the country particularly in Kerala; and
- (b) if so, the steps taken/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 KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) No, Sir. The Central Government does not propose to formulate an integrated action plan for cash crops in the country.

(b) Question does not arise.

### Forest Development Agency Projects in Andhra Pradesh

- 703. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of Forest Development Agency (FDA) projects at Forest Division Level and Joint Forest Management Committees at the village level approved for the State of Andhra Pradesh:
- (b) the total estimated cost of the above FDA projects;
- (c) the time span that the Ministry has fixed within which the FDA project is proposed to be completed;
- (d) the details of funds so far released under this ', programme; and
- (e) the total sq. kms. of forest regenerated through the above programme in Andhra Pradesh since its inception?

10

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) 32 Forest Development Agency (FDA) projects have been approved in Andhra Pradesh State to treat an area of 47,400 hectares through 1,455 Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) at a total cost of Rs.83.02 Crores during the Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-03 to 2006-07) under the National Afforestation Programme (NAP) scheme. An amount of Rs.45,29 Crores has been released to the PDAs in Andhra Pradesh State under the programme till 31,10,2006.

As per information made available by Andhra Pradesh Forest Department, 359.77 sq. kms. of forest has been regenerated in the State under the programme.

#### LPTs

704. SHRI TUKARAM GANGADHAR GADAKH: WIII the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of LPTs in the country. Statewise:
- whether any proposal is under consideration to upgrade all LPTs of the country to HPT;
  - if so, the details thereof: (c)
- (d) whether the Government is also planning to include news bulletin and other spoken word programme in Doordarshan in some more languages which are not recognised under the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution; and
  - if so, the time by which it is likely to be started? (e)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Total number of LPTs in the country is 828. State-wise number is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) There is no concrete decision to upgrade all LPTs in the country to HPTs but schemes for upgradation of the 14 LPTs to HPTs are presently under implementation. The concept of upgrading LPTs to HPTs is contained in the draft proposals for the 11th Plan.

- No. Sir.
- **(e)** Does not arise.

Sta	te	m	•	n	Í

S.N	o. State/ UT	DD 1 LPTs	DD News	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	75	6	81
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3	0	3
3.	Assam	21	1	22
4.	Bihar	33	2	35

1	2 .	3	4	5
5.	Chhattisgarh	16	0	16
В.	Delhi	0	0	0
7.	Goa	0	0	0
В.	Gujarat	54	2	56
₽.	Haryana	14	8	22
10.	Himachal Pradesh	8	1	9
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	16#	3	19
12.	Jharkhand	17	2	19
13.	Kamataka	47	2	49
14.	Kerala	20	2	22
15.	Madhya Pradesh	63	0	63
16.	Maharashtra	79	10	89
17.	Manipur	1	0	1
18.	Meghalaya	3	0	3
19.	Mizoram	1	1	2
20.	Nagaland	2	1	3
21.	Orissa	62	7	69
22.	Punjab	5	0	5
23.	Rajasthan	66	4	70
24.	Sikkim	0	0	0
25	Tamil Nadu	45	9	54
26.	Tripura	5	1	6
27.	Uttar Pradesh	52	10	62
28.	Uttaranchal	15	1	16
29.	West Bengal	19	2	21
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2	1	3
31.	Chandigarh	1	0	1
32.	Dadar and Nagar Havel	i 1	0	1
33.	Daman and Diu	2	0	2
34.	Lakshdweep Islands	1	0	1
35.	Pondicherry	2	1	3
	Total	751	77	828

# 16 LPTs in J&K include 9 Kashir channel LPTs.

#### Production and Consumption of Potato and Onion

705. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of production, demand and consumption of potato and onion in the country during 2006-07:
- (b) whether the stock of potato and onlon is sufficient to meet the domestic demand during the remaining period of the financial year;
  - (c) if so, the details thereof; and
  - (d) if not, the action being 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 data on production for potato and onion in the country during 2006-07 is not available as the main crop is yet to be harvested. However, production of potato and onion during 2005-06 was 26.48 and 6.0 million tonnes respectively. The demand and consumption of potato and onion are given below:

Demand and Consumption of Potato

Total	250.1 Lakh MT
Wastage (15%)	39 Lakh MT
Seed bulbs	9 Lakh MT
Dehydration	1.35 Lakh MT
Export	0.75 Lakh <b>M</b> T
Requirement for consumption	200 Lakh MT

Demand and Consump	tion of Onion
Requirement for consumption	35.25 Lakh MT
Export	9 Lakh MT
Dehydration	1.9 Lakh MT
Seed bulbs	0.36 Lakh MT
Wastage (15%)	8.5 Lakh MT
Total	55.01 Lakh MT

- (b) Yes, Sir.
- (c) Potato and onion production during the year 2005-06 was about 26.48 and 6.0 million respectively, which was sufficient to meet the demand till October/ November 2006 for and till November/December 2006 for potato. During the year 2006-07 onion as well as potato area and production is expected to be more. Kharif 2006

production of onion as well as potatoes has started arriving in the markets. Kharif onion crop delayed by about 25 days in Maharashtra, which showed little higher prices during November. Kharif potatoes also arriving from H.P., Punjab, Uttaranchal, Karnataka, Tamilnadu and Maharashtra apart from cold stores. Now onwards fresh onion as well as potatoes will continue to arrive in the markets from Kharif, late Kharif, early rabi and rabi crop in the country till April/May, 2007.

(d) Does not arise.

# Setting up of Bio-fertilizer plants in Gujarat

706. SHRI SUBRATA BOSE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has allowed the Krishak Bharati Co-operative Limited (KRIBHCO) to set up two blo-fertilizer plants in the co-operative sector in Gujarat;
- (b) if so, the details and locations thereof alongwith the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred thereon:
- (c) the name of the agency in Gujarat proposed to be associated with the projects;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to allow KRIBHCO to set up such plants in other parts of the country;
  - (e) if so, the details thereof; and
  - (f) if not, the reasons therefore?

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 (f) No approval of Government is required for setting up of Bio-fertilizer plant. However, KRIBHCO on their own initiative has set up a Bio-fertilizer plant at Hazira Surat (Gujarat) with a total capital expenditure of Rs. 120 lakh.

The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation has sanctioned financial assistance of Rs.32.50 lakh (Rs.12.50 lakh in 1994-95 and Rs.20.00 lakh in 1997-98) under the National Project on Development and Use of Bio-fertilizers for setting up of bio-fertilizer unit by KRIBHCO at Surat, Gujarat. In addition, KRIBHCO has also set up one bio-fertilizer plant at Lanja (Maharashtra) and one at Varanasi (U.P.) without any financial assistance from the Government.

#### [Translation]

#### Funds for Construction of Dams.

707. SHRI ANANT GUDHE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the plan for construction of dams in various States are lying pending for want of central funds:
  - (b) if so, the details of such dams. State-wise:
- (c) whether the Union Government proposes to provide assistance to State Governments for this purpose; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise with particular reference to Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) 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. It is estimated that 477 major/medium/ERM projects will spill over from 10th plan to 11th plan. The state wise details are given in the enclosed statement-I. Concerned with the delay in completion of the irrigation projects mainly due to the resource crunch being faced by the States, the Central Government launched the AIBP in 1996-97 to provide Central Assistance (CA) to such major/medium ongoing irrigation projects which are in advanced stage of construction and are beyond the resources capability of the States. Under the Programme, CA/Grant of Rs. 19437.8837 crore has been provided to States upto March, 2006 for completion of Major, Medium and Minor Irrigation projects under AIBP. An amount of Rs. 1300.0523 crore has been provided as CA/Grant for the State of Maharashtra by the Central Government upto March, 2006. The State-wise details of CA released upto March, 2006 are given in the enclosed statement-II. The project-wise details of CA released to State of Maharashtra is given in the enclosed statement-III.

Statement-I
Funds for Construction of Dams

**Abstract** 

#### Medium **ERM** Major Total 2 3 4 5 1 Ongoing in X Plan 171 233 86 490 Dropped/Shifted 4 14 229 82 476 165 Balance New in X Plan 49 84 46 179

1	2	3	4	5
Total	214	313	128	655
Likely Completion in X Plan	48	91	39	178
Spilling to XI Plan	166	222	89	477

Spill	Over P	rojects to XI	Plan	
	Major	Medium	ERM	Total
Andhra Pradesh	26	19	6	51
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0
Assam	2	2	2	6
Bihar	10	2	5	17
Chhattisgarh	4	7	1	12
Goa	0	0	0	0
Gujarat	3	15	11	29
Haryana	1	0	1	2
Himachal Pradesh	1	3	0	4
Jammu and Kashm	ir O	6	4	10
Jharkhand	6	16	0	22
Karnataka	15	27	5	47
Kerala	3	4	2	9
Madhya Pradesh	18	8	5	31
Maharashtra	53	83	3	139
Manipur	2	1	4	7
Meghalya	0	1	0	1
Mizoram	0	0	0	0
Nagaland	0	1	0	1
Orissa	7	10	14	31
Punjab	1	0	2	3
Rajasthan	2	7	2	11
Sikkim	0	0	0	0
Tamil Nadu	0	2	3	5
Tripura	0	3	0	3
Uttar Pradesh	9	0	13	22
Uttaranchal	1	0	0	1
West Bengal	2	5	6	13
Total	166	222	89	477

Statement-II
Funds for Construction of Dems

1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 Andrea 35.2500 2 Arunachel 0.0000 3 Aesam 5.2300 4 Bhur 13.5000 5 Chestlegach 0.0000 6 Goa 0.0000 7 Gujerat 74.7730 8 Haryana 32.5000 9 Hamachel 0.0000 Pradeeth 1.3000 and Kastening 1.3000	35.2500 74.0000 79.670 35.2500 74.0000 79.670 0.0000 0.0000 13.950 13.5000 12.4000 13.950 13.5000 5.1500 36.165 0.0000 5.2500 0.000 74.7730 196.9000 423.820	5 79.6700 0.0000 0.0000 0.0000 0.0000	6 65.0150 7.5000 129.6950 10.5200 3.5000	2000-01 2001-02 7 8 85.0200 281.660	1 1	9 33.1860	10	Lead ==	2004-05 Grant	Total Et	2005-06 Grant 14	20 20
Anders An			65.0150 7.5000 129.6850 10.5200 3.5000	95.0200	•	33.1860	0	real ==	Grant C	Total Et	Grant 14	51
Andra Protech Protech Assan Assan George Golore Heryana Heryan			65.0150 7.5000 14.5400 129.6950 10.5200 3.5000	95.0200	•	33.1860	5	=	2	51	=	15
Anders Products Annocted Products Otherson Outers Heryana Heryana James James			65.0150 7.5000 14.5400 129.6950 10.5200 3.5000	95.0200		33.1860			•			
Aronacted Assam Assam Blow Otherstopen Cotters Cotters Heryana Heryana Heryana Lessau	00 0.0000 00 12.4000 00 5.1500 00 4.5000 30 196.9000 00 12.0000		7.5000 14.5400 129.6850 10.5200 3.5000		281.6600		205.5300	61.2829	26.2641	87.5470	311.3815	1268.2595
A Control of the Cont	00 12.4000 00 5.1500 00 4.5000 00 5.2500 00 12.0000	~ ~ 4	14.5400 129.6650 10.5200 3.5000	300	15.0000	1.5000	20.0000	1.0000	9.0000	10.000	18.0000	79.5000
Otherstagesh Goisean Haryana Haryana Haryana Haryana Janana	5.1500 5.1500 5.1500 5.2500 5.0500 5.0500 5.0500 5.0500 5.0500 5.0500 5.0500 5.0500 5.0500 5.0500	. 4	129.6950 10.5200 3.5000	24.0770	14.5210	16.2738	19.2015	1.6930	15.2370	16.9300	34.9332	172.0565
Othersogah Godera Gujera Heryana Heryana Prodesh Jenesa		¥	10.5200	151.7750	3.4200	14,4805	74.6440	28.0505	11.1645	37.2150	16.2380	462,3025
Goard Gojard Heryana Hemotra Fradeath Fradeath and Kastenia	30 196.9000 30 12.0000	¥	3.5000	13.9300	48.2000	104.0000	74.6300	2.0475	0.8775	2.9250	7.6645	275.8695
Outers Heryana Heryana Fradesh Jennu	30 196.9000 000 12.0000	¥		61.6500	98,000	0.0000	2.0000	0.4550	0.1950	0.6500		131.0500
Hayana S Hamadad Pradesh Jamas and Kashari	~		272.7000	421.8500	581.6900 1000.3300	1000.3300	650.3590	464.7500	45.7500	580.5000	339.6000	4482.5220
Headed Protect Jeans and Kesteria			0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	18.0000	7.7350	7.7945	3.3405	11.1350	6.0000	87.3700
Jeman and Kashmir		2.0000	11.0470	18.0150	3.2440	8.1500	14.8920	0.3690	3.3210	3.6600	30.0785	100.4165
	00000	0.0000	4.6800	10.4600	11.0700	34.9800	21.5450	12744	11.4701	12.7445	36.6878	133.4863
11. Jesthand 0.0000	000 8.6000	11.6400	14,3460	5.7150	10.6200	9.6700	1.8330	14.8995	6.3855	21.2850	5.0370	89.2350
12. Karnataka 61.2500	300 80.5000	94.5000	157.1400	171.0000	402.5000	620.8500	286.4780	314.7921	81,5031	396.2952	140.7759	2491.2891
13. Kerala 3.7500	15.0000	0.0000	0.0000	22.4000	11.2750	5.8650	31,000	34.6080	14.6320	49.4400	9.3591	147,8891
14. Madnya 63.2500 Pradesh	500 110.0000	81.2500	95.3250	151.3280	215.4100	220.0000	568.4400	361.6907	155.0103	516.7010	168.0986	2189.8006
15. Meherashtra 14.0000	000 55.0000	50.8600	49.8750	97.0200	39.1000	138.1341	164.3050	370.5002	158.7858	529.2860	167.3822	1300.0523
16. Manipur 4.3000	000 26.0000	10.7800	21.8100	1.5000	9.3600	19,5000	15.5000	1.3000	11.7000	13.0000	75.7035	197.4536
17. Meghataya 0.0000	00000	0.0000	2.0938	5.5120	4.4700	1.5000	1.0880	0.1744	1.5694	1.7438	1.5750	18.5826
18 Mizoram 0.0000	00000	0.0000	1.4330	1.4330	2,000	0.7500	9.3000	0.5000	4.5000	5.0000	9.3150	29.2310

_	2	9	+	S	•	7	80	•	10	Ħ	12	13	7	15
<b>5</b>	19. Negatend	0.0000	0.0000 0.0000	0.0000	2.7300	5.0000	5.0000	2.6590	8.0000	0.4000	3.6000	4.0000	7.9987	35.3877
8	20. Oriese	48.4500	48.4500 85.0000	71.5000	90.2500	100.3200	168.4750		179.5700 154.6650	16.9561	7.2869	24.2230	151.3742	1073.8472
2	21 Punjab	67.5000	67.5000 100.0000	0.0000	42.0000	55.6200	113.6900	36.6600	0.0000				26.3166	441.7868
8	22 Rajasthan	2.6750	2.6750 42.0000	140.0500	106.6650	78.4670	96.3150	174.3850	499.8370	247.0328 105.8712	105.8712	352.9040	90.2952	1583.5932
ន	Sildtim	0.0000	0.0000 0.0000	0.0000	1.3600	0.0000	2.4000	0.7500	0.7500	0.0750	0.6750	0.7500	0.9113	6.9213
z	24 Tripura	3.7730	5.1000	3.9750	34.6530	13.8830	21.0630	13.3947	13.3769	1.1000	9.9000	11.0000	31.9950	152 2136
ĸ	25 Tarrell Nach	20.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000					20.0000
8	Client Pradesh	43.5000	78.0000	76.5000	286.0000	315.9000	354.6900	359.0000	274.7850	123.1440	52.7760	175.9200	133.1280	2097.4230
23	27 Uttaranchal 0.0000 0.0000	0.000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000 25.1625 25.5525	25.5525	3.8982	35.0925	38.9917	80.4387	170.1454
8	28 West Bengal 5.0000 20.0000 10.0000	5.0000	20.0000	10.000	25.0000	26.8250	38.6060	28.1330	3.1440	9.4227	4.0383	13.4610	0.0287	170.1997
	Total	500.0010	952.1900	1119.1800	1450.4768	1856.2000	2601.9610	3061.7026	3128.5009	2087.2115	780.1257	2867.3372	1900.3142	500.0010 952.1900 1119.1800 1450.4768 1856.2000 2801.9810 3081.7026 3128.5009 2087.2115 780.1257 2867.3372 1900.3142 19437.8837

\*Out of 11.236 crore CLA released during 2002-03 to Subernaretha, Rs. 10.25 crore transferred to Teasta Berrage in 2003-04

1	St. Project						Am	Amount							
ģ	(Started in Plan)	1996-	1997-	1997 - 1996- 98 99	-1999- 2000	2000	2001- 2002	2002	2002		2004-05		2005-06	2008-07	70 20
			}	}						2	Grant	TOPE .	Grant France	5	
	2	89	•	9	စ	7	•	•	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
l	Goelldrund (M)	10.000	0.000	6.110	3.170	4.500	5.700		6.870	6.870 106.9586 45.8394 152.7960	45.8394	152.7980	30.0477		219.1957
	Surya (A.P. 1978- 80) (D)	2.000	9.000	2.000 5.000 0.000	3.910	2.640									13.5500
	Waghur (V)	2,000		5.000 10.000	0.000	20.000 17.000	17.000	8.480		17.240 10.7380	4.6020	15.3400	7.6068	•	102.6668
	Brima (Mt) (D)	0.000	12.500	12.500 19.750	12.255				•						44.5050
	Upper Teps (IV) (C)	0.00	2.500	2.500 0.000	3.800		1.400								7.7000
48	Upper Wardha (v)	0.000	30.000	0.00	20.000	35.310		33.706	6.000	30.7580 13.1820	13.1820	43.9400		-	168.9560
	Wan (M) (C)	0.000		0.000 15.000	6.740	0 17.240		4.3136	4.3136 9.7400		4.5710 1.9590	6.5300			59.5636

Written Answers

_	2	80	•	s	•	7	•		10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Jeyskowd (M) (C)					8.920	15.000	4.125	15.690					₹	43.7350
•	Vishnupuri (A.P. 1978-80 (C)					4.000							1.4145	47	5.4145
2	Bahula (V)					4.410		1.54		3.5000	1.5000	5.0000	0.5700	=	11.5240
=	Kolstena (III)							14.173	25.300	20.6850	8.8650	29.5500	13.9200	**	82.9430
2	Kukadi (AP 66-69)							37.438	48.430	44.0636	18.8844	62.9480	24.2880	Ę	173.1040
5	Upper Manar							0.642	8.800	11.9960	5.1420	17.1400	5.3960	Ö	31.9780
=	Heterane							2.5155	12.9800	24.5000	10.5000	35.0000		i in	50.4955
5	Chastonen							3.312	11.660	33.9500	14.5500	48.5000	10.3032	. K	73.7752
•	Upper Pen Ganga									35.0840	15.0360	50.1200	2.4765	i is	52.5965
	Bewanthadi									21.3290	9.1410	30.4700	13.5890	4	44.0690
17	Louer							•					24.0000	·. ~	24.0000
	Warm												9 0000		0.1000
	Sub-Total 1	14.000	55.000	50.860	49.875	97.020	39.100	110.249	162,710	348.135	149.201	497.338	150.7817	122	1228 0018
K	CLA Released under I	er Feet Track Prog	Frogra												
•	Khadakwasin (R) (C)							2.780		1.9460	0.8340	2.7800		••	5.5600
2	Kadw (C)							7.000		4.9000	2.1000	7,0000		7	44 0000
5	Kasarsal (C)							1.886	1.885						3.3700
Z								1.365		0.9556	0.4095	1.3650			2.7300
Z	Kumbhi							9.300		6.5100	2.7900	9.3000		7	48 6000
7	Kassel (C)							0.756		0.5285	0.2265	0.7550			1 5100
z	Patgoan									7.5250	3.2250	10.7500	3.2250	-	13.9750
2	Maden Tenk												1.5105	_	1.5105
12	Dongarageon												1.5090		1.5090
8	CARATA								•				4.4325		4.4326
8	Amened												1.1820	•	1.1820
8	Gul Medium Impelion Project												4.7415	•	4.7415
	Sub-Tota 2	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	22.865	1.685	22.3650	9.5650	31.9500	16.6005	K	73,1205
- 1	Total	14.000	56.000	50.860	49.875	97.020	39.100	133.134	164.385	370.5002 158.7858	158.7856	529.2860	167.3822	180	1900 0522
2	C - Completed		D-Deferre	-	er Sess Project	1									3

[English]

#### Interest Rate on EPF

Written Answers

708. DR. K. DHANARAJU: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the interest rate on Employees Provident Fund deposits was reduced from 9.5 percent to 8.5 percent last year and there is great resentment amongst workers in this regard;
- (b) If so, the reasons for reducing the interest rate on Employees Provident Fund every year;
- (c) whether the cut in the interest rate is likely to have an adverse impact on the deposits by the employees; and
- (d) if so, the remedial steps the Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) The rate of interest declared by the Government on the Employees' Provident Fund for the years 2004-05 and 2005-06 was 9.5% and 8.5% respectively.

The rate of interest is declared by the Government in consultation with the Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund, which in turn, makes recommendations to the Government on the basis of the projected incomes and projected interest payment liabilities during a particular year. Thus, the rate of interest is based on the total yield of the Fund, which is invested in accordance with the pattern prescribed by the Government.

Para 60(4) of the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme, 1952 provides that "in determining the rate of interest, the Central Government shall satisfy itself that there is no overdrawal on the Interest Suspense Account as a result of debit thereto of the Interest credited to the accounts of members". The rate of interest during the year 2005-06 was declared by the Government by taking into account the earning of the Fund and the provisions of the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme.

- (c) No. Sir.
- (d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

#### **Mulla Periyar Project**

709. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: SHRI P.C. THOMAS:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the disastrous consequences as a result of proposed raising of height of Mulla Periyar Dam in Kerala by the Government of Tamil Nadu:
- (b) if so, whether the Union Government would intervene in the matter and prevail upon the Government of Tamil Nadu to settle the issue amicably; and
- (c) If so, the details thereof and the stage at which the matter stands as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) As per the Judgement of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 27th February, 2008 in the transfer petitions filed by the state of Tamil Nadu and Shri Subramanian Swamy in 1998, the State Government of Tamil Nadu is permitted to raise the water level in Mulla. Periyar Dam from 136 Feet(ft.) to 142 Feet. The Judgment has rejected the argument that has been put forward by the Kerala Government regarding safety of the dam. Kerala Government passed the Kerala Irrigation and Water Conservation (Amendment) Act, 2006 which prohibits raising of water level beyond 136 ft. in the Mulla Periyar Dam. It was placed under the Schedule of "Endangered Dams". Government of Tamil Nadu filed a Suit (No.3 of 2006) in Hon'ble Supreme Court praying

- Declaration of said Act as unconstitutional in its application to & effect on Mulia Periyar Dam.
- Pass a decree restraining Kerala from obstructing Tamil Nadu from increasing water to 142 ft. and from carrying out repair works.

The Original Suit No.3 of 2006 was called for hearing on 26.9.2006 when the Hon'ble Supreme Court passed the following Order. "The two State Governments independently or with intervention of the Union of India may try to sort out, if possible, the dispute." The Hon'ble Minister (WR) has convened a meeting on Mulia Perlyar at the level of Chief Minister of the States of Tamil Nadu & Kerala at New Delhi on 29th November, 2006 in pursuance of the said Order of the Court.

[Translation]

# Upliftment of Unemployed Youth in Rural Areas

710. KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of schemes implemented by the Government for upliftment of unemployed youth specially in rural areas and providing them with employment and training particularly vocational training during the last two years;
- (b) the details of funds allocated and utilized during the above period, State-wise and scheme-wise;
- (c) whether any impact of these schemes has been noticed on the lives of youth;
  - (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government is contemplating to start any new schemes for upliftment of unemployed youth; and
  - (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) Government is implementing various poverty alleviation and employment generation schemes in the rural

and urban areas such as Swarnajayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana, Sampoorna Grameen Rojgar Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, Prime Minister's Rojgar Yojana, Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana etc. Besides these, Government is also implementing National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme in the 200 identified districts of the country. Vocational training is provided by State/Central Government as per the needs. This caters to the need of rural youth also.

- (b) to (d) Details of funds allocated released and employment generated under some of these schemes are given in the enclosed statement-I. State-wise performance of National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme is given in the statement-II. A large number of unemployed persons including youth have benefited from these schemes.
- (e) and (f) Various Ministries/departments both of Central and State Governments take up schemes as per their requirement. The most important scheme is National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. Under this scheme around 1.47 crore persons were provided employment up to October 2006.

#### Statement-I

Performance of Various Employment Generation Schemes during the years 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05 & 2005-06

(Updated as on 25.07.2006)

		·····				(Updated as o	n 25.07.2008)
S.No.	Name of the scheme		Funds Allo	cation & En	nployment Ge	eneration	Remarks
	·	Year 2002-03	Year 2003-04	Year 2004-05	<b>Year</b> 2005-06	Name of the Ministry concerned	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	ampoorna Grameen Rozgar ojana (SGRY)						
(i) (ii) (ii)	•	3552.53 3684.64 7482.93	4120.25 4121.04 8560.24	4495.25 4496.19 8223.08	5396.50** 3229.09 ** 5199.55*	M/o Rural Development 25.09.2001	
	warnajayanti Gram Swarozgar ojana (SGSY)						
(i) (ii (ii	i) Central Release (Rs. in crores)	567.90 504.56 8.26	800.00 645.12 8.97	1000.00 900.10 11.16	1000.00** 482.35** 5.89*	M/o Rural Development 01.04.1999	• ,

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Swarn Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY)						
	(i) Funds Allocated (Rs. in crores)	100.74	100.74	99.10	154.59	M/o Urban	
	(ii) Funds Release (Rs. in crores)	100.92	100.74	122.00	24.64\$	Employment &	
	(iii) Persons assisted to set up Micro Enterprises for Self Employment (in lakh numbers)	1.28	1.01	1.03	NR	Poverty Alleviation 01/12/97	
	(iv) Employment Generated (In lakh mandays)	31.26	49.74	36.21	NR	51712 <b>5</b> 7	
	Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY)						
	(i) Funds Allocated (Rs. in crores)	169.00	169.00	218.90	218.50	Mo Agro & Rural	
	(ii) Funds Released (Rs. in crores)	168.10	167.83	218.17	31.19*	Industrial	
	(lii) Employment Generated (In lakh mandays)	2.86	3.27	2.91	0.04**	02/10/93	
	(iv) Person assisted for self Employment (in lakh numbers)	1.91	2.18	1.94(P)	0.02 @		
	Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP)						
	(i) Funds Allocated to KVIC (in crores)	202.67	281.75	282.00	NR	M/o Small Scale Industries	
	(ii) Funds Released (M.M Disbursed Rs. In crores)	193.71	264.38	292.36	322.47 #	<b>95-96</b>	
	(iii) Employment Generated (In lakh numbers)	3.61	4.71	5.50	3.33 #		
В.	National food for work Programme (NFFWP)	•	•	785.18	1865.75		

#### Note:

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Written Answers

#### Statement-II

#### Status of Implementation of NREGA in 2006-07 as on upto October 2006

								Positi	on upto Oct	ober, 2006
S.N	o. State	Distts.	No. of Rural	Estimated Rural	Applications for	issued	Deman Employs		Employ provi	
			Households (2001 Census)	BPL Families	Registration	Number	Household	Individual	Household	Individual
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	. 8	9	10	11
1	Andhra Pradesh	1.3	6715598	742074	4380650	4380650	1548503	2119916	1546503	2119916
2	Arunachai Pradesh	_ 1	7878	3154	17480	16926	16926	NR	16926	NR

<sup>\* =</sup> Upto Dec., 2005 \*\* = Upto Sep. 2005

<sup>\$ =</sup> Upto 16.06.2006

P = Provisional

<sup>@ =</sup> Upto May 2005

<sup># =</sup> Up to Jan.,2006

NR = Not received

1 2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
3 Assam	7	817286	327241	601273	523209	204640		205086	3
4 Bihar	23	7755942	3435882	2966005	2037604	525843	718141	477832	714828
5 Chhattisgarh	11	2023402	749873	1772900	1726855	695642	1302463	688524	1270589
6 Gujarat	6	1388048	182806	611026	614343	100698		100696	3
7 Haryana	2	257304	21279	87884	88818	28056	34758	28056	34758
8 Himachal Pradesh	2	150715	11967	93016	88056	41960	44307	39320	41303
9 Jammu and Kashm	ir 3	240978	9567	186811	159158	NR	20261	NA	20261
10 Jharkhand	20	3395640	1504269	2019997	1914800	581689	817934	578343	813672
11 Karnataka	5	1282966	222979	670822	606436	235009	459364	229185	447715
12 Kerala	2	616309	57810	227057	11958	3854	NR	3750	NR
13 Madhya Pradesh	18	3550273	1315731	4423536	4381801	1979844	2304137	1996375	2225679
14 Maharashtra	12	3713013	880727	3057951	2467037	191272	435861	191272	435861
15 Manipur	1	16149	6466	17880	17880	17880	43700	17800	43700
16 Meghalaya	2	101657	40703	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
17 Mizoram	2	21661	8673	50930	22918	20901	12100	20801	12100
18 Nagaland	1	31939	12788	27884	27884	NR	8950	NR	8950
19 Orissa	19	3836278	1841797	2762060	2261284	320938	539387	261121	428662
20 Punjab	1.	221815	14107	40310	37326	37326	40310	30715	NR
21 Rajasthan	6	1294087	177808	1495048	1493628	927890	1246742	927890	1246742
22 Sikkim	1	10649	4264	4696	4323	3611	4336	3611	4336
23 Tamil Nadu	6	2067689	424910	1340307	1309462	299860	397505	299860	397505
24 Tripura	1	57788	23138	70259	64587	73971	115898	72348	113159
25 Uttaranchai	3	206059	64332	283132	191657	40153	40345	40008	40198
26 Uttar Pradesh	22	7162466	2236122	3471356	3414000	1718544	1984778	1611342	1897582
27 West Bengal	10	7084480	2250037	4882986	4116470	1498036	2399698	1351840	2334565
Total	200	54008069	16570504	35563256	31979070	11110946	15090889	10739206	14652081

NR: Not Reported

### Financial performance under National Rural Employment Guarantee Act during 2006-07 (upto December, 06)

(Rs. in Lakhs)

to Questions

S.No.	State	No. of Distt.	Month Code	Actual O.E. as on let April of	Release but received of	e of last ye during the c		Re	lease during (	current year
				the year	Centre	State	Total	Centre	State's matching share	States share actually released
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Andhra Pradesh	13	9	2538.09	5974.85		5974.85	82461.43	9162.38	2222.22
<b>:</b>	Arunachal Pradesh	1	10	0.40			0.00	272.85	30.32	
1	Assam	7	8	27062.55	8401.16	0	8401.16	13970.85	1552.32	
<b>,</b>	Bihar	23	9	39371.95	10166.84	0	10166.84	40503.38	4500.38	4500.35
i	Chhattisgarh	11	9	4835.35	22.00	0.00	22.00	30068.74	3340.97	1883.67
,	Gujarat	6	9	3943.68	591.92	0.00	591.52	4113.94	457.10	
1	Haryana	2	9	1172.52 <sup>),</sup>			0.00	913.39	101.49	91.339
1	Himachai Pradesh	2	9	1045.70	0	0	0.00	1607.64	178.63	131.51
)	Jammu and Kashmir	3	9	594.24	0	0	0.00	2776.37	308.49	331.74
0	Jharkhand	20	10	20325.9	2620.88		2620.88	37618.59	4179.84	4179.81
1	Karnataka	5	10	4812.50	1177.47	40.23	1217.70	14595.69	1621.74	716.67
2	Kerala	2		1159.15	0	0	0.00	2179.51	242.17	
3	Madhya Pradesh	18	9	2382.02	1239.57		1239.57	126970.20	14107.80	
4	Maharashtra	12	9	22391.56			0.00	19235.64	2137.29	
5	Manipur	1	9	243.4	436.63		436.63	570.89	83.43	
6	Meghalaya	2					0.00	2064.65	229.41	
7	Mizoram	2	9	645.70	129.44		129.44	298.90	33.21	
В	Nagaland	1	9	508.87	498.42	45	543.42	430.11	47.79	
9	Orlasa	19	9	3236.04	1293.73	431.25	1724.98	71213.49	3151.65	3151.65
20	Punjab	1	9	340.16	395.77	0	398.77	755.75	0.00	
21	Rajasthan	6	9	1905.08	0.00		0.00	67961.00	7551.22	7551.22
22	Sikkim	1	8	53.67			0.00	451.50	50.17	5.00
23	Tamil Nadu	6	9	4195.89	1402.80	0	1402.80	9889.21	1098.80	
24	Tripura	1	6	887.34	1688		1688.00	1456.65	161.85	250
25	Uttaranchal	3	9	1711.09	658.69	29.23	687.92	1910.50	212.29	, 765.61
26	Uttar Pradesh	22	10	27156.7	13426.12	0	13426.12	33498.69	3722.08	3200
7	West Bengal	10	10	16741.95	1612.19		1612.19	20358.84	2262.09	2039.88
<del></del>	Total	200	* * * · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	189373.42	51739.08	545.71	52284.79	588148.53	60504.90	31020.65

to Questions

### Financial performance under National Rural Employment Guarantee Act during 2006-07 (upto December, 06)

	Misc.	Total	Cı	mulative Ex	<b>penditure</b>				%age o	f Exp.		
Total Cost (9+11)	Receipt	Availability (Col. 5+8+ 12+13)	On Unskilled wages	On Semi- skilled and Skilled wages	On Material	On Contin- gency	Total	Against Total Avt. Funds	On Unsidiled wages	On Semi skilled and skilled wages	- On Material	On contin- gency
, ,												
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
84883.65	0	93195.59	18571.85	46.9	140.7	3066.49	21825.94	23.42	85.09	0.21	0.64	14.05
272.85		273.25	176.72			2.96	179.68	65.78	96.35	0.00	0.00	1.65
13970.85	5644.16	55078.74	8484.44	422.7	3530.91	454.95	12873.00	23.37	65.75	3.28	27.43	3.53
45003.73	1190.24	95732.78	11693.54	1497.901	8129.997	221.957	21543.40	22.50	64.20	6.95	-37.74	1.03
	100.99	36910.75	12923.62	560.23	5975.84	104.03	19563.72	53.00	66.06	2.88	30.55	0.53
4113.94	45.056	8695.20	1845.05	15.12	293.51	837.528	2991.21	34.40	61.68	0.51	9.81	28.00
1004.73	1.32	2178.57	833.981	15.328	222.717	89.96	1161.99	53.34	71.77	1.32	19.17	7.74
1739.15	0.18	2785.03	676.96	55.89	419.44	9.79	1161.90	41.72	58.26	4.79	36.10	0.84
3108.11	6.06	3808.43	351.57	118.77	78.19	5.00	55 <b>3.53</b>	14.53	63.51	21.46	14.13	0.90
41795.40	156.56	64901.76	16289.39	1586.83	9021.94	299.99	27196.15	41.91	59.89	5.83	.:( <b>3.</b> 17	1.10
15312.36		21342.58	5240.43	182.21	2958.57	181.19	8562.40	40.12	61.20	2.13	§ 4.55	2.12
2179.51	2.00	3350.69	65.66	1.59	0.00	117.75	182.00	5.43	36.08	0.87	0.00	63.05
126970.20	874.08	131465.87	61776.62	5230.86	28504.51	746.71	96358.70	73. <b>3</b> 0	84.11	5.43	29.69	0.77
19235.64		41627.20					11130.38	26.74	0.00	0.30	0.00	0.00
570.89		1250.92	570	41.8	338.2	0	950	75.94	60.00	4.40	35.50	0.00
2064.68		2064.68					0	0.00	#DLV/01	#DLV/01	#DLV/01 (	IDLV/01
295.90		1074.04	553.51			22.039	575.549	53.59	96.17	0.00	0.00	3.83
430.11	2.65	1485.05	576.81		384.14	14.50	975.45	65.65	59.13	0.00	39.38	1.49
74365.14	0	79326.18	14337.65	2386.86	9613.86	204.51	26542.69	33.46	54.02	8.99	36.32	0.77
755.75	6.5	1501.18	665.90	0	442.15	22.84	1130.89	75.33	56.88	0.00	39.10	2.02
75512.22	0	77417.30	32788.59	1194.60	6311.03	296.41	40590.63	52.43	80.76	2.94	15.55	0.73
456.50		510.07	34.74			0.094	34.834	6.83	99.73	0.00	0.00	0.27
9889.21	459.009	15946.91	3465.49	0.00	0.00	384.89	3850.38	24.14	90.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
1706.66		4282.00					1412.5	32.99	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2676.21	7.38	5082.60	700.039	33.77	390.142	5.47	1129,421	22.22	61.98	2.99	34.54	0.48
36698.69	165.896	77450.41	18919.33	1470.887	11950.32	514.29	32854.827	42.42	57.58	4.45	36.67	1.57
22398.70	65.08	40817.92	9102.46	356.3	2000.98	260.87	13698.03	33.56	66.45	2.50	14.61	1.90
819169.18	8729.22	859556.62	220624.38	15218.35	90806.95	7861.22	349031.19	40.14	63.21	4.36	26.02	2.25

to Questions

[English]

#### **Key Issues under PDS**

- 711. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the key issues like identification of beneficiaries, viability of fair price shops and effective monitoring have been identified under Public Distribution System (PDS);
  - (b) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (c) the steps being taken for continuous monitoring of the PDS?

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) Yes, Sir. PDS is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State Governments. The Central Government has taken the responsibility for procurement, storage, transportation and bulk allocation of foodgrains, etc. The responsibility for effectively distributing the same to the consumers through the network of Fair Price Shops (FPSs) lies with the State Governments. The operational responsibilities including allocation within the State, identification of families below poverty line, issue of ration cards, supervision and monitoring the functioning of FPSs rest with the State Governments.

In order to maintain supplies and securing availability and distribution of essential commodities, Public Distribution System (Control) Order 2001 has been notified on August 31, 2001. The Order mainly contains provisions with regard to the following issues:-

- (i) Identification of families below the poverty line;
- (ii) Rations cards;
- (iii) Scale and issue price;
- (iv) Distribution of foodgrains;
- (v) Licensing;
- (vi) Monitoring;
- (vii) Constitution of Vigilance Committees involving members of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs).

The Order requires all State Governments/UTs to ensure that the BPL and Antyodaya families identified are really the poorest of the poor. It also requires the State Governments/UTs to get the lists of BPL and Antyodaya families reviewed every year for the purpose of deletion of ineligible families and inclusion of eligible families. It further devolves on the State Governments/UTs to conduct

periodical checking of ration cards to weed out ineligible and bogus ration cards The State Governments/UTs are also to ensure issue of Utilization Certificates confirming that the foodgrains have been lifted and distributed to the intended beneficiaries under the TPDS. An offence committed in violation of the provisions of this Order shall invoke criminal liability under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

(c) For continuous monitoring of the Public Distribution System (PDS), Government of India monitors on monthly basis the allocation and offtake of foodgrains made to the State Governments under the TPDS. To ensure correct distribution of foodgrains, the State Governments are also submitting information as required under the PDS (Control) Order. At the State level, monitoring of PDS is being done by the respective State Governments through a system of continuous inspections of Fair Price Shops (FPS) to ensure that there are no leakages/diversions. Instructions have been issued by the Government of India to set up Vigilance Committees at the Fair Price Shop/ Block/District and State Levels to continuously monitor the distribution of foodgrains under the PDS. Government of India has also been holding National/Regional level Conferences with the State Food Ministers and Food Secretaries to ensure smooth working of the PDS.

#### **Assam Gas Cracker Project**

### 712. SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL: DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has established Assam Gas Cracker Project at Lepetkata, Dibrugarh;
  - (b) if so, the status report of the project;
- (c) whether the Government has fixed target to start and complete the said project;
  - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of the compensation and rehabilitation programme taken by the Government to compensate the land-affected people at Lepetkata?

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) The Government has approved the Assam Gas Cracker Project (AGCP) at Lepetkata, Dibrugarh, Assam in April, 2006. The agreement for Joint Venture Company has been signed on 18.10.2006 between the equity partners of AGCP. The completion schedule is 60 months from zero date i.e. after financial closure. The implementation of the project will start after the financial closure. The Government of Assam has intimated that since the land acquisition process at lepetkata has not been completed therefore, the

compensation and rehabilitation programme for the landaffected people have not been finalized yet.

#### Imports of Urea

- 713. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:
- the details of types and rates of the fertilizers including urea imported from various countries during the last three years and the current financial year; and
- the subsidy provided to each of the importer company during the said period?

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) Fertilizers other than Urea are : imported under Open General Licence (OGL). The import of urea is permitted only through State Trading Enterprises and import for direct agriculture use is made on government ... account. The country wise imports of urea made in Government account and the weighted average C&F price © in US \$ is given below:-

Source wise details of urea imported in Government Account

Source	20	003-04	20	04-05	20	05-06	2006-07	up to 31.10.06	_
	Qty. in lakh	Wt. Avg. C&F price in US \$ per MT	Qty. in lakh MT	Wt. Avg. C&F price in US \$ per MT	Qty. in lakh MT	Wt. Avg. C&F price in US \$ per MT	Qty. in lakh MT	Wt. Avg. C&F price in US \$	
Arabian Gulf			2.02	213.14	2.12	260.61	2.70	236.41	
					2.12	200.01			
Bangladesh			0.49	225.68			0.59	248.53	
Libya	•	All .					0.55	253.15	3.4
China							0.23	249.5)	, a +
CIS Countries			3.90	252.23	5.19	257.72	8.02	250.46	

Besides above, Government has also imported granular urea from Sur, Oman during the year 2005-06 & 2006-07 at a long term FOB price under Urea Off Take Agreement (UOTA). The granular urea imported from Sur, Oman during the year 2005-06 was 13.25 lakh MT at the weighted average C&F price of US\$ 155.23 per MT and in 2006-07 (up to 31.10.2006) 11.34 lakh MT at the weighted average price of US\$174.61 per MT.

imports of all other fertilizers are allowed freely. However, Government maintains a buffer stock of DAP through its buffer stocking agency. The details of Urea, DAP & MOP imported during the year 2006-07 up to 31.10.2006 is as under:-

(Qty. in lakh MT)

Year	DAP	MOP
2003-04	7.34	25.80
2004-05	6.44	34.09
2005-06	24.38	45.78
2006-07 (up to 31.10.06)	21.97	16.18

The urea is imported in Government accounts through State Trading Enterprises and handled & distributed through the designated handling agents at various ports. The difference between the delivered cost of urea and recovery of pool issue price (Maximum Retail Price minus Distribution Margin) is borne by the Government as subsidy on imported urea. The net Subsidy page 1915 paid on imported Urea during the last year and current year (up to 31.10.2006) is as under:-

(Runees in crore)

	2003- 04	2004- 05	2005- 06	2006-07 up to 31.10.2006
Net subsidy paid on imported urea	Nii	493.91		1824.77

Government is also paying subsidy/ concession off, imported DAP & MOP under the Concession Scheme for decontrolled P&K fertilizers. The subsidy/concession paid on imported decontrolled P&K fertilizers to various importers during the last three year & current year (upto 31.10.2006) is placed at enclosed statement.

Written Answers

Statement

Company wise payment to importers of DAP & MOP (Rs. Crores)

SI. No.	Company's Name	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	M/s Cargil India Pvt. Ltd.	33.58	42.35		
2	M/s Chambal fert. & Chemical Ltd.	47.97	41.27	127.90	69.75
3	M/s Coromandal fert. Ltd.	20.07	39.32	58.20	64.77
4	M/s Deepak Fert. Ltd.	5.35	0.45	0.03	34.86
5	M/s Duncan Industires Ltd.	3.28	0.05	0.74	
6	Ws EID Perry India Ltd.	17.32		0.02	
7	FACT	9.51	5.11	0.99	0.02
В	GFCL	10.46	1.38	3.19	0.00
9	GNVFC	17.70	17.34	71.64	100.21
10	GSFC	0.03	0.06		0.00
11	Hindustan Lever Ltd.	32.27			
12	IFFCO	0.56	*· 22.98	169.70	143.36
13	Indian Potash Ltd.	374.26	685.36	979.80	865.25
14	Madras ferilizers Ltd.	4.90	2.14	8.84	0.27
15	MMTC	3.83	5.35	0.61	0.00
16	NFCL	0.49	3.98	6.95	6.49
17	PPL	8.14	29.17	49.22	69.78
18	Rallis India Ltd.	4.95		0.53	
19	RCF Ltd.	33.58	48.29	82.70	72.15
20	Shri Ram Fert. Ltd.	55.50	135.92	175.09	149.03
21	SPIC	7.31	0.52	0.38	1.20
24	Zuari Industries Limited	16.53	25.47	81.47	126.48
27	TFCL			0.65	0.38
28	CIPL			18.76	
29	RIL			1.51	0.21
30	MIPL			137.80	10322
31	DMCC		0.13		
32	NFL		y*	0.07	
33	Tata Chemicals Limited	12.39	58.54	120.21	108.48
•	Total	719.98	1165.18	2097.00	1915.61
	Say *	720	1165	2097	1916

#### **Assistance to Coconut Farmers**

- 714. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Government has received any proposal from the Government of Kerala to protect the interests of coconut farmers who are in great distress due to fall in price of their produce, disease of the coconut trees and other causes:
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS.RY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has received a request from the Government of Kerala to protect the interest of coconut farmers stating that large scale incidence of pest and diseases and fluctuating price trend of coconut oil has adversely affected the livelihood of coconut farmers who constitute 40% of the State population.

(c) In order to control the incidence of pest and diseases, the Planning Commission has approved a project with an outlay of Rs. 1924.67 crore with Central Assistance of Rs.279.45 crore to tackle root-wilt disease over a period of 7 years with effect from 2005-06. A sum of Rs.40.00 crore has also been released during 2005-06.

Under the schemes of the Coconut Development Board (CDB) an amount of Rs.250/- per palm is provided as an incentive for removal of disease advanced palms.

The board has released an amount of Rs.24.25 crore to the Government of Kerala as a special grant for control of mite and a sum of Rs. 12.11 crore is still available with the State Government.

As soon as the outbreak of Bud rot disease was noticed in the hilly areas of Kozhikode district during October/November, 2005 a sum of Rs. 1.31 crore was released for the control of the disease by adopting integrated pest management and integrated nutrient management.

In order to contain the price fluctuations, a number of measures have been taken by the Government. Apart from promoting product diversification and product utilization for value addition, the Government of India regularly announces sufficiently in advance the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of milling copra and ball copra for the benefit of the coconut farmers. The MSP for 2006 season was fixed at Rs.3590/- per quintal for milling copra and Rs. 3840/- per quintal for ball copra.

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry regularly monitors the import of sensitive items including edible oil like coconut oil and dessicated coconut powder. Edible oils have also been kept in the negative/sensitive list of items under the various Free Trade Agreements (FTA) to protect the interest of the farmers except under the ASEAN FTA in which the matter is under negotiation. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry is doing its best to improve the terms and conditions of ASEAN FTA to further safeguard the interest of Indian coconut farmers.

[Translation]

#### Hoarding in FCI Godowns

715. SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL: DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:

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

- (a) whether incidents of misuse of Food Corporation of India (FCI) godowns for hoarding and black-marketing have been reported recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years;
- (c) whether regular raids are conducted on FCI godowns to check such misuse;
- (d) if so, the details and outcome thereof during the last two years; and
- (e) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

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

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Yes, Sir. The departmental squads in the FCI are conducting surprise checks/raids at District Level/Regional Level/Hqrs. Level.
- (d) and (e) The details of surprise checks throughout India for the last two years is as under:-

Period	No. of Surprise Checks conducted
1-4-2004 to 31-3-2005	900
1-4-2005 to 31-3-2006	1167
Total	2067

[English]

## **Premature Retirement by Labour Class**

## 716. SHRI MANJUNATH KUNNUR: SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA:

Written Answers

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

- (a) whether more than 64 percent of labour class retire prematurely due to health related reasons;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated any scheme at national level to develop better physical infrastructure to boost their working capacity; and
  - (d) if so, the details thereof?

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

#### **Arrival of Imported wheat**

## 717. SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN: SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:

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

- (a) whether the consignments of imported wheat have started arriving in the country;
  - (b) if so, the quantity received so far;
- (c) whether huge quantity of imported wheat is stranded at ports waiting for clearance due to freight train and manpower shortages; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action being taken for its early clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) 32 lakh metric tonnes (including anchored quantity).
- (c) and (d) To accelerate evacuation and movement of imported wheat from the ports, an operational plan has been finalised for movement in Box Wagon, Bulk and through Road.

## **Payment Under HTS**

- 718. SHRI KIREN RIJIJU: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Food Corporation of India (FCI) has not released the funds for payment under Hill Transport Subsidy (HTS) to Arunachal Pradesh for the last two years; and
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the action taken to ensure its early release?

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 reimbursement of Hill Transport Subsidy (HTS) claims of the Government of Arunachal Pradesh had been kept suspended since 1.5.2005 in view of irregularities detected in the implementation of the scheme. After examination of the matter it has now been decided to resume Hill Transport Subsidy payments to the State Government subject to certain terms and conditions. Instructions to this effect have been issued on 20.11 2006.

#### **Tapping of Agricultural Potential**

- 719. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) the agricultural potential available in the country and the extent to which it is being tapped, Statewise:
- (b) whether the agricultural potential in Bihar, Orissa, West Bengal and Assam has not been tapped fully so far:
- (c) If so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to tap this potential;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to start another green revolution to tap potential in each State; 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) A comparison among different States of India shows that there is potential of agricultural growth to be fully tapped. In food grain production, for example, as per 2003-04

estimates, only five States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal had achieved yield level higher than the National average of 1731 kg. Per hectare. In wheat production, in particular, Punjab is the only State in India that has recorded an average yield (4207 kg. Per hectare during 2003-04) over the World average (2720 kg. Per hectare during 2002).

The States of Bihar, Orissa and Assam are below the national average in the foodgrains production indicating the potentiality to be tapped. The potential in the Eastern States could not be fully harnessed due to problems like acidic soil, heavy rains, frequent floods and drought in some parts of the region. However, West Bengal has achieved a yield level in paddy and foodgrains above the National average.

Steps taken to tap the potential include schemes like the following:

Integrated Cereals Development Programme (ICDP) in Rice, Wheat and other Cereals based cropping system areas, Sustainable Development of Sugarcane based cropping system and Special Jute Development Programme.

Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Plam and Maize (ISOPOM), is implemented in several States for increasing the yield potential of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Plam and Maize.

(d) and (e) The draft approach paper to Eleventh Five Year Plan has mentioned that there is urgent need to start second Green Revolution.

#### Licence Free Manufacturing of Five Bulk Drugs

720. SHRI HITEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has decided to allow licence -free entry of the private sector into manufacturing of five bulk drugs, so far reserved for the public sector;
  - (b) if so, the names of these five drugs; and
  - (c) the reasons therefor?

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) In the interest of the consuming public, it did not seem necessary to retain the five bulk drugs under licensing under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act. Accordingly, reservation of 5 bulk drugs for manufacture by the Public Sector only

was abolished vide Press Note No. 3 dated the 26th February, 1999 of the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion. The names of these five drugs are:

- 1. Vitamin B1
- 2. Vitamin B2
- 3. Tetracycline
- 4. Oxytetracycline
- 5. Folic Acid

[Translation]

#### **Production of Coated Seeds**

- 721. SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Government is encouraging the production of the coated seeds;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and location-wise; and
- (c) the increase in the output as a result of use of coated seeds?

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) There is no programme of producing coated seeds under the restructured scheme "Development and strengthening of infrastructure facilities for production and distribution of quality seeds".

[English]

## **Recharge of Ground Water**

- 722. SHRIMATI JAYBEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the sub-committee of the Advisory
   Council of Artificial Recharge of ground water headed by
   Dr. Swaminathan has submitted its report to the Government;
  - (b) if so, the recommendations made in the report;
- (c) whether all the recommendations of the committee has been accepted by the Government for implementation:
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and

## (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Written Answers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV); (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During the inaugural address of the first meeting of the Advisory Council, Hon'ble Prime Minister mentioned that "We have to minimize our water use - invest in science and technology to ensure that we can grow crops which use less water. In other words, find ways of valuing the crop per drop". To implement the suggestions of Hon'ble Prime Minister, a Sub-committee of "Artificial Recharge of Ground Water Advisory Council" was constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. M.S. Swaminathan to prepare paper on more crop and income per drop of water. The Committee has submitted its report to Ministry of Water Resources. Recommendations made by this Sub-committee have been summarized and given in the enclosed statement.

(c) to (e) Artificial Recharge of Ground Water Advisory Council while constituting the above Sub-committee stated that the report of the Sub-committee will be considered at the next meeting of the Council. Accordingly, the report of the Sub-committee will be placed before the Council in its next meeting.

#### Statement

Recommendations made by the Sub-Committee headed by Dr. M.S. Swaminathan 'More Crop and Income Per Drop of Water'

The reports of the Sub-committee on 'more crop and income per drop of water' highlights that the irrigation water security is vital both for livelihood and food security. The report draws attention to the scope available for improving the efficiency of use of irrigation water in a manner that both the productivity and profitability of farming are enhanced which is the pathway to an ever-green revolution all over the country, without associated ecological harm. Important recommendations of the Sub-committee are as under:-

- The Sub-committee recommended observation of Year 2007-08 as the 'Year of More Crop and Income per Drop of Water' to give the strategies and their importance in improving the productivity and income per unit of water.
- Adequate provisions in XI Plan for inclusion of the measures for augmentation of water supply should be made. The investment from Government as well as from lending Agencies such as World Bank should give priority for modernization of the tertiary canals with control structures.

- Micro Irrigation technology e.g. drip and sprinkler irrigation including drip fertigation to increase productivity of crops with less water should also be popularized. System of Rice Intensification technology (SRI) which requires less quantity of seeds, less nursery area, saves water and labour and enhance yield is also required to be popularized.
- Introduction of weather based crop insurance for minimizing the losses to farmers for safeguarding farmers during weather uncertainties.
- Implementation of Farmer Participatory Action Research Programmes with the help of Agricultural Universities, Research Institutes, ICRISAT, WALMIs, etc. for triggering a mass movement. This Programme can cover 5000 villages in different agro-climatic regions during 2007-08. The Gram Sabhas in the villages will serve as Pani-panchayats and will provide overall guidance and support to this programme. In addition, launching of 'water literacy movement' and imparting training to one woman and man from every panchayat as Water Masters is also suggested.
- The Water User Agencies (WUAs) should be involved in the decision making so that the maintenance of the structures will be made easy.
- In order to implement successfully the above recommendations, a 3-tier setup at Village, State and National level has been suggested. At National level, a Pan Government of India Steering Committee consisting of representatives of various Departments which will report to Agricultural Coordination Committee, chaired by the Prime Minister.

## Bamboo Mission

723. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA
DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA:
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI M.K. SUBBA:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has approved the launch of a new centrally sponsored National Bamboo Mission:
- (b) if so, the details thereoft alongwith the central share in it;
- (c) the area proposed to be covered under the scheme, States/Union territory-wise;

to Questions

- (d) the funds allocated for the purpose during the current financial year;
- whether the Union Government has constituted any National Level Apex Committee to review the projects being implemented under the scheme; and

#### if so, the details thereof? **(f)**

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 Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs in its meeting held on 27th October, 2006 approved the National Bamboo Mission of the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation. This is a new Centrally Sponsored Scheme with 100% assistance of the centre, to be implemented across the country at a total cost of Rs.568.23 crores during the current financial year of the Xth Plan and next four years of the XIth Five Year Plan.

- The Mission is envisaged to cover an area of 2.12 lakh ha. including 0.36 lakh ha. under senile plantations in 28 states. The state-wise area to be brought under bamboo plantation is being worked out.
- The scheme will be implemented across the country with a financial allocation of Rs 80.00 crores during the current financial year (2006-07).
- (e) and (f) Yes, Sir, A National Apex Committee is proposed to be constituted under the Chairmanship of Union Minister of Agriculture with Ministers of Forests, Textiles. Science and Technology. Commerce. Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation, Development of North Eastern Region, Small Scale Industries, Ministers of Forests/Agriculture/ Horticulture from select States; Member (Environment & Forests) in Planning Commission, and Experts as Members. Mission Director shall be the Member Secretary. The Committee will provide overall guidance, monitoring and review.

#### Check on Emission of Vehicular Smoke

- 724. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to State:
- whether the Hon'ble Supreme Court had given any direction on April 29, 1999 about keeping a check on the vehicles emitting smoke;
  - **(b)** if so, the details thereof:
- whether the Union Government has taken any (c) action in this regard; 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) Yes, Sir. The Hon'ble Supreme Court's direction dated 29.4.1999 relates to air pollution concerns due to exhaust emissions from private vehicles in the National Capital Region (NCR). As per the order, all private (non-commercial) vehicles were required to conform to Euro-I norms in the NCR by 1st June, 1999 and from 1st April, 2000, no private (non-commercial) vehicles were to be registered in the NCR unless they conform to the Euro-Il norms. Further, as per the order, the ban on the registration of diesel driven taxis was required to be strictly enforced, unless the taxis also conform to the Euro-III norms.

- (c) and (d) The Government have taken several steps for prevention and control of air pollution, which are as follows:
- Diesel vehicles that did not conform to the Euro-II equivalent standards on or from 1st April, 2000 were levied fine and impounded.
- From April, 1998 onwards, the registration of older defence and govt. auctioned vehicles that were mostly run on diesel was banned.
- More than 15 years old commercial/transport vehicles had been phased out.
- The practice of alteration of petrol vehicles to diesel vehicles in the NCR was banned in 1998.
- Restriction was imposed on movement of goods vehicles during daytime from August 1999 in Delhi.
- From November, 2002, all diesel buses and taxis were switched over to run only on the Compressed Natural Gas (CNG).
- From 1st April, 2005, Euro-III equivalent norms and commensurate quality of fuel were introduced in Delhi.

## Renovation of A.V.M. Canal

- 725. SHRI A.V. BELLARMIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:
- whether the Government has received any, proposal from the Government of Kerala for renovating and improving the Historic A.V.M. Canal in Kanyakumari district and develop it as a tourist destination; and
- if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

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

(b) Does not arise.

#### Revival of IDPL

726. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has finalised the plans to revive the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceutical Limited (IDPL);
  - (b) if so, the details thereof:
- (c) the time by which it is likely to start functioning; and
  - (d) the funds allocated for the purpose?

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, Sir.

- (b) Question does not arise.
- (c) and (d) The company is already engaged in production of Pharmaceuticals at low scale.

#### Study on Sunderbens

727. SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR:

SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU:

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

- (a) whether the School of Oceanographic Studies of Jadavpur University has conducted any study on vanishing of Sunderbans:
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken or likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) Information in this regard is being collected from the State and would be laid on the Table of the House.

## **Unorganised Labour in Ship Breaking Industries**

- 728. SHRI SWADESH CHAKRABORTTY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether around 50 workers per day get injured and sometime die due to inadequate or lack of medical facility in ship breaking industry;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether in the absence of labour legislations their service and working conditions are very much exploitative and poor; and
- (d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to bring in labour legislations to protect the unorganized labour in ship breaking industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (c) As per available information, such a situation does not exist in the ship breaking industry.

(d) There is no proposal to enact a separate legislation for the unorganized workers in the ship breaking industry. However, a proposal to formulate social security scheme and legislation for all categories of the workers in the unorganized sector which may include workers in the ship breaking industry is under active consideration of the Government.

## Merger of Steel Units with SAIL

729. SHRI B. MAHTAB:
SHRI JUAL ORAM:
SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:
SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:
Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the proposal for the merger of some steel companies including the Neelanchal Ispat Nigam
- Limited (NINL) with the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has been pending;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof:
- (c) the present status of each case alongwith the steps taken in respect of the merger of NiNL with SAiL; and
  - (d) the benefits likely to accrue to SAIL therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Steel had constituted an Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Shri B.L. Das, former Secretary (Steel) to examine various proposals of merger between PSUs under the Ministry and to make recommendations about the feasibility of these proposals. The Expert Group has recommended the following mergers with SAIL:-

Morger of Nilanchal lepat Nigam Limited (NINL)
 with Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)

In the meeting of Committee of Secretaries (COS) held on 14/7/05, it was decided to merge NINL with SAIL. Process of appointment for merchant banker for the valuation of NINL is in progress.

## 2. Merger of Maharashtra Elektrosmeit Limited (MEL) with SAIL

Board of Directors of SAIL and Board of Directors of MEL in their 314th meeting held on 25/5/06 and 193rd meeting held on 26/5/06, respectively have accorded in-principle approval for the merger of MEL with SAIL. Necessary actions to effect the merger have since been initiated by both the companies.

## 3. Merger of Bharat Refractories Limited (BRL) with SAIL

Board of Directors of BRL have already passed a resolution accepting the proposal to merge BRL with SAIL on 11/5/06. Board of Directors of SAIL have also approved in-principle the merger proposal in its meeting held on 22/9/06. The proposal is under consideration by the Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE).

(d) SAIL will be benefited in the following manner with the merger of NINL, MEL & BRL:-

NINL: SAIL will be benefited in achieving its Corporate Goal of 23 million tonnes of Hot metal by 2011-12 by developing NINL to achieve its full potential i.e. about 2.5 to 3.5 million tonnes per annum. Iron ore mines of NINL could also be an alternative source for the plants of SAIL.

MEL: Investment in MEL can be aligned with SAIL's requirement of Ferro Alloys, which is likely to increase substantially by the year 2011-12. Post merger, investment decisions can be made faster and financing the same would also be cheaper and there will be better synergy between MEL and SAIL.

BRL: Full control over refractory supply and management will provide gams to SAIL. This will provide competitive advantage to SAIL when various large steel companies are setting up new capacities. Saving of sales tax, conversion charges to SAIL. BRL can upgrade/replace equipments, access new technology and use SAIL's refractory making expertise.

## **Forest Credit System**

730. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to introduce, Forest Credit System on the lines of carbon credit to increase the forest cover in the country;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
  - (c) the benefits likely to accrue therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Immersion of Statues

- 731. SHRI HEMLAL MURMU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the statues are being immersed in various rivers and other pollutants are also being dumped into them:
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) During various festive occasions, idols and statues are immersed in water bodies such as rivers, ponds, lakes, coastal waters etc. Besides idol immersion, disposal of left over worship material like flowers, plastic items, ashes, small idols and food items are also immersed.

(c) To minimize the pollution due to immersion of idols, guidelines have been evolved by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) suggesting water quality monitoring at three stages, namely, pre-immersion, during immersion and post immersion, identification of adequate number of designated immersion centers, construction of temporary confined ponds/bunds, removal of worship material like flowers, clothes and decorating items for proper disposal and organizing awareness programmes.

#### **Higher MRP Printed on Drugs**

- 732. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA": Wiff the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Maximum Retail Price (MRP) printed on many anti-allergy drugs and pain killers is reported to have been found much higher than their cost price; and
- (b) if so, the steps being 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) and (b) The 74 bulk drugs (including some anti-allergy drugs and pain killers) 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) in accordance with the provisions of the DPCO, 95. In case there is any violation of approved/notified price of a Schedule 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/selling expenses, R&D expenses, trade commission, market competition, product innovation, product quality etc. The Government takes corrective measures where the public interest is found to be adversely affected.

Written Answers

### Restriction on Procurement and Stocking

- 733. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION pleased to state:
- (a) whether the removal of controls on procurement and stocking of foodgrains has enabled multinational companies and private traders to procure foodgrains including wheat and pulses much in excess of their requirement leading to profiteering, hoarding and black marketing of foodgrains;
- (b) If so, whether the Government has imposed/ proposes to impose quantitative restrictions on procurement and stocking of foodgrains including wheat and pulses; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of surprise inspections and raids conducted and dealers booked for hoarding and black marketing of foodgrains alongwith the action taken against such dealers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) to (c) Central Government have issued Order No. S O 1373 (E) dated 29.08.2006 keeping in abeyance the Central Orders dated 15.02.2002 & 16.06.2003 with regard to the provisions for removal of Licensing requirements, Stock limits and Movement restrictions in respect of wheat and pulses for a period of six months. As per report received State Governments of Maharashtra, Himachai Pradesh, NCT of Delhi and West Bengal have issued Notifications reviving the stock limits for wheat and pulses. The State Governments in exercise of powers delegated to them under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 conduct raids etc. to check malpractices like hoarding, black-marketing etc. Action taken under the Act by various State Governments/UTs during the current Calendar Year, as reported up to September, 2006 is as under:

(i)	No. of raids	89194
(ii)	No. of persons arrested	1302
(iii)	No. of persons prosecuted	2062
(iv)	No. of persons convicted	125
<b>(v)</b>	Value of goods confiscated	Rs 376.87 lakhs

### Fixation of Rate of Interest for EPF

734. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI:

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

- (a) whether the current rate of interest on Employees Provident Fund (EPF) (8.5 percent) was not tenable as it would leave a deficit of Rs. 450 crore for EPF:
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the EPFO failed to take a decision on fixing the rate of interest for the EPF for the year 2006-07; and
  - (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (d) As per para 60(1) of the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme 1952, the interest rate shall be determined by the Central Government in consultation with the Cantral Board of Trustees, Employees Provident Fund. No recommendations have so far been made by the Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund on the rate of interest for the current year.

#### **Availability of Foodgrains**

735. SHRI P. MOHAN: SHRI RANEN BARMAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the per-capita availability of foodgrains in the country;
- (b) whether per-capita availability of foodgrains in the country is sufficient:
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to improve the situation;
- (d) whether the per-capita availability of foodgrains has improved over the previous decade;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the estimated demand of foodgrains in the country for the next five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (e) The estimated per capita availability of foodgrains in 2005 works out to be 154.2 kgs. It has been fluctuating during the last decade as can be seen from the table below:

Year	Per capita Availability
1995	180.8
1996	173.5
1997	183.6
1998	163.2
1999	170.0
2000	165.9
2001	151.9
2002	180.4
2003	159.7
2004	168.9
2005(P)	154.2

### (P) - Provisional

To increase production and productivity, the Government has put in place the schemes like Integrated Cereals Development Programme (ICDP) for Rice, Wheat and Coarse Cereals, Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM), enhancing Institutional credit flow to farmers, ensuring timely availability of quality inputs, optimizing efficient utilization of available water resources through micro irrigation and enhancing the sustainability of dryland/rain fed farming systems, reforming agricultural markets, putting in place a broader spectrum of risk management apparatus for farmers, etc.

(f) The Planning Commission has constituted a Sub-Group for working out the demand and supply projection of foodgrains for the 11th Plan.

#### Price Rise due to import

- 736. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Wifi the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the announcement by the Government regarding intended imports of wheat, pulses and sugar in June this year resulted in hardening of prices of these commodities in international markets; and
- (b) if so, the extent of result thereof on prices of these commodities in the domestic market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) Since June 2006, international prices of wheat and certain varieties of pulses have registered an upward trend. The main reason for rise in prices was lower projected wheat harvest in

major producing countries such as United States and Canada and inadequate availability of certain varieties of pulses in the international market. Prices of sugar have declined in the international market since June 2006.

(b) Prices of wheat in the domestic market have increased on account of shortfall in domestic supplies relative to demand and hardening of international prices. Prices of sugar have started declining at several centres over the past few weeks. Prices of pulses have registered a falling trend for the past one month after remaining at high levels for several months.

#### **National Steel Policy**

- 737. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to introduce a new national steel policy:
  - (b) if so, whether the policy has been drafted;
  - (c) if so, the salient features thereof:
  - (d) whether the policy has been implemented;
  - (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

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

(b) to (f) Does not arise in view of the (a) above. However, Government has approved a National Steel Policy in November 2005. Salient features of the National Steel Policy are given in the enclosed statement.

## Statement

The following are some of the salient features of the draft National Steel Policy 2005 (NSP):

- The NSP sets out a broad roadmap for the Indian Steel Industry in its journey towards reform, restructuring and globalisation.
- The long-term goal of the NSP is that India should have a modern and efficient steel industry of world standards, catering to diversified steel demand. The focus of the policy is to achieve global competitiveness not only in terms of cost, quality and productmix but also in terms of global benchmarks of efficiency and productivity.
- In order to achieve the goal of 110 million tonnes of steel production by 2019-20, the NSP seeks to a remove the supply-side constraints to the growth of this industry in an open, globally integrated and competitive environment.
- The NSP seeks to adopt a multi-pronged strategy to

move towards the long-term policy goal. On the demand side, the strategy would be to create incremental demand through promotional efforts. creation of awareness and strengthening the delivery chain, particularly in rural areas. On the supply side, the strategy would be to facilitate creation of additional capacity, remove procedural and policy bottlenecks in the availability of inputs such as iron ore and coal, make higher investments in R&D and encourage the creation of infrastructure such as roads, railways, and ports.

**NOVEMBER 27. 2006** 

The NSP acknowledges the low per capita consumption of steel in the country, especially in the rural areas and the need to boost steel consumption to improve quality of life and help in meeting the growing aspirations of masses.

in order to achieve the strategic goal of 110 mT of steel production by 2019-20, the industry would need additional capital. In addition, funds would be required for technological upgrade of existing facilities. In order to mobilize such vast resources NSP seeks to encourage foreign direct investment. In addition the policy also seeks to make the fiscal incentives, available to infrastructure projects, accessible to the steel industry.

The NSP seeks to support developing of risk-hedging instruments like futures and derivatives to contain price volatility in the steel market.

The NSP seeks to strengthen the existing training and research facilities available to the domestic steel industry so as to provide suitable training programmes especially for the secondary- small-scale units and also to collect and analyze data on important parameters of the industry.

The NSP seeks to mount aggressive R&D efforts to create manufacturing capability for special types of steel, substitute coking coal, use iron ore fines, develop new products suited to rural needs, enhance material and energy efficiency, utilize waste, and arrest environmental degradation.

The NSP acknowledges the important role played by the secondary steel sector in providing employment, meeting local demand of steel in rural and semiurban areas, and meeting the country's demand of some special products and seeks to endeavour to provide the necessary feedstock to these units at reasonable prices from major plants through the existing mechanism of State Small Industries Corporations.

The NSP recognizes the fact that integration of the Indian steel industry with the global economy requires that the industry should be protected from unfair trade practices, which become common especially during periods of downturn. The NSP therefore, envisages institution of mechanisms for import surveillance, and monitoring export subsidies in other countries.

#### Channels Fee under DTH Service

738. SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to

- whether the Government has held any meeting with the TV channels for bringing more channels under free Direct to Home (DTH) service of Doordarshan;
  - if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and
  - the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) Prasar Bharati has held a meeting with the TV channels on 24th April, 2006 for bringing more channels under the DTH service of Doordarshan. However, no meeting has been held at the Government's level.

The TV channels showed enthusiasm to come on the DTH platform of Doordarshan. However, they indicated reservations on paying the carriage fee of Rs. one crore per annum proposed to be charged by Doordarshan.

The matter has been referred to a Departmental Committee of Prasar Bharati for consideration of all aspects of the issue.

#### Rehabilitation of Displaced Persons

- 739. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:
- whether all the displaced persons of Rengali upper Kolab and Hirakud dams in Orlssa have been rehabilitated so far;
  - if not, the reasons therefor; and (b)
- the steps taken to expedite the rehabilitation process and the progress made thereon so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Irrigation being a State subject, the responsibility of planning, execution, funding and rehabilitation of displaced families primarily rests with the concerned State Government and project authorities. Necessary provision for resettlement and rehabilitation of project affected families are made from time to time as per the prevalent guidelines/policy/regulations. Project authorities and State Governments take appropriate action to implement the works related to resettlement and rehabilitation.

In order to guide various State Governments and other agencies in the work of resettlement and rehabilitation, the Government of India have brought out a 'National Policy on the Resettlement and Rehabilitation for project affected families 2003' in February, 2004.

As per information available in Central Water Commission, collected from the State Government, all displaced persons of Upper Kolab & Hirakud have already been rehabilitated. In case of Upper Kolab 3180 families were displaced. Rehabilitation process started in 1984 & was completed in three phases by August, 1992.

In case of Hirakud Dam, the State Government of Orissa has reported that out of 26501 displaced persons (DPs) in Hirakud Dam, 1965 DPs have been resettled in 16 State 41 Government sponsored resettlement Camps and the remaining 24536 DPs have been resettled by themselves.

#### **River Flow in Country**

740. SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN:
SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
PROF. M. RAMADASS:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the total quantum of rainfall in the country alongwith the quantum of water available for irrigation and various other consumptions;
- (b) whether due to lack of emphasis on sustainabilities of water resources, the slippages have increased;
- (c) If so, the quantum of water lost in slippages in the country;
- (d) whether the Government has prepared any programme to give more stress on the use of surface water resources rather than the ground water resources to maintain sustainabilities as well as to reduce slippages; and
  - (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The average annual precipitation of the country is estimated to be 4000 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM). After accounting for the natural process of evaporation etc., the average annual water availability in the country is assessed as 1869 BCM. It is estimated that owing to topographic, hydrological and other constraints, the utilizable water is 1123 BCM out of which 690 BCM is surface water and 433 BCM is replenishable ground water. 629 BCM of water is being utilized for diverse purposes.

The National Commission for Integrated Water Resources Development Plan in its report has projected

the estimates of total annual water requirements for various scenarios. The annual water requirement for various sectors has been estimated by the National Commission as under:-

Billion Cubic Metre (BCM)

SI.No.	Uses	Requirement
1	Irrigation	524
2	Domestic	30
3	Industries	30
4	Other Uses	45
	Total	629

- (b) In case of drinking water supply slippage i.e., change of status from fully covered to partially covered habitations occur on account of various reasons including the depletion of ground water table, increase in population, systems having outlived their life etc.
- (c) In the context of drinking water supply slippages does not imply any loss of water.
- (d) and (e) National Water Policy lays emphasis on conjunctive use of surface and ground water. It states that "integrated and coordinated development of surface water and ground water resources and their conjunctive use, should be envisaged right from the project planning stage and should form an integral part of the project implementation". As regards maintaining sustainability of ground water resources, the Government of India encourages rainwater harvesting and recharge to groundwater.

#### **Project Proposal from Guiarat**

- 741. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Union Government has received any project proposal for Research and Development unit for steel industries at Alang Port from the Government of Gujarat;
  - (b) if so, whether it has since been approved;
  - (c) if so, the details thereof; and
  - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

#### Steel Plants

- 742. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of private and public sector companies which have set up steel plants in Orissa during the last three years and the current year; and

the number of those companies which have (b) started commercial production?

Written Answers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) As per information available from Government of Orissa during the last three years and current year no public sector companies have set up steel plants in Orissa. However, Government of Orissa have signed 42 Memoranda of Understandings (MoUs) with steel companies to set up steel plants in the State of Orissa. The position of MoUs signed with the Government of Orissa for setting up steel plants in Orissa, on year wise basis, for past three years as well as current year (upto August 2006) are as given below: -

SI. No	Year	No. of MoUs signed
1	2003-04	07
2	2004-05	16
3	2005-06	19
4	2006-07(upto August 2006)	00

The number of companies which have **(b)** commenced production partially is 15.

## **Prohibition of Fishing by Foreign Companies**

## 743. DR. BABU RAO MEDIYAM: **SHRI HITEN BARMAN:**

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to

- whether the traditional fishermen of Andhra Pradesh losing their opportunity to fishing due to the introduction of foreign trawlers in fishing;
  - **(b)** if so, the details thereof;
- whether the Government has received any proposal requesting the prohibition of fishing by foreign companies off the Western and Eastern coasts; and
- if so, the action taken by the Government (d) 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 TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Foreign trawlers are not being allowed by the Government to fish in Indian EEZ, since 1996, Currently, the Government is permitting only Indian Companies to acquire resource specific vessels through import. However, these vessels are not allowed to fish within the territorial waters of A.P. as it is the area exclusively reserved for fishing by traditional and small-mechanized fishing vessels, as per the Marine Fishing Regulation Act of A.P.

(c) and (d) Representations/questions have been received requesting prohibition of fishing by foreign

companies in Indian waters, which were replied by furnishing facts as stated in answer to parts (a) & (b) above.

## Integrated Dairy Development Project

- 744 SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:
- whether the Government of Karnataka has sent any proposal for launching an Integrated Dairy Development Project in some of the Districts of Karnataka;
  - if so, the details thereof:
- whether the Government has approved the (c) said project; and
- if not, the time by which said project is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) to (d) No. Sir. No proposal has been received by this Ministry under Integrated Dairy Development Project from Karnutaka.

## **Environmental Clearance for** Mahabaleshwar for Hill Station

- 745. SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL: WIII the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:
- whether environmental clearance for the (a) proposed New Mahabaleshwar Hill Station has been sought by the State Government of Maharashtra:
- if so, the norms relating to altitude of a hill station wherein environmental clearance is required:
- the altitude of the proposed New Mahabaleshwar Hill Station; and
- (d) the time by which clearance is likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No such proposal seeking Environmental Clearance under Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) notification of 2006 or earlier notification of 1994, has been received in the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

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

## [Translation]

#### Closure of Polluting Industries

746. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 855, dated July 31, 2006 and state:

to Questions

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- (a) whether the required information has since been collected:
  - (b) if so, the details thereof,
  - (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the time by which the information in this regard is likely to be collected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) For fulfillment of the assurance given to Unstarred Question No. 855 dated 31st July, 2006, the Central Pollution Control Board and the Delhi Pollution Control Committee have been requested to furnish necessary information, which is still awaited.

The information on the status of the closure of polluting industries in the capital would be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

## Pilot Project to Increase Production of Turmeric

- 747. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether a pilot project has been initiated by releasing Rs.15 crores in Nizamabad district of Andhra Pradesh to increase the production on turmeric in the country:
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the names of districts where turmeric is produced in the State;
- (f) whether the quality of turmeric of Andhra Pradesh is not up to the mark; and
- (e) if so, the efforts made to improve the quality of turmeric in view of Andhra Pradesh being the largest producer of turmeric 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) Yes, Sir.

- (b) Swaranajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) special project on Turmeric common facility centres has been initiated in Nizamabad to enhance the livelihood option to the turmeric growers by providing technical and marketing technologies during 2006-07 with District Rural Development Agency (DRDA), Nizamabad as the implementing agency. Government of India has approved the project for Rs.13.83 crores and released Rs.2.64 crores.
  - (c) Major turmeric growing districts in the state

are Nizamabad, Karimnagar, Warangal, Adilabad Guntur, Rangareddy and Kedapa.

- (d) No, the quality of turmeric of Andhra Pradesh is satisfactory and has good domestic market.
- (e) Several steps are being taken up by the Department of Horticulture, Government of Andhra Pradesh for quality improvement in turmeric like:
  - Encouraging the usage by supplying of improved post harvest tools like poly sheets, turmeric cooking pans, polishing drums and drying platforms with assistance.
  - Promotion of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices to reduce pesticide residues by providing inputs.
  - Creating quality awareness by the adoption of improved pre and post harvest packages by conducting crop specific on farm training programme.

#### AIBP

- 748. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Union Government h. s received any request from the Government of Guja at for the modification in Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Project (AIBP):
  - (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to provide grants to the Government of Gujarat for some irrigation projects under the AIBP; and
  - (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) AIBP conceived in the year 1996-97 in order to provide financial assistance to States to complete ongoing irrigation projects have undergone liberalization from time to time. Since the Union Government have launched BHARAT NIRMAN programme which also include creation of 10 million hectare of irrigation potential upto 2008-09, the consultations were held with the State Governments for modification in the programme. The revised proposal of the Ministry of Water Resources has already been approved by the Union Cabinet.

The list of the irrigation projects of the Gujarat which have been receiving Central Assistance (CA) under AIBP along with CA/Grant released to these projects upto March, 2006 is enclosed as statement.

to Questions

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Z	St. No. Project (Started in							Amount	Sunt						
Plan		1996- 97	1997- 98	1998 99	1989- 2000	2000 2001	2001- 2002	2002- 2003	2003-	Loan	2004-05 Grant	Total	2005-06 Grant	2006-07 Grant To	-07 Total
_	8	က	*	ĸ	9	7	80	6	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
_	SardarSarovar (VI)	71.250	71.250 177.000 410	410.000	267.000	400.000	480.000	903.000	557.000	420.0000	18.0000	438.0000	438.0000 339.6000	9	4042.850
8	Jhuj (A.P. 1978-80) (C)	1.200	1.800	1.070	0.670										4.740
m	Sipu (A.P. 1978-80) (C)	1.635	2.900	1.800	0.120										6.455
4	Mukteshwar (VI)	0.488	2.700	0.900	1.130	2.000	2.530	0.890	0.225						10.863
G	Hamav-II (V) (C)	0.065	0.000	0.000	0.000										0.065
•	Umarta (V) (C)	0.135	0.000	0.000	0.000										0.135
2	Damenganga (IV) (C)	0.000	5.000	3.250	1.220										9.470
80	Karjan (V) (C)	0.000	4.000	2.500	1.100										7.600
<b>o</b>	Sulthi(V) (C)	0.000	2.000	2.650	1.00										5.650
6	Dec (V ) (C)	0.000	0.500	0.000	0.00										0.500
=	Watrak Kadana RB Canal (A.P.)	0.000	1.000	1.650	0.460										3.110
5	AF-IV (IX)					10.350		0.665	0.093						11.108
13	Ozat-li (VIII)					5.500	5.160	1.115	0.335						12.110
<b>7</b>	Brahamini-II (IX)					4.000									4.000
5	Bhadar-11							0.660	0.206						0.866
	Sub-Total 1	74.773	74.773 196.900 423	423.820	272.700	421.850	487.690	906.330	557.859	420.0000 18.0000	18.0000	438.0000	339.6000	4	4119.522
3	CLA Released under Fast Track Programme	Programm	<b>2</b>												
Sard	Sardar Sarovar Project (VI) (FTP-I)	<del>[</del>					94.000	94.000						-	188.000
Sert	Sardar Sarovar Project (VI) (FTP-II)	(H-c							92.500	64.7500 27.7500	27.7500	92.5000		•	185.000
Sep	Sub-Total 2						94.000	94.000	92.500	64.7500	27.7500	92.5000	0.0000	6	373.000
Total							581.690 1000.330	1000.330	650.359	484.7500	45.7500	530.5000	339.6000	4	4492.522

### **Brahmaputra Board**

- 749. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister. of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No.801 dated December 06, 2004 and state:
- whether the proposal for the restoration and empowering of Brahmaputra Board for effective execution of mandated assignment on training and control of river in North Eastern Region (NER) has since been implemented;
  - if so, the details thereof: **(b)**
- (c) whether the Government proposes to strengthen the man power and upgrade the Brahmaputra Board;
  - if so, the details thereof; and (d)
- the implementation status of the master plan (e) on erosion control of Majuli indicating it is annual allocation and utilization of funds, phase-wise and the progress made thereon so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV); (a) and (b) No. Sir. However, the proposal of 2004 for internal restructuring in Brahmaputra Board has been processed and is under various stages of implementation.

- (c) and (d) No, Sir. At present, there is no proposal to strengthen the manpower and upgrade the Brahmaputra Board.
- (e) On the basis of the Master Plan for Majuli Island, a Detailed Project Report (DPR) was prepared for Protection of Majuli Island from flood and erosion in three phases and approved. Phase I of the project for an estimated cost of Rs. 41.28 crores was taken up in February, 2005. Earlier, a scheme for Protection of Majuli Island from flood and erosion (Immediate measure) was taken up in March, 2004 at an estimated cost of Rs. 6.22 crores and completed in March, 2005.

The annual allocation for all new schemes of Brahmaputra Board, which include Majuli, utilization of funds and expenditure on the two schemes for protection of Majuli Island are as under:-

(Rs. In crores)

Year	Annual Allocation	Utilisation of funds	Expenditure for the two schemes for protection of Majuli Islands
1	2	3	4
2002-03	00.50	04.83	•
2003-04	10.47	04.05	•

1	2	3	4
2004-05	15.00	10.27	5.92
2005-06	26.00	11.04	9.38
2006-07	14.45	14.45 (Anticipated)	6.24 (upto Oct,2006)

### Disbursement of Loans by NAFED

- 750. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:
- whether the National Agricultural Cooperative (a) Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) has illegally disbursed loans and stood guarantee for several crores in favour of some blacklisted individuals and firms:
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- whether NAFED has violated the bve-laws and is not working to promote the interest of poor farmers; and
- if so, the details thereof and the corrective (d) steps the Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Revival of Super Bazar**

- 751. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- the date and objectives of launching the Super Bazar scheme alongwith the number of its branches across the country and the total strength of its employees:
- the date and reasons for suspension of the (b) scheme:
- (c) the financial status of Super Bazar at the time of its suspension;
- the efforts made by the Government for the revival of Super Bazar alongwith the success achieved therein:
- whether the Government has recently received proposals from some agencies/organizations for revival of Super Bazar: and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) The Cooperative Store Ltd., (Super Bazar) Delhi was originally registered on 15th July, 1966 under the Bombay Cooperative Societies Act 1925 as extended to the Union Territory of Delhi. It was set up for undertaking wholesale/retail distribution of consumer goods and essential commodities. In January, 1996, it was registered under the Multi State Cooperative Societies Act Super Bazar started incurring losses from 1996-97 onwards. The Central Registrar of the Cooperative Societies issued Order for the winding up of Super Bazar on 5th July, 2002. The Super Bazar was in operation with 134 branches and 1934 employees at the time of issue of the order for winding up of Super Bazar.

- (c) The financial liabilities of the Society as on 5.7.2002 were to the extent of Rs. 83.67 crores (approximately).
- (d) to (f) The Employees Unions of Super Bazar filed a number of writ petitions in Delhi High Court challenging the winding up of Super Bazar. These petitions were dismissed on 19.03.2004. The Super Bazar Dalit Karamchari Sangh filed Special Leave Petition No.8398/2005 in the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court in its Order dated 28.2.2006 inter alia observed that professional management of the Super Bazar is absolutely essential. With a view to explore the possibility of having an arrangement under which the management of the Super Bazar may be entrusted to a body of professionals, the Supreme Court constituted a Committee of Officials to consider all aspects of the matter. The Committee submitted its Report on 29.3.2006 m the Supreme Court of India.

On 5.5.2006, the Supreme Court directed the Committee to issue an advertisement in two National daily news papers within two weeks from 5.5.2006. In compliance of this Order, a notice for inviting bids to start Super Bazar afresh was published on 19.5.2006 in two National daily news papers. M/s Reliance Industries Ltd. and Indian Labour Cooperative Society alongwith Indian Potash Ltd. had submitted their bids. These bids were opened by the Committee on 8.6.2006. The bids were evaluated by the Committee and a Report was submitted in the Supreme Court on 4.7.2006. The next date of hearing of the case in the Supreme Court is 05.12.2006. Therefore, the matter is sub-judice.

[Translation]

#### **Crop Estimation Survey**

- 752. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether a proposal of Rs. 4.07 crores has been received for plantation census and statistics and crop estimation from Crop Estimation Survey on Fruit and Vegetable for Madhya Pradesh during 2001;
- (b) if so, the reasons for delay in according approval to the proposal; and
  - (c) the time by which it is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir The proposal was received from Madhya Pradesh (MP) for coverage under Crop Estimation Survey on Fruits and Vegetables.

(b) and (c) The present Scheme is restricted to 11 States namely Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh The proposal received from MP was not considered since the Planning Commission and the Department of Expenditure had decided not to extend the Scheme in the additional States since it would involve creation of new posts under the Scheme.

[English]

### **Green Governance Programme**

- 753. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Government has finalized Green Governance Programme for Indian Army;
- (b) if so, the details and salient features of the said programme;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to provide funds for the said ecological drive; and
  - (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) There is no scheme with the name of

Green Governance Programme for Indian Army as such. The Defence forces are closely associated through Directorate of Territorial Army and ex-servicemen in ecological conservation and afforestation activities under the scheme Eco-Development Force. At present four units of Eco Task Force are being supported through an allocation of Rs.8.00 Crs. for the year 2006-07. Two more units have also been recently approved for Assam.

### Revival of Sick Fishing Vessels

- 754. SHRI RANEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Government proposes to provide assistance for building of fishing vessels in Vishakhapatnam during 2006-07;
  - (h) 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 TASLIMUDDIN): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid down on the Table of the House.

#### [Translation]

#### Impact of Fly Ash on Environment

- 755. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:
- (a) the total quantum of fly ash in tonnes being generated in the thermal power plants in the country every year;
- (b) whether the fly ash coming out of the thermal power plants in the country is causing environmental pollution:
- (c) whether the Government has prepared any action plan to control the environmental pollution caused by fly ash; and
  - (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) On an average about 110 million tonne of fly ash per year was generated during the last three years

(b) The fly ash, if left as such, occupies land area causing environmental problem including air pollution.

- (c) and (d) Steps taken by the Government to mitigate the environmental problems include:-
- A notification has been issued which inter alia stipulates utilisation of fly ash generated by thermal power plants in a time bound manner.
- Emission standards for suspended particulate matter from thermal power plants have been notified.
- Notification has been issued for use of beneficiated coal in thermal power plants located in urban areas and beyond 1000 kilometre from pithead.
- Environmental impact of assessment of thermal power plant is undertaken for environmental management including fly ash utilisation and use of cleaner technologies.
- A charter on Corporate Responsibility for Environmental Protection has been adopted as a road map for improved environmental practices for 17 categories of industries, which include thermal power plants.

## [English]

#### Setting up of Environment Courts

756. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the cases relating to environment are mounting in the country day by day;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which Courts are likely to be set up in various parts of the country for speedier disposal of cases relating to environment:
- (c) whether the Government has directed/is considering to direct the States to set up environment courts to dispose of environment related cases;
- (d) if so, the status which have constituted and those which have not yet done so;
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure such Courts in all states;
- (f) whether the Law Commission has been entrusted to review Environmental Laws; and
  - (g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (g) Cases relating to environment are handled by different courts in the country. The High Court of West Bengal and Tamil Nadu have constituted the Green Benches. Special Courts/designated Courts have been set up by different State Governments like Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat and NCT of Delhi. The State Government of Orissa has declared all the Sub-Divisional Judicial Magistrate courts in the state as the special courts to deal with environmental cases

In order to achieve the objectives of accessible, quick and speedy justice, the Law Commission of India in its 186th Report, has inter alia recommended establishment of separate Environment Courts for each state, consisting of judicial members 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.

#### **Eradication of Child Labour**

## 757. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

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

- (a) whether the initiatives taken to eradicate child labour remains elusive even in sectors such as construction or mining that were declared hazardous decades ago;
  - (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the growth in the number of child workers is driven by the new economy and children are most vulnerable to new forms of contract labour without any social security;
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto:
- (e) the action plan initiated by the Union Government to eliminate child labour by 2007;
- (f) whether any direction to State Governments has also been given; and

#### (a) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) As per the provisions of the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986, children below the age of 14 years are prohibited from working in hazardous occupations and processes. At present, there are 15 occupations and 57 processes listed as hazardous

under the Schedule to the Act, which includes Construction and Mines.

Elimination of child labour is an area of great concern and commitment for the Government of India. The problem of child labour is a socio-economic evil which is a direct consequence of poverty & illiteracy. Considering the magnitude and the nature of the problem, therefore, Government has adopted a gradual & sequential approach to withdraw and rehabilitate working children, beginning with those working in hazardous occupations/processes. Efforts are being made to withdraw children working in hazardous occupations and processes for their rehabilitation.

(c) to (e) There is no evidence to indicate that there is increase in child labour due to the new economy. Child labour is a socio-economic problem which is a direct consequence of poverty and illiteracy. Realizing the multifaceted and complex nature of this problem, Government liad embarked on a holistic and multi-pronged programme to eliminate child labour from the country. The Government strategy, based on the National Policy on Child Labour announced in 1987, involves strong enforcement of the existing Act with simultaneous efforts towards rehabilitation of both parents and children through project based Action Plan and linkages with the poverty eradication and income generation programmes of the Government.

The Government of India initiated the National Child labour Project Scheme (NCLP) in 1988 to rehabilitate the working children starting with 9 Child Labour endemic districts of the country. The scheme has been progressively expanded to cover 250 districts of the country during the 10th Plan.

(f) and (g) As State Government are appropriate government for enforcement of Act in their respective areas, directions are regularly being given to them for strict enforcement, creating public awareness on the Issue and for the effective implementation of the NCLP Scheme.

## **Erosion of Ganga in West Bengal**

- 758. SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether due to sever erosion of river Ganga from Katwa to Kaina in West Bengal the people on both side of the banks are suffering a lot;
- (b) If so, whether the Government has taken any steps to combat the problem of erosion;

to Questions

(c) if so, the details of the steps that have been taken so far; and

Written Answers

the amount earmarked and released so far? (d)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. As per the information provided by the Government of West Bengal, the people along the banks of river Bhagirathi (Hooghly) from Katwa to Kalna are facing the bank erosion problem in West Bengal.

(b) to (d) The State Government of West Bengal has therefore, taken necessary steps to combat the problem of bank erosion by taking up anti erosion measures (by dumping porcupine cages, crated sand-filled gunny/poly bags) at Katwa town, Dainhat, Agradwip, Jhaudanga, Kuturia, Kastashali, Patuli, and Kalna in District Burdwan and at Prachin Mayapur in District Nadia at a cost of Rs. 80.0 lakh and 42.0 lakh respectively.

The Government of West Bengal is also taking up some permanent anti-erosion works in the affected reaches on the banks of river Bhagirathi at an estimated cost of Rs.20 crore in District Burdwan and of Rs. 12.75 crore in District Nadia.

#### **Depletion of Ozone Layer**

759. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

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

- whether the Government has developed new policies and regulatory measures to reduce substances that deplete the ozone layer;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- whether the Government has set any target regarding production and consumption of ozone depleting substances: and
- if so, the target fixed and achieved thereunder so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The Government has notified the Ozone Depleting Substances (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000 and also the Amendment Rules in 2001, 2003, 2004 and 2005 to reduce substances that deplete the Ozone Laver. Further, fiscal incentives have also been provided for non-ozone depleting substances technology.

(c) and (d) Targets have been set to phase-out Ozone Depleting Substances and the achievements made so far are reduction of 50% of the production and consumption of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), 85% of the production and consumption of carbontetrachloride (CTC) for non-feedstock application and 100% of the production and consumption of halons and methyl chloroform.

#### Production of Cotton

- 760. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:
- the per hectare yield cotton in rain-fed areas. State-wise:
- (b) whether the per hectare yield in rain-fed areas of Vidarbha region is the lowest; and
- if so, the remedial steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) As per latest available data, the per hectare yield of cotton in predominantly rain-fed areas of major cotton producing States for the year 2003-04 is given below:

State	Yield of Cotton (Kg/Hectare)
Andhra Pradesh	384
Gujarat	417
Karnataka	142
Madhya Pradesh	193
Maharashtra	190
Orissa	409
Tamilnadu	213

- (b) The yield of cotton in the rain-fed districts of Vidarbha region of Maharashtra ranges between 141 Kg/ Hectare to 264 Kg/Hectare during 2003-04.
- For increasing production and productivity and improving the quality of cotton, Government of India has launched technology mission from 2000-01. Under thie mission, assistance is provided for production and distribution of seeds of varieties/hybrids not older than 15 years, transfer of technology through demonstrations, training of farmers and extension workers, plant protection measures including Integrated Pest Management demonstrations, supply of sprayers, pheromone traps, bio-

agents as well as water saving devices like sprinklers and drip irrigation system.

Written Answers

[Translation]

## Supply of Milk by Mother Dairy

761. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA: SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID: SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR: DR. RAJESH MISHRA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Mother Dairy is facing acute shortage of milk due to recent floods in Gujarat;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
  - (c) the steps taken 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 TASLIMUDDIN): (a) No, Sir. Mother Dairy is presently not facing acute shortage of milk due to recent floods in Gujarat.

(b) and (c) Does not arise in view of the reply at (a).

[English]

#### **Device to Track Particulate Matters**

- 762. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to State:
- (a) whether the pollution in the capital is increasing despite introduction of CNG in autos and buses;
- (b) if so, the reasons and the rate of pollution detected:
- (c) whether the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has recently installed a device to track 'Particulate Matter 2.5' as reported in the Hindustan Times dated September 18, 2006;
  - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the extent to which the installation of new gadgets by CPCB would check increase in pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) With the introduction of various steps taken for controlling air pollution in Delhi, which includes

introduction of the compressed natural gas (CNG) in autos and buses, the levels of Sulphur Dioxide are observed to be within the National Ambient Air Quality Standards at all the monitoring stations. While, the levels of the Nitrogen Dioxide are also observed to be within the Ambient Air Quality Standards except at the ITO traffic inter-section and the Town Hall in Delhi. Whereas, the levels of Respirable Suspended Particulate Matter are observed to be generally exceeding the Standards.

- (c) and (d) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has installed a continuous automatic dust analyzer for measuring Particulate Matter [size less than 2.5 micron] at the ITO traffic inter-section in Delhi as mentioned in the news item in The Hindustan Times of 18th September, 2006.
- (e) The 'Particulate Matter 2.5' (PM 2.5) Monitor has been installed with a view to formulating strategy for controlling and reduction of the fine particulate matter.

[Translation]

# Relaxation in Rules of Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme

- 763. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether any bottlenecks have been found in the existing guidelines for Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP);
- (b) if so, the details and the steps taken/proposed to be taken to provide relaxation in the guidelines to overcome these bottlenecks; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to enforce these relaxations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) AIBP conceived in 1996-97 in order to provide financial assistance to States to complete ongoing irrigation projects have undergone liberalization from time to time on the basis of feed backs received from the stake holders. Since the Government of India has launched Bharat Nirman Programme which inter-alia include creation of 10 million hectare of Irrigation potential upto 2008-09, further relaxation in AIBP are considered by the Union Government. Union Cabinet has already approved the revised proposals on the relaxation of criteria of AIBP proposed by Ministry of Water Resources. The proposals submitted by the State Government for availing assistance

under AIBP are processed as per the AIBP guidelines in force.

#### Workers of Closed Industrial Units

764. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of facilities provided to the jobless labourers of industries sealed/proposed to be sealed in Delhi under the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court;
- (b) whether the Hon'ble Supreme Court has issued any direction to the Management of the said industries with regard to providing service benefits to labourers engaged in those industries and to those who have been rendered jobless;
  - (c) if so, the details thereof:
- (d) whether the Government has received any representation from affected labourers regarding denial of service benefits by the management; and
- (e) if so, the total number of complaints received from various labour unions alongwith the details thereof and the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (c) The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi is the appropriate Government in the matter. As per the information provided by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi, the workers would be entitled to benefits provided under the various labour legislations like retrenchment compensation and other statutory benefits.

(d) and (e) As per the information furnished by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi, a representation has been received from All India General Mazdoor Trade Union alleging that the management of Ws General Overseas Corporation, 191, Nangli, Sakrawati, Najafgarh, New Delhi have not made payment for the month of August, 2006 to 306 workmen and the management has retrenched them in the garb of the sealing of the establishment by the Sub Divisional Magistrate. Cognizance was taken of this complaint and after persuasion, the management has reported that payment of wages to the workman concerned has been made.

[English]

## **Protection of Dolphins**

765. DR. M. JAGANNATH: SHRI M.K. SUBBA:

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

- (a) whether the dancing dolphins are facing extinction;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has conducted any survey to assess their approximate population and reasons for decline in their population;
  - (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the measures taken to reverse the declining trend in dolphin population and save them from the brink of extinction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) As per the information available, Dancing Dolphins (Delphinus delphis) is not facing threat of extinction. However, the other two species of Dolphins, viz. Irrawady Dolphin (Orcaella brevirostris) and Gangetic Dolphin (Platanista gangetica) are endangered in Indian waters. In order to protect these two species, they have been included in the Schedule-I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, thereby giving them highest degree of protection. Further, their main habitats have also been declared as Protected Areas.

## **Funds for Sardar Sarovar Project**

766. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:
SHRI JASHUBHAI DAHANABHAI BARAD:
Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether requests for funding have been received from States concerning Sardar Sarovar Project for completion of canal in their areas;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
  - (c) the reaction of the Govt. thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. The Canal system of the Sardar Sarovar project in the State of Gujarat and Rajasthan are under AIBP since the year 1996 and 1998 respectively. The Central Assistance released to these States upto March, 2006 are Rs.4415.85 crore and Rs.523.045 crore respectively.

The proposals for Central Assistance are submitted by the State Government on year to year basis depending on their work programme and availability of budget provision for the projects in State Budget and Central Assistance is released by the Government of India after scrutiny of proposals. For the year 2006-07, the State Government of Gujarat and Rajasthan have submitted proposal for Central Assistance amounting to Rs.289.83 crore and Rs.100.66 crore respectively.

[Translation]

#### Sugarcane Dues

## 767. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD: SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV:

Written Answers

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

- (a) whether the outstanding dues of sugarcane farmers against sugar mills has increased this year in comparison to the previous year;
- (b) if so, the amount outstanding against Government, private and cooperative mills till February 2006; and
- (c) the provisions made by the Government for ensuring payment of outstanding amount to the farmers 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 (DR AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) The sector-wise total cane price arrears as on 15.9.2005, 28.2.2006 and 15.9.2006 were as under:

Sector	Cane price arrears (Rs. in crores)				
	As on 15.9.2005	As on 28.2.2006	<b>As</b> on 15.9.2006		
Public	17.15	63.73	23.29		
Cooperative	193.13	579.77	79.21		
Private	293.25	759.59	345.54		
Total	503.53	1403.09	448.04		

(c) Clause 3 of the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966 provides that where a producer of sugar purchases any sugarcane from a grower of sugarcane or from a sugarcane growers' cooperative society, the producer shall, unless there is an agreement in writing to the contrary between the parties, pay within 14 days from the date of delivery of the sugarcane to the seller. Clause (3-A) of the said Order provides that where a producer of sugar or his agent fails to make payment for the sugarcane purchased within 14 days of the date of delivery, he shall pay interest on the amount due at the rate of 15% per annum for the

period of such delay beyond 14 days. Further, under the provisions of the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966, the cane price arrears are recoverable as arrears of land revenue and the Si ate Governments have been authorized in this regard.

[English]

## Setting up of Mega Chemical Industrial Estates

- 768. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Union Government has decided to set up Mega Chemical Industrial Estates (MCIE) in the country through private participation only;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the location of these MCIE are being shrotlisted and feasibility reports prepared;
- (d) if 30, the criteria for selecting the locations and features of feasibility report;
- (e) whether the 100 per cent Foreign Direct Investment is allowed in these projects; and
  - (f) if so, the reasons therefore?

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 (f) A Task Force on Petroleum, Chemical and Petrochemical Investment Regions (PCPIR) was constituted to enable quick and coordinated decision making and to provide an appropriate policy framework for the development of investment regions of requisite scale and level of facilities, with the involvement of world class developers and investors, in the field of petroleum, chemicals and petrochemicals. The policy is at the draft stage. Locations, private participation and other issues would be considered only in terms of the final Policy.

#### Adulteration in Jewellery

- 769. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether any action has been taken against jewelers whose jewellery samples had failed against declared purity and against whom cases were registered in the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission (MRTPC);

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the steps taken to expedite the action;
- (d) whether any survey for ascertaining purity of jewellery items has been conducted with regard to other jewellers selling hallmarked jewellery; and
  - (e) if so, the details and the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) to (c) Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) Act 1986 provides for action against its licensee jewellers and also against those who misuse the Standard Mark/Hallmark. The jewellers, against whom cases were registered in the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission (MRTPC), were neither licensees of the Bureau of Indian Standards nor were found misusing the Hallmark. Therefore, no action could be taken against them under the BIS Act.

- (d) No, Sir.
- (e) Does not arise.

#### **Production of Geranium Herb**

770. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has provided assistance to the cultivators of Geranium Herb:
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the production of said herb 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) Yes, Sir. Under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Technology Mission for integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern States, Sikkim, J&K, Himachal Pradesh & Uttaranchal, assistance @. Rs.5000/- per hectare is provided to the cultivators for growing of aromatic plants including geranium. In addition, assistance is also provided for establishment of herbal garden including geranium @ 3.00 lakh per unit for public sector & Rs.1.5 lakhs per unit for private sector, respectively.

(c) National Medicinal Plants Board has sanc-

tioned projects under Promotional scheme for production of planting material, standardization of organics production, IEC and plantation of Geranium along with other plants. The assistance is also provided under Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern States, Sikkim, J&K, Himachal Pradesh & Uttaranchal for production of generanium.

## Inferior Quality Cereals in Forward Trading

771. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD: SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE: SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:

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

- (a) whether the Forward Market Commission has directed the National Commodities and Derivatives Exchange to accept inferior quality stocks of some cereals against the forward trading:
  - (b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the corrective measures taken 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 TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Forward Markets Commission (FMC), which is the Regulator for commodity futures market under the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952 has informed the Government that it has directed National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange Ltd. (NCDEX) to accept inferior quality stocks of some cereals. FMC has also informed that it has approved contract designs in several commodities with a basis variety, which also provide for delivery of superior/inferior variety of the produce at premium/discount over the basis variety. This is with an intention to increase the deliverable supply and is as per international practice.

(c) No action was warranted by the Government in view of reply to (a) and (b) above.

## **Employment in Organised Sector**

- 772. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: WIII the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether employment in organized sector has not grown at the rate expected as compared to the previous decade as reported in the Indian Labour Report, 2006;

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

Written Answers

- (c) whether the Government has considered the report, and
- if so, the details of suggestions that have been accepted to reform the labour laws for generating more employment in organised sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FER-NANDES): (a) and (b) As per the employment Market Information Programme of Directorate General of Employment & Training, Ministry of Labour & Employment, employment in the organised sector (covering establishments having 10 or more workers) has gone down from 28.0 million as on March 1994 to 26.44 million as on March 2004 (latest available). Main reasons for this decline include right sizing, closure of certain obsolete establishments and restructuring of the workforce in the public sector.

(c) and (d) Ministry of Labour & Employment has gone through the report. The suggestions are of general in nature.

## [Translation]

#### **FM Channels**

773. YOGI ADITYA NATH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- the Akashwani Kendras where F.M. Channels (a) are operational;
- whether all the sanctioned channels have (b) started functioning:
  - (c) if so, the details thereof: and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the time by which they are likely to be made functional?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) At present 161 FM transmitters are operational as per the details given in Statement.

- (b) No. Sir.
- (c) Details are given in the enclosed statement.
- 8 FM transmitters are technically ready but seven of them could not be commissioned as the posts required for Operation and Maintenance could not be sanctioned. In another case of Churachandpur (Manipur), Prasar Bharati is awaiting decision of State Government about the link language.

Apart from the above Prasar Bharati could not acquire new sites for locating transmitters at 90 places. So, these schemes have spilled over to the next plan. Another 49 schemes have been approved recently and action is on for implementation.

## Statement List of Existing FM Radio Transmitters (161Nos.)

State	SI.No.	Place	Power
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	1.	Anantpur	6 kW
	2.	Kothagudam	6 kW
	3,	Kurnool	6 kW
	4.	Markapuram	6 kW
	5.	Nizamabad	6 kW
	6.	Tirupati	3 kW, 10 kW
	7.	Warangal	10 kW
	8.	Hyderabad	6 kW, 5 kW
	9.	Vishakhapatnam	10 kW
	10.	Vijaywada	1 kW (Interim set-up)

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1	2	3	4		
Assam	11.	Haflong	6 kW		
	12.	Jorhat	10 kW		
	13.	Nowgong	6 kW		
	14	Dhubri	6 kW		
	15.	Guwahati	10 kW		
Bihar	16.	Purnea	6 kW		
	17.	Sasaram	6 kW		
	18	Patna	6 kW		
Chhattisgarh	19.	Bilaspur	6 kW		
	20.	Raigarh	6 kW		
	21.	Raipur	1 kW (Interim set-up)		
	22.	Saraipalli	1 kW		
Delhi	23.	Delhi	5 kW, 10 kW		
Boa	24.	Panaji	6 kW		
Gujarat	<b>25</b> .	Godhra	6 kW		
	<b>26</b> .	Ahmedabad	10 kW		
	<b>27</b> .	Surat	6 kW		
	28.	Rajkot	10 kW		
	29.	Vadodra	10 kW		
iaryana	<b>30</b> .	Hissar	6 kW		
	31.	Kurukshetra	6 kW		
	32.	Rohtak	1 kW (Interim set-up)		
limachal Pradesh	<b>33</b> .	Hamirpur	6 kW		
	34.	Dharamshala	10 kW		
	<b>35</b> .	Kasauli	10 kW		
	36.	Kullu	6 kW		
	<b>37</b> .	Shimla	1 kW (Interim set-up)		
ammu and Kashmir	38.	Jammu	3 kW, 10 kW		
	39.	Kathua	10 kW		
	<b>.40.</b>	Poonch	6 kW		
	41.	Srinagar	10 kW		
	<b>42</b> .	Bhadarwah	6 kW		
	<b>43</b> .	Rajourl	10 kW		

1	2	3	· 4
Jharkhand.	44.	Chaibasa	6 kW
	45	Hazaribagh	6 kW
	46.	Daitonganj	10 kW
	47.	Jamshedpur	6 kW
	48.	Ranchi	6 kW
<b>Carnataka</b>	49.	Bijapur	6 kW
	<b>50</b> .	Chitradurga	6 kW
	51.	Hospet	10 kW
	<b>52</b> .	Karwar	3 kW
	<b>53</b> .	Raichur	6 kW
	54.	Hassan	6 kW
	<b>55</b> .	Mercara	6 kW
	<b>56</b> .	Bangalore	10 kW, 10 kW
	<b>57</b> .	Mysore	10 kW
	<b>58</b> .	Dharwar	10 kW
	<b>59</b> .	Mangalore	10 kW
	<b>60</b> .	Bellary	1 kW (Interim set-up)
	61.	Gulberga	1 kW (Interim set-up)
Kerala	62.	Cohin	6 kW, 10 kW
	<b>63</b> .	Cannaore	6 kW
	64.	Idukki	6 kW
	<b>65</b> .	Trivandram	10 kW
	<b>66</b> .	Calicut	10 kW
	67.	Manjeri	3 kW
Madhya Pradesh	68.	Balaghat	6 kW
	<b>69</b> .	Betul	6 kW
	<b>70</b> .	Chhindwara	6 kW
	71.	Guna	6 kW
	<b>72</b> .	Khandwa	6 kW
	<b>73</b> .	Sagar	6 kW
	74.	Shahdol	6 kW
	<b>75.</b>	Shivpuri	6 kW
	76.	Bhopal	6 kW

1	2	3	4
	77.	Indore	6 kW
	78.	Jabalpur	10 kW
	79.	Mandia	1 kW
	80.	Rajgarh	3 kW
Maharashtra	81.	Mumbai	5 kW, 10 kW
	82.	Ahemednagar	6 kW
	83.	Akola	6 kW
	84.	Aurangabad	1 kW (Interim set-up)
	85.	Beed	6 kW
	86.	Chanderpur	6 kW
	87	Dhule	6 kW
	88	Nanded	6 kW
	<b>89</b> .	Nasik	6 kW
	90.	Osmanabad	.6 kW
	91	Satara	6 kW
	92	Yavatmal	6 kW
	93	Kolhapur	6 kW
	94	Nagpur	6 kW
	<b>95</b> .	Pune	6 kW
leghalaya	96.	Jowai	6 kW
	97.	Shillong	10 kW
lizoram	98.	Lunglei	6 kW
Manipur	99	Imphal	10 kW
lagaland	100	Mokokchung	6 kW
Oris <b>s</b> a	101	Berhampur	6 kW
	102	Bolangir	6 kW
	103	Puri	3 kW
	104	Rourkela	6 kW
	105	Cuttack	6 kW
	106	Deogarh	100 Watt LPT
'unjab	107	Bhatinda	6 kW
	108	Patiala	6 kW
	109	Jalandhar	10 kW

to Questions

1	2	3	4
Rajasthan	110	Alwar	6 kW
	111	Banswara	6 kW
	112	Chittorgarh	6 kW
	113	Jhalawar	6 kW
	114	Nagaur	6 kW
	115	Swaimadhopur	6 kW
	116	Churu	6 kW
	117	Jaisalmer	10 kW6
	118	Mt. Abu	6 ķW
	119	Jodhpur	6 kW
	120	Jaipur	6 kW
	121	Udaipur	1 kW (Interim set-up)
amil Nadu	122	Chennai	5 kW, 10 kW
	123	Nagercoil	10 kW
	124	Kodaikanai	10 kW
	125	Coimbatore	10 kW
	126	Tiruchirapalli	10 kW
	127	Madurai	1 kW (Interim set-up)
	128	Yarcud	100 Watt LPT
ripura	129	Belonia	6 kW
	130	Kailashahar	6 kW
	131	Agartala	10 kW
Inion Territory	132	Daman	3 kW
	133	Karaikal	6 kW
	134	Chandigarh	6 kW
	135	Port Blair	10 kW
Jttar Pradesh	136	Bareilly	6 kW
	137	Faizabad	6 kW
	138	Jhansi	6 kW
	139	Obra	6 kW
	140	Allgarh	6 kW
	141	Lucknow	10 kW
	142	Allahabad	10 kW

1	2	3	4
	143	Gorakhpur	1 kW (Interim set-up)
	144	Kanpur	1 kW (Interim set-up)
Uttaranchal	145	Mussoorie	10 kW
West Bengal	146	Kolkata	5 kW, 10 kW
	147	Murshidabad	6 kW
	148	Asansole	6 kW
	149	Siligun	10 kW
	150	Shantiniketan	3 kW
	151	Kurseog	5 kW
	152	Darjeeling	100 Watt LPT

Note: At 9 places 2 FM transmitters are operating.

## National Agricultural Insurance Scheme

# 774. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken final decision on the recommendations of the Joint Group constituted to study the improvement required in the existing scheme and to include more crops in the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the recommendations that have been accepted; and
- (c) the time by which these are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) After the report of the Joint Group was submitted, it was circulated among the States/UTs and other concerned for their comments/views. The Joint Group in its report has given a number of recommendations which interalia include reducing the unit area of insurance to gram panchayat for major crops, improving the basis of calculation of threshold yield, higher indemnity level, coverage of pre-sowing risk, post-harvest losses and coverage of perennial crops. Most of the States/UTs have agreed to the suggestions given by the Joint Group, Based on the recommendations of the Joint Group, a proposal for review of NAIS is under active consideration of the Government.

#### **Unemployed Persons**

775. SHRI GANESH SINGH:

SHRI TUKARAM GANGADHAR GADAKH:

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY:

SHRI PARAS NATH YADAV:

SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD:

SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI:

SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK:

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any survey to find out the total number of unemployed educated persons in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the percentage increase in the number of unemployed persons during the last one decade, State-wise;
- (c) the details of the new schemes formulated by the Government for providing job opportunities and generate employment to such persons; and
- (d) the number of youth provided employment by the Government during 2005-06, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Reliable estimates of employment , and unemployment are obtained through quinquennial labour force surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation. Last such survey, for which results are published, was conducted during 2004-05. State-wise details of the unemployment rates for the educated persons

of age 15 years and above on usual status basis are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

Written Answers

(c) and (d) Various Ministries/departments both of Central and State Government take up schemes as per

their requirement. The most important scheme is National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. Under this scheme around 1.47 crore persons were provided employment up to October 2006. State-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement-I Unemployment Rates for Educated Persons 15 Years and Above

S. No.	State/Union Territory	unemployment rate for educated persons of age 15 years and above					
		1999	3-2000	2004-05			
		Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban		
1	2	3	4	5	6		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6.8	6.9	5.5	8.4		
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.8	3.0	3.2	1.6		
3.	Assam	15.2	14.1	12.7	10.5		
4.	Bihar	6.5	13.2	4.0	12.2		
5.	Chhattisgarh	-		4.3	6.9		
В.	Delhi	6.5	4.6	2.5	6.2		
7.	Goa	15.2	25.1	15.2	14.0		
В.	Gujarat	1.1	2.8	1.9	3.2		
9.	Haryana	1.1	3.9	6.2	6.0		
10.	Himachal Pradesh	3.7	9.6	5.0	6.2		
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	4.3	7.6	5.7	9.5		
12.	Jharkhand			3.6	8.1		
13.	Karnataka	4.5	5.5	5.0	5.1		
14.	Kerala	19.8	17.5	22.2	24.0		
15.	Madhya Pradesh	3.9	5.5	2.1	4.7		
16.	Maharashtra	6.1	6.9	3.1	4.6		
17.	Manipur	6.0	11.0	4.5	9.5		
18.	Meghalaya	3.9	7.0	3.0	3.9		
19.	Mizoram	3.8	6.2	1.7	3.3		
20.	Nagaland	6.5	14.3	6.2	9.1		
21.	Orissa	15.7	15.3	17.1	17.3		
22.	Punjab	4.9	4.4	10.0	7.6		
<b>23</b> .	Rajasthan	2.0	3.5	4.6	4.3		
24.	Sikkim	11.8	12.1	6.8	6.4		
<i>25</i> .	Tamil Nadu	10.6	6.6	6.6	6.5		

to Questions

1	2	3	4	5	6
26. T	ripura	3.4	7.8	46.3	37.7
27. U	ittaranchal			4.0	7.6
28. U	ttar Pradesh	2.8	7.3	1.3	4.6
29. W	/est Bengal	11.1	11.2	9.3	8.8
30. A	ndaman and Nicobar Islands	15.1	12.0	14.5	8.8
31. C	handigarh	0.7	6.3	8.0	5.1
32. D	adra and Nagar Haveli	3.0	1.6	11.8	5.2
33. D	aman and Diu	1.2	3.6	0.0	3.2
<b>34</b> . La	akshadweep	22.4	13.4	29.8	17.6
35. P	ondicherry	12.5	7.1	16.5	16.5
A	II India	6.7	7.4	6.5	7.1

<sup>\*</sup> As per usual status approach.

Unemployment rate is the percentage of unemployed with reference to Labour Force.

Statement-II
Status of Implementation of NREGA in 2006-07 as on upto October, 2006

S.No.	State	Distts.	No. of Rural House-	Estimated Rural BPL	Rural tions for o	Job cards issued	Demand for Employment		Employment provided	
			holds (2001 Census)	Families		Number	Household	Individual	Household	individual
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	Andhra Pradesh	13	6715598	742074	4380850	4380650	1546503	2119916	1546503	2119916
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1	78 <b>78</b>	3154	17480	16926	16926	NR	16926	NR
3	Assam	7	817286	327241	601273	523209	204640		205086	
4	Bihar	23	7755942	3435882	2966005	2037604	525843	718141	477832	714828
5	Chhattisgarh	11	2023402	749873	1772900	1726855	695842	1302463	688524	1270589
6	Gujarat	6	1382048	182806	611026	614343	100698		100698	
7	Haryana	2	257304	21279	87884	88818	28056	34758	28056	34758
8	Himachal Pradesh	2	150715	11967	93016	88056	41960	44307	39320	41303
9	Jammu and Kashmir	3	240978	9567	186811	159158	NR	20261	NR	20261
10	Jharkhand	20	3395640	1504269	2019997	1914800	581689	817934	578343	813672
11	Karnataka	5	1282966	222979	670822	606436	235009	459364	229185	447715
12	Kerala	2	616309	57810	227057	11958	3854	NR	3750	NR
13	Madhya Pradesh	18	3550273	1315731	4423536	4381801	1979844	2304137	1996375	2225679
14	Maharashtra	12	3713013	880727	3057951	2467037	191272	435861	191272	435861
15	Manipur	1	16149	6466	17880	17880	17880	43700	17800	43700

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
16	Meghalaya	2	101657	40703	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
17	Mizoram	2	21661	8673	50930	22918	20801	12100	20801	12100
18	Nagaland	1	31939	12788	27884	27884	NR	8950	NR	<b>89</b> 50
19	Orissa	19	3836278	1841797	2762060	2261284	320938	539387	261121	428662
20	Punjab	1	221815	14107	40310	37326	37326	40310	30715	NR
21	Rajasthan	6	1294087	177808	1495048	1493628	927890	1246742	927890	1246742
22	Sikkim	1	10649	4264	4696	4323	3611	4336	3611	4336
23	Tamil Nadu	6	2067689	424910	1340307	1309462	299860	397505	299860	397505
24	Tripura	1	57788	23138	70259	64587	73971	115696	72348	113159
25	Uttaranchal	3	206059	64332	283132	191657	40153	40345	40008	40198
26	Uttar Pradesh	22	7162466	2236122	3471356	3414000	1718544	1984778	1611342	1897582
27	West Bengal	10	7064480	2250037	4882986	4116470	1498036	2399698	1351840	2334565
	Total	200	54008069	16570504	35563256	31979070	11110946	15090689	10739206	14652081

NR: Not Reported [English]

#### **Support Price for Sugarcane**

776. SHRI M. SHIVANNA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the sugarcane farmers across the country particularly Karnataka are demanding an increase in the support price of sugarcane; and
- (b) If so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) The Central Government does not procure sugarcane, as such, the question of fixing Support Price of Sugarcane does not arise. However, the Central Government fixes the Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) of sugarcane under the provisions of the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966 which every sugar factory is required to pay to sugarcane farmers on purchase of sugarcane. The SMP of sugarcane payable by the sugar factories, for 2006-07 sugar season, has been fixed at Rs. 80.25 per quintal for a basic recovery rate of 9 per cent subject to a premium of Rs. 0.90 for every 0.1 percentage point increase in the recovery above that level. No representation has been received from the farmers of Karnataka seeking increase in the SMP of sugarcane, in the recent past.

#### Fishing Sector

## 777. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether fishing sector has requested the Union Government to bring blue revolution in the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) The Department has not received the concrete proposal from any organization, federation, cooperatives or other stakeholders of fisheries sector to bring blue revolution as such in the Eleventh Five Year Plan.

(b) Does not arise.

## Losses to DCS

778. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: SHRIMATI SUSMITA BAURI:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROAD-CASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Doordarshan Commercial Service, New Delhi suffered a huge loss owing to their failure

to charge increased telecasted fees for the grant of additional FCT to sponsors as stipulated ir. the rate card;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the remedial steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

## [Translation]

## Task Force on Inter Linking of Rivers

779. SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA: SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Task Force constituted for linking of rivers has submitted its report to the Government;
- (b) if so, the details of recommendations made by the Task Force; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to implement its recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Task Force submitted Action Plan I and Action Plan II in April, 2003 and 2004 respectively.

- (b) Recommendations of Task Force are:
  - (i) Task Force got prepared Terms of Reference (TOR) for preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPR) through M/s Engineers India Ltd. (EIL) for providing guidance on norms of appraisal of individual projects.
  - (ii) On the issue of suitable mechanism for bringing about speedy consensus amongst the States, Task Force has suggested meeting at the highest level to agree after the technical-level discussions with emphasis that outstanding issues should be such that they can be addressed in Detailed Project Report stage.
  - (iii) The Task Force has stated that the peninsular links are the right component to begin with.

Top priority links identified by Task Force on Interlinking of Rivers are under:

a) Ken-Betwa link UP & MP

b) Parbati-Kalisindh- MP & Chambal link Rajasthan

- (iv) On the basis of report from HM-Ahmedabad, a two tier institutional/organizational setup has been suggested for the Implementation of the programme on Interlinking of Rivers (ILR) along with a Council "National River Water Development Council (NRWDC)" to act as the apex body of the proposed setup. The National Authority for Interlinking of Rivers (NAILR) is proposed as the first tier of the proposed two tier organizational structure and the regional or branch offices or subsidiaries would act as "Link Instrument" and are proposed as the second tier of the organizational setup.
- (v) Task Force on Interlinking of Rivers consulted ICICI for funding options. ICICI has proposed that funding should be partly through public, public-private and private inputs. The exact requirement on realistic basis will be available only after the preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) of all the links.

Based on NWDA studies, National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) has estimated that the cost of ILR project would be Rs. 4,44,331.20 crore which is 21-22% lower than the rough estimate of Rs. 5.60 lakh crore. NCAER is of the view that the programme would take nearly 35-40 years. However, with use of modern construction and Remote Sensing techniques, the programme at best could be completed in 25 years.

(vi) A Working Group on International dimensions constituted by Task Force on ILR has also suggested that at the present juncture, it is too early, to pursue the matter further at high political levels with the Government of Nepal. Regarding Bangladesh, it has been suggested that the Government of Bangladesh will continue to raise the ILR issue in Joint River Commission and possibly in

other bilateral fora. India should respond by reiterating the line taken in the JRC i.e., ILR is a concept, not a single project.

(c) The Government constituted a Special Cell in December, 2004 to take up the follow-up action on the implementation of Interlinking of Rivers Programme.

Written Answers

#### Setting up of Bio-Agent Laboratory

- 780. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether any proposal to set up Bio-Agent Laboratory has been received from the State Governments;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
  - (c) the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) to (c) Funds allocated for establishment of State Bio-control Laboratories by the State Governments during the 10th Plan had already been exhausted before commencement of the current financial year. However, State Governments are free to establish Bio-control Laboratories under other schemes like Technology Mission on Cotton, Macro Management, National Horticulture Mission, etc. Bio-control Laboratories can also be established through NGOs for which Central assistance is available. A Statement indicating the location of State Bio-control Laboratories already established/sanctioned through Central assistance is annexed.

Statement

Funds released for establishment of State Bio-control Laboratories

S. No.	State	No of Laboratory	Location
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	1	Nidadavole
2	Assam	2	Guwahati, Nagaon
3	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1	Daddo, Port Blair
4	Arunachal Pradesh	1	Naharlagum, Itanagar
5	Bihar	1	Methapur, Patna
6	Chhattisgarh	1	Bilaspur
7	Goa	1	Ela Farm
В	Gujarat	2	Gandhinagar, Surat
9	Haryana	2	Sirsa, Karnal
10	Himachal Pradesh	2	Palampur, Hamirpur
11	Jammu and Kashmir	1	Srinagar
12	Jharkhand	1	Ranchi
13	Kerala	2	Mannuty, Thrissur; Trivendrum
14	Kamataka	1	Gulbarga
15	Lakshadweep	1	Andrott Islands
16	Madhya Pradesh	1	Bhopal
17	Maharashtra	2	Aurangabad, Akola
18	Mizoram	1	Nelhbawih

1	2	3	4
19	Manipur	1	Mantripukhari
20	Meghalaya	1	Upper Shillong
21	Nagaland	1	Medziphema, Kohima
22	Orissa	1	Bhubaneswar
23	Punjab	1	Mansa
24	Pondicherry	1	KVK Kurumbpett
25	Rajasthan	1	Durgapura
26	Sikkim	1	Tadong Gangtok
27	Tamil Nadu	1	Vinayapuram
28	Tripura	1	Arundhati Nagar, Agarttalı
29	Uttar Pradesh	1	Muradabad
30	Uttaranchal	2	Haldwani, Dehradun
31	West Bengal	1	Tollyganj
	Total	38	

[English]

## Registration of Firms

- 781. DR. K. DHANARAJU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether certain firms have applied for registration for procurement of equipments for measurement of various environmental emissions and effluents;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether currently such equipments are purchased from only the selected firms:
  - (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps proposed to be taken to register the new firms to broadbase procurement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) There is no procedure in vogue in the Ministry as well as in the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) for registration of the firms for procuring equipments for measurement of various environmental emissions and effluents.

(c) to (e) Generally, the procurement of instruments is done on tender basis and the firms are expected to submit their applications as and when such procurement is proposed by the Central Pollution Control Board or various State Pollution Control Boards.

## Setting up of Fourth Plant of BVFCL

- 782. SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Government has decided to set up Fourth Plant of Brahamaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited (BVFCL);
- (b) if so, details thereof along with the target of starting and completion of the project; and
  - (c) the expenditure to be incurred 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 (c) The Government is exploring the possibility of setting up Fourth Plant in Namrup Fertilizer Complex of Brahamaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited (BVFCL) based on modern technology. The details of the project are being worked out.

## **More FM Radio Stations**

783. SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of AIR and private radio stations in the country, State-wise, particularly Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) whether there is any proposal to set up additional AIR Stations and allow private radio stations; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Presently, 225 stations of All India Radio and 40 private radio stations are working in the country. State-wise details and AIR stations in Andhra Pradesh are given in the enclosed statement-I and II respectively. The details of private radio stations including those in Andhra Pradesh are given in the enclosed statement-IV.

(b) and (c) There is proposal for setting up of additional AIR stations. Private radio stations are also in operation. The details are given at in the enclosed statements III & IV respectively.

# Statement-I Existing Stations of AIR-State-wise breakup

S.No.	State	Nos.
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5
<b>3</b> .	Assam	10
4.	Bihar	5
<b>5</b> .	Chhattisgarh	6
8.	Delhi	1
7.	Goa	1

1	2	3
8.	Gujarat	8
9.	Haryana	3
10.	Himachal Pradesh	6
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	13
12.	Jharkhand	5
13.	Karnataka	14
14.	Kerala	8
15.	Madhya Pradesh	16
16.	Maharashtra	20
17.	Manipur	1
18.	Meghalaya	5
19.	Mizoram	3
20.	Nagaland	4
21.	Orissa	12
22.	Punjab	3
23.	Rajasthan	17
24.	Sikkim	1
25.	Tamil Nadu	10
26.	Tripura	3
<b>27</b> .	Uttaranchal	6
28.	Uttar Pradesh	14
29.	West Bengal	7
30.	Union Territory	6
	Total	225

## Statement-II

# Existing Stations of AIR in Andhra Pradesh

S.No.	Name of the Station	F	Power and Type (Total Tr.:	20)
		MW	FM	SW
	2	3	4	5
1.	Hyderabad	200 kW 20 kW	6 kW (VB) 5 kW (Addi. Chan	50 kW inel)
2.	Adilabad	1 kW		
3.	Vijayawada	100 kW 1 kW	1 kW (Interim setu	ip)
4.	Vishakhapatnam	100 kW	10 kW	
5.	Cuddapah	100 kW		

to Questions

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Kothagudam		6 kW	
7.	Warangai		10 kW	
<b>8</b> .	Nizamabad		6 kW	
9.	Tirupati		10 kW 3 kW	
10.	Anantpur		6 kW	
11.	Kurnool		6 kW	
12.	Markapuram		6 kW	

<sup>\*</sup> Andhra Pradesh is covered by 99% by area and 99.5% by population by primary grade signal.

# Statement-III Proposed additional Stations

S.No.	State	Nos.	1	2	3
	2	3	16.	Maharashtra	3
l.	Andhra Pradesh	7	17.	Manipur	3
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5	18.	Meghalaya	1
3.	Assam	3	19.	Mizoram	3
<b>).</b>	Bihar	4	20.	Nagaland	3
i.	Chhattisgarh		21.	Orissa	4
). ).	Delhi	Nii	22.	Punjab	2
			23.	Rajasthan	3
<b>'.</b>	Goa	NII	24.	Sikkim	Nil
3.	Gujarat	2	25.	Tamil Nadu	2
).	Haryana	1	26.	Tripura	4
0.	Himachal Pradesh	Nil	<b>27</b> .	Uttaranchal	8
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	3	28.	Uttar Pradesh	4
2.	Jharkhand	3	29.	West Bengal	6
13.	Karnataka	1	30.	Union Territory	Nil
4.	Kerala	1	*******	Total	81
5.	Madhya Pradesh	1	Remarks	: These stations will be set up s ty and decision about O&M staff.	ubject to approval, fu

Out of 81, Following 7 Stations are technically ready and awaiting commissioning:

S.No.	Place	State	Project	Remarks
1	Dharmapuri	Tamil Nadu	10 kW FM Tr, Studio & S/qrs	Staff sanction awaited
2	Macherla	Andhra Pradesh	3 kW FM Tr, Studio & S/qrs.	Staff sanction awaited
3	Soro	Orissa	1 kW MW Tr. Studio & S/qrs.	Staff sanction awaited
4	Churachandpur	Manipur	6 kW FM Tr., Studio & S/qrs	Decision regarding link language awaited.
5	Diskit	J&K	1 kW MW Tr. (Relay)	Permission to recruit awaited
6.	Padum	J&K	1 kW MW Tr (Relay)	Permission to recruit awaited
7	Nyoma	J&K	1 kW MW Tr. (Relay)	Permission to recruit awaited

<sup>\*</sup> Andhra Pradesh is covered by 22.9% by area and 26.14% by population by FM signals.

# Statement-IV

SI.No.	Name of State/UT	No. of channels for which Letters of Intent issued under Phase II	No. of Stations in operation	No. of stations to be operationalised
1	Andhra Pradesh	15	3+1* (one station at Vizag and 3 in Hyderabad)	12
3	Arunachal Pradesh	1		1
4	Assam	4		4
5	Bihar	2		2
6	Chandigarh	2		2
7	Chhattisgarh	6		6
8	Daman and Diu	1		1
9	Delhi	5	4+3*	1
10	Goa	3		3
11	Gujarat	15	1*	15
12	Haryana	6		6.
13	Himachal Pradesh	3		3
14	Jammu and Kashmir	2		2
15	Jharkhand	7		7 .
16	Kamataka	14	4+1*	10
17	Kerala	17	•	17
18	Madhya Pradesh	15	1*	15
19	Maharashtra	31	5*	31
21	Meghalaya	2		2
22	Mizoram	1		1
24	Orissa	5		5
25	Pondicherry	3		3
26	Punjab	12		12
27	Rajasthan	19	4	15
28	Sikkim	3		3
29	Tamil Nadu	19	3+4*	16
30	Tripura	1		1
31	Uttar Pradesh	20	1*	20
32	West Bengal	11	1+4*	10
	Total	245+21*=266	19+21*=40	226

<sup>\*</sup> Stations running from Phase I.

# Merger of Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd.

784. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- whether the Government has taken steps for merger of Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT):
  - (b) if so, the details thereof:
- whether the discussions have been held with labourers, officers' associations and Unions in this regard; and

#### if so, the details thereof? (d)

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) While there is a proposal for linking of FACT with a well-run Fertilizer Public Sector Undertaking (PSU), no definite step has been taken for merger of FACT with any organization at this stage.

- (c) No Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.

#### Fee for use of Captive Mines

785. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- whether the ministry has advocated for levying fee for use of iron ore from captive mines:
- if so, whether Hooda Committee on captive mines has also suggested levying charges on ad-valorem basis: and
- if so, the details and action taken/proposed to (c) be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) Yes, Sir.

- Yes, Sir. The High Level Committee, constituted to review the National Mineral Policy, 1993 under the chairmanship of Shri Anwarul Hoda, Member (Industry), Planning Commission has recommended that the method of fixation of rates of royalty should move forward decisively on the basis of ad valorem rates.
- As per the Mines & Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 the Central Government shall enhance the rates of royalty in respect of any mineral once in a period of three years. Since the last revision of

rates was done on 14.10.2004, the next revision of rates would be possible after 13,10,2007.

## Violation of Rule in J&K Chennel

786. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- whether the complaints of irregularities in Jammu and Kashmir Channel have been received by the Government:
- if so, whether a committee has been appointed (b) in this regard:
- (c) if so, whether the committee has submitted its report:
  - (d) if so, the recommendations made therein; and
- the time by which the recommendations are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (c) On receipt of various complaints regarding commissioning of programmes for the Kashir Channel, an inquiry was conducted. The Inquiry Officer has submitted the fact finding report.

(d) and (e) The Inquiry Officer has recommended that since the CBI has registered a preliminary enquiry with regard to the irregularities committed in commissioning of programmes, the matter may be handed over to CBI.

# **Approval of Projects** by SAIL

- 787. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:
- whether Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) board has recently approved projects worth several hundred crores:
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
  - (c) the mode of funding therefor;
- whether any grant is likely to be given by the (d) Government: and
  - if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) and (b) During October 2006, Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) Board has accorded "in-principle" approval for five projects costing Rs. 670 crore. The details of these projects are as under:

S.No.	Projects	Rs. in crore
i.	installation of 650 tonnes per day Air separation Unit at Oxygen Plant No.2 of Bhilai Steel Plant	279.00
li.	Installation of Electro-Magnetic Stirrer in Bloom Caster at Steel Melting Shop No. 2 of Bhilai Steel Plant	28.00
iii.	Modernisation and Capacity enhancement of Merchant Mill at Durgapur Steel Plant	119.00
iv.	Construction of New Coke Oven Gas Holder at Rourkela Steel Plant	120.00
v.	Installation of one new Turbo Blower in Turbo Blower Station at Bokaro Steel Plant	124.00

- (c) The financing of investment would primarily come from internal sources and if required, to meet the balance fund requirement, market borrowing will be resorted to. However, efforts would be made to keep the overall debt to equity ratio to 1:1.
  - (d) No. Sir.
  - **(e)** Does not arise.

Written Answers

### **Agricultural Growth Target**

# 788. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- the comparative agricultural growth rates (a) during 8th and 9th Plans;
- whether the Government has fixed any target for agricultural growth during the Tenth Plan period;
- if so, the details thereof alongwith the achievements made thereunder during each of the last two years and the current year; and
- the steps taken/proposed to achieve the (d) target?

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) Average annual growth rate of agriculture including allied sectors of forestry and logging and fishing, computed in real terms (at 1993-94 prices) during the 8th Five Year Plan (1992-97) was 4.7 percent, and during 9th Five Year Plan (1997-2002) was 2.1 percent.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. A target of 4 percent growth rate for agriculture and allied sectors was set during 10th Five Year Plan period (2002-07). Details of achievement since 2002-03 are given below:

Trend of Growth in agriculture and Allied Sectors during First Four Years of 10th Plan Period

Year	Growth (percentage)
2002-03	-6.9
2003-04	10.0
2004-95	0.7
2005-06	3.9

A series of in!tiatives through various schemes (d) have been taken by the Government in the areas of irrigation through Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme. increased credit coverage by enhancing institutional credit flow with the reduced interest rate of 7 percent, crop diversification, dryland farming, marketing infrastructure, agricultural insurance against production loss, horticulture, extension services and storage facilities. The process of growth is strengthened through farm mechanization, agriclinics and agri-business centres.

Further, the schemes for rice, wheat and coarse cereals are under implementation to augment their production and productivity under macro-management mode of agriculture.

#### Performance of AIR and Other FM Channels

- 789. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:
- whether any study has been conducted to assess the comparative performance of All India Radio (AIR) vis-a-vis other FM channels; and
  - if so, the details and findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI); (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of comparative listenership of AIR FM channels vis-a-vis Pvt. FM channels are given in the enclosed statement.

# Statement Comparative Listenership of FM Stations in Metro Cities

(Figures in %)

to Questions

S.No.	Name of the Station	Rainbow	Gold	Mirchi	Red FM	Radio City	Suryan FM	Amar	Power	Go	Amrutha Varshani
1.	Delhi	47.4	52.5	48.8	26.0	42.0	•	•	-	-	•
2.	Chennai	18.8	6.5	13.9	-	-	34.0	•	•	-	•
3.	Kolkata	21.9	8.3	23.1	11.7	-	-	11.9	4.2	-	-
4.	Mumbai	51.2	44.2	45.8	22.6	27.4	•	•	•	9.5	•
5.	Ahmedabad	•	-	73.3	-	•	•	-	•	-	
6.	Bangalore	76.0	-	-	-	27.3	-	•	•	-	10.0
<b>7</b> .	Coimbatore	22.7	-	-	-	-	94.6	-	-	-	-
8.	Indore	-	-	85.4	-	-	•	-	-	-	•
9.	Lucknow	73.3	•	-	•	40.0	-	•	-	-	•

Source: Audience Research Unit (ARU) of DG:AIR.

Written Answers

[Translation]

#### **Consumer Welfare Programmes**

790. SHRI HEMLAL MURMU: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- whether the Government has identified consumer awareness and consumer protection as an important project and decided to prepare National Action Plan for carrying out various functions for the welfare of consumers:
  - (b) if so, the details thereof:
- whether the Government has directed the States to prepare the State level action Plans for the consumer protection programmes and submit it to the Planning Commission directly for funds:
- if so, the number of States which have prepared and submitted such plans and the number of States which are yet to complete this work; and
- the effective steps taken by the Government (e) for promotion of consumer awareness and consumer protection and the number of people benefited therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) Consequent upon the 50th National Development Council Meeting held on 21.12.2002, the Planning Commission has identified consumer awareness & Consumer Protection as a thrust area for action and asked the Department to prepare a National Action Plan. Accordingly, a National Action Plan was prepared and sent to the Planning Commission. The major components of the National Action Plan consisted of seeking funds for undertaking consumer awareness programmes, strengthening consumer disputes redressal machinery, strengthening standards of laboratory of Weights & Measures, strengthening the Gold Hallmark

scheme & also seeking greater involvement of State Governments in Consumer Protection activities, etc.

- (c) Yes, Sir.
- As per information made available, so far 18 (d) out of 35 States/UTs have prepared and submitted such action plans.
- (e) The following important measures have been undertaken by the Department of Consumer Affairs to spread consumer awareness & strengthen Consumer Protection in the country has benefited a large number of consumers. Some of the important measures undertaken are as under :
- (1) A sustained multi-media campaign has been undertaken to create mass consumer awareness on wide ranging issues.
- (2) A National Consumer Helpline has been set up in association with the University of Delhi, which provides a toll free number to advice consumers across the country.
- A web based Consumer Online Resource and Empowerment (CORE) centre has been set up, which is being operated by the Consumer Coordination Council, a coalition of Consumer Organizations, to provide web based advice to consumers and assist in resolution of consumer grievances.
- (4) To supplement the effort of the States/UTs, financial assistance is being extended under the integrated Project on Consumer Protection to meet the critical gaps in infrastructure so that Consumer Fora are made fully functional.
- A project for Computerization and Computer Networking of Consumer Fora is being implemented through the National Informatics Centre (NIC) on a turn key basis to provide for e-governance, transparency and time bound redressal of Consumer Complaints.

to Questions

(6) Standard equipment have been provided to the enforcement machinery of Weights and Measures Department in States/UTs for effective enforcement of Weights and Measures laws.

[English]

#### **Availability of Irrigation Facilities**

- 791. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether irrigation facility is available only to 39 per cent of agricultural land;
  - (b) if so, the factors attributed thereto;
- (c) the details of irrigation projects lying pending alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (d) the expenditure incurred on each of the pending project till date; and
- (e) the steps taken to provide irrigation facilities on all the agricultural land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. According to the Land Use Statistics for 2003-04 compiled by Ministry of Agriculture, the net sown area in the country is estimated to be 14.09 crore hectare and the net irrigated area is 5.51 crore hectare i.e. 39.10%. The gross irrigated area has been estimated to be 7.68 crore hectare.

- (b) Considerable part of the agricultural land remains rainfed in view of agro-ecological diversity, vast variation in the availability of water and topographical features.
- (c) and (d) As per the information provided by the State Government, it is estimated that by the end of Tenth Plan, 477 irrigation projects will remain incomplete and will spill over to Eleventh Plan. The details are given in the enclosed statement. The important reasons for delay in completion of the projects are inadequate provisions of funds in State budget, delay in transfer of funds to the executing agencies and delay in land acquisition etc. The cost incurred so far on the above said ongoing project has been estimated to be about Rs. 12,2896 crore.
- (e) Irrigation being a state subject, irrigation projects are conceived, planned and implemented by the State Governments as per their own priority. However, Government of India provides central assistance to the State Governments for completion of on-going irrigation projects under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP). Further, a pilot scheme titled "National Project for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies directly linked to Agriculture" has been approved by Government of India in January 2005. Government of India also provides support under centrally sponsored scheme for Command Area Development and Water Management (CAD&WM) with a view to bridging the gap

between irrigation potential created and potential utilized. The Government has taken several measures to improve the irrigation facilities. The National Common Minimum Programme of UPA Government provides for time bound completion of the on-going irrigation projects and also stipulates stepping up of public investment in irrigation in a significant manner. Irrigation is an important component of Bharat Nirman Programme which stipulates creation of 1 crore hectare of irrigation potential during 2005-09. Further, the AIBP criteria have been relaxed and procedures simplified to cover more projects under this programme. The Government has also constituted a "National Rainfed Area Authority" with a view to address the problems of rainfed areas and for sustainable development of such areas. Further, the draft Approach Paper for XI Plan also proposes to double the rate of growth to irrigation and to improve water management, rainwater harvesting and watershed development.

Statement

Details of the projects likely to Spillover to
Eleventh Five Year Plan

State	Major	Medium	ERM	Total
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	26	19	6	51
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	Ö
Assam	2	2	2	6
Bihar	10	2	5	17
Chhattisgarh	4	7	1	12
Goa	0	0	0	0
Gujarat	3	15	11	29
Haryana	1	0	1	2
Himachal Pradesh	1	3	0	4
Jammu and Kashmir	0	6	4	10
Jharkhand	6	16	0	22
Karnataka	15	27	5	47
Kerala	3	4	2	9
Madhya Pradesh	18	8	5	31
Maharashtra	53	83	3	139
Manipur	2	1	4	7
Meghalya	0	1	0	1
Mizoram	0	0	0	0
Nagaland	0	1	0	1
Orissa	7	10	14	31
Punjab	1	0	2	3
Rajasthan	2	7.7	2	11

1	2	3	4	5
Sikkim	0	0	0	0
Tamil Nadu	0	2	3	5
Tripura	0	3	0	3
Uttar Pradesh	9	0	13	22
Uttaranchal	1	0	0	1
West Bengal	2	5	6	13
Total	166	222	89	477

# Delay in Settlement of P.F. Claims

792. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is considering a four tier set up for the Employees Provident Fund Organisation;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the proposed four tier set up for the organisation will reduce the delay in settlement of Provident Fund claims; and

#### (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Employees' Provident Fund Organisation had engaged Xavier Labour Relations Institute (XLRI), Jamshedpur for recommending 'Organizational Restructuring and Cadre Review of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation'. The XLRI has since submitted its final report in August 2006 providing for:

- (i) Branch Office as the first tier with exclusively original jurisdiction only.
- (ii) Regional Office as the second tier with original jurisdiction of its own and supervisory jurisdiction over two Branch Offices.
- (iii) Zonal Office as the third tier having supervisory jurisdiction over three Regional Offices.
- (iv) Central Office at the Apex level.
- (c) and (d) The objective of the proposed changes aims at better reporting, supervision and control processes and is expected to improve, inter-alia, settlement of claims.

#### New Variety of Wheat by ICAR

- 793. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has developed a new variety of wheat that controls the sugar as well as cholesterol level in blood:
- (b) if so, the regions where such variety of wheat can be grown;
- (c) whether the said variety of wheat is available for sale in the country; and
- (d) if not, the steps taken to increase the area under cultivation of the said crop alongwith the sale of such variety of wheat?

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 (ICAR) has identified DDK 1029, a dicoccum wheat variety during the 45th All India Wheat and Barley Research Workers' Meet held at Chandra Shekhar Azad University of Agriculture and Technology, Kanpur from 18-21 August, 20QB. This variety has been developed by the scientists of University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad, Karnataka. Prior to this, four dicoccum varieties have been released for cultivation, viz., NP 200, DDK 1001, DDK 1009 and DDK 1025.

Scientific studies related to dicoccum wheat carried out in the Department of Food and Nutrition, University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad, revealed that dicoccum wheat is nutritionally superior over commercially available durum and bread wheat in their protein and dietary fibre contents. Products of this wheat have also low digestibility and low glycemic value. Studies on Incorporation of dicoccum whole wheat flour in the diet of diabetic patients resulted in 11% reduction each in total lipids, triglycerides and LDL-cholesterol concentration, over a six week study period (based on DDK 1001). The identified variety DDK 1029 possess about 13% protein content and total dietary fibre of about 20%.

- (b) The dicoccum wheat are grown in northern ', Karnataka, Maharashtra, parts of Andhra Pradesh adjoining Karnataka, Nilgiri hills of Tamil Nadu and Saurashtra region of Gujarat.
- (c) and (d) The identified variety is yet to be released and notified by the Central/State Varietal Release

Committee. After its release/notification, the seed of this variety will come under seed chain for production of breeder, foundation and certified seeds for cultivation to the farmers.

Written Answers

223

#### **Employment in Cashew Sector**

- 794. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of people engaged in the cashew sector. State-wise:
- (b) whether the Government proposes to introduce any scheme to increase employment in this sector;
  - (c) if so, the details thereof, State- wise; and
  - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (d) Ministry of Labour and Employment does not maintain any information on employment in cashew sector at all India level and State-wise.

#### Study on Environment Status

- 795. SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:
- (a) the findings of the green peace study carried out by the Social and Environment Research Centre; and
- (b) the response of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The Ministry has not received the findings of this study so far.

(b) Does not arise.

### Forest Development Project in Karnataka

796. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government of Karnataka has submitted any project proposal to the Union Government for development of forests in the State;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
  - (c) the present status of these projects; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to approve these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Government of Karnataka had submitted The Sustainable Forest Management and Biodiversity Conservation Project to the Union Government for development of forests in the State. This project is being implemented in all the districts of Karnataka with the loan assistance from the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC). The total sanctioned cost of the Project is Rs. 745 crores including Rs. 131.734 crores as State share. An amount of Rs. 34.532 crores has been disbursed by the JBIC till 23rd June, 2006. Under the programme activities such as afforestation, income generation activities for poverty alleviation, protected area management and biodiversity conservation, provision of basic infrastructure support for field work and other supporting activities for forest management have been included. The Project period is 2005-06 to 2012-13. The Project is already approved and is being implemented as per schedule.

# Subsidy for Drip Irrigation System

- 797. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Ministry has sought a subsidy of 50 percent for drip irrigation as a part of its micro irrigation programme; and
  - (b) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

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

(b) Government has launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Micro Irrigation (MI) during 2005-06 under which out of the total cost of the MI system, 40% is borne by the Central Government, 10% by the State Government and the remaining 50% is borne by the beneficiary either through his/her own resources or soft loan from financial institutions.

This assistance is for installation of drip/sprinkler irrigation system limited to an area of 5 ha. per beneficiary family. An amount of Rs.280.48 crore has been released to the States during 2005-06 and Rs.279.40 crore during 2006-07 (upto Oct, 06).

# Shortage of Wheat

798. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

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

- (a) whether there is a shortage of wheat for the Above Poverty Line (APL) families under the Public Distribution System (PDS);
- (b) if so, whether some State Governments have sought additional wheat for APL families under the PDS;
- (c) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government thereon:
- (d) the quantity of additional wheat allocated to each State during the last three months and the current month; and
- (e) the instructions issued by the Union Government for the distribution of wheat under PDS?

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) There has been a decline in stocks of wheat in the recent past in view of which the allocation of wheat under the Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS) was rationalized on the basis of each State's average offtake for the last 3 years or the last year's offtake, whichever was lower. For Above Poverty Line (APL) category, a 25% cut on this has been imposed in respect of rice consuming States and Delhi. Notwithstanding, the State Government can seek allocation of rice in lieu of reduction of wheat allocation. Thus, there has been no change in the overall allocation of foodgrains as per the entitlement.

- (b) to (d) The Central Government has received requests for additional allocation of wheat for the APL families. As such, keeping in view the improved stock position, the Department of Food and Public Distribution has released 100,000 Tonnes each of wheat, under APL category, during the months of September, October and November 2006, to meet the enhanced requirement. Copies of the allocation orders are enclosed as statement-I, II and III.
- (e) The Central Government has directed all the State Governments/Union Territories to ensure that the foodgrains (including wheat) allocated under the Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS) are distributed amongst the actual beneficiaries of the TPDS and that there is no diversion/leakage in the distribution.

### Statement-I

Additional Allocation of Wheat to States under APL Category for the month September 2006

(in Tonnes)

S.No.	States	Additional Allocation
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4000
2.	Arunachai Pradesh	300

1	2	3
3.	Assam	4000
4.	Bihar	4000
<b>5</b> .	Chhattisgarh	3000
6.	Delhi	8000
<b>7</b> .	Goa	500
8.	Gujarat	5000
9.	Haryana	2500
10.	Himachal Pradesh	3500
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	5000
12.	Jharkhand	2000
13.	Karnataka	4000
14.	Kerala	5000
15.	Madhya Pradesh	5000
16.	Maharashtra	5000
17.	Manipur	300
18.	Meghalaya	300
19.	Mizoram	300 .
20.	Nagaland	300 .
21.	Orissa	4000
22.	Punjab	2500
23.	Rajasthan	6000
24.	Sikkim	300
<b>25</b> .	Tamil Nadu	4000
26.	Tripura	800
27.	Uttar Pradesh	5000
28.	Uttaranchal	5000
29.	West Bengal	10000
30.	Andaman and Nicobar	100
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	50
32.	Pondicherry	100
33.	Chandigarh	50
34.	Lakshadweep	50
35.	Daman and Diu	50
	Total	100000

to Questions

### Statement-II

# Additional Allocation of Wheat to States under APL Category for the month October 2006

(in Tonnes)

S.No.	States	Additional Allocation
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4000
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	300
3.	Assam	4000
4.	Bihar	4000
5.	Chhattisgarh	3000
6.	Delhi	8000
<b>7</b> .	Goa	500
8.	Gujarat	5000
9.	Haryana	2500
10.	Himachal Pradesh	3500
<b>11</b> .	Jammu and Kashmir	5000
12.	Jharkhand	2000
13.	Karnataka	5000
14.	Kerala	6000
15.	Madhya Pradesh	5000
16.	Maharashtra	6000
17.	Manipur	300
18.	Meghalaya	300
19.	Mizoram	300
20.	Nagaland	300
21.	Orissa	5000
22.	Punjab	2500
23.	Rajasthan	6000
24.	Sikkim	300
25.	Tamil Nadu ,	5000
26.	Tripura	800

1	2	3
27.	Uttar Pradesh	5000
28.	Uttaranchal	5000
29.	West Bengal	5000
30.	Andaman and Nicobar	100
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	50
32.	Pondicherry	100
33.	Chandigarh	50
34.	Lakshadweep	50
35.	Daman and Diu	50
	Total	100000

## Statement-III

# Additional Allocation of Wheat to States under APL Category for the month November 2006

(in Tonnes)

S.No.	States	Additional Allocation
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4000
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	300
3.	Assam	3000
4.	Bihar	2000
5.	Delhi	10000
6.	Goa	500
7.	Gujarat	5000
8.	Haryana	1500
9.	Himachal Pradesh	3500
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	5000
11.	Jharkhand	2000
12.	Kamataka	5000
13.	Kerala	8000
14.	Madhya Pradesh	5000
15.	Maharashtra	10000

1	. 2	3
16.	Manipur	300
17.	Meghalaya	300
18.	Mizoram	300
19.	Nagaland	300
20.	Orissa	4000
21.	Punjab	2500
22.	Rajasthan	6000
23.	Sikkim	300
24.	Tamil Nadu	5000
25.	Tripura	800
26.	Uttar Pradesh	5000
27.	Uttaranchal	5000
28.	West Bengai	5000
29.	Andaman and Nicobar	100
30.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	50
31.	Pondicherry	150
32.	Chandigarh	50
33.	Daman and Diu	50
	Total	100000

# **Condition on Wheat Import**

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

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

- (a) whether the Government has stipulated that the importers of wheat are required to declare the particulars of wheat imported and received by them within seven days from the date of receipt of stock;
- (b) If so, whether such importers have adhered to this direction within stipulated period; and
- (c) if not, the action taken by the Government against erring importers?

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

DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) Compliance to the Notification is gradually noted, since Notification was recently issued on 19.9.2006.

#### Consumer Price Index Number

- 800. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Consumer Price Index Number with 2001 as the base year has been released by the Labour Bureau for different centers including Mumbai;
- (b) if so, the principles on which the linking factor for conversion of the new index series into 1982 series has been worked out:
- (c) whether the charge made by employers about the inflated linking factor has been critically examined by the Labour Bureau; and
  - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) The linking factors have been worked out as per the methodology approved by the Technical 'dvisory Committee on Statistics of Prices and Cost of Living (TAC on SPCL) by using arithmetic conversion method, which are the ratios of the average monthly Consumer Frice Indices for industrial Workers with base 1982 = 100 to that of base 2001 = 100 for the latest 12 months (January 2005 to December 2005), preceding January 2006; the month of introduction of new series.
- (c) The Linking Factors worked out and released alongwith the index for conversion of new series indices on base 2001 = 100 to earlier series i.e. 1982 = 100 were thoroughly examined to ensure that these calculations were in accordance with the methodology approved by the TAC on SPCL.
  - (d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Price of Edible Oil

801. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA: SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID: SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR:

DR. RAJESH MISHRA:

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

- whether Mustard oil, is being sold at prices lower than the support price for Mustard seeds in many parts of the country:
- if so, the difference between the support price of Mustard and the selling price of Mustard oil; and
  - (c) the reasons for the decline in the prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) According to available information, average wholesale prices of mustard oil have been Rs. 4129 per quintal during October, 2006 against the support price for Mustard seeds at Rs 1715 per quintal for 2005-2006.

[English]

#### Transportation of PDS Foodgrains

802. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR: SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU:

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

- whether the Union Government has recently framed some new rules for Public Distribution System (PDS) goods carriers;
- if so, the details thereof and the instructions issued to State Governments in this regard;
- the extent to which the diversion of food articles meant for PDS to open markets would be checked by such a decision;
- whether foodgrains loaded on the trucks in Food Corporation of India godowns by State agencies were diverted to open markets instead of reaching Fair Price Shops; and
- if so, the details of such instances during the (e) last one year, 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 (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (e) Yes Sir. There have been several instances of. foodgrains loaded on to trucks in FCI godowns by State Agencies being diverted to the open market. With a view to checking this menace, it has been decided that the following information should be displayed prominently on

the wind shield as well as the rear end of the truck/vehicle carrying PDS articles from centralized godowns to the Fair Price Shop with immediate effect:

On PDS Ration Duty

	•
Government of	<del></del>
Destination:	
Commodity:	<del></del>
Agent's Name:	

The above noted information may be displayed on a Board/Banner of about 3' x 2' size written/printed in black ink. This information should, as far as possible, be displayed in the local language. The trucks/vehicles which do not possess stickers/banners containing the above information will be returned without load by the FCI/CWC w.e.f. 1.12,2006.

The PEO Report of the Planning Commission has highlighted that about 36% of the subsidized foodgrains is siphoned off the supply chain. Such measure will be helpful to track the diversion of foodgrains and to take necessary steps to curb diversion/leakage.

[Translation]

#### Access of Bio-Technology to Farmers

803. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: SHRI RAKESH SINGH: SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to

state:

- the efforts made by the Government to make the benefits of bio-technology to the farmers;
- (b) the benefits accrued to the farmers as a result of the said efforts:
- whether any website has been created to make new technologies more accessible to the farmers: and
- if so, the details thereof and the efforts made to provide computer and computer training 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) to (d) Government of India set up a Task Force in May, 2003 on Agricultural Biotechnology under the Chairmanship of Dr. M.S. Swaminathan. The Task Force submitted its Report in

Written Answers

At present, cotton is the only genetically modified crop which has been approved for commercial cultivation in the country by the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) functioning under the Ministry of Environment & Forests So far, 62 hybrids of cotton have been approved for commercial cultivation in the country The area under Bt. cotton has increased exponentially from 72,682 acres in Kharif, 2002 to 30,84,865 acres in Kharif, 2005. State Governments have reported to 15 to 30% increase in yields due to use of Bt. cotton seeds.

Further, the Central Government has provided financial assistance to various State Governments. National/State Seeds Corporations, State Agricultural Universities and scientific institutions for establishment/ strengthening of Tissue Culture facilities for propagation of elite plant material Government has also given financial assistance for training and awareness of farmers on package of practices relating to transgenic crops and post release monitoring. Information about various schemes and projects of the Department is available on its website www.agricoop nic.in and on the portal http://dacnet.nic.in.

#### **Danger from Locusts**

- 804. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:
- whether Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) has warned against danger from locusts invasion; and
- if so, the remedial measures taken to prevent (b) loss to crops by swarm of locusts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) No such warning has been received from Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO). Lowever, a contingency plan is in place to deal with any locust eventuality. The contingency plan focuses on regular survey and surveillance in the Scheduled Desert Area in the Western Region of the country for timely detection and control of locusts, maintaining readiness in terms of control measures including pesticides and equipment, and exchange of information with neighbouring countries and FAO.

[English]

# Report of Panel on Prices of **Essential Drugs**

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: SHRI HITEN BARMAN: SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- whether a panel set up by the Government to study the legal aspects of Supreme Court directive on controlling prices of essential drugs has submitted its report to the Government:
- if so, the details of the recommendations made by the said panel; and
- (c) if not, the time by which it is likely to be submitted?

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 Supreme Court vide its interim order dated 10.03.2003 in SLP (c) no.3668/ 2003 directed the Government, inter-alia, to "consider and formulate appropriate criteria for ensuring essential and life saving drugs not to fall out of price control.....".

A Joint Committee with members from the drug industry has been constituted under the Chairpersonship of Secretary (C&PC) to suggest, inter-alia, interpretation of order dated 10.03.2003 of the Supreme Court in SLP 3668/2003. The Joint Committee is yet to submit its report to the Government.

# Sale of Counterfeit Goods

806. DR. M. JAGANNATH: SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR:

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

- whether the Associated Chambers of Commerce and industry has conducted a study about the flourishing trade in sale of counterfelt goods;
  - if so, the details thereof; (b)
- (c) whether the existing law has falled to curb this practice;
- if so, whether the Government proposes to enact a fresh legislation to curb this practice; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be enacted?

to Questions

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) The Department of Consumer Affairs have not commissioned the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry to conduct a study on the flourishing trade in the sale of counterfeit goods.

- The provisions of the existing legislations such as the Trade Marks Act, 1999, the Copyrights Act, 1957, the Patents Act, 1970, the Customs Act, 1962, the Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act. 1992, the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954, the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986, the Indian Penal Code, 1860, the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act. 1969, the Consumer Protection Act. 1986 etc. are adequate.
- (d) and (e) In view of (c) above the Questions do not arise.

# Restructuring of Employees Provident **Fund Organisation**

807. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD: SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE: SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:

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

- whether the Employees Provident Fund Organisation plans to restructure its functioning:
  - (b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the time by which the proposed restructure would be effected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FER-NANDES): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation had engaged Xavier Labour Relations Institute (XLRI), Jamshedour for recommending 'Organizational Restructuring and Cadre Review of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation'. The XLRI has since submitted its final report in August 2006 providing for:

- Branch Office as the first tier with exclusively original jurisdiction only.
- (ii) Regional Office as the second tier with original jurisdiction of its own and supervisory jurisdiction over two Branch Offices.
- (iii) Zonal Office as the third tier having supervisory jurisdiction over three Regional Offices.
- (iv) Central Office at the Apex level.

The proposed changes are concomitant with the modernisation project, 'Re-Inventing EPF India' and aims at better reporting, supervision and control process and overall improved performance of the Organisation. The timeframe for restructuring cannot be indicated at present.

#### **Loss of Agricultural Crops**

- 808. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: WIII the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:
- whether agro-produce worth Rs.90,000 crore (a) have lost due to pest, weeds and disease last year as indicated by Chairman of the Agro Chemical Promotion Group:
- if so, the details of the other issues suggested (b) by the Chairman to boost agriculture and create awareness about the correct use of agro-chemicals; and
- if so, the concrete steps taken/proposed to be (c) 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) It has been estimated that crop losses due to pests including insect pests, diseases, rodents and weeds range between 10 to 30% every year depending on climatic and environmental conditions.

- (b) The Agro Chemicals Promotion Group have, inter alia, suggested that training be imparted to farmers in appropriate use of pesticides, regulatory processes be strengthened to address the problem of spurious pesticides, taxes on pesticides and pesticides sector be reduced, more pesticides be registered to give farmers more choices and benefit of latest technology, product stewardship be encouraged in the pesticides sector, enhanced use of pesticide be promoted, etc.
- Government has adopted Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as the cardinal principle of plant protection. Government has established Central Integrated Pest Management Centres across the country to, interalia, impart training to farmers in IPM by organizing Farmers Field Schools. The State Governments have, from time to time, been advised of the need to strictly enforce the provisions of the Insecticides Act to address the problem of spurious pesticides. The Registration Committee has introduced simplified procedures for the registration of pesticides after satisfying themselves of their safety and efficacy.

### [Translation]

### Imported Fertilizers lying at ports

809. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR: SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total amount of fertilizers in tonnes imported by the Government during the current financial year;
  - (b) whether said fertilizers are lying at ports;
  - (c) if so, the reasons thereof and
- (d) the arrangements being made by the Government for the timely transportation of imported fertilizers?

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) Fertilizers other than Urea are imported under Open General Licence (OGL). The import of urea is permitted only through State Trading Enterprises and import for direct agriculture use is made on government account. Imports of all other fertilizers are allowed freely. However, Government maintains a buffer stock of DAP through its buffer stocking agency. The month wise details of Urea, DAP & MOP imported during the year 2006-07 up to 31.10.2006 is as under:-

# (Quantity in lakh MT)

			(404	,
Month	Urea	DAP	MOP	Total
Apr-06	2.79	0.59	0.43	3.81
May-06	2.31	2.37	0.23	4.91
Jun-06	2.23	3.17		5.51
Jul-06	3.07	3.35	0.76	7.42
Aug-06	4.1	4:79	1.66	10.55
Sep-06	4.13	3.56	5.51	13.2
Oct-06	4.81	4.14	7.59	16.54
Total	23.44	21.97	16.18	61.94

(b) to (d) The stock lying at the ports as on 31.10.2006 was 4.32 lakh MT urea, 3.72 lakh MT DAP and 4.26 lakh MT MOP. Department of fertilizers, in close coordination with Railways & Department of Shipping, is monitoring the day to day despatches of fertilizers from all major ports to ensure timely availability of fertilizers to the farmers.

[English]

# Introduction of Comprehensive Consumer Policy

- 810. SHRI RANEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the draft for the comprehensive National Consumer Policy has been finalised;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken for its speedy implementation;
- (c) whether the Government has received recommendation for independent Commission on Food, Drug and product safety for protection of the rights of the consumer; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) The draft National Consumer Policy incorporating priority issues concerning consumer protection and welfare, is taking final shape, in consultation with all Central Ministries/ Departments and State/UT Governments.

- (c) No such recommendation has been received by the Department of Consumer Affairs.
  - (d) Does not arise in view of above.

#### **New Tiger Reserves**

- 811. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Government is proposing to notify eight new tiger reserves in the country;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether in the last meeting of the National Board for wildlife it was decided that new reserve would be notified only when the condition of the existing 28 reserves are improved;
- (d) if so, whether the proposed notification is not contrary to the decision taken in the last meeting; and
- (e) If so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. "In principle approval" has been accorded for declaring eight new tiger reserves spread over seven States, based on proposals received and as recommended by the Steering Committee of the Project Tiger in its 37th meeting held on 23-01-2003. Details are given in the enclosed statement.

- (c) No Sir.
- (d) and (e) Questions do not arise.

Written Answers

# Statement

# List of New Tiger Reserves

SI. No.	Name of the new Tiger Reserve	State
1.	Anamalai-Parambikulam Wildlife Sanctuaries	Tamil Nadu & Kerala
2.	Udanti and Sita Nadi Wildlife Sanctuaries	Chhattisgarh
3.	Satkosia Wildlife Sanctuary	Orissa
4.	Kaziranga National Park	Assam
5.	Achanakmar Wildlife Sanctuary	Chhattisgarh
6.	Dandeli Wildlife Sanctuary and Anshi National Park	Karnataka
7.	Sanjay National Park and Sanjay Dubri Wildlife Sanctuary	Madhya Pradesh
8.	Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu

#### Setting up of Botanical Garden

812. SHRI M. SHIVANNA: SHRI MANJUNATH KUNNUR:

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the Kamataka Bio-diversity Board for funding to establish a Botanical Garden at Tataguni Estate, Bangalore;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the total estimated cost of the project;
- (c) whether the Government has considered the proposal; and
- (d) If so, the time by which a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. A proposal for ex-situ Conservation of plant germplasm of a Botanical Garden at Tataguni Estate, Bangalore, Rural District, at an estimated cost of Rs. 39.70 lakhs, was received and considered by the Expert Group on Assistance to Botanical Gardens and Centers of Ex-situ Conservation. As per the recommendation of the Expert Group, the State Government has been requested to revise the proposal for ten acres of area for propagation of Rare, Endangered and Threatened plants. The revised proposal has not yet been received.

[Translation]

# Rehabilitation Scheme of NCLP

- 813. SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Government has sanctioned a special package for rehabilitation scheme of National Child Labour Project (NCLP):
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the amount out of the above that is likely to be spent in Uttar Pradesh during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Government is implementing the National Child Labour Projects (NCLP) scheme in 250 districts of 20 States of the country with a Plan outlay of Rs. 602 crores for the Xth Plan with a view to rehabilitate children withdrawn from hazardous occupations and processes. Under the scheme, these children are provided with education, nutrition, stipend, vocational training and health care etc.

(c) Under the NCLP scheme, an amount of Rs. 14.24 crores has been released to Uttar Pradesh to - date during the current financial year.

## Targets for Doordarshan

- 814. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Government has reviewed the physical and financial targets fixed for on-going projects of Doordarshan/Akashvani;

- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the current year, year-wise;
- (c) the reasons for slow progress in this regard; and
  - (d) the steps being taken to expedite the progress?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir Review of physical and financial targets fixed for Doordarshan/All India Radio projects is a continuous

process and carried out from time to time. Year-wise details of physical and financial targets/achievements of Doordarshan/All India Radio since 2003-04 are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) The main causes of slow progress relate to reasons such as construction of buildings/towers, order and supply of transmitters, processing of proposal for new projects involving creation of posts, acquisition of sites etc. Prasar Bharati has stated that efforts have been made for completion of the on-going projects at the earliest possible.

Statement

Physical and financial targets of All India Radio since 2003-04:

Year	Physical Targets	Targets Achieved	SBG (in crores)	Exp. (in crores)
2003-04	36	28	201.00	120.26
2004-05	38	17	252.00	118.56
2005-06	63	32	233.65	14376
2006-07	12	12	146.60	56.40
		(Anticipated)		(upto October '06)

Physical and financial targets of Doordarshan since 2003-04:

Year	Physical Targets	Targets Achieved	SBG (in crores)	Exp. (in crores)
2003-04	37	43	400.00	218.46
2004-05	86	41	340.00	117.07
2005-06	89	35	370.00	167.79
2006-07	154	27	203.51	122.65
				(upto October, 06)

### Secondary Freight Rate of Fertilizers

- 815. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to fix secondary freight rate for all fertilizers;
- (b) If so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to review the existing secondary freight rate of urea;

- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether there is any proposal to bring urea under the category of decontrolled fertilizers; 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) to (d) Secondary freight on urea is paid as a part of the equated freight. The secondary freight is in-built in the concession rate fixed in respect of decontrolled phosphatic and potassic fertilizers.

The issue of revision of existing secondary freight rates of urea units is under consideration of the Government as a part of the policy for Stage-III of New Pricing Scheme.

(e) and (f) There is no proposal at present to bring urea under the category of decontrolled fertilizers.

[English]

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# Equity investments by **Pension Funds**

- 816. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Government proposes to allow equity investments by pension funds as appeared in Business Line on November 05, 2006;
  - if so, the details thereof; (b)
- (c) whether almost all unions have strongly objected to this proposal; and
  - (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FER-NANDES): (a) and (b) Though the Investment Pattern prescribed by the Ministry of Finance vide its notification No. F.5 (53)/2002-ECB&TR dated 24.01.2005 provides for an option for investment in equities, Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund has not taken any decision regarding investment of monies belonging to Employees' Provident Fund in the equities.

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

[Translation]

# Irregularities in Import of Wheat

- 817. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- whether the State Trading Corporation (STC) accepted the tender of Australian Wheat Board (AWB) for import of wheat despite the decision by Union Government to reject the wheat supplied by the said company as it did not conform to the prescribed standards,
  - (b) if so, the reasons therefor;

- (c) whether the Government proposes to institute an enquiry into this incident; and
  - and if so, the details thereof? (d)

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.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

**NOVEMBER 27, 2006** 

### **Availability of Quality Seeds**

- 818. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:
- whether adequate quantity of good quality high vielding seeds is not available to the farmers in time and they are forced to buy the same from private traders at high rate without any guarantee for its germination;
- (b) if so, the efforts made to rectify the situation. and
- (c) the action taken against spurious seed dealers during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) In Zonal Seed Review Meetings for Rabi 2006-07, it was reported that 80.52 lakh quintals of certified/quality seeds of various crops were available as against the requirement of 68.53 lakh quintals and meet the minimum standards including those belongings to germination as per section 6(a) and (b) of the Seeds Act, (1966) To encourage use of quality seeds at affordable prices to the farmers, seed distribution subsidy @ Rs. 200 per quintal for Wheat and Paddy seeds, Rs.2500 per quintal for hybrid Rice seeds. Rs 400 per quintal for Barley, Jowar, Bajra and Ragi seeds, Rs.1000 per quintal for hybrid seed of coarse cereals, Rs. 800 per quintal or 25% of seed cost which ever is less for seeds of Pulses, Oilseeds, Maize, Jute and Mesta and Rs. 2000 per quintal for Cotton seeds is provided to State Governments under different crop development programmes. The details of action taken for seed quality enforcement in the last three years are given in the enclosed statement I and II.

Statement-I

Progress report of Seeds (Contral) Order during 2003-2004

			3	io nador se	ion) span	مر مرود مو	regress report of cooks (contra) order contra)				
o Ž	e n	No. of Inspectors appointed	No. of seed dealers to whom licence issued	No. of cases to whom licence refused	No. of samples drawn	Nr. of cases where documents seized	No. of cases prosecution launched under Essential Commodities	No. of cases where seed seized	Detail of appeals by cased dealers during the period	No. of cases filed in the Courts of Law for appeal	No of cases pending before appellate authority
-	2	က	4	5	9	7	8	6	10	Ħ	12
-	Andhra Pradesh	1160	9080	•	3960	,	51	88	2	•	•
8	Assam	474	137	•	3300	•		•	•	•	•
ო	Andaman and Nicobar		Rep	Reported Nil							
4	Anmachal Pradesh										
ĸ	'Bilhar										
•	Chandigarh		Rep	Reported NIII							
_	Chhattisgarh	237	272	•	•	•	•		•	•	•
•	7	10	386	•	<b>3</b>	•		•	ı	•	•
•	Dadra and Nagar		Rep	Reported Nii							
5	Daman and Diu										
=	Gujarat	4	2043	•	•	•		•	•	•	•
\$	Goa		Rep	Reported Nii							
5	Haryana	<b>5</b>	5722	•	3281	•	8	•	•	•	•
<b>±</b>	Himachal Pradesh	01	578	•	ı	•		•	•	•	•
ā	Jammu and Kashmir	•	191	•	823	•	æ	•	•	•	•
ã	Sharkhand	ន	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
11	Keranataka	222	4931	10	•	23	•	•	•	•	•
	•										

-	8	တ	+	w	•	7		•	0	=	12	
5	'Kerale											
<b>5</b>	Lakshadweep		<b>CC</b>	Reported NR								
8	Madhya Pradesh	4860	176	•	2378	•	•	•	•	•	•	
2	Meghalaya		Œ	leported Nil								
8	Maharashtra	ş	28627	i	10902	•	•	13	•	•	•	
ន	Manipur		Reported Nil									
2	Mizoram	∞	•	•	8	•	•	•	•	•	•	
×	Negatend		Reported Nii									
8	Orissa	748	•	ě	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
12	Punjab	<b>3</b> 5	4464	•	4249	•	-	-	S	•	•	
8	Pondicherry	<b>±</b>	47	•	153	٠	•	•	•	•	•	
8	Rajasthan	382	•	•	4176	x	27	ĸ	8	27	•	
8	Silddim	•	<b>ග</b> .	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
31	Termil Nach	85	5318	<b>8</b>	21685	7	m	~ ~	•	•	•	
S	Tripura	2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
g	Uttar Pradesh	8	1111	•	1803	•	•	•	•	•	•	
, 3	*Uttaranchal											
ક્ર	West Bengal	<b>8</b> 2	7905	•	4648	•	•	•	٠	•	•	
	Total	12532	75180	13	61260	ន	116	22	23	31		
1	* Information yet to be received.	널										
			•	nogen ssengon	t of Seeds (Co	Progress report of Seeds (Control) Order during 2004-2005	ing 2004-200	ક				
-	2	3	4	5	9	7	8	6	10	11	12	
-	Andhra Pradesh	1765	10114	*	1088	21	-	23	•	•	-	
8	Аѕѕет	474	137	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
60	Andaman & Nicober	7										

**NOVEMBER 27, 2006** 

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to Questions

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Written Answers

249	)	Writ	ten A	Inswe	ers				AGI	RAHA	YAN	A 6, 1	928 (	(SAK	A)				ı	o Qu	estic	18	2	250
				•				•		•			•	•			8							
12		•		•				6		·	•	٠	•	·	•		.4		•		•		•	
ŧ		•		•	•			8		8	•	•	•	•	•		•		•		•		•	
10		•		•	•			•		•	•	•	•	•	•		8		•		•		•	
6		•		•	•			<b>\$</b> .		•	•	•	•	•	•		•		8		•		•	
80		•		•	•			8		•	•	•	•	က	•		8		•		•		•	
7		٠		•	•			•		•	٠	٠	•	2	•		•		•		•		•	
9		•		•	127		•	4328		3140	•	•	•	•	•		386		10755		•		•	
5	Reported	•		•	•			8	in se behoo	•	•	•	•	ın	•		•		•		1000		•	
4	Not Re	•		272	<b>4</b>			12043	Reporte	6028	2	191	<b>#</b>	4831	•		540		31167		•		11	
8		12	Z	ឌ	•	Z	7	#		2	9	6	81	1207	<del>2</del> 8	2	8	2	874	2	<b>œ</b>	7	748	
2	Annachal Pradesh	Bihar	Chandigarh	Chhattisgarh	Dehi	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Daman and Diu	Gujerat	Goa	Haryana	Himachal Pradesh	Jammu and Kashmir	Aharithand	Karanetaka	Kerala	Latshadweep	Medhya Pradesh	Meghalaya	Maharashtra	Manipur	Mizoram	Nagaland	Orissa	
1	•	S.	•	7	∞	•	0	F	12	13	<b>*</b>	51	91	11	81	6	8	2	8	ន	*	x	8	

								•			
_	2	6	4	2	•	7	6	6	2	=	5
23	Punjab	976	4775	3	0089	•	•	6	<b>4</b>	•	•
8	Pondicheny	<b>#</b>	8	•	82	•	•	•	•	•	•
8	Rejecthen	<b>8</b>	10195	•	3710	•	£	8	•	5	•
8	Sildim	<b>90</b>	S	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
3	Tamii Nadu	. 25	6033	•	22888	0	<b>8</b>	•	•	•	•
×	Tripura	Z,	2	2	7	2	2	Z.	7	7	2
æ	Uttar Pradesh	82	10112	<b>9</b> 5	•	•	•	. •	•	•	•
\$	Uttaranchal	8	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
×	West Bengal	<b>8</b>	7905	•	4756	•	•	<b>88</b>	8	•	•
	Total	8238	105020	643	70267	512	250	946	87	51	22
			Prog	ress report c	7 Seeds (Cont	Progress report of Seeds (Control) Order during 2005-2006	9002-5002				
-	. 2	ဧ	*	9	9	7	8	6	10	#	12
_	Andhra Pradesh	1368	9666	0	8379	141	13	12	8	0	0
~	Assem	•	137	•	•	0	•	•	•	0	0
ø	Andemen and Nicober	•	•	0	•	0	•	•	•	•	•
4	Armachal Pradesh	•	•	•	•	0	•	•	•	•	•
5	-Bihar	•	•	•	<b>1</b>	N	•	0	•	•	•
•	Chandigarh	0	0	0	•	•	•	0	•	•	0
7	Chhatilegach	723	272	0	0	•	.•	•	•	•	•
•	¥ 8	•	476	•	138	•	•	•	•	•	•
•	Dedra and Nagar Havell	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•
2	Deman and Diu	0	•	•	•	0	0	•	•	•	0
=	Gujerat	901	11412	0	4430	0	0	0	.•	0	•

	8	က	4	5	9	7	<b>6</b> 0	G	5	=	12
52	Gos	•	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Haryana	5	7205	•	3286	0	-	0	0	-	0
<b>=</b>	Himachal Pradesh	0	879	0	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Jammu and Kashmir	0	191	0	0	0	0	0	•	0	0
<b>5</b>	Sharkhand	•	•	•	0	•	0	0	0	0	0
4	Karanataka	1207	5214	4	0	12	ო	0	0	0	0
<b>5</b>	*Korala	155	83	0	•	•	0	•	•	•	•
6	Lakahadweep	0	0	0	0	•	0	0	0	0	0
8	Madhya Pradesh	7	540	0	2830	•	0	0	0	0	0
2	Meghalaya	•	<b>©</b>	0	•	•	0	0	•	•	0
83	Maharashtra	874	31167	0	11068	•	∞	Ŧ	10	0	0
ន	Manipur	•	0	0	•	•	o	0	0	0	0
*	Mizoram	<b>6</b> 0	•	0	0	•	0	0	0	0	•
ន	Nagaland	•	0	0	•	•	0	0	0	•	•
8	Orissa	748	114	0	•	•	0	0	0	0	0
27	Punjab	929	5071	0	123	•	5	7	ß	0	0
8	Pondicherry	8	88	0	154	12	0	0	•	•	0
8	Rajasthan	391	11528	•	4831	•	ಸ	~	0	0	0
8	Sikkim	<b>∞</b>	S	•	•	•	0	0	0	•	0
5	Tamil Nadu	22	9829	<b>‡</b>	9746	•	0	8	•	0	0
æ	Tripura	0	0	0	•	0	0	0	•	0	•
ន	Uttar Pradesh	822	12468	•	3743	•	0	0		0	N
\$	Uttaranchal	8	0	•	0	•	•	0	0.	0	0
88	West Bengal	290	7045	0	7851	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	7631	109538	18	62381	175	72	2	2	-	2

Written Answers

Statement-N

Progress report of Seed Law Enforcement during 2003-2004

			riogre	rogiess report of	187 COC	Cind Camera Co	2007 6000				
S. S	S.No. 'State	No. of rrotified Inspector	Total No. of samples drawn	No. of samples found substandard	No. of seed dealers sold sub- standard seed	No. of cases in which warning issued	No. of cases stop sale order issued	No. of cases filed in the Court of Law	No. of cases decided by Court of Law fine/Imprison-ment awarded	No. of cases pending Court of Law	No. of cases where seed forfeited
-	2	3	+	ĸ	80	7	8	G.	10	#	12
-	Andhra Pradesh	1160	9413	672	142	•	82	51	80	£1	က
8	Assam	474	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
က	Andeman and Nicobar	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
•	Annachal Pradesh	•	1029	147	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>1</b> 0	·Bher										
•	Chandgarh U.T.	7									
7	Chhattisgarh	782	535	91	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
•	Debi	5	<b>163</b>	က	က	60	က	ო	54	t.	•
•	Dadra and Nagar	Not A	Not Applicable Reported	þet							
5	Demen and Diu										
F	Gujarat	76	3332	8	8	2	w	3	<b>3</b> 6	37	ಸ
12	Gos	<b>5</b>	13	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>5</b>	Haryana	5	3281	8	R	20	4	N	•	ĸ	•
7	Himachel Pradesh	522	675	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
5	January Kashmir	<b>w</b>	<del>2</del>	=	60	•	15	•	ĸ	ო	•
<b>5</b>	Sharthand	8	22	*	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
17	Karanataka	1222	6107	<b>.</b>	\$	8	æ	5	•	•	•
<b>2</b>	*Kerala										

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, , <del>, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , </del>		

_	2	60	+	S	9	7	•	6	0	=	12
5	Lakshadweep	Not	Not applicable								
8	Madhya Pradesh	4980	3360	271	•	•	•		•	•	•
2	Meghalaya	Z									
8	Maharashtra	\$	10902	<b>\$</b>	408	365	400	753	25	469	į
ន	Manipur	7									
3	Mizoram	•	1000	245	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
×	piejedeN	7									
8	Orisea	748	1812	159	•	•	•	•	•	•	
12	Punjab	1190	4195	313	313	•	•	•	•	•	
88	Pondicheny	<b>±</b>	153	•	4	•	•	•	•	•	
8	Rajasthan	362	3829	8	Ş	18	37	<b>5</b>	•	91	
8	Sittin	•	1304	<b>6</b>	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
5	Ternit Nadu	8	21685	1243	88	<b>8</b> 01	<b>914</b>	120	8	×	
æ	Tripura	\$	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•
ន	Uttar Pradesh	822	4083	133	133	8	₩	w	w	•	•
ಕ	Utteranchal	8	8	13	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
ಜ	West Bengal	822	4648	14	24	178	88	•	•	•	•
	Total	12348	80667	4785	2823	2557	2280	1006	214	902	37
¥	* Information is yet to be received.	Ę.									
	- Information is Nii										
			Progress	s report of	Seed Law Ei	Progress report of Seed Law Enforcement during 2004-2005	ring 2004-200	55			
_	2	9	7	9	7	60	6	10	=	12	13
-	Andhra Pradesh	1415	15487	545	82	15	7	5	so	88	-
2	Assem	474	7	2	7	2	Z	2	•	•	***

-	2	8	•	9	7	80	G	10	11	12	£
е	Andaman and Nicobar	2	2	7	7	2	7	7	•	•	•
4	Arunachal Pradesh	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•
ro.	·Bihar	12	972	ĸ	8	18		•	•	•	
9	Chandigarh	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	. <b>'</b>
7	Chhattisgarh	237	1353	8		*	<b>%</b>	•	•		•
œ	Delhi	<b>o</b>	127	N	•	8	8	•	•	•	•
<b>o</b>	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	•	•		•	•	•	•	ı	•	•
5	Damen and Diu	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
=	Gujarat	#	4245	8	¥	18	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	8	=	•
51	Goa	5	308	2	2	2	Z		•	•	•
5	Haryana	<b>20</b>	3140	æ	2	ន	၈	•	•	•	•
#	Himachal Pradesh	5	209	•	2	2	•	•	•	•	•
5	Jammu and Kashmir	Φ	•	•	ı	•		•	٠	•	•
<b>5</b>	Jharkhand	8	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
11	Karanataka	1207	6883	93	23	3	8	60	•	•	•
<b>∞</b>	'Kerala	155	S	S	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
6	Lakshadweep	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
8	Madhya Pradesh	878	3959	335	•	335	335	8	-	-	•
2	Meghalaya	•	•	•		ı	•	•	•	,	•
8	Maharashtra	<b>88</b>	10756	186	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
ន	Manipur	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•
54	Mizoram	<b>&amp;</b>	1000	130	,	•	•	•	•	•	•
ĸ	Nagaland		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

to Questions

29         Oritata         748         1409         420         .	-	2	၈	+	8	7	60	o	10	#	12	13
Punjab         1190         2856         280         42         152         .	8	Orisea	748	1409	450	•		,	•	•		
Rajesthern         14         203         4         -         4         -         <	23	Punjab	1190	2636	520	4	152	•	•	•	•	•
Skidum         8         1246         17         27         28         13           Skidum         8         1246         17         -	8	Pondicherry	<b>=</b>	203	*	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Stitute         17         -<	8	Rajasthan	391	3310	27	27	•	8	13	•	<b>£</b>	•
Triguta Nadut Seve Seve Seve Seve Seve Seve Seve Sev	8	Sitkim	∞	1246	11	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Tripura 54	8	Tamil Nadu	21	22688	1195	<b>38</b> 5	787	1531	<b>56</b> 1	147	89	8
Ultramechal         228         3733         88         -         23         53         7         .           Ultramechal         20         325         1         -         <	8	Tripura	35	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Wheat Bengal         20         325         1         .	g	Uttar Pradesh	228	3733	88	•	ន	S		ĸ	N	•
Weet Bençal         250         2850         48         887         887         983	8	Uttaranchal	8	325	-	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Total	જ	West Bengal	520	2850	84	887	887	8	•	•	•	<b>48</b> 5
Andhra Pradesh (J.T.) a 4 6 7 8 9 10 1  Andhra Pradesh (J.T.) a 7 6 7 6 7 6 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7		Total	8529	87588	3829	2261	2207	3021	343	197	173	88
Andhra Pradesh         1366         15182         859         215         0         3         141           Assam         0         0         0         0         0         0         0           Andaman and Nicobar         0         0         0         0         0         0         0           Annachal Pradesh         0         0         0         0         0         0         0           Chandigach (U.T.)         12         1404         2         2         2         0         0           Chhartisgarh         237         1063         13         0         0         0         0         0           Dadra and Nagar Haveli         0         125         3         3         3         3	1		Di S	Progre	ss report of s	Seed Law Er	nforcement du	wing 2005-200	9			
Andhra Pradesh         1366         15182         859         215         0         3         141           Assam         0         0         0         0         0         0         0           Andaman and Nicobar         0         0         0         0         0         0         0           Annachal Pradesh         12         1404         2         2         2         0         0           Chandigarh (U.T.)         0         0         0         0         0         0         0           Chandigarh (U.T.)         0         0         0         0         0         0         0           Chhaddisarh         12         1404         2         2         2         0         0           Chhaddisarh         237         1063         13         0         0         0         0           Dadra and Nagar Haveii         0         0         0         0         0         0         0	-	2	6	•	8	7	60	6		=	12	13
Assam         0 <th>-</th> <th>Andhra Pradesh</th> <th>1366</th> <th>15182</th> <th>859</th> <th>215</th> <th>0</th> <th>m</th> <th>141</th> <th>o</th> <th><b>±</b></th> <th>0</th>	-	Andhra Pradesh	1366	15182	859	215	0	m	141	o	<b>±</b>	0
Andaman and Nicobar         0         0         0         0         0         0         0           Annachal Pradesh         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0           TBihar         12         1404         2         2         2         0         0         0           Chandigarh (U.T.)         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0           Chhattisgarh         237         1063         13         0         0         0         0         0         0         0           Dakh         0         125         3         3         0         3         3           Dadra and Nagar Haveli         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0	8	Assam	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	•	0
Annachal Pradesh         0	က	Andaman and Nicobar	0	•	0	0	•	0	0	0	0	0
**Differ         12         1404         2         2         2         0         0         0           Chandigarh (U.T.)         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0           Chhattisgarh         237         1063         13         0         0         0         0         0           Delhi         0         125         3         3         0         3         3           Dadra and Nagar Haveli         0         0         0         0         0         0         0	4	Anmachal Pradesh	0	•	•	0	•	0	0	0	0	0
Chandigarh (U.T.)         0	ĸ	'Bihar	12	1404	N	8	8	0	0	0	0	0
Chhartisgarh         237         1063         13         0         0         0         0           Delhi         0         125         3         3         0         3         3           Dadra and Nagar Haveli         0         0         0         0         0         0         0	ø	Chandigarh (U.T.)	0	•	0	0	•	0	0	0	0	0
Delhi         0         125         3         3         3         3         3           Dadra and Nagar Haveli         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0	7	Chhattisgarh	237	1063	13	3	•	0	0	0	0	0
Dadra and Nagar Haveli 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	<b>c</b>	Deri	0	125	ო	m	0	က	က	<b>.</b>	Ŧ	0
	0	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

-	2	က	4	•	7	€0	60	10	=	12	13
2	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	•	•	0	0	0
F	Gujarat	225	4430	20	3	8	\$	8	ဖွ	51	0
12	Goa	5	372	0	0	0	0	0	0	•	0
5	Haryana	18	3286	\$	45	ន	0	4	-	ន	0
7	Himachal Pradesh	5	200	0	0	•	0	0	•	•	0
15	Jammu and Kashmir	9	26.	5	5	w	12	12	9	8	0
91	Jharithand	0	•	0	0	0	0	0	0	•	0
17	Karanataka	1207	7810	106	82	101	8	ß	0	•	0
8	.Kerala	155	214	ß	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	•
8	Madhya Pradesh	<b>2</b> 6	2830	612	213	213	213	-	0	0	-
2	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	Maharashtra	884	11068	\$	33	022	<b>\$</b>	æ	83	101	0
ន	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Mizoram	€0	•.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
x	Nagaland	•	•	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	Orissa	748	1599	336	0	•	0	0	0	0	0
27	Punjab	490	7504	1809	#	<b>0</b> \$2	370	13	0	£	7
8	Pondichemy	0	151	12	<b>6</b> 0	∞	0	•	0	0	0
8	Rajasthan	301	4872	<b>3</b> 5	20	0	37	ಸ	0	52	0
8	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0
31	Tamil Nactu	22	9746	810	1011	83	1027	190	88	8	0
g	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	•	0	0	0	0
ង	Uttar Pradech	823	3743	192	141	23	120	8	0	8	0
z	Uttaranchal	8	355	ß	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
x	West Bengal	528	5809	238	0	238	472	0	0	0	0
	Total	1408	79669	5901	2235	2063	2829	450	181	410	œ

## **Products Supplied by SAIL to Railways**

- 819. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of products being supplied by Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) to Railways;
- (b) the production of these items during the last three years, year-wise;
- (c) whether SAIL has received order from any other country during the said period to supply its products;
  - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps being taken to explore the possibility of increasing the export of its products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) and (b) The Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) supplies rails, wheels & Axles, HR coils/Sheets, CR Coil/Sheets, Plates and Structurals to Railways. The details of production of these items during the last three years, year-wise are given as under:

			Oint Ooot
Products	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Rails	809	868	855
Wheels	21.2	28.4	30.2
HR Coils/Sheets	2735	2785	2802
CR Coils/Sheets	948	933	920
Plates	1893	2173	2295
Structurals	· 740	756	775

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. SAIL have exported HR Colls/ Sheets, CR Coil/Sheets, Plates and structurals from its integrated Steel Plant during the last three years. The details of exports during the last three years are as under:

Unit' 000t

2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
233	26	61
11	01	5
363	156	145
03	01	03
	233 11 363	233 26 11 01 363 156

(e) Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) is primarily a domestic player. However, as a part of its marketing strategy, SAIL continues to maintain its presence in the global markets.

# **Payment of MSP**

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

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has urged the State Governments to ensure payment of Minimum Support Price (MSP) for procurement of foodgrains during the Kharif marketing season 2006-07; and
- (b) if so, the details of the responses from the State Governments thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The Government, after fixing the Minimum Support Prices (MSP), intimates all State Governments of the MSPs fixed for various crops. Apart from this, the MSPs fixed are also broadcast/telecast through AIR/Doordarshan in their programmes. MSPs are in the nature of minimum guaranteed price, the procurement of agricultural commodities is undertaken by the procuring agencies at the MSPs fixed by the Government.

#### **Decline in Employment**

- 821. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether a declining trend has been noticed in employment across various sectors in the country during the recent months;
  - (b) if so, the reasons therefor:
- (c) whether the Government has evolved any strategy to arrest this trend in consultation with the State Governments; and

# (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) As per the two most recent quinquennial rounds of National Sample Survey Organisation on employment and unemployment, employment in the country on usual status basis has increased from around 397

million in 1999-2000 to 459 million in 2004-05. Monthly trends on employment and unemployment on all India basis are not maintained.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

### [Translation]

# Unemployed Persons Registered in Employment Exchanges

# 822. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: SHRI SANTASRI CHATTERJEE:

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

- (a) whether the number of unemployed persons registered with the employment exchange is increasing day-by-day;
- (b) if so, the comparative details thereof during the last three years and the current year, exchange-wise and State-wise and the steps being taken to reduce the same:
  - (c) the reasons for the unemployed youths not

getting jobs despite registering themselves with the employment exchange long back; and

(d) the time on an average by which a person registered with the employment exchange is likely to get a job?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) State-wise details of the number of jobseekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, registered with the employment exchanges in the country as on 31st December 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005 are given in the enclosed statement. The number of jobseekers have remained at the level of around 4.0 crores.

- (c) Employment Exchanges nominate candidates against the vacancies notified to them by the employers in the organised sector. Additional employment generation in the organised sector not being significant, the notification of vacancies is less which results in substantial time lag in nominating the job-seekers registered.
- (d) The time varies from exchange to exchange and from occupation to occupation and it is not feasible to provide an average picture on all India basis.

Statement

Number of Jobseekers on the Live Register of the Employment Exchanges

SI.No. State/Union Territory		Number of Job-seekers on the Live Register of Employment Exchanges as on (in lakhs)					
		31.12.02	31.12.03	31.12.04	31.12.05		
1	2	3	4	5	6		
١.	Andhra Pradesh	29.47	26.74	25.32	24.28		
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.23	0.24	0.23	0.25		
3.	Assam	15.47	15.69	16.32	17.61		
١.	Bihar	18.13	16.94	15.67	14.62		
i <b>.</b>	Chhattisgarh	7.97	8.50	9.02	9.89		
•	Delhi	10.60	11.20	6.36	6.71		
•	Goa	1.04	1.04	1.01	1.01		
	Gujarat	10.53	9.98	9.27	8.55		
١.	Haryana	8.02	9.02	9.32	10.65		
0.	Himachal Pradesh	9.06	9.08	8.70	9.11		
1.	Jammu & Kashmir	1.46	1.15	1.12	1.16		
12.	Jharkhand	13.19	14.66	13.94	12.09		

1 2	3	4	5	6
13. Karnataka	19.49	17.84	15.68	13.18
14. Kerala	37.44	36.35	37.52	36.29
15. Madhya Pradesh	18.70	20.03	20.31	21.61
16. Maharashtra	43.47	43.25	43.91	39.92
17. Manipur	4.15	4.43	4.58	5.32
18. Meghalaya	0.36	0.36	0.37	0.38
19. Mizoram	0.41	0.36	0.35	0.34
20. Nagaland	0.36	0.43	0.44	0.44
21. Orissa	7.62	736	8.57	8.33
2. Punjab	5.06	4.85	4.77	4.63
3. Rajasthan	6.98	8.17	7.94	7.94
4. Sikkim*				
5 Tamil Nadu	49.77	50.06	45.07	36.81
6. Tripura	3.52	3.65	3.78	4.00
7. Uttaranchal	3.48	3.17	3.13	3.79
8. Uttar Pradesh	18.27	19.28	18.98	18.71
9. West Bengal	64.51	67.22	69.96	72.92
0. Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.39	0.34	0.39	0.39
11. Chandigarh	0.82	0.68	0.65	0.56
2. Dadar and Nagar Haveli	0.06	0.06	0.07	0.07
3. Daman and Diu	0.08	0.09	0.10	0.11
4. Lakshadweep	0.10	0.11	0.11	0.11
35. Pondicherry	1.52	1,58	1.64	1.71
Total	411.71	413.89	404.58	393.48

Note:- \* No Employment Exchange is functioning in this State.

Total may not tally due to rounding off.

### [English]

### **Poverty Rate in India**

823. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the poverty rate in India continues to be higher according to latest International Labour Organisation Report;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a large number of persons are working in low productivity jobs in the country; and

(d) If so, the steps taken by the Government to lift such population out of poverty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) According to a recent ILO's report on 'Labour and Social Trends in Asia and the Pacific 2006', 28.6% of the total population in India below the national poverty line in the year 2000.

- (c) Labour productivity is person-specific and not job-specific. It is low in India due to lack of infrastructure, technology, skill etc.
  - (d) Poverty reduction has been an important goal

of development policy in India. Emphasis is being placed on upgradation of skills, vocational training and on the implementation of the targeted programmes of poverty alleviation to address the multidimensional nature of poverty.

# Deforestation

- 824. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the country is losing its wildlife due to deforestation and illegal felling of trees;
- if so, whether the Ministry in consultation with the Ministry of Rural Development has a proposal for the safeguard of the wildlife:
  - if so, the details thereof: (c)
- whether Finance Commission has provided (d) funds to increase the forest and tree cover to a close level

of 33%: and

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if so, the details thereof and the schemes to (e) utilise the allocated funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Deforestation and illegal felling of trees do have adverse impact on wildlife.

- No, Sir. There is no such proposal.
- Does not arise. (c)
- (d) and (e) 12th Finance Commission has recommended a grant of Rs. 1000 crore spread over the period 2005-10 for maintenance of forests. This grant is an additionally over and above what the states have been spending through their forest departments. This amount has been distributed among the states based on their forest area for preservation of forest wealth The state-wise break-up of this grant is given in the enclosed statement.

Grants-in aid for Maintenance of Forests

(Re in Croree)

							(Rs. in Crores)
State	Forest Area (sq. km)	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2005-10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Andhra Pradesh	44637	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	65.00
Arunachai Pradesh	68045	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	100.00
Assam	27714	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	40.00
Bihar	5720	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	5.00
Chhattisgarh	56448	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	85.00
Goa	2095	0.60	0.60	0.60	0.60	0.60	3.00
Gujarat	15152	4.00	4.00	4.00	400	4.00	20.00
Haryana	1754	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	2.00
Himachal Pradesh	14360	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	20.00
Jammu & Kashmir	21237	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	30.00
Jharkhand	22637	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	30.00
Kamataka	36991	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	55.00
Kerzia	15560	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	25.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Madhya Pradesh	77265	23.00	23.00	23.00	23.00	23.00	115.00
Maharashtra	47482	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	70.00
Manipur	16926	6.00	6.90	6.00	6.00	6.00	30.00
Meghalaya	15584	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	30.00
Mizoram	17494	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	25.00
Nagaland	13345	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	25.00
Orissa ·	48838	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	75.00
Punjab	2432	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	2.00
Rajasthan	16367	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	25.00
Silkkim	3193	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.60	8.00
Tamil Nadu	21482	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	30.00
Tripura	7065	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	15.00
Uttar Pradesh	13746	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	20.00
Uttaranchal	23938	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	35.00
West Bengal	10693	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	15.00
Total States	668200	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	1000.00

# Papikonda as National Park

- 825. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether an empowered committee had recently visited Papikonda National Park;
- (b) if so, the observations/recommendations of the committee regarding the park;
- (c) whether the State of Karnataka has sought any financial assistance for development of the park;
  - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
  - (e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The Central Empowered Committee of the Hon'ble Supreme Court had visited Papikonda Wildlife Sanctuary between 28-7-2006 and 1-8-2006. The Report of the Central Empowered Committee is under sub judice before the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

- (c) The Papikonda Wildlife Sanctuary is in the State of Andhra Pradesh. The Government of Karnataka has not sought any financial assistance for the development of this park.
  - (d) and (e) Does not arise.

#### Transmitter Towers of Doordarshan

- 826. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether doordarshan transmitter towers are not functioning at various places despite their technical preparedness;
- (b) If so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor, location-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (c) All technically

ready transmitters have since been commissioned. At present, there is no transmitter which is technically ready and awaiting commissioning.

Written Answers

[Translation]

# Funds for Agricultural and Dairy Development

- 827. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) the amount provided for agricultural development in the country during the Ninth and Tenth Five Year Plan:
- (b) the percentage of the amount out of them allocated for daily development during the said period;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to increase the percentage of amount to be spent on dairy development; and
- (d) if so, the details of the schemes of the Government to improve the condition of Cooperative Milk Associations?

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 outlays earmarked under the Centrally Sponsored and Central Sector Schemes administered by the Ministry of Agriculture for development of agriculture as indicated in Ninth and Tenth Five Year Plan Documents are as under:

		(Rs. Crore)
Department	Ninth Plan Outlay	Tenth Plan Outlay
Department of Agriculture & Cooperation	9153.82	13200.00
Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisherier	2345.64 3	2500.00
Department of Agriculture Research & Education	3376.95	5368.00
Ministry of Agriculture	14876.41	21068.00

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

# **Artificial Ripening of Fruits**

828. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to

- (a) whether banned chemicals and calcium carbide powder are being used for artificial ripening of fruits before the scheduled time:
  - (b) If so, the details thereof;
- (c) its adverse impact on the health of human beings:
- (d) whether the fruits exported from India are being sent back from the foreign countries as a result thereof:
  - (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps taken/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 KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) The Government is aware that the use of calcium carbide powder and gas for artificial ripening of fruits is harmful to health causing damage to skin and several ailments. Under PFA Rules, 1955, use of calcium carbide gas for ripening of fruits is prohibited.

- (d) and (e) No report has been received on rejection of Indian fruits on account of use of calcium carbide.
- Implemented by the State/UT Governments, who takes samples of food items and take action under the provisions of the PFA Act, in cases the samples are found not confirming to the standard or there is a violation of a rules. The State Governments are advised from time to time to keep vigil for checking food adulteration. To check the hazard of calcium carbide, an alternative method for ripening of fruits have been developed by ICAR. The fruits are exposed to ethylene gas at a concentration of 10 to 100 ppm (0.001 to 0.01%) in airtight rooms for 24 hrs. at 20 25° C and 90-95 per cent RH. The fruits may also be treated with ethrel/ethephon in hot water at 52±2° C for 5 minutes having a concentration of 100-500 ppm depending upon maturity and variety.

[English]

### **Assistance for Bio-Diversity**

829. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: SHRI MANJUNATH KUNNUR:

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

- whether the Union Government has received (a) a proposal from the Government of Karnataka requesting for financial assistance for conservation and management of bio-diversity in coastal districts of Karnataka:
- if so, the details thereof including the estimated cost of the project:
- whether the Union Government has considered the proposal; and
- if so, the time by which the financial assistance is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI, NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) The proposal on Conservation and Management of Biodiversity in coastal districts of Karnataka was found to be rather broad-scoped, encompassing the ecosystem diversity all along the 320 km long coast of the State. The State Government was requested to reformulate the proposal with a more precise and specific focus vide Ministry's D O. letter No. 22-26/2005-CSC dated 6.1.2006.

[Translation]

#### Improvement of Speciality Corn

- 830. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE: WIII the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:
- whether the Government has received propo-(a) sals from the Government of Madhya Pradesh for improvement and maximization of speciality com for socioeconomic Development of Deprived Tribals of Jhabua;
  - (b) if so, the action taken thereon; and
- the time by which these proposals are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) The Government of Madhya Pradesh has not submitted any such proposal for the consideration of Government of India. However, with a view to increasing production and productivity of maize including speciality corn, maize development programme is under implementation under the Centrally Sponsored Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and maize (ISOPOM) since 1st April, 2004 in 15 major maize growing states including Madhya Pradesh. During the year 2006-07, an amount of Rs. 2500 lakhs has been allocated to Madhya Pradesh as Government of India share.

[English]

#### **Bio-Pesticide Production Unit**

831. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: SHRI MANJUNATH KUNNUR:

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

- whether the Union Government has received any project proposal for establishment of bio-pesticides production unit for integrated Pest Management of Sugarcane at the Karnataka Sugar Institute from the Government of Karnataka:
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the estimated cost of the project:
- whether the Union Government has since considered the proposal of the Karnataka Government: and
- if so, the time by which the Union Government (d) is likely to give its approval to the proposal?

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) Yes, Sir. The Karnataka Sugar Institute has submitted a revised proposal on "Establishment of Bio-Pesticides Production Units for the Integrated Pest Management of Sugarcane" for sanction of grant-in-aid from Sugar Development Fund (SDF) in August, 2006. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 145.64 lakhs.

(c) and (d) The proposal submitted by the Kamataka Sugar Institute will be placed before the Standing Research Advisory Committee (SRAC) in its next meeting presently scheduled to be held on 28th November, 2006. The approval of the proposal, however, would depend upon the recommendations of the SRAC followed by further recommendations of the Standing Committee on SDF and acceptance of the recommendations by the Government.

#### **Production of Sugar**

832. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV: SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:

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

the details of the estimated production and consumption of sugar in the country during the current vear:

- (b) whether the production is likely to exceed the earlier estimates;
- (c) if so, whether the increased production would ease the price of sugar;
- (d) whether the price of sugar has continued to increase despite the increased production;
  - (e) if so, the reasons therefor:

Written Answers

- (f) whether complaints of unauthorised export of sugar was received from various parts of the country; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) The preliminary estimates of sugar production and consumption during the current 2006-07 sugar season (October - September) are placed at about 227 lac tons and 190 lac tons, respectively. It is too early to say if the production of sugar would exceed 227 lac tons. However, with enough availability of sugar in the country, the prices of sugar are expected to remain at reasonable level.

- (d) No, Sir.
- (e) Does not arise.
- (f) No, Sir.
- (g) Does not arise.

# Management of Plants in Laibagh Botanical Garden

833. SHRI M. SHIVANNA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a proposal has been received by the Union Government for conservation and management of plant wealth at Laibagh Botanical Garden in Bangaiore; and
- (b) if so, the response of the Union Government hereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A proposal for Conservation and Management of plant wealth at Lalbagh Botanic

Garden, Bangalore was received and considered by the Expert Group on Assistance to Botanical Gardens and Centers of Ex-situ Conservation. As per the recommendations of the Expert Group, the State Government has been requested to revise the proposal for ten acres of area for propagation of Rare, Endangered and Threatened plant species in consultation with an expert on the subject. The revised proposal has not yet been received.

[Translation]

# Homeless/Landless People

# 834. DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL: SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:

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

- (a) the number of homeless and landless people in the country as on date, State-wise; and
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to improve their conditions and outcome thereof during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) As per Census 2001, the number of agricultural workers in India is 10.67 crores. A statement showing the state-wise data of agricultural workers is enclosed.

The Ministry of Labour and Employment has (b) initiated several measures to solve the problems of the landless labourers. Various labour laws like the Minimum Wages Act 1948; the Workmen Compensation Act, 1923; the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976, the Inter-State Migrant Workmen (RE&CS) Act, 1979 are applicable to these workers. There is no specific schemes/programmes for improving the conditions of these Labourers being implemented by this Ministry. However, there are various schemes/programmes being implemented by other Ministries/Departments for improving the conditions of rural poor including landless labourers. Some of such schemes are: Swarniayanti Gram Swarolgar Yojana: Sampoorna Grameen Rojgar Yojana; Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yolana; National Social Assistance Programme; etc. The Government has recently enacted National Rural Employment Guarantee Act which provide 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work.

#### Statement

# Number of Agricultural Workers in the Country

(Source: Census 2001)

		(Course: Census 200
SI. No.	Name of the State/UTs	Total
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13832152
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	18840
3.	Assam	1263532
4.	Bihar	13417744
5.	Chhattisgarh	3091358
6.	Goa	35806
7.	Gujarat	5161658
8.	Haryana	1278821
9.	Himachal Pradesh	94171
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	246421
11.	Jharkhand	2851297
12.	Karnataka	6226942
13.	Kerala	1620851
14.	Madhya Pradesh	7400670
15.	Maharashtra	10815262
16.	Manipur	113630
17.	Meghalaya	171694
18.	Mizoram	26783
19.	Nagaland	30907
20.	Orissa	4999104
21.	Punjab	1489861
<b>22</b> .	Rajasthan	2523719
23.	Sikkim	17000
24.	Tamil Nadu	8637630
25.	Tripura	276132
26.	Uttar Pradesh	13400911

1	2	3
27.	Uttaranchal	259683
28. Y	West Bengal	7362957
29.	Andaman aqd Nicobar Islands	5169
30.	Chandigarh	563
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	14715
32. (	Daman and Diu	1323
33. (	Delhi	15773
34. l	akshadweep	00
35. F	Pondicherry	72251
1	<b>Total</b>	106775330

\* Note: india and Manipur figures exclude Mao Maram, Paomata and Purul sub-divs of Senapati District in Manipur state as census results were cancelled due to administrative and technical reasons.

[English]

#### Demands of Farmers

- 835. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:
- whether a delegation of the farmers met to the Prime Minister recently;
- if so, the main demands put forward by the farmers delegation before the Prime Minister;
- the time by which the demand of the farmers (c) are likely to be met;
- whether the export group constituted to look into the farmers' problems has submitted its report to the Government; and
- if so, the details of recommendations made in (<del>0</del>) this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC . DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) The requisite information is being obtained and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) and (e) The National Commission on Farmers that was constituted to make recommendations on matters pertaining to Indian farmers and agriculture, has submitted its Reports, giving several recommendations. These recommendations, inter alia, include measures for integrated life saving support programme for farmers, improving productivity, quality and global competitiveness of farm produce, food and nutrition security, rehabilitation and alleviation of persons affected by TSUNAMI, a new deal for women in agriculture, village as knowledge centres, horticulture revolution, review of technology missions, etc. The recommendations also contain suggestions for betterment of hill and arid agro ecosystems, coastal zone agriculture, sugarcane farmers, medicinal plants, organic farming, bio-fuels, etc. as well as agricultural market reforms. A draft national policy for farmers has also been given in the reports.

# **National Project for Water Bodies**

836. SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched National project for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies used by farmers, especially in dry land, remote and tribal areas in the year 2005-2006;

- (b) if so, the area that identified and the estimated cost of the project;
- (c) whether any pilot project has been started thereunder; and
- (d) if so, the States and districts covered under the pilot project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) The Government has launched a Pilot Scheme for "National Project for Repair, Renovation & Restoration of Water Bodies directly linked to Agriculture" in January, 2005. The water bodies having culturable command area of more than 40 hectares and upto 2000 hectares are included under the pilot scheme in one or two districts each in States. The total culturable command area of 2.99 lakh hectares is to be restored with an estimated cost of Rs. 296.8705 crores under the scheme. The scheme has been approved in 24 districts of 14 States. States and districts covered under the Scheme are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement
Statewise approved district projects under the Pilot Scheme

SI. No.	Name of State	Name of District	No. of water bodies included	Estimated	d Cultur-	Additional potential	Central share released (Rs. in crore)				
				(Rs. in crore)	comman area (in ha.)		2004-0	05 2005-06	005-06 2006-0		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
1	Andhra Pradesh	Mahabub Nagar	224	32.84	20650	6196	2.44	2.7	9.7500	14.8900	
		Anantpur	37	13.77	6322.3	2219.5		7.6625	1.3300	8.9925	
2	Chhattisgarh	Kabir Dham	10	2.236	1888	740.75		1.1058		1.1058	
3	Gujarat	Sabarkantha	17	6.5512	5112	1829		2.654		2.6540	
		Banaskantha	25	7.6653	5192	2289		3.1		3.1000	
4	Himachal Pradesh	Mandi	13	1.0401	1165	815.4		0.312	0.4681	0.7801	
5	Jammu & Kashmir	Kupwara	22	3.0588	1174	1019		1.275		1.2750	
3	Jharkhand	Saraikela	22	2.7972	1143.1	1104.1	0.33	0.649	ı	0.9790	
		Palamu	38	8.5928	3679.51	3679.51	1.17	0.525		1.6950	
7	Kamataka	Gulberga	117	35.537	21989	8863	4.42	10.13	6.0500	20.6000	
		Bangalore Rural	182	38.068 1	53579.3	78072.7	1	6.95 1	0.3000	18.2500	

Papers Laid

1	2	3	4	5	6	7		3	9 1	0 11
8	Kerala	Palakkad	10	1.3753	544.7	177		0.6		0.8000
		Pathanamthitta	13	1.404	589.89	178.32		0.526		0. <b>526</b> 0
9	Madhya Pradesh	Tikamgarh	5	3.923	2920	712		0.70	0.7000	1.4000
		Shivpuri	65	41.28	18302	8624		15.00		15.0000
10	Maharashtra	Beed	32	36.8828	12596	8897		13.831		13.6310
11	Orissa	Ganjam	68	12.82	14207	6835	1.14	6.81		7.9530
		Gajapati	59	6.01	9388	4701	0.55	3.19		3.7400
12	Rajasthan	Ajmer	4	4.489	3301	558		2.25.		2.2500
		Pali	1	2.45	1461	308		1.5		1.5000
13	Tamil Nadu	Sivagangai	8	1.222	702.42	153.23		0.458		0.4580
		Villupuram	38	9.372	4462.9	1178.15		3.5145		3.5145
14	West Bengal	Uttar Dinajpur	15	4.934	1698	2028.6	0.74	0.565		1.3050
		South-24 Parganas	51	18.552	6615.19	6222.69	0.21	1.2		1.4100
	Total	14	1076	296.8705	298682.3	147401	12.00	87.2078	28.5981	127.8059

12.00 hrs.

#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

# [English]

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): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Notification No. S.O. 1734 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th October, 2006, containing Order indicating the supplies of Urea to be made by domestic manufacturers of Urea to States and Union Territories during Rabi season, 2006-2007.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5031/2006]

#### [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): I beg to lay on the Table -

(1) A copy each of the following Notification (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (6) of section 3 of Essential Commodities Act, 1955:-

- (i) S.O. 1258 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th August, 2006 containing order. notifying Neem Coated Urea as provisional fertilizer for two years for commercial trial under clause 20A of the Fertilizer Control Order, 1985.
- (ii) The Fertilizer (Control) (Second Amendment) Order, 2006 published in Notification No. S.O. 1772 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 17th October, 2006.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at item No. (i) of (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5032/2006]

(3) A copy of the Notification No. 5-29/2005-CAU (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st July, 2006 making First Amendment of Statutes of Central Agricultural University, Imphal, under section 26 of the Central Agricultural University Act, 1992.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5033/2006]

Papers Laid

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Federation of State Cooperative Banks Limited, Navi Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Federation of State Cooperative Banks Limited, Navi Mumbai for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5034/2006]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Co-operative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks' Federation Limited, Navi Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006.
  - (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Co-operative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks' Federation Limited, Navi Mumbal, for the year 2005-2006, together with Audit Report thereon.
  - (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Co-operative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks' Federation Limited, Navi Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5035/2006]

- (6) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 36 of the Insecticides Act, 1968:-
  - (i) The Insecticides (Amendment) Rules, 2006 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 548(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th September, 2006.
  - (ii) The Insecticides (Second Amendment) Rules, 2006 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 692(E) in Gazette of India dated the 7th November, 2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5036/2006]

[English]

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 Import of Wheat (Stock Declaration) Order, 2006 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 1570 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 19th September, 2006, under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodity Act, 1955, together with a corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. S.O. 1735 (E) dated the 9th October, 2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5037/2006]

12.01 hrs.

#### STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

(i) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the 13th Report of Standing Committee on Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution

[English]

\*THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): Sir, I make the statement on the status of implementation of recommendation contained in the 13th 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 1st September, 2006.

A statement indicating the Action Taken/status of all the recommendation contained in the 13th Report of the Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution is annexed. It may be noted that the report contains 15 recommendations. These recommendations have been carefully examined by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Consumer Affairs). All the 15 recommendations have been accepted and action taken thereon has been indicated.

The Action Taken replies have been sent to the Lok Sabha on 18th August, 2006.

<sup>\*</sup>Placed in Library, See No. L.T, 5038/2006

12.03 hrs.

(II) Institution of National Award for outstanding fieldwork in eradicating untouchability and combating offences of atrocities against **Scheduled Castes** 

Motion Re: Thirtieth Report of

[Enalish]

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EM-POWERMENT (SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR): Sir, I am glad to inform this august House that the Government of India has decided to institute National Awards to be given to Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) or individual Human Rights Activists who have done outstanding fieldwork in the area of eradicating untouchability and in combating offences of atrocities under the Protection of Civil Rights Act. 1955 (PCR Act) and the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 (POA Act).

There shall be total four awards every year covering both the categories. Award to individual activist shall carry on amount of Rs. 2 lakhs and to an institution shall carry an amount of Rs. 5 lakhs. The Award will be given to outstanding NGOs or Human Rights Activists in each of the four regions of the country namely North, South, East and West for rendering yeomen services in the said fields. The award may be shared by more than one recipient or organization. The Award would be instituted in 2007 and would be given annually thereafter.

The Award is open to all Indian NGOs and Human Rights Activists without any distinction or discrimination on grounds of race, sex, caste or creed. A Screening Committee and finally the Selection Committee constituted for the purpose would consider the achievement of the NGOs and the Individual Human Rights Activists nominated/recommended for the Award by the prescribed authority.

For the 2007 awards, the Screening Committee and the Selection Committee would consider nominations received upto 31st January, 2007.

12.04 hrs.

MOTION RE: THIRTIETH REPORT OF BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[English]

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): I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Thirtieth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 24th November, 2006".

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MD. SALIM (Calcutta - North East): Sir, this is a serious matter and it is a question of the dignity of the House. The manner in which Indian Cricket Team has performed. ...(Interruptions)

[Enalish]

MR. SPEAKER: Not now, Mr. Salim, I will not allow transgression of rules either. If they are not following something, let us also not do it.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MD. SALIM: Do we need a foreign coach?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I earnestly beseech you to please take your seat now.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

\*That this House do agree with the Thirtieth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 24th November 2006."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI GANESH SINGH (Satna): Mr. Speaker, Sir, manymany thanks. ...(Interruptions)

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV (Sambhal): Mr. Speaker. Sir, I have also given a notice.

MR. SPEAKER: I will give time to him, not to you. I have have made a commitment.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI GANESH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring a very important issue to the notice of the House. The problem of electricity is one of the main issues faced by the country and many states are confronting this

<sup>\*</sup>Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5039/2006

problem. Under these circumstances, it is the moral responsibility of the Central Government to help the states in addressing this issue.

Sir, my State, Madhya Pradesh earlier used to get 300-megawatts of power supply to which a cut of 250 megawatts has been made. Besides, proposals of setting up Nuclear Power Stations for generating 2000-megawatt are pending Central Government's consideration. Approval has not been accorded to them till date. The Central Government had allocated 147-megawatt electricity for Maiva Anchai. It has also been stopped suddenly. The quality of coal being provided to the thermal power stations in the state is also not good. In order to equip the thermal power stations with modern capacity, a proposal for a tie up for German and Japanese technology is under the consideration of the Central Government. That proposal has also not been accorded approval till date. A proposal to supply electricity to 185 remote villages of the state based on non-conventional energy sources is also under the consideration of the Central Government.

Sir, I feel that the Central Government is deliberately harassing states having non-Congress Governments. The Central Government should not adopt double standards. My demand is that the Central Government should stop step-motherly treatment towards Madhya Pradesh and restore the electricity supply to the state which it was earlier receiving. Besides, immediate approval should be given to the pending proposals.

SHRI ATIQ AHAMAD (Phulpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, today, for the first time I rise to speak in the House.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I compliment you.

[Translation]

SHRI ATIQ AHAMAD: Sir, I am grieved to say that I rise to speak on a personal matter but it has become necessary to raise the personal matter here as you are our Speaker and I need your protection. We were put behind the bars in Maharashtra. A meeting was organized to discuss the atrocities committed on the minorities in Maharashtra in which on behalf of the Samajwadi Party of Uttar Pradesh, I was also invited. My fault was only that I went there to attend the meeting. I went to join the rally. When we reached there, we came to know that Section 144 was imposed and we were not allowed to hold any rally.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a state subject and you will

probably say that it can not be raised here but there are 2-3 very important points and I would like to draw your attention towards them. That rally was organized for minorities. Our Prime Minister often states that any particular community should not be reproached. Secondly, we were told that we were not permitted to hold a rally because the commissioner had reported that if this rally is held, it will create law and order problem.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is the duty of the Union Government to restrain I.P.S. officers, to formulate policy for them and to keep a check on their working. These officers are not totally under the states.

Sir, you are a very experienced person. When we were elected we were happy that we will have your company and you are sitting here on the Chair. I have been elected five time as MLA.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You should speak more. You are speaking so well.

[Translation]

SHRI ATIQ AHAMAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, an I.P.S. officer reported in a city like Mumbai that if a rally is held, it will worsen the law and order situation. I would like to draw the attention of the entire House. (Interruptions)...\*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: That is deleted.

[Translation]

Some interruption is good.

SHRI ATIQ AHAMAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is amazing that an I.P.S. officer reports in a city like Mumbai that holding of a rally could create law and order problem. You know that in Uttar Pradesh our party is in power. Earlier also matters of religious frenzy were raised there. Frenzy was created amongst common man and none of our officers, Ministers or even our Chief Minister had surrendered at that time.

Today, we are proud that this frenzy has died down there and Samajwadi party has won the Ayodhya seat. But they are arresting the people 15 kilometers away from the place of rally and committing atrocities on them. The State Government has done all this on the basis of the report of an I.P.S. officer. But I feel that the State Government has

<sup>\*</sup> Not recorded.

itself asked that I.P.S. officer to give such a report because this matter was related to minorities and Congress is in power both in the State and at the Centre.

The second important point is that the security provided to me by the Uttar Pradesh Government has been withdrawn. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You should write to me for your security. I will definitely look into the matter of your security. But I cannot do anything about the other matter.

# ...(Interruptions)

SHRI ATIQ AHAMAD: I have full faith in you. I request you to please let me complete my speech. You are holding the highest post. I want to say that if Uttar Pradesh Government. ...(Not recorded) will not allow them to hold the rally in Uttar Pradesh, then they will feel bad about it and consider it as a revenge. ...(Interruptions)

# [English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not bring those other names. It is struck off.

...(Interruptions)

# [Translation]

SHRI ATIQ AHAMAD: Sir, our Prime Minister says that nobody will be allowed to reproach a particular community whereas Defence Minister states that the network of I.S.I. has spread in all the government departments. I want to state that to adopt double standard and to doubt on whole society. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have recorded your point, please sit down. I will definitely look into the matter of your security.

Shri L. Rajagopal

#### ...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJ BABBAR (Agra): Sir, it is a very serious matter. All the State Governments are doing this. As they made arrests in Maharashtra, in the same way when farmers of Dadri in Uttar Pradesh. ...(Interruptions)

# [English]

MR. SPEAKER: No. You do not have my permission. Only what Shri Rajagopal says will go on record and nothing else.

...(Interruptions)\*

SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL (Vijayawada): Sir, thank you very much. I would like to draw the attention. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

### [Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. You have the right to talk about state matter but you can talk about it outside this House.

# [English]

You can carry on your political activity outside the House.

# [Translation]

Raj Babbar ji, it is not right, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is being recorded

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER: Only what Shri Rajagopa! \*\*\* will go on record.

(Interruptions)...\*

# [Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record. Why are you speaking? Atiq Ahamad ji I will definitely look into the matter of your security.

#### ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Raj Babbarji, please sit down, your speech is not going on record. Atiq Aharnad ji, your point has been recorded, please sit down.

#### ...(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Raj Babbar ji has demanded the dismissal of the State Government. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please leave it. Please sit down. His statement is not being recorded.

<sup>\*</sup> Not recorded.

<sup>\*</sup> Not recorded.

### ...(Interruptions)

# [English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded.

...(Interruptions)\*

#### [Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: This is not right. You may go out and speak. Go out and speak whatever you want to speak.

...(Interruptions)

# [English]

MR. SPEAKER: I am not putting any restriction if you carry on your political activities outside the House.

#### [Translation]

Kindly go out and speak. Mr. Atiq Ahamad, I will look into the issue of your security.

### [English]

I will look into the matter.

...(Interruptions)

#### [Translation]

SHRI ATIQ AHAMAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have consumed most of this time. Kindly allow me to speak. ...(Interruptions)

# [English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will adjourn the House and nobody will be able to raise any issue.

...(Interruptions)

# [Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Let me complete first.

...(Interruptions)

# [English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have given you my word about your security that I would look into it. What more do you want?

...(Interruptions)

# [Translation]

SHRI ATIQ AHAMAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, let me complete my statement. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You have said your bit.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is a serious matter of regret.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You are a senior member. You were a Minister. I am sorry. Nothing will be recorded.

...(Interruptions)\*

# [Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I request you with folded hands, kindly sit down. Whatever you wish to speak, you may go out and speak.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI ATIQ AHAMAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am speaking for the very first time. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Even if you are speaking for the first time, there should be a full stop somewhere. You will not be given unlimited time even if you are speaking for the first time.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Kindly sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have given you an opportunity.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have given you full opportunity. Now, Shri Rajagopal to speak.

...(Interruptions)\*

SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are such a nice man.

#### [Translation]

Keep on speaking. Elections are scheduled for next year. We know that there is still some time for elections. Please leave it now.

<sup>\*</sup> Not recorded.

<sup>\*</sup> Not recorded.

[English]

Shri Raj Babbar, nothing is being recorded.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER: Let the House be adjourned. You are not in a mood to do any work. We are making ourselves a laughing stock.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What are you doing? is this the way to do it?

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): He should be allowed to complete his statement. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is to be recorded.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER: Except Shri Rajagopal's version, nothing will be recorded. Very well, if you do not want the House to run,

[Translation]

I will leave. If you do not want, I will leave.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is a very shameful behaviour exhibited by you people.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Sir, I am raising a very important issue. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: They are laughing at us. People are laughing at us. They say this is the importance we attach.

[Translation]

Nothing will be recorded. You all run the House in this way. You keep on speaking, not even a single line will be recorded. The public will laugh at you.

[English]

SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Sir, I have to mention about one important legislation passed under the NDA regime. ...(Interruptions) This is a very important issue which I want to raise. During the NDA regime, on 30th April, 2003,

the then NDA Government through the Health Ministry, through Shrimati Sushma Swaraj, brought in a legislation about Cigarette Regulation, Production, Supply and Distribution (Amendment) Act. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Rajagopal is raising an important issue.

[Translation]

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV: You have permitted him to speak. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing has been recorded, not even a single line has been recorded.

[English]

SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: They had brought in a legislation which has affected lakhs of people, lakhs of women-folk who are living in the backward region of this country and the backward region of Andhra Pradesh. ...(Interruptions) Lakhs of people were affected. ...(Interruptions) Lakhs of beedi workers were affected. That legislation was actively supported by the TDP. Shri Yerrannaldu actively supported that Bill. Now, they are changing the tune.

Now they are changing their tone, tune, colour and language just because of the bye-election in Karim Nagar. ...(Interruptions) They are responsible for the passing of this legislation. Mr. Kharabela Swain of the BJP also fully endorsed this legislation, he not only fully endorsed this legislation, but he also wanted more restrictions especially on beedi. In fact, Shri Yerrannaldu of TDP fully supported the Bill, he not only supported the Bill, but he was also in the Chair at the time of passing of this Bill. But now they talk in a different tune in Karim Nagar, they talk differently in Hyderabad and they talk differently in Delhi and in Parliament. ...(Interruptions) Day in, day out they keep changing their colour and tune. They have never been consistent. It is only the Congress which is consistent throughout wherein our leader, the Congress President Shrimati Sonia Gandhi had, at the time of passing of this legislation, written a letter to the then Government expressing her concern about the welfare of womenfolk of beedi industry and poor people in various regions of India, especially the backward regions. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Jagannath, I have called you to speak, but you are shouting from here.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please go to your seat.

<sup>\*</sup> Not recorded.

#### ...(Interruptions)

SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Sir, now I request the Union Government to modify this legislation and also the G.O. No. 297 so as to reduce the size of warning and removal of human skull and dead body symbols from beedi packets. ...(Interruptions) Sir, we need to differentiate and distinguish between the most hazardous, more harmful and less harmful things. We always use the human skull symbol where 440 volts high tension electricity wires are there. but we do not use the skull symbol on domestic batteries. Similarly, we cannot use the human skull symbol on beedi packets, that too covering three-fourth of a beedi packet. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

#### [Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You have said your bit. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

# [English]

MR. SPEAKER: I don't think the House can run in this way. Nobody listens to the Speaker.

The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.00 p.m.

12.21 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Fourteen of the Clock.

14.01 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at one minute past fourteen of the clock.

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377\*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Matters under Rule 377 are laid on the Table of the House.

Need to set up a Trauma Centre at Behror (Alwar), Rajasthan with a view to provide immediate medical relief to victims of road accidents.

#### [Translation]

DR. KARAN SINGH YADAV (Alwar): Sir, a large number of accidents take place on National Highway No. 8 near Behror and proper medical facilities are available only at Jaipur-Delhi road at a distance of nearly 130 kms.. due to which victims die even before reaching big hospitals.

Hence, there is an urgent need to set up a trauma unit in the premises of Community Health Centre of Behror.

Therefore, I request the Hon. Minister of Health and Hon. Minister of Road Transport and Highways to allot a trauma unit for Behror of my Parliamentary constituency, Alwar.

Need to provide more incentives and a suitable package for setting up a Fab City in Andhra Pradesh

[English]

SHRI D. VITTAL RAO (Mahabubnagar): I would like to draw the attention of the Government that on the recommendations of McKinsey, State Government of Andhra Pradesh, has dedicated thousands of acres of land for setting up a Fab-City that can house more than 10 fab units and their support industries. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh also proposes to set up a high quality training institute for imparting necessary skills to those who will be employed in the mega Fab-City.

Hence, I request the Government to extend more incentives and give a suitable package to attract Fab Manufacturing Units in the country especially in Andhra Pradesh with a strong commitment to them.

> (iii) Need to conduct a CBI inquiry to ascertain the status of sensitive Defence related technical data lying with BALCO, now taken over by Sterlite Company.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR DUBEY (Dhanbad): Sir. terrorist activities are increasing day by day all over the country and checking it is a matter of concern for the Government. In this situation, if we remain indifferent and do not pay attention to the undertakings manufacturing

<sup>\*</sup> Treated as laid on the Table.

Rule 377

defence equipments and ordnance, our technological knowhow developed so far in defence sector will be easily leaked to other countries.

In the above context it is to be noted that in 1984, a R and D unit was set up in BALCO by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India about which only four five countries had knowledge. PTS unit of BALCO had played a vital role in developing and manufacturing Agni and Prithivi missiles and several parts of other defence equipments were also manufactured there.

On 2 March 2001, BALCO was disinvested and the said undertaking was taken over by Sterlite company. It is a matter of inquiry whether the sensitive defence related technical data lying with BALCO were taken back from the said undertaking by the Government of India before it was disinvested or not? It is still a mystery whether PTS unit of BALCO where Prithivi, Agni and parts of other defence equipments were produced was taken over by the Government before disinvestments or was handed over to Sterlite Company? As per the information given to the local media by Sterlite Company no defence equipments were manufactured in BALCO. From the point of view of internal security of the country it has become essential to conduct an inquiry to know the whereabouts of the defence documents related to blood dye, design, formulae of missiles like Agni and Prithivi, reports and practical knowledge documents of PTS unit of BALCO.

So, I urge upon the Government that keeping in view the gravity of the matters, it should hold a CBI inquiry to ascertain the whereabouts of sensitive defence related documents, Dye and design machinery.

# (iv) Need to look into the problems being faced by people living along the international border

[English]

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH (Udhampur): There is great injustice being meted out to the people living in border areas. The Home/Defence Departments are using the land of local people for the security purposes. But both the Departments have not given any compensation to them. Both the Departments have constructed hi-tech fencing, tracks and check-posts.

- I, therefore, request through this House to the concerned Departments to give adequate compensation to the people whose lands have been acquired for the aforesaid purpose.
  - (v) Need to construct an overbridge on National Highway No.8 at Himmatnagar, District Sabarkantha, Gujarat

SHR! MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha):

National Highway No. 8 passes through Himmatnagar, District Sabarkantha, Gujarat. The Highway No. 8 is made four lane. Due to making of four lane, other outlets of traffic are closed. Beside the passing vehicle on the highway moves with a speed of more than a 100 km per hour. The traffic junction at Himmatnagar to village Hadiyol is also extremely busy. This traffic to Hadiyol and Dhansura crosses the National Highway at Himmatnagar. Due to crossing of highway, there have been fatal accidents and many people have lost their lives, and hence there is a dire need to construct an over-bridge for passing traffic and people to cross the National Highway No. 8.

I urge the Ministry of Surface Transport to direct the National Highway authority to construct this over-bridge immediately so as to save the lives of the people.

(vi) Need to permanently allot existing houses on Book Value to the factory workers of Modinagar, U.P.

[Translation]

SHRI SURENDRA PRAKASH GOYAL (Hapur): Sir, I am drawing your attention to a problem of very urgent nature faced by the poor factory workers employed in the industrial town Modinagar located in my parliamentary constituency, Gaziabad, Uttar Pradesh. Years back, private factories were set up in Modinagar and the houses were constructed there for workers with the assistance of the Central Government and they have been living in these houses for a long time. As you must be aware, factories in Modinagar have been closed on account of globalisation. I am apprehensive that the houses of workers may be got vacated as a result of the closure of the factories.

I would like to urge upon the Government that the houses in Modinagar in which workers are living for a long time should be permanently allotted to them on Book Value so that they may live peacefully in those houses and earn their livelihood.

# (vii) Need to set up an Indian oil or Bharat Petroleum Depot in village Vagha, Satna, Madhya Pradesh.

SHRI GANESH SINGH (Satna): Sir, the oil depots of Indian Oil and Bharat Petroleum were set up in 1940 in district headquarter, Satna of Madhya Pradesh which have been completely shut down on 30 August, 2008. From the said depots diesel, petrol and kerosene oil used to be supplied to Satna, Rewa, Siddhi, Shahdol, Anuppur, Panna and Chhatarpur districts. Now the oil is supplied to the above districts by oil tankers from Bhitauni and Sagar in Jabalpur district which are at a distance of 250 to 350

kms. The oil is supplied from there by tankers. Presently, oil tankers are filled after waiting for three days and the price of oil is also increasing and there is apprehension of adulteration as well.

Matter Under

The oil depot was closed despite an all party agitation against this decision in Satna. The Madhya Pradesh Administration had provided 100 acres of land in Vagha village for setting up a new oil depot with the condition that each of the family whose land was taken will be given employment. The ex-Minister of petroleum had assured that if the said condition is withdrawn a new depot can be set up in Vagha. I would like to submit that the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh has issued a letter stating withdrawal of all the conditions. Through you, I would like to demand that the Government should give instructions to the Indian Oil for setting up of new oil depot at Vagha village.

# (viii) Need to take steps to curb increasing cases of female foeticide.

SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA (Seoni): Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Central Government to the continuously increasing incidents of female foeticide in various parts of the country. Sir, female foeticide is carried out in connivance with the doctors in most of the states of the country. It is evident from census data as well that number of girl child is declining day by day. There is drastic difference in the number of boys and girls in many states of the country. Strict steps will have to be taken by the Government to check female foeticide in the country. The incidents of female foeticide can be checked if Government amend the Act relating to preconception and prenatal diagnostic tests to make the existing provisions of law more stringent in this regard. Female foeticide is also carried out in smaller towns of various states of the country.

So, I urge upon the Government that it should pay attention and take necessary steps in this regard.

# (ix) Need to give relief package for the flood affected region of Rajaethan.

SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI (Chittorgarh): Sir, 12 districts of Rajasthan have suffered heavy loss of life and property, cattle, crops and other damages this year on account of floods and heavy rainfall. So, I request for the release of essential assistance fund and special package for Rajasthan state by NCCL and CRF for the rehabilitation of the affected families and restoration of infrastructure. Besides, norms of CRF/NCCF should be amended and revised. Sir, the Central team has made a survey of the

flood affected area of Rajasthan, however, till now no special package has been given to Rajasthan.

So, through you, I urge upon the Government to release special package and financial assistance at the earliest for the development of flood affected areas of Rajasthan so that the flood affected districts of the state may be developed. The Rajasthan Government had demanded Rs. 3200 crore to tackle natural calamities in the state, however, only Rs. 100 crore have been sanctioned by the Central Government which is not sufficient for relief work in flood affected districts. So, Rs. 3200 crore should be sanctioned for the development of the State.

# (x) Need to take immediate steps to check the declining population of wild elephants due to rapidly decreasing forest area in Orissa

[English]

SHRI JUAL ORAM (Sundergarh): The decline in the population of wild elephants in Orissa has caused a great concern for the people of the State. Apart from natural causes their deaths are taking place due to disease and poaching. The prominent wild life organisations have warned that the survival of wild elephants are under threat owing to large scale deforestation and diversion of forest lands mainly for mining and other development projects.

The private sector mining and Aluminium and Alumina refinery have started in Kalahandi, Jajpur, Keonjhar and Sundergarh districts. Besides a number of steel projects have also started in these districts causing a large-scale deforestation. The wild elephants are getting shelterless with the deforestation. They are marching towards villages and destroying the poor man's huts. The fight between men and elephants are causing the deaths of both sides. Any further deforestation and issue of licences to MNCs to set up Aluminium, Alumina and Steel projects will cause severe damage to the flora and fauna of Orissa besides causing untimely death of wild life and human beings in the State.

As such, I demand that the planner, administrators at the Centre as well as State carefully examine the questions on the survival of the wild lives including elephants as well as poor people living in small huts before giving any mining and other project clearance.

# (xi) Need to start work on pending railway projects in Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh

#### [Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR (Bareilly): Sir, a number of important railway projects of my constituency are pending. I would like to request the hon'ble Minister of

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Railways to take suitable action and start construction work as an immediate solution to the following major problems:

Matter Under

- 1. Finding a suitable site and arranging resources for setting up a new factory in place of north eastern Railway Factory at Ijiat Nagar, Bareilly which is being closed for want of sufficient work.
- 2. Construction of an overbridge at Hartman, lijiat Nagar and Katchar, cremation ground under North - East Central Railway in Bareilly city.
- 3. Construction of an over bridge at Bhitora (Fatehgan) West) Nagaria Sadat, Mirganj near National Highway No. 24. Bareilly.
- 4. Gauge conversion work from Iliat Nagar factory upto Bareilly Junction.
- 5. Gauge conversion work of Bareilly-Pillibhit-Khiri line.
- 6. Opening of a city booking office in the heart of Bareilly city.
- 7. Opening of additional counters for women, physically challenged persons and senior citizens at Bareilly junction.

# (xii) Need to halt sealing of shops and establishments in the capital

# [English]

SHRI SANTASRI CHATTERJEE (Serampore): I stand here to draw the attention of the Government to the prevailing situation in Delhi. Following a verdict of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, sealing of shops and establishments are going all over Delhi. In this instant case, the question of livelihood of millions of common men is at stake. There are reports of sealing schools also coming forthwith. Naturally the future of the students can become uncertain. Considering the far-reaching effect of the Sealing, it is urged upon the Government to start negotiating with all the stakeholders of Sealing and approach to the Apex Court for an all accepted settlement.

(xiii) Need to extend the route of proposed 'Palace on Wheels' (Howrah to Allahabad ) upto Bharwari and upgrade the status of Bharwari railway station

# [Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): Sir, my parliamentary constituency, Kaushambhi in Uttar Pradesh is known as a Buddhist center. It is here that Gautam Buddha lived for 12 years. This place is famous for that. Foreign tourists travel to Gaya, Varanasi and Kaushambhi together with domestic tourists, but for lack of communication facilities, the foreign as well as domestic tourists experience a lot of difficulties in visiting these places.

I, therefore, request the Government to extend the 'palace on wheels' luxury train which is about to be run between Howrah and Aliahabad upto Bhatwari. At the same time a railway quest house and a food plaza be opened there. Halt may also be provided to all other trains passing through this place.

# (xiv) Need to procure rice from Uttar Pradesh to avoid the shortage of food grains in the godowns of FCI

SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH (Farrukhabad): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of this Government towards procurement of various food items by the Food Corporation of India. It is well known that either there has been a decline in production or production has become stagnant. This is the reason that wheat had to be imported this year.

Despite the above situation, the Food Corporation of India is showing laxity in procurement of foodgrains. Last year, the procurement quota of rice in Uttar Pradesh was very less. This year no programme has been chalked out to procure rice, while it is well known that a lot of time has elapsed for procuring rice. It may also be pointed out that last year whatever rice the FCI procured, it had centralized the storage of rice in a godown at one place in each commissionery while earlier godown arrangement used to be made in districts itself. That saved the Government the expenses on transportation.

In view of the shortage of rice, I would like to request the Government to make immediate procurement of rice and also make decentralized arrangement to store rice in godowns.

# (xv) Need to set up an Indian Institute of Science for Education and Research (HSER) in Bihar

#### [English]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAY (Patna): There is a ' proposal to set up National Institute of Science (NISC) in different parts of the country through UGC. To avoid regional imbalance in the distribution of higher educational institutes in the country, there is need for establishment of IISER (Indian Institute of Science for Education and Research) in Bihar immediately as Orlesa, Kolkata, Pune

Matter Under

and Chandigarh have already got IISER/NISC. After bifurcation of Bihar, almost all institutes of excellent education and research went into Jharkhand and thus in the remaining Bihar reestablishment of excellent centres of education and research in science and engineering is urgently needed. Now, it is well known that in Bihar there is not a single institution like IIT (Indian Institute of Technology), IIM (Indian Institute of Management), IIIT (Indian Institute of Information Technology), ISI (Indian Statistical Institute), IIS (Indian Institute of Science), CSIR-(Council of Scientific and Industrial Research), DRDO (Defence Research and Development Organisation), Central University or other institutes of National and International repute, Establishment of IISER in Bihar will be a step towards minimization of prevailing regional imbalance in the distribution of educational institutes across the country.

My request with the Hon'ble Prime Minister through this House is to allow for establishment of IISER in Bihar in the next financial year 2007-08.

# (xvi)Need to set up a gas based Power Plant in Unnao, Uttar Pradesh

### [Translation]

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK (Unnao): Sir, Electricity crisis continues to be there, especially in Uttar Pradesh. There is a severe shortage of electricity particularly in backward and rural areas. My parliamentary constituency Unnao, which is a very backward area, is no exception in the matter of electricity problem. Electricity situation in my Parliamentary Constituency, Unnao is very deplorable. Electricity supply remains cut off for several days because of which villagers, farmers and other common people experience a lot of difficulties.

There are a large number of factories in my Parliamentary constituency in district Unnao. Though, there is a continued supply of electricity to these factories, but rural areas experience acute shortage of electricity. The farmer cannot irrigate his fields for want of electricity. Apart from, that students in schools are also in trouble, because they cannot pursue their studies smoothly.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to take effective steps to set up a gas based power plant in Unnao Parliamentary Constituency keeping in view the shortage of electricity in this area in U.P.

# (xvii) Need to run daily train service between Nanded and Pune

SHRI TUKARAM GANAPAT RAO RANGE PATIL (Parbhani): Sir, the Nanded-Pune train service which used

to be run between Nanded and Pune twice a week has been made once a week. This is the only train running from Maharashtra region to Pune. With the withdrawal of this service the people will have to travel by buses. About 200 buses are plying from Parbhani and Nanded to Aurangabad, Jaina and Pune. It has come to the notice that there was some clandestine agreement between the bus operators and the DRM, Nanded as a result of which a proposal to run the train service between Nanded and Pune once in a week was sent to D.R.M. The people have to travel by buses in the absence of adequate train service between Nanded and Pune. It will be beneficial if this service is run daily since the number of passengers commuting on this route is very high.

I, would, therefore, request the Government through this House, to run the train service between Nanded and Pune daily instead of once a week.

# (xviii) Need to provide funds for revival of Hindustan Photo Films set up in Ooty, Tamil Nadu

[English]

SHRI M. APPADURAI (Tenkasi): Hindustan Photo Films (HPF) set up in Ooty, Tamil Nadu has commenced its production in 1967. It produces the medical diagnostic films, namely Medical imaging film, mammographic film, scanner film, industrial X-ray films, Graphic Arts films, bromide paper and roll films for the photographic sector, Ariel film for Defence sector. All these products are produced by indigenous technology and are marketed by the brand name of 'INDU'.

It is the only one such industry in India and for that reason in entire ASIA. It is an ISO 9001-2000 certified company. It has all infrastructure facility with its employees in the factory premises. Around 1200 employees are working there.

It is the only company that produces X-ray films that are used by all Private and Government hospitals in allover India. But the Government is buying such X-ray films from abroad and spending lot of money in foreign exchange. On one side the company is made a loser and on the other the Government is losing foreign exchange. Recently, the Government has allotted Rs. 10 crore for VRS scheme for its employees. But no money has been allotted for the development of the company. The policy of the Government needs to be reviewed. Considering the plight of the employees sick company can be rejuvenated still.

Hence, I urge upon the Government to take necessary steps to augment the utility value of the company. All the

Government hospitals may be instructed to buy X-ray films only from HPF Company and Government must ban import of such x-ray film from abroad.

Matter Under

# (xix) Need to encourage export of Sugar from the country

SHRI S.D. MANDLIK (Kolhapur): During 2005-2006 the international prices of sugar soured higher than the domestic price for the first time in the history of sugar industry. Due to the ban imposed by the Government of India vide notification dated 4.7.2006 on export of sugar. the demand for sugar in the domestic market as well as price have fallen sharply. Besides the sugarcane growers are demanding higher prices, which the sugar factories are not able to meet. Further the stocks of sugar have started pilling up in the godowns of the factories.

In the situation it is obvious that there is sugar clut and the domestic prices of sugar are falling below the cost of production. The government of India has always been encouraging export because this is the main factor of economic planning and growth.

Sir. I urge the Government of India and the Prime Minister to intervene for allowing export of sugar at the earliest as the current crushing season has already started and the production of sugar is in full swing.

# (xx) Need to set up a petrochemical unit in Barauni Refinery, Bihar

#### [Translation]

SHRI SURAJ SINGH (Balia, Bihar): Sir, the setting up of a petrochemical unit in Barauni Refinery of I.O.C.L in Bihar state of Northern India has been pending for the last many years. Petroleum products are supplied to the major cities of Northern India from Barauni refinery. The objective of setting up of petrochemical unit in Barauni refinery was to meet the demand of petrochemical products in east, north-eastern and northern states of India and giving a new direction to the industrial development of the state so that this region could easily meet the petrochemical demand alongwith the industrial development of the state besides capacity extension/modernization of Barauni refinery.

After the partition of Bihar, this is the only industrial city in the Begusarai district in which all the necessary elements are available for setting up of petrochemical unit in Barauni refinery. The Government has given its approval for setting up of petrochemical unit in other refineries, however, it has not taken any decision in regard to setting

up a petrochemical unit in Barauni refinery which has hampered the development of the region. Besides, the local residents are also feeling neglected.

Through this House, the Government is requested to immediately issue necessary directions for setting up of a Petrochemical Unit in Barauni refinery, the only refinery in the industrial Begusarai district of Bihar so that the backwardness of the remaining Bihar could be removed and the industrial and overall development of the region could be ensured.

### [Translation]

SHRI RAJ BABBAR (Agra): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will not waste the time of the House but it is a matter of dignity of the House and the security of the Members. ... (Interruptions)

# [English]

MR. SPEAKER: Let me look into it.

### [Translation]

SHRI RAJ BABBAR: I hold Ram Gopal Yadavji in high esteem. ... (Interruptions)

# [English]

MR. SPEAKER: A very important matter is to be discussed. Please take your seat.

#### [Translation]

SHRI RAJ BABBAR: I shall not make any observation as to the terminology used, however, I would like to submit. ...(Interruptions) do not feel apprehensive about what I am to state. ...(Interruptions) I have high regard for him. ...(Interruptions)

### [English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have received your letter Mr. Raj Babbar.

Hon. Members, may I have your kind attention?

...(Interruptions)

#### [Translation]

SHRI RAJ BABBAR: It is unfair to threaten somebody that he would be gagged. ...(Interruptions) I know he is not such a kind of person but if we nurture this kind of a feeling, it is bad. ...(Interruptions)

Discussion Under

### [English]

MR. SPEAKER: You have all the rights. Every hon. Member is entitled to full respect.

#### ...(Interruptions)

### [Translation]

SHRI RAJ BABBAR: If a colleague is told that it was not right on his part to stay in Agra, it is not fair. ...(Interruptions) I know, he has said so in a moment of anger. ... (Interruptions) He is an educated person, I know it. ...(Interruptions)

### [English]

MR. SPEAKER: You have sent me a letter. I will look into it. Let us take up the next item, please.

Hon. Members, the House will now take up discussion under Rule 193.

# ...(Interruptions)

#### [Translation]

SHRI RAJ BABBAR: I respect him. ...(Interruptions) It is a question of dignity of the House and the security of a Member. ...(Interruptions)

# [English]

MR. SPEAKER: Every hon. Member is entitled to highest respect and it is my duty to see that you are entitled to respect that is considered. If there is anything, I shall certainly look into it. I have got your letter and will look into it.

### 14.05 hrs.

# **DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193**

# Situation arising out of on-going sealing drive in Delhi

#### [English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the House will now take up the Short Duration Discussion under Rule 193 on the situation arising out of the ongoing sealing drive in Delhi. As the Members are aware, these are matters concerning very large number of people as also their properties and businesses and the hon. Supreme Court is seized of the matter. As per established practice, any matter which is under adjudication by a court of law is not generally discussed on the floor of the House. However, in view of the fact that the rules governing Short Duration Discussion do not specifically bar discussion on sub judice matters and that the subject matter we are now going to take up is of great public importance. I have allowed the discussion.

At the same time, I earnestly request the hon. Members to be objective in their expression and on the subject. I am sure the hon. Members will not say anything which may amount to casting any reflection on the hon. Supreme Court, which is entitled to highest respect from us.

# [Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): The Members will not say anything in regard to the Hon. Supreme Court. Only the Hon. Speaker is entitled to say something.

MR. SPEAKER: I have referred to the Constitution.

#### ...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN' (Begusarai): Hon. Mr. Speaker, Sir, we cannot say anything in regard to the Supreme Court but we can at least discuss the judicial system. ...(Interruptions)

#### [English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, so far as my little knowledge goes, the Supreme Court itself has said: "You are entitled to make comments on the judgement, even criticize a judgement, but not the Judge or the Judiciary."

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': But, we can discuss about the judicial system. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us start as objectively as possible. It is of great public interest because of the number of people. Here is the Law Minister. He will keep watch over the situation, I know. I have read his views today.

#### ...(Interruptions)

#### [Translation]

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have rightly stated at the outset that the ongoing sealing drive in Delhi has put a question mark on the Discussion Under

Rule 193

future of 37 lakh people, of whom approximately 7 lakh are shopkeepers and 30 lakh people are the employees hired by those shopkeepers. Today, the question of law and order has arisen in Delhi. All these circumstances are the offshoot of the mismanagement of MCD and DDA. This has happened owing to the mismanagement and myopic vision of the Government since the latter did not take any effective measures in this direction. The population of Delhi has been increasing with every passing day. What is the reason of this rising population in Delhi? The major factor responsible for this is that the per capital average annual income in Delhi is approximately Rs. 47,400 whereas the average annual income of the entire country is approximately Rs. 19 thousand. That is why the population of Delhi is exploding. The increasing population in a city leads to many a problem like that of electricity, road, transport, water etc. Similarly, each family has to visit shops for buying items of daily use. All these facilities should be provided by MCD and DDA but they have completely failed in doing so. The ongoing sealing drive in Delhi is a result thereof. Now how the situation has come to such a pass? The shops being covered under sealing are being run by the shopkeepers for the last 35-40 years. MCD has issued licenses to those shops and has been charging them municipal tax, electricity tax etc., and several other taxes at commercial rates for the last 35-40 years. The Government has admitted it several times but is not able to defend them. The reason being that as per the first Master Plan for Delhi in 1962, approximately 75 District Centres, 300 Community Centres and 1250 local shopping centers were targeted to be constructed. Out of the targeted Master Plan they have been able to construct only 9 district centers, 135 community centers and 135 local shopping centers. They have achieved only 16 percent target. Thereafter, the second Master Plan for Delhi was proposed in the year 1981. However, that Master Plan came after nine years in 1990. They have not been able to achieve even that target of Master Plan. Thereafter, the third Master Plan was scheduled for 2001 but we are holding discussion on that Master Plan in the year 2005, They are inviting objections after five years on the Master Plan that was slated for the year 2001. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Properties of so many people are involved. Let us do it seriously.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': That is why the Master Plan which was to be brought in the year 2001

has not been brought till now. That was the only way out to stop the sealing. The prevailing situation would have been avoided had those colonies been regularized in the Master Plan of the year 2001, I remember that the same discussion was going on in the House at the time when first notification was issued on 9th and in pursuance of that another was issued on 15th September. At that time also, Shri Vijay Kumar Malhotra and other hon'ble Members had raised the issue that the notification being issued is not going to solve the problem of sealing in Delhi. Therefore, we requested them to formulate the Master Plan. But the Government refuted all those apprehensions as baseless. And the hon'ble Minister of Urban Development had replied even at that time that they were in a position to check it on the basis of both these definitions. However, the Government failed to do so and helplessly witnessed everything because the acts which were supposed to be done by the MCD and DDA were not performed. As a result of it the present situation is prevailing in Delhi. 30-40 lakh people are paying tax on commercial rates for years together. Requisite efforts have not been made by the Central Government to resolve the issue due to which the future of 37 lakh people is on stake. At that time we had expressed an apprehension that as the matter is pending before the Supreme Court, issuing of these notifications may be taken as interference in the proceedings and working of the Court. The Minister of Urban Development had denied it and stated that the apprehension would be proved to be baseless. However, the same apprehensions are proving to be true today. Both the notifications are before the Supreme Court and the Court has withheld implementation thereof. The Government could have placed Master plan before the Supreme Court. The present Government is weak. The Government which is unable to save 37 lakh people from being pushed to the brink of hunger and penury has no right to remain in power.

Sir, the Constitution has made provision for the three organs, namely, the Legislature, the Executive and the Judiciary and has also demarcated the jurisdiction of the said organs. The Legislature has been entrusted with the power to enact laws, executive to implement and judiciary to review those laws. However, transgression of jurisdiction is taking place because of the weakness of the Government. We are accountable to the people of the country. We get elected as representatives of the people on the basis of our performance. However, the executive, i.e. the Government is elected by the people after every five years and is accountable to them. However, there are certain people who remain unaccountable till they attain the age of 65 years. I was surprised to read a statement. A

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[Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh 'Lalan']

Discussion Under

little while ago it was being mentioned that the Minister of Law is defending them. Yesterday, I got a chance to go through the statement made by him in a conference where . he strongly defended them. I also remember one of the statements made by the Chief Justice of India reported in newspapers a few days back wherein he had admitted that though the Supreme Court may err in judgement at times but the same remains the final one. The system in which the Chief Justice of a country makes such statements will put the country into a difficult situation. Each and every person is accountable in democracy and in the name of judicial activism. ... \* cannot be there.

MR. SPEAKER: This is not an appropriate word.

[English]

That word will be deleted.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': Mr. Speaker. Sir, the prevailing situation is the consequence of it. Once the country had got the opportunity to review the accountability of judiciary. Impeachment motion was moved against them in this very House. A Committee of Supreme Court had found evidence of corruption against them. Shri George Fernandes who was the Member of the then Lok Sabha also participated in the discussion initiated in the house in this regard. I was an ordinary party worker at that time and was not so fortunate to attend the House but we have seen the discussion.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (Barrackpore): A historic speech was delivered at that time.

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': A detailed discussion was held on impeachment and Shri Kapil Slbbal was speaking on their behalf like an advocate and had favoured corruption. After the detailed discussion, the House listened to the speech of Shri Kapil Sibbal, but the House did not find favour with his arguments. However, at the time of voting. Congress Party favoured corruption.

MR. SPEAKER: They abstained from the voting.

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': That is one and the same thing. Congress Party had supported corruption. As a result of that, they still feel that they do not have any accountability. It is a very dangerous development for the democracy.

Yesterday, the Minister of Law publically defended them saying that the non-Governmental person cannot be deputed for monitoring judiciary. We should ponder over it also. The Supreme Court has the right to appoint the judges and as the Minister of Law is saying there is no check on them. It is nothing but a kind of dictatorship and there is no room for any dictatorship in democracy.

The Executive may be responsible for the prevailing situation in Delhi or there may be any other reason but some people are transgressing their jurisdiction. Legislature enacts law and the executive is responsible for its implementation but who is responsible for the law and order situation prevailing here. It does not pertain to judiciary. Judiciary is to review the constitutionality of the enacted law. Executive is entrusted with the power to enforce the law.

My allegation is that the Central Government is a weak Government. Executive has become weak and they are taking advantage of this weakness. Therefore, through you, I would like to ask the Government to be careful. The future of 37 lakh people is on stake. The House has given them the right to deal the matter firmly. The Parliament and the House is the Supreme body in this country.

While making an appeal to the Government, I would like to mention two-three points. The need of the hour is to prepare the draft of the Master Plan 2001 immediately and to place it before the Supreme Court. The Master Plan should be formulated maintaining the status quo as on 31st December 2005 and those colonies may be regularized.

As per the Government, 1400 colonies in Delhi are unauthorized. A provision should be made to regularize those colonies as has been done in respect of DDA Flats. Some unauthorized constructions have been regularized by MCD and DDA after recovering a fine from the owners. The unauthorized colonies can be regularized in the same manner. The stringent legislation should be enacted so that nobody is able to violate the law and carry out such commercial activities in future.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, you too take stand in such matters. The future of 37 lakh people is linked to this issue. You must take a tough stand; the entire House is with you.

MR. SPEAKER: We are here to sit, not to stand.

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': When others desert you, we remain with you.

SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR (Outer Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir. I would like to thank you for allowing discussion on

<sup>\*</sup> Not included in the proceeding.

Master Plan would be in place very soon and the people

of Delhi would get relief.

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I would like to know as to why the BJP is politicising this issue in Delhi. Just now my colleague hon'ble Malhotraji was mentioning this issue. It is true that Malhotraji has raised a question about this issue, when discussion on this matter was held. But I would like to ask and dispute the notion that if the often referred to recommendations of the Malhotia Committee had been accepted, this problem would have never arisen, and Malhotra Committee's recommendations had mixture of all suggestions being given presently. Who did not accept the suggestions of Malhotra Committee? It was NDA Government, NDA's cabinet that did not accept the suggestions and dumped the report. We were not responsible for it. I would like to remind the opposition as to what action they took on the issue of closure of industries in Delhi? Is it not true that when industries were being closed in Delhi, lakhs of labourers from Bihar. Uttar Pradesh and Orissa became unemployed and were migrating from Delhi and at that time we raised the issue and asked to make small amendments in the constitution to resolve the problem of industries, but we were not heard. We resolved the issue of closure of industries and after that the work of accommodating them is being carried out. The Congress party has always tried to give relief to the small traders and shopkeepers.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to say that my hon'ble colleague has tried to draw the attention of the House towards a serious problem, and it is a fact. Master Plan was formulated, and as per its guidelines, 16.5% commercial market and shops were required to be constructed, but it did not happen. Only 2,3,4 percent shops were constructed. Whether it was not the responsibility of DDA? Whether it is not the responsibility of DDA to construct commercial markets as per the demand where it failed. Due to its failure people were compelled to open shops in their houses and residential colonies. Many big colonies like Dwarka, Paschim Vihar, Vasant Kunj and Rohini were developed, but DDA did not construct commercial market or shops in adequate number, due to which people opened shops in their houses, but today the issue of closure of those shops has arisen. Through you, I would like to congratulate the Government that it has tried to resolve this problem. The notifications being mentioned by the hon'ble Member have not been rejected by the court but the decision on them is still pending. I would like to congratulate Shri Jaipal Reddy and my Government that to resolve this issue, they approached the court with some changes in the Master Plan, but it was not accepted by the court. Everybody took part in the discussion here and after that discussion we found a way out as to how present our viewpoint before the court for providing relief to the people, but it did not materialise. I understand today that some solution is being found out to resolve the issue of closure of shops. The hon'ble Court has given some relief, but that is not adequate. We want full relief for the rest of the people. Zonal Plans are also to be formulated alongwith, Master Plan. Through you, I would like to tell the hon'ble Minister that 18 Zonal Plan and 250 sub-zonal plan are required to be formulated. Till the serious consideration is paid to the issue of formulating the Master Plan from this perspective, the matter will not resolve. If DDA is not capable of doing this task, the private parties may be involved in this task, so that zonal plan may be formulated at the earliest.

I would like to add one more thing that is it not a fact that at the order of the Urban Development Ministry, we have identified around two thousand roads for commercial and mixed land use. If this would not have been done, probably lakhs of shops would have been closed as per the court's order, but those roads were identified at the orders of the Union Government and this work has been in progress.

I would like to give some suggestions to the hon'ble Minister. New Master Plan is about to be introduced. It is being said that many unauthorised colonies would be regularised. However, there are many shops in those

colonies. The sealing of those shops had also begun, but the Government have stopped that drive. Those colonies should be regularized. In consonance with Shrimati Indira Gandhi's policy, as we had regularised 612 colonies during the year 1976-77, the present unauthorised colonies should also be regularised on the similar lines. They should not be regularised following the criterion laid down by NDA Government, which had decided to charge Rs. 3200 per vard as a fine. A fine of Rs. 3,20, 000 for 100 yards and Rs. 6,40,000 for 200 yards had to be charged. We do not want to adopt that policy. We have mentioned in our election manifesto, that these colonies should be regularised. On the issue of shopping centre, I would like to submit that shops should be constructed. When DDA was entrusted with the responsibility for the development of entire Delhi, construction of shops was also their responsibility.

Today, Malls are being constructed at various places. Only rich people can afford to go for shopping at Mall. Whether 90 per cent of population of Delhi can afford to go to those Malls. A shirt, which is available in local market at the rate of Rs. 150, is sold in Mall at the rate of Rs. 600. In such circumstances, who will go to Mall for shopping? Today, shopping complexes are also being turned into Malls. Today, land is available with DDA. 'Nazul' land is present in Delhi, it should be identified, markets should be constructed over there and commercial market should be constructed at zonal level to cater the needs. At many places shops have been closed as per court's order. If a shop is closed due to some reason, then the shopkeepers should be allotted another shop, so that those traders maybe able to run their shops and employees of those shops may also get job. Justice should be done with everybody.

'A' and 'B' categories have been mentioned. This issue should be reconsidered. A new Master Plan is being introduced. It is also required. It should be evolved as per the present requirement. A serious thought should be given to it. The order to close many public shops has been given, in Delhi, the availability of Government shops is not as per requirement. The number of government schools is 50 per cent short of the required number. The public schools cropped up on this account. The public schools were opened on agricultural land in unauthorised colonies and were recognised by the Government. They got recognition from the Delhi Government. The school buildings were constructed strictly as per requirement. Today, it is being said that those schools would be closed after May. The future of lakhs of children is at stake. Where

they will go and seek admission? Separate policy should be formulated for them. Those Public Schools should be regularized otherwise people will come on streets in Delhi. Lakhs of children will take to roads alongwith their family members. There is a need to give serious consideration to this issue.

During the tenure of Shrimati Indira Gandhiji, D.D.A. had set up small stalls from where vegetable vendors, barbers, tallors, fruit vendors and other businessmen used to run their business. Today, that policy has been withdrawn. D.D.A. is only constructing Mails and selling them. There a small commodity costs Rs. 200. Why don't they build stalls? Provisions are being made under the new Master Plan. Small stalls should be set up in each colony which should be allotted to the poor so that they can run their business. It will help in checking the price rise and also provide employment to people.

Weekly markets are put up all over the world. This is a practice in Delhi as well. Places should be earmarked for putting up those markets. Similarly place for parking should also be earmarked for those weekly markets and arrangements for electricity and water should also be made. Simultaneously, those weekly markets should also be regularized so that the people can get employment over there.

The issue related to poor is a serious one. The Government of Delhi is an elected one but the management of land is under the purview of the Centre. D.D.A. is highhanded. It is not accountable to anyone. If the Delhi Government needs land for school it pleads the D.D.A. If land is required for crematorium or a graveyard the Government begs D.D.A. for land, yet the land is not allotted. Why land allotment is not entrusted to the Delhi Government? This work should be entrusted to the Delhi Government. It should be made accountable. D.D.A. is going for fixed deposits in banks after earning crores of rupes. It is not spending funds on development. A share of its revenue should be earmarked for expenditure on development activities. That fund should be used for the development of Delhi.

The roads in rural areas have not been included for the commercial and mixed land use after identification of the same by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi on the Government's order. Where will they go? These villages have been inhabited for thousands of years.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude your speech.

# [Translation]

SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR: To cite an example, the road from Mahrauli to Gurgaon or from Rohini to Kanjhawala, one would find that one portion of Road No. 3 comes under urban area which has been commercialized, however, the part of the road passing through the villages beyond the above said portion has not been declared for commercial and mixed land use. The hon. Minister should know that it is a serious question that the rural land on which a concrete township has come up is not being even considered for commercial use or mixed land use. The hon. Minister should take some action in this regard. Today, those villagers have started feeling that injustice is being meted out to them and if he appreciates their plight he would definitely come out with a solution.

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At some places the people have encroached upon the Government land. And in this regard I and my party have categorically stated that the Government should evacuate that encroachment. We are against encroachment. I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister and the Prime Minister for constructing multistorey houses for the rehabilitation of slum dwellers who have been living in slums for years, in Okhla where the cost of land is Rs. one lakh per sq. yard.

#### [Enalish]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, you have got many other speakers from your Party to speak on this issue.

#### [Translation]

SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR: I remember that the slum clusters were demolished when the N.D.A. Government was in power.

#### [English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, you have got many other speakers from your Party to speak on this.

# [Translation]

SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR: They were thrown on road, the men who sported beard were taken to be Bangladeshis and were ruined. They were not even allotted an alternative plot, however, they were rehabilitated when our Government came to power and facilities like water, electricity, sewer were provided to them. We wish to repeat it even now. So be it the question of slum dwellers or shopkeepers, we are ready to solve their problem.

With these words I would like to thank Shri Jaipal

Reddy, the Minister of Urban Development and Shri Ajay Maken, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Development for the effective measures being taken by them. With these words I conclude and thank you for providing me an opportunity to speak.

# [English]

MR. SPEAKER: Next speaker is Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra.

### ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us all hear Mr. Malhotra. We are waiting to hear him. Please maintain silence in the House.

### ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us listen to each other with patience.

### [Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thought my dear friend would understand the gravity of the issue but he instead congratulated his party many a time. He congratulated Shri Jaipa' Roddy and Shri Ajay Maken. I raised this issue on eight-nine occasions and even warned the House of its serious consequences. However, no action was taken despite the warnings. I would also mention it. Approximately fifty thousand shops were sealed in Delhi as a result of which lakhs of people took to streets, four men were gunned down and the BSF and the CRPF was called in the Capital. The traders resorted to three-four days strike and even had to gherao the Vidhan Sabha. More than fifty thousand people were arrested. I wonder if the Ministers were being congratulated for this action of theirs for salvaging people this way. When I raised this issue for the first time in the House and warned them of its eventualities in Delhi, Reddy ji retorted-

#### [English]

"Shri Vijay Kumar Malhotra has also tried to paint an alarmist scenario, which is not correct..."

Then, he said:

"He is trying to send false fears so that some vested interest can be served. There is no need for us to get worked up and get people worked up."

#### [Translation]

I was constantly alarming them of the dire consequences but he replied that I was raising false alarms and there was no need to get worked up, and to take any

# [Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra]

action since everything was under control. When the issue was raised on another occasion I warned them again about a lot of hue and cry which was likely once the session was over. Again, when I warned them three months ago, he did not lend me an ear. I warn them again that similar situation would arise in Delhi. I told them even then that the law being made was not viable. It would not work. He is a very learned friend of mine; Shri Bhardwaj is sitting next to him. At that time our hon. Minister also opposed it saying that it was totally wrong. I warned them that this Bill should not be taken for judicial scrutiny since it was all unauthorised construction and that they should not take any action upto one year. It will not stand in the Court, you are going on the wrong path. At that time you had said that I was again talking like that and that it would stand in the Court and no one can quash it. Thereafter, I had told even this that Reddy Saheb should bring some amnesty scheme and change the law, do whatever possible because it would not work. Then Reddy Saheb had said-

# [English]

"I will be more than willing not only to amend the law, but also to amend the Constitution. I want the BJP to put their vote where their mouth is."

#### [Translation]

and I had said-

#### [English]

"We will support you. We are giving the blank cheque to do it, but you are not doing it."

# [Translation]

Then he had said-

#### [English]

"I must thank the BJP for the carte blanche. I will encash it as and when the time arises"

# [Translation]

At that time I had told that the House would not be sitting on 16th September and they will be responsible for the situation that will arise out of it. There will be an intense public outcry and only then they will understand the situation. However, nobody listened to me. Lakhs of people came on the roads and the sealing was started. Shops were being sealed and at least forty thousands shops were sealed and the notices were served to the rest

of the shop owners. Then the staff working in those shops were rendered jobless. Firings were resorted to and after the firing, BSF was called to assist in sealing. CRPF was also called and then sealing work was started. They may extend their congratulations to them, I have no objection to it. First day a notification was issued by them and after the release of notification, the hoardings of Ajay Maken were placed all over Delhi congratulating him for issuing notification. But the notification was quashed. Thereafter second notification was issued which was also quashed. Then they resorted to their path. ...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): That was not quashed. He should not misguide the House. It has been upheld by the Court.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Despite upholding it, sealing was started. ...(Interruptions) If their notification was upheld then why was sealing started. Why the sealing of shops was started. They should not think like this. Hon'ble Reddy Saheb is saying that the Court has given relief. Even now they are not doing anything. Now I will come to that. If they do not take any step even now, this session will not proceed. Seven lakhs shops are being run from houses in Delhi.

### [English]

MR. SPEAKER: How many you said-seven lakhs?

#### [Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Seven lakhs shops are running from the houses in Delhi and out of that relief has been given to only 25-30 thousand shops. No relief is going to be provided to the remaining shops. They say that 95 percent relief has been provided to others. Nothing is going to happen from now onwards. This is the same reply that they have been repeating on earlier occasions as well. The shops which are being run from the residence, these shops. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI AJAY MAKEN: The roads have been notified and thousands other are going to be notified. ...(Interruptions) He should not speak like this. ...(Interruptions)

# [English]

MR. SPEAKER: He has not yielded, Mr. Minister unless he yields, you cannot speak.

#### [Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: I had submitted three things in my speech. I would like to submit that there should not be 'A' and 'B' categories as has also been said

by hon'ble Sajjan Kumar ji. Why were 'A' and 'B' categories made? It has not been made by the Court. The Court had not said that 'A: and 'B' categories should be made.

As per the direction of the Court, the Monitoring Committee want that the relief that has been given should be extended to 'A' and 'B' categories. The advocate of the Ministry and the Central Government was also present there when the court observed that this facility should not be extended to 'A' and 'B' categories. I would like to know as to whom they are telling that it should not be categorised as 'A' category and 'B' category. Should we not extend this benefit to the small shops running in category 'A' and category 'B'? The benefit that is being provided in the areas like Janakpuri, Rohini and Dwarka should also be extended to Green Park and South Extension. Regarding the small shops, it is clearly mentioned in the Court judgement that the Court is not accepting three lines. The rest is acceptable to the Court. The Court did not accept them because the Government's advocate himself asserted that the relief should not be extended to 'A' and 'B' categories. Now why are the Government accepting it if the Government itself is saying that this relief should not be extended to 'A' and 'B' categories.

#### [English]

"The recommendation contained in para 1 of the report except the last three lines are accepted. The said three lines read as under:

In addition it is presumed by the Monitoring Committee that small shops will also be allowed under A and B categories of colonies as per the honourable court's direction of 29-9-2006. The learned Solicitor General, on instructions of the Central Government of Mr. Reddy, states that the Government is not contemplating to allow small shops in colonies of categories A and B."

#### [Translation]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, for what purpose the congratulations are being given? The Government asserted that in categories 'A' and 'B' small shops should also be closed and sealed, however, we are not contemplating it. Secondly, there was mention of sealing. I would like to ask as to how sealing had started. The House will be surprised to know as to who demanded power to seal. The full bench of the High Court observed that Delhi Corporation does not have power of sealing. Delhi Corporation can not do sealing. Delhi Corporation filed petition in the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court accepted the petition of the corporation and granted the power of sealing. The Congress Party acquired the power of sealing from the Court. I am quoting the text:

# [English]

"While reversing a Full Bench Division of Delhi High Court, the stand of Municipal Corporation of Delhi was accepted and it was held that the Commissioner of MCD is empowered to exercise the power of sealing in case of misuse of any premises."

# [Translation]

They are telling that the sealing is being done at the direction of the Court. The Corporation approached the Court. The full bench of the High Court observed. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR: Who had filed the PIL in the Court? Malhotra Saheb I would not like to mention the name of the person who had filed the PIL in the Court. ...(Interruptions)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: That is not PIL. It is Municipal Corporation which had gone to the Court. The Municipal Corporation of Delhi had approached the Supreme Court for getting power of sealing. The Municipal Corporation of Delhi which have Congress majurity have full power and it approached the Court to get power of sealing. DDA does not enjoy the power of sealing. The Corporation has taken the power of sealing from the Supreme Court. The High Court observed that certing could not be resorted to in case of misuse of any premises. Whey they appealed to go in for sealing, they were allowed. ...(Interruptions)

#### [English]

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): Will you kindly yield. If you yield, I will speak.

Sir, since Prof. Malhotraji was going on record. ...(Interruptions)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: It is a Supreme Court judgment.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: True. Since Prof. Malhotraji was going on record with wild and sweeping allegations. ...(Interruptions)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Sir, I am not yielding to him if he is going to use such language as 'sweeping and wild'. In that case, he can reply to the debate later. If he wants to speak, let him say whether this

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Discussion Under

is a Supreme Court judgment or not. He cannot say wild and sweeping'. Why should I yield and get such comments?

MR. SPEAKER: If he wants some clarification, let us see.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Will you kindly bear with me for just a minute?

It was a dispute between DDA and MCD. MCD's law does confer the power of sealing on MCD. Many laws confer many powers on authorities. While this power was not conferred on DDA, this power was enjoyed by the MCD. Therefore, MCD had to go in appeal not to take resort to sealing drive but to retain the power of sealing in emergency.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: He confirms it.

#### [Translation]

The stand of Municipal Corporation of Delhi was accepted and sealing began. If the Corporation had not gone in for appeal to the Supreme Court, the power of sealing would not have been conferred upon it and no hue and cry would have been raised in Delhi and there would not have been any sealing. ...(Interruptions)

#### [English]

MR. SPEAKER: What he said was, MCD did not go to get power. They had already the power.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: If they had already the power, the full Bench of the Supreme Court. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are entitled to make your comment.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: The Supreme Court says, while reversing a full Bench decision of the Delhi High Court, the stand of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi was accepted. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Sajjan Kumar, please take your seat. You have got many speakers from your party. They would reply.

# [Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: The Chairman of the Standing Committee of MCD appealed to the Supreme Court. As I have already stated that the MCD was not

empowered. I submitted it during the last session and even opined in the Rajya Sabha to amend the MCD Act that neither MCD nor the DDA would be empowered to take resort to sealing drive, it will stop automatically. They say that they do not wish to resort to sealing drive, rather they are being compelled by the Supreme Court,

#### [English]

why do you not change the Municipal Corporation of Delhi Act?

### [Translation]

I submitted it even on earlier occasion that the Government should come forward with two line amendment. Here MCD observes that a full Bench of High Court has given a decision that MCD is not empowered whereas the Supreme Court has reversed the decision of the High Court empowering the MCD to carry out the sealing drive and it may be amended. What is the problem? I failed to understand it till today. There are two points. First that MCD Act will have to be amended which is in their power. As far as amnesty scheme is concerned, what is the problem in implementing it? Third which has been mentioned here that such and such categories should be withdrawn. Mr. Speaker, Sir. the MCD and Central Government have given this affirmation in their affidavit that barring such and such categories, rest will be withdrawn.

#### [English]

This is your affidavit!

#### [Translation]

Reddyji, this is your affidavit. It says that ground floor would be commercial whereas first floor would be sealed, it will not be more than 20 meters. If the landlord himself is residing there, it will be allowed. It also mentions the categories which will remain

#### [English]

All others may be withdrawn. ... (Interruptions)

# [Translation]

You have mentioned it. I will read it out.

SHRI AJAY MAKEN: What is the date?

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: It dates back to July-August. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No cross-talks please.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: They said so.

#### [Translation]

that such and such categories would remain, all others will not remain. The schools have been closed under that category. Just now, Shri Sajjan Kumar was saying that schools should have been exempted. Here schools were closed. What kind of relief has been given, what for the Government is being complemented? Relaxation has been given only till May the schools will remain open only for this session, there after they will be closed. Earlier no laws were made, now they are asking for the time, we find no relief as such. First, the relaxation was upto 30th November which has now been extended upto 31st January. They asked every person to submit an affidavit by 31st January after getting it certified by an architect. It is as good as deferring the death sentence for two months. Is the Government being congratulated for that. This issue has been deferred and no relief has been given. Relaxation for only two more months has been given. The people will remain uneasy constantly for two months even in sleep. What was the point of two months relaxation? What was their fault which would justify this punishment, I do not know which measures have been taken to set everything right.

The Congress has been in power in Delhi for seven and a half years and they are in power at Centre for two and a half years. However, no hawking zone has been developed in Delhi. They are pointing finger at us that what was done when we were in power. We were not in power since 1962. We were in power only in the last five and a half years. They did not allot a single plot to the slum dwellers. They cannot even claim to have constructed a two storeyed building for slum dwellers. I would like to know whether they have regularized an unauthorized colony or constructed anew market. They are making false claims of helping the lot of the poor. This advertisement has been given by the DDA. Hon'ble Shri Sajjan Kumar is counter manding DDA. Under whose jurisdiction DDA falls? Is it not under Reddyji and Shri Ajay Maken. It is acting on their behest only. All the abuses being hurled at DDA and MPs of Delhi are actually for Reddyji and Makenji as DDA is functioning under them for the last two and a half years. What is written over here. Auction to be held on 8.1.2007. A plot measuring 300 square yards having reserve price of Rs. 1,29,60,000. Then there would be auction for it. 50-60 houses are in the list. Auction to be held on 10.1.2007.

A plot in village Jasola has a reserve price of Rs. 1,69,71,56. Plots are being auctioned. Which poor people is being benefited? They are saying that they are helping the poor. One plot is for Rs. 2-3 crore. They have recently auctioned shops for Rs. Five to seven crore. Whether any poor person would be able to buy a shop for Rs. Five crore auctioned by them during the last three months. One plot has been sold for Rs. 173 crore over here. Each mail is being sold at such a high price. I had submitted even last time that the land on which houses for slum dwellers were to be constructed at Tehkhand was sold for Rs. 1600 crore and half the land was given to DLF to construct houses and to earn money. Sajjan Kumar ji is saying that. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR: Through you, I would like to say that during the regime of NDA this plot was commercialised. When we came to power 3500 slum dwellers were. ...(Interruptions)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is not fair that not even a single cooperative society has been allotted land on reserve price ever since the Congress Party has come to power.

SHRI AJAY MAKEN: And hence the scam took place.  $\dots$  (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please, hon. Minister, this is not permitted.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUAMR MALHOTRA: Earlier the poor people used to construct houses for themselves by forming cooperative society. Today, they cannot even think of it. ...(Interruptions)

[Enalish]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, do not do it.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. He has not yielded. [English]

I made an appeal that it is a very sensitive issue.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: It is not proper to sit and speak. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Sajian Kumarii is saying that land is not with Delhi Government. If land would have been with them they would have done this and that. If they do not have this subject, it is with Reddyji \*... And Delhi Government is very efficient. If this is the position. ..(Interruptions)

**NOVEMBER 27, 2006** 

SHRI SURENDRA PRAKASH GOYAL (Hapur): This is objectionable.

MR. SPEAKER: Whatever is unparliamentary, will be expunged.

#### ...(Interruptions)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Why the subject of land is not transferred to the Delhi Government? ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Let the situation outside be not imported here.

...(Interruptions)

15.00 hrs.

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, seven and a half years have passed since the Delhi Government assumed power but till date they have not even sent a single proposal demanding full statehood for Delhi. Two and a half years have passed since Congress Government came to power at the centre, but Delhi Government neither acquired land from the Central Government nor it took over the charge of law and order from the centre. Therefore, I would like to ask against whom they are making complaints. They are complaining about their own Government. If they wanted to do something with regard to the land, then why they haven't extended the Lai dora during the last seven and a half years. They haven't extended even a single inch of the Lal dora area. They haven't regularized the shops in Lal dora area. Why Lal dora area was not included in the roads constructed by them and still keep on congratulating the Government. On which front they are congratulating the Government?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will conclude after mentioning about only 2-3 points. I would like to state that initially it was mentioned here that no comments should be made against the Supreme Court Judges, etc. which is a right thing. I am not making any remarks against them. I would

\*Not recorded

certainly like to say one thing that during the last session when I said that it is the duty of the Supreme Court to decide about the constitutional validity of the enacted law. I didn't say anything wrong. All parties should jointly deliberate about the extent of powers of the monitoring committee and the very meaning of the monitoring committee. Last time, when I mentioned about this matter, adequate attention was not paid towards it.

Sir, the court has given direction that the Chief Secretary, Delhi, Vice-Chairman of DDA and the Commissioner of Municipal Corporation should daily report to the Monitoring Committee. You are aware of the names of the people who are part of the monitoring committee. Now there are two monitoring committees. One was constituted by the hon'ble Supreme Court. Shri Bhure Lal, Shri K.G. Rao and General S.P. Jhingan are the members of the said committee. The second committee was constituted by High Court which has Shri R.S. Gupta, B.L. Vohra and Shri R.K. Mitra as its members. The Chief Secretary, Delhi, Vice-Chairman of DDA and the Commissioner of DDA are to report to these Monitoring Committees daily and these Monitoring Committees will decide about the location and types of the shops, they will be the ultimate judge about whether to allow something in a particular area or not. Then I had said that for what purpose the Minister Shri Reddy is sitting here. The court's direction is that even if the Group of Ministers have to take a decision, they also have to approach the Monitoring Committee. I had asked as to why the Prime Minister's post is there. The Chief Executive of the centre is the Prime Minister. On this issue. Shri Aiav Maken was on his legs and I would like to read out to him that at that time thrice he asked why I was talking the name of the Prime Minister. I had stated only this much that whether the Chief Executive of the centre is the Prime Minister or the Supreme Court? The Supreme Court and any Monitoring Committee constituted by it can state that they will take action against somebody for contempt of court. However, how can a Monitoring Committee decide about the nature of any policy and take a decision about with whom executive powers will be vested and the nature of executive powers.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that through mutual discussions, the Prime Minister should decide about the nature of the policy. On that day also when you were presiding the House, I had stated about that but at that time It was asked as to whether the Parliament was in deep slumber for twenty years. I think it is not proper for any one to use such words for Parliament.

Sir, in Delhi this case has been going on for the past

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21 years. At first, Shri Mehta filed a case in the year 1985 and judgement is still awaited in that case. Dates for hearing are given time and again and the next date for hearing falls on January 31. Nobody knows as to whether or not a judgement will come on the said date and it is also not known that how many more years will be needed before a final judgement comes. Therefore, if somebody says that the Supreme Court has been sleeping for the last 21 years, it will not be a proper statement to make. In the case filed by Shri Mehta 21 years ago, it was written as to whether or not shops should be allowed in residential areas and what types of shops should be allowed in certain areas. This case has been going on for the past 21 vears, but the judgement in this case is still awaited. The Supreme Court should take a decision in all such cases.

Discussion Under

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to mention about 3-4 points. Firstly, you should amend the corporation Act immediately and the power for sealing should be withdrawn from them. Secondly, before the year 1962, there was no master plan in place in Delhi. The master plan should not be applicable to the constructions made before that year. No part of the master plan would be applicable to such constructions. A decision had been taken in this regard. But after the imlementation of the master plan, all these things continued. When refugees came to Delhi from Punjab, then the population of Delhi was 7-8 lakhs, but after the formation of Pakistan, Delhi's population reached 16 lakhs. The people who came during that period did not resort to begging or implore for help. They set up shops. constructed buildings, became self-reliant. They built small shops and houses. This is not applicable to them. The Minister has said that owners of shops constructed before the year 1962 might be having licences, but it has to be ascertained as to whether or not he is the original owner and verifying other titles like producing affidavit and ensuring that no handschange took place is stretching the things too far. Why are they involving him in all these complications? Nobody asked them this question till date. They were told that if they produce all these documents, they would be regularized on the basis of that and no action would be taken against them. I am of the opinion that there is no need for all these things. All the shops built before the year. 1962 should be given complete relief.

Sir, now I come to the issue of granting relief to the shops built in Lai dora area. While replying to a question, Reddy ji has said that he could not give a date by which the master plan would be readied. For the last one year Reddy Saheb and Maken Saheb had been saying that Master plan would be out in two months, three months, they have prepared it, they have invited objections regarding the plan. While earlier it was said that it would

be released before November, later on it was stated that before the end of the current year, the said plan will be ready. We met the Minister of Home Affairs, met everybody regarding this matter and everyone said that before the end of the year Master plan will be released. But today they are saying that no date has been fixed for the release of the master plan, 18 zonal plans need to be prepared now, 250 sub-zonal plans are still to be prepared. Why are they hoodwinking the people? Why were they saying that the Master plan is about to be released? Whatever Master plan they may prepare, still 80-90 per cent people would remain affected. Why are they scared of introducing amnesty scheme? If they can do so in Ulhas Nagar, why can't they follow suit in Delhi? When I raised it last time. they had stated that Ulhas Nagar is a very small area, it is a commonplace area, refugees from Pakistan reside there, that's why they have done so. But then how did they implement it in Bangalore? In order to convert black money into white, amnesty scheme was introduced thrice in the country. If entire black money of the world can be converted into white, and they can bring it under the amnesty scheme by bringing such scheme, they are giving relief to people who have black money. Black-money was converted into white by means of fine. I fail to understand as to why this scheme is not being implemented.

Shrimati Sheila Dixit and all other MLAs had passed a resolution 5-6 days back to introduce amnesty scheme. All MPs are also in favour of implementation of this scheme. Those who have encroached upon the Government land may not be included in it. Wine shops, pubs, traders involved in trading of hazardous items and polluting units also may not be included under this scheme. But it can be extended to the rest of the people. If there is any repulsion against Malhotra Committee, then some other committee with another name may be constituted but

[English]

bring in an amnesty scheme

[Translation]

without which people of Delhi cannot be given relief. Master Plan will be formulated for the next 20 years but it cannot allow whatever has been constructed during the 20 years. Corporation Act should be amended and 'A' and 'B' category should be withdrawn from it. The Solicitor General has stated in the court that even small shops in 'A' and 'B' category colonies will not be spared. The, Solicitor General has done all this on the instructions of the Government. Yesterday, I have read the statement of Shrimati Sheila Dixit that 2000 Klosk will be built.

[Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra]

I would like to state that there are 2 lakh hawkers in Delhi. Where will we accommodate the rest one lakh 98 thousand if only 2000 Kiosk are built. The High Court gave the order

[English]

They are all to be removed,

# [Translation]

They would be removed even from Cannaught Place and other places. The steps should be taken in consonance with the enormity of the problem. Messages of gratitude have been pouring in. Affected people yesterday visited Shrimati Sonia ji to say thanks for protecting them. So many have lost their lives due to it, a hue and cry is prevailing all over the Delhi. Is this a way to save people? Earlier also I had mentioned that there would be no session on 31st January, and the Government would be solely responsible for the intense public out cry at that time. Today also, I hold you responsible for this situation.

#### [English]

You have been responsible for it. If you had listened to me at that time, it would not have happened there.

#### [Translation]

The Government will be responsible. Even now, the Government is not brining any legislation. I request the Government to bring two-three effective legislations and to do some constructive work instead of accepting congratulations. Only then a solution would come about.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on this important issue I would like to tell that it is a very old problem and many members prior to me have spoken on it. On 20th September 2006, thousands of people had staged a demonstration against the verdict of the court and the action taken by the M.C.D. Four people had died during that demonstration and dozens got injured. Since then the problem has been aggravating. The House is responsible to find a solution to this problem. Malhotraji replied to many questions but did not reply when asked as to why he did nothing to solve this problem when the Government of his party was in power. Neither the ruling party nor the opposition did anything in this regard. They are busy in passing the buck. It is strange that no party is prepared to own the responsibility. Corrupt politicians of Congress and BJP and bureaucrats have been involved in the loot which continued in Delhi for 30-40 years. They level charges against each other but never try to evolve any solution. This is the factual situation and the people of Delhi are aware of this truth. ...(Interruptions) Leaders of his party are also involved in it. All are aware as to who is responsible for this situation otherwise an illegal work on such a large scale cannot take place. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please address the Chair, do not divert the speech.

[Translation]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Sir, the monitoring committee of the Supreme Court also had stated that 14 items shall be exempted. However, that also has not been implemented. I agree with what Shri Malhotra ji had said that together we should evolve a way out. What is the objective of the monitoring committee? We all should think upon the solution for this.

Sir, what can be said about the Master Plan. Whatever, I say would be insufficient. Master Plan is formulated time and again but never implemented. Government should at least commit that it would be formulated in time and will also be implemented.

Sir, while formulating a master plan, no ground survey is conducted. Earlier, the survey was to be conducted in 15 zones but was done in 6 zones and rest were lest out. Now, if any Master Plan is formulated, it would be only on the papers without any survey and it will not be able to solve the problem in a right way. In view of all these problems, there is a need to take effective steps.

Sir, 70-80% structures in Delhi have been constructed in violation of rules. We will be surprised to know that there are 35 lakh inhibitants residing in 1641 unauthorized colonies. 30 lakh people are residing in 12 lakh unauthorized jhuggi-cluster. There are 60 resettlement colonies where 15 lakh people are residing. 55% people in Delhi are residing in unauthorized colonies. Delhi, the Capital of our country has been colonised illegally. We should seriously discuss as to how to came out of such a situation. The Government should take steps to rectify the irregularities.

It is often seen that rules are being violated. The land is not used for the purpose it is meant for. Commercial activities are taking place in residential areas in violation of rules. Out of 5 lakhs only one lakh only one lakh are regular shops and remaining are unauthorized, only 54 nursing homes are in regularized ones and whereas 584

Rule 193

are unauthorized. This entire city is illegally constructed. Where is the law in the city? We enact laws in this House but everything is running illegally here. Therefore, the Government should view this problem seriously. Such unlawful activities cannot continue for long. Who should be held responsible for it? We all are equally responsible for it. The reason is that we failed to provide the required number of dwelling units and shops. Only 10 lakh people have been provided with the dwelling units, when 20 lakh people were in need of dwelling units. Only 18 % of the total requirement of shops has been met. With the ever increasing population, how the rest will be covered. People from all over the country migrate to Delhi in search of livelihood and settle here. We are unable to provide them means of livelihood. Can one imagine that 80 % of Delhi's gross production and gross employment is illegal. Members from both the sides are making speeches here while sitting over an illegal mound. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: What is the solution?

[Translation]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: I will tell the solution also. The policy of the Government was also wrong. Today the Government's policy regarding designated commercial places is not to protect all such establishments. Internally, they are planning to allocate the sites to MNCs, mails and big developers. But a different story is told to the people. internally, they are favouring the looters. All such activities continue under it. This policy has to be changed. Some importance should be given to protect small, shops, medium-size shops, the shops owned by the poor, and the hawkers. The problem cannot be solved merely by constructing of mails, industries, which were earlier operating in non-conforming areas were asked to shut down, now those industries have illegally entered into resettlement colonies and are operating from there. Therefore, the Government should take decision for properly relocating these industries.

The Government had set up Tejinder Khanna Commission. This commission has given some suggestion, but many of these suggestions are for privatization of Deihi city and for handing over Deihi to multi-national promoters. The Government should act cautiously in this regard and should formulate a scheme to save Deihi. As I have said, there are 79 rich colonies, where people can live in peace and nobody would disturb them. There are 295 middle class colonies. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. members, may I interrupt you? The subject of our discussion is regarding situation arising out of the on going sealing drive in Delhi.

[Translation]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: It is about sealing only. All these factors are responsible for the situation leading to sealing. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What purpose will be served by speaking about old problems.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Therefore, I feel that this is the reason behind all this, this is a fact. Keeping in view this background, the Government will have to take a decision for effecting change in the existing laws and frame a proper Master Plan. The Court has also criticized our Government, but has not struck down the law. Does criticizing the law by the court constitute rule of law? I would like to say that people of Delhi, the poor living in Delhi and city of Delhi need to be protected and therefore, first of all we have to stop sealing. The legislation required to stop sealing must be enacted and this legislation should be kept in the Ninth Schedule, so that nobody is able to interfere with it and change this law. The Government must enact such legislation at the earliest.

MR. SPEAKER: The legislation was enacted.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: I intend to say that under the present circumstances, it should be kept in the Ninth Schedule. Beside that, I would like to say something about land use policy. It must be transformed into a mixed and flexible land use policy. Any fixed, rigid policy will not work and the Government have to evolve mixed and flexible land use policy. Alongwith it should be framed as per the requirements of circumstances, locality and people.

Secondly, this has to be seen as to how permission can be given in residential, non-residential areas which are designated. One thing can be ensured while giving permission that there is no pollution. It should also be kept in view that permission should be approved by the community. The permission should not be given in those areas where local people raise objections. Permission should be granted only after approval.

Thirdly, the Government should do something about listed category. The Government should prepare listed categories as to in which areas shops should be allowed and in which areas should not be allowed. If commercial activities are to be allowed in residential areas, then,

# [Shri Hannan Mollah]

these three things must be kept in view. The policy should be framed keeping in view, pollution factor and community approval and category-wise permission should be granted. Besides, 70% roads in residential areas have been declared confirmed, but there are thousands of roads which should also be included in this list and should be included in confirmed areas.

My fourth suggestion is that 'Listed category to function from commercial and business centre' should be categorised at local community, district and city level and thereafter permission should be given to them. Besides that, there should be no discrimination and nobody should be allowed to create such a situation indiscriminately. The Government have to see that no shopkeeper, who uses more water and electricity than the sanctioned quota is given permission. There should be a fixed rule so that nobody is able to utilize water or electricity more than the sanctioned quota - otherwise the traders will continue to misuse it. Alongwith it, before categorization, status quo of 30 September, 2005 should be maintained and the 1400 colonies should also be regularized. First of all rehabilitation should be done, thereafter people should be displaced, otherwise, rehabilitation after displacement cannot be done. First of all the arrangement for rehabilitation, and replacement should be made and thereafter they should be shifted to new places. In coming days, such legislation will have to be enacted, that if any politician or bureaucrat tries to violate it, rigorous punishment is awarded to him; otherwise Delhi will again become a hot bed of corruption and violation of law will become rampant during the next ten to twenty years. Keeping all this in view, I hope as Shri Reddy had said, that if needed, amendment in the constitution should be made. Whatever the Government action be should not be leaked before hand. The government should take decisive action in this regard and should try to clear all hurdles.

With these words, while supporting the Government, I conclude my speech.

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH (Allahabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please speak about the problem that has been created.

#### ...(Interruptions)

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: He will have to also explain about the reason for it, and its solution. ...(Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a humanitarian problem

[English]

It is a humanitarian problem.

[Translation]

It is mud slinging. They blame each other and both of them are responsible for it. Neither UPA, nor Congress, nor NDA nor BJP can escape from the mess created here. And no one wants its solution. As elections in Delhi are nearing, so they want to oust the Congress and capture power. Neither Malhotra ji wants to solve the actual problem nor Sajjan Kumar ji, I would blame Shri Reddy ji. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): He is an old friend. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI SANDEEP DIKSHIT (East Delhi): When they are asked to release water for Delhi, election in U.P. comes to their mind. Instead, he is talking us that we are playing politics. Delhi's welfare does not come to their mind. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let it be a bit, but not always.

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: These people always get puzzled; do wrong and then give clarification. ... (Interruptions) Delhi is the capital of our country. Every year about five lakh people come to Delhi either for settling down here or for business purposes and majority of them are hawkers or labourers. How strange is it that the Master Plan of Delhi which was prepared in 1962 has not been implemented so far, though 40 years have elapsed since then. That is why such a situation has got created. Since the Master Plan which was prepared 40 years ago could not be implemented, such a problem has come up. I charge the Government that

[English]

they are the prisoners of indecision.

[Translation]

They are not able to take decision. They are in dilemma as to what to do and what not to do? And they cannot find any solution to said problem. Second Master Plan was scheduled to be implemented in 1981. They could implement it in 1990, after a gap of ten years. And third Master Plan was to be implemented in the year 2007. The year 2006 is coming to an end and as Malhotra is asking that by when Master Plan would be implemented, whereas,

Shri Reddy ji has said about it. Why cannot they admit in the Supreme Court that on humanitarian grounds we take the responsibility for creation of such a situation in Delhi. That we are responsible for the mess created in Delhi.

#### [English]

It is a humanitarian problem and it has to be solved.

Discussion Under

# [Translation]

It is not right to say that there should be no shops in residential areas and they should move either to South Extension or Cannaught Place. My submission is that the Master Plan should be amended for providing small shops in residential areas, so that the residents do not have to walk longer distances for purchasing items of their daily use. Now the problem is the latest order of the hon. Supreme Court wherein the court has stayed the implementation of Special Provision Act. The Government say that it has not declared it invalid but I can say that the Court has done so. And it is absolutely true. As per the order only 18 thousand shop owners have got relaxation. And 44 thousand shop owner have not got any kind of relaxation. If we assess the number of people likely to be affected as a result thereof, the families of 44 lakh people and 30-35 lakh people working in these shops, it comes approximately 30-35 lakh people. The Government still say it would do something. What would it do once the shops are ruined, will the Government be able to stop it?

Sir. I am surprised that Shri Sajjan Kumar, a senior Congress M.P. is saying that the shops which are being auctioned carry reserve price of Rs. 11/2-2 crore. Where will the shop owners whose shops are being sealed go? How a small shop owner can manage to pay Rs. 11/2-2 crore for acquiring an alternate shop. The Government should allot shops to those at a fixed rate as they cannot buy a shop at commercial rates which are unaffordable. My submission is that instead of politicizing it or resorting to mud-slinging, the Government should bring a legislation in this regard and put the Act so enacted in Ninth Schedule so that it cannot be challenged by Supreme Court nor they can invalidate it or declare ultra-vires. That is the only solution. A moratorium has been given till 31st January on humanitarian grounds. But, will we be able to find any solution to it in a given one months time? Sealing will resume after one month, whereas it should be stopped straight away. If we want to develop Delhi as a model capital we cannot ignore the human face, we should take a lesson from U.P. Shri Kapil Sibal, who is a member of Group of Ministers, is sitting here. But there are divisions even within GoM and they are not unanimous in their

view, as they are aware that finally sealing would be done. Shri Sajjan Kumarji, since you are not in GoM, so why are you trying to clarify your position? MPs who are in Group of Ministers and our sitting MPs from Delhi know that in the coming election they would have to eat a humble pie. They would not be able to return to Lok Sabha. They would move on roads like the shop owners whose shops have been sealed. Anyway, though Malhotra ji and Maken ji would meet the same fate next year. They may laugh here today.

Sir, let us think of India-Pakistan partition scenario. Large number of people were forced to migrate from there to India and a lot of them got settled in Delhi. Now the Government again desires to displace the shop owners. It appears as if we are fighting a war and we are all out to oust the foreigners from our land. Kapil Sibalji, you should take a stand in this regard. The Prime Minister has told you not to make any statement publicly. Alright, you may not speak. But, the public will not forgive you. So you bear it in mind. ...(Interruptions)

### [English]

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is completely wrong. He has attributed a statement to the Prime Minister. I do not understand how my learned friend has any knowledge of it. This is absolutely false. Nobody has ever stated that and I do not think he should bring the Prime Minister or anybody else into it. We are discussing a very serious issue and I hope he addresses it with the kind of seriousness it deserves instead of making statements of this nature.

. MR. SPEAKER: He has clarified it.

#### [Translation]

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: I am surprissed that though he has clarified his position, but he did not say the right thing. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: That will not go on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Sir, I am responsible Member. I read it in the newspaper and if it was reported

<sup>\*</sup> Not recorded.

[Shri Rewati Raman Singh]

wrongly, what can I say about it? But I read it in a newspaper and it was reported in the newspaper.

#### [Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Alright, he has given a reply to the question raised by you.

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Approx. seven lakh traders alongwith their 30-lakh employees are being affected by it. Besides, the Tibetans who migrated and settled down in our country in 1962 are also being displaced. Sir, they are the hapless people who were displaced from their country. Our Government made all efforts to rehabilitate them in our country. These people should be given priority while finding out a solution to this problem. Please ensure that these people may not be displaced. At the same time, 30,000 nursing homes, 1700 doctors, around 2000 secondary schools, 1500 computer training centers, 600 play schools, 800 quest houses are also getting affected by it. One does not have any objection to get the encroached state land evacuated. The Government are charging house tax, sales tax, electricity tarrif etc. from these people for the last 40 years. Collection of tax revenue has been increased from Rs. 8 crore in the past to Rs. 6000 crores today. Even then, they are being displaced on the pretext of complying with Supreme Court's orders. If Supreme Court rules that one of us is not a member of Parliament, would we accept it? How it is possible? Therefore, my submission is that this discussion would be meaningful only if the Government assure the House in this regard. I would like that through you, a solution should be found out today itself. I agree with Shri Hannan Mollah that it should be put into the 9th Schedule of the Constitution and Parliament should find out a solution to it unanimously.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhaniharpur): Sir, 50-55 lakh people have been affected by the large scale sealing drive particularly the demolition carried out in Delhi. The Master Plan for Delhi was first formulated in the year 1962 and thereafter it was to be formulated in 2001. The present problem has arisen due to the stance taken up by the judiciary on the issue relating to Master Plan. Time and again, judiciary has taken control of executive and legislative. I am not aware whether Constitution of India permits it or not. Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are occupying the highest position of this House and are aware of the situation. I would say that it has hurt the sentiments of so many people. The question is whether the democratic system would continue to work in such circumstances, whether the executive would have any rights and the legislature would enjoy freedom in its working? The way Judiciary is interfering in all the matters, is inappropriate. The regular interference of judiciary under sub-sections of Articles 10, 11 and 122 of Constitution has endangered the Parliamentary system in the largest democratic country of the world. I would like to raise some moot questions regarding the issue of sealing. Whether it has put a question mark on the very functioning of the Parliamentary system of Government as sealing is being carried out by Municipal Corporation of Delhi in the name of beautification of the city under Master Plan. I am mentioning it because Delhi Special Laws (Special Provisions) Bill Introduced by Minister of Urban Development was passed in this very House on 12th May 2006. My friend, Shri Sajjan Kumarji was very emphatically making a mention of it that the notification is going on. He is not present in the House at the moment but he was stressing on his point. Literally, notification is not yet ineffective but the point is as to what is the implication of it. It is right that the court has not annulled the notification but it has stopped it for the time being. I agree but at the same time it is important to consider its implications and its effects on the people. It is inappropriate to say from technical point of view that the notification has not been cancelled. Sentiments of takhs of people have not been taken into consideration. Without doing verifications, the Government gave the statement that the notification is continued. I also agree that the Supreme Court has not cancelled the notification but we all are aware of the actual position. A very unfortunate situation has arisen before the country and the democratic parliamentary system. Now a basic question has been posed before us. The way judiciary is interfering and crossing its limits, I think it is an attack on the autonomy of the executive and the legislature. I do not deny to grant autonomous status to judiciary but whether judiciary is the Supreme body. Judiciary is supreme in its jurisdiction. The question is whether Parliament or the Executive would not be allowed to work independently? All the three organs of the Government are supreme in their respective areas and are allowed to work independently. Therefore, they should respect each other as intended in the section 122 of the Constitution. Therefore, there should be no interference in each other's domain. Today there is a question before us as to how to maintain the dignity of one another intact.

Demolition is still going on in Delhi. Later on, I will explain about what is going on in Municipal Corporation of Delhi. You will be surprised to know that. The country is facing a very unfortunate situation.

Constitution has provided a demarcation of jurisdiction for judiciary, executive and legislature. However, in Delhi the Supreme Court has suo motu constituted a monitoring committee for sealing. A court commissioner

has been appointed in this committee and the committee is empowered to give direction. The Supreme Court fixed the responsibility of the committee. The salary of the members was also fixed from Rs. 30,000 to 35,000 per month alongwith an office and a motor vehicle. The judiciary is performing all the functions of the executive. India Habitat Centre is located in Delhi. ...(Interruptions) 2% English knowing people pronounce it in a very impressive manner. ...(Interruptions) I am not against English language but I am against English mindset. Britishers had left our country years ago but they left the English and English culture behind. Therefore, I am not against the English language but English culture.

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MR. SPEAKER: Please speak on the subject.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: I am on the subject only. I am having a letter of MCD with me which states that the office of Monitoring Committee will be set up in India Habitat Centre and the members will be provided with a motor vehicle. The executive's functions related to security are being grabbed and performed by judiciary. Hon'ble Minister may claim that the notification has been annulled but the reality is something else. I may be interrupted if I am saying anything wrong. I have seen the orders of the court. The learned Minister present in the House is also aware of it. So what does the fixation of salaries of the Members of the Monitoring Committee and providing vehicles to all the Members by the Judiciary' indicate. This order was issued and even office has been set up in All India Habitat Centre. What is all this going on. On the other hand MCD can not pay the salaries of its lower class employees. That MCD is instructed to perform particular tasks. Hon'ble Malhotraji is not present here now. He was saying that nobody accepted the recommendations of the Malhotra Committee. Mr. Speaker, Sir, any particular Government or political parties either in government or in opposition can not be blamed for this. If truth is brought on surface, all will be exposed because everybody knows as to which Government did not accept the recommendations of the Malhotra Committee. Any way which Government did not accept the recommendations of the Malhotra Committee. They talk about development and modernization. They are playing new game of modernization. There is provision of sealing in the MCD Act and as long as this Act exists. ...\*

There is no provision of sealing in the DDA Act, however, there is provision of sealing in the MCD Act. Does not the Parliament have the power to make such provisions by way of enacting new law? They are lamenting

only this that the law is faculty. They are saying that the notification has not been declared null and void, however, one can see its implication. So, I would like to submit that the Parliament has this right and the discussion being held in the House must bear fruits and the Parliament should repeal the sealing Act by way of exercising its powers. MCD Act containing the provision of sealing should be amended and withdrawn. Hon'ble Hannan Mollah Saheb has also submitted that it should be included in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution.

Despite the problem of unemployment bigger malls are being opened. The people are dreaming of making Delhi like America. People usually see dreams in the night, they want to make this country like America. So, I would like to submit that the old Act should be repealed. I would like to give one more information. Beside the sealing act, there is one more law for banning the operation of cycle rickshaws. Hon'ble Malhotra ji will not understand it. A circular has been issued to ban plying of nearly ten lakh cycle rickshaws on RTL road, Chandni Chowk. It has been stated that pollution has to be checked though rickshaw saves fuel oil and check pollution. It is the campaign of the Government of India to save oil because we want to become self dependent in it. Rickshaw is fuel saying means of transportation and its operation is being banned. One person took the design of our rickshaw to Australia and made new design of lighter rickshaw and it is operating there. Here they are talking about modernization.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is as to who will implement the sealing law, you please speak on this subject.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Yes, Sir, I am submitting the same thing that not only the sealing act but the law banning the operation of rickshaw should also be withdrawn. During the British period horse carriages were in use. It was in operation in Delhi and also in Lucknow where Nawab's used to travel by horse carriage. There were 500-600 princely states which are now reorganized into 26 States. Then horse carriage and tongas were in operation. At that time the licence of carriage was given by veterinary doctors. However, even today the licence for the operation of rickshaw is being given by the veterinary doctors. This law should be repealed. I would like to request the hon'ble Minister that he should get it repealed. Carts and rickshaws are manually driven by human beings and these human beings are required to obtain license from Veterinary doctors. Rickshaw and pull cart are driven by men and not by horses. We have given a call for the gherao of the House on this issue on the 11th. Either law

<sup>\*</sup> Not recorded.

[Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav]

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will be amended or we will gherao the House. Ultimately, the law has to be change. So, I would like to submit that there is need to pay attention to the existing corporation Act.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise a basic question. I would like to ask as to why the need of sealing arose. There are unauthorized colonies and people make commercial use of their land. However, I would like to ask as to why sealing was required. Illegal activities are going on in Delhi under the garb of this act. You want to make this city America. The people want to remove congestion in the city. However, I would like to know as to who makes the plan, plans are made by the officers. Five year plans are prepared by the Planning Commission, the Ministry and the officers.

15.50 hrs.

(SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH in the Chair)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: You had only 10 minutes, however, you have already taken 13 minutes.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Madam, the people of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar are facing this problem. I know your area Karolbagh. In one month time, I will visit entire Delhi and then my priority will be to see whether law is amended or not. I am fighting for this cause. Presently, I will lodge my protest here. I have devoted myself to this issue.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Devendra ji, I was telling that you had 10 minutes, however, you have already taken 14 minutes. So, you please conclude at the earliest. Some more Members are to speak on this issue.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Madam, your area is also affected by this problem. The people might be complaining you during your visit to your area. Some extra time should be given to address the problems of poor people. I am speaking for the cause of poor people. What is the cause of increasing population in urban areas. The reason behind this surge is that there is no job oriented works in villages. Three-four days back I had read a statement of hon'ble Reddy Saheb in newspaper. He had stated a basic fact that as long as there is no employment in villages, people will continue to come to Delhi to earn their livelihood and congestion in Delhi will increase.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN (Bhagalpur): We also come from there. ...(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: You please address the Chair.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: There is mass exodus of village population. It is not only Delhi but large number of people from Bihar are also living in Mumbai. Forty lakh people are living in Mumbai alone. They are also in other cities like Ahmedabad and Bangalore of Karnataka and Delhi. Unless there is employment opportunities available in villages, cities will have to bear the brunt of surge of population. So Government will have to formulate planning to check the exodus of rural population. The DDA and MCD have not paid their attention towards these people.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: You please concentrate on the issue related to sealing. You tell us as to how sealing should be stopped and relief should be given to people.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Social Welfare Organisations have filed writ petitions in the Court against the unauthorized construction, only then they have come out of their slumber. Prior to that MCD and DDA had been sleeping over this issue and the Government did not give priority to this issue. Irrespective of which party was in power, nobody paid attention towards this. Today the attention is being paid only towards the construction of bigger malls and it is being propagated that it is an indicator of economic growth in the country. Does he want to make blackmarketeers more rich, who hold black money and construct malls. There are 83 thousand millionaires in the country.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Please speak on how the poor persons can get relief from sealing.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Please understand the reality. I am speaking about poor. What concern a poor man has with mails? The persons having annual income above Rs.10 lakh will be visiting malls. There is no place for weakest section of society in such malls. Madam, you and your party understand it well. The poorest people about whom Gandhiji talked a lot, have nothing to do with such malls and who are these poorest persons? They are roadside vendors, small shop owners, rickshawpullers, and agricultural labourers. What are the Government doing for them now? It is a basic issue. Rich people would construct malls by acquiring land at very high prices and would carve out big shops within such mails. Can any person purchase a shop in such mails which are priced in the range of Rs.10 crore. They will never be able to purchase shops there. People who have been granted freedom of carrying out business under . Article 19 are being ruined through sealing.

There are 1662 unauthorised colonies in Delhi wherein more than 30 lakh people live. Now they are

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being rendered homeless. There is no arrangement for electricity, water or educational facilities in the said unauthorized colonies. As there was no alternative arrangement people started living in such colonies. The Government charged electricity and water charges and even road tax from them. Now they are being asked to vacate these colonies. The democracy is in danger. The Government is resorting to it in the name of modernization and globalization and it wants to set up modern cities in place of such colonies. For whom beautification process is going on? It is being done merely to please 5-10 per cent people. 90-95 per cent people are being deprived of their livelihood in the name of beautifiction. Will the Government bring any legislation to stop it? The Government should ponder over it seriously. No poor can purchase these shops. The Government should stop worrying about rich people who are just one percent and it should be concerned about the poor. The Government should come up with a plan to regularize unauthorized colonies and grant permissible relaxation for covering weaker sections. MCD Act should be amended. The law relating to sealing should be repealed and a new legislation should be brought in the Parliament, as it is vested with powers, for withdrawal of order of sealing and small shop owners should not be asked to shift elsewhere. We are not being ruled by the Britishers. Fifty eight years have elapsed since we got freedom. My submission is that the said law should be amended and it should be put in Ninth Schedule. I conclude with these words.

# [English]

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Madam Chairperson, we are discussing this matter for the third time in the House. The hasty manner in which the Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Act 2006 was passed, which placed one year moratorium on the demolition of unauthorized construction and sealing of commercial establishments in the residential areas in the Capital, it was anticipated to be rejected by the Supreme Court. We had rightly anticipated and apprehended at the time of debate that this Bill would be rejected. This Act has been rightly rejected by the Supreme Court. But the hon. Minister has assured in this House that there is nothing to be worried and there is no alarming situation.

#### 16.00 hrs

He also assured that there would be no difficulty and this Act would not be rejected by the Supreme Court. But what has happened now? Ultimately, the Supreme Court has rejected this legislation. Our apprehension at that time was correct. The hon, Minister and the Government

should have taken sufficient precaution to see that this Act would not be rejected by the Supreme Court. The Apex court has described the Act as fully void and illegal. The Bench has also observed that it was a pure and simple legislation aimed at overruling the orders of the court. This is an embarrassment to the House. Yes. I am just quoting.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Tripathyji, it was an observation and not a judgement. Please appreciate the distinction between an observation and a judgement.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Of course, this is an observation. But this is a stricture to the House itself. This is an embarrassment to the House. We have passed an Act on which the Apex court in the country has told that this is overruling the order of the court. This is not at all a healthy situation. But, we had been assured by the hon. Minister and he had expressed his confidence about the legality of the law.

Madam, this has not been done for the first time. After the UPA Government has come to power, thrice the Acts passed by this supreme legislative body, the Parliament, have been rejected. This is the third time. It is also happening in this Government. We were supporting this legislation because it is for the poor people. But it is rejected by the court. The Government is responsible for this. They are putting the entire Parliament in embarrassment.

The manner in which the Centre has tried to subvert the demolition and sealing drive reflects very poorly on itself. A few months ago, it ordered that the sealing of premises need not resume as it intended to seek a sixmonth stay on this from the Supreme Court. Having filed an application in the court to this effect, the Centre suddenly withdrew it without informing the court about its plan to introduce this legislation. What was the difficulty? When you withdrew your application in the Supreme Court, why had you not informed the Supreme Court that you are going to have such a legislation? Now, you are responsible, the entire Government is responsible for the rejection of this Act. There was no business on the part of the Government, when your appeal was in the Supreme Court and you were seeking six months' time, what was the necessity to withdraw that application from the Supreme Court? If you withdrew that application, why had you not ` informed that the intention of the Government was to make a legislation? You should have informed the court. But you have not informed anything. Suddenly you came with a legislation and the court has rejected this Act.

There is no doubt that the Parliament is supreme. In legislative matters, in law-making affairs, the Parliament is

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# [Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy]

supreme and nobody can challenge it. But the tendency of the Executive to circumvent the court order through an introduction of a legislation is a unhealthy feature for democracy. There should not be a tendency of the Executive always to subvert the order of the Supreme Court. That is a bad tendency. It is not a healthy tendency in democracy. So, the Government should also learn not to go with such type of legislation when court has already passed an order.

Madam, everybody wants Delhi to be a model city. Nobody wants otherwise. Everybody wants that Delhi is to be a model city for the country. For this purpose, a new Master Plan is required to be notified under the Delhi Development Act, 1957 in order to provide for the needs of the increasing population. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

modern city will come up. ...(Interruptions)

# [English]

It is for everybody. It is to be prospectively from 2021. This delay in finalizing and notifying the new Master Plan for Delhi has put immense difficulties to the slum dwellers staying in jhuggis and jhonpris, the street vendors who are about two lakh people in different parts of Delhi and lastly the commercial premises operating from the capital's residential areas.

At present, this sealing is affecting about 30,000 commercial establishments and has resulted in making about one lakh people jobless. In toto, this will affect about seven lakh families and 30 takh people including employees if, at all, sealing is done in entire Delhi. For all these miseries of the affected people and the inconvenience caused to the public in general, the Government of India is primarily and solely responsible. The timely review and modification of the new Master Plan could have been done by the Government of India. Also, the Master Plan has not yet been finalised and notified.

There is a flush of flood like situation of unemployed people in Delhi and other urban areas of the country. This is an alarming situation. Now it will become more serious in future because people are rushing to urban areas from rural areas. It will result in shortage of water, dwelling units, electricity, food etc. These people will need hospitals and educational facilities for their children. There will be need for shopping complexes and other amenities.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Kindly give your suggestions only regarding this issue.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: I am just giving my suggestions. This has resulted now and this will also happen in future. Hence, I would like to know from the hon. Minister when the prospective Master Plan will be complete, and will be notified. He should inform the House as to when it will be notified. He has taken two months' time since it was debated last time. Now, two months have passed. How much more time will he take to just finalise this Master Plan? That is the primary thing which is needed by the court. If you do not finalise the Master Plan. whatever legislation you pass, it will be declared void by the court. Otherwise, you bring a legislation and place it under Schedule IX of the Constitution so that it will not be rejected by the court. We are also interested to help the poor people. We are also interested to help those who have been living in jhompris and jhuggis We are interested in the welfare of the unemployed people. If the Government is serious to rescue these people, to help these people, it should come with a legislation and put it in Schedule IX so that there will be no interference by the court. Otherwise. they should tell us when the Master Plan will be finalised by the Government.

Madam, the Government should come out with a solution to this problem immediately because today this has happened in Delhi and tomorrow, it will happen in other urban areas also. Mumbai is also facing the same difficulty. All the urban areas of the country are facing the same difficulty. So, the Government should also have a prospective planning as to how to come out of this problem and crisis in the urban areas. Otherwise, this will happen at other places also and the courts will interfere at all places. There will be Public Interest Litigations and the High Courts and other courts will interfere. What has happened in Delhi today will tomorrow happen in all other urban areas of the country. So, the Government should come out with their future planning, their perspective planning so that the influx of unemployed people, those who are coming to urban areas, are reduced. The Government should provide more employment opportunities in the rural areas so that the people will not be intending to come to urban areas. That is needed now.

Whatever they are propagating, they are not doing that practically in the field and they are not providing employment in rural areas. That is why, people are coming to urban areas for earning their livelihood, for their employment and to improve their lives. This is the real situation that is happening in Delhi. You should also have your own planning to come out of this problem.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Hon. Minister will give reply at the end of the debate.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: My request is that the Government should tell us when this Master Plan will be completed and what is the Government's thinking in solving this problem in Delhi and other areas of the country?

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SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER (Delhi Sadar): Thank you. Madam. I have been waiting for a very long time to speak on this subject which is very dear to us, the people who belong to Delhi.

It is especially so for people like us who belong to Delhi. I am speaking on behalf of hundreds and thousands of traders who have suffered because of wrong planning: who have suffered because of sealing; who have suffered because of the children not having gone to the schools; who have suffered because of they were not being able to pay back the money to the banks; who have suffered because they stopped getting credit from the other States; who have suffered because the kitchens are cold; and who have suffered because they have really cried as they lost their close ones. One cannot imagine the kind of suffering that these people have gone by.

There is an Act, namely, the Delhi Development Act, 1947, which came into force in 1957. I just want to quote something from this. This is for those people who have violated the Master Plan. There is a provision under the authority regulations under Section 57 sub-clause (f) of the Act, which provides terms and conditions subject to which "the users of the land buildings in contravention of the plans may be continued."

The Delhi Development Authority formulated the Delhi Development Authority (Zoning) Regulations in 1983, which came into force with effect from 18 January 1986. Clauses 11, 12, 13 and 16 provide the terms and conditions under which one can use the land and buildings for commercial use in contravention of the Plan. Why this clause was not used for those four lakh people who had used the residence for commercial use, which we allowed or they allowed or all political people allowed or the Governments that were in power at that time allowed or the authorities at that time - whether it was DDA, the MCD or anybody else - allowed? They took taxes from them; fined them; and put those people in jail those who could not pay the taxes. Now, when they have paid something to the tune of over Rs. 90,000 crore, you have asked them that we will lock you up or we will close your buildings, and we will see to it that you are ruined. Who is responsible for it?

I am very glad that Shri S. Jaipal Reddy and Shri Ajay Maken - a young man from Delhi - have done

everything possible under the sun, and under the law to protect them. But, unfortunately, something went wrong somewhere. I do not want to blame for it, and I do not want to again have a dialogue with the Opposition or ourselves that we are wrong or they are wrong. Actually, we are all in wrong. We have ruined the people of Delhi because we are politically responsible for them.

The sealing was done in Kamla Nagar, Jawahar Nagar, Sadar Bazar, Bara Hindu Rao, etc. Why did anybody dare go there, and close their shops when according to the first Master Plan 1962 and the Second and the Third Plans, Kama Masiid, Chitli Qabar, Bazar Sita Ram, Aimeri Gate, Chandni Chowk, Fatehpuri, Laipat Rai Market, Kashmeri Gate, Mori Gate, Malka Ganj, Subzi Mundi, Bara Hindu Rao, Sadar Bazar, Nabi Karim, Qadam Sharif, Ram Nagar, Pahargani, Model Basti, Manakpura NS, Shahdara Town, Jhandewalan Scheme - Block E, etc. were all in the Master Plan. Who is responsible for them? Why did these authorities go to them? I would like to ask this from them. Why were they destroyed? Nobody seems to answer it. Some of these areas fall in my area, and we pleaded with these people that under the First Master Plan these were cleared, and they are known as commercial areas.

There was a Commissioner, Mr. Wilson, at the time of British Raj. He was asked by the Viceroy to [ ) and see Pahaadi Dheeraj, Bahadurgarh Road, and at hat time it was declared as commercial, that is, in 1928, I low, these people are coming and sealing the place and saying that you are using it commercially. According to the DDA's Plan, the roads are shown as 60 feet, but according to the Plans of the British time, the roads are shown as 40 feet. This is the kind of map we have, and the kind of plans we have. The MCD Commissioner apologized when I showed these original maps, but the shops had already been sealed. They have been destroyed, but no one is being held responsible for it. I would like to ask you, why the traders should suffer. Under the Master Plan of 1962, the DDA, the MCD or whichever authority is concerned, they were supposed to have 75 districts in Delhi, but only nine have come up. From 1962 to 2006, you should have at least 200 districts, but only nine have come up. Why should the people be held responsible for it? From 1962. 300 Community Centres should have come up, but only 35 have come up; 1,250 Shopping Centres should have come up, but only 135 have come up. I am talking about the 1962 Master Plan; I am not talking about the 2006 Master Plan. Who is responsible for this? Are we going to be irresponsible? When people open shops, I want to ask the Resident Welfare Associations as to what authority do they have, and whether the people who opened shops are not residents. Since they are old, since some of them

## (Shri Jagdish Tytler)

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lost their children and they cannot pay the taxes, they have opened small shops. But somebody who is well off goes to the court and gets a stay order against them. What happens to those people whose grown up children are no more and who have opened a shop? Who is going to be responsible for them? Nobody is giving any answers to them. But somebody goes and says that some Resident Welfare Associations have put garlands around his neck because he saved them. If it is not for Reddy or Ajay Maken, what would have happened?

I do not want to name anybody. I want to ask on behalf of those people who are suffering whether there is anybody to give answers to them.

Now, I come to schools. Liquor shops can be opened, but the schools must close, what a shame it is. There are 1700 recognized schools which are operating on unauthorized lands. Out of these 1700, only 383 schools are operating on authorized lands. What is going to happen to the rest? Delhi needs bye-laws. I want you to change the laws. I want to give a suggestion to you. There are 1700 recognized schools which are on unauthorized lands. There are 2,000 private schools including nursery schools; hundreds of them are unrecognized, but they are operating on private lands. There are only 382 schools which are in their proper places.

According to the Master Plan 2001, I am not talking about 2006 or 2021, there are supposed to be 7,500 senior secondary schools, and we have only 1,700 schools today. If you take the 2021 Master Plan, do you know how many schools we need in Delhi? You need, maybe, around 17,000 schools, and not 7,500 schools, and you are going to charge crores of rupees per acre. Who is going to give that much money - the Birlas, the Tatas or the Modis? You have schools like Vasant Valley, Vasant Kunj that ply airconditioned buses to transport children. My father started the Delhi Public School, Summerfield School and the J.D. Tytler School. We have over 115 schools, and they can afford to give three crore rupees per acre, but if somebody generally wants to start a school and help the Government, where are they going to get the money from? Do you want the black-marketeers to come and run the schools? Do you want people who earn their money in unscrupulous ways to come and run the schools? You must give land to these schools at one rupee per yard. You can put as many conditions as you want to put, but please do not charge commercial rates. You are charging commercial rates even for hospitals.

#### [Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, till 1972 the rate of land was Rs. 5 thousand per yard. ...(Interruptions)

# [English]

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: I do not want anything, Prof. Malhotra. I want to speak for the people of Delhi, and I am not speaking for any particular class. I just want to tell you this much.

## [Translation]

SHRI AJAY MAKEN: Madam Chairman, these people started on commercial lines which included hospitals and setting up of commercial areas. I am quoting it as per record. NDA Government started it for higher education. ...(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Maken ji, please speak in detail when you reply to it.

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV: The hon. Member is speaking on a very important issue, please let him speak.

## [English]

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: I want to use this forum to request the hon. Prime Minister, Shri Reddy and the Youngman, Shri Maken, please for God's sake keep as many conditions as you want and conduct as many inspections as you want, but do not commercialise schools. We have to go and see the schools in South Delhi and see the kind of children studying there. They are the same children studying who belong to the families of Residence Welfare Associations owning a land for Rs.10 crore per acre. They are paying Rs.2,000 or Rs.3,000 a month as fees. Do you want a person to pay Rs.3 crore per acre who cannot afford to do pay this amount and who cannot even put his children in these schools? These are the schools which are coming and asking you to pay Rs.3 crore per acre. I do not know what kind of a thinking is this! For God's sake, I would like to make one personal request. Keep schools out of what we call 'trade'. School is not a trading centre. School is not a shop. Those who are running the schools as a shop, close those schools. I will be the first to say this. I am a son of a man who started schools in Delhi. I know what I am talking about. I see the conditions of the schools also. But I want to tell you one thing. There was a time - all the hon. Members must listen to this - when higher secondary education results were out, St. Columba's School, Delhi Public Schools,

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Rule 193

Summerfields, and Springdales schools children used to come first. As soon the Central Schools have started coming up, you see the results. All the top schools have disappeared. Only middle class children who are studying in these Central Schools are coming first and occupying positions. These are the schools which give proper education, not the air-conditioned schools where children get lunch from a five star hotels. That is the kind of schools which are coming up now because they have brought the land by paying Rs.3 crore per acre. That is something which I observed. Please keep the word 'trader' out of the schools.

I do not want to take too much time. This is for Shri Reddy. Look at the scale of taxation which you have just announced. Do you know that this is going to hit the man so badly that he is not going to stand and give you what you wanted? In 'a' and 'b' categories, it is Rs.3,005 per sq. metres; with excess floor area, they will have to pay over and above the floor area ratio; in 'c' and 'd' categories, it is Rs.1,400 per sq. metres; in 'e', 'f' and 'g' categories, it is Rs.700 per sq. metres. Can you imagine who has got 50 vards of plot, he is asked to give Rs.490 per sq. metres every time he puts up a new building. Can he give it? It is simply impossible. In the same manner, rates were hiked in the buildings. In 'a' and 'b' categories, it is Rs.4,020 per sq. metres. These are the important matters I want to bring to your notice that in 'c' and 'd' categories, the rate is Rs.1,610 per sq. metres; in 'e' and 'f' categories, the rate is Rs.805 per sq. metres: a plot exceeding 50 sq. metres is sold at Rs.564 per sq. metres. As per the 23.07.1998 notification, the rates are: in 'a' and 'b' categories, it is Rs.4,370 per sq. metres; in 'c' and 'd' categories, it is Rs. 1,750 per sq. metres. These are the rates and the Delhi people will not be able to take and we would again be going back, and unauthorized constructions and unauthorized buildings will be coming up. I want to make a request.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: These are residential and commercial rates.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Yes. These are the rates which have just been notified. But the DDA fortunately has not notified as yet. I hope you would come up with the reply.

Before I close, I would like to say that in my constituency, the DDA says that they cannot bring the rates down when the new shops are going to be allotted. I want to give an instance. In Guru Teg Bahadur Nagar, which is in my constituency, which used to be called Hudson and Outram lanes, these are the places where 80, 120 and 15 metres plots were given in Nehru Nagar by DDA at exorbitant prices, which they cannot afford. I approached Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister, I said: "Madam, can these people afford?" Here we talk of people trying to help the poor. You would be surprised. Shri Jag Mohan was the Vice-Chairman at that time. The DDA did everything possible under the sun but the Minister said nothing and that it would not be done.

I was the Member of Parliament from that Constituency. I went to Shrimati Indira Gandhi. I said that Madam, they cannot afford it and that you cannot do this. These are the people who are poor refugees. Do you know that the same plots of 80 square yards and 120 square yards were given at Rs. 15000 and Rs. 18000 respectively? I am not talking about a yard but the total plot. The plots of 1500 square yard were given at Rs.1500 per month installment for five years. So it can be done if you want. You make as much money as you want from all these commercial centres like Malls and put it back to the people. When you give it to the poor people, make sure that the rates are low as Shrimati Gandhi had done at that time because you can afford it. If you have got a hotel plot of 800 square yard costing Rs.150 crore or Rs.200 crore, by all means you take Rs.300 crore from them. But when you give it to the poor people, come back and do what Shrimati Indira Gandhi did and what the Congress Party thinks.

## [Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Madam Chairman, as a Member of Parliament I am speaking for the first time.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Is it your maiden speech?

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Yes, as a Member of Parliament, it is my maiden speech.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Then I welcome it.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: When Shri Reddy was in the opposition, I was the Minister of Textiles. Though I hail from Bihar, I got my education from Delhi itself and I am well aware of the areas of Delhi. I used to live in Shri Sajjan Kumar's area. He knows it that I am well conversant with the geographical position of Delhi, and the problems of villages and cities. I have been well aware of it since 1985.

Madam, when I returned to Delhi after the elections from Bihar, I was not only surprised but pained too. I visited earthquake affected areas of Gujarat. The condition over there was similar to the one in Iraq. When bombers drop bombs in the area, the buildings get razed to the ground. Demolition drive created similar scenario in Delhi.

[Shri Syed Shahnawaz Hussain]

Though I have nothing more to say in this regard since the leader of my party Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra has spoken at length on this issue.

Madam, five speakers from both the sides have spoken on this issue. So, as a sixth speaker when I got up to speak, almost there seems to be nothing new left to dwell upon; however I would like to draw the attention towards certain important points. Shri Jaodish Tytler has added new dimension to it by adding the issue of schools into it. Demolition of houses or shops is a national loss as a large quantity of cement, gravel or iron-bars used in construction go waste. That's why cement has become so dearer. Cement used in construction goes waste if buildings are demolished. Likewise, there is dual loss of labour. Iron rods also go in waste, where as these rods are quite costly now. Therefore, this aspect should be borne in mind before resorting to demolition. Loss to any individual should be avoided as loss to individual is a national loss.

Madam, Through you, I would like to know as to who permitted the situation to come to such a pass. Allegations and counter allegations will not serve any purpose here. A little while ago, one of our colleagues speaking on behalf of the Communist Party has stated that it is not proper to level allegations and counter allegations. Here at the Centre, only two parties — our party or the Congress — were successful in forming the Government. The Communists never got an opportunity to form the Government in Delhi. Therefore, the responsibility for creating this situation lies on either our party or on Congress Party. We cannot shirk our responsibility in Delhi.

Madam, I would like to say that there is politics behind this move and shopping mall people are the most benefited ones from this situation. Whenever shops were demolished in Delhi, mall people were the happiest lot because the prices - of their shops soared overnight. When MG-I was demolished, the rate of the rent for space of mall rose to Rs. 5000 per foot from Rs. 500 per foot. Being a former Minister of Ministry of Textiles, I know that when a big designer's tag is added to the clothes coming from the villages and is taken to big show-rooms, there it is sold on a very high price. Today, the situation is such that they want to build shopping malls in entire Delhi and they want to dislocate all the small shopkeepers and traders from here. Consequently, the prices of the sites of the mall are growing by leaps and bounds. Earlier also I have brought it to your notice that even among the Congress people, internal conflicts are going on regarding the current plight of Delhi. They are also not satisfied with the current situation. Here the situation is; MCD versus Delhi Government. While presenting his views, Shri Malhotraji has stated that MCD suo-motu had stated in court that they do not have powers for sealing and the court conferred upon them these powers. The people of Delhi are forced to bear the brunt of the fight between MCD and the Delhi Government. I would like to say that there should not be any politics in this regard.

My friend, Shri Yadavji is right now not present-here. He was saying that there should be rural based industries. Most of the people who came here during the last 15 years are from the state of Bihar. Had there been any village based industries in Bihar, they would not have migrated from there. Had he been present here, I would have asked him to point out the people who were responsible for their migration. Today everyone wants to come to Delhi and everybody should have this right. Be it Delhi or Mumbai, everybody wants to reach these two cities as one is country's financial capital and the other is the political capital. No one can prevent anybody from coming here. But one should also be aware of the reasons owing to which village people are forced to migrate to metro cities. The reason is that, means of employment are available here.

Madam Chairman, through you I would like to say that this is not the time to level accusations against one another. People of Delhi are watching this Debate with the hope that whether we merely deliver our speeches or try to earn brownie points against one another or help the people of Delhi to get rid of their grief. Shri Reddyji is like my elder brother, he is a friend of mine, he is a very capable Minister. I have very high regards for him. Shri Ajay Maken also is a very efficient Minister and he is also a friend of mine. They have ruled for many years. NDA Government was in power only for five years. If I refer to many Committees, then the allotted time will be over. ...(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: You just give suggestions which may provide relief to everybody.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: I always restrict myself, within the time limit. It is my goodfortune that whenever I have spoken, the Chair has never been forced to ring the bell. I always conclude my speech before the bell goes off.

I would like to say that their Government has been in power for seven and a half years and the people of Delhi have treated them with utmost affection. Madam, you are also a Member of Parliament from Delhi. Except Malhotraji, all the other Members from Delhi belong to the Congress 361

Party. They have got complete majority in Legislative Assembly also. The people of Delhi have also entrusted them with the control of the MCD. So, Tumne hi dard diva hai, Tum hi dawa dena' (you caused the pain, so you, yourself should apply balm also). There is no point in discussing what happened during the year 1952 or in the year 1955. Tytler saheb was making reference to a period when I was not even born. I do not even want to know about the said reference. I know only this that in Delhi and at the center, their Governments are in power, MCD is also under their control. Therefore, it is their responsibility to ease the grief and distress of the people of Delhi.

Tytlerji has made a very good point about schools. Though I am an MP from Bihar, yet my wife is a teacher working in an MCD school in Delhi. Therefore, I have some idea about the schools. Many a time, I have been to the school to drop and pick up my wife. I have seen Delhi's schools and I feel that there has been not much of a difference between Bihar's schools and those of Delhi during the last 15 years. In Delhi's Government Schools, there is neither any proper arrangement for toilets nor for potable water. The situation is such that some schools are deprived of even buildings and classes are conducted in tents. I would like to say that through this they are also hatching a conspiracy to destroy the schools built by the private sector. On the other hand, compared to the number of students in Delhi, the number of teachers is not sufficient. If the ratio is 40 children per teacher in each school, then they need to open more schools. In Bihar, the ratio was 200 children per teacher, but Nitlsh Kumarji's Government appointed 2 lakh 36 thousand teachers. There should be one teacher for every 40 children, we have made it possible in Bihar. Through you, I urge that by treating Bihar Government as a model, Delhi Government should put in place similar arrangement which will resolve the problem. People come to Delhi from every corner and Delhi is the mirror of the country. All the Congress MPs from Delhi are my friends, but their Government is hatching a conspiracy to defeat them. If this goes on like this, it will definitely prove to be harmful for them. I have very high regards for Shri Sajjan Kumarji. He need not congratulate the Government as he has an imposing and strong personality. It is he who should be extended congra-tulations. He should forcefully present his view point as Shri Tytler has done. On this front, he should wage a strong struggle. If he will fight, then only he will be saved. ...(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: You please spell out the solution to the sealing issue.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: I am indeed

suggesting the solution to the sealing issue. When people vote for them, it is not for congratulating their own Government. People vote for them, therefore, if their own Government is committing anything wrong, they should stand up to them and forcefully present their views.

Therefore, I do not want to prolong my speech. This is my maiden speech as an opposition Member. Earlier many a time. I have spoken in the capacity of a Minister. but as an MP, I followed the orders given to me by my leader Vijay ii and I did not go about collecting voluminous documents instead after listening to other hon'ble Members' speeches, I presented my views and I want that they should mitigate the hardships of the people, they should do this by rising above party-lines and act in the interest of Delhi.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Ratnagiri): Madam Chairman, a discussion on the sealing drive is being held here under Rule 193 and after the discussion the reply will be given by the Government in this regard. The Minister of Urban Development, Shri S. Jaipal Reddy has left the House, however, hon'ble Aiav Maken is present here and he is from Delhi. As far as the present condition of traders, doctors, nursing homes and schools running in Delhi and the residents living in unauthorized colonies is concerned, it is precarious, and as per my information there are seven lakh traders against whom action is likely to be taken. If action is taken against these 30 lakh traders then at least 30 lakh people will be rendered jobless. If the sealing process continues then at least 30 lakh people who are presently employed, may lose their lobs. There are 30 thousand doctors, dispensaries and nursing homes which have been identified for sealing. There are 1700 senior secondary schools, 1500 computer trading centers, 800 guesthouses and more than 1400 unauthorized colonies constructed on DDA land. I feel that nearly 60 percent of Delhi is affected by this and probably the percentage may be more than that. More than 60 lakh population is affected on account of this action.

MCD and DDA are being held responsible for this. If DDA is responsible then the Government of India is also indirectly responsible for this. The State Government and the Central Government, both are responsible for this. All these houses, buildings or colonies have not come up during the last 5-10 years; rather, these have been / constructed during the last 40 years. There are some buildings which are even older than 40 years. The traders of Delhi are doing their business for the last more than 40 years and I feel that at that time Delhi was a Union Territory. So, the entire responsibility of all this mess lies with the then Central Government, particularly the Ministry of Home

## [Shri Anant Gangaram Geete]

Affairs. The question is not as to who is in power at present or who is heading the Government. As far as the present condition of Delhi on account of sealing drive is concerned, at the very outset, I have said that the discussion will be held on this issue under Rule 193 and the hon'ble Minister will give his reply. I feel that there is no need of a reply in respect of today's discussion. Even if a reply is to be given, it should focus on how we can provide relief through this House to our more than 60 lakh population who are affected on account of sealing. ...(Interruptions) Being the representatives of the people, it is our responsibility to mitigate the suffering of the people. I come from Maharashtra, however, I am also a Member of this House, so I would like to submit. ...(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Please do not indulge in cross discussion.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Madam Chairman, that is why I have given these figures. The question is that all this took place during the last forty years and all these people paid crores of rupees as tax to the Government of India. Crores of rupees were paid as property tax and sale tax to the State Government. Crores of rupees were paid to the Municipality as the Municipal local taxes. Licences were issued to all these people by the MCD. The State Government has issued separate licences. There are several such institutions which have got licences, if needed, from the Government of India as well. Now, the question is that despite all these facts, these structures are being declared as unauthorized. So, instead of holding discussion and giving reply by the hon'ble Minister, the Government should apprise the House as to what measures it propose to take in this regard. I listened to the whole discussion and concluded that nobody seemed to be interested in finding out a permanent solution to this problem. The Government should first express its will power in the House as to whether it is really interested in finding out a final solution to this problem, if the Government desire, then I am fully confident that the House will render its full support in this regard. It is not the matter of dispute between two political parties. We may express our different views on the streets; however, the present condition of Delhi is not good as has been just now submitted by hon'ble Shahnawaz Hussain that crores of rupees have been invested in the construction of structures. From the present sealing drive it seems that nearly sixty per cent of the city is unauthorized and if the sealing of the houses and shops continues in this fashion then one can understand the quantum of loss to be suffered by the business community because crores of rupees of the

banks and financial institutions have been invested in business. Tytlerji has feft after delivering his speech. In his speech he referred to the schools. There are seventeen hundred secondary schools. Providing education is the constitutional responsibility of the Government. In a parliamentary democracy, the responsibility of the primary schools lies with the local authority. Similarly, the responsibly of secondary as well as the higher secondary education lies with the State Governments. However, in view of the size of population of the country, which ever party is in power, no Government can fulfill its cent percent responsibility of providing the education. Presently, more than fifty percent responsibility of imparting education is being shouldered by the private institutions. The works that should have been done by the Government are being performed by these institutions. If they are supplementing the efforts of the Government, then it is the responsibility of the Government to cooperate with and provide all necessary protection to those institutions. If these schools are closed, what will be the future of those students studying in these seventeen hundred schools? Even the wastage of one year in a student's life affects his academic career. Without taking this serious matter as a mere discussion. I would like the hon'ble Minister to not only give his reply in this regard under Rule 193 on behalf of the Government but also issue a statement in the House illustrating how he will solve his problem.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA (Hazaribagh): Madam Chairman, the issue of sealing in Delhi is very serious and all of us should unitedly find a solution to it. BJP or Congress, both these parties are targetting each other and both are politicizing the issue. BJP as well as the party in power are equally responsible for this problem. BJP did nothing when it was in power and sealing issue rocked while Congress is in power. Order of the hon. Supreme Court has awakened them from slumber. The judiciary is treating the action of the Government as a contempt of court or a tussle with traders. This issue is concerning over 50 lakh people living in Delhi. The way, the judiciary is passing new orders. it appears that it is encroaching upon the domain of the executive. Sealing drive in Delhi has affected over 50 thousand people. MCD has identified 183 roads affecting 15 lakh people directly. What shall be their future? What action plans the Government have evolved to regularize the shops, the hon. Minister should clarify it in his reply. What would be the future of families of 4-5 lakh small-shop owners, 4-5 lakh rickshaw pullers, who have come to Delhi from different parts of the country and more than 6 lakh streetvendors who carry out their daily job in Chandni Chowk, Karol Bagh etc.? Lakhs of people are living in 1500

unauthorized colonies. What MCD was doing when such colonies were coming up? They took bribe and allowed the construction. MCD did not come in their way. Both these parties have been at the helm of affairs, but none of them ever thought about the shape it would take in future? My submission is that the Government should take up regularization of the said 5000 colonies and also think about the 5-6 lakh small-shop owners and make alternative arrangements for them. Also, the Government should evolve mechanisms to regularize the expanded portions in plots allotted by DDA, wherein allottees have carried out unauthorized expansion. This problem is not new, it has been going on for several years and none paid attention to it. And when it grew exponentially, became out of control. the Government are out to ruin them. It has become a war like situation in Delhi. On the one side there are poor people, traders and just in front of them the BSF contingents are prepared to tackle any anti-sealing move if it arises. My submission is that the Government should evolve a Master Plan to provide alternative arrangements for people, small shop owners, rickshaw pullers, vendors etc. and it should be done in a time-bound manner. They should be immediately rehabilitated. The hon. Member has rightly said that this is not the time to make speeches or level allegations against one other. We should find out the ways to help poor people, common-man, shopkeepers, schools, nursing homes or computer centers in Delhi. I would like the Government to make alternative arrangements for 50 lakh poor people who have come here from Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Orissa etc. in search of livelihood. What would be their fate, the fate of rickshaw puller or other poor people? Make alternative arrangements before undertaking sealing, otherwise they would be ruined. The Government do not exist for ruining them but to provide employment to them. Therefore, the Government should make alternative arrangements before resorting to sealing.

#### [English]

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Madam Chairman, I consider it a privilege to participate in this very important debate.

#### [Translation]

In the beginning of this debate I was apprehensive that this debate may get derailed as Members resorted to charges and counter charges. But now the debate has come on the right track. If we blame the BJP that it did nothing to solve it during its six years stint then they would charge the Congress that it has been in power since independence, but what did it do? It would provide no relief to a common man. We want a way out whereby common man in Delhi may get relief as 60-70 per cent

people in Delhi have come from other states in search of jobs. If we ruin them, it would mean, we ruin not only Delhi but the nation as a whole. So, in view of it, we should try to find a way out.

Madam, first, I would like to make 2-3 points. Planning process is a quite complicated task which needs foresightedness. At the time of preparing Delhi Development Plan, i.e. Master Plan in 1962 a need was felt to prepare next master plan after 20 years. What does it mean? It means, the persons who prepared plan for 20 years should have considered how the needs of the people over the next 20 years would be met? After the expiry of 20 years, a new plan for fulfilling the needs of the people in Delhi should have been evolved. Now since 20 years have gone by, Shri Jagdish Tytler has provided us complete details through the data. No plan was prepared in 1982. Asiad was held in 1986. Master Plan was envisaged to be prepared after Asian Games were over. And it remained unprepared. The Plan 2001 was notified in the year 1990. but the needs of 1962 and 1982 had to be met, which could not be. Though the Master Plan was notified in 1990 but its land use was notified in 1996 when the specified next 20 years were nearing completion. The fault is in planning process. Then DDA was entrusted this task. But it failed to foresee the shape of things to come in Delhi. Last 50 years should be kept in mind while preparing a plan.

#### [English]

If you look at any city abroad, you will find that the richest people live in sub-urbs. Why do they live in the suburbs? They live in the suburbs because they have the economic strength to travel from the suburban area to the centre of the city to work. But in Delhi, the richest people live in Aurangazeb Road, the richest people live in Prithviraj Road. The rich people are living in the centre of the city. In other words, instead of the rich people living in the suburban areas, it is just the opposite of any urban development.

## 16.56 hrs.

(Mr. Speaker in the Chair)

#### [Translation]

It resulted in steep hike in property prices as the rich 'people wanted to buy land in the centre of Delhi. Recently, a company purchased a plot in Delhi for rupees 137 crore. Secondly, all the poor people, especially migrant refugees were rehabilitated in Delhi. All of them live in the centre of Delhi. These people have to send their children to schools which are located in suburbs. Affluent people can send

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#### [Shri Kapil Sibal]

their children out side but the poor cannot afford. Therefore, schools have become a necessity. If there is no space for the schools in centre, still the children would study whether or not the Government or courts likes it. And hence the schools would be opened even if these are unauthorized. We cannot demolish them. Schools are the need of our children and children are the future of our country, so, we will not allow the courts to close them.

# [English]

Sir, a very interesting thing happened when I met a most significant architect of this country, I will not give the name. He came up to me and said: 'Mr. Sibal, I am really surprised at the kind of debate that is going on in this country.' I said: 'What is the problem?' He said: 'If there is an unauthorized building that has come up somewhere, the question that is to be asked is, why has it come up? It has come up because it represents the needs of the community. If it has come up, somewhere along the line the planning process has failed because it is the planning process which ought to have determined the need of the community and ensured that instead of an unauthorized structure, there should have been an authorized structure and if that has not happened, then the planning process has failed. Why do you blame the poor people?

Sir, the real problem is, the law is far behind the dynamics of economic activity.

#### [Translation]

The law was enacted in the form of Master Plan in the year 1962; however, the pace of economic activity was faster than the law. Reality is that activity, law is not the reality.

## [English]

Law represents the mirage of the reality.

## [Translation]

Today, what is the reality? We can see any planning process and ask any architect, he would suggest us to regulate our planning as per the reality. It would not be proper if we do not recognize the reality and plan as per our wishes. Today, the reality is that 60 to 70 percent people are poor in Delhi and the populace too have as much right to reside in Delhi as the others have. So we should make our building planning process keeping this reality in mind.

## (English)

In other words, regulations in respect of urban areas must recognize the reality of Delhi, must not destroy the reality of Delhi and no institution can afford to do that. That is why, we stand here not for the purpose of criticizing anybody. That is not our task, that is not how it should happen.

#### 17.00 hrs.

But the complexities of the planning process are not subject to judicial determination. It is very difficult to have judicial parameters for planning process because it is the planner who understands the needs of the community.

In one sense, I think, we should be grateful to the Supreme Court of India because in a sense the Supreme Court has started a debate in this country, the Supreme Court by saying that 'we will implement the law that you have yourselves placed on the Book'. We are saying that if you do not implement the law, do something else. To that extent, we are grateful to the Supreme Court because it has now become a matter of national debate. But, at the same time, the Supreme Court must also realize that there is a reality of Delhi that we cannot destroy.

Sir, I am sorry to say that most of us, when we go abroad, we think of London, we think of New York, we think of European cities and we want to replicate those European Union cities in India. It is not possible. It should not happen. I would be the saddest person in this country, if that happens. India itself has a soul, every city in India has a soul. We must cherish that soul, the soul of India or the people of India and the way they live, the diversity of culture, the way in which they interact with each other and no institution should destroy that soul of India. We will not allow that to happen and that is very important.

There are one or two things, because lots of people have already spoken, that I want to share with you. One of the biggest handicaps that we have had in this country is that we have never allowed technology to be used in the planning process. I just want to give you two examples. When the whole issue of unauthorized constructions came up, I, in my Ministry, decided that I would produce a technology by which we would be able to say what are the kind of unauthorized constructions that are going on in Delhi from a room. I took the most difficult part of Delhi, which is Zone I. I was able to produce a technology which I have now handed over and I spent about Rs.3 crore to Rs.4 crore on this.

Now, what we have done is that we used satellite.

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we have used videography on the ground and we have actually gone to every dwelling unit in MCD Zone I in Delhi and got facts about the number of people staying there and working there, whether it is in houses or it is in commercial establishments. We have all used that in a software and we have got live cameras which have a range of about five kilometers.

#### [Translation]

We can monitor it from our rooms

# [English]

and that has a data base. Say if you have January 1, 2007, if that is the base.

#### [Translation]

If a house is constructed there on 30th January and a new window is added in that house we can monitor it, that a window has been constructed.

## [English]

MR. SPEAKER: Inside the bedroom also?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: No, it is outside. Inside the bedroom will happen when our political culture changes. I hope that never happens.

MR. SPEAKER: It has happened.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: But we can monitor that. This technology can be used for traffic control. This technology can be used if there is a fire anywhere because we will know how to reach those people, which is the best route. This technology can be used for anything, any activity that takes place. We have the technology and I believe if you extend to all of Delhi, it will take about 14 months. Then in the future, we can control unauthorized construction if it takes place in a manner which is not inconsistent with our view of what Delhi should be in 2021. That is number one.

The second thing that we can do with this technology is and I will share that with you. One of the biggest problems we have with Delhi is the infrastructure problem.

# [Translation]

There is power theft. Water is wasted because of leakage in water pipe. 50 per cent water gets wasted in leakage. I had been to the Mexico City. It is slightly above the sea level. The poorest man there lives at the top. Taking water to the top for him is most costly. So, the poorest man has to pay the highest charges for water. I

wonder if we could make a similar project in Delhi on the lines of Mexico City. How to make water available to the poorest in the most inexpensive manner. Last month, one of their teams arrived in Delhi and we prepared a project. We shall put a sensor on each pipe through this technology. It will be possible to identify the leakage point through those sensors. These days it is difficult to identify the leakage point, even if one continues to dig for long. Repairs will also become easier. Delhi should be clean, It should be disease free. People should live in unison. All these things are right, however, if we do not use modern technology we will be at a great loss, I would like to submit that formulating 2021 Master Plan in one month is no solution. The Master Plan should be prepared with farsightedness, keeping in mind how the needs of Delhi would be met in the next twenty years. It would not be proper if a Master Plan is prepared without zonal plans or zonal plan is prepared without a sub-plan. There is no use of that. The person residing in a house should know whether it is safe to live there or not? It is not done. This is the problem. I would like to cite a few examples which are really necessary. Master Plan was proposed in the year 1982; however, nothing came up. As stated by me earlier, the Master Plan came up in the year 2001, between 1982 and 2001, only 6 zonal plans were formulated against a target of 15, 10 district centers were set up against the targeted 29; 6 whole-sale markets came up against the targeted 13. And the most important is that 2560 shopping centers were targetted to be constructed where as only 600 were constructed. As a result, the demand of the people could not be met with. It is not that the people would stop buying things.

# [English]

There is a gap Between-demand and supply. If you were supposed to make 2560 shopping centres, and you make 600 centres, then somebody is going to fill the gap. And that shopping centre is not going to be made 20 miles away; it is going to be made where people live. If those people live and are providing services to those shopping centres, how is that unauthorized? I think, it is the most authorized service that those people are performing. How do you call it unauthorized? It is unauthorized because you are judging it from the 1962 Plan, by your Municipal Bye laws. If your Municipal Bye laws have not kept up with the dynamics of economic activity, it is not the fault of the consumer; it is the fault of the planning authority; it is the fault of your being not able to continuously update the law.

#### [Translation]

Who knew that there would be information technology

### [Shri Kapil Sibal]

revolution and people would start operating from house? It was not known in the year 1962 and 1982. Today, one may not go to office and work from home. If 10 people sit at home and work from there, what is the harm in that. But that is defined as commercial activity. If MCD law has not been changed with the changes in I.T., then the result is that the activity has become commercial. An architect can solve the problem of people by sitting at home without having to go to the site, but if 10 people work in a room, it would be deemed as commercial activity and the establishment would be illegal and unauthorized.

## [English]

It is because, you have not been able to keep pace with the dynamics of change. So, I would suggest that you scrap all this. What you need is a law that constantly changes with the time. What you need is a permanent monitoring system which looks at the needs of the community as they arise. Five lakh people come from outside Delhi every year.

#### [Translation]

If you do not mind, I was quoting figures which I would like to complete. I would like to state about water. We needed 1024 million gallon water which was targeted but we got 650 million gallon. This way the needs were not met with.

#### [English]

Therefore, people decided through private enterprise to actually meet the needs of the community. The same problem is going to arise in the 2021 Master Plan, as in the draft stage.

I just want to demonstrate that. The water requirement that we have is 1,840 million gallon tonnes for 2021 but water under the Draft 2021 Master Plan is for 919 million gallon tonnes.

#### [Translation]

I mean that we had introduced this in the draft but we projected need could not be met with. So, there should not be any hurry. Our power requirement is 8800 megawatt.

# [English]

but the provision under the draft plan is for 1,800 MW. That means there will be a shortage of 7,000 MW in the draft 2021 Master Plan. Please do not say, "Please implement it tomorrow." This is a no way to plan a city or a

nation. Please take your time. Make the Zonal Plan. It should not be that you notify the Master Plan without the Zonal Plan and the Sub-Zonal Plan. Use world-class experts to look at Delhi, to see what the future of Delhi should be in the context of the needs of Delhi, and then notify the Master Plan. In the meantime, please go to the Court and say: "Look, these are the problems." Place all these figures before the Court, I am sure that the Court will appreciate that position. If the Court still does not appreciate that position, then what for you and I? Then, we will ensure that the people of Delhi get justice because we are here to give justice to our people, and that has to be ensured by the Government in power. I do not see any divisiveness in this debate. The issue is not Court versus Executive, Court versus Legislature. The issue is the planning process. The Court does not have the wherewithal to understand the dynamics of the planning process. We, on this side, have failed to understand it also. The fault is not of the Court. You give them a law and they want to implement it. We have a law which is far out-served its utility because that law is irrelevant to the needs of the community today. That is what we have to do. That is what we have to match.

Sir, what we are doing in the 2021 Master Plan is this. The normal consumption of people per capita for the purposes of water is 80 gallons per capita per day. Under the 2021 Master Plan, we reduced it to 30 gallons per capita per day because we do not have the resources, and in some cases we have reduced it to five gallons per capita per day. Can a man live with five gallons per capita per day? Why? This will ultimately go to the poor jhuggi-jhonpri people. You will tell them to live with five gallons per capita per day but the rich man will get 30 gallons per capita per day.

Sir, I would suggest that in terms of basic requirements, there is no difference between rich and poor. I would say that the poor must pay much less than the rich for basic services in this city, in all the cities of India, in this country, and we should never forget that.

Sir, I have a couple of things more and then I have done. Take, for example, housing. As far as housing is concerned, under 2001 Master Plan, there were to be 16.2 lakh dwelling units in addition to what existed in 1982 but the estimates reveal that only 5.6 lakh dwelling units were built.

## [Translation]

They say that these were unauthorized. Only five lakh dwelling units were constructed against the required

16 lakhs, so ten lakh will be unauthorized. Fourteen hundred colonies are unauthorized as no land was allotted to them. What will you do? Would Sainik farms be destroyed although they were on private land. Anant dairy is on Government land, would it also be demolished? How many buildings would be demolished? How many years would it take? Today only one or two walls of the buildings have been demolished but the building is there itself. First it will be demolished, then debris would be cleared. If they do not have demolition technology how it would be demolished? If it would be hammered down then it would take years and the debris would be transported in trucks but where it would be thrown? How many buildings would be demolished and how many years would it take? This approach is wrong.

As far as the population is concerned, the estimated population of Delhi is 13.8 million people as per the census figures.

## [English]

The population of Delhi is going to be 13.8 million people. At the moment, it is 1.28 crore.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: No.

#### [Translation]

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: You are counting it as a whole, I am only counting core areas.

#### [English]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: The figure of 1.38 crore. At the moment it is 1.6 crore.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Yes, now, it is 1.6 crore.

## [Translation]

Now tell me how you will fulfill all the expectations. Number of schools and guest houses will have to be increased. You have auctioned five star hotels, but if common men, poor persons, lower middle class persons, middle class persons come to Delhi, then where will they stay. For that guest houses need to be built. It will not help him to stay at a distance of 15 miles from Delhi. They also want to live in Delhi, because it is their need also. If land is allotted then only residential places and guest houses will be built. What is wrong in it, there is a need to build them. If the hon'ble Member wants to fulfill their needs then these should be built I would rather say

### [English]

that is an essential service, this is not unauthorized; it is authorized service to the people. It is unauthorized because you do not look at the totality of the situation. This is, Sir the issue that I would like to place, I feel that the time has come when all of us need to get together.

## [Translation]

Malhotraji, you should not be saying what we have done and what others have done because it has no use. This will neither give relief to your public nor to our people. Delhi belongs to everyone. Delhi is ours and everyone should be benefited. You demand that the Government should bring relief. I sought your suggestions and you said that MCD Act should be scrapped, it should be amended and power of sealing should be scrapped. If you scrap the power of sealing, even then the public will not be benefited. It's simple, because the Court will say that it has been scrapped but the law remains the same. If the Government stops sealing, then the Court will proceed to do so.

# [English]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: How can they do it?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: You say: "How can they do it?" When it will happen, then what will you say? Then, you will say that put it in the IXth Schedule.

MR. SPEAKER: The ultimate question is: "Who will do it?"

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: That is right. Who will? That is the question. That is the question I want to answer. I want to deal with that.

MR. SPEAKER: Even if there is a law, who will do it?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: That is right. The question I want to answer is this. The only authority, which ultimately deals with the planning process is the Parliament, and the Parliament has failed in its duty in not recognizing the needs of the people of this city; and we need to correct ourselves.

MR. SPEAKER: Well, I do not accept that.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: I say it, Sir. I think, the planning process has gone perfectly all right.

MR. SPEAKER: Parliament as an institution has not . falled.

## ...(Interruptions)

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: It is Parliament's job to put a law in place. ...(Interruptions)

I am sorry, Sir. This is my view. I may be wrong.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Master Plan is not approved by the Parliament.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: That is not the point. We can bring laws in place; we can move Bills; we can make amendments to make sure that the planning process is consistent. That is what I am saying. We, as a body, need to move forward, look at the dynamics of the future and make sure that laws are put in place, which meets the needs of the people of this country. I do not need to blame anybody.

But I think, Sir, I am as responsible as anybody else; I need to persuade my people; you need to persuade them; we need to persuade you; and all of us get together so that we are out of this mess because we are in a mess.

With these words, I thank you very much for allowing me to participate in this discussion.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you very much.

Now, Shri Vijayendra Pal Singh. Please be very brief. We have to conclude this discussion by 6 o'clock.

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH (Bhilwara): Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on this very important issue. What I feel is that as very rightly put-forth by quite a few Members, let us not get into the blame game that we blame the other part and they blame us.

It is very important that this problem has to be sorted out. I also do not agree to what Kapil-ji was saying that the Parliament is at fault because it comes to the Parliament at the last stage to sort it out. It should have been sorted out at the MCD, DDA, planning and the Legislature level, and not at the Parliament's level.

It has come to Parliament at a stage when it is already in a mess. But I agree to the extent that we must get over the blame game. I must also put forth that we are talking of Delhi, which is not just the Capital of India, but it is a city which is recognized in the world as a very, very green city, a heritage city, a city which has a history that no other city can boast of. If that city is ruined, we would all be blamed for it, and that is where we come at Parliament level.

A number of times, problems were sorted out at the judiciary level. But there are times that they step out of the Lakshman Rekha as people have been talking about. But you will recall that when the CNG problem came to Delhi — that was a big problem — the direction came from the judiciary. That was also a time when we were in a mess

about that. There were no CNG pumps. The taxi systems were all going haywire. We were not getting the taxies. All those problems were there. But nobody talks about this now because all that has been sorted out.

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We have to also understand that we have to be a leader in this, in the sense that what we do in Delhi, the same problem is going to be there in other mega cities like Kolkata. It is there in Kolkata. It is there in Mumbai. It is not just in Delhi. So, when it comes to other cities, let us take a lead here. What we do here, should be a sort of guideline for the other cities. There are cities like Jaipur. They are also going to face the same problem. But let us get the best international practices. Do you think that this problem is only in India? Do you think that all other cities like Shanghai, Tokyo, New York did not face this type of problem? What were the best practices they used? Can we not take some sort of cue from them and get the best?

I agree to the extent that what has happened has to be sorted out and it has been very rightly put forth by Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra that we must have some sort of an amnesty with the caution that we do not step over the Lakshman Rekha and then get into a mess. We have to also look in to this and have a balanced view. This is what is required in the city which is a green city.

Whenever we are landing from aeroplanes in Delhi, we see a lot of greeneries. It is a sort of greenery which is not there in many cities, not just in India but in the world. It is not just the Lutyen's Delhi that we are talking about but it is the whole Delhi that we are talking about.

We have to also talk about the satellite cities which have cropped up, and the small shops. Now, you cannot say that we will not get into this mall concept and we will remain where we are. The mall concept has come over in the whole world. It has come here. It is coming in Mumbai. It is coming in Kolkata. Everywhere it is coming. We cannot stop them. But we must be cautious about it. We must also do something about the small shops. Every colony must have shops but there should be guidelines as to where they are going to be put or where it has to be removed and which does not need to be removed. That sort of guidelines has all gone haywire. That is what has to be looked into.

May I also say that how the problem of five lakh shops is going to be sorted out? You need some sort of monitoring. It is not the monitoring that the Supreme Court has said. It is not that kind of monitoring. But we need to have some sort of monitoring, and that must be looked into.

May I also point out what Shri Kapil Sibalii was talking about the other problems? The traffic in Delhi is getting worse by the day. We have to start thinking about that also. These problems were there in other cities like Bangkok. These problems were there in Singapore. In Singapore they have got now a system that only so many cars are going to be plying on the roads of Singapore and not any more and not any less. There is a licence for cars plying on the roads of Singapore. They have set a capacity to that city. Can we also have a capacity to this city that only these numbers of cars are going to be there? Unless we do something like that, the problem of the shops and all that will also be so much on the roads in Delhi that movement here will become very very difficult.

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I come to my last point. We must also think about the historical value of this city. We have got these flyovers. This is a new concept. But in most of the historical and heritage cities, in Europe they do not have the flyovers. They have tunnel system. Why do we not have the tunnel system? The flyovers ruin our skyline; they ruin our city. In Brussels and other places they do not have flyovers. The flyovers are banned there. They are having the tunnel system. If we can have the Metro, why can we not have the tunnel system? This is what I wanted to point out.

#### [Translation]

SHRI SANDEEP DIKSHIT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the last 2-3 hours of debate, various points have been raised regarding sealing in Delhi. I appreciate that some hon'ble Members who spoke before me have said that it should not be the topic of debate as to who did it. Various political comments were made on the same but I will present my views on the subject only because there is shortage of time.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as Shri Sibal and some hon'ble Members said that the problem pertaining to Delhi is beyond doubt because of administrative mismanagement. It is the outcome of the failure of the administration which could not perceive the reality and needs of Delhi, and remained oblivious to the construction agencies, which were working on Delhi's land and which were constructing shops. During the last 20-25 years, Delhi witnessed huge growth, from commercial point of view it became India's leading state in development, but on the other hand it lagged behind when it came to fulfilling the needs of people. Today's problem is mainly due to the failure of the DDA. Possibly, MCD could not use its power and authority, the way it should have used.

17.28 hrs.

(SHRI DEVENORA PRASAD YADAV in the Chair)

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have a few simple suggestions. Shri Kapil Sibal said that a Master Plan may be brought for Delhi by January for sorting out all the problems. The way arrangements are being made, I know that it is a sincere attempt. One suggestion was given by Prof. Malhotra. Whether the present situation can be allowed to prevail? I feel that there is need for deliberation on the same. May be Shopkeepers are responsible for Delhi's present condition, but people who were entrusted with the responsibility of Delhi are more at fault. We need to think whether we can bring in a law to let the present scenario prevail as it is or let it be so with imposition of penalties. The situation puts one in a dilemma. Where on the one hand, we have given relief to 5-6 lakh shopkeepers, on the other hand 11/2 crore shopkeepers including small shopkeepers, big shopkeepers and showroom owners are such who ask as to what they have done that they have been denied relief. Hon'ble Supreme Court has ordered to catch hold of big fishes, without naming any particular individual. I agree that the big fishes have done encroachments, but do they also not want to let the things as they are? In my view, when there is the question of livelihood, whether it is a big shop or a small shop, everyone has the right to run his shop. The owner of the big shop has established his shop in the same circumstances as the owner of the smaller shop. I would like to make an humble request to the hon'ble Minister that he should adopt a sympathetic view in this regard and consider whether we can bring in any such draft. In my view, we can bring on the same. As Shri Kapil II said that on one hand we can present our case before the Court, put all our facts before the Court, accept the failure in planning, there is no harm in accepting one's mistake. This country has made considerable progress in various sectors and is lagging behind in a few also. When we are praised for growth, then we can also accept our shortcomings too, there is no harm in accepting them.

Another thing is about the administrative structure of Delhi, many hon'ble Members must be knowing a bit about Delhi's administrative structure. But only those who deal with the problems of Delhi know what complications arise due to the administrative structure of Delhi. A lot of problems crop up, when co-ordination between officers is attempted. A drain of an half a km of stretch falls within the purview of MCD, then in between it is that of NDMC and further it belongs to CPWD. The problem is regarding dirty water

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going in the one and the same drain but if one organization feels it's a problem then it constructs its part, but other two organizations do not do their bit and because of this the problem of the drain remains unsolved. If there can be such a problem regarding a drain, then it is easy to understand how difficult coordination would be while planning for the entire Delhi, because politicians or officers of those organizations think on different lines.

In 1992-93 a new bill was introduced regarding Delhi. The Government and officers at that time prepared the format according to their own view. After 13-14 years that format is unable to settle the problems of Delhi completely. All the powers may be returned to the Government of India, there is no problem in it. The most important question in front of us is that the public of Delhi should get such a government as is really honest and answerable to public -- whether they are MP's, Legislative Members or MCD Members. Co-ordination amongst organizations is the greatest need of today. I would request the Members, who come from various states to submit this fact that whenever they have any need in the district, they can speak to the District Collector on phone. There is one man present over there who heads the administration and the work is streamlined.

He resolves all the conflicts and discrepancies wherever they exist. We do not have one such person at the helm of affairs. There are different authorities for different things. Multiplicity of authority is creating a situation as if there are 16-17 fathers of a groom going to marry a bride and creating fuss over a marriage. Delhi is facing the same situation. These problems of this expanding city will be increasing day by day, till one administrative set up is not put in place and if a new administrative mechanism is not provided to us to combat new problems, then today it is the problem of sealing, but one problem or the other will continue to arise and the Members from Delhi will remain helpless whether they are from BJP or Congress. They had the same problem with these institutions when they were in power and we are facing the same situation. This matter deserves serious consideration. The administrative mechanism can not work properly if there is no coordination. The issue of sealing is the example. Delhi has faced and come out of other problems like that of CNG or of industrial rehabilitation and before 1992-93 Indiraji rehabilitated Delhi many times through extra-ordinary efforts and settled the local problems, because the people who were responsible for Delhi and in whom the people of Delhi reposed faith had to face problems as well as rights also. These organisations had no choice but to listen to her and in this way she was able to resolve all the problem.

One more thing I have to say that the Master Plan which I have seen, pays attention to the poor people. It must have been prepared by experts because it is prepared by DDA and mostly it is done by officers. Poor people have been neglected in it. Poor people have been adjusted in the master plan just as a child puts in a bird or a river or a boat as an after thought in the painting he is drawing. The master plan which I have seen does not address the problems. There is no mention about hawkers, of roadside vendors, people living in slums and Lal Dora area. They have been covered as a last stroke of the paintbrush. There is no mention about the rural development of these areas of Delhi Master Plan. There will be no document of the country, where rural development does not find mention right in the beginning but the Master Plan of Delhi says nothing about the poor. I strongly object to the word "illegal". How it is possible to declare anyone illegal. A person, who has been residing in Delhi for many years suddenly he is told that his house is illegal or he is residing illegally.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, when drive to remove the dairies was going on in Delhi, a person asked me a question and I regret to say that I could not reply. He asked me that he cannot have a cow but can have a pet dog in house. I am unable to understand what kind of Delhi the Government wants to develop. If there will be no co-ordination among the officers to address the problems of Delhi then these problems will crop up repeatedly and we will never be able to find their solution. So, I request the hon. Minister to take concrete steps based on the suggestions which have come from the members from Delhi and Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra of the opposition and if such steps will be taken, this house will join those person who will work to solve these problems.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH (Karol Bagh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the saying better late than never has proved self correct here. It is late but at last you have given an opportunity to a lady Member to speak about Delhi, thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. You have been given the opportunity in the last, but the time allotted for your party would be over soon. So, please keep an eye on time.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, it has never been seriously considered what kind of Master Plan, Zonal Plan should be there for Delhi? Unfortunately Delhi has seen many ups and downs. Once again there is an issue before us. Many colleagues who spoke before me gave suggestions about the master plan and sealing issue as to how to handle the problem. The people who have been displaced whether they are small shopkeepers,

industrialists, those living in slums or unauthorized colonies, are facing a tough situation. The people whose houses and shops were demolished by buildozers are facing big problems. Now we have to think how to prepare Master Plan for Delhi and now to address all the problems in the upcoming master plan.

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Sir, today we have to see how we can regularize the shops in residential areas. Neither the resident welfare associations nor people of Delhi have any problem with the shops but traffic jam which occurs due to loading and unloading of goods meant for the shops is the root cause of the whole problem. Due to this, a particular resident welfare association requested the court to sort out the problem and the court ordered to seal the shops and demolish the unauthorized construction.

Sir, through you I would like to request the hon'ble Minister of Urban Development Shri S. Jaipal Reddy to pay special attention to the issue before us and find a way out to save Delhi from ruin. A new master plan should be prepared keeping in view the future wherein all the issues of increasing population, employment generation, construction of houses, supply of water, electricity and sewerage should be covered. Such a plan is called a master plan.

The Master Plan, which we are going to bring, will be for the future. Today's burning issue is sealing. This matter has been pending for a long period. Court gives dates for a month or two for hearing. Sir, through you I would like to give some suggestions to remove the danger looming large over them.

I would like to say that goods of small shops keep lying on the road which is inconvenient for the dwellers and shopkeepers. I suggest that arrangements should be made for underground parking in a time bound manner, as we have constructed Metro track under or above the ground. Moreover, shops can be shifted if there is open land near it, I can give example from my area shops in Karol Bag, Beedanpura, Raigarpura, Tank Road, Bapa nagar may be shifted. Some acres of land are lying vacant near military road of CPWD; it will make the residents and shopkeepers happy if shops are built there and handed over to shopkeepers, as they will get the place for business. A third solution is to fix the time for loading or unloading in the night from 11.00 p.m. to 5 a.m. in the morning. So as to give reprieve to the local people from the problem of traffic jam. If parking in the market is not possible then multi level parking may be constructed at nearby vacant land. It may be constructed at Ajmal Khan Road or Shashtri Park in my area. As Sajjan Kumar ji said that DDA has a lot of land and is selling it at rates fixed by it arbitrarily but it was not the objective of setting up DDA. DDA was set up to construct flats and shops and to provide them to small industries and poor people on no profit no loss basis. But DDA could not meet the expectations and corporation also could not do anything.

Sir, population is increasing day by day in Delhi. People come to the capital in search of livelihood and when they found no employment in Delhi, they opened small shops and set up small industries. The Court seems to think that all shops in Delhi are harmful, but it is not so. Earlier, factories hazardous to health and environment and causing sound pollution were shifted outside Delhi. But people do not have any complaint from small shops which are operating today as they sell clothes, vegetables or grocery items.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Give the specific suggestion if you have. Don't go into the causes, talk about the solutions.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH: I appreciate that the Government has given permission to construct buildings upto 50 feet. I accept that this problem has cropped up due to encroachment on roads by the shopkeepers, it needs to be checked. Apart from this, DDA should construct shops and houses and offer them to the poor at low rates on no profit no loss basis. Multistorey buildings should be constructed where slums exist and handed over to the slum dwellers. School, dispensary, parks should be built on vacant land for them. Simultaneously small shops should be constructed for them to give them employment.

With these words I conclude, as hon'ble Minister still has to reply. Adding my view to what the other hon. Members have spoken before me. I would like to request the hon'ble Minister to keep in view the suggestions given here in his reply and bring a good Master Plan for the people of Delhi.

## [English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: At the outset, I thank all the hon. Members for having taken such keen interest in the problems of Delhi city. As many as 13 hon. Members have spoken. All the Members of Parliament from Delhi city have spoken, except my colleague in the Ministry, Shri Ajay Maken. He perhaps felt that he did not have the freedom but he is speaking through me. Prof. V.K. Malhotra in his characteristic fashion generated a lot of heat but I must thank him for also having shed a lot of light. I must thank Shri Kapil Sibal, who is not only my eminent Cabinet colleague but also a legal eagle for having intervened to shed light on certain aspects - technology, planning process.

## [Shri S. Jaipal Reddy]

Delhi, we are all interested because it has the unique status of being our national capital. The problems in Delhi have grown over decades. They are in a way historical in nature. One historical problem, in my view, is that land was controlled beyond a point by the Government since the British times.

The second problem was institutional. We allowed everything to be handled by DDA. I am not joining all those who keep lasting DDA but DDA was entrusted with too much responsibility to handle it properly. Be that as it may, Master Plans over a period were only a marginal improvement on the original Master Plan of 1962. As Shri Kapil Sibal has rightly pointed out, they did not try to accommodate the ground reality, as they should have. In the mean time, Delhi, as the only metropolis in north India, has continued to attract huge rural migration. We need to note that as many as five lakhs of rural people migrate to Delhi every year. I am not saying that this should be stopped nor is it perhaps desirable. But it adds to our problem.

Secondly, Indian economy is growing fast. This also has imposed its own strain on the infrastructure in Delhi. Thirdly, as has been emphasized by many, the gap between the availability of commercial space and the demand has kept growing. Because of all these things, problems have grown in size, in complexity. This has happened over a period of two-three decades. As hon. Members are aware, the Supreme Court chose to give an order on 16.02.2006 that all the illegal shops on roads of 80 feet and above width be sealed. Later on they said, they should all give undertakings, through the affidavits, saying that they would on their own cease misusing.

Later, the period of undertaking, because of our initiative, was extended to 31st October. The Supreme Court also appointed a monitoring committee. It did not leave the matters to the instrumentalities of the Government to implement the order of the Supreme Court. As part of this process, 5000 shops were sealed and 40,800 traders filed affidavits. As this was all on, you are aware that this Parliament enacted Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Act. It was intended to serve three purposes.

Firstly, to freeze the situation as existed on 31st December, 2005 and to take all possible measures to finalise or revise norms and guidelines in respect of unauthorized developments and thirdly, to suspend any punitive action.

As Prof. Malhotra and others have pointed out, questions were raised about the legal validity of this Act. I

am glad to tell you that this law, which was passed, has not been stayed or suspended. No doubt, the Supreme Court gave some directions qualifying its operations. But, this law is still in operation. I am requesting hon. Members not to confuse observations with the judgements or decisions.

Secondly, after passing this extraordinary law, we did not rest on our oars. We immediately issued a public notice proposing changes in the Master Plan Delhi 2001 and these changes were not fanciful. They were based on the Report of Tajender Khanna Committee. There were not only experts on the Committee but representatives of two principal Parties also served. The recommendations of Tajender Khanna Committee were unanimous. I want Prof. Malhotra to note that a senior Leader of BJP was a Member and he was officially, formally a privy to all the recommendations of the Committee.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Tajender Khanna recommended for the amnesty scheme. I can read it for you.

#### SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: No. please.

In pursuance of 21st July notice, after going through all the statutory processes, we issued a Notification on 7th September. Another Notification was issued on 15 September. Still another Notification was issued on 22nd September. On account of these notifications, I assert here with all the authority at my command, 90 per cent of the affected people have been provided with relief.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: It is totally wrong. Only five per cent have been provided with relief.

## SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: No.

I agree that Delhi has gone through huge convulsions. Vast sections of people of Delhi have been subjected to huge sense of anxiety and uncertainty.

That is not because we did not go about the right way. That was because we took time to convince the Supreme Court about the scale of the problem and the intricacies of the problem. For the first time, in the history of india the Government of India went so many times to the Supreme Court to see that its orders are modified by the Supreme Court itself.

Now Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra talks of amnesty. As he rightly mentioned, he did talk of amnesty earlier too. But is there any guarantee that amnesty would have gone unchallenged in the Supreme Court?

Secondly, there was another side to it. Through 7th notification, we provided huge relief not merely to people who already converted their residences into commercial premises but also through creation of vast additional commercial space. I am giving you approximate figures. Through 7th notification, we created new space in terms of 430 kilometres of commercial streets, 400 kilometres of mix-land use, 100 kilometres of pedestrian shopping and 500 kilometres of Master Plan. In all we created an additional commercial space of 930 kilometres. The only way to bring down the prices of commercial premises is to make more space available and strengthen the supply factor.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Have you calculated the conversion charges? No poor man will ever be able to pay the conversion charges. It is in crores if anybody has to run the shop there. Kindly look into that also.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: If Mr. Malhotra agrees that I have created this space additionally, I am prepared to look at the charges once again because in all these matters there is nothing like - last word said. There are no scriptures here. It is just a matter of judgment and the judgment can always be reviewed. I want to seize this opportunity to assure the hon. Members that I am prepared to take a second look at the charges.

Some partisan points were made by Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra. I said during the course of earlier debates how Mr. Jag Mohanji had rejected his own Committee's recommendation, with undeserved contempt. Its Committee's recommendations needed better treatment at the hands of Mr. Jag Mohan. But I want to place on record that in a letter released on 28th August, 2000, Shri Jag Mohanji had ordered that to take strong and prompt action against all illegal constructions/unauthorized constructions, encroachments and also against misuses of land in violation of the provisions of the Master Plan. ...(Interruptions)

#### [Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Central Government tried to stop it but Delhi Government rejected our report.

# [English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: This is a letter issued from Nirman Bhawan which is under my occupation now but this was under the occupation of Mr. Jag Mohan in 2000. Even now he writes articles which are in violation of your positions. That is a different matter but I am talking of the order he passed as Minister.

18,00 hrs.

Please face up to reality. In the year 2000, it was naturally the BJP-led coalition that was in power.

## [Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: The hon. Minister should tell us what he is going to do. ...(Interruptions)

# [English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I think Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra would be enlightened to note what Shri Jagmohan had directed — "all illegal constructions should be demolished, not cosmetically but in toto"

## [Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is 6 o' clock. If the House agrees then the time of the House may be extended till the hon. Minister finishes his reply.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Alright.

## [English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: What is more, "the cost of demolition should be recovered from the illigal builders within 15 days of demolition". I am reading from the order passed by the Government of India.

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN (Trichur): Hon. Minister, you may kindly lay it on the Table of the House. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I am prepared to lay it on the Table of the House. When I quote from a circular I am obliged to place that on the Table of the House if there is a demand for it.

#### [Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR (Bareilly): What are you doing? You are telling us about orders issued by our Government. ...(Interruptions)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Not a single house was demolished in our time. The hon. Prime Minister put an end to all such activities. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please listen to the hon. Minister's reply.

...(Interruptions)

## [English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Please hear me. It has further been said: "In case DDA flats where constructions have come up beyond the condonable limits, cancellation of allotment should be carried out in addition to demolition of the additional constructions". I am further continuing: "In cases where the illegal constructions have taken place on rural lands" Shri Sajjan Kumar may kindly take note: "Action under the provisions of Delhi Land Reforms Act, 1954 should also be taken. Such land should be taken over as per provisions of the Delhi Land Reforms Act and action should be taken as soon as plots are cut by colonizers and construction done in the shape of boundary walls....."

#### [Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Was any action taken? Not a single house was demolished. Not a single house was demolished in our time while buildozers have created havoc under your regime. ...(Interruptions)

## [English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Because of such orders, the court also felt impelled perhaps to intervene. I am nobody to defend the courts here. I am not holding any brief for the courts. I am merely holding the mirror up to you. That is all.

Sir, all the Members have expressed deep sympathy with various sections of people. I share the sympathy abundantly. I must say that I have spent myself sleepless nights, restless days attending to various things and I can today say, after the relief the Supreme Court gave on 23rd of this month, that 90 per cent of the traders have been provided with relief. I repeat this formulation.

Sir, we have something more to do. I would refer to that. ...(Interruptions) The Supreme Court has permitted the MCD to come up with an additional list of roads for clearance and MCD, at the moment, is engaged in the preparation of this list. You may be aware, as many as more than 2000 roads were notified by Delhi Government on 15th September. In addition, we will soon be notifying hundreds of roads. For notification we need to have some survey and the surveys are underway.

A reference has been made by some other Members to the need for regularization of 1400 and odd colonies. The processing of regularization of these colonies is at an advanced stage. I am trying to accelerate its pace and I am sure, in a few weeks time, the Union Cabinet will regularize the unauthorized colonies which are as many

as 1400 colonies. Shri Sajjan Kumar and Shri Tytler have referred to the generosity which late Shrimati Indira Gandhi displayed towards the poor people. We may not be as generous but I may tell you that I will not be found to be parsimonious.

## [Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Sir, Indiraji was not in power under all these colonies were regularised in the year 1977 and 1978.

SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR: You are giving a wrong statement on the floor of the House. The fact of the matter is that Shrimati Indira Gandhi was the Prime Minister when all these colonies were regularised. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not indulge in cross-talk. Sajjan Kumarji, please sit down.

# [English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Shri Kapil Sibal has referred to the technology that his Ministry has developed which is particularly applicable to Delhi. I want to tell the hon. House that I will use this technology for the preparation of zonal plans. As has been mentioned by Shri Kapil Sibal. we lag behind a lot in terms of preparation of the zonal plans. This technology will be greatly useful in finalizing the zonal plans. I want to say that we are keen on accelerating the process of finalization of Master Plan. Delhi 2021. It will not be as perfect or as roseate as Shri Kapil Sibal would like it to be but it is better to be imperfect than to wait for a perfect plan. It shall be our sincere and maximum endeavour to finalise the Master Plan Delhi 2021 by the end of January. From that time, in one year, by deploying the technology that has been developed by the Department under Shri Kapil Sibal, we will be intending to finalise our zonal plans.

As regards schools, in our seventh September notification, we gave protection to all the schools and all the institutes right up to May, 2007. If the seventh notification was questionable, we would not have been able to provide protection. Today, all the schools are enjoying protection. In fact, they can go on beyond that. Let me read the relevant provision of 7th September notification.

"Schools operating in residential premises in residential use zones shall continue till 18th May, 2007." ...(Interruptions)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: What is that?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Please wait for the next sentence. The problem with Prof. Malhotra is that he is depending too much on his past knowledge and not keeping abreast of the developments on the urban development front.

"The local body concerned may allow schools to continue thereafter subject to necessary changes being made in the use/premises/ lay out plans by the local body within its competence in terms of subclause 8(2)(a) of the Master Plan for Delhi 2021..."

Protection has been given beyond this and what is more is that we are going to give protection to all the schools. I want to tell one point to Mr. Tytler who is genuinely concerned about the schools.

## [Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Not a single school meets the criteria mentioned in the second part he has read out. No schools will be able to fulfill the conditions which have been bid out.

SHRI AJAY MAKEN: The only condition is that MCD can allow it. There is no other condition.

## [English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: At any rate, I want to tell the hon. Members that the Master Plan, Delhi will take care of all these things. ...(Interruptions)

I am aware of the fact that roads in rural areas could not be given relief in terms of 7th September Notification. This point was made rightly by Shri Sajjan Kumar. I want to assure him and all other hon. Members that this problem will be taken care of as part of the Master Plan 2021. We hope to finalise it, as I said earlier, by just the end of January because the Master Plan is there. Objections and suggestions have been received, they have been studied and they are at a very advanced stage of consideration.

As far as slums, hawkers and vendors are concerned, I want to tell you that the law that we passed in May is still valid. As a consequence, none of the slum dwellers has been disturbed, except when their lands were acquired for public projects. The protection given by the law passed by Parliament in May is still valid. As I said before, we want to go in for in situ development. We want to provide houses to the slum dwellers in their own lands because some of the slums have been there for decades. They cannot afford to get themselves disturbed. We cannot uproot them socially. In addition to that, we are planning to build one lakh houses for the poor people in the next two years....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: There are 14 lakh slums, if one lakh houses will be built then what will happen to the rest 13 lakh?

SHRI AJAY MAKEN: How many did you build?

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: We allocated 2 lakh plots. Your turn will be over in two years. ... (Interruptions) We will construct houses there after.

SHRI AJAY MAKEN: You were busy in demolishing.

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I do not find myself competent to speak on the constitutional status of Monitoring Committees. It is for parties to discuss. I should not rush in where angels fear to tread. At least I am not among those angels. But even angels fear to tread.

As far as the pre-1962 cases are concerned, we gave full protection in terms of 7th September Notification. Let me read the relevant portion for the information of Members. It says:

"Residential areas and streets and stretches earlier declared as commercial areas/streets or where commercial use was allowed in MPD 1962 shall continue such use at least to the extent as permissible in MPD 1962. Commercial activity existing prior to 1962 in residential areas, subject to documentary proof thereof."

...(Interruptions)

So, some proof is required.

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Numerous documents are required for its sale to someone else or change of use. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

Please look into it. By that not even one shop would , be regularized.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I do not like to tell you how this provision should be interpreted. They should be interpreted rather properly. ...(Interruptions) Please do not import your own imagination into the provisions.

Our friends have referred to the antiquated nature of the MCD Act. I want to take this opportunity to assure the [Shri S. Jaipal Reddy]

Members that we will take a look, as Government, both the MCD Act and DBA Act. These legislations are in need of a close and hard look. Though the MCD comes under the Ministry of Home Affairs, I am speaking on behalf of the Government that the MCD Act also will be looked at in fresh terms. ...(Interruptions)

We have had the hawkers' policy in place. I know it needs to be properly implemented. But I want the hon. Members to know what my Ministry has gone through in the last nine months. I am not saying the instrumentalities we have are the best in the world, but their endurance limits were put to test.

Now, after the 23rd judgment of the Supreme Court. we are heaving a huge sigh of relief. A vast section of the people is heaving a huge sigh of relief. Prof. V.K. Malhotra has no reason to feel a huge sigh of relief because he has the vested interest in the troubles of Delhi. ... (Interruptions) I am talking of political vested interest. So, therefore, we are no doubt worried about what Delhi went through. But I would like to tell you while the traders and other sections went through troubles, we have been able to attend to their troubles. Between 29th March and 19th May 14,033 shops were sealed. Of these, 9,017 shops have already been de-sealed because of the directions of the Monitoring Committee and the remaining 5,006 shops were de-sealed in terms of 7th September Notification. Between 1st September and 20th September, 2.019 shops were sealed and about 2,000 shops have already been de-sealed. Therefore, while the mental agony, which the people of Delhi went through, should not be under-estimated, the actual problem should not be magnified. I want you to look at these things in empirical terms.

Shri Jagdish Tytler has referred to the charges. I have already referred to that point. I want to say that, as of now, the people of Delhi are breathing free and easy. I can only tell you that the sense of comfort of the people of Delhi will be enhanced and augmented in the days, weeks and months to come.

## [Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: He has said that the 90% case has been solved. We understand that he is neither bringing any act nor any amnesty. We are protesting because of his unsatisfactory response.

#### 18.20 hrs

(At this stage Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra and some other hon. Members left the House)

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Sir, there is one important matter. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You should give your notices tomorrow.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha): I have also got my notice.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Sir, it is a very important matter. Could you allow me just for a minute? ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: In such a situation we will have to ask for submission of notice by all the hon. Members for zero hour. You may give notice for tomorrow

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I want to take the sense of the House in this regard.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: I want to raise one important matter about Mullaperiyar. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Zero hour may be taken up tomorrow. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Most of the hon. Members are in favour of taking up Zero hour tomorrow.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Sir you can keep it for tomorrow.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: I will take only one minute to raise an important matter. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may remember that I had directed to extend the time of the House till the Hon'ble Minister finishes his reply. If you all agree important subjects may be taken up tomorrow.

...(Interruptions)

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: They may be taken up tomorrow. ...(Interruptions)

DR. RAJESH MISHRA (Varanasi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Congress workers were lathicharged in Uttar Pradesh. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do not speak on this subject.

Now I want to start the Zero Hour but all the hon'ble Members are requested to adhere to the time limit. Every one will get one minute.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we take up 'Zero Hour' matters. Shri Hannan Mollah, you can speak. I am allowing Shri Hannan Mollah to speak.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): Sir, I rise to raise a very serious matter. You know that in our country the United News of India is one of the prime news agencies in the country. It was created by Pandit Jawaharial Nehru in 1961. This institution serves our country, gives news impartially and very effectively. There is a competition between the UNI and the PTI. The UNI was doing well. It was earning profit. It was given huge land in New Delhi and the other big cities. It was given huge properties under Section 25 of the Companies Act. It was exempted. Its share cannot be sold.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your demand?

(Enalish)

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: I demand one thing from the Government. Now, the UNI is planning to privatise it. It is going to be sold to one Zee Telefilms, a private television company. They are going to acquire the UNI. There are 350 reporters, 1100 employees who will be in trouble. So, I demand that the UNI should be saved. The Government must take note of it. The UNI should not be sold to any private man. This is my demand.

#### [Translation]

DR. RAJESH MISHRA: I want to discuss the pathetic situation of Uttar Pradesh during Zero Hour.

Criminals are having a free hand since the present Government came to power in Uttar Pradesh. There is no

law and order and corruption is at its peak. The results of Municipal elections are clear indication that people have no faith in Government. A provision was made that any of the 17 1-cards may be shown to exercise franchise. ...(Interruptions) During license was one of the options. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly come to the main topic.

DR. RAJESH MISHRA: During municipal elections, the polling booths where Congress was in strong position, Government officials like D.M. and SSP were acting as the agents of Samajwadi Party and at the instance of leaders of S.P. public was lathicharged. In my Parliamentary constituency State President of Samajwadi Party. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your demand from the Union Government. It is a State Subject.

DR. RAJESH MISHRA: In Uttar Pradesh Congress Party had announced to protest at Vidhan Sabha. In the afternoon leaders and workers of Congress Party were chased by the police and lathis were charged on them. State President of Congress received many blows of lathis and at least two to three thousand workers were beaten up. The present corrupt Government in Uttar Pradesh has lost the confidence of the people. The Government is not able to maintain law and order in the State. I therefore, demand the Union Government to enforce President's Rule in the State in view of the coming Assembly Elections.

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR (Chimur): Wheat being distributed in Vidarbha of Maharashtra is rotten. This wheat is being imported from Russia, Canada and Australia and it is not fit for consumption even by animals. The colour of this wheat is red. This wheat is not even given to cattle in Russia, Canada and Australia and it is being supplied through PDS in Vidarbha. It is being sold at the rate of Rs. 5 per kg in fair price shops. Earlier the wheat from Punjab was being supplied from these shops. It is unfortunate that farmers are facing great problems and committing suicides. Those poor people are not even getting roti of good quality wheat. 5 lac 50 thousand tonnes of wheat was imported in June 2006 by the Union Government. I contacted some District Magistrates and the f told me that wheat was not worthy of distribution and the Government was also told this. Deptt. of Civil Supplies of Maharashtra also told the Government that the wheat was not fit for consumption. I demand that this imported wheat should not be supplied, good quality wheat from Punjab should be distributed and the Government should give direction to Food Corporation of India in this regard. I demand from the Hon'ble Minister of

Agriculture and Minister of Food and Civil Supplies to pay attention towards this, withdraw this low quality wheat and provide good quality wheat. Sir, through you, I would like to know as to what action has been taken by the Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture in this regard.

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI (Kutch): I associate myself with this issue.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): I associate myself with this issue.

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR (Sagar): I associate myself with this issue.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): I associate myself with this issue.

## [English]

DR. M. JAGANNATH (Nagar Kurnool): Mr. Chairman, Sir, crores of poor people are dependent on bidi making and other such tobacco products. Recently, the Ministry of Health of the Government of India issued a G.O. No. 297 which states that on all tobacco products a pictorial graphic of the hurnan skull and two bones should be printed. This is a very terrorizing picture. Bidi is smoked mostly by poor people and most of the bidi makers are women folk. Crores of people throughout India are involved in bidi making. In Andhra Pradesh, particularly in the Telengana region there are 10 lakh people who are involved in bidi making in Karim Nagar, Mahboobnagar, Nizamabad and Medak districts of Andhra Pradesh. This pictorial graphic is creating terror among the poor people and thereby bidl production has come down drastically. This will render crores of people jobless throughout the country and more so in Karim Nagar, Mahboobnagar, Nizamabad and Medak districts of Andhra Pradesh and they will lose their earnings.

Sir, when this legislation was passed, all the political parties had felt that this dangerous symbol should not be printed on tobacco products and an alternative should be thought of. The other day, the Labour Minister came to Andhra Pradesh and made a statement that this legislation would be amended. I think it would be proper if the Minister makes the statement in the House when the Parliament is in Session. Otherwise, it would mean that he had made that statement only for political reasons. So, I would request the Government of India to immediately withdraw G.O. No.297 so that this dangerous symbol is removed and people should also be educated about the ill effects of tobacco products.

## [Translation]

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I

want to draw the attention of the House towards the inadequate measures taken for relief and rehabilitation of the people who were killed and affected in the 2001 riots of Gujarat. The then Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee had given Rs. 150 crore to the Government of Gujarat for relief and rehabilitation. We have details regarding the amount returned by the State Government to the Union Government. I want to draw the attention of the Government towards the fact that the victim of riots whose houses were destroyed have built houses on their own and the Government have neither provided electricity nor created any other facility for them like construction of roads and schools etc. I do not talk about jobs and employment. But such conditions have been created in Guiarat, that the State Government is deliberately sending the signal

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## [English]

as if they are unwanted people in the state.

#### [Translation]

Those people are not required in the State, such a condition is being created over there.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your demand?

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Sir, please let me speak. I am drawing the attention of the House. I am stating facts over here, I am not seeing it from any political angle.

#### [English]

I feel they are also citizens of this country and they should be treated like any other citizen of the country. The State is highly biased against them and is not providing any adequate relief and rehabilitation measures.

### [Translation]

I would like to demand from the Union Government to increase aid for providing relief and rehabilitating to dependents of people killed in riots, whichever community they may belong to and irrespective of the fact whether they are Hindus or Muslims.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Let me speak for one minute. I would like to say that the State Government discriminates among its own people by giving to some people one lakh rupees, to some others two lakhs rupees and to some five lakh rupees and ten lakh rupees.

## [English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat.

## [Translation]

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Instead of it, nation-wide norms for this purpose be formulated and the State should give facilities to the people as per the Union Government norms and should provide them relief and rehabilitation. This is my demand.

## [English]

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Sir, Orissa has encountered floods in five phases this year commencing from first week of July 2006 and has caused havoc in 27 districts out of 30 districts of the State. About 100 persons have lost their lives and more than 50 lakh people have suffered. About eight lakh hectares of crop area has been damaged and more than a lakh of private houses have either been fully or partially damaged. More than fourteen hundred livestock have perished. Besides, floods, the three districts, namely, Nawapada, Baragarh and Subampur were also affected due to pest attack causing damage to khariff crop in 4,571 hectares of land.

The Chief Minister of Orissa had requested the hon. Prime Minister on 12.08.2006 to release the then requirement for tackling the flood situation. The Government of Orissa, after the assessment of damage caused after the fifth phase of floods, submitted a final memorandum for grant of Rs.2.382.43 crore out of the NCCF. The hon. Prime Minister, during his visit to Orissa on 28th August had declared a mid-term assistance of Rs.200 crore from NCCF for the State but only a sum of Rs.25 crore has been sanctioned so far. The balance of Rs.175 crore, instead of given from NCCF as part of declared amount of Rs.200 crore, has been adjusted against the contribution of Union Government, which comes to Rs.116.34 crore to the State Calamity Relief Fund for the year 2006-07 and Rs.58.66 crore as advance from the Central share to the State Calamity Relief Fund for the year 2007-08. This is a mockery to the State of Orissa because when the State is suffering from this unprecedented natural calamity and the cruelty of nature, the State of Orissa has been given a paltry sum of Rs.25 crore at the time of its grave crisis.

#### [Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no need to read this, state your demand.

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## [English]

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Sir, the hon. Prime

Minister remained there for two days in Raj Bhavan, but he could not move from that place because of heavy rains, although he has gone to visit the flood affected areas of Orissa. In this situation, the Government of India is not keeping with the request of the State Government and the people are made to suffer. They are not providing the amount of Rs.200 crore which was promised by the hon. Prime Minister. I am also astonished to find how the declaration of the hon. Prime Minister has not been honoured by the Union Home Ministry.

So, I would like to request the Government of India to come forward to help the State in this difficult and crisis period and they should provide Rs. 2,382 crore to the State Government, and Rs. 200 crore which was also assured by the Prime Minister to be provided from NCCF. That is my request.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: For fully and partially damaged houses, the State Government requested for one lakh houses under Indira Awas Yojana. So, one lakh houses under (IAY) should also to be provided. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except Shri Girdhari Lai Bhargava.

...(Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Girdhari Lal Bhargavaji, his speech is not going into records. Only your speech will go on record.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, my point is very small. Potable water crisis has deepened in 18 districts of Rajasthan, which include Jaipur, Alwar, Aimer and Dausa etc. People are facing shortage of water even in winters. It is unimaginable what will happen in the coming days of summer? In absence of adequate arrangement for irrigation in Rajasthan, the people are staging demonstrations at many places. Along with it, the State is not receiving water under agreement with the Punjab Government. The State Government is making ', every possible effort to solve these problems. The hon'ble Union Minister should call a meeting with the Chief Minister. Matter of irrigation are raised very often. ...(Interruptions) Therefore, I would like to demand from the Government to solve the drinking water crisis, provide adequate water for irrigation and make available adequate

<sup>\*</sup> Not recorded.

water to Rajasthan by exerting pressure on the Punjab Government.

[English]

SHRI KHAGEN DAS (Tripura-West): Sir, the North-Eastern Region, due to decades of long deprivation and neglect by the successive Central Governments, has been facing serious problems of poverty and unemployment. The vulnerability of the people of North-Eastern States is well recognized with a vast majority of the population living below the poverty line. The poor and vulnerable section, a substantial portion of whom are tribals, have to bear the brunt of terrorist activities. It is because of low level of economic activity, the entire burden of generating employment and providing livelihood is on the State Governments. Other than Assam, the other North-Eastern States are even smaller than some of the districts of larger States in the Country. It is unfortunate that the coverage under National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme in North-Eastern States is only 4 per cent of the total coverage in the country. Even the expenditure is less than 4 per cent in the Region against a targeted expenditure of at least 10 per cent under Government programme.

I would, therefore, urge the Government to immediately extend the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme to all the districts of the North-Eastern States so as to provide the much-needed safety net for the poor people living in these remotest areas of the country.

## [Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVEER SINGH KOSHAL (Kota): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Rajasthan is facing acute shortage of urea. At present, wheat is being sown and the early crops are being ruined due to non-availability of fertilizers causing much resentment among farmers. Demonstrations and dharnas are being staged at various places. Farmers often face natural calamities like flood, drought and hallstorm, but this time, unrest is prevailing among farmers due to shortage of urea. Some quantity of urea has been imported, but imported urea is lying at ports only. Due to non-availability of rakes, that urea is not being transported to Rajasthan. Entire Rajasthan is clamouring for help.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your demand?

SHRI RAGHUVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, more and more rakes should be provided for imported urea. In view of the shortage of urea, it is essential to dispatch three rakes of IPL and two rakes of IFFCO everyday. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do not go into detail. Your point has been noted.

SHRI RAGHUVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Only one-fourth urea has been provided against our requirement of 8.5 lakh metric tonnes.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you are a farmer and know the condition of farmers. If urea is not provided at the time of first irrigation, the production would be adversely affected. Therefore, I would like to demand that urea should be provided to Rajasthan by providing rakes.

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR (Sagar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Union Government make many efforts in the direction of making disabled persons self-reliant. Various facilities are provided to them to make them self-reliant and for boosting their self-confidence so as to make them feel that they are useful for the society. District Rehabilitation Centers are making praiseworthy contribution in this regard. But the Telecom Department in my Parliamentary constituency of Sagar in Madhya Pradesh has taken a charge of Rs. 1.20 per call during the period of 01.07.2006 to 31.08.2006 from C.C.B.-P.C.O. operators whose CCB, PCOs have been sanctioned under the physically handicapped category; though, from CCB-PCO operators of the general category have been charged at the rate of Rs. 0.89 per call during the same period. When the physically handicapped operators contacted the departmental officers in this regard, they were told that this policy had been formulated by the Government to encourage them to get transferred to the general category. The Government launches campaigns for providing facilities to the physically handicapped person. In contrast, the way physically handicapped persons have been treated by the Telecom Department is beyond my understanding.

Therefore, I would like to request Telecom Department of the Government of India to provide protection to the physically handicapped C.C.B - P.C.O. operators of the entire country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Good question.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government, through you, that out of 600 districts, only 200 districts in the country have been selected in the first phase of National Employment Guarantee Scheme implemented since 01.02.2006. Out of 32 districts of Rajasthan, only 6 districts have been selected. I have come to know that the basis of selection is the population of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, per capita income, agricultural

productivity, wages etc. This is gross injustice with Rajasthan in view of the basis of selection. In Rajasthan, the total population of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is 29.8 percent of the total population, whereas it is 22.8% and 19.1 % in Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra respectively. In the year 2003-2004, per capita income in Rajasthan was Rs. 15,485 whereas it was Rs. 20,757 and Rs. 29204 in Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra respectively. I regret to say that out of 32 districts, only 6 districts of Rajasthan have been selected, whereas 13 out of 23 districts in Andhra Pradesh and 12 out of 32 districts in Maharashtra have been selected under National Employment Guarantee Scheme.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to say that National Employment Guarantee Scheme may be extended by covering a few more districts of Rajasthan under it and injustice done to it may be erased.

SHRI RAKESH SINGH (Jabalpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Golden Temple at Amritsar is the Centre of devotion and prayer for crores of Sikh devotees at home and abroad. Lacs of non-Sikh devotees also visit this holy place every year. Not only from within the country, but from abroad also devotees come to visit this holy place. Approximately 70 to 80 thousand Sikh devotees reside in my parliamentary constituency, Jabalpur, Katni. In addition to that, if the number of Sikh devotees residing in the surrounding areas of Jabalpur like Mandla, Dhindori, Sivani, Chhindwara, Balaghat, Narsinghpur etc. are added to it, the number will exceed to one lakh. But it is a matter of regret that no direct train has been introduced between Jabalpur and Amritsar for such a large number of people living here. As a result, not only Sikh devotees, but other devotees also have to face a lot of difficulties to reach Amritsar.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to urge the Government and the Minister of Railways that a direct train may soon be introduced between Jabalpur and Amritsar and if it is not possible immediately, Mahakaushal Express running between Jabalpur and Delhi may be extended up to Amritsar. This way, Railway Administration may facilitate traveling for lacs of Sikh devotees even without starting a new train and the long pending demand of Mahakaushal division could also be fulfilled.

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR (Chandrapur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the issue of power cut in Maharashtra. There is a shortage of about 4000 MW electricity in Maharashtra. As a result, each town and each village in Maharashtra have to face an 8-10 hour power cut everyday. I would like to say that the demand for electricity made by the State Government may be met by increasing power supply.

The State Government have increased the rates of electricity for the small scale industries, cottage industries and village industries due to which all these industries are on the verge of closure. The Government have increased the rates around five and a half times last month. Now, people pay Rs. 17000 for 100 HP for which they earlier used to pay Rs. 3000 only. The only reason behind it is the shortage of power. The Government are increasing power rates taking advantage of people's needs. I, therefore, urge the Government to increase power supply and save cottage industries and small-scale industries from the injustice being done to them and reduce the rates of electricity.

#### [English]

SHRIMATI ARCHANA NAYAK (Kendrapara): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the urgent need for 33 per cent reservation of seats for women in the Parliament. Even after 60 years of Independence, adequate representation of women in the Indian Parliament is still a dream. The House may be aware that 10 years ago, the Deve Gowda Government brought a Bill seeking 33 per cent reservation of seats for women in Parliament. Later a Joint Committee of Parliament was formed and a consensus Bill emerged from there. The Bill was there even during the Gujral Government. It was introduced in the Lok Sabha by the Vajpayee Government during 1998 for the second time. After the dissolution of the Lok Sabha, it was again introduced in the Lok Sabha in 1999.

However, it was painful to note that the Bill is still pending before the House. The present Lok Sabha has only eight per cent of representation of women. During 2004-06, the average representation of women in the State Legislative Assemblies is just 6.5 per cent. Therefore, it is evident that till a Constitutional mandate is emerged in the Parliament, the democratic right of women will continue to suffer. I, therefore, urge upon the Government to bring a Bill seeking 33 per cent reservation of seats for women in the Parliament and in the State Legislative Assemblies and get the same passed during the current Session itself. Thank you.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Sir, we all associate with this. The matter has not even come in the agenda.

SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA (Mavelikara): Sir, I also associate with this matter.

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN (Trichur): I am also associating with this.

SHRI P. MOHAN (Madural): I am also associating with this matter.

### [Translation]

\*SHRI S. '\*ALLIKARJUNIAH (Tumkur): Mr. Chairman Sir, I thank your for giving me an opportunity to raise a very important issue of coconut producers. This House is well aware that 160 talukas in Karnataka State are reeling under severe drought condition. The worst hit areas are Tumkur, Gubbi, Koppal, Bijapur and others.

Amidst this pathetic condition the coconut growers are facing another serious problem regarding support price for coconut and copra. This is like adding fuel to the fire. The coconut growers are demanding support price again and again. Recently copra was burnt on the streets at various places like Turnkur, Tipatur, Gubbi, Chikkanavakana, Hosadurga and other places in Karnataka State. They are agitating against the attitude of the Government of India and Government of Karnataka towards coconut producers. These farmers are demanding support price for their produce for the last several years. The former Prime Minister Mr. Devegowda today inaugurated a cart rally organized by farmers to protest against "Anti-farmer Policies" being pursued by the Centre. Unfortunately, the Central Government and State Government have not come forward to help the farmers. Many farmers have committed suicide as they are not able to repay the agricultural loan. They are not in a position to pay even the interest. In this connection the hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka has already written to the Union Agricultural Minister requesting him to announce the support price for coconuts and copra.

The present price of copra is Rs.4000/- per quintal. While fixing the support price the Government should take into consideration many factors like cost of inputs, (water, pesticides, fertilizers etc.) labour, transportation and other factors. I am also a producer of copra. We have to sweat to produce good quality of copra. Considering all the above factors I have come to the conclusion that Rs.7000/- per quintal of copra is justifiable. I, therefore, request the hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture to give a serious thought about this burning issue of coconut growers and fix the support price of copra at Rs.7000/- per quintal. I am sure, that the hon'ble Union Minister will respond positively to the genuine demand of farmers and announce the above mentioned support price for copra without any further delay. Sir, I thank you and with these words I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI (Kutch): Sir, thank you very much.

I would like to invite the attention of the hon. House to a very serious situation which has arisen in Gujarat due to reduction in the allocation of power to Gujarat from unallocated quota of the Central Government Generating Stations.

The Government of India have reduced the allocation of Government of Gujarat's share from the unallocated quota of Central Generating Stations by nearly 200 MW in the month of February, 2006 and the same has been diverted to Maharashtra and Dadra Nagar Haveli.

In Gujarat, against peak demand of nearly 10,000 MW, we have a peaking shortage of nearly 1500 MW.

Due to this diversion of 200 MW from Gujarat, the situation of power shortage has further worsened. Besides, it will also cause a financial loss of nearly Rs. 552 crore per annum to the State's Power Utility. The Union Minister of Power referred to the high energy shortage in the States of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh in his letter dated 17th April, 2006 and justified the diversion of Gujarat's share to other States. It is understood that the entire power of Dabhol Power Project has been allocated to Maharashtra which has been partially commissioned in the first week of May, 2006. Therefore, the energy shortage of Maharashtra will become less to that extent. Despite repeated representations, the Centre has not yet restored Gujarat's share.

I would, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to get the original allocated quota of power restored to Gujarat State. Thank you.

## [Translation]

SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA (Etawah): Mr. Chairman, Sir, India is pre-dominantly an agricultural country and this is the time for sowing wheat and jowar after harvesting of paddy throughout the country. I would like to draw your attention particularly towards the farmers of Uttar Pradesh. The biggest problem the State of Uttar Pradesh is facing today is the non-availability of DAP. This manure is not at all available there. I feel that the other States of the country would be facing the same problem. Today, the farmer is worried about sowing his crop as they are forced to buy the manure from the black market at the rate of the 600-700 a sack. I request the hon. Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers and the Government that this manure may be made available keeping in view the problems of the farmers in Uttar Pradesh.

Sir, the condition of farmers throughout the country is pitiable, as a result, the farmers are committing suicide. The farmers are not getting water at several places

<sup>\*</sup> English translation of the speech originally delivered in Kannada

whereas they are not getting power at several other places and the scene in Uttar Pradesh is such that the farmer is ready to sow, but manure is not available. Recently, I had been to my parliamentary constituency Etawah. I have seen farmers standing in long queues and still not getting D.A.P. The NKP available there is also adulterated. The State of Uttar Pradesh has not even a single fertilizer-manufacturing unit. I would like to urge upon the Government and the hon. Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers that D.A.P. may be made available in adequate quantity to make the farmers able to sow their crops in Uttar Pradesh so that their problem may be solved.

## [English]

\*SHRI P. MOHAN: Cancer is a dreaded disease and for its specialized treatment patients have to go either to Kanchipuram or Chennai which are in the northern end of Tamilnadu State. There is no regional cancer centre in South Tamilnadu.

Government Rajaji Hospital attached to Madurai Medical College, is situated at the centre of South Tamilnadu. Besides this institution attracts around ten thousands new cancer cases every year. Generally more than fifty thousand cancer patients are being treated every year in this institution. This Hospital has got more than hundred beds for the management of cancer patients.

This institution has got all the departments of cancer management namely Department of Surgical Oncology, Medical Oncology and Radiation Oncology. Qualified Professors in the corresponding specialties lead these departments with qualified assistant professors which is unique feature of this hospital.

The department of Radiation Oncology is blessed with full-fledged teletheraphy unit, it requires only a brachy therapy unit to be completed as Regional Cancer Centre. Government Rajaji Hospital, Madurai mainly serves the need of the poor and middle class cancer patients who cannot afford costly private treatment. Government Rajaji Hospital, Madural has also been selected as nodal centre for National Cancer Control Programme by the Government of India.

Hence I urge upon the Union Government to have at Madurai a Regional Cancer Centre at the earliest.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri P.C. Thomas, you are allowed to raise only one matter.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Sir. law and order is perfectly a State matter. The Kerala Government is able to quard its territory and keep the law and order in a very befitting manner. However, the Government of Tamil Nadu as well as the MPs from Tamil Nadu have requested the Prime Minister to deploy CISF. Central Industrial Security Force. to guard the area where Mullaperiyar Dam is situated. This dam is well within the territory of Kerala. The only thing is that we are giving water to Tamil Nadu on account of an agreement and there is no dispute as to giving of water. We are ready to give water and there is nothing against that, but the people of Kerala are apprehensive of the poor condition of the dam, which is more than 100 years old. Therefore, we have raised an issue as to the maintaining of the dam and also reconstruction of the dam. However, now there is no reason to deploy any police from any other State or even from the Centre, when the Kerala Government is able enough to guard it, and Kerala Government will do it.

I earnestly request the Prime Minister not to deploy any police or CISF to that area for this purpose. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI P. MOHAN: Tamil Nadu has renovated the dam to strengthen it. ...(Interruptions) The Supreme Court has also accepted it. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat.

The House now stands adjourned till 11.00 a.m. tomorrow.

18.55 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, November 28, 2006/Agrahayana 7, 1928 (Saka)

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