

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

## **(English Version)**

**Sixth Session**  
**(Fourteenth Lok Sabha)**



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# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## LOK SABHA

*Monday, December 12, 2005/Agrahayana 21, 1927 (Saka)*

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

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

### REFERENCE BY THE SPEAKER

**Re: Congratulating Cricketer Sachin Tendulkar for creating World Record by scoring 35th Test century**

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: I am sure hon. Members will join me in conveying our heartiest felicitations and congratulations to Sachin Tendulkar on his completing 35th Test Century on last Saturday at Ferozeshah Kotla Ground, New Delhi. This is a unique achievement by a great cricketer and we are extremely proud that it is an Indian sportsperson who had earned this great distinction. Sachin Tendulkar is indeed the Great Little Master who has brought tremendous laurels to the country and he exemplifies what a true sportsman should be. He will no doubt continue to inspire the youth of our country to strive to take greater part in sports and achieve distinctions by discipline and sincere efforts. Sachin Tendulkar is the role model for them.

We convey our best wishes to Sachin Tendulkar and we are sure that he will continue to make the nation proud by his future attainments.

11.02 hrs.

### OBSERVATION BY THE SPEAKER

**Re: Allegations of Improper Conduct on the Part of some Members**

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, certain very serious events have come to my notice as also of many other

hon. Members. It will be looked into with all importance it deserves. I have already spoken to and discussed with all hon. Leaders of different Parties, including the hon. Leader of the Opposition, and all have agreed that the matter is extremely serious if proved to be correct. I shall certainly ask the hon. Members to explain what has happened. In the meantime, I am making a personal request to all of them 'please do not attend the Session of the House until the matter is looked into and a decision is taken.'

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Panskura): Sir, what do you mean by 'all of them'? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Those whose names have figured in the Media.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): Sir, they should be disqualified and action should be taken against them but after enquiry ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Are they those whose names have figured in the Media?

MR. SPEAKER: Obviously, Mr. Dasgupta.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam): Those whose names have figured in the Media.

MR. SPEAKER: Obviously.

*[Translation]*

SHR LAL MUNI CHOUBEY (Buxer): You have taken the right decision. Dignity of the entire Parliament is on stake. Some decision should be taken. Your decision is quiet correct. It deserves serious deliberation. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I am thankful to you. I have no manner of doubt that all sections of the House feel deeply concerned about it. I know that we should rise to the occasion and we should see that such an event does not occur ever in future and if anybody is guilty, he should be punished. Nobody would be spared.

We shall certainly respond to it in a manner which behoves us. Thank you very much.

*[Translation]*

SHRI LAL MUNI CHOUBEY: You are very senior and experienced. There is nobody more experienced than you. The dignity of the Parliament is based on the questions asked here and the practice of asking questions itself is under a question mark. Therefore, kindly give a direction even by suspending the Question Hour or any other time as per your convenience. But this is a serious matter. Such cases are happening in State Assemblies also. This has been taken place for long. Some Members have discontinued asking questions in Parliament.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: We will try and rectify this, if this is correct.

11.04 hrs.

## ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri K.S. Rao, Q. No. 262.

### Animal Health Care Standards

\*262. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of zoos in the country;
- (b) the number of visitors who visited these zoos during the last three years;
- (c) whether there are no standards on animals diets and health care in the big-zoos;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to conduct a scientific study regarding animal diets and health care;
- (f) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(g) the measures taken by the Government to improve the health care and dietary standards of animals?

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

### *Statement*

(a) At present there are 159 recognised zoos in the country, out of which 19 are large, 12 medium, 27 small and 101 mini category zoos. The State-wise number of recognised zoos given in the enclosed Annexure-I.

(b) As per the information submitted by the zoos, the number of visitors who visited the zoos during the last three years is given in enclosed Annexure-II.

(c) and (d) Every big zoo has its own standards on animal diet and health care. Since the requirement of diet and health care vary as per the climatic conditions, availability of the feeding materials etc. there is no such standards for this purpose at National level.

(e) and (f) Central Zoo Authority, Government of India has already awarded scientific studies regarding evolving the standards and norms of diet and health care for various animals in the Indian zoos. The study for standardization of diet for wild animals in captivity has been awarded to the National Institute of Animal Nutrition and Physiology, Bangalore, Karnataka. The study for standard protocol on wild animal health has been awarded to the Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izzatnagar, Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh.

(g) Government of India through Central Zoo Authority has taken following measures to improve the healthcare and dietary standards of animals in the zoos:

- (i) Specific studies awarded to scientific institutions to evolve the standards for diet and health care of zoo animals.
- (ii) Programme initiated since 2000-01 for strengthening the existing diagnostic facilities at six veterinary institutions/universities in the country on zonal basis. A total amount of Rs. 197.23 lakhs has already been provided for this programme.
- (iii) Financial assistance provided to all big zoos in the country to create/upgrade the veterinary facilities. An amount of Rs. 342.20 lakhs has been provided in the last three years.

(iv) Assistance is provided to create appropriate housing for animals in all big zoos. An amount of Rs. 2007.79 lakhs was provided for this purpose during last three years.

(v) Periodic inspections by the experts appointed by Central Zoo Authority are carried out to

monitor the condition of the zoos and their inmates.

(vi) All the State Governments has been advised to constitute health advisory committee for regular monitoring of health of zoo animals.

*Annexure I*

*Number of Recognised Zoos in the Country*

State	Large	Medium	Small	Mini	Grand Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andaman & Nicobar Islands			1		1
Andhra Pradesh	3	1		14	18
Arunachal Pradesh			1		1
Assam	1				1
Bihar	1				1
Chhattisgarh			1	1	2
Dadra & Nagar Haveli				2	2
Delhi	1				1
Goa			1		1
Gujarat	2	1	2	3	8
Haryana				3	3
Himachal Pradesh			1	4	5
Jammu & Kashmir				3	3
Jharkhand			3	4	7
Karnataka	2	1	2	10	15
Kerala	1	1		3	5
Madhya Pradesh		1	2		3
Maharashtra	1	1	2	9	13
Manipur		1			1
Meghalaya			1		1
Mizoram			1	1	2
Nagaland				1	1

1	2	3	4	5	6
Orissa	1		1	6	8
Punjab	1		1	3	5
Rajasthan		1	2	4	7
Sikkim				2	2
Tamil Nadu	2	2	1	8	13
Tripura	1				1
Uttar Pradesh	1	1	1	12	14
Uttaranchal			1	3	4
West Bengal	1	1	3	5	10
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>159</b>

*Annexure II**Number of Visitors in Large, Medium and Small Zoos between 2002-03 to 2004-05**(Visitors number in Lakhs)*

Category	State	Zoo name	Location	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	Grand Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Large	Andhra Pradesh	Indira Gandhi Zoological Park	Viskhapatnam	3.17	2.76	3.2	9.13
		Nehru Zoological Park	Hyderabad	17	17.3	17.5	51.8
		Sri Venkateswara Zoological Park	Tirupati	0.95	1.03	1.24	3.22
	Assam	Assam State Zoo Cum Botanical Garden	Guwahati	5.01	5.08	6.01	16.1
	Bihar	Sanjay Gandhi Biological Park	Patna	8.69	9.79	11.28	29.76
	Delhi	National Zoological Park	Delhi	14.66	14.75	14.79	44.2
	Gujarat	Kamla Nehru Zoological Garden	Ahemedabad	20	20.6	20.9	61.5
		Sakkarbaug Zoo	Junagarh	5.47	6.37	6.37	18.21



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Karnataka	National Park, Bannerghatt A Zoological Garden	Bannerghatt	7.32	8.56	7.54	23.42
		Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens	Mysore	11.62	15.12	15.44	42.18
	Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram Zoo Uram	Thiruvananthapuram	9	9.11	9.5	27.61
	Maharashtra	Rajiv Gandhi Zoological Park	Pune	0	7.5	8	15.5
	Orissa	Nandankanan Biological Park	Bhubaneswar	10.4	11	11.1	32.5
	Punjab	Mahendra Chaudhury Zoological Park	Chhatbir	4.4	4.9	5.1	14.4
	Tamil Nadu	Arignar Anna Zoological Park	Vandalur	19.01	20.05	21.03	60.09
		Madras Crocodile Bank Trust/Centre for Herpetology	Mahabalipuram	3.13	3.15	3.9	10.18
	Tripura	Sepahijala Zoological Park	Sepahijala	0.6	0.8	0.9	2.3
	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow Zoological Park	Lucknow	9.3	9.5	9.9	28.7
	West Bengal	Alipore Zoological Garden	Calcutta	17.03	18.05	20.05	55.13
Medium	Andhra Pradesh	Mahavir Harina Vanasthali Deer Park	Vanasthali- puram	0.18	0.3	0.35	0.83
	Gujarat	Sayaji Baug Zoo	Vadodara	8.29	7.18	8	23.47

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Karnataka	Pillilkula Wildlife Safari at Madushedde	Manglore	0	0	0.8	0.8
	Kerala	State Museum & Zoo	Thrissur	6	6.11	6.23	18.34
	Madhya Pradesh	Gandhi Zoological Park	Gwallor	2.49	2.99	3.11	8.59
	Maharashtra	Veer mata Jijabai Bhosale Udyan & Zoo	Mumbai	18	18.9	19	55.9
	Manipur	Manipur Zoological Garden	Imphal	1.55	1.9	2.1	5.55
	Rajasthan	Jaipur Zoo	Jaipur	11.25	11.55	11.9	34.7
	Tamil Nadu	Chennai Snake Park Trust	Guindy	6.8	7	7.2	21
		Children's Corner	Guindy	7	7.2	7.9	22.1
	Uttar Pradesh	Kanpur Zoological Park	Kanpur	3.56	3.7	4.13	11.39
	West Bengal	Calcutta Snake Park	Badu	1.39	1.58	1.88	4.85
Small	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Mini Zoo, Haddo	Port Blair	1.1	1.3	1.5	3.9
	Arunachal Pradesh	Biological Park	Itanagar	0.7	1.5	1.8	4
	Chhattisgarh	Maitri Baagh Zoo	Bhilai	8	8.5	9	25.5
	Goa	Bondla Zoo	Usgao	0.31	0.35	0.55	1.21
	Gujarat	Indroda Nature Park	Gandhi Nagar	1.26	1.26	2.3	4.82
		Nature Park	Surat	2	2.1	2.5	6.6
	Himachal Pradesh	Himalayan Nature Park (Kufri)	Kufri	2	2.5	2.7	7.2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Jharkhand	Bhagwan Birsa Biological Park	Ranchi	0.8	1	1.2	3
		Jawaharlal Nehru Biological Park	Bokaro	2.78	3	3.22	9
		Tata Steel Zoological Park	Jamshedpur	2.96	2.96	4	9.92
	Karnataka	Children Park & Zoo	Gadag	0.4	0.6	0.7	1.7
		Tiger & Lion Safari, Thyyarekoppa	Shimoga	0.4	0.44	0.49	1.33
	Madhya Pradesh	Kamla Nehru Prani Sanghralalay Zoo	Indore	3.7	3.51	5.14	12.35
		Van Vihar National Park	Bhopal	1.6	1.8	1.9	5.3
	Maharashtra	Aurangabad Municipal Zoo	Aurangabad	.577	6.11	7	18.88
		Nisargakavi Bahinabai Choudhary Prani Sanghalay	Pune	1.8	1.68	1.69	5.17
	Meghalaya	Lady Hydari Park, Animal Land	Shillong	6	6.9	7.1	20
	Mizoram	Aizawl Zoo	Aizawl	0.13	0.15	0.19	0.47
	Orissa	Indira Gandhi Park Zoo & Deer Park	Rourkela	1.5	1.9	2.1	5.5
	Punjab	Deer Park, Bir Moti Bagh	Patiala	0.55	0.57	0.59	1.71
	Rajasthan	Jodhpur Zoo	Jodhpur	2.11	2.16	2.25	6.52
		Udaipur Zoo	Udaipur	2	2.11	2.9	7.01
	Tamil Nadu	V.O.C. Park Mini Zoo	Coimbatore	7.5	7.59	7.63	22.72

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Uttaranchal	Pt. Govind Ballabh pant High Altitude Zoo	Nainital	0.5	0.9	0.9	2.3
	West Bengal	Jhargram Deer Park	Jhargram	0.5	0.9	1	2.4
		Marble Palace Zoo	Calcutta	0.4	0.6	0.9	1.9
		Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park	Darjeeling	2.49	2.55	2.9	7.94
	Grand Total			292.53	318.77	340.5	951.8

SHRI K.S. RAO: Mr. Speaker, Sir, already several species of reptiles, crocodiles, birds and wild animals are getting extinct because of indiscriminate hunting done by some people who have made it a business. So, at least, those animals which are left and brought to the zoos must be protected very carefully. In the answer given by the hon. Minister, it is visible that only three per cent of Indian population is going to see zoos where these animals are not properly taken care of. We all know that today the income from tourism is 10.8 per cent of the world GDP and zoos are one of the important places which attract the tourists. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the two institutes, namely the Central Institute of Nutrition and Physiology and Indian Veterinary Research Institute to which a study has been awarded, have presented their reports to him and if so, what action he is taking on them. I would also like to know as to what kind of assistance he is giving to various State Governments for improving the condition of their zoos.

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Member, through you, that for evolving the standards and norms for diet and health care of animals, we have awarded a study to two institutes about which I have stated in my reply. We have assigned this work to these institutes in July and August and their reports are expected to be submitted by 2007-08 and once the reports are submitted, we will process them and take action accordingly.

As regards giving assistance to the States for improving the condition of their zoos, I have given figures for the last three years detailing the amount given under animal housing and veterinary care animals. In 2002, we have given Rs. 106 lakh and in 2003, we have given Rs. 125 lakh.

MR. SPEAKER: All the details are given.

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: Yes, we have given the details.

SHRI K.S. RAO: Sir, the figures that the hon. Minister has given are only in lakhs. This means, obviously the Government of India has not realised the potential of earning income from tourists by improving the condition of zoos.

Sir, India has got a lot of uneducated professionals like snake charmers or people who are well versed and trained in wildlife. But they do not have any degrees.

MR. SPEAKER: Your question is very limited regarding condition of zoos and dietary habits in zoos. Now, you have gone to snake charmers.

SHRI K.S. RAO: Sir, I am coming to the point.

The uneducated people know very well about the diet requirements of various animals, birds etc. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any

proposal to recruit such people in zoos, irrespective of the degrees they hold or the education they have, to give employment to them.

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: Sir, training and upgrading the professional skills of zoo personnel has been a high priority with the Central Zoo Authority and we have trained 120 Directors, 113 Supervisors and 749 Keepers in the last 10 years.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, condition of zoos in the country is not good and it is continuously deteriorating. Through you, Sir, I want to know from the Minister as to what arrangements the Government is making to attract more tourists to zoos in the country and keep more animals therein. The Government has provided Rs. 2007.79 lakh for the zoos in the country. I want to know as to what is the share of the zoo in Goa out of that amount.

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: I want to apprise the hon. Member that there are 159 zoos in the country at present and they are functioning efficiently. The Government of India is extending full assistance to them. I agree to the fact that some zoos have been derecognised because they were not in good condition. 183 zoos were derecognised. Out of these, 92 have been closed and 91 are still functioning with around three to four thousands animals in them which are to be phased out. So far as assistance is concerned, I will provide the details to the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI RANJEET RANJAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to a news captioned "Mauntghar hain Rakhwalon ke liye chidiyaghar" recently appeared in news papers. 50 percent of the caretakers die before their retirement as they catch infection from animals while 38 percent die within one or two years of their retirement because of infection from animals. This infection is mainly from deers, blue bulls and monkeys. During the period from 2003 to 2005, eleven caretakers died of infection and 20 are struggling with death after retirement or have died. I want to know as to why the Government has not taken note of such a serious issue. Besides these, there are more zoos about which we have no information and caretakers in these zoos are also getting infection.

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: I agree with the hon. Member but all big and medium zoos are provided with medical facilities and doctors and they should undergo regular check ups from time to time.

SHRI RANJEET RANJAN: It is reported about the Delhi zoo that one soap and one towel is provided in a year to prevent infection.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: What she is saying is that it is not properly implemented. I am sure that will be looked into.

[*Translation*]

#### Tourism Projects

+  
\*263. SHRI SANTASRI CHATTERJEE:  
SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments have submitted proposals for tourism projects to the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details of projects submitted by each State Government during the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether the Union Government has accorded its approval to these projects;

(d) if so, the amount sanctioned by the Government for these projects; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

#### *Statement*

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Ministry of Tourism provides funds to the State Governments/UTs for the projects which are prioritised in consultation with them every year for various schemes. The number of projects sanctioned and amount released during the last three years and the current year are given in the enclosed Statement-I and II respectively.

(e) The tourism projects sanctioned by the Ministry of Tourism are implemented by the State Governments and their implementing agencies. The projects are generally completed within a maximum period of 36 months.

**Statement I****State-wise Tourism Projects Sanctioned during the Tenth Five Year Plan (as on 31.3.2005)**

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	State/UT	2002-03			2003-04			2004-05 (provisional)		
		No. of Project Sancd.	Amount Sancd.	Amount Released	No. of Project Sancd.	Amount Sancd.	Amount Released	No. of Project Sancd.	Amount Sancd.	Amount Released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2	507.50	195.00	6	946.50	896.44	16	2827.19	2240.68
2.	Assam	9	768.13	618.85	3	313.46	313.06	8	986.03	766.22
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	5	41.30	32.50	6	1044.60	700.00	9	1325.50	927.96
4.	Bihar	8	505.00	505.00	6	1019.42	913.89	7	1901.43	1527.71
5.	Chhattisgarh	9	308.00	98.50	6	1005.00	364.00	6	1117.94	897.93
6.	Goa	1	0.50	0.50	2	36.76	34.76	3	110.00	38.00
7.	Gujarat	2	197.12	59.13	8	920.51	815.82	2	138.93	111.14
8.	Haryana	8	332.25	311.00	16	1215.38	879.23	6	693.55	513.64
9.	Himachal Pradesh	30	779.32	760.38	4	182.32	85.00	12	2690.00	2161.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	3	94.38	89.47	5	895.00	895.00	5	819.25	699.04
11.	Jharkhand	0	0	0	2	1109.00	774.60	2	945.91	756.72
12.	Karnataka	6	902.49	625.49	14	932.66	792.51	12	2461.76	1937.37
13.	Kerala	11	861.36	829.86	6	608.50	564.15	10	2283.63	1820.33
14.	Madhya Pradesh	18	711.18	574.79	10	621.90	394.51	11	1595.19	942.21
15.	Maharashtra	8	623.46	546.25	10	931.83	914.58	10	1620.62	925.30
16.	Manipur	2	5.24	2.62	1	82.44	24.73	0	0.00	0.00
17.	Meghalaya	3	70.35	21.20	2	40.22	24.92	2	963.30	807.91
18.	Mizoram	6	141.16	48.46	5	567.70	186.75	6	1086.35	382.38
19.	Nagaland	5	360.50	323.43	4	711.00	220.80	7	2250.69	1413.40
20.	Orissa	2	47.50	15.75	5	419.55	138.50	8	1320.74	1059.38
21.	Punjab	3	23.00	14.60	2	96.00	12.30	7	724.88	581.47
22.	Rajasthan	13	1098.70	1096.20	14	1644.81	1414.25	13	2516.61	1375.07

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
23.	Sikkim	13	346.24	269.76	8	1151.09	681.49	8	660.81	531.33
24.	Tamil Nadu	5	558.00	316.10	14	1339.82	850.53	7	1308.92	705.83
25.	Tripura	5	216.13	67.78	6	450.17	135.16	1	20.00	16.00
26.	Uttaranchal	3	548.00	418.00	4	230.44	203.94	7	2199.98	1750.73
27.	Uttar Pradesh	3	295.00	295.00	7	1115.80	916.26	9	1044.93	831.19
28.	West Bengal	5	201.10	60.00	10	717.44	384.34	10	513.04	407.43
29.	Andaman & Nicobar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
30.	Chandigarh	3	7.75	6.63	2	10.00	8.00	3	467.00	373.60
31.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	2	8.07	6.46	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
32.	Delhi	14	504.00	449.02	17	3316.28	3222.13	8	628.85	511.00
33.	Daman & Diu	3	49.50	16.90	1	265.07	238.56	0	0.00	0.00
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	2	7.87	6.30	1	245.17	73.55	2	451.00	360.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>212</b>	<b>11121.10</b>	<b>8680.93</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>24185.84</b>	<b>18073.76</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>37663.83</b>	<b>27371.97</b>

Note: This includes the projects relating to Circuits, Destinations, Large Revenue Generating Projects, Rural Tourism (Software and Hardware) Project, IT, Event, Fair & Festivals Projects.

*Statement II*

*State-wise Tourism Projects Sanctioned and Funds Released during the Year 2005-06 of the Tenth Plan*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	State/UT	No. of Projects Sancd.	Amount Sancd.	Amount Released
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	10.00	0.00
2.	Assam	7	2077.20	1643.45
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	7	1401.60	984.52
4.	Bihar	0	0.00	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	2	518.41	415.00
6.	Goa	0	0.00	0.00
7.	Gujarat	3	1253.31	562.64

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Haryana	2	166.45	133.65
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1	30.00	24.00
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	15	3515.37	2808.41
11.	Jharkhand	0	0.00	0.00
12.	Karnataka	2	582.52	466.00
13.	Kerala	4	2612.00	2091.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	8	1506.94	1195.54
15.	Maharashtra	6	1114.91	888.91
16.	Manipur	0	0.00	0.00
17.	Meghalaya	1	5.00	4.00
18.	Mizoram	6	1469.49	1047.29
19.	Nagaland	7	1333.65	916.92
20.	Orissa	0	0.00	0.00
21.	Punjab	0	0.00	0.00
22.	Rajasthan	2	593.58	487.78
23.	Sikkim	10	942.84	689.37
24.	Tamil Nadu	11	3123.11	2159.28
25.	Tripura	3	716.26	569.43
26.	Uttaranchal	7	1039.77	831.72
27.	Uttar Pradesh	11	2456.04	1848.65
28.	West Bengal	2	975.00	780.00
29.	Andaman & Nicobar	0	0.00	0.00
30.	Chandigarh	0	0.00	0.00
31.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	0	0.00	0.00
32.	Delhi	0	0.00	0.00
33.	Daman & Diu	3	182.70	144.95
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0.00	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	1	5.00	4.00
Total		122	27631.15	20696.51

Note: This includes the projects relating to Circuits, Destinations, Large Revenue Generating Projects, Rural Tourism (Software and Hardware) Project IT, Event, Fair & Festivals Projects.



[English]

SHRI SANTASRI CHATTERJEE: Sir, the hon. Minister has submitted the details of the projects. These are from different State Governments. While going through the details, I have got one question to ask from the hon. Minister. I would like to know whether the Government of India, in consultation with the State Governments, have taken up some of the concrete projects which can cater to the needs of the low and middle income class groups.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Sir, I am very happy that the hon. Member has raised this question. Tourism has the largest employment potential. Tourism gives employment across the country, like the manufacturing sector and the agricultural sector. The projects have come with the consent of the respective State Governments. They send the proposals. In every tourist area, there is always a provision for middle class and lower middle class people of our country to go as tourists.

SHRI SANTASRI CHATTERJEE: Sir, it is not a fact in all the cases. However, the hon. Minister has replied to it, so I am satisfied.

Secondly, Sundarbans appears to be included in the international tourist map.

MR. SPEAKER: Why it appears? It is there.

SHRI SANTASRI CHATTERJEE: I agree that it is included. In this House, the hon. Minister replied that the Government of India is actively considering giving Sunderbans the status for all purposes, particularly for developing tourism further. May I know from the hon. Minister how far she has progressed in the matter?

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: I would like to place on record that today West Bengal has got considerably better allocation of funds for development of tourism. It is our great pleasure to see that West Bengal is being proactive about tourism, and we have forwarded the funds to them. Sundarbans have immense potential. I would like to urge all the hon. Members from West Bengal, who are here, that they must take environmental care and put checks into place in order to facilitate tourism to be a sustainable development activity. We are putting into place various preventive and positive checks so that the beauty of Sunderbans can always remain.

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH: Sir, I do agree with the Minister that tourism is the largest industry. I was in Europe last month and I did feel a difference there that for the first time, India is being focussed on tourism, and I saw new advertisements on buses and all that. My point here is that tourism itself may be doing a lot but the coordination of other Departments is not there. What is the Ministry doing about it? It is because she may be trying to work very hard but the coordination from Home and other Departments like Environment and Forests Department is not there. It needs a lot of coordination and that coordination is missing. There are problems that the tourists face here starting from the airport, regarding the taxi which they take for a ride and all those factors. So, my question is this. How is she doing the coordination?

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: I am very happy that Shri Vijayendra Pal Singh has noticed that we are advertising in other countries. For his kind information, I would like to inform the House that in tourism, the foreign exchange has gone up by 32.9 per cent in rupee terms and by 36 per cent in Dollar terms in 2004 as compared to 2003. We are the third largest generators of foreign exchange for the country under tourism. I do not know whether there is any specific fact or reason that you are able to explain as to why you feel there is lack of coordination. I am very fortunate that I have my respected colleagues in every Ministry, and each one of them has taken the initiative and given me great support in coordination, as a result of which today we are able to do all our gateway airports. Most of the airlines are coming forward to sign MoUs. We have Signed 18 bilaterals with other countries. We have opened up new avenue markets. We have issued a Medical Visa for the patients and for their attendants under the Medical Visa Section. The Home Ministry is actively looking at reviewing of RAP and PAP. All these are the issues which have been never addressed before in the country. The Defence Ministry have come forward in great support of looking at how we can effectively look after the force as well as wives of the Army officers who are going to be involved in tourism. Project *Priyadarshini* has been launched on 9th December as a tribute to the incredible Indian women. Now we have women-driven taxis which the Tourism Ministry is supporting.

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH: All this is very nice but there is harassment at many levels. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us also acknowledge the work being done.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There are some loose ends; she will look into them.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: We will look into it, and if there is any particular issue, please tell us.

MR. SPEAKER: We should also encourage them.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I appreciate the spirit.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Though we must appreciate the work that has been done on the tourism front yet I find that the Union Territories including Chandigarh, perhaps, have not had their share from the Government of India. From Annexure II to the reply, I find that the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Delhi and Lakshadweep, none of these Union Territories have had even a single project sanctioned or any release granted by the Government of India.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether these Union Territories had sent in their proposals and those have not been cleared or no proposal was sent by these Union Territories. But, in any case I would urge the Minister to take special care about the Union Territories because they are the responsibility of the Government of India.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: We have looked at the Union Territories. There is no question of discriminating them. It would be embarrassing if I were to say something on the floor of the House. So, let me tell you that we give all the support. We are waiting for the proposals. The minute they come, they will be facilitated.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the question, it is asked as to whether some State Governments have submitted proposals for tourism projects to the Union Government, in reply to which

information on sanctioned projects has been provided. There is no information regarding project proposals for which were forwarded, the number of projects not sanctioned and the reasons therefore. In the year 2004, at the instance of the Union Government the Secretary to the Bihar Government had undertaken a tour of some parts of Bihar and had mentioned about Manjhi and Rivilganj Gautam places in Chhapra district. He had also written to me and I also accompanied him. He had informed that work of developing a tourist centre at Rivilganj Gautam would start in a month's time. He also confirmed the receipt of funds from the Centre and said that Bihar Government would soon contribute its share and start the work.

The other thing he informed was that Majhi is a tourist place at Uttar Pradesh—Bihar border. A project for its renovation was under consideration of the Central Government but even a single project of Bihar Government has not been sanctioned during the year 2005-06. Through you, I want to know from the hon. Minister as to by when the pending project is likely to be sanctioned and by when the work is likely to start on the projects submitted to the Union Government including the one related to Rivilganj Gautam place and the time by which the projects of Bihar Government pending with the Central Government are likely to be sanctioned.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: The hon. Member is concerned about Bihar. I am also equally concerned. He should rest assured about Bihar. We always keep information about Bihar. We are ready to implement the projects after talking to Nitish Bhardwaji. It had delayed due to elections in Bihar.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Who is Nitish Bhardwaj?

[Translation]

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: I am sorry, I will speak to Shri Nitish Kumar Ji. He has won in the elections. I will speak to him. If he has some special information in this connection, he can tell it and I am ready to implement it.

SHRI LAL MUNI CHOUBEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I just want to ask a small question.

MR. SPEAKER: You and your party's turn will come later. Shrimati Jayaprada.

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Sir, it has been stated that there is an increase of 28% in tourism. There is no security arrangement for the foreign tourists and for women tourists in particular, as reported in the newspapers during the last year. Many such incidents have occurred due to which foreign tourists are hesitating to come here.

I want to ask the hon'ble Minister as to what kind of security she can provide to the tourists arriving here through the Central and State Governments? It is the time to understand the feelings of the women tourists. What action is being taken by the Government to do away with the inconvenience being faced by the women tourists? I want the data regarding the number of similar cases taking place last time and keeping this in view what kind of security the Government is going to provide to them in the future?

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Sir, I do not differentiate between the foreign and domestic tourists. I think that I have equal responsibility to protect both domestic tourists and foreign tourists. I consider it my responsibility to protect both kinds of tourists. I can say with pride that in every case, be it tsunami or earthquake,

*[English]*

no foreign tourist was involved in this anywhere.

*[Translation]*

Still, it is a different thing that many times. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is on record that the women tourists were raped and it has been published in all the newspapers.

*[English]*

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Let me finish please.

MR. SPEAKER: Let her answer. We should have the patience to hear each other.

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: This is absolutely a wrong information the Minister is giving.

*[Translation]*

How does it relate to Tsunami?

*[English]*

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: If Madam had the patience to listen, I would have completed my statement. The fact of the matter is that even under such trying circumstances, we did not lose any tourist. I say with great grief that we lost our people. Now, for the few aberrations

*[Translation]*

the incidents of rape of the women have not taken place only because of tourism. There are many reasons. Project 'Priyadarshni' has been launched on 9th December keeping this in view.

*[English]*

We consider this as a day for empowering women. These women will be taught taxi driving automobile maintenance as well as martial arts and domain knowledge of the area will be taught and facilitated.

*[Translation]*

We have taken steps to protect them keeping in view the achievement of Radio Cabs everywhere. This will be launched in Mumbai also in a few days and after that in Andhra Pradesh.

*[English]*

Several MNC's have come forward appreciating this project. In the last two and half days, we have had several top line MNCs so as well as NGOs who came and said that we want to be partner in project 'Priyadarshini'. I think the time has come. As a women I want to say

*[Translation]*

that if someone misbehaves with us, then we should not look to others for help. We will have to make ourselves secure if we want to protect ourselves. Therefore, we should take such step by which we can remain secured. It is said that the hands that wear bangles is a sign of weakness. While I think that the hands wearing bangles is a sign of strength. We should see that men do not remove these bangles.

*[English]*

PROF. K.M. KADER MOHIDEEN: Thank you, Sir. I would like to know this from the hon. Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have got already a list of 25 hon. Members. Everyone's question is important.

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Hon. Speaker, Sir, I seek your support. Respected Tourism minister has made unnecessary comment on something else, and she is diverting the attention of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, you have put a very good question. According to her, yes, she has given an appropriate answer. There are methods open under the rules. If you are not satisfied, there is some other method. You cannot just go on interrupting. I am sorry.

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Sir, I agree with you. If anything happens, you have to support us.

MR. SPEAKER: You have all my support and protection.

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if anything happens, it is only you have to support us. *...(Interruptions)* I need your protection.

MR. SPEAKER: I hope all the hon. lady Members share your views.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, no, this is not a joke. What I want to say is this. Once she has given the answer, we are satisfied and we are keeping quiet. But unnecessarily somebody is commenting on something, which we cannot accept.

MR. SPEAKER: You are right. It should be relevant, specific and to the point. Therefore, I am requesting everybody to put precise questions. I would also request the hon. Ministers to give precise answers and not too long answers.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This is not the time for making a big statement.

Prof. Kader Mohideen, please put your question.

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it should not be a habit in the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Let us not leave reflection on anybody.

PROF. K.M. KADER MOHIDEEN: Sir, I seek your protection from the interruption of the lady Members. Hon Minister has given in the reply that in Tamil Nadu, 11 projects have been approved and sanctions have been made. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether these sanctioned projects include the project of Vellore Port. Vellore Port is a symbol of secularism in our country. It needs protection. It is in this Port that on 10th July, 1806 the first war of independence took place. In India that is the first war though we claim that. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You need not mention it. Everybody knows about that.

*...(Interruptions)*

PROF. K.M. KADER MOHIDEEN: This Port has to be beautified and it should be beautified. This has been included in the list. If it is being included in the list then money has been sanctioned. If it is sanctioned then the park around the Port has still not been beautified. The work has yet not started. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what has happened to the historic Port of Vallore.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Most of the projects come on the recommendation of the State Government. I will look into the matter and give the hon. Member a detailed reply. As far as the rest of the projects are concerned, as you are aware, we have given the largest sanction this time. If there is something left out then we will look into it.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: Thank you, Sir. In the Annexure-I of the reply, the figures that have been given are of amounts sanctioned and the amounts released. I see from this that a large quantum of money that was released even during 2002-03 have still not been sanctioned and released. There is a quantum difference. In case of Uttaranchal, only 25 per cent of the money has been released of what was sanctioned in 2002-03. You have stated in your reply that the maximum period for completion is 36 months. I want to know from the hon. Minister that:

- (i) Do you have any methodology or system in place to ensure that work progresses properly within the quality that is specified? If so, what are these?

- (ii) In the case of Uttaranchal, what are the projects in 2002-03 that have still not been completed even after about three years—the time fixed by you which has been completed?

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: The point is well taken that the projects related to tourism must be executed and must be done in a cutting edge standard. To ensure this, the Ministry to Tourism has got teams of people who physically go and verify beside myself. I go personally to see as to where the money is being invested. Several factors have contributed for delay in the completion of projects and these are local issues whereby the land acquisition has not been completed and neither we have got the utilization certificates. There is an instruction of finance where I cannot give more money unless this money is utilized and we get the UCs. We have been asking and putting pressure on the respective State Governments that they must complete this, and go in for taking next budget money. Keeping in view the importance of tourism, their moneys have been earmarked and kept. It is for the States now to become competitive and ensure that they implement their projects.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: Please send me information about this. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: I have written to all the Members of Parliament. If they will be so kind to us and look into their mails regarding their respective States then they will know as to what are the projects that we have taken and as to where we are allocating more money so that you can all be inter-active about the help we give. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Athawale please.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Brevity is a great virtue. It applies to both sides.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Mr Speaker, Sir, Konkan area in Maharashtra is very good for tourism which we can compare with California also. What action the hon'ble Minister is taking for sanctioning the proposal sent to her for increasing tourism in the district Sindhudurg? The Sindhudurg proposal should get approval. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: How can she answer in detail about the project? Please put specific query.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: It is a new proposal. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: She will send reply after going through it.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have specially provided funds for Sindhudurg and I want that you should get involved in that project so that it is implemented immediately.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I hope that you do not want to spoil that!

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury had announced while inaugurating the Nehru Trophy Boat Race that the Government of India will establish a hospitality Institute in Alapuzha, Kerala, Through you, I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister as to what steps have so far been taken by the Government of India regarding establishment of this Institute?

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. It is a very nice act.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: It is good that you have asked the question in Hindi.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: It was much better than that of mine.

...(*Interruptions*)

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: It is a fact that

*[English]*

we had announced that Nehru Boat Trophy.  
...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SEVERAL HON'BLE MEMBERS: You should speak in Hindi.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Is she Malayali?

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Alright. I should speak only in Hindi, not in Tamil? ...*(Interruptions)* I have not learnt Malayalam yet but I can speak other languages.

We had asked for an institute to be set up there and now we are awaiting grant of land by the State Government. We will go there to set up the institute as soon as and is made available to us.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Lal Muni Choubey—he is the last member to put supplementary.

*[Translation]*

SHRI LAL MUNI CHOUBEY: I have a small question. I will not take up much time. Tourist spots attract people from all walks of life including large number of poor and those belonging to middle classes. The tourist places which are at a distance from railway stations, but terminals or airports have to be reached by taxi or other means of transport and for this people are faced to pay exorbitant rates to the taxi drivers or the owners of other means of transport. There is no regulation of fares by such people. Would you make some arrangements to regulate the fares of transportation of tourists from a particular point upto the tourist place? I am of the view that lack of such arrangements cause loss to the public and to the exchequer. What do you propose to do in this regard?

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: This is about taxi.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: A system of prepaid taxis for transportation from airports and railway stations to the cities is already in place in tourist centers but in a democracy careful consideration will have to be given to the matter of imposing a diktat in this regard. Nevertheless, with the advertisements and publicity in which the spirit of respecting and taking care of your guests i.e. tourists is inherent we do try to spread the message that it is not right to fleece tourists. If one tourist has a good experience he would inspire hundred others to follow him. Increase in tourist inflow would be beneficial for all. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LAL MUNI CHOUBEY: By Athithi (guest) we mean foreign tourist. I am talking about our own countrymen. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: They are also guests.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Our countrymen are also guests. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LAL MUNI CHOUBEY: We will have to define the word; 'Athithi' in context of tourism. I agree that tourist inflow from abroad has increased substantially. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You have started giving a reply.

SHRI LAL MUNI CHOUBEY: The poor people go on foot? If they go by taxis. They are arbitrarily charged fares. Would you consider fixation of fares for travelling certain distances?

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: nothing more will be recorded.

...*(Interruptions)\**

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: I will consider your advice and examine what steps we can take in this regard. I will let you know about it.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Now. Q. No. 264—Raghuvraj Singh Shakya.

...*(Interruptions)*

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\*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: No more questions will be there. I have already allowed 10 supplementaries.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please, there should be silence.

...(Interruptions)

#### Funds for Dairy Development Projects

+  
\*264. SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA:  
DR. K. DHANARAJU:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated to different dairy development projects launched in the country during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government has made any assessment of the utilization of funds;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to augment the production of milk 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 (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### *Statement*

(a) The schemes for dairy development are demand driven and therefore, no funds are allocated state-wise under various dairy development projects implemented by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries. However, the state-wise details of funds released during last three years under the following dairy development schemes are given in the enclosed Annexure-I, II & III respectively.

1. Intensive Dairy Development Programme
2. Assistance to Cooperatives
3. Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production

(b) and (c) The progress of the projects approved under these schemes are monitored on regular basis by Technical Monitoring Committee (TMC) chaired by the concerned Secretary of the State Governments including representatives of the Planning Commission, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries and also National Dairy Development Board. Video conferencing, review meetings and field visits by the officers of the Government of India are also conducted from time to time to assess the progress of the projects.

The details of outcome/achievements made under the above said schemes are as follows:

#### 1. Intensive Dairy Development Programme:

Since inception of the scheme (1993-94), 62 projects have been approved spread over 164 districts in 25 States and a UT with a total cost of Rs. 334.08 crores and an amount of Rs. 234.42 crores has been released upto 31.03.2005. These projects have benefited 7.56 lakh farmers in about 12000 villages procuring over 7.00 lakh litres of milk per day as on 31.03.2005.

#### 2. Assistance to Cooperatives:

Under this scheme, an amount of Rs. 64.18 crore has been released to 25 Milk unions for their rehabilitation till 31st March 2005. Out of 25 Milk Unions, 11 milk unions have started making cash profits.

#### 3. Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production:

It is a new scheme started in 2003-04. The proposals received from the State Governments during 2003-04 were not found prepared as per the guidelines. Hence no proposal could be approved during the year 2003-04. 56 projects at a total cost of Rs. 66.57 crore with a Central share of Rs. 54.59 crore have been approved and an amount of Rs. 24.64 crore as central share has been released to concerned State Governments.

#### 4. Dairy/Poultry Venture Capital Fund

This is a new scheme started during end of 2004-05 and therefore, no expenditure was made during the last three years.

(d) The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries is implementing following schemes to augment the production of milk in the country:

- |                                                         |                                                                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. National Project on Cattle and Buffalo Breeding      | 4. Intensive Dairy Development Programme                              |
| 2. Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases  | 5. Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and clean Milk Production |
| 3. Assistance to States for Feed and fodder Development | 6. Assistance to Cooperatives                                         |
|                                                         | 7. Dairy/Poultry Venture Capital Fund.                                |

***Annexure I****State-wise funds released during last three years under Intensive Dairy Development Programme (IDDP) Scheme**(Rs. in lakh)*

Sl.No.	State/Projects	Amount Released 2002-03	Amount Released 2003-04	Amount Released 2004-05
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	9.71	8.19	
2.	Andhra Pradesh		150.00	
3.	Arunachal Pradesh		14.20	
4.	Assam			296.04
5.	Bihar	56.79	100.00	
6.	Jharkhand	160.00	99.91	
7.	Himachal Pradesh	100.00	50.75	160.57
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	40.00		180.79
9.	Kerala			57.63
10.	Madhya Pradesh	98.79		
11.	Chhattisgarh	29.52		
12.	Maharashtra	200.00		
13.	Meghalaya		50.00	150.00
14.	Mizoram	72.41		128.82
15.	Nagaland			72.59
16.	Orissa	288.21		295.01
17.	Rajasthan			118.10
18.	Sikkim	90.82	324.80	51.73
19.	Tamilnadu			55.45
20.	Uttar Pradesh		325.09	364.82
21.	Uttaranchal	476.59	483.00	586.02
22.	West Bengal			42.01
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1622.84</b>	<b>1605.94</b>	<b>2559.18</b>



*Annexure II**State-wise funds released during last three years under the scheme "Assistance to Cooperatives"*

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl.No.	State	Funds released		
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1.	Assam	210.00	—	—
2.	Chhattisgarh	20.00	—	10.00
3.	Karnataka	90.00	—	—
4.	Kerala	31.10	—	—
5.	Madhya Pradesh	348.41	—	191.59
6.	Maharashtra	159.45	25.00	30.00
7.	Nagaland	5.24	—	—
8.	Punjab	—	—	181.50
9.	Uttar Pradesh	351.04	46.00	443.41
10.	West Bengal	75.00	—	50.00
11.	Tamil Nadu	375.00	200.00	75.00
Total		1665.24	271.00	981.50

*Annexure III**State-wise funds released during last three years under the Scheme "Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production"*

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	Name of State	Release made during 2004-05
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	39.37
2.	Assam	8.02
3.	Bihar	100.53
4.	Haryana	162.89
5.	Himachal Pradesh	38.42
6.	Karnataka	697.47

1	2	3
7.	Kerala	20.00
8.	Madhya Pradesh	61.67
9.	Maharashtra	409.94
10.	Mizoram	10.90
11.	Nagaland	34.24
12.	Orissa	179.25
13.	Punjab	178.30
14.	Rajasthan	179.86
15.	Sikkim	19.06
16.	Tamil Nadu	227.47
17.	Uttar Pradesh	96.64
Total		2464.03

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA: Hon'ble Mr. Speaker, the issue of production of milk is linked to farmers. The Government has taken a number of measures to increase production of milk but the desired success has not yet been achieved. Farmers are the ones who ensure supply of milk by keeping milch cattle, be it cow or buffalo. The Government is aware that the production of milk is declining and the consumptions is going up which has given rise to a number of complaints pertaining to adulteration of milk etc. I would like to ask the Minister. Through you, whether the Government would grant sanction and subsidies under its various schemes to those farmers who want to start supplying milk in the market directly or through some dairy in the manner in which subsidies are given to NGOs.

DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am pleased to inform the House that India is the largest producer of milk in the world. Production of milk in the country has shot up from 17 million tonnes in 1950-51 after independence to 90.7 million tonnes in 2004-05. As regards the question the hon'ble Member has put through you, I would like to assure him that the Government of India is running many schemes to assist the farmers in the milk production sector. I would like to inform the hon'ble Member that not only has the production of milk in the country increased but also per day per capita availability of milk has gone up from 124 gm in 1950-51 to 230 gm in 2004-05.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: He has asked about individual entrepreneurs starting dairy projects.

*[Translation]*

Reply to his question.

DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH: We have an ambitious project called the Dairy Poultry Venture Capital Fund which will be flagged off on 11 January by the Union Government. Under this project entrepreneurs will have to contribute only 10 percent of the capital while 40 percent banks loan would be granted to anyone who is interested in agricultural activities and 50 percent balance of the amount would be given on interest free basis by the Government.

SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA: Hon'ble Minister has not replied to my question. My point is that direct proposals are sent by NGOs for grants under the various schemes being run by the Union Government and the Ministry of Social Justice. I want to know if the farmers wish to send a proposal directly to the Government through any institution which represents the farmers and whether the government would give sanction to such a proposal and which the Government would grant subsidy to them?

DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH (Motihari): Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I have just stated that the State Government forwards the proposal received from any individual to the Central Government. The question raised by the Hon'ble Member as to whether any individual entrepreneur can send any proposal separately. I want to tell through you that an ambitious scheme is being launched from 11th of January which will help the individual entrepreneurs too.

SHRI SACHIN PILOT: Thank you, Sir.

The hon. Minister mentioned—and it is a fact—that India has the largest number of cattle and cows in the world. Ours is the largest producer of milk and milk producers. Most villagers in the rural areas raise cows and buffaloes to supplement their agricultural income. They need the support and co-operation of the Government.

I was surprised to read in the third part of the answer, which says: "Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production' is a Scheme launched in 2003-04. The proposals received from the State Governments during this year were not prepared as per the guidelines and the Government has asked the State Governments to prepare further proposals according to the guidelines." What is the progress on that front?

The next part of my question relates to another Scheme, the 'Assistance to Co-operatives'. In this Scheme, there are 11 States which have been given money from the Central Government. I see that Rajasthan is not mentioned in this Table. What is the reason for Rajasthan not receiving any money from the Government of India?

*[Translation]*

DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as regards the question raised by the Hon'ble Member, I want to state that a provision for Rs. 30 crore has

been made in Tenth Plan outlay from October 2003. Out of that 100 percent is provided as a grant-in-aid with a view to improving the quantity of raw milk produced in the villages. The farmers are trained to use steel utensil in it... detergent milk testing laboratory. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot dictate. It is not the right manner.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: He is answering a question. Let us see whether he deals with it or not.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am replying to the question of the Hon'ble Member. As regards Rajasthan, funds have been allotted even to Rajasthan for the proposals received from the State under our scheme. I will make the details of proposals of Rajasthan available to the Hon'ble Member, Sachinjee. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: He has asked about the proposals not being prepared according to the guidelines.

[*Translation*]

Hon'ble member has asked so. Hon. ministers stated your reply that the proposals were not in accordance with the guidelines. The hon'ble Member has enquired as to what happened with that.

DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH: Proposal received from many states during 2003-04 were not in accordance the guidelines. It was directed to prepare them again and the Government of India is providing money for those proposals received from the States which were in accordance with the guidelines.

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA (Dhandhuka): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Gujarat is at No. 1 in dairy industries and the farmers there produce maximum quantity of milk. Gujarat is also home to one of the biggest dairies in the

country. I want to know whether any proposal from Gujarat Dairy Industry or a private party regarding Intensive Dairy Development Programme and Co-operative Assistance and quality improvement has been received or not as you have replied the same in respect of Rajasthan? If the same is received, whether hon. Minister will sanction the same too in the manner in which the Hon'ble member has asked as Gujarat is working on a very big scheme and whether the labourious and courageous farmers of Gujarat will get assistance of the Government? If any proposal has been received from there, what are reason for not clearing it?

DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know the name of specific proposal from Gujarat, Hon'ble Member is talking about. If there is any proposal, you may get the reply after giving separate notice for the same.

MR. SPEAKER: Right. You are right, naturally.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as Hon'ble Minister. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You will get an opportunity if you go by the rule. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: I always go by the rule. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You go by the rule framed by yourself.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Hon'ble Mr. Speaker, Sir, what the Minister said is a matter of pride for us that India has reached No. 1 in the world in production of milk but I have to say regretfully that the farmers are unable to get the benefit which should be given to them and they are unable to produce milk under the existing circumstances. They can produce more milk if they are encouraged. The economy of our country depends upon live stock. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: What is your question?

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: My question is whether the Government is launching any special project or allocating any special fund for a State like Bihar which depends basically on farmers and where milk is being produced on a large scale so that milk producers may get more assistance?

The second ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: No doorsa.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: It is right.  
...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It will be diluted if you talk of the second. Please state what you want to do for Bihar.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I agree with the sentiments of the Hon'ble Member. The focus of the UPA Government has been on live stock since it came into power. On this basis I can state that a provision of Rs. 300 crore for livestock field was made in the budget of Rs. 500 crore has been made in the budget of 2004-05... of Rs. 699 crore in 2005-06.  
...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: He is asking about Bihar.

DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH: Whichever proposal received from Bihar... as I belong to (Bihar)  
...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You are a Minister of India residing in Bihar.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, no reply has been given to my question. I want to know whether the Minister will take any concrete step for Bihar or not. I want to know whether the Minister will launch any project for providing assistance to farmers there, as their cattle die and they do not get proper price for milk.  
...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: I am satisfied.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No reply is to be given. It is not to be recorded. It is asked without my permission.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Sir, considering the merger amounts allocated to schemes mentioned in the reply and considering the importance of production of milk and its potential for employment in the country, would the Government allocate more funds next year?

MR. SPEAKER: Would you provide more funds?

*[Translation]*

DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have just stated in reply to a question of Ram Kripal Yadavji that UPA Government has increased the fund in the field of live stock.

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know from the Hon'ble Minister that the contribution of live-stock in receipt of revenue has been much more and as per data for the year before last one, a revenue of approximately Rs. 1,02,000 crore has only been collected from milk. If the revenue receipt from meat is added to that it becomes more than Rs. 1,26,000 crore approximately whereas the revenue receipt from paddy, wheat and sugarcane, the three important crops of India is equal to the same. Whereas the latter are emphasized, the former is neglected. You replied that the proposals are not received as per guidelines and hence they are not approved. Big loss is incurred due to technicality. I had got sent three proposals from Etawah, Moradabad and Bandaun, which is my parliamentary constituency, but that is other department. Dairy pertains to the department of Dr. Raghuvansh Babu, but I have been trying for last one year and I have also met the hon. Minister in regard to technicality and to know as to in which manner the proposal should be proposed because the U.P. Government has forwarded two proposal thrice, but the proposals are not being approved due to guidelines and manners. Nothing can be done anywhere in its, whereas it is the best department. Production in agriculture cannot be increased above a limit but limitless

revenue can be received by expansion of animal husbandry and it is a field yielding more employment and income for the country. You increased the budget allocation from Rs. 300 crore to 500 crore, this is not a big thing. This budget is quite insufficient keeping in view of the revenue being earned by this department. Therefore, I want to know whether the technicality of the guidelines, due to which State Governments face difficulty, will be relaxed and whether you will get new schemes for states approved?

DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I agree with the sentiments of Hon'ble Member and many proposal could not be approved last time due to some technical faults, but this time Hon'ble Sharad Pawarji has taken these questions seriously. The proposals of Etawah and other districts, which have been mentioned by Hon'ble Member, will certainly be forwarded and get approved by us.

*[English]*

#### Forest Rights of Tribals

+  
\*265. SHRI PRABODH PANDA:  
DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:

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

(a) whether the Government has taken steps to safeguard the rights of tribal people residing on forest lands for more than hundred years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has stopped the eviction process of forest dwellers;

(d) if not, whether any rehabilitation package has been provided for them; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

#### *Statement*

(a) and (b) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has issued guidelines on 18.09.1990 under the Forest

(Conservation) Act, 1980 for grant of traditional rights of forest dwellers, including tribals, over forest land. Such traditional rights over forest land include settlement of disputed claims over forest land, regularisation of eligible encroachment of forest land, conversion of forest villages into revenue villages and regularisation of eligible pattas/grants/leases over forest land.

On the basis of the proposals received from the State Governments, about 3.66 lakh hectares of encroachment of forest land has been regularised and 511 forest villages have been converted into revenue villages under the guidelines dated 18.09.1990. This process of grant of traditional rights over forest land to forest dwellers, including tribals, came to a halt due to a ban imposed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on de-reservation of forest land as well as regularisation of encroachment of forest land vide its orders dated 13.11.2000 and 23.11.2001 respectively. The Ministry is pursuing the matter with the Hon'ble Court to obtain a suitable modification in the orders so that grant of traditional rights over forest land could be continued further under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

(c) The Ministry of Environment and Forests, vide its letter dated 21.12.2004, has requested all the State/Union Territory Governments not to resort to eviction of forest dwellers, including tribals, other than ineligible encroachers of forest land till complete survey is carried out for recognition of such people and their rights on forest land as provided in the guidelines dated 18.09.1990 issued under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. These instructions were reiterated on 17.10.2005. On 03.11.2005, the Ministry has issued detailed revised guidelines for verification/recognition of such rights on forest land and again requested the State/Union Territory Governments to complete the entire process within a period of one year.

(d) and (e) Rehabilitation package for the evicted ineligible encroachers, if any, needs to be provided by the concerned State/Union Territory Government.

*[English]*

SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Sir, at the outset, I must say that I am very satisfied with the answers given by the hon. Minister. In addition to that, I want to put some supplementaries.

Sir, my first supplementary is this. How many forest villages are yet to be converted into revenue villages? Has the Union Government conducted any study on this aspect or set up a mechanism to study this matter?

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: Sir, we have not received information from some of the States on this issue, but as per the information received 2,690 forest villages are there, and we have converted 511 forest villages into revenue villages.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Sir, my question was about the villages yet to be converted into revenue villages.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Panda, please ask your second supplementary. You have got another opportunity to ask from the hon. Minister.

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: Sir, 2,179 forest villages are yet to be converted.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Sir, my second supplementary is this. I think the hon. Minister is aware of the fact that a lot of cases are pending in the court alleging unauthorised possession by dwellers like Scheduled Castes, Tribals and poor people in forest lands. Is the Union Government going to instruct the State Governments to withdraw all the cases pending in the court, so that the tribal dwellers could be protected?

MR. SPEAKER: What type of cases are you talking about?

SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Sir, there are cases alleging unauthorised occupation of the forestland by these tribals.

MR. SPEAKER: I am sure that he will look into the matter.

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: Yes, Sir.

*[Translation]*

DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are approximately eight crore tribes living in the forests. They depend on minor forest produce for their livelihood. They have been living there, since thousands of years but some lobbies are alleging that they are cutting forests and destroying them.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, please ask your specific Question to hon. Minister.

*[Translation]*

DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL: Particularly the Governments of Gujarat, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh, who talk of the interests of tribes, are doing great injustice with the tribes. Forest-mafias destroy the forest but false cases against the tribes are registered; they are put behind the bars, and are harassed by implicating them in different kinds of litigations.

MR. SPEAKER: It is right, ask your question.

DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL: Sir, there is a programme also in the Common Minimum Programme of UPA Government that the tribals will be provided all their rights. The tribals should get right to use crop yields from forests, and the right to utilize the small products of forests and they should be given the right of ownership of the land on the basis of possession in the year 2005. I want to know from the Government, through you, whether the Government is going to bring any new bill for providing ownership right of land to the tribals and the number of tribals who have been provided with ownership right of land under the provisions laws?

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Are you going to change the law?

*[Translation]*

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: Sir, as far as the question raised by hon. Member regarding the question of ownership right is concerned, it was included in the manifesto of Congress party as well as in the Common Minimum Programme of the UPA Government that law will be framed for conferring right of ownership of their land to the tribals and for recognizing their traditional rights regarding minor forest produce. We are bound for that. I have received information from the Ministry of Tribal Affairs that for the draft for the Scheduled Tribes Recognition of Forest Rights Bill has been prepared for it, and it will be introduced in the House very shortly.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Lakshman Seth, please ask a very short and specific Question from the hon. Minister.

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH: Sir, I would like to thank the hon. Minister because he has promised to bring the bill for Recognition of the Forest Rights for the tribal people. I would like to know this from the hon. Minister. What is the number of evictions? What steps have been taken for rehabilitation of the evicted tribals from the forest area?

MR. SPEAKER: The Question of the hon. Member is about rehabilitation of evicted tribals.

*[Translation]*

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is bringing the bill shortly the cabinet has approved it. As far as eviction of tribals is concerned, we have directed vide our order dated 21.12.2004 that the eligible tribals may not be evicted, until examination of everything is completed, as I have mentioned in my reply. As far as the matter of their rehabilitation is concerned, the tribals who are relocated are surely compensated. There was such provision in the Ninth Plan. If any eligible tribal is relocated, we provide him with the required assistance under the Tenth Plan also. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is bringing a bill in this regard.

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## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*[English]*

### Marginal/Small Farmers

\*266. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of marginal and small farmers as per the census of 1990-91;

(b) the total land being cultivated by them, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has taken any steps to diversify marginal and small farmers from agriculture to areas like dairy, fisheries, poultry etc. to increase their income; and

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

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

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (d) The percentage of marginal and small farmers as per the Agricultural Census 1990-91 was 59.4 and 18.8 percent respectively.

A statement showing state-wise area operated by the marginal and small farmers during 1990-91 is enclosed.

The Government is implementing different schemes, which enable farmers to supplement their income by diversifying into dairying, fisheries and poultry sectors.

The following schemes in the fisheries sector provide financial assistance in the form of subsidy to fishermen.

(i) Development of Inland fisheries and Aquaculture with the following components:

- Development of Freshwater Aquaculture;
- Development of Brackish water Aquaculture;
- Development of Coldwater Fisheries and Aquaculture in the Hilly Regions;
- Development of Water-logged Areas into Aquaculture Estates;
- Utilization of Inland Saline/Alkaline Soils for Aquaculture; and
- Inland Capture Fishers.

The scheme on Central Poultry Development Organization addresses employment generation and subsidiary income earning. The Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Assistance to State Poultry farms" is mainly oriented towards giving impetus to rural poultry development programmes. Government has taken a new initiative to implement the Project on "Rural Backyard Poultry" in which assistance is extended to backyard poultry rearers including training and services.

A new scheme "Dairy/Poultry venture Capital Fund" has been launched during the year 2004-05, wherein there is a provision to grant subsidy on interest payment. Components like establishment of poultry, breeding farm, establishment of feed godowns, feed mills, feed analytical laboratories, marketing of poultry products (specialized transport vehicles, cool room storage facilities and retention sheds for birds etc.). Egg grading, packing and storage for export capacity, Retail poultry dressing unit (300 birds per day), Egg/broiler carts for sale of poultry products and Central grower unit etc. are considered for financing under this Scheme.

Under the dairying sector, the following Dairy Development Schemes are implemented for the benefit of farmers including marginal and small farmers;

- Intensive Dairy Development Programme
- Assistance to Cooperatives
- Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk production
- Dairy/Poultry Venture Capital Fund.

**Statement**

*Area operated by marginal and small holdings as per Agriculture Census 1990-91*

(Area in thousand hectares)

Sl.No.	States	Marginal holdings	Small holdings	Other holdings	All holdings
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2369	2827	9264	14460
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	10	26	314	350
3.	Assam	607	784	1814	3205
4.	Bihar	3591	1954	5198	10743
5.	Goa	19	11	37	67
6.	Gujarat	489	1343	8460	10292
7.	Haryana	295	463	2953	3711
8.	Himachal Pradesh	215	235	560	1010
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	347	272	395	1014
10.	Karnataka	1072	2308	8941	12321
11.	Kerala	865	383	548	1796
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1409	2783	17919	22111
13.	Maharashtra	1618	3983	15324	20925
14.	Manipur	38	67	197	302
15.	Meghalaya	32	68	202	302
16.	Mizoram	18	36	30	84
17.	Nagaland	9	30	929	968
18.	Orissa	1045	1426	2825	5296
19.	Punjab	164	328	3541	4033
20.	Rajasthan	725	1469	18777	20971



1	2	3	4	5	6
21.	Sikkim	11	19	81	111
22.	Tamil Nadu	2118	1794	3562	7474
23.	Tripura	87	106	115	308
24.	Uttar Pradesh	5653	4391	7942	17986
25.	West Bengal	2064	1694	1898	5656
26.	All Union Territories	25	25	90	140
	All India	24894	28827	111786	165507

[*Translation*]

#### Research Work in Agriculture

\*267. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:  
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by the Government on research work in agriculture sector during the last three years;

(b) the details of the research work undertaken and the achievements made in this regard; and

(c) the steps being taken to make further improvement in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The Department has incurred Plan Expenditure of Rs. 680.56 crore during 2002-03, Rs. 701.80 crore during 2003-04 and Rs. 859.00 crore during 2004-05 on Agricultural Research.

(b) The major focus of research has been on productivity enhancement, resource conservation technologies and efficient management of energy, water, nutrients, insect pests and diseases. The achievements made in the recent past are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The Department is making efforts to promote cutting edge research in frontier areas like bio-technology; enhance input use efficiency; increase farm mechanisation; reduce post harvest losses; produce quality seeds; standardize production technologies for organic farming;

manage abiotic and biotic stresses; evolve improved strains of crops, animals and fish; and to produce first rate human resource.

#### *Statement*

##### *Salient Achievements in the Recent Past*

#### Varietal Improvement and Plant Protection Technologies

- Developed and released 132 new varieties and hybrids in crops with improved quality, higher yield and resistance to disease and drought, in the last one and a half year.
- Developed and validated a Forecasting model for Central zone of the country in order to manage a cosmopolitan pest like American bollworm (*Helicoverpa*), which is playing havoc with major crops.
- Developed effective bio-control agent for the management of rhinoceros beetle in coconut and oil plantations.

#### Resource Conservation Technologies

- Resource Conservation Technologies (RCTs) in form of Zero Till technology now cover about 2 million hectares resulting in a resource saving of about Rs. 600 crores annually to the farmers. The technology when disseminated to nearly 10 mha in Indo-Gangetic Plains can result in a net saving of Rs. 2500 crore p.a.

- Prepared District level soil resource maps for 24 districts of Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh to facilitate rational land use planning.
- Developed Sloping Agricultural Land Technology (SALT) for restoration of degraded lands of Jhum fallow/degraded lands in eastern Himalayas.
- Developed an Intensive Integrated Farming System (IIFS) in NEH region to achieve improved input use efficiency for higher returns.
- Developed technologies for recycling/reuse of vast quantities of agro and industrial residues for making pulp, paper, boards, briquette etc. from jute.
- Developed an Integrated National Agricultural Resource Information System (INARIS) involving state of the art Data Warehousing and GIS techniques into a national database.
- Standardized for the first time in the world, a competitive-inhibition ELISA (Enzyme Linked Immunosorbant Assay).
- Developed antibody qualification kits for infectious bursal disease, infectious bronchitis and egg drop syndrome viruses.
- Sequenced complete genome for 2 Asia 1 field isolates for Foot and mouth Disease.
- Successfully tested a potential effective alternative to vaccination for control of animal virus.
- Developed a PCR assay for effective diagnosis of Johne's disease in small ruminants.
- Characterized Bovine viral diarrhoea (BVD), and developed a monoclonal antibody based ELISA for specific detection of the disease.
- Developed rapid Polymerase Chain Reaction based diagnostic for buffalo pox virus, for different serovars of *Salmonella* in equines and of Johne's disease in Caprine.
- Four goat kids were born through *in vitro* fertilization (IVF) process, one female calf was born through Embryo transfer technology in Yak.
- Method for making cottage cheese from Yak milk standardized. Mozzarella type cheese developed using buffalo skim milk and vegetable fats employing direct acid method.
- Technology for area specific mineral mixture to increase productivity of bovines in Tarai and hill region of Uttaranchal and Uttar Pradesh commercialized.

#### Farm Mechanization

- Designed proto-types for promoting farm mechanization.
- Developed a low cost, reliable and an efficient low energy precision application (LEPA) irrigation system working at low pressure for irrigating close-growing crops.
- In biasi system of cultivation, tiral plough and wedge plough resulted in higher yields (additional yield of 48 per cent) than the local plough.
- Developed a low-cost push-type safflower harvester and a standard recipe for dyeing cotton with pigment from safflower petals.
- Designed a machine for making integrated feed blocks out of agricultural residues having one tonne/hr capacity.
- Developed a low cost feed pelleting machine costing Rs. 12000/- making pellet at Rs. 30/- per quintal of feed.

#### Animal Sciences

- Developed technology for preparing different milk products like cheese, paneer, khoya and ice cream with goat milk in a profitable way.

#### Fisheries

- Developed technology to achieve production of 675 kg/ha of prawn and carp within 130 days in Pen culture. The technology offers opportunities for additional employment, income generation and also improving the nutritional security.
- Produced *in vitro* marine pearls successfully in Indian Pearl Oyster *Pinctada fucata* and in the abalone *Haliotis varia* through tissue culture.
- Bred two species of sand lobster (*Thenus orientalis*, *Scyllarus rugosus*) successfully in

captivity and larval cycle completed in three to four weeks time.

- Domesticated and bred in captivity Kuruma shrimp *Marsupenaeus japonicus*.
- Perfected a technology of marine pearl production with respect to production of colored marine pearls, development of protocol pearl nuclear production from indigenous shells, mapping and quantification of black-lip pearl oyster, and setting up of small-scale pearl oyster hatchery.
- Bred in captivity Giant Freshwater Prawn, *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* using inland saline water and post larvae raised with suitable ionic amendments without the use of sea water.
- Carried out National Marine Fisheries Census—2005 in all the maritime states excepting Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry, covering 5.9 lakh fishermen households, 2,445 fishing villages, spread over a distance of 6,200 km coastal length of India.
- Achieved captive spawning of three varieties of damsel fishes namely *Dascyllus trimaculatus*, *Pomacentrus coelestis* and *Dascyllus aruanus* and honey comb grouper *Epinephelus merra*.
- Developed RT-PCR (Nested diagnostic kit) for the early diagnosis of white muscle disease in the post-larvae of scampi, *Macrobrachium rosenbergii*.
- Demonstrated technology of selective breeding for growth enhancement to the tune of 17% per generation in Rohu *Labeo rohita*.

#### **Frontline Transfer of Technologies**

- Sanctioned 107 new Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) during the last one and a half year against 386 KVKs sanctioned in past 29 years. Thus total number of KVKs stands at 493 in fulfilment of the target of establishing KVKs in each of 588 rural districts including 10 newly created rural districts. Made provision of soil and water testing facilities in 326 and e-linkage in 200 KVKs. Organized for the first time a national conference of the Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) to improve their relevance and effectiveness in the process of technology assessment, refinement and dissemination.

- Provided complete technological backstopping to the national efforts in rehabilitation of areas devastated by Tsunami.

#### **Revision of Bonus Ceiling**

*[English]*

\*268. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM:  
SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:

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

(a) the salary limit for receiving bonus by the employees in the private sector across the country;

(b) whether any proposal is pending with the Government to revise the bonus ceiling under the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the said proposal is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) At present, the salary limit for receiving bonus by the employees of a factory and every other establishment employing 20 or more persons is Rs. 3500/- per mensem.

(b) and (c) A proposal to amend the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965 so as to revise the eligibility limit of bonus from Rs. 3500/- to Rs. 7500/- per month, and calculation ceiling from Rs. 2500/- to Rs. 3500/- per month, as per the recommendation of the Second National Commission on Labour, is under consideration of the Government in consultation with all concerned.

(d) Given the steps/procedures involved, it is not possible to specify a definite time frame.

#### **Pension and Insurance for Unorganised Sector**

\*269. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce pension and insurance benefits scheme for the unorganised sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the sectors that would be covered by this scheme;

(c) whether the self-employed persons would also be covered by this programme; and

(d) the number of women workers likely to be covered there under this programme?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) to (d) The Government is contemplating to enact a comprehensive legislation to protect the interests and to provide for social security to the workers in the unorganised sector.

#### Mustard Oil

\*270. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:  
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

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

(a) the demand and production of mustard oil registered in the country during the last three years and thereafter, year-wise;

(b) the quantum of mustard oil imported during the said period;

(c) whether the demand for mustard oil has been increasing over the years;

(d) if so, whether there has been a steep rise in the price of mustard oil in the country during the last six months;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to ensure adequate supply of mustard oil at controlled price to below poverty line families?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) The details regarding estimated production, import and demand of mustard oil registered in the country during the last three years are as under:

(In lakh tonnes)

Oil Year	Domestic Production of Mustard Oil	Import of Mustard Oil	Demand* of Mustard Oil
2002-2003	12.03	—	12.03
2003-2004	19.21	0.00024	19.21
2004-2005	25.90	0.00019	25.90

\*Demand of mustard oil has been estimated on the basis of domestic production plus imports.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

[Translation]

#### New Steel Policy

\*271. SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA:  
SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has constituted a Group of Ministers (GoMs) to finalize an action plan to implement the National Steel Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the GoMs has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the time likely to be taken for submission of its report alongwith the likely date of implementation thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) No, Sir.

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

#### Export of Oilseeds

\*272. DR. CHINTA MOHAN:  
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":

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

(a) the quantity of oilseeds exported during the last three years, oilseed-wise;

(b) whether the oil seeds expeller industry is unable to utilize its installed capacity due to shortage of sufficient quantity of oilseeds;

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

(d) the reasons for exporting the oilseeds from the country despite the domestic shortages?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The details regarding oilseeds exported during the last three years are as under:

(In lakh tonnes)

Oilseeds*	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005
Sesame seed	1.1838	1.8911	1.5666
Shelled Groundnut	0.4442	1.3633	1.1241
Groundnut in shell	0.2347	0.3978	0.6470
Mustard/Rape/Colza seed	0.1747	0.5382	0.1612
Safflower seed	0.0551	0.0944	0.0622
Castor seed	0.0278	0.0192	0.0134
Soyabean seed	0.0172	2.4227	0.0206
Sunflower seed	0.0169	0.0123	0.0295
Others	0.3804	0.2038	0.2780
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.5348</b>	<b>6.9428</b>	<b>3.9026</b>

\*Oilseed e.g. whether or not broken of soyabean, shelled groundnut, linseed, rape/colza seed, sunflower seed, cotton seed, castor seed, sesame seed, mustard seed, safflower seed, etc.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Vegetable Oil Industry including oilseeds expeller industry has been delicensed with effect from 25.7.1991, thereby creating opportunities for creation of new capacities/expansion of existing capacities. The installed capacity of oilseeds crushing industry is totally incommensurate with the availability of raw materials. As per available information, the total installed capacity of the oilseed crushing industry is estimated at around 425 lakh tonnes in terms of seed and the average percentage of capacity utilization is around 30.

(d) Average annual export of oilseeds constitutes only around 1.7% of the total oilseeds produced in the country. These exports are undertaken primarily for better price realization, thereby supporting the oilseed farmers.

[English]

#### Subsidy on Inputs for Agricultural Production

\*273. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:  
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the policy of various States has been to increase agricultural production through subsidies on inputs such as power, water and fertilizers rather than by building new capital assets in irrigation and power;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether some States have faced severe problems for want of Central subsidies on inputs; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government to bring uniformity in the policy on subsidies on inputs so that all farmers of the country get equal opportunities to increase their production?

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) With a view to increase agricultural production, the Government has adopted a multi pronged strategy for addressing specific segments of agriculture to ensure higher production. These initiatives are in the areas of cereals and non-cereals crops, horticulture, livestock, fisheries and dairying. Equal emphasis is also given to timely availability of inputs and an overall thrust towards diversification into higher value produces and plantations. Initiatives taken towards these areas include launch of Horticulture Mission, undertaking activities with a mission approach for enhancing productivity and quality of cotton, oilseeds, pulses and coarse grains. The provision of enhanced credit coverage to the farming community is also part of the Credit Package of the Government announced in June 2004. Initiatives have also been taken to include micro irrigation, enhanced provision for the accelerated irrigation technology programme, strengthening of agricultural marketing infrastructure, development of backward and forward linkages through venture capital support and facilitation to growers' associations for producing larger and better quality of fruits, flowers and vegetables. All these programmes are implemented through the State Governments.

Subsidies are also given by both the Central and State Governments in Agriculture Sector under various schemes for increasing production through various inputs such as fertilizer, diesel, electricity, water etc. Central Government pays for subsidies on fertilizer as well as for seeds and machinery etc. under Central Government Schemes. However, State Governments pay subsidy for irrigation, power and also on seeds and farm machinery etc. under their programmes/schemes. These subsidies have enabled the farmers in acquiring inputs at affordable prices and thus help in enhancing the agricultural production.

(c) and (d) With a view to bringing uniformity in the policy of subsidies on inputs for increasing production and productivity, Government is providing subsidy to all the States for implementing various schemes in the field

of fertilizer, agriculture machinery, horticulture, seed, crops etc.

#### **Functioning of Public Distribution System**

\*274. SHRI UDAY SINGH:  
SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA:

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

(a) whether the Public Distribution System (PDS) network is not functioning effectively in many States;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government has initiated any study to ascertain the reasons for the failure of PDS in States;

(c) if so, the findings of the said study;

(d) whether the Union Government in consultation with the State Governments proposes to chalk out any scheme for the effective implementation of PDS; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) No such instances of non-functioning of Public Distribution System Network has come to the notice of the Government. The Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State Governments. While the Central Government is responsible for procurement, storage and transportation of foodgrains upto the nearest Principal Distribution Centres of Food Corporation of India in each State/UT, the identification of BPL families, issue distinctive ration cards, issue of licenses to the Fair Price Shops (FPS) and distribution of foodgrains to the beneficiaries in an efficient and transparent manner is the responsibility of the State Governments. The system works through a vast network of more than 4.81 lakh FPSs spread all over the country. The Central and the State Governments work in close coordination in this behalf. In such a vast network of the PDS, the possibility of irregularities in some cases/places can not be ruled out.

The Programme Evaluation Organisation (PEO) of the Planning Commission has conducted the performance evaluation of the TPDS in 18 selected major States, the report of which has been brought out in August, 2005.

The study report is based on the primary data collected from the field in the year 2001. The major findings of the study are as under:

- (i) The implementation of TPDS is plagued by targeting Errors, prevalence of ghost cards and unidentified households;
- (ii) Though the off-take per household has shown some improvement under TPDS, yet only about 57% of the BPL households are covered by it;
- (iii) The FDSs are generally not viable because of low annual turnover and they remain in business through leakages and diversions of subsidized grains;
- (iv) Leakages and diversions of subsidized grains are large and only about 42% of subsidized grains issued from the Central Pool reaches the target group;
- (v) Over 36% of the budgetary subsidies on food is siphoned off the supply chain and another 21% reaches the APL households; and
- (vi) The cost of income transfer to the poor through PDS is much higher than that through other modes;

(d) and (e) The reforms in TPDS to improve its efficiency, accountability and effectiveness is an ongoing process. Besides notification of the Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2001, involvement of the Panchayati Raj Institutions, model citizen's charter, visit of Area Officers and deputation of task force teams to check irregularities and to inspect and monitor the TPDS and the Antyodaya Anna Yojana, Conferences of State Food Secretaries, State Food Ministers, meeting with All India Fair Price Shops Dealers Federation and a meeting with all the Members of Parliament was organized for strengthening of TPDS. Regional Conferences are also being held with focus on the unique problems of the region and to facilitate strengthening of the TPDS in a manner, which may be relevant to the local environment.

*[Translation]*

#### **Bamboo Development Project**

\*275. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:  
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:

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

(a) the total production of bamboo in the country during the last three years;

(b) the percentage of the area of the country where bamboo is produced;

(c) whether the Government has set up Bamboo Development Mission (BDM);

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the financial allocation and the achievements made thereunder, State-wise;

(e) whether a reduction is proposed in the funds earmarked for the said scheme;

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;

(g) the total amount spent so far during the last three years of the Tenth Plan;

(h) whether a review of the BDM has been made; and

(i) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The actual assessment of production of bamboos in the country has not been made by the Ministry of Environment and Forests. However, the approximate production figures for bamboos in the country from 1998-99 to 2001-02 are given in the table below:

Sl.No.	Year	Production (tonnes)
1.	1998-99	982347
2.	1999-00	691575
3.	2000-01	1166428
4.	2001-02	1010484

(b) As per Report of Planning Commission, Government of India titled 'National Mission on Bamboo Technology and Trade Development', bamboos occur on 89,575 Sq. Km of forest area, which constitutes approximately 2.72% of the geographical area of the country.

(c) Government of India in the Ministry of Agriculture has proposed to set up a National Bamboo Mission.

(d) to (l) The setting up of National Bamboo Mission is in advanced stage of approval by the Government.

*[English]*

#### **Debts of Farmers**

\*276. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:  
DR. RATTAN SINGH AJNALA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the average outstanding loan per farmer household in the country as a whole and the position thereof, State-wise;

(b) whether the average outstanding loan per farmer household is the highest in Punjab as compared to other States as per a survey conducted recently by National Sample Survey Organization;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to liberate the farmers from debt trap?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) As per the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) Report No. 498 on "Indebtedness of Farmers Households" released in May, 2005, the details of the average outstanding loan per farmer household in the country as a whole and the position thereof, State-wise are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c) As per the NSSO Survey Report referred in reply to part (a) of the question, the average outstanding loan per farmer household in the State of Punjab is Rs. 41.576/- which is the highest as compared to other States.

(d) To reduce the dependence of farmers on private moneylenders for meeting their credit requirements and for providing relief to the indebted farmers, the Government has taken several steps and has advised the banks to:

1. To increase credit flow to agriculture sector at the rate of 30% per year.
2. As a part of the farm credit package announced by the Government of India in June, 2004, guidelines have been issued by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI/National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD) for providing certain debt relief measures to the farmers as detailed below:
  - **Farmers in distress**—Rescheduling/restructuring of the outstanding loan of the farmers as on 31st March, 2004 in the districts declared as calamity-affected by the State Government. Rescheduled loan shall be repayable over a period of five years, at current interest rates, including an initial moratorium of two years.
  - **Farmers in arrears**—Loans in default of farmers who have become ineligible for fresh credit as their earlier debts have been categorized as sub-standard or doubtful shall be rescheduled as per the guidelines so that such farmers become eligible for fresh credit. On restructuring as above, the farmers will become eligible for fresh loans.
  - Banks have been advised to grant a one-time settlement (OTS) including partial waiver of interest or loan to the small and marginal farmers who have been declared as defaulters and have become ineligible for fresh credit. Banks have also been advised to review cases where credit has been denied on the sole ground that a loan account was settle through compromise or write offs.
  - In some parts of the country, farmers face acute distress because of the heavy burden of debt from non-institutional lenders (e.g. private moneylenders). Banks have been permitted to advance loans to such farmers to enable them to come out of the informal sources and have access to credit from the banking system.
  - Existing orchards/plantations which have suffered production loss/or completely destroyed due to natural calamity as on 31st March, 2005, will be entitled for reschedulement of their term loan for a period of six to nine years with initial moratorium upto 3 years. They will also be entitled for fresh loans.



3. The banks have been advised to waive margin/ security requirements for agricultural loans up to Rs. 50,000 and for agri-business & agri-clinics loans up to Rs. 5 lakh.
4. All the Public Sector banks have been advised to reduce their lending rate for agriculture to a single digit rate of not more than 9% per annum on crop loans upto a ceiling of Rs. 50,000/-. This rate will benefit most of the crop loan account holders and will cover almost all the small and marginal farmers.

**Statement**

*Average amount of outstanding loans (in Rs.) per farmer household of different social groups in different States*

State	Average amount of outstanding loans
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	23965
Arunachal Pradesh	493
Assam	813
Bihar	4476
Chhattisgarh	4122
Gujarat	15526
Haryana	26007
Himachal Pradesh	9618
Jammu & Kashmir	1903
Jharkhand	2205
Karnataka	18135
Kerala	33907
Madhya Pradesh	14218
Maharashtra	16973
Manipur	2269
Meghalaya	72
Mizoram	1876

1	2
Nagaland	1030
Orissa	5871
Punjab	41576
Rajasthan	18372
Sikkim	2053
Tamil Nadu	23963
Tripura	2977
Uttar Pradesh	7425
Uttaranchal	1108
West Bengal	5237
Group of UT's	10931
All India	12585

Source: NSSO Report No. 498: Indebtedness of Farmers Households

**Production of Steel**

\*277. SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN:  
SHRI HEMMAL MURMU:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of steel and other related items of the Steel Authority of India (SAIL) and its subsidiary companies has increased recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount of profit earned by each subsidiary company during the last year and the current year;

(c) whether a number of accidents have taken place in each plant of SAIL particularly in Bokaro Steel Plant during the above period;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Production as well as

profit before tax of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) and its subsidiary companies is given below:

**Production Performance**

(Unit : '000 Tonnes)

Plant/Unit/Product	H-I (2005-06)	H-I (2004-05)	2004-05
<b>Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)</b>			
Saleable Steel	5557	5020	11031
Pig Iron	172	60	168
<b>Indian Iron &amp; Steel Company Limited (IISCO)</b>			
Saleable Steel	129	124	274
Pig Iron	122	52	182
<b>Maharashtra Elektrosmeit Limited (MEL)</b>			
High Carbon Ferro Manganese	30.0	33.4	65.2
Silico Manganese	22.6	12.3	33.1
Medium Carbon Ferro Manganese	1.15	0.95	2.2

**Financial Performance**

(Rupees in crore)

Plant/Unit	Profit Before Tax (PBT)		
	H-I (2005-06)	H-I (2004-05)	2004-05
Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)	3408	3028	9365
Indian Iron & Steel Company Limited (IISCO)	3.60	90.46	46.59
Maharashtra Elektrosmeit Limited (MEL)	15.47	36.03	65.13

(c) and (d) The number of fatal accidents in SAIL plants during the last two years (current & previous) is given below:

Plant	2004 Fatal Accidents	2005 (till October) Fatal Accidents
Bhilai Steel Plant	1	3
Bokaro Steel Plant	3	9
Durgapur Steel Plant	3	3
Rourkela Steel Plant	3	3
Visvesvaraya Iron & Steel Plant	0	0
Alloy Steels Plant	0	0
Salem Steel Plant	0	0
Indian Iron & Steel Co. Ltd.	1	2

Following are the major causes attributed to accidents:

- Rail/Road movement
- Fall from height
- Hit/pressed/getting caught by objects or machines
- Burns and Explosions
- Gas poisoning
- Suffocation/Buried in mines
- Electrocution

(e) The measures taken to obviate the occurrence of accidents in future are given below:

1. Mass communication on safety in all the Plants and imparting safety training to employees.
2. Safety promotional measures like Suraksha Mela, Zero Accident Month, Inter-departmental safety competitions.
3. Any violation of safety norms are identified and highlighted for future safety.
4. Ensuring safety of employees of contractors by on-the-job training and strict supervision.
5. Encouraging use of personnel protective equipment including fire retardant dress.
6. Regular Inspection of Plant & Machinery to ensure safety.
7. Safety Audit of all hazardous departments in steel plants.
8. Round the clock monitoring of capital repairs.
9. Government of India appointed a three-member committee headed by Shri M.B. Kaushal, Former Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India to look into the safety aspects in detail. Action is being taken to implement the recommendations of the committee to further strengthen the safety systems.

#### **Pollution In Yamuna River**

\*278. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA:  
SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPAN:

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

(a) whether the two Yamuna Action Plans launched in 1993 for improving the quality of Yamuna have not proved effective;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the expenditure made on these projects and the achievements made so far;

(d) whether the Supreme Court has recently made any observation regarding the failure to clean Yamuna;

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

(f) the further action proposed to be taken by the Government particularly in view/or the forthcoming Commonwealth Games?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The Yamuna Action Plan (YAP) Phase-I was started by this Ministry in April, 1993 in the three States of UP, Delhi & Haryana with funding from the Japan Bank for International Corporation (JBIC) and was completed in February, 2003. A total of 255 schemes of pollution abatement were completed including 34 sewage treatment plants having additional treatment capacity of 741 million litres per day (mld) at a total expenditure of Rs. 678 crores.

The JBIC has also committed financial assistance for implementation of the YAP Phase-II through this Ministry, the works of which have started in December, 2004. The project was approved for the three States of Delhi, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh at an estimated cost of Rs. 624 crore with the target of completion in September, 2008. The major item of works to be implemented under YAP Phase-II include:

- Rehabilitation of trunk sewers (30.82 kms.) and works of Sewage Treatment Plants (135 mld new and 324 mld rehabilitation) in Delhi.
- Construction of Sewage Treatment Plants (54 mld) and Rehabilitation of Sewer Lines/Rising Mains (85.7 Kms.) in UP.
- Interception & Diversion of Sewer Lines (73 kms.) and improvements in the efficiencies of existing Sewage Treatment Plants in Haryana.

In addition to the above Action Plan, the Government of National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi has also taken up large scale non-sewerage, sewerage and sewerage treatment works out of their own plan funds.

Due to phenomenal increase in population and sewerage generation in the intervening years, the quality of water in Yamuna in the stretch between Delhi and Agra has, however, not shown the desired improvement.

(d) to (f) Hon'ble Supreme Court on 7th September, 2005 in the matter of PIL No. 724/1994 has issued directions for taking up the pollution abatement works in Yamuna in a time bound manner and that the progress in this regard be reviewed periodically by the Government of NCT of Delhi and in addition by an Apex Committee under the Hon'ble Court.

The Delhi Jal Board has decided to appoint international consultants for a comprehensive study to find out a complete solution for pollution abatement in the river Yamuna at Delhi.

*[Translation]*

#### **Contaminated Ground Water**

\*279. SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:  
SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any study with regard to extent of toxic substances found in ground water and its effects on human health;

(b) if so the details thereof, State-wise and the steps taken/proposed to be taken to contain the quality of ground water;

(c) whether the Government proposes to set up treatment plants to save ground water from getting contaminated;

(d) if so, the complete details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF  
HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND  
MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER

RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (e) As per available information, ground water in major parts of the country is by and large potable. There are, however, areas which have poor quality of ground water mainly due to contamination from ground water bearing rocks, excessive use of fertilizers, industrial and domestic effluents, mining wastes, saline water ingress etc. The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), during its surveys and studies of the contamination of ground water have revealed that arsenic and fluoride are the main geogenic contaminants. The names of States and locations where ground water has been found contaminated and reasons thereof are given in the enclosed Statement.

Consumption of contaminated water is a health hazard. Prolonged use of Arsenic contaminated water for drinking causes diseases like dermatosis, keratosis, conjunctivitis, bronchitis and gastro-enteritis in the initial stage and peripheral neuropathis, hepatopathy melanosis, de-pigmentation and hyper-keratosis. The effect of excessive amount of Fluoride on human body is dental molting, skeletal and crippling fluorosis. Heavy Metals like Lead may cause irreversible brain damage, seizure coma, fatigue, irritability etc., and repeated and prolonged exposure of mercury can result in severe disturbances in the central nervous system, kidneys, liver etc.

"Water" being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to take steps to check ground water pollution. However, the Union Government has also taken following measures to mitigate the problem of ground water pollution:

- (i) The Central Government has set-up Central Ground Water Authority to regulate and control ground water management and development.
- (ii) Mass awareness and education programme have been launched on the significance of water economy, efficient utilization, health, hygiene and sanitation.
- (iii) The Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission, under the Ministry of Rural Development, has also been assisting and guiding the States in the provision of safe drinking water to the rural population under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). In quality affected areas, where ground water is unfit for drinking, the safe drinking water is supplied either through alternative sources, tapping surface water or by

other means by undertaking remedial measures like de-fluoridation, iron removal and arsenic removal.

Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), under the Ministry of Environment & Forests has adopted several measures like directing the industries through State Pollution Control Boards to limit the discharge of effluent within the stipulated standards, initiation of scheme to give assistance to clusters of small scale industrial units for setting up common effluent treatment plants and taking up of quality scheme of monitoring in critically polluted areas.

A new concept of the Common Effluent Treatment plant (CETP) was envisaged to treat the effluent emanating from the clusters of compatible small scale industries and also to minimize the burden of various Government authorities working for controlling pollution and monitoring of water pollution control. The financing pattern of CETP is 20:30:25:25 (promoter's: loans from financial institutions: State: Central subsidy in form of Grant). The funds from the Government of India are routed through the respective State Pollution Control Boards. State-wise number of CETPs installed so far are as follows:

Sl.No.	Name of CETPs	Numbers of CETPs
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4
2.	Delhi	15
3.	Haryana	1
4.	Karnataka	4
5.	Tamil Nadu	28
6.	Maharashtra	13
7.	Madhya Pradesh	1
8.	Punjab	3
9.	Rajasthan	7
10.	Uttar Pradesh	3
11.	West Bengal	1
12.	Gujarat	16
Total:		96

### *Statement*

#### *State-wise Details of Contamination of Ground Water in some areas of the Districts due to various contaminants*

Sl.No.	State	Salinity	Iron	Fluoride	Nitrate	Arsenic	Heavy Metals
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	East Godavari, West Godavari, Krishna, Guntur, Prakasam	—	Prakasam, Anantapur, Nellore, Nalgonda, Ranga Reddy, Adilabad, Krishna, Kumool, Cuddapah, Guntur, Karimnagar	Prakasam, Khammam, Nellore, Nalgonda, Nizamabad, Guntur, Kumool, Karimnagar, Mehaboobnagar, Vijayawada	—	Anantapur, Mehaboobnagar, Prakasam, Visakhapatnam, Cuddapah, Nalgonda.
2.	Assam	—	Northern Bank of Brahmaputra	Kamrup, Nowgong, Karbi-Anglong	Lakhimpur	—	Digboi
3.	Bihar	Begusarai	Champanan, Muzaffarpur, Gaya, Munger, Madhubani, Patna, Nalanda, Nawada, Banka	Munger, Nawada	Gaya, Patna, Nalanda, Nawada, Bhagalpur, Banka	Bhojpur, Patna	Muzaffarpur, Begusarai.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
4.	Chhattisgarh	—	—	Bestar, Bilaspur, Dhamatari, Kanker, Korba, Korlya, Raipur, Rajnandgaon	Raipur	Rajnandgaon	Bestar, Korba
5.	Gujarat	Banaskantha, Junagarh, Bharuch, Surat, Mehsana, Ahmedabad, Surendranagar, Kheda, Jamnagar	—	Ahmedabad, Amrol, Banaskantha, Bhavnagar, Junagarh, Rajkot, Surendranagar, Vadodra, Kachchh, Panchmahal, Mehsana, Sabarkantha	Amrol, Banaskantha, Bhavnagar, Gandhinagar, Jamnagar, Junagarh, Kachchh, Mahesana	—	—
6.	Haryana	Sonepat, Rohtak, Hisar, Sirsa, Faridabad, Jind, Gurgaon, Bhiwani, Mahendragarh	—	Rohtak, Jhajjar, Jind, Hisar, Bhiwani, Mahendragarh, Faridabad, Gurgaon, Kallihal, Karnal, Kurukshetra, Sirsa, Sonapat, Rewari, Fatehabad, Panipat	Ambala, Sonapat, Jind, Gurgaon, Faridabad, Hisar, Sirsa, Karnal, Kurukshetra, Rohtak, Bhiwani, Mahendragarh	—	Faridabad
7.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—	—	Kulu, Solan, Una	—	Purwanoo, Kaleamb
8.	Jharkhand	—	Deoghar, Palamau	Girdih, Bokaro	Palamu, Sahebganj	—	Dhanbad
9.	Karnataka	Bijapur, Belgaum, Raichur, Bellary, Dharwar	—	Bijapur, Gulbarga, Bellary, Raichur, Chitradurga, Kolar, Gadag	Bijapur, Bangalore, Belgaum, Bellary, Chitradurga, Dharwar, Gulbarga, Hasan, Kolar, Mandya, Raichur, Shimoga	—	Bhadrawati
10.	Kerala	Emakulam, Trichur, Alleppey	—	Palghat, Alleppey	Idukki, Kottayam, Palghat, Pathanamthitta, Mallepuram	—	—
11.	Madhya Pradesh	Gwalior, Bhind, Morena, Jabua, Khargson, Dhar, Shivpur, Shejapur, Guna, Mandsor, Ujain	—	Bhind, Moerana, Guna, Jabua, Chhindwara, Seoni, Mandla, Raipur, Vidisha	Bhind, Bhopal, Chhindwara, Dhar, Dewas, Gwalior, Indore, Khandwa, Mandsaur, Morena, Shivpur, Sheore, Ujain	—	Ratlam, Nagda
12.	Maharashtra	Amaravati, Akola	—	Bhandara, Chandrapur, Nanded, Gadchiroli, Yavatmal, Sholapur	Ahmednagar, Amravati, Akola, Aurangabad, Bhandara, Beed, Buldana, Chandrapur, Gadchiroli, Dhule, Jalgaon, Jalna, Kolhapur, Latur, Nagpur, Nanded, Omerabad, Pune, Sangli, Satara, Sholapur, Thane, Wardha	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
13.	Orissa	Cuttack, Balaswar, Puri	Parts of Coastal Orissa	Bolangir, Khurda, Kalahandi,	Anugul, Baragarh, Bolangiri, Boudh, Cuttack, Ganjam, Jagatsinghpur, Kalahandi, Keonjhar, Malkangiri, Nawapara, Rayagada, Sambalpur, Sundergarh	—	Angul, Talcher
14.	Punjab including Chandigarh	Bhatinda, Sangrur, Faridkot, Firozpur.	—	Bhatinda, Sangrur, Mansa, Moga, Ferozpur, Faridkot, Muktsar, Patiala	Bhatinda, Faridkot, Ferozpur, Patiala, Sangrur, Chandigarh	—	Ludhiana, Mandi, Gobindgarh.
15.	Rajasthan	Bharatpur, Jaipur, Nagaur, Jalore, Sirohi, Jodhpur	Bikaner, Alwar, Dungarpur	Ajmer, Bamer, Bhilwara, Bikaner, Dungarpur, Ganganagar, Hanumangarh, Jaipur, Jaisalmer, Jalore, Jhunjhunu, Jodhpur, Nagaur, Pali, Rajasamand, Sikar, Sirohi	Ajmer, Alwar, Bharatpur, Bikaner, Bundi, Churu, Dholpur, Ganganagar, Jaipur, Jaisalmer, Jhalawar, Jhunjhunu, Jodhpur, Nagaur, Sawai Medhopur, Udaipur.	—	Pali, Udaipur, Khetri.
16.	Tamil Nadu	Karaikal, Pondichery, Nagapattanam, Quide-Millet, Pudukottai, Ramananthapuram, North Arcot- Ambedkar, Dharamपुरi, Salem, Trichy, Coimbatore,	—	Dharamपुरi, Salem, Erode, Vellore, Nemalikal, Tiruchirappalli, Ramananthapuram, Villupuram, Cuddalore, Tirunelveli	Coimbatore, Pariyar, Salem, NA Ambedkar Nagar, T. Kotabomman, Dindigul-Anna, V.R. Padayachi	—	Manali, North Arcot.
17.	Tripura	—	Dharamnagar Kaulshahar, Khowai, Ambasa, Amapur and Parts of Agartala Valley	—	—	—	—
18.	Uttar Pradesh	Agra, Mathura, Meerapuri, Banda	—	Fatehpur, Raibareilly, Lakhimpur Kheri, Lucknow, Unnao, Kanpur, Hardoi, Bulandshahar, Aligarh, Agra, Mathura, Ghaziabad, Meerut, Ferozabad, Etah, Fatehgarh, Mainpuri, Mahoba, Allahabad, Varanasi	Aligarh, Agra, Banda, Etawah, Ghaziabad, Hamirpur, Jaunpur, Jhansi, Kanpur, Mainpuri, Mathura, Pilibhit	Bellia	Singrauli, Basti, Kanpur, Jaunpur, Allahabad, Sahasrampur, Aligarh.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
19.	Uttaranchal	—	—	—	Nainital	—	—
20.	West Bengal	—	Midnapore, Howrah, Hooghli, Bankura	Birbhum, Howrah, North 24 Parganas	Uttar Dinajpur, Malda, Birbhum, Murshidabad, Nadia, Bankura, Purdia, Howrah, Medinipur	Malda, North- 24 Parganas South-24 Parganas, Nadia, Hooghly, Murshidabad, Bardhaman Howrah	Durgapur, Howrah, Murshidabad, Nadia.
21.	NCT of Delhi	Najafgarh, Kanjhawala, and Mehrauli Blocks.	—	North-West, West, South-West	City Shahdara and Mehrauli Blocks West, South-west	—	Alipur, Kanjhawala, Najafgarh, Mehrauli City and Shahdara Blocks.

### Hiring of Godowns

\*280. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:  
SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:

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

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India (FCI) hired private godowns for storage of foodgrains despite utilising only 37 per cent of its storage capacity;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of private godowns alongwith their capacity hired by the FCI during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(d) the total amount spent thereon during the last three years, year-wise;

(e) the total number of godowns out of these that are still being used for storage by FCI;

(f) whether any steps were taken for reducing the rent at the time of hiring of these private godowns;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the steps taken for de-hiring of these godowns and optimum utilization of the installed capacity of FCI?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Food Corporation of India (FCI) has a few private godowns where FCI/Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC)/State Warehousing Corporation (SWC)/Government Agency godowns were not available.

(c) The details of number of private godowns hired by the FCI during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise are given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) The details of total amount spent thereon during the last three years, year-wise are as under:

Year	Amount spent (Rs. Crores)
2002-03	25.76
2003-04	17.64
2004-05 (Provisional)	12.89

(e) A total number of 121 private godowns are still being used for storage by FCI as on 30th September, 2005.

(f) and (g) The rent of private godowns are fixed after negotiations and keeping in view the prevailing rate



of the locality. The FCI has reported that the rentals paid for private godowns are considerably less as compared to the rentals paid for Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC)/State Warehousing Corporation (SWC) godowns.

(h) The FCI has issued instructions for de-hiring of surplus private storage capacity. The year-wise private storage capacity de-hired by the FCI is as under:

Year	Private Capacity held by FCI (in Lakh MTs)
2002-03	54.19
2003-04	30.51
2004-05	17.23
2005-06 (upto 30.9.2005)	11.82

All out efforts are also made to optimise utilization of installed capacity of FCI depending upon the pattern of procurement/offtake.

**Statement**

*Statewise Position of Private Hired Godowns with FCI during the Years 2002-03 to 2005-06 (Upto Sept., 2005).*

State	As on 31st March			Upto 9/05
	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5
Bihar	12	10	10	10
Jharkhand	4	4	3	3
Orissa	1	1	1	1
West Bengal	11	10	9	6
Sikkim	0	0	0	0
Assam	15	12	12	13
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0
Meghalaya	0	0	0	0
Mizoram	0	0	0	0
Tripura	1	0	0	0
Manipur	0	0	0	0
Nagaland	0	0	0	0
Delhi	0	0	0	0
Haryana	26	24	16	15
Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0
Jammu & Kashmir	5	1	1	4
Punjab	148	104	64	42
Chandigarh	4	1	0	0

1	2	3	4	5
Rajasthan	13	4	7	7
Uttar Pradesh	21	8	5	5
Uttaranchal	1	3	3	3
Andhra Pradesh	5	1	0	0
Kerala	1	0	0	0
Karnataka	2	0	0	0
Tamil Nadu	0	0	0	0
Pondicherry	0	0	0	0
Gujarat	8	0	2	0
Maharashtra	8	4	6	6
Goa	0	0	0	0
Madhya Pradesh	9	7	4	5
Chhattisgarh	4	2	4	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>121</b>

*[English]*

### **Cold Storages**

\*281. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cold storages with their capacity in the country as on date, State-wise;

(b) whether the existing capacity of cold storages is inadequate;

(c) if so, whether the Government proposes to increase the capacity of existing cold storages;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the number of cold storages proposed to be sanctioned during 2005-06, State-wise; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government including grant of financial incentives to promote and develop cold storages in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (f) The

details of cold storages already set up in the country (State-wise) upto December, 2004 are given in the enclosed Statement-I. The requirement for the cold storage infrastructure is on the increase in view of the growing importance of horticulture and allied sector. Government is implementing schemes for Construction/Modernization/Expansion of cold Storages for Horticulture Produce under National Horticulture Mission (NHM) and through National Horticulture Board (NHB). Back-ended capital investment subsidy is provide @ 25% of the total project cost subject to a ceiling of Rs. 50 lakhs/project and Rs. 60 lakhs for North East Area/Hilly Area @ 33.3% of the project cost. Besides, Agriculture Produce Export Development Authority (APEDA), under Ministry of Commerce is implementing a scheme on "Infrastructure Development" with a component of setting up of specialized storage facilities including high humidity cold storage, deep freezers, controlled atmosphere (CA) or modified atmosphere storage (MA) etc. providing assistance @ 25% of the project cost subject to ceiling of Rs. 10 lakh/beneficiary. Since the scheme is entrepreneur driven and projected, the assistance is being given depending on the proposals from the entrepreneurs of various States. An allocation of Rs. 27.00 crore has been made during 2005-06 towards implementation of 108 cold storages in the country through National Horticulture Board. State-wise provision of cold storages under NHM programme for 2005-06 is given in

the enclosed Statement-II. Government is promoting the schemes through dissemination of information by

conducting workshop, seminar/symposia and farmers/entrepreneurs meet.

*Statement-I*

*Sectorwise Distribution of Cold Storages as on 31.12.2004*

Sl.No.	State	Private Sector		Cooperative Sector		Public Sector		Total No.	Total Capacity in MT's
		No.	Capacity	No.	Capacity	No.	Capacity		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andaman & Nicobar (UT)	01	170	00	00	08	40	02	210
2.	Andhra Pradesh	236	652407	13	9270	00	1190	257	662867
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	01	5000	00	00	04	00	01	5000
4.	Assam	18	68796	02	6000	00	1120	24	75916
5.	Bihar	220	833382	18	77200	00	00	238	910582
6.	Chandigarh (UT)	05	11216	01	1000	00	00	06	12216
7.	Chhattisgarh	66	360974	01	29	01	41	68	361044
8.	Delhi	74	103180	02	5201	16	17680	92	126061
9.	Gujarat	324	845581	19	21543	08	7739	351	874863
10.	Goa	24	5875	00	00	00	00	24	5875
11.	Haryana	227	365291	04	3403	06	11399	237	380093
12.	Himachal Pradesh	08	11413	02	767	07	6195	17	18375
13.	Jammu & Kashmir	15	40689	03	2134	01	46	19	42869
14.	Jharkhand	17	53210	08	27415	00	00	25	80625
15.	Kerala	145	33085	06	1080	10	1590	161	35755
16.	Karnataka	86	142614	24	3318	13	3318	123	149250
17.	Lakshadweep (UT)	00	00	00	00	01	15	01	15
18.	Maharashtra	343	420270	53	19839	29	7851	425	447960
19.	Madhya Pradesh	143	631430	19	98848	05	2434	167	732712
20.	Meghalaya	01	1200	00	00	02	2000	03	3200
21.	Nagaland	01	5000	01	1150	00	00	02	6150

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
22.	Orissa	80	223135	24	51040	00	00	104	274175
23.	Pondicherry (UT)	02	35	01	50	00	00	03	85
24.	Punjab	364	1192593	18	39092	00	00	382	1231685
25.	Rajasthan	83	268776	09	3832	01	14	93	272622
26.	Tamil Nadu	102	149175	13	7562	04	5162	119	161899
27.	Tripura	02	7750	01	5000	05	5700	08	18450
28.	Uttar Pradesh & Uttaranchal	1320	7969333	87	281480	03	8000	1410	8258813
29.	West Bengal	317	4105177	66	297800	00	00	386	4402977
Total		4225	18506757	398	964053	124	81534	4748	19552344

**Statement II****Export of Steel**

*State-wise provision of Cold Storages under National Horticulture Mission during 2005-06.*

2658. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:  
SHRI JUAL ORAM:

Sl.No.	State	No. of Cold Storage	Financial Provision (Rs. in Lakh)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6	300
2.	Bihar	4	200
3.	Chhattisgarh	4	800
4.	Delhi	4	200
5.	Goa	1	50
6.	Gujarat	10	500
7.	Haryana	9	450
8.	Jharkhand	2	116.6
9.	Maharashtra	10	500
10.	Orissa	2	132
11.	Punjab	3	150
12.	Rajasthan	2	100
13.	West Bengal	18	900
Total		75	4398.6

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries to which steel is being exported at present;

(b) whether the export of steel has declined in comparison to the last year; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the schemes formulated to boost the export of steel?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Major export destinations for Indian steel are China, United States of America, United Arab Emirates, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Republic of Korea, Thailand, Philippines, Indonesia, Italy, Belgium and Sri Lanka.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The reduction in exports during the current year is due to increase in domestic demand and better net realization through domestic sales. The Government does not provide any specific export incentives to the steel sector other than those which are generally available to exporters under the EXIM policy.

[*Translation*]

### Litigation Cases of MTNL and MTNL Union

2659. MOHD. MUKEEM: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of litigation cases of MTNL and MTNL Labour Union Subject-wise pending in the office of Regional Labour Commissioner, Curzon Road, New Delhi as on October 31, 2005 and since when indicating their present status; and

(b) the steps being taken by the office of the Regional Labour Commissioner for early disposal of cases and the time by which the cases are likely to be expedited?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) As per records of the Regional Labour Commissioner (Central), New Delhi, one industrial dispute raised on 7th September, 2005 is yet to be resolved. The matter is with the Regional Labour Commissioner (Central) for conciliation. The hearings have been held on 20.09.2005, 05.10.2005 and 09.11.2005. The next date of hearing has been fixed on 13.12.2005.

### Problems of Rajasthan

2660. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the problems facing by Rajasthan like fluoride content in water in rural areas, increasing desert, scarcity of agricultural land, limited irrigating resources and drought like situation every year;

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken by the Government for the solution of these problems during the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether in view of the above circumstances the Government proposes to include Rajasthan in the category of special States receiving financial assistance;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether request has also been received from State Government in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action proposed/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 (f) The Government of India, Ministry of Rural Development is implementing a project on Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) throughout the country, including the State of Rajasthan. Under this programme, Ten percent of the total allocated amount is being utilized for prevention of contamination of water in rural areas from the fluoride and arsenic.

Central Arid Zone Research Institute (CAZRI), Jodhpur, Rajasthan an institute under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has concluded that Watershed Development Programmes are one of the ways and means for combating desertification, rainwater management through watershed approach. In view of these, the Government of India is implementing various Watershed Development Programmes, namely, (i) National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRA), (ii) Soil Conservation for Enhancing Productivity of Degraded Lands in the Catchments of River Valley Project and Flood Prone River (RVP & FPR), (iii) Reclamation of Alkali Soil (RAS), (iv) Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA), (v) Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), (vi) Desert Development Programmes (DDP) and (vii) Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP) for conservation of soil and rain water and thereby mitigating ill effect of drought and further expansion of desertification in the country including Rajasthan. Under these programmes, since inception upto March 2005, an area of 28.533 million ha, has been developed with expenditure of Rs. 14577.33 crore. The achievements of the major programmes in last three years (2002-05) for Rajasthan are as under:

Name of programmes	Achievements	
	Phy. (lakh ha.)	Fin. in Rs. lakh
NWDPRA	2.05	9807.00
RVP & FPR	0.68	4998.00
RAS	0.13	171.50
DDP	11.94	287.66
DPAP	1.53	49.84
IWDP	0.90	49.90
<b>Total</b>	<b>17.23</b>	<b>15363.90</b>

These programmes are under implementation during the current year also. For increasing irrigation potential, Government of India, Ministry of Water Resources, has started an Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) in the country including Rajasthan. Under this programme, the grant component was introduced in the year 2005-05 with 70% loan and 30% grant for non special category States and 90% grant and 10% loan for special category States. The relaxations made also include inclusion of Extension, Renovation & Modernization (ERM) projects on a selective basis, minor irrigation schemes with potential more than hundred hectares with preference to tribal areas and drought prone areas which wholly benefiting dalits and adivasis, the drought prone areas, tribal areas and flood prone areas in the country to be identified in consultation with Planning Commission to be treated at par with special category States for funding etc.

*[English]*

#### **Environment Clearance to Projects**

2661. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the projects in Orissa for which environmental clearance has been given by the Government during the last three years;

(b) the criteria/procedures followed for giving clearance; and

(c) the names of the projects for which environmental clearance is pending?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The environmental clearance has been given to 42 projects during the last three years. The details are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) Ministry grants environmental clearance as per procedure prescribed in the Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 1994 and its subsequent amendments framed under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

(c) The names of the projects for which environmental clearance is pending are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

#### ***Statement I***

##### ***List of Projects Accorded Environmental Clearance during the last three years:***

Sl.No.	Project Details	Date of clearance
1	2	3
<b>Industrial</b>		
1.	Integrated steel plant in Theikoli Dubenchapar Khadiapalli village, Tehsil Rengali in district Sambalpur by M/s Bhushan Ltd.	12.05.2004
2.	Expansion of Aluminium smelter plant from 3,45,000 TPA to 4,60,000 TPA at village Angul in district Dhenkanal by M/s National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO)	22.06.2004
3.	Expansion of Aluminium refinery plant from 1.575 MMTPA to 2.1 MMTPA at village Damanjodi in district Koraput. by M/s National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO)	22.06.2004
4.	Setting up of Alumina refinery and associate at Lanjigarh district Kalahandi by M/s Sterlite Industries.	22.09.2004

1	2	3
5.	Setting up of Copper Smelter by M/s. Sterlite Industries Ltd.	22.09.2004
6.	Iron & Steel Plant of M/s. Tata Sponge Iron Limited.	11.11.2004
7.	Retrofitting from 750 MTPD to 1400 MTPD of phosphoric acid plant and installation of additional train of 2000 MTPD sulphuric acid plant at Paradeep in Orissa by M/s Paradeep Phosphates Limited	02.12.2004
8.	0.5 MTPA Integrated Steel plant and 40 MW Captive Power Plant at village Ghantikal in District Cuttack in Orissa by M/s Aarti Steels Limited	16.02.2005
9.	Integrated Steel Complex at Village Chadri, Hariharpur, district Sundergarh by M/s. Neepaz Metals Limited.	21.06.2005
10.	Steel Plant (1.5 MTPA) at Sibpur Narendrapur Village Meramandali Block District Dhemkamal, by M/s. Bhushan Steel & Strips Limited.	29.06.2005
11.	Augmentation of Smelter Plant capacity from 65 KTPA to 100 KTPA at Hirakud District of Orissa by M/s. HINDALCO formerly known as INDAL.	14.07.2005
12.	Modernisation cum Substantial expansion of existing Cement Plant to produce 1.2/2.0 MTPA of Clinker/ Cement at Rajgangpur, District Sundergarh by M/s. OCL India Ltd.	21.07.2005
13.	Integrated Stainless Steel Plant (1.6 MTPA at Kalinga Nagar Industrial Complex, Jaipur, Orissa by M/s Jindal Stainless Limited	05.08.2005
<b>Thermal Power Projects</b>		
14.	2nd phase expansion project of Captive Power plant increasing capacity from 960 MW to 1200 MW, Angul, Orissa of M/s National Aluminium Company Ltd (NALCO).	30.07.2004
15.	100 MW Captive Thermal Power Plant (Unit III) Expansion at Hirakud by M/s. Indian Aluminium Company Ltd.	21.09.2005
16.	5x130 MW Captive Power Plant of M/s. Aditya Aluminium (HINDALCO).	22.11.2005
<b>River Valley Projects</b>		
17.	Anandpur Barrage Project in Distt. Keonjhar by Department of Irrigation.	04.11.2003

1	2	3
	<b>Mining Projects</b>	
18.	Bhubaneswari Open Cast Project in District Angul by M/s. Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.	06.06.2003
19.	Khondbond Iron Ore Mine Project of M/s Tata Steel, Keonjhar Dist., Orissa	28.03.2005
20.	Nuasahi Chromiti Mine of M/s Indian Metals and Ferro Alloys Ltd. in Keonjhar District	09.07.2004
21.	Mahagiri Chromiti Mine of M/s Indian Charge Chrome, Jajpur Dt.	09.07.2004
22.	Jai-Surjana Limestone Mine of M/s Birla Cement Work	29.07.2004
23.	Second phase expansion of Panchpatmali Bauxite Mine of M/s National Aluminium Company Ltd., Koraput Dt.	30.07.2004
24.	Thakurani Iron ore Mine of M/s SL. Sarda and M.L. Sarda in Keonjhar District, Orissa	22.09.2004
25.	Expansion of Tata Sponge Iron Plant at Joda in Orissa. by M/s Tata Sponge Iron Ltd.	11.11.2004
26.	Joda East Iron Ore Mine Project of M/s. Tata Steel, Keonjhar Distt.	01.04.2005
27.	Ananta OCP of M/s. MCL, Distt. Angul.	02.05.2005
28.	Garjanbahal OCP of M/s. MCL, Distt. Sundergarh	03.05.2005
29.	Katamati Iron Ore Project of M/s. Tata Steel, Keonjhar Distt., Orissa.	06.05.2005
30.	Jajang Mines Ltd., Distt. Keonjhar	14.06.2005
31.	Patabeda Iron ore Mine of M/s. M.G. Mohanty, Distt. Sundergarh (Production capacity 1.2 KTOA).	21.07.2005
32.	Patabeda Iron Ore Mine of M/s. MGM Minerals Ltd., Distt. Sundergarh (Production capacity 1.60 MTPA).	
33.	Belapahar OCP of M/s. MCL, Distt. Jarsuguda.	16.8.2005
34.	Joda West Manganese Ore Mine of M/s. Tata Steel, Distt. Keonjhar.	13.9.2005
35.	Jagannath OCP of M/s. MCL, Distt. Angul.	29.9.2005
36.	Tantra, Raikela & Bandhal (TRB) Iron ore Mine of M/s. Jindal Steel & Power Ltd., Sundergarh.	30.9.2005
37.	Expansion of Thakurani Iron Ore Mine of M/s. Kaypee Enterprises, Distt. Keonjhar.	07.10.2005



1	2	3
38.	Gonua Iron and Manganese Mining Project of M/s. Pawan Kumar Ahluwalia (earlier name Smt. Maitri Shukla), Distt. Sundergarh.	07.10.2005
39.	Bamebari Manganese Ore Mine of M/s. Tata Steel, Distt. Keonjhar.	17.11.2005
40.	Tiringpahar Manganese Ore Mine of M/s. Tata Steel, Dist. Keonjhar.	17.11.2005
<b>Infrastructure &amp; Miscellaneous Projects</b>		
41.	Environmental Clearance for Paradip Port Road Connectivity Project	11.03.2005
42.	Deepening of entrance channel at Paradip Port— Environmental clearance by Paradip Port Trust.	30.05.2005

**Statement II****List of Pending Projects**

Sl.No.	Project Details
1	2
<b>Industrial Projects</b>	
1.	Alumina refinery (1MTPA) of M/s HINDALCO Industries Limited in Village Kansarigurha, District Rayagada.
2.	Aluminium Smelter of M/s HINDALCO Industries Limited in Village Lapanga, District Sambalpur.
<b>Mining Projects</b>	
3.	Langibema Limestone Mine and Dolomite Mines of M/s OCL India Ltd., Dist. Sundergarh
4.	Bamebari Manganese Ore Mine of M/s Tata Steel, ML Area: 464 ha Prod. Capacity: 0.0832 MTPA, District Keonjhar.
5.	Gurujang Chromite Mines of M/s M. Alkth, District Jajpur
6.	Lanjigarh Bauxite Mine of M/s Orissa Mining Corporation Ltd., Districts Kalahandi and Raigarh.
7.	Lingraj OC Expn. Coal Mine Project of M/s MCL, District Angul.

1	2
8.	Bharatpur OC Expn. Coal Mine Project of M/s MCL, District Angul
9.	Kasia Iron & Dolomite Mine M/s Essel Mining & Industries Ltd., ML Area: 194. 196 ha Prod. Capacity: 3.6 MTPA, District Keonjhar.
10.	Jialing Langalota Iron & Manganese Iron of M/s Essel Mining & Industries Ltd., District Keonjhar.
11.	Natraj UG Mine of M/s MCL, ML Area: 483.227 ha Prod. Capacity: 0.64 MTPA, District Angul
12.	Thimmapur Limestone Mine, ML Area: 15.64 ha Prod. Cap: 35,000 TPA (limestone) 15,000 TPA (Dolomite) of Sri Prahlad H. Pujar, District Bhagalkot.

**Fruit and Vegetables Outlets of Mother Dairy**

2662. SHRI SUBRATA BOSE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fruit and vegetable (F&V) outlets of Mother Dairy functioning in Delhi and West Bengal at present;

(b) whether F&V available in Mother Dairy outlets in Delhi and West Bengal are costlier than prevailing market rates and also of inferior quality; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to provide quality products at reasonable rates to the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) At present 310 fruit and vegetable (F&V) outlets of Mother Dairy are functioning in National Capital Territory of Delhi and its surrounding areas. No F&V outlets of Mother Dairy is functioning in West Bengal.

(b) Rates are competitive with the prevailing market rates and fixed on the basis of wholesale prices of Azadpur mandi and retail prices of nine major retail mandis of Delhi on day-to-day basis. The quality of fruits and vegetables at F&V outlets of Mother Dairy is not inferior and it is comparable with the quality available in local markets.

(c) Question does not arise in view of (b) above.

#### Remote Sensing Study on Ground Water Level

2663. SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether remote sensing study is proposed to be done to ascertain the ground water levels in the country periodically;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the State-wise allocation of funds during the last three years under the centrally sponsored scheme "Artificial Recharge of Ground Water"?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Presently, there is no approved centrally sponsored scheme on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water. However, during the period 1998-2004, a Central Sector Scheme on Study of Recharge to Ground Water was implemented. Details of funds released to various States/ Union Territories under the scheme during 2002-03 and 2003-04 are given in the enclosed Statement.

#### *Statement*

#### *Details of Funds released to various State/UTs under CGWB's Central Sector Scheme on "Study on Recharge to Ground Water"*

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl.No.	State/UT	Funds released during 2002-03	Funds released during 2003-04	Total funds released during 1998-2004
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00	52.25
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	20.00
3.	Assam	33.50	0.00	63.50
4.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	9.84
5.	Chandigarh	0.00	3.74	64.23
6.	Delhi	0.00	8.61	92.22
7.	Gujarat	0.00	0.00	20.05
8.	Haryana	36.41	0.00	107.17
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	81.65

1	2	3	4	5
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	0.00	78.96
11.	Jharkhand	000	5.03	25.43
12.	Karnataka	14.55	0.00	43.30
13.	Kerala	13.11	0.00	88.18
14.	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	0.00	53.85
15.	Maharashtra	0.00	0.00	81.63
16.	Meghalaya	0.00	1.65	20.30
17.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	28.00
18.	Nagaland	25.47	5.96	116.43
19.	Orissa	474.41	187.85	1338.79
20.	Punjab	88.98	0.00	361.92
21.	Rajasthan	30.52	0.00	122.24
22.	Tamil Nadu	15.20	2.55	161.14
23.	Uttar Pradesh	27.34	31.64	134.95
24.	Uttaranchal	0.00	0.00	2.00
25.	West Bengal	0.00	0.42	130.23
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	0.00	4.53	12.92
27.	Lakshadweep	11.85	0.00	19.85
<b>Total</b>		<b>771.34</b>	<b>251.98</b>	<b>3331.03</b>

#### **Law Commission on Green Courts**

2664. SHRI MANOJ KUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the law commission has given recommendations for setting up of Green Courts;

(b) if so, the details of recommendations made by the law commission in this regard;

(c) whether the Government has accepted the recommendations; and

(d) if so, the time by which a legislation is likely to be brought before Parliament in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) The Law Commission, in its 186th Report, has inter alia recommended establishment of separate 'Environment Courts' at the State level consisting of judicial and scientific experts in the field of environment, for dealing with environmental disputes besides having appellate jurisdiction in respect of appeals under the various Pollution Control Laws. The recommendations of the report are under consideration of the Government.

*[Translation]**Statement I***Schemes for B.P.L. Families**

2665. SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD:  
SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA:

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

(a) whether several foodgrain based welfare schemes have been launched by the Government for the people living Below Poverty Line (BPL);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of people benefited thereunder during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise; and

(d) the funds spent by the Government thereon during the said period, year-wise and 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) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Government has launched through different Ministries/Departments, several foodgrain based welfare schemes for the households living below poverty line (BPL). A brief on the schemes is enclosed as Statement-I.

(c) and (d) The number of people benefited and funds spent by the Government on major schemes during the last three years, as received from Nodal Ministers, are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Department of Food & Public Distribution released subsidy on all India basis to Food Corporation of India and States undertaking decentralized procurement (DCP) for the foodgrains supplied under various schemes including TPDS & other Welfare Schemes during the last 3 years as under:

(Rs. in crores)

Scheme	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
TPDS	6281	9950	12580
AAY	2641	3161	4967
Welfare Schemes	1383	1941	2218

**1. Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS):**

For 652.03 lakh BPL families, foodgrains @ 35 Kgs. per month per family at subsidised rates are being allocated to all the State Governments/UT Administrations by the Central Government for distribution through Fair Price Shops in the entire country on the basis of 1993-94 poverty estimates of Planning Commission as projected by Registrar General of India as on 1.3.2000.

**2. Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY):**

Foodgrains at highly subsidised rate of Rs. 2.00 per Kg for wheat and Rs. 3.00 per Kg. for rice are being allocated to States/UT Governments for 2.5 crore poorest of poor households under BPL category out of which States/UTs have already issued distinctive ration cards to about 1.97 crore households.

**3. Sampoorn Gramin Rojgar Yojana (SGRY):**

SGRY-a wage employment programme open to all rural poor who are in need of wage employment and desire to do manual and unskilled work in and around their village/habitat is being implemented by Ministry of Rural Development in all States.

**4. Special Component of SGRY:**

Foodgrains are allocated for generating employment for the poor and affected people due to natural calamities like floods, drought etc. The Scheme is being implemented by Ministry of Rural Development.

**5. National Food for Work Programme (NFFWP):**

The programme has been launched by Ministry of Rural Development in November, 2004 in 150 most backward districts of the country for providing additional resources for supplementing wage employment and creation of need based economic, social and community assets in these districts. The programme is open to all rural poors.

**6. Village Grain Bank Scheme:**

The Scheme launched during 1996-97 by Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Govt. of India, in 13 States as a preventive measure against death of children in remote, backward and tribal areas provides for establishment of Grain Banks

in Tribal Villages in most vulnerable areas. All tribal families in the concerned villages as well as interested scheduled caste families living below the poverty line could be the member of the Grain Bank. Banks are managed by the Village Committee elected by the beneficiaries themselves who as member of the Bank can borrow grain from the Grain Bank at the time of scarcity. Till 1.12.2004, an amount of Rs. 20.50 crores has been released to 11 States for establishment of 4858 Grain Banks to benefit 3,44,769 families.

#### 7. Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDMS):

Foodgrains at BPL rates are being allocated for implementing Mid-Day-Meal Scheme by Department of Elementary Education & Literacy. Under the scheme cooked food is provided to school children upto primary level.

#### 8. Annapurna Yojana:

Foodgrains at BPL rates are allocated to States/UT Governments for free distribution to indigent senior citizens of 65 years of age or above who though eligible for old age pension under National Old Age Pension Scheme but are not getting the pension, @ 10 kgs. Per person per month.

#### 9. National Programme for Adolescent Girls (NPAG):

Foodgrains at BPL rates are allocated to States/UT Governments for distribution of free foodgrains to under-nourished adolescent girls and expectant and nursing mothers in 51 identified districts of the country. The programme is being implemented by Department of Women & Child Development.

#### 10. Wheat Based Nutrition Programme (WBNP):

Foodgrains at BPL rates are being allocated to State Governments for distribution to children 0-6 years age group and lactating mothers. The Scheme is being implemented by Department of Women & Child Development.

#### 11. Additional Allocation for Hostels/Welfare Institutions:

Allocation of additional foodgrains at BPL rates is being made to the State Governments for catering to the needs of SC, ST & OBC hostels/welfare institutions/NGOs. etc.

#### 12. Emergency Feeding Programme (EFP):

Foodgrains at BPL rates are being allocated to State Governments of Orissa for 2 lakh beneficiaries in 8 KBK Districts for distribution among old, infirm and destitute persons.

### *Statement II*

#### *1. State-wise no. of Households, BPL Households, Fair Price Shops and Ration Cards*

*(Prepared as on 29.11.2005)*

State/UT	Projected Population in 2000 (In Lakhs)	% of BPL Population	Size of Households	No. of Households in 2000 (In Lakhs)	No. of BPL Households in 2000 (In Lakhs)	No. of Fair Price Shops	Ration Cards (in lakhs)				No. of Cards Per FPS	Reported As on
							BPL	APL	AAY	Total		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Andhra Pradesh	754.66	25.68	4.77	158.21	40.63	40995	126.13	58.72	15.58	200.43	489	1.9.05
Arunachal Pradesh	11.92	40.86	4.93	2.42	0.99	1444	0.69	2.68	0.30	3.67	254	31.3.04
Assam	261.96	40.85	5.83	44.93	18.36	33229	14.69	34.63	4.22	53.54	161	31.3.04
Bihar	731.11	54.96	6.16	118.79	65.23	41818	51.84	52.20	10.00	123.84	296	28.2.2003

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Chhattisgarh	249.25	42.52	5.65	44.11	18.75	7869	13.48	25.94	5.69	45.11	573	13.11.03
Delhi	139.64	14.89	5.02	27.82	4.09	3010	3.91	36.01	0.56	40.48	1345	31.3.05
Goa	15.95	14.92	4.99	3.20	0.48	518	0.13	3.12	0.15	3.40	656	31.8.05
Gujarat	462.52	24.21	5.51	87.57	21.20	14721	29.33	81.39	6.44	117.16	796	31.7.05
Haryana	198.31	25.05	6.30	31.48	7.89	8357	5.69	38.96	2.38	47.03	563	30.9.05
Himachal Pradesh	67.11	40.86	5.34	12.57	5.14	4137	1.35	10.50	1.54	13.30	324	31.12.04
Jammu & Kashmir	99.45	40.86	5.52	18.02	7.36	3927	5.18	10.94	2.18	18.30	466	1.4.2003
Jharkhand	268.31	54.96	6.16	43.56	23.94	14395	16.68	5.15	7.27	29.10	202	19.9.02
Karnataka	520.91	33.16	5.52	94.37	31.29	20602	60.42	42.78	9.50	112.70	547	30.8.05
Kerala	322.62	25.43	5.28	61.10	15.54	14147	15.71	45.81	4.72	66.24	436	30.4.05
Madhya Pradesh	548.22	42.52	5.65	97.03	41.25	18688	38.78	82.27	13.27	134.32	719	22.4.02
Maharashtra	911.15	36.86	5.14	177.27	65.34	50160	53.15	148.34	19.84	221.33	441	28.2.04
Manipur	25.18	40.86	5.19	4.07	1.66	2551	1.16	2.41	0.50	4.07	160	3.7.05
Meghalaya	24.34	40.86	5.42	4.49	1.83	4302	1.27	2.66	0.56	4.49	104	31.10.05
Mizoram	9.52	40.86	5.70	1.67	0.68	1028	0.43	1.69	0.28	2.38	232	31.8.05
Nagaland	16.84	40.86	5.57	3.02	1.24	408	0.77	1.83	0.47	3.07	752	28.2.05
Orissa	358.57	48.56	5.28	67.91	32.98	26217	38.35	30.66	10.01	79.02	301	31.12.04
Punjab	235.36	11.77	5.92	39.76	4.68	13674	6.59	48.20	0.72	55.51	400	30.4.04
Rajasthan	535.59	27.41	6.04	88.67	24.31	20881	14.65	105.80	8.49	128.94	617	31.3.05
Sikkim	5.59	41.43	5.33	1.05	0.43	1276	0.33	0.71	0.10	1.14	39	31.5.05
Tamil Nadu	617.74	35.03	4.45	138.82	48.63	27995		153.53	14.77	168.30	601	31.1.03
Tripura	37.82	40.86	5.24	7.22	2.95	1450	2.27	4.33	0.68	7.28	502	31.8.05
Uttar Pradesh	1625.04	40.85	6.22	261.42	106.79	74788	65.85	274.00	40.94	380.79	509	15.10.02
Uttaranchal	75.84	40.85	6.22	12.19	4.98	7332	3.84	16.99	1.14	21.97	300	31.7.02
West Bengal	790.06	35.66	5.44	145.23	51.79	20424	33.08	113.58	14.21	180.87	788	31.5.04
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	3.86	34.47	4.75	0.81	0.28	488	0.12	0.75	0.04	0.91	186	30.6.05
Chandigarh	8.88	11.35	4.38	2.03	0.23	25	0.07	2.19	0.02	2.28	9120	31.8.05
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1.90	50.84	5.28	0.36	0.18	78	0.12	0.29	0.04	0.45	577	31.5.05
Daman and Diu	1.40	15.80	5.30	0.26	0.04	51	0.04	0.25	0.01	0.30	588	31.3.03

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Lakshadweep	0.71	25.04	6.23	0.11	0.03	35	0.01	0.13	0.004	0.14	411	24.9.05
Pondicherry	11.11	37.40	4.97	2.24	0.84	410	0.85	1.73	0.32	2.90	707	30.9.05
Total	9969.44		5.51	1803.78	652.03	481630	616.76	41441.17	196.92	2254.85	468	

*2. No. of Families identified and Ration Cards issued under AAY during 2000-2006*

As on 5.12.2005  
(Fig. in lakh)

Sl.No.	State/UT	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6.228			3.117	2.991	3.242	15.578
2.	Arunachal Pradesh		0.151			0.150		0.301
3.	Assam		2.815				1.408	4.223
4.	Bihar		10.000					10.000
5.	Chhattisgarh	2.874			1.439	1.380		5.693
6.	Delhi		0.320			0.235		0.555
7.	Goa		0.073		0.037	0.035		0.145
8.	Gujarat		3.250			1.626	1.561	6.437
9.	Haryana		1.143		0.672		0.561	2.376
10.	Himachal Pradesh	0.787				0.395	0.361	1.543
11.	Jammu & Kashmir		1.129			0.564	0.488	2.181
12.	Jharkhand		3.665			3.603		7.268
13.	Karnataka		4.762		2.435		2.303	9.500
14.	Kerala	2.382			1.192	1.144		4.718
15.	Madhya Pradesh	6.324			3.164		3.782	13.270
16.	Maharashtra		10.017			9.821		19.838
17.	Manipur		0.255				0.249	0.504
18.	Meghalaya		0.281			0.140	0.135	0.556
19.	Mizoram		0.105		0.051	0.050	0.055	0.261
20.	Nagaland		0.189		0.096	0.091	0.099	0.475

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
21.	Orissa		5.055			2.530	2.428	10.013
22.	Punjab		0.717					0.717
23.	Rajasthan	3.726					5.272	8.998
24.	Sikkim		0.067		0.032			0.099
25.	Tamil Nadu	5.221	2.234			3.730	3.580	14.765
26.	Tripura		0.452			0.227		0.679
27.	Uttar Pradesh		10.281	6.090	8.191	7.861	8.522	40.945
28.	Uttaranchal		0.763				0.382	1.145
29.	West Bengal		7.329			4.583	2.295	14.207
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands		0.043					0.043
31.	Chandigarh		0.021					0.021
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.028					0.009	0.037
33.	Daman and Diu		0.006				0.009	0.015
34.	Lakshadweep		0.004					0.004
35.	Pondicherry		0.100		0.025	0.068	0.129	0.322
	Total	27.570	65.227	6.090	20.451	41.224	36.365	197.432

*3. Allocation and release of funds under SGRY during 2002-03, 2003-04 & 2004-05.*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05	
		Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	18977.31	24380.17	22014.18	23995.50	23487.18	24049.88
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	986.98	824.26	1142.85	1560.75	1246.98	1368.64
3.	Assam	25626.43	22496.96	29673.53	29681.01	32368.00	32124.06
4.	Bihar	36327.51	26727.42	42137.71	34203.10	46512.14	49196.29
5.	Chhattisgarh	9286.06	12013.04	10769.37	12023.34	13108.64	12931.67
6.	Goa	158.36	75.04	183.93	110.36	336.74	292.55
7.	Gujarat	7728.31	6942.87	8966.17	9654.67	10283.3	9941.23



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8.	Haryana	4290.25	5810.37	4976.97	5599.45	5417.38	5567.67
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1806.79	2046.00	2096.00	2394.67	2281.48	2259.63
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	2154.84	2051.61	2499.61	10803.04	2681.02	2715.61
11.	Jharkhand	24828.98	17584.68	28803.56	26675.15	31543.52	27394.54
12.	Karnataka	14098.08	17429.04	16353.72	19428.39	17539.74	18290.28
13.	Kerala	6325.52	7665.17	7337.56	8696.74	7870.10	7866.56
14.	Madhya Pradesh	21841.08	26872.02	25338.23	26705.26	28308.64	28713.84
15.	Maharashtra	28002.67	28960.58	32483.24	31212.10	34672.18	33657.28
16.	Manipur	1719.36	669.80	1990.89	1331.40	2172.42	2123.41
17.	Meghalaya	1926.22	1905.92	2230.43	2055.44	2433.74	2439.01
18.	Mizoram	445.73	573.88	516.13	757.86	563.18	574.44
19.	Nagaland	1321.29	667.28	1529.96	1168.08	1669.40	1637.97
20.	Orissa	21353.15	27406.55	24789.56	24743.95	26567.30	26939.86
21.	Punjab	3461.06	3648.98	4017.63	4620.08	6025.60	5818.55
22.	Rajasthan	10710.59	14904.76	12424.25	13860.68	13318.66	14564.97
23.	Sikkim	493.50	439.18	571.44	703.55	623.52	685.88
24.	Tamil Nadu	16564.43	21161.09	19214.77	23318.54	20538.10	22470.43
25.	Tripura	3104.49	3850.07	3594.77	3991.89	3922.76	4079.04
26.	Uttaranchal	4258.87	4398.54	4940.35	5355.75	5242.62	5361.66
27.	Uttar Pradesh	63243.32	66092.08	73362.27	65695.85	78495.06	79279.95
28.	West Bengal	23729.76	20649.89	27526.41	21453.96	29524.26	26731.84
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	139.88	42.32	162.34	97.40	220.94	220.94
30.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	109.27	61.40	126.77	41.13	145.46	87.28
31.	Daman and Diu	30.27	0	35.17	0	70.50	0
32.	Lakshadweep	48.16	0	55.95	28.57	110.5	28.57
33.	Pondicherry	154.50	112.61	179.28	136.13	223.94	205.09
	All India	355253.02	368463.58	412025	412103.79	449525	449618.62

**4. Allocation and released under NFFWP during the year 2004-05**

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	2004-05	
		Allocation	Released
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12214.72	12214.72
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	190.8	190.80
3.	Assam	16645.79	16645.79
4.	Bihar	26411.54	26456.54
5.	Chhattisgarh	10410.19	10410.19
6.	Gujarat	3994.69	3994.69
7.	Haryana	281.85	281.85
8.	Himachal Pradesh	303.91	303.91
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	494.26	494.26
10.	Jharkhand	22595.70	22595.70
11.	Karnataka	2925.38	2925.38
12.	Kerala	547.14	547.14

1	2	3	4
13.	Madhya Pradesh	15808.32	15808.32
14.	Maharashtra	15495.26	15495.26
15.	Manipur	399.22	399.22
16.	Meghalaya	543.85	543.85
17.	Mizoram	95.52	95.52
18.	Nagaland	455.72	455.72
19.	Orissa	22283.67	22283.67
20.	Punjab	716.32	716.32
21.	Rajasthan	3532.69	3532.69
22.	Sikkim	315.73	315.73
23.	Tamil Nadu	4851.58	4851.58
24.	Tripura	1543.37	1543.37
25.	Uttaranchal	1014.86	1014.86
26.	Uttar Pradesh	26378.11	26378.11
27.	West Bengal	11449.81	11449.81
Total		201900.00	201945.00

\*Programme launched w.e.f. 2004-05.

**5. Status of Grain Bank State-wise established from 1996-97 to 2003-04**

(As on 1.12.2004)

Sl.No.	State	Year	Amount released (Rs.)	Numbers of Grain Banks to be established	Nos. of beneficiary families as per the proposal	Nos. of Grain Banks established	Utilization Certificate received (Rs. in lakhs.)	Utilization Certificate awaited (Rs. in lakhs.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1996-97	12.16	19	1900	19	12.16	0.00
		1997-98	13.44	21	2100	21	13.44	0.00
		2000-01	11.66	45	1644	45	11.66	0.00
		2002-03	177.72	820	25649	0	0.00	177.72
Sub Total (A)			214.98	905	31293	85	37.26	177.72

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2.	West Bengal	1996-97	10.88	17	1700	16	10.45	0.43
		2002-03	28.93	34	4671	34	28.93	0.00
		2003-04	68.72	101	10781	0	0.00	68.72
	Sub Total (B)		108.53	152	171.52	50	39.38	69.15
3.	Bihar	1996-97	19.20	30	3000	25	16.00	3.20
		1997-98	19.84	31	3100	0	0	19.84
	Sub Total (C)		39.04	61	6100	25	16.00	23.04
4.	Gujarat	1996-97	17.92	28	2800	28	17.92	0.00
		1997-98	19.20	30	3000	30	19.20	0.00
		1998-99	14.72	23	2300	23	14.72	0.00
		2000-01	100.00	156	15600	32	20.60	79.40
	Sub Total (D)		151.84	237	23700	113	72.44	79.40
5.	Madhya Pradesh	1996-97	44.80	70	7000	70	44.80	0.00
		1997-98*	56.96	89	8900	75	48.20	8.76
		2001-02	80.78	327	32700	304	77.22	3.58
		2002-03	712.16	1975	110749	0.00	0.00	712.16
	Sub Total (E)		894.70	2461	159349	449	170.22	724.48
6.	Orissa	1996-97	20.48	32	3200	32	20.48	0.00
		1997-98	22.40	35	3500	35	22.40	0.00
		1998-99	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
		1999-2000	100.00	157	15700	156	99.99	0.01
		2000-01	184.96	281	33132	263	172.94	12.02
		2001-02	100.00	157	15700	102	82.42	17.58
	Sub Total (F)		427.84	662	71232	588	398.23	29.61
7.	Tripura	1996-97	2.56	4	400	4	2.56	0.00
		1997-98	1.92	3	300	3	1.92	0.00
		2000-01	18.11	27	2838	27	18.11	0.00
		2001-02	18.03	27	2826	27	18.03	0.00
		2003-04	10.79	17	1685	0	0.00	10.79
	Sut Total (G)		51.41	78	8049	61	40.82	10.79

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8.	Rajasthan	1996-97	16.00	25	2500	25	16.00	0.00
		1997-98	1.49	8	800	0	0.00	1.49
	Sub Total (H)		17.49	33	3300	25	16.00	1.49
9.	Tamil Nadu	1996-97	1.12	2	200	2	1.12	0.00
	Sub Total (I)		1.12	2	200	2	1.12	0.00
10.	Kerala	1996-97	1.28	2	200	2	1.28	0.00
		1997-98	1.92	3	300	3	1.92	0.00
		2000-01	10.16	3	1674	0	0	10.16
	Sub Total (J)		13.36	8	2174	5	3.20	10.16
11.	Maharashtra	1997-98	19.20	30	3000	30	19.20	0.00
		2001-02	83.18	154	12837	108	69.61	13.57
		2003-04	27.73	75	6383	0	0.00	27.73
	Sub Total (K)		130.11	259.00	22220	138	88.81	41.30
12.	Uttar Pradesh		0	0	0	0	0	0
13.	Manipur		0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total (A to K)			2050.42	4858	344769	1541	883.28	1167.14

Note 1. An amount of Rs. 2075.81 lakhs was received from Ministry against which an amount of Rs. 2050.42 lakhs has been released to TRIFED for establishment of 4858 number of Grain Banks. The balance fund could not be released due to non receipt of proposals/details as per check list I & II/Utilisation Certificates from some States.

2. \*During the year 1997-98 utilisation certificate for an amount of Rs. 8.76 lakhs pending with Chhattisgarh.

Source: TRIFED (HO).

**6. State-wise number of Beneficiaries for Supplementary Nutrition under ICDS Scheme as on 31.07.2005**

Sl.No.	Month of Report	State/UT	No. of SNP Beneficiaries				
			0-3 years	3-6 years	Total Children	Women	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	06/05	Andhra Pradesh	884561	1447035	2331596	587205	2918801
2.	06/06	Arunachal Pradesh	39201	35824	75025	12487	87512
3.	07/04	Assam#	562298	540841	1103139	148030	1251169
4.	06/05	Bihar	1814889	1856929	3671818	758719	4430537

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5.	06/05	Chhattisgarh	817457	559137	1376594	360579	1737173
6.	06/05	Goa	20225	14257	34482	8931	43413
7.	06/05	Gujarat	820739	853161	1673900	274786	1948686
8.	06/05	Haryana	501064	440990	942054	232857	1174911
9.	06/05	Himachal Pradesh	184207	141920	326127	73506	399633
10.	03/05	Jammu & Kashmir	99429	83549	182978	39982	222960
11.	06/05	Jharkhand	357756	402219	759975	232345	992320
12.	06/05	Karnataka	1097157	1139680	2236837	539176	2776013
13.	05/05	Kerala	348839	452073	800912	151544	952456
14.	05/05	Madhya Pradesh	1405081	1284990	2690071	642549	3332620
15.	05/05	Maharashtra	1835430	2333172	4168602	637911	4806513
16.	07/04	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0
17.	06/05	Meghalaya	84268	99637	183905	33285	217190
18.	04/05	Mizoram	68769	47243	116012	27796	143808
19.	05/05	Nagaland	276535	94931	371466	40237	411703
20.	08/05	Orissa	1814687	1846632	3661319	659559	4320878
21.	06/05	Punjab	31784	404118	435902	151536	587438
22.	06/05	Rajasthan	1338217	1306222	2644439	594960	3239399
23.	04/05	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0
24.	06/05	Tamil Nadu	660121	1057275	1717396	501299	2218695
25.	09/04	Tripura	62199	86006	148205	22088	170293
26.	06/05	Uttar Pradesh	1146714	3674201	4820915	1463561	6284476
27.	06/05	Uttaranchal	191274	136311	327585	72902	400487
28.	05/05	West Bengal	1706660	1721588	3428248	397985	3826233
29.	06/05	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	9745	9085	18830	4268	23098
30.	06/05	Chandigarh	18600	13110	31710	7703	39413
31.	06/05	Delhi	237398	150710	388108	69913	458021
32.	12/04	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	6353	6167	12520	2184	14704
33.	12/03	Daman & Diu	3400	3577	6977	1898	8875

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
34.	02/03	Lakshadweep	2023	1854	3877	986	4863
35.	06/05	Pondicherry	23194	4016	27210	8918	36128
All India->			18470274	22248460	40718734	8761685	49480419

#as on 31.7.2004

Source: Ministry of Human Resource &amp; Development (Deptt. of Women and Child Development)

*7. Allocation of foodgrains under Wheat Based Nutrition Programme for the last 3 years.*

(in MTs)

Sl.No.	State	2003-04		2004-05		2005-06 (till 3.12.2005)	
		Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Rice
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	—	—	—	800	—	—
2.	Andhra Pradesh	32734	25629	29000	29558	28000	27166
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	2000	—	—	—	—	—
4.	Chhattisgarh	50000	—	39569	—	49462	—
5.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	60	14	50	91	38	35
6.	Daman & Diu	52	10	—	—	—	—
7.	Delhi	—	—	—	—	757	2080
8.	Gujarat	31300	—	40000	—	22500	—
9.	Haryana	900	—	1724	—	465	—
10.	Himachal Pradesh	1100	1800	1100	1900	1600	2500
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—	—	—	—
12.	Karnataka	35000	58599	19200	51838	3099	2303
13.	Madhya Pradesh	80000	—	72000	—	80000	1610
14.	Maharashtra	—	—	—	29562	—	18797
15.	Meghalaya	1810	—	2263	—	—	—
16.	Mizoram	—	—	—	2000	—	—
17.	Nagaland	—	—	—	—	—	—
18.	Orissa	70172	—	68875	—	13564	30876

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
19.	Pondicherry	—	—	—	—	—	—
20.	Punjab	13307	9740	—	—	1500	1750
21.	Rajasthan	—	—	4000	—	2000	—
22.	Sikkim	—	—	—	—	—	—
23.	Tamil Nadu	1545	—	12500	—	2763	—
24.	Tripura	—	—	—	—	—	3909
25.	Uttaranchal	3000	—	—	—	980	—
26.	Uttar Pradesh	106140	—	51660	—	58500	—
<b>Total</b>		<b>434120</b>	<b>100792</b>	<b>341941</b>	<b>115749</b>	<b>265228</b>	<b>91028</b>

Source: Department of Women & Child Development.

*8. Allocation of foodgrains (Wheat & Rice) for supply under Annapurna Scheme during 2005-06.*

(fig. in tonnes)

State/UT	No. of Beneficiary	Wheat	Rice
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	93,200	—	11,184.00
Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	571.32
Assam	—	—	8,270.00
Bihar	1,66,601	11,995.27	7,996.85
Chhattisgarh	—	—	3,200.00
Delhi	154	18.48	—
Goa	753	—	90.36
Gujarat	—	1000.00	—
Himachal Pradesh	6,373	—	765.00
Jammu & Kashmir	10,220	—	1,226.40
Jharkhand	54,939	—	6,593.00
Karnataka	68,040	—	8,164.80
Kerala	45,951	—	3715.60
Maharashtra	1,20,000	9000.00	5400.00

1	2	3	4
Manipur	—	—	1030.00
Meghalaya	9263	—	1111.58
Mizoram	—	—	310.00
Nagaland	—	—	807.24
Orissa	64,800	—	7776.00
Rajasthan	1,05,293	12,635.16	—
Sikkim	—	—	300.00
Tamil Nadu	—	—	8640.00
Tripura	—	—	1782.12
Uttar Pradesh	3,50,001	42,000.00	
Uttaranchal	10,505	—	1260.60
West Bengal	80,020	—	9,602.40
Andaman and Nicobar Island	—	—	60.00
Chandigarh	—	60.00	—
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	380	—	45.60
Daman and Diu	—	—	10.00
Lakshadweep	—	—	10.00
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>76,708.91</b>	<b>89,922.85</b>

Number of beneficiaries & allocation made on the basis of recommendation of Ministry of Rural Development w.e.f. 2002.

*9A. Allotment and Offtake of Rice & Wheat under Special Component of SGRY from April 2002 to March, 2003 Free of Cost.*

Compiled on 7.5.2003  
(Figures in lakh tonnes)

S.No.	States	Allotment			Lifting		
		Rice	Wheat	Total	Rice	Wheat	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	20.00	—	20.00	20.00	—	20.00
2.	Chhattisgarh	3.29	—	3.29	1.31	—	1.31
3.	Gujarat	0.30	1.18	1.48	—	—	—



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
4.	Haryana	—	0.25	0.25	—	0.25	0.25
5.	Himachal Pradesh	0.06	0.04	0.10	0.04	0.03	0.07
6.	Jharkhand	0.20	0.20	0.40	—	—	—
7.	Karnataka	5.30	—	5.30	4.07	—	4.07
8.	Kerala	0.52	—	0.52	—	—	—
9.	Maharashtra	0.23	0.93	1.16	0.14	—	0.14
10.	Madhya Pradesh	1.56	2.61	4.17	1.45	1.65	3.10
11.	Orissa	4.00	—	4.00	3.96	—	3.96
12.	Rajasthan	0.00	18.98	18.98	—	11.07	11.07
13.	Tamil Nadu	1.25	—	1.25	0.84	—	0.84
14.	Uttar Pradesh	—	2.00	2.00	—	0.31	0.31
15.	Uttaranchal	0.31	0.19	0.50	0.08	0.02	0.10
<b>Total</b>		<b>37.02</b>	<b>26.38</b>	<b>63.40</b>	<b>31.89</b>	<b>13.33</b>	<b>45.22</b>

*9B. Allocation and Offtake of Foodgrains under Special Component of SGRY during 2003-04*

(fig. 000' tonnes)

Sl.No.	State	Allocation			Offtake		
		Rice	Wheat	Total	Rice	Wheat	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1820.00	—	1820.00	1572.19	—	1572.19
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	24.80	—	24.80	7.30	—	7.30
3.	Assam	50.00	—	50.00	—	—	—
4.	Bihar	—	—	0.00	—	—	—
5.	Chhattisgarh	238.00	—	238.00	—	—	—
6.	Gujarat	79.00	79.00	158.00	51.50	197.46	248.96
7.	Karnataka	679.75	—	679.75	622.75	—	622.75
8.	Kerala	61.00	—	61.00	29.33	—	29.33
9.	Madhya Pradesh	127.98	349.78	477.76	0.18	0.65	0.83
10.	Maharashtra	23.16	492.64	515.80	—	—	—



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
12.	Jharkhand	67.00	0.00	67.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
13.	Karnataka	353.62	0.00	353.62	361.00	1.71	362.71
14.	Kerala	42.00	0.00	42.00	59.11	0.00	59.11
15.	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	1.41	1.41
16.	Maharashtra	0.00	300.00	300.00	37.13	111.00	148.13
17.	Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
18.	Meghalaya	3.12	0.00	3.12	0.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Mizoram	0.50	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
20.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
21.	Orissa	0.00	0.00	0.00	25.49	0.00	25.49
22.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.29	0.29
23.	Rajasthan	0.00	718.00	718.00	0.00	574.19	574.19
24.	Sikkim	2.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
25.	Tamil Nadu	150.00	0.00	150.00	435.13	0.00	435.13
26.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
28.	Uttaranchal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
29.	West Bengal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
31.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
33.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
34.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>1594.24</b>	<b>1118.00</b>	<b>2712.24</b>	<b>1229.50</b>	<b>790.04</b>	<b>2019.54</b>

Note: 1. Based on information received from FCI on 5.5.2005

2. Offtake includes offtake against backlog quota.

\*However Dy. General Manager FCI, Hyderabad vide fax dated 16.9.2005 has intimated that the entire allotment of 4.02 lakh MT of rice has been lifted during the validity period.

*[English]***Medical Facilities to Labourers**

2666. SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPAPARAI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of medical facilities available for fire works units and match units labourers in Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether several labourers have lost their lives owing to lack of modern medical facilities in the hospitals;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the hospitals which are facing problem of shortage of medicines and staff as well as the infrastructure and the steps taken or likely to be taken by the Government for the modernization of these hospitals during the last one year?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) The medical facilities provided by ESI Corporation and DG Labour Welfare Ministry of Labour are not specific to fire works and match units labourers.

(b) No such incidence has come to the notice.

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

(d) The following steps have been taken for improvement/modernization of services by the ESI Corporation:

To monitor the functioning of the Schemes regular inspections are taken up through the Nodal Officers, Medical Referees, SSMCs/SMCs, Regional Directors, Officers of the Headquarters' Office and Ministry etc. and remedial actions are taken on their observations. A sub-committee of the Corporation known as General purpose Medical Sub-Committee comprising of representatives of employees visit the States to supervise and monitor the functioning of the Scheme at least once or twice in a year. Recommendations and observations of this committee are placed before the members of ESI Corporation. In order to facilitate the flow of funds to the State Governments the Scheme of revolving fund, which was initially for reimbursement of super speciality treatment, has now been expanded to drugs and dressings and repair & maintenance of equipments etc.

Hospital vigilance committees have been constituted for each hospital with the respective employees, employers and medical profession to monitor the activities of the hospitals in a participative way. To ensure continuing human resource development and regular training 0.5% of the budget has been earmarked over and above the ceiling for the training. The ceiling on medical care reimbursement to the State Governments has been increased to Rs. 900 per Insured Person family unit w.e.f 01.04.2005. The ceiling on administrative expenses is Rs. 540 and other expenses Rs. 360. The sub-ceiling has been removed on the demand of the State Governments. Modern Equipments worth Rs. 12.61 lacs have been sanctioned for ESI Hospitals of Tamil Nadu on the request of State Government during the year 2004-2005.

**Agriculture Development in Flood Affected Areas**

2667. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has drawn up any plan for agriculture development in flood prone areas of Assam and some other similar States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is aware of large scale attack of insects on crops in the districts bordering Bangladesh resulting in damage of crop of over 80 per cent;

(d) if so, whether the Government has made any study of this situation; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) The Government is implementing certain programmes under the Macro Management of Agriculture scheme with the purpose of augmenting agricultural production and productivity in various kinds of land including flood prone areas. The programme include (i) Soil Conservation for Enhancing the Productivity of Degraded Lands in the Catchments of River Valley Project and Flood Prone River (RVP&FPR) which is being implemented in 27 States including Assam; and (ii) Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice-based

Cropping System Areas (ICDP-Rice) which provides assistance for propagation of hybrid rice production technology, installation of sprinkler irrigation system, production of certified seeds etc. in various States including Assam.

(c) and (d) There is no report of migration of crop pest from Bangladesh to the bordering districts. However, there are sporadic attack of pest in some districts which are endemic in nature. The pest situation in the States is regularly monitored through Central and State surveillance teams.

(e) Does not arise.

#### Alloy Steel Plant

2668. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to revive Alloy Steel Plan, Durgapur; and

(b) if so, the amount proposed to be invested therein?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A total investment of Rs. 460.00 crore has been approved for Alloy Steel Plant (ASP) under the Corporate Plan-2011-12.

#### Patent of Rice

2669. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the matter regarding Swiss Biotech Giant Syngenta's efforts to monopolize control over rice was taken up with the Government for immediate intervention;

(b) if so, whether the Government has already initiated necessary action through Indian Council for Agricultural Research in the matter;

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

(d) the outcome thereof?

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

Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is aware of the Swiss Company Syngenta's filing patents in the European Patent Office, (EPO) and U.S. Patent and Trade Mark Office (USPTO) in respect of patenting of rice gene(s) sequences for certain traits.

(b) to (d) ICAR has initiated action in this regard through examination of various issues relating to patenting of rice gene(s) sequences. This involves collection of related information, consultations with other stakeholders needed to protect the interest of the rice farmers.

[*Translation*]

#### Consumption of Fertilizers

2670. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of assistance given by the Union Government for the fertilizer necessary for agricultural production, fertilizer-wise;

(b) the consumption of fertilizers during the last three years, year-wise alongwith the estimated consumption during 2005-06 in the country;

(c) the reasons for which urea put in the category of decontrolled fertilizers; and

(d) the time by which decision is likely to be taken and the procedure is likely to be completed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The amount (Rs. in crores) of subsidy/concession on urea and decontrolled phosphatic and potassic fertilizers during the last three years i.e. 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 is as follows:

Period	Amount of concession disbursed on decontrolled fertilizers	Amount of subsidy disbursed on Urea		
		Indigenous Urea	Imported Urea	Total
2002-03	3225	7790	0	7790
2003-04	3326	8521	0	8521
2004-05	5142	10243	494	10737

(b) The consumption of fertilizers is as follows:

Products	Consumption of Fertilisers (in Lakh tonnes)			
	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	Kharif, 2005 (Est.)
Urea	185	198	207	113
DAP	55	56	63	33
MOP	19	18	24	14
Complexes	48	48	55	33
Others	33	34	34	20

(c) and (d) Urea is not a decontrolled fertilizer. Urea is at present under statutory price and partial movement and distribution control.

*[English]*

#### Land under Cash Crop

2671. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the farmers have given emphasis on cash crops instead of conventional crops on a large scale in several areas of the country in the last few years;

(b) if so, whether the Government has conducted any survey to ascertain the areas of land brought under cash crops during the last three years; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, 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) Crop diversification is one of the objectives of the Agricultural Policy. Both the Central and the State Governments encourage farmers to opt for cash crops in preference with conventional crops. Emphasis has also been laid on the programmes under National Horticulture Mission as well as Technology Mission for Cotton, Oilseeds and Pulses in recent years. In this regard, use of micro irrigation is encouraged by providing support to the farmers.

(b) and (c) No such survey has been conducted. However, the area covered under some of the commercial/

cash crops is given in the enclosed Statement. Further Horticulture Development Programmes have also encouraged agricultural diversification.

#### Statement

#### Area Covered under Important Commercial/Cash Crops

('000 Hectares)

Sl.No.	Crops	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
1.	Sugarcane	4411.6	4520.3	4023.1
2.	Cotton	9132.0	7669.7	7629.9
3.	Jute	873.1	864.5	848.1
4.	Groundnut	6238.1	5935.5	5998.2
5.	Rapeseed & Mustard	5073.0	4544.0	5387.3
6.	Castorseed	716.7	583.2	732.2
7.	Nigerseed	478.0	414.4	436.5
8.	Sesamum	1670.6	1444.4	1773.8
9.	Linseed	535.8	450.1	525.5
10.	Safflower	404.3	369.5	349.2
11.	Sunflower	1176.8	1642.2	2000.5
12.	Soyabean	6343.1	6105.5	6496.7

#### Funds for Training to Farmers

2672. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is providing funds to the State Government to provide training to the farmers to increase production of paddy, wheat and other cash crops;

(b) if so, the details of fund provided during the last three years till date, State-wise; and

(c) the kind of training provided to the farmers by various State Governments, 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 (c) Yes, Sir. Funds are provided to the State Governments to provide training to the farmers in production technology of various crops like wheat, paddy and other cash crops. Funds are provided based on the Work Plans of the States under various crop production oriented components of the Macro Management Scheme among others. However, generally funds are not released separately for training of farmers. The State Governments organize farmers trainings with use of audio visual aids, through visits to demonstration sites, visits to fields, visits to Kisan Melas, visits to other States and research centres so as to make them aware about advancement in production technologies.

#### Minimum Support Price of Cotton

2673. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the factors are taken into account for fixing the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of cotton;

(b) the MSP of cotton fixed for 2003-04, 2004-05 and for the current year;

(c) the cotton produced and procured each year and the extent of distress sale of cotton during each year;

(d) the average land holding of cotton farmers in irrigated/unirrigated and rainfed areas alongwith the average expenditure on inputs like seeds and fertilizers per acre and the average per acre yield of cotton during these years; and

(e) the manner in which per acre net income of cotton farmers compares with average income per acre of foodgrain and other commercial crops?

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 Government fixes the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for various agricultural commodities including cotton by taking into account the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP), the views of the State Governments and the concerned Central Ministries. While recommending the MSP, the CACP keeps in view (i) the need to provide incentive to the producer for adopting improved

technology, (ii) the need to ensure rational utilization of land, water and other production resources; (iii) the likely effect of the price policy on the rest of economy, particularly on the cost of living, level of wages, industrial cost structure etc.

(b) The Government of India has fixed the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for cotton (Kapas) of F-414/H-777/J-34 and H-4 varieties for the years from 2003-04 to 2005-06 as given below:

Variety	(Rs. per quintal)		
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06 (Current Year)
F-414/H-777/J-34	1725	1760	1760
H-4	1925	1960	1980

(c) The Cotton Corporation of India (CCI), as the nodal agency has been procuring cotton at the MSP fixed by the Government. While undertaking MSP operations, the Corporation purchases entire FAQ grade cotton offered to it. In order to avoid distress sales, the Corporation purchases even three grades below Fair Average Quality (FAQ) kapas. The details of production and procurement undertaken by CCI during past few years are given as under:

Year	(Lakh Bales of 170 kgs. each)	
	Production	Procurement under MSP by CCI
2003-04	179.00	—
2004-05	243.00	27.51
2005-06	242.50 (Estimated)	3.39 upto 5.12.2005)

Source: Production figures of Cotton Advisory Board (CAB).

Besides CCI, National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED) has also purchased 0.395 lakh bales during 2004-05 and 0.075 lakh bales during 2005-06 as on 30.11.2005. During 2004-05, the Maharashtra State Cooperative Cotton Growers Marketing Federation Limited (MSCGMFL) purchased 44.40 lakh bales at guaranteed prices.

(d) As per the latest available information, the total area under cotton during 2002-03 as 76.63 lakh hectares out of which 25.36 lakh hectares was under irrigation and 51.27 lakh hectare was unirrigated. As per the Agricultural Census 1995-96, the total number of land holdings were 67.80 lakhs, of which 23% was marginal (Below 0.5-1.0 hectare).

The per hectare cost on seed and fertilizer for cotton in important States as per latest figures available for the

years 2001-02 and 2002-03 is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

The average yield per acre of cotton as estimated by Cotton Advisory Board (CAB) for the years 2003-04 and 2004-05 was 161 kgs/acre and 187 kgs/acre, respectively.

(e) The gross returns for some crops in major producing States for the latest available years i.e. 2001-02 and 2002-03 are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

**Statement I**

*Per Hectare Cost on Seed and Fertilizer for Cotton in Important States*

(Rs./Hectare)

State	Seed		Fertilizer	
	2001-02	2002-03	2001-02	2002-03
Andhra Pradesh	1476	1662	1722	2444
Gujarat	690	712	995	850
Haryana	388	509	730	453
Madhya Pradesh	671	2352	1306	1380
Karnataka	616	722	825	725
Maharashtra	921	1090	1408	1342
Punjab	742	742	881	947
Tamil Nadu	495	1116	1598	2167

**Statement II**

*Gross Returns for Some Crops in Major Producing States*

Name of Crop	Name of State	2001-02	2002-03
1	2	3	4
Wheat	Haryana	18213	18730
	Punjab	18804	16715
	Uttar Pradesh	11202	11495
Paddy	Andhra Pradesh	11842	16919
	Haryana	16355	14797



1	2	3	4
	Punjab	21136	16294
	West Bengal	7137	5737
Jowar	Karnataka	833	778
	Maharashtra	1856	5735
Bajra	Gujarat	1502	2788
	Uttar Pradesh	2441	4793
Maize	Andhra Pradesh	5125	5067
	Madhya Pradesh	1735	1618
Gram	Madhya Pradesh	10006	6843
	Uttar Pradesh	12226	9245
Arhar	Maharashtra	9446	8553
	Uttar Pradesh	12145	10086
Soyabean	Madhya Pradesh	5606	2729
	Maharashtra	6201	5233
Ground Nut	Gujarat	15665	7787
	Tamil Nadu	1870	5488
Jute	Assam	8813	4806
	West Bengal	9490	9895
Sugarcane	Karnataka	42745	46031
	Maharashtra	19286	19330
	Tamil Nadu	50257	33312
	Uttar Pradesh	—	27719
Cotton	Andhra Pradesh	10731	20818
	Gujarat	3710	8832
	Maharashtra	2089	4001

Note: Gross return is the difference between gross value of output and A2 cost of cultivation (all expenses in cash in kind including rent paid for leased-in land).

**Agriculture Census by FAO**

2674. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new global agriculture census is underway under the agencies of UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) 2010;

(b) if so, whether India is also a party alongwith other 100 countries in the census;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the extent to which this exercise is likely to help countries to monitor progress towards millennium development goals; and

(e) the other aims and objectives of this census?

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) Yes, Sir.

(c) Preliminary steps for organizing the World Programme for the Census of Agriculture, 2010 are being taken by the Food and Agriculture Organization. Recently, FAO organized a round table conference of member countries from South Asia at Bangkok, Thailand to discuss the methodological issues, items to be covered and the integration of Population Census and Aquaculture Census with the Agriculture Census.

(d) the global agriculture census would provide range of data for monitoring the millennium development goals relating to eradication of poverty and hunger, illiteracy, gender equality and empowerment of women, and environmental sustainability.

(e) The other objectives of the census are to collect supplementary data on community level, food security measures; agricultural planning and policy; and improvement of current agriculture statistics.

**Improvement of Fishing Activities in Karnataka**

2675. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the fishing activities in coastal areas of Karnataka during the last three years and the current financial year; and

(b) the progress achieved during the said period as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) Government of India has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure & Post Harvest Operations to improve the fishing activities in the coastal areas of all coastal States including Karnataka. The Scheme has following components:

**(I) Development of Marine Fisheries**

- Introduction of Intermediate Craft of improved design
- Resource Specific deep sea fishing vessels (including Vessel Monitoring System)
- Motorisation of Traditional Craft
- Safety of Fishermen at sea
- Fishermen Development Rebate on HSD oil

**(II) Development of Infrastructure**

- Establishment of Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres

(b) Funds released to Government of Karnataka under this Centrally Sponsored Scheme in the Fisheries Sector for the last three years and the current year till 30.11.2005 are as under:

(Rupees in lakhs)

Year	Fishing Harbour	Coastal Marine	Total
2002-03	55.585	—	55.585
2003-04	107.50	5.00	112.50
2004-05	—	748.00	748.00
2005-06 (Till 30.11.2005)	209.44	400.00	609.44

**Minimum Support Price for Red Chilly**

2676. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Minimum Support Price (MSP) provided by the Government for red chilly to the farmers in the country at present, state-wise;

(b) the details of Central share therein;

(c) whether the Government of Karnataka has submitted any proposal to the Union Government to review the MSP for red chilly; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (d) Red chilly is not covered under Minimum Support Price (MSP) Scheme. However, on specific request from the State Governments, the Government of India implements Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities generally perishable in nature and not covered under Price Support Scheme to avoid distress sales by farmers. The loss incurred, if any, in implementing the MIS is shared on 50:50 basis between the central and the State Governments.

No proposal for procurement of red chilly under MIS has been received from the Government of Karnataka.

**Clearance for Petrol Pumps**

2677. SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications of oil Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) for permission to use forest land for the approaches of petrol pumps pending with the Government for clearance, State-wise;

(b) since when such cases are pending;

(c) the time likely to be taken for giving such clearance;

(d) whether the Government has issued instructions to close down such petrol pumps as those pending with the Government for clearance; and

(e) if not, the reasons for closure of petrol pumps in Haryana and Punjab?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) 44 proposals of Government of Punjab and 18 proposals of Government of Haryana, pertaining to oil Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) for permission to use forest land for approaches to petrol pumps have been recently received and are being examined. These cases have been received during the month of November 2005. A time limit of 60 days has been prescribed, as per the Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2003, for the Central Government to take a decision on receipt of a complete proposal for diversion of forest land. The proposal received for diversion of forest land under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 are examined on merit and as per the rules and guidelines made under the Act.

(d) and (e) No such instructions for closure of petrol pumps have been issued by the Ministry or by the Forest Department, Government of Haryana. In Punjab, some Deputy Commissioners had issued provisional No Objection Certificate (NOC) for setting up of the petrol pumps, in anticipation of approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for construction of approach roads. On intimation from the Forest Department that issuing of such NOC is in violation of the Act, the Deputy Commissioners have cancelled the permission/NOC resulting in closure of the petrol pumps constructed in violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

**Tourism Promotion in Northern States**

2678. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps to promote tourism in the Northern States

(b) if so, whether any blue print has been prepared for the purpose;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the specific steps proposed to be taken in Tenth Plan to promote tourism in the States including Rajasthan?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY):**

(a) Development and promotion of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/U.T. Administrations. Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, has been assisting the State Governments/UTs through its schemes of Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits, Product/Infrastructure and Destination Development and Large Revenue Generating Projects during the Tenth Plan. Project proposals that are complete in all respect are processed on the basis of inter-se priority and funds released, subject to their availability under the respective Head.

(b) and (c) The Government has prepared 20 Year Perspective Plans for the States/UTs with the broad objectives of:

- (i) assessing the existing tourism scenario in the States;
- (ii) reviewing the status of existing development/ investment plans;

- (iii) evaluating the existing potential tourist destinations;
- (iv) developing sustainable tourism in a time period of 20 years;
- (v) giving plans with short term and long term targets;
- (vi) indicating the likely investment on infrastructure development under different heads; and
- (vii) preparing an action plan for implementing of identified potential scheme/projects, and for development of infrastructure.

The 20 Year Perspective Plans prepared for the State have State-wise details and the action plan for its implementation for identified potential development schemes/projects etc.

(d) The details of the financial assistance provided to all the States/UTs including Rajasthan for tourism-related projects during the Tenth Plan are given in the enclosed Statement.

***Statement***

***State-wise Tourism Projects Sanctioned during the Tenth Five Year Plan (as on 31.3.2005)***

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State/UT	2002-03			2003-04			2004-05 (Provisional)		
		No. of Project Sancd.	Amount Sancd.	Amount Released	No. of Project Sancd.	Amount Sancd.	Amount Released	No. of Project Sancd.	Amount Sancd.	Amount Released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2	507.50	195.00	6	946.50	896.44	16	2827.19	2240.68
2.	Assam	9	768.13	618.85	3	313.46	313.06	8	986.03	766.22
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	5	41.30	32.50	6	1044.60	700.00	9	1325.50	927.96
4.	Bihar	8	505.00	505.00	6	1019.42	913.89	7	1901.43	1527.71
5.	Chhattisgarh	9	308.00	98.50	6	1005.00	384.00	6	1117.94	897.93
6.	Goa	1	0.50	0.50	2	36.76	34.76	3	110.00	38.00
7.	Gujarat	2	197.12	59.13	8	920.51	815.82	2	138.93	111.14
8.	Haryana	8	332.25	311.00	16	1215.38	879.23	6	693.55	513.64
9.	Himachal Pradesh	30	779.32	760.38	4	182.32	85.00	12	2680.00	2161.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	3	94.38	89.47	5	895.00	895.00	5	819.25	699.04
11.	Jharkhand	0	0	0	2	1109.00	774.60	2	945.91	756.72
12.	Karnataka	6	902.49	625.49	14	932.68	792.51	12	2461.76	1937.37
13.	Kerala	11	861.36	829.86	6	608.50	564.15	10	2283.63	1820.33
14.	Madhya Pradesh	18	711.18	574.79	10	621.90	394.51	11	1595.19	942.21
15.	Maharashtra	8	623.46	546.25	10	931.83	914.58	10	1620.62	925.30
16.	Manipur	2	5.24	2.62	1	82.44	24.73	0	0.00	0.00
17.	Meghalaya	3	70.35	21.20	2	40.22	24.92	2	963.30	807.91
18.	Mizoram	6	141.16	48.46	5	567.70	186.75	6	1086.36	382.38
19.	Nagaland	5	360.50	323.43	4	711.00	220.80	7	2250.69	1413.40
20.	Orissa	2	47.50	15.75	5	419.55	138.50	8	1320.74	1059.38
21.	Punjab	3	23.00	14.60	2	96.00	12.30	7	724.68	581.47
22.	Rajasthan	13	1096.70	1096.20	14	1644.81	1414.25	13	2516.61	1375.07
23.	Sikkim	13	346.24	269.76	8	1151.09	681.49	8	680.81	531.33
24.	Tamil Nadu	5	559.00	316.10	14	1339.82	850.53	7	1308.92	705.83
25.	Tripura	5	216.13	67.78	6	4560.17	135.16	1	20.00	16.00
26.	Uttaranchal	3	548.00	418.00	4	230.44	203.94	7	2199.98	1750.73
27.	Uttar Pradesh	3	295.00	295.00	7	1115.80	916.26	9	1044.93	831.19
28.	West Bengal	5	201.10	60.00	10	717.44	384.34	10	513.04	407.43
29.	Andaman and Nicobar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
30.	Chandigarh	3	7.75	6.63	2	10.00	8.60	3	467.00	373.60
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2	8.07	6.46	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
32.	Delhi	14	504.00	449.02	17	3316.28	3222.13	8	628.85	511.00
33.	Daman and Diu	3	49.50	16.90	1	265.07	238.56	0	0.00	0.00
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	2	7.87	6.30	1	245.17	73.55	2	451.00	360.00
Total		212	11121.10	8680.93	207	24185.84	18073.76	217	37663.83	27371.97

Note-This includes the projects relating to Circuits, Destinations, Large Revenue Generating Projects, Rural Tourism (Software and Hardware)) Project, IT Event, Fair & Festivals Projects.

**Financial Assistance to Grain Processing Industries**

2679. SHRI K.C. PALANISAMY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is providing financial assistance for setting up modernization/expansion of grain processing industries which include milling of rice, wheat, pulses and oilseeds in various States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the financial assistance given to grain processing units in the country particularly in Tamil Nadu during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) Keeping in view little value addition, lesser perishability and primary nature of processing involved in grain milling sector, financial assistance to rice, flour and pulse milling has been discontinued w.e.f. 1.4.2004. However, the applications received by the State Nodal Agencies on or before 31.3.2004 are eligible for consideration on usual terms & conditions. A statement showing financial assistance sanctioned under the scheme to the FPI units including grain-processing units during last three years Statewise is enclosed.

**Statement**

*Details of financial assistance extended to FPI units under the Scheme for Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of FPI units*

(Rs. in lakh)

State/UT	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	124.74	485.57	797.67
Arunachal Pradesh	43.56	—	—
Assam	186.68	257.79	245.76
Bihar	—	—	25.32
Chhattisgarh	—	—	32.61
Delhi	—	—	2.50
Goa	—	17.00	25.00
Gujarat	27.41	165.85	262.15
Haryana	75.00	185.94	183.34
Himachal Pradesh	111.36	99.18	75.51
Jammu & Kashmir	111.22	108.78	74.78
Karnataka	41.85	151.49	425.32
Kerala	104.90	192.53	152.86
Madhya Pradesh	8.20	88.93	45.62
Maharashtra	239.95	529.03	778.67

1	2	3	4
Manipur	102.20	108.41	—
Meghalaya	19.10	—	12.14
Mizoram	—	110.50	12.30
Nagaland	—	40.75	—
Orissa	15.58	—	63.31
Pondicherry	—	—	24.54
Punjab	176.98	163.00	538.23
Rajasthan	—	86.00	35.83
Tamil Nadu	236.54	274.03	310.60
Tripura	63.00	33.07	—
Uttar Pradesh	119.14	263.19	591.76
Uttaranchal	—	5.37	87.88
West Bengal	163.54	132.96	325.74

*[Translation]*

**Funds to Pesticide Residue Testing Laboratory**

2680. SHRI BHANWAR SINGH DANGAWAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Rajasthan has demanded to sanction necessary amount for pesticide residue testing laboratory in Durgapur-Jaipur;

(b) if so, the amount likely to be sanctioned by the Government during 2005-06 in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) The Government of Rajasthan has submitted a proposal for strengthening and upgradation of State Pesticide Testing Laboratory, Jaipur at a cost of Rs. 3.93 crores for establishment of facilities for analysis of pesticide residues. There is no centrally sponsored scheme for the establishment of such facilities. However, the State Government is free to use the funds provided to it under

the Macro Management Scheme for setting up a pesticide residues testing laboratory.

*[English]*

**Export of Foodgrains**

2681. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it was decided in the past to associate State Trading Corporation, Minerals and Metals Corporation and Project Equipment Corporation as well as private exporters to export foodgrains after the export of foodgrains picked up;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Food Corporation of India (FCI) does not hold foodgrains much in excess of the quantity required in the country as was the case in 2000; and

(d) if so, the quantity of foodgrains held by FCI as on date and the quantity that is over and above the quantity required 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) and (b) Yes, Sir. The foodgrains export scheme with the three Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) i.e. State Trading Corporation (STC), Metals & Minerals Trading Corporation (MMTC) & Project & Equipment Corporation (PEC) started with a quantitative ceiling of 20 lakh MTs of wheat export for the year ending 31st March, 2001. However, as more Central and State

Government agencies started showing interest in entering the export scheme, the Government opened it to all parties including private parties, Cooperatives, Government undertakings and agencies and fixed a ceiling of 50 lakh MTs of wheat export, to begin with, for the Financial Year 2001-02.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The stock of wheat and rice as on 1st October, 2005 and 1st November, 2005 against the buffer stocking norms of 1st October, 2005 are as under:

(Fig. in Lakh MTs)

As on	Stock			Buffer Norms (As on 1st Oct.)		
	Wheat	Rice	Total	Wheat	Rice	Total
1.10.05	102.90	48.49	151.39	110	52	162
1.11.05	90.52	103.38	193.90	110	52	162

#### Promotion of Mamdlepuram as Tourist Circuit

2682. SHRI A.K. MOORTHY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to promote Mamdlepuram in Tamil Nadu as an important tourist circuit; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the assistance provided to the State Government for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) During the 10th Five Year Plan, the Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned the following projects for integrated development of Mamallapuram:

- (1) Development near the 5-Rathas (2002-03) for an amount of Rs. 299.93 lakhs
- (2) Development of Park near The Shore Temple (2002-03) for Rs. 328.58 lakhs
- (3) Dance Festival at Mamallapuram (2002-03) for Rs. 5.00 lakhs
- (4) Mahabalipuram Dance Festival (2003-04) for Rs. 15.00 lakhs

(5) Mahabalipuram Dance Festival (2004-05) for Rs. 15.00 lakhs

(6) Infrastructure and destination development of Mahabalipuram Phase-II (2004-05) for Rs. 432.00 lakhs

(7) Erection of signages in Mamallapuram (2004-05) for Rs. 5.92 lakhs.

#### Quantitative Restriction of Agriculture Sector

2683. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been conducted by the Ministry or any agency concerned about the reflection of the lifting of quantitative restriction on agriculture sector particularly with regard to commercial and perennial crops;

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

(c) the total amount spent in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken to protect farmers from the price fall?

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) There has been no comprehensive study on the impact of liberalized imports of agricultural products on Indian Agriculture. However, some quick sectoral studies have been conducted to analyze the likely impact of liberalized imports on edible oils. The studies suggest that formulation of policies in respect of calibration of import duties on edible oils, application of new technology to increase production and productivity in oil sector and provision of marketing support to oilseed farmers should be linked to the Indian proposals in the WTO Agriculture negotiations. Recently the Government has brought out a study entitled 'State of the Indian Farmer: A Millennium Study', as a part of which "Globalization and Agricultural Liberalization in India" has also been studied. Based on various measures of import and export competitiveness, the study concludes that most of the important agricultural commodities in India are competitive and that India can withstand competition from abroad with respect to the import of most of the crops, at the current levels of tariffs. No specific study has been conducted regarding the impact on perennial crops.

(c) The total amount spent on the Phase-I of the Millennium Studies, which included study on "Globalization and Agricultural Liberalization" along with 26 other studies was Rs. 158.18 lakhs.

(d) In order to ensure that the farmers of the country are not put to any hardship, the Government has put in place a suitable mechanism for monitoring the import of sensitive items and provides protection to the domestic producers by resorting to various WTO compatible measures which include appropriate calibration of applied tariffs within the bound levels and safeguard action under certain specified circumstances. As a sequel to these measures, import duties on a number of items including edible oils (both crude and refined), tea, coffee, copra and coconut, wheat, rice, maize, pulses, spices, arecanut, apple and cut flowers have been increased in the last 5 years. Further, the Government also implements a number of development programmes to increase the competitiveness of the Indian farmer. These include introduction of improved farming technology, improved availability of inputs including water, credit and fertilizer and price support through the Minimum Support Price (MSP) scheme and Market Intervention Scheme (MIS).

#### Poor Quality of Foodgrains in PDS

2684. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the foodgrains being supplied through Public Distribution System (PDS) are of poor quality; and

(b) if so, whether any action has been taken by the Government to check the distribution of poor quality foodgrains through 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) No, Sir. Only good quality foodgrains are supplied to State Governments/UT Administrations for distribution under Public Distribution System (PDS). However, in case of any specific complaint regarding quality of foodgrains being issued to State Governments or distributed through PDS, Food Corporation of India/ concerned State Government is asked to investigate the matter and take remedial measures including action against the delinquent(s) apart from ensuring supply of only good quality foodgrains under PDS. The following steps have been taken by the Government to ensure that only good quality foodgrains are distributed under PDS:

1. Ample opportunities are provided to the officials of the State Governments/UT Administrations to inspect the stocks prior to lifting from the Food Corporation of India (FCI) godowns.
2. Instructions have been issued to all the State Governments/UT Administrations that an officer not below the rank of Inspector should be deputed to check the quality of foodgrains before lifting from the FCI godowns.
3. The samples of foodgrains are jointly drawn and sealed by the officers of the State Governments/UT Administrations and the FCI during the issue of stocks from FCI godowns for display at the counters of Fair Price Shops (FPSs).
4. The officers of the State Governments and this Ministry pay surprise checks to the FPSs, the over see the quality of foodgrains being distributed through TPDS.

5. The officers of this Ministry designated as 'Area Officers' for monitoring the TPDS work in the respective States/UTs also undertake visits to the storage depots and the FPSs, during their visit to the States/UTs to check the quality of foodgrains being issued.

#### **Violation of Government Norms by EPFO**

2685. SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Director General of the Audit Department has found out serious flaws in Employees Provident Fund Organizations accounting procedures; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) In accordance with Section 5A(6) of the Act, every year, the accounts are audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India and subsequently submitted to the Central Government for being placed before the Parliament after adoption by the Central Board as provided in Para 74 of the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme, 1952.

The Director General of Audit has made some observations regarding the manner of depiction of certain accounting heads, which is being followed by the EPFO over a period of time and as per the approved format of accounts. Acceptance of the observations made by the Audit will require prior approval of the Central Government and the C&AG of India, as it will result in changes in the present format of final accounts of EPFO. However, the overall system of accounting of EPFO is proposed to undergo a change from 'Cash Basis' (being followed in the Government as SINGLE entry Accounting System) to 'Accrual Basis' (converting to Double Entry Accounting System) under the 'Re-inventing EPF India Project' and after its implementation, various observations made in the audit would be addressed accordingly.

#### **Rationed Items at Controlled Price**

2686. SHRI VIRCHANDRA PASWAN:  
SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:  
SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY:  
SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:

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

(a) whether persons living Below Poverty Line are not provided rationed foodgrains and kerosene oil at controlled rates from Fair Price Shops and Kerosene Oil depots forcing them to purchase the same from open market;

(b) if so, the number of cases detected during the last three years, year-wise and state-wise;

(c) the action taken against those responsible;

(d) whether the subsidized foodgrains and kerosene oil are being sold in the black market;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the total quantum of subsidized foodgrains and kerosene seized from the black market during the last three years, year-wise and 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 (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Production of Pepper**

2687. SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE:  
SHRI P.C. THOMAS:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether production of pepper has gone down in the country;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to launch a Pepper Technology Mission and Rejuvenation Programme in pepper growing areas of the country; and

(d) the measures proposed to be taken to enhance production of pepper in the country?

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

The production of black pepper during the current year (2005-06) is expected to decrease due to delayed and heavy monsoon. The production of black pepper during the last three years is given below:

Year	Production (tonnes)
2002-03	71,568
2003-04*	73,315
2004-05*	72,662

\*Provisional

(c) and (d) There is no proposal under consideration of Government for launching pepper technology mission. Under the National Horticulture Mission, Government has decided to rejuvenate 81100 hectare area under horticulture crops including pepper at the cost of Rs. 142.95 crore during current financial year. To meet the growing demand for planting material, Government is encouraging production of nucleus planting material of high yielding varieties and export oriented varieties of black pepper specific to different agro climatic conditions and their further multiplication and distribution through State Department nurseries and other selected private nurseries. Other programmes include replanting senile vines, curing and drying unit, vermin compost preparation, integrated pest management, organic farming etc.

[*Translation*]

### Vegetable Oil Producing Units

2688. SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:  
SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE:

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

(a) the number of vegetable oil producing units in the country particularly Maharashtra, State-wise;

(b) the production capacity alongwith the total production of these units;

(c) the number of such units which have closed down during the last three years and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to revive these units?

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) Consequent upon de-licensing of vegetable oil industry w.e.f. 25.7.1991, no precise figure about the number of vegetable oil producing units in the country is available. According to available information, details about number of vanaspati units and solvent extraction plants along with annual installed capacity at present and production for 2004-05 have been estimated as under:

	Vanaspati Units			Solvent Extraction Plants		
	No. of units	Annual installed capacity (in lakh tonnes)	Production (in lakh tonnes)	No. of units	Annual installed capacity (in lakh tonnes)	Production (in lakh tonnes)
All India	259	50	11	711	312	17
Maharashtra	27	6.6	1	75	54	3

(c) There are 115 vanaspati units and 173 solvent extraction plants lying closed at present. The closure of large number of units/plants was/is on accounts of various factors, such as creation of production capacity not commensurate with availability of raw materials, obsolete technology, poor economies of scale, shift in consumer preference towards soft oils, competition from cheaper duty-free imports from Nepal and Sri Lanka under Free Trade Agreement, etc.

(d) Steps taken by the Government to improve the health of vegetable oil industry include:

(i) Import of oilseeds/edible oils except copra/coconut oil has been allowed on OGL.

(ii) Import duty on certain vegetable oils of edible grade intended for manufacture of refined oil/vanaspati is levied at a concessional rate.

- (iii) Import duty on certain crude vegetable oils of edible grade has been kept low as compared to refined oils to facilitate raw material availability.
- (iv) Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) is in place to augment the production and productivity of oilseeds.
- (v) In order to encourage production of solvent extracted oils in the country and to promote export of extractions, excise duty on food grade hexane has been reduced from 32% to 16%.
- (vi) Sick industrial units are allowed to register with the BIFR for rehabilitation.

*[English]*

#### **Child Labour in Hazardous Work**

2689. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of children below the age of fourteen years who are engaged in labour work in the country;
- (b) the number out of them engaged in hazardous work;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to attract such child labourers to schools or other informal centres of education; and
- (d) the number of child labourers attending such schools or centres?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) Census conducted by the Registrar General of India on decadal basis, is the only authentic data in respect of population of child labour in the country. As per the Census of 2001, the total number of working children in the age group of 5-14 years is 1.26 crore. Census data, however, does not make any distinction between hazardous and non-hazardous work.

(c) The Government is implementing the Scheme of National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs) in 250 districts of 21 States in the country. Under the scheme of NCLP, special schools/rehabilitation centres are set up, which

provide following facilities to the children withdrawn from employment.

- Formal/Non-formal education;
- Vocational Training
- Supplementary Nutrition @ 5/- per child
- Stipend @ 100/- per month to the children withdrawn from employment
- Health care facilities

(d) Under the scheme of NCLP 1,82,693 children withdrawn from employment are attending the special schools/centres.

*[Translation]*

#### **Closure of CCI**

2690. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:  
SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA:  
SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:  
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:  
SHRI MUNSHI RAM:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to sell of some units of Cement Corporation of India (CCI);
- (b) if so, the details and reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the production has been stopped in those units;
- (d) if so, the estimated loss incurred due to closure of such units during each of the last three years, unit-wise;
- (e) whether any profit is being earned by the functional units; and
- (f) if so, the details of the profits earned by these units during each of the last three years, unit-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and

(b) On the directions of Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction, a Draft Rehabilitation Scheme (DRS) for Cement Corporation of India has been prepared by the Operating Agency, namely the Industrial Finance Corporation of India Ltd. The DRS, inter-alia, proposes closure and assets sale of seven non-operating units i.e. Mandhar (Chhattisgarh), Kurkunta (Karnataka), Nayagaon (Madhya Pradesh), Akaltara (Chhattisgarh), Charkhi Dadri (Haryana), Adilabad (Andhra Pradesh) and Delhi Grinding Unit (New Delhi) and the utilization of funds so generated for revival of CCI including improvement in functioning of the three functional units i.e. Bokajan (Assam), Rajban (Himachal Pradesh) and Tandur (Andhra Pradesh).

(c) 7 units of CCI became non-operational as follows:

Mandhar (Chhattisgarh)	06.06.1996
Kurkunta (Karnataka)	01.11.1998
Nayagaon (Madhya Pradesh)	30.06.1997
Akaltara (Chhattisgarh)	09.12.1996
Charkhi Dadri (Haryana)	14.08.1996
Adilabad (Andhra Pradesh)	05.11.1998
Delhi Grinding Unit (New Delhi)	08.02.1999

(d) The net loss of the seven non-operative units during the last three years is as under:

(Rs. in crores)

Name of the Unit	2004-05	2003-04	2002-03
Mandhar	14.12	6.18	14.18
Kurkunta	12.19	2.89	13.07
Nayagaon	17.70	8.58	17.89
Akaltara	29.35	10.35	30.41
Charkhi Dadri	12.94	4.99	12.89
Adilabad	25.19	7.60	23.76
Delhi Grinding Unit	31.22	24.07	68.58

(e) and (f) The details of operating profit/loss of the three functional units during the last three years is as under:

(Rs. in crores)

Name of the Unit	2004-05	2003-04	2002-03
Bokajan	2.49	1.73	3.06
Rajban	1.18	(-)2.10	(-)0.08
Tandur	4.62	29.81	3.45

[English]

#### Value Addition to Raw Products

2691. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite world's largest producers of food, India fares poorly in terms of value addition to its raw products in the food processing industry; and

(b) if so, the measures being taken by the Government to get more value addition to its raw products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) As per the Report of M/s. Rabo India Finance Pvt. Ltd, value addition to raw products in the Food Processing Industries in the country is estimated at about 20%. Government has formulated and implemented several Plan Schemes to provide financial assistance for establishment and modernization of food processing units, creation of infrastructure, support for R&D, human resource development besides other promotional measures to encourage development of food processing industries. Recently in 2004-05 in order to give boost to growth of FPI sector the Government has allowed under Income Tax Act, a deduction of 100% of profit for five years and 25% of profits for the next five years in case of new agro processing industries set up to process, preserve and package fruits and vegetables. There is no excise duty on processed fruits & vegetable products. Excise duty of 16% on dairy machinery has been fully waived for promotion of dairy processing industries. Excise duty on meat, poultry and fish products has been reduced from 16% to 8%. A National Horticulture Mission has been launched w.e.f. 1st April 2005 with an objective to boost the horticulture sector. In the Budget of 2005-06 excise duty of Rs. 1.00 per kg on refined edible oil and Rs. 1.25 per kg on vanaspati was

abolished. Customs duty on refrigerated vans was reduced from 20% to 10%. Assistance is also provided to the FPI units to obtain ISO/HACCP certification so as to match with global standards in quality and food safety.

#### Closure of MECON Ltd.

2692. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to close the MECON Limited;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of employees who sought retirement under the voluntary retirement schemes during each of the last three years;

(d) the outstanding debts to be recovered from the customers as on October 31, 2005; and

(e) the volume of outstanding loans to be refunded to the bank/FIs by the company as on date?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) The number of employees who opted for retirement under the voluntary retirement scheme during each of the last three years is as follows:

Year	No. of employees
2002	400
2003	454
2004	87

(d) The outstanding debt to be recovered from clients as on October 31, 2005 was of the order of Rs. 74.00 crores.

(e) The volume of outstanding loans to be refunded to the banks/FIs/Government as on November 30, 2005 is as follows:

Financial Institutions (FIs)	Rs. 142 crore
Banks	Rs. 87.77 crore
Loan from Government	Rs. 7.72 crore

#### Recommendations of BRPSE

2693. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:  
SHRI UDAY SINGH:

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

(a) whether the Government has constituted a Committee of Secretaries to speed up the revival of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) which have been cleared by Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE);

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

(c) the details of PSUs which are sick and to be revived;

(d) whether any time bound programme has been chalked out for this purpose; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) In October 2005, Government has decided that the recommendations of Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) made till date be looked into by a Committee of Secretaries.

(c) to (e) Based on the information as on 31.3.2004, 92 PSEs (including subsidiaries of NTC) were identified as sick PSEs requiring reference to BRPSE. The Administrative Ministries/Departments are responsible for preparing comprehensive package on the revival of sick PSEs under their control after consulting all stakeholders and refer them to BRPSE and till date 40 cases of sick PSEs have been referred to BRPSE. BRPSE, which is expected to make recommendations within two months from the date of receipt of complete proposal from the administrative Ministries/Departments, had given its recommendations in respect of 24 cases of sick PSEs. The names of these 24 PSEs are given in the enclosed Statement. The administrative Ministries/Departments have been requested to process the recommendations of BRPSE for obtaining the approval of the competent authority within 8 weeks of the receipt of the recommendations of BRPSE. Government has approved the proposals in respect of 8 cases.

**Statement***List of PSEs whose revival/rehabilitation of closure/winding up proposals have been cleared by BRPSE*

Sl.No.	Name of the CPSE	Name of the Ministry/Department
1.	Hindustan Salts Ltd.	Deptt. of Heavy Industry
2.	Bridge & Roof Co. (India) Ltd.	Deptt. of Heavy Industry
3.	BBJ Construction Col. Ltd.	Deptt. of Heavy Industry
4.	Tyre Corporation of India Ltd.	Deptt. of Heavy Industry
5.	British India Corporation Ltd.	Ministry of Textiles
6.	National Textiles Corporation Ltd. & its subsidiaries	Ministry of Textiles
7.	Madras Fertilizers Ltd.	Deptt. of Fertilizers
8.	HMT Bearings Ltd.	Deptt. of Heavy Industry
9.	Praga Tools Ltd.	Deptt. of Heavy Industry
10.	Braithwaite & Company Ltd.	Deptt. of Heavy Industry
11.	NEPA Ltd.	Deptt. of Heavy Industry
12.	Richardson & Cruddas Ltd.	Deptt. of Heavy Industry
13.	Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Ltd.	Deptt. of Shipping
14.	Tungabhadra Steel Products Ltd.	Deptt. of Heavy Industry
15.	Bharat Wagon & Engineering Co. Ltd.	Deptt. of Heavy Industry
16.	Bharat Pumps & Compressors Ltd.	Deptt. of Heavy Industry
17.	Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd.	Deptt. of Chemicals & Petrochemicals
18.	Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	Ministry of Coal
19.	Cement Corporation of India Ltd.	Deptt. of Heavy Industry
20.	Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Ltd.	Deptt. of Heavy Industry
21.	HMT Machine Tools Ltd.	Deptt. of Heavy Industry
22.	Heavy Engineering Corporation Ltd.	Deptt. of Heavy Industry
23.	Hindustan Organic Chemicals Ltd.	Deptt. of Chemicals & Petrochemicals
24.	Hindustan Insecticides Ltd.	Deptt. of Chemicals & Petrochemicals

In respect of the CPSEs mentioned against S.No. 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9 & 13, the revival proposals have been approved by the Government.

**Revival of Hindustan Cables Ltd.**

2694. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is actively considering to revive the Hindustan Cables Ltd. (HCL);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken any step to protect the interests of the employees who might get affected due to revival;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the likely time by which the revival process would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (e) Hindustan Cables Ltd. (HCL) was referred to the BIFR in 2002. The Operating Agency appointed by the BIFR has since submitted a report on restructuring of HCL. Subsequently studies by IIT Kharagpur and Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) have also been conducted.

A proposal regarding the future of HCL has been prepared on the basis of all the above mentioned reports and has been placed before the Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE). The recommendation of the BRPSE is awaited. The Government will take a decision on the future of HCL after the recommendations of the BRPSE are available. However, interest of the employees of the company will

be protected as per extant laws and relevant instructions on the subject.

*[Translation]*

**Recommendations of BRPSE**

2695. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO:  
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

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

(a) the number of meetings held after the constitution of Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE);

(b) the number of cases disposed of in the aforesaid meetings along with the details thereof;

(c) the decision taken by the Government on the recommendations of the Board; and

(d) the details of the recommendation not accepted by the Government along with the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) After its constitution in December 2004, BRPSE has held 26 meetings till November 2005 and given its recommendations in respect of 24 cases of sick PSEs. The names of these PSEs are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) Based on the recommendations of BRPSE, Government has approved the revival proposals in respect of 8 cases of sick PSEs.

***Statement***

*List of PSEs whose revival/rehabilitation of closure/winding up proposals have been cleared by BRPSE*

Sl.No.	Name of the CPSE	Name of the Ministry/Department
1	2	3
1.	Hindustan Salts Ltd.	Deptt. of Heavy Industry
2.	Bridge & Roof Co. (India) Ltd.	Deptt. of Heavy Industry
3.	BBJ Construction Col. Ltd.	Deptt. of Heavy Industry
4.	Tyre Corporation of India Ltd.	Deptt. of Heavy Industry



1	2	3
5.	British India Corporation Ltd.	Ministry of Textiles
6.	National Textiles Corporation Ltd. & its subsidiaries	Ministry of Textiles
7.	Madras Fertilizers Ltd.	Deptt. of Fertilizers
8.	HMT Bearings Ltd.	Deptt. of Heavy Industry
9.	Praga Tools Ltd.	Deptt. of Heavy Industry
10.	Braithwaite & Company Ltd.	Deptt. of Heavy Industry
11.	NEPA Ltd.	Deptt. of Heavy Industry
12.	Richardson & Cruddas Ltd.	Deptt. of Heavy Industry
13.	Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Ltd.	Deptt. of Shipping
14.	Tungabhadra Steel Products Ltd.	Deptt. of Heavy Industry
15.	Bharat Wagon & Engineering Co. Ltd.	Deptt. of Heavy Industry
16.	Bharat Pumps & Compressors Ltd.	Deptt. of Heavy Industry
17.	Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd.	Deptt. of Chemicals & Petrochemicals
18.	Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	Ministry of Coal
19.	Cement Corporation of India Ltd.	Deptt. of Heavy Industry
20.	Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Ltd.	Deptt. of Heavy Industry
21.	HMT Machine Tools Ltd.	Deptt. of Heavy Industry
22.	Heavy Engineering Corporation Ltd.	Deptt. of Heavy Industry
23.	Hindustan Organic Chemicals Ltd.	Deptt. of Chemicals & Petrochemicals
24.	Hindustan Insecticides Ltd.	Deptt. of Chemicals & Petrochemicals

In respect of the CPSEs mentioned against S.No. 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9 & 13, the revival proposals have been approved by the Government.

[English]

#### Production Capacity of BHEL

2696. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to expand the production capacity of Bharat Heavy Electrical Limited (BHEL);

(b) if so, the details alongwith the funds allocated for the purpose;

(c) the time by which the expansion process of BHEL will be completed; and

(d) the details of orders received by BHEL during 2004-05 and 2005-06, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The annual manufacturing capacity is

proposed to be expanded from present 6000 MW to 10000 MW by 2007 with internal resources of the Company.

(d) BHEL received orders of Rs. 18230 crore during 2004-05 and Rs. 6099 crore for 2005-06 till November, 2005.

*[Translation]*

#### **Handing Over of Iron Mines**

2697. SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain State Governments are handing over iron mines to private companies ignoring the public enterprises like Steel Authority of India Limited;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the criteria for allotment of Chirya mines to Pohang Iron and Steel Company (POSCO) in Orissa and Mittal Steel in Jharkhand;

(d) whether any irregularity has been found in handing over iron mine to POSCO and Mittal Steel Companies; and

(e) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

*[English]*

#### **Mining Lease of Iron Ore Block**

2698. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether difficulties are being faced by States in getting mining lease of iron ore block from other States;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to take action to ensure uninterrupted supply of iron ore from any State;

(c) if so, whether the Government is considering to review the existing mining policy in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the manner in which the problem is likely to be solved?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Lok Sabha.

#### **Establishment of Bulk Milk Cooler Centre**

2699. SHRI M. SHIVANNA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has given an assurance to provide Rs. 6.5 crores to set up a Bulk Milk Cooler Centre at Chamaraja Nagara, Karnataka; and

(b) if so, the time by which said centre 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) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### **Cultivation of Rajma**

2700. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether cultivation of Rajma in the country has declined during the last two years;

(b) if so, the manner in which shortage of Rajma is met;

(c) the quantity of Rajma imported, if any, from China during the last year; and

(d) the details of the initiatives taken by the Government to encourage cultivation of Rajma in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC

DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Rajma being a minor pulse crop, the data relating to area under its cultivation and production in the country are not being maintained.

(c) The country imported 17283 tonnes of Rajma including white pea and beans from China during 2004-05.

(d) Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Integrated Scheme for Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) from 1st April, 2004 for increasing production and productivity of pulses including Rajma and to make the country self sufficient in pulses production in major pulses growing states in the country.

Under the Scheme, the financial assistance is provided for purchase of breeder seed, production of foundation seed, production and distribution of certified seed, distribution of minikits, infrastructure development, block demonstrations on improved technology, Polythene Mulch Technology and Integrated Pest Management Technology, distribution of Plant Protection Chemicals, Plant protection equipments, weedicides, supply of Rhizobium culture/Phosphate Solubilising Bacteria, distribution of gypsum/pyrite/liming/dolomite, distribution of sprinkler sets, pipes for carrying water from water source to the field, and publicity, etc to encourage farmers to cultivate pulses including Rajma in large scale. Besides, to transfer improved production and protection technologies among the farmers, front line demonstrations are being conducted through Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

[English]

#### Import of Rice

2701. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement has been made with Myanmar (Burma) for import of rice to augment stocks and strengthen Public Distribution System in the North Eastern States;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the quantum of rice to be imported;

(c) whether the said agreements have not been implemented till date;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) by when 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 (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) In view of close and friendly relations with Myanmar and the suggestions of Ministry of External Affairs, a proposal of Ministry of Commerce & Industry, was approved by the Cabinet on 5th May 2000 to import 50,000 MTs of rice from Myanmar.

(c) and (d) implementation of the decision was delayed because of poor infrastructure facilities such as weigh bridge and godowns for storage at the Moreh border. Later on, during the 1st Joint Trade Committee (JTC) meeting held in Yangon on 15.7.2003, Myanmar informed that their government had introduced a new rice trading policy, and as per this policy, sale/purchase of rice was no longer with the government and that it had been transferred to the private sector. It was, therefore, no longer possible for the Myanmar Government to sell 50,000 MTs rice to India. In view of the above, Cabinet approved a proposal on 23.10.2003 for revoking the earlier decision taken on 5th May 2000 to import 50,000 MTs rice from Myanmar.

(e) Does not arise in view of (c) and (d)

[Translation]

#### Use of Foreign Embassies by Ministries to Promote Tourism

2702. SHRI RAKESH SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to promote tourism through Indian embassies; and

(b) if so, the manner in which the Government proposes to make use of these embassies and to boost tourism in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Though there is no specific scheme for promoting tourism through Indian Embassies, promotional activities

undertaken by the India tourism Offices overseas are in coordination with the Indian Missions abroad. Joint promotional efforts are initiated with the Embassies from time to time and support is extended to the Indian Embassies in their promotional activities related to tourism which include advertising, participation in fairs and exhibitions, organizing India seminars, workshops, food festivals and road shows, publication of brochures, joint advertising support and inviting media personalities, tour operators and opinion makers to visit the country under the Hospitality Programme of the Ministry.

#### **Improvement of Livestock and Cow Progeny in Madhya Pradesh**

2703. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of centrally sponsored schemes being implemented in Madhya Pradesh for improvement of livestock and cow progeny;

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

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) For improvement of livestock and cow progeny in Madhya Pradesh, the Union Government is implementing the following centrally sponsored schemes: (i) National Project for Cattle & Buffalo Breeding, (ii) Assistance to State Poultry/Duck Farms, (iii) Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases, (iv) National Project on Rinderpest Eradication.

(b) and (c) The details of the schemes being implemented by the Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) in regard to scientific research in veterinary field in the State are given in the enclosed Statement.

#### **Statement**

Madhya Pradesh

AICRP/Network

1. AICRP on Improvement of Feed Resources and Nutrient Utilisation in raising Animal Production, JNKVV, Jabalpur.

2. AICRP on Poultry Breeding, JNKVV, Jabalpur.
3. AICRP on Pigs, JNKVV, Jabalpur.

Ad-hoc Schemes

1. Genetic characterization of Desi, Kadaknath and Assels breed of chicken using DNA fingerprinting and random Amplified polymorphic DNA markers in Madhya Pradesh, JNKVV, Jabalpur.
2. Systematic survey and genetic characterization of Kadaknath breed of poultry using specific microsatellite DNA markers in Madhya Pradesh, JNKVV, Jabalpur.
3. Evaluation of draftability and related physio-biochemical changes in Malvi and Nimari bullocks of Madhya Pradesh, JNKVV, Jabalpur.
4. Immunophysiological assessment of neonatal buffalo calves to explore the cause of high mortality, JNKVV, Jabalpur.
5. Survey, Evaluation and characterization of Kenkatha Breed of cattle, JNKVV, Jabalpur.

Note:

AICRP—All India Coordinated Research Project

JNKVV—Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya

DNAA—Deoxy-ribose Nucleic Acid

#### **Pending Water Projects of Andhra Pradesh**

2704. SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any project proposals of Water Resources from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for clearance;

(b) if so, the details of such projects;

(c) the names of water projects of the State which were proposed to be sanctioned during the current year; and

(d) the time by which rest of the projects are likely to be sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER

RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) Out of 31 irrigation/multipurpose project proposals received from Government of Andhra Pradesh, 15 irrigation/multipurpose projects are under various stages of appraisal and 16 irrigation projects have been techno-economically accepted by the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources subject to compliance of certain observations. The details of these 31 projects are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The Planning Commission has accorded investment clearance for the Flood Flow Canal Project (major) from Sriram Sagar Project (High Level Canal Project) on 8th December, 2005.

(d) The time taken for investment clearance of projects depends upon the promptness with which the State Government arrange satisfactory compliance to the observations of Central appraising agencies.

**Statement**

*Pending Water Projects of Andhra Pradesh*

Sl.No.	Name of Projects	Major/ Medium	River/ Basin	District Benefitted	Date of Receipt	Benefits (Th.ha.)	Estt. Cost (Rs. Cr.)	Category
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Nettampadu Lift Irrigation Scheme	Major	Krishna	Mahaboob Nagar	11/2000	10.926	134.30	A
2.	Kalwa Kurthi Lift Irrigation Scheme	Major	Krishna	Mahaboob Nagar	11/2000	20.234	380.00	A
3.	Sriramsagar Stage-II	Major	Godavari	Warangal Nalgonda Khammam Adilabad	2/2004 & 5/2004	178.07	1000.00	A
4.	Godavari Lift Irrigation Scheme (Devadula)	Major	Godavari	Warangal, Nalgonda, Karim Nagar & Medak	10/2004	285.724	5216.34	A
5.	Gollavagu Reservoir	Medium	Gollavagu/ Godavari	Adilabad	6/2001	3.845	39.58	A
6.	Rallivagu Reservoir	Medium	Rallivagu/ Godavari	Adilabad	9/2001	2.430	26.75	A
7.	Nilwai Reservoir	Medium	Peddavagu/ Godavari	Adilabad	9/2001	5.260	48.90	A
8.	Mathadivagu Reservoir Project	Medium	Mathadivagu/ Godavari	Adilabad	05/2002	3.440	26.44	A
9.	Janjhavathi Project	Medium	Janjhavathi/ Nagavali	Vizia-Nagaram	01/2002	9.970	121.0	A

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10.	Musurumilli Reservoir Project	Medium	Seethapallivagu/ Godavari	East Godavari	August 2002	13.961	164.58	A
11.	Pushkara Lift Irrigation Scheme	Major	Godavari	East Godavari	August 2005	75.23	298.00	A
12.	Argula Rajaram Guthpa Lift Irrigation Scheme	Major	Godavari	Nizamabad	October 2005	15.699	211.45	A
13.	Tadipudi Lift Irrigation	Major	Godavari	West Godavari	October 2005	83.599	355.08	A
14.	Alisagar Lift Irrigation	Major	Godavari	Nizamabad	October 2005	21.770	223.56	A
15.	Indira Sagar (Polavaram) Multipurpose Project.	Major	Godavari	East Godavari, West Godavari, Krishna	October 2005	291.114	9071.82	A
16.	Thotapally Barrage	Major	Nagavali/ Nagavali	Vizianagaram & Srikakulam	9/2001	48.563 (New) 25.90 (Existing)	462.00	B
17.	Pulichintala Irrigation Project	Major	Krishna	Guntur Krishna Prakasham West Godavari	7/93	575	506.20	B
18.	Krishna Delta System Modernisation	Major	Krishna	Guntur Krishna Prakashan West Godavari	1/96	575	659.16	B
19.	Bhima Lift Irrigation	Major	Bhima/ Krishna	Mahboob Nagar	1/96	83.78	744.00	B
20.	Jurala	Major	Krishna	Mahboobnagar	9/80	47.84	545.92	B
21.	Vamsadhara Project Stage II (Neradi Barrage)	Major	Vamsadhara	Srikakulam	5/83	50.958	275.74	B

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
22.	Pedderu Reservoir	Medium	East Flowing/ Sardar	Vishakhapatnam	9/91	6.46	26.23	B
23.	Palemvagu	Medium	Palemvagu/ Godavari	Khammam	5/88	6.23	29.13	B
24.	Valligallu Reservoir	Medium	Papagni/Pennar	Cuddapah	02/2000	9.715	143.67	B
25.	Yerravagu	Medium	Yerravagu/ Godavari	Adilabad	3/99	4.46	31.28	B
26.	Suddavagu	Medium	Suddavagu/ Godavari	Adilabad	3/99	5.66	56.48	B
27.	Peddavagu	Medium	Peddavagu/ Godavari	Adilabad	8/99	9.915	202.60	B
28.	Surampalem Res. Scheme	Medium	Burdakalva/ Godavari	East Godavari	10/99	4.88	46.70	B
29.	Surampalem Phase-II	Medium	Burdakalva/ Godavari	East Godavari	7/2000	5.12	49.50	B
30.	Bhupatipalem	Medium	Seethapalli/ Godavari	East Godavari	7/2000	5.419	47.23	B
31.	Peddagedda Reservoir Project	Medium	Vegavati/ Nagavali	Vizianagaram	01/2002	4.858	32.11	B

A—Project under various stages of appraisal

B—Project accepted by the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources subject to certain observations.

[English]

#### Assessment of Water Requirement

2705. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made any assessment of water requirement in various sectors;

(b) if so, the estimated water requirement in agricultural, industrial and domestic sectors, separately;

(c) the present water utilization, sector-wise; and

(d) the details of the plan to create additional storage capacity of water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c) The National Commission for Integrated Water Resources Development Plan in its Report has made an assessment for water requirement for various sectors. As per the report, the estimated annual water requirement for various sectors are as under.

Quantity in Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) per year

Sl.No.	Uses	Year		
		1998	2025	2050
1.	Irrigation	524	611	807
2.	Domestic	30	62	111
3.	Industries	30	67	81
4.	Power	9	33	70
5.	Inland Navigation	0	10	15
6.	Environment-Ecology	0	10	20
7.	Evaporation Losses	36	50	76
Total		629	843	1180

(d) State Governments conceive, plan and implement major, medium & minor schemes for utilisation of water resources. Storage capacity of about 213 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) has been created so far. As per present assessment, the total estimated storage capacity of the various projects under construction is about 76 BCM and that for the projects under formulation is about 108 BCM.

[Translation]

**Gap between Organised and Unorganised Labourers**

2706. SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD ALIAS SADHU  
YADAV:  
KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH:

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

(a) whether international Labour Organization (ILO) has expressed its concern over the widening gap between the labourers of organized and unorganized sectors in India;

(b) if so, the measures adopted by the Government to narrowing this gap;

(c) whether the ILO has also emphasized the need to improve the working conditions and facilities of labourers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) and (c) No, Sir. No specific study has been carried out by the ILO.

(b) and (d) To bridge the gap between the labourers of organized and unorganized sectors and improve the working and living conditions of the unorganized sector workers is a matter of priority concern of the Government of India. For the benefit of the unorganized sector workers, the government has constituted welfare funds to provide social security/welfare measures, implements various poverty alleviation employment generation schemes provides health insurance cover for workers living below the poverty line. The Government also constituted a National Commission for the Enterprises in the unorganized sector to examine the problems facing enterprises in the unorganized sector.

[English]

**Capacity of Godowns of CWC**

2707. DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total capacity of godowns of Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) in the country, State-wise;



(b) whether the Government has received any proposals from some State Governments for opening new godowns of CWC;

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

(d) whether the existing godowns are inadequate for storing foodgrains in the State of Gujarat; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to increase the capacity of godowns for providing adequate storage capacity for foodgrains and sugar in Gujarat?

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 total storage capacity available with Central Warehousing Corporation as on 01.11.2005 is 101.79 lakh M.T. The State-wise break-up is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

**Statement**

*State-wise Total Storage Capacity of Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) as on 01.11.2005*

(in lakh M.T.)

Sl.No.	Name of the State/U.T.	Total storage capacity
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.03
2.	Andhra Pradesh	13.57
3.	Assam	0.65
4.	Bihar	1.02
5.	Chandigarh	0.14
6.	Chhattisgarh	2.30
7.	Delhi	1.49

1	2	3
8.	Goa	0.55
9.	Gujarat	5.97
10.	Haryana	4.98
11.	Himachal Pradesh	0.07
12.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.16
13.	Jharkhand	0.35
14.	Karnataka	4.65
15.	Kerala	1.21
16.	Madhya Pradesh	6.90
17.	Maharashtra	16.63
18.	Nagaland	0.13
19.	Orissa	1.89
20.	Pondicherry	0.15
21.	Punjab	6.97
22.	Rajasthan	5.50
23.	Tamilnadu	6.93
24.	Tripura	0.24
25.	Uttar Pradesh	11.75
26.	Uttaranchal	0.76
27.	West Bengal	6.80
Total		101.79

[Translation]

**Water Projects of North-Eastern Region**

2708. SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI:  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of water projects being undertaken in the North-Eastern Region by the Union Government at present alongwith the cost involved therein;

(b) whether several water projects of the North East are lying incomplete due to non-response of the Bangladesh Government; and

(c) if so, the details of such projects alongwith the steps initiated for completion thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The water projects undertaken by Government of India in North Eastern region are as under:

**(1) Projects undertaken by Brahmaputra Board.**

- (i) Pagladiya Dam Project, (Estimated Cost=Rs. 1069.40 crore).
- (ii) Dholla-Hatigull-Phase II (Estimated Cost: Rs. 4.16 crore).
- (iii) Protection of Kushiabil and Durgajan village at Dimapur Phase I (Estimated Cost Rs. 0.85 crore).
- (iv) Barbhag Drainage Development Scheme (Estimated Cost Rs. 7.23 crore).
- (v) Protection of Majuli Island from flood and erosion-Phase I (Estimated Cost=Rs. 41.28 crore).

**(2) Hydropower Projects undertaken by Government of India**

- (i) Subansiri Lower  
(Installed Capacity=2000 MW, Estimated Cost=Rs. 6285.33 crore).
- (ii) Kameng  
(Installed Capacity=600 MW, Estimated Cost=Rs. 2496.90 crore).
- (iii) Loktak D/S  
(Installed Capacity=90 MW, Estimated Cost=Rs. 578.62 crore).
- (iv) Tuiri  
(Installed Capacity=60 MW, Estimated Cost=Rs. 686.95 crore).

(v) Karbi Langpi

(Installed Capacity=100 MW, Estimated Cost=Rs. 557.42 crore).

(vi) Myntdu

(Installed Capacity=84 MW, Estimated Cost=Rs. 358.38 crore).

(b) and (c) Nil.

*[English]*

**Amendment in Meat Food Product Order, 1973**

2709. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to amend the Meat Food Products Order, 1973 to include fish and chilled chicken under the purview of the order;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to provide financial assistance for setting up of meat processing units in the States;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken to promote consumption of processed meat products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) The Meat Food Products order has been amended so as to include fish & chilled chicken within the purview of the said order vide notification No. S01545 (E) published in the Gazette of India on 24th October 2005.

(c) to (e) Under the Plan Schemes of the Ministry, financial assistance is provided for Technology Up-gradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries including Meat Food Industry. The quantum of assistance is 25% of the cost of Plant & Machinery and Technical Civil Works subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakhs in General Areas and 33.33% upto 75 lakhs in Difficult Areas. Grant-in-aid of 25% of the cost of Plant & Machinery and Technical Civil Works in General Areas

and 33.33% in Difficult Areas, subject to a maximum of Rs. 4 crores, is also provided to the local bodies for modernizing abattoirs.

(f) Advertisements in leading National and Regional Newspapers to popularize the consumption of processed food in general are made from time to time.

#### **World Bank/ADB Loan in Tourism Sector**

2710. SHRI DHANUSKODI R. ATHITHAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank/Asian Development Bank provides loans or financial grants for tourism development in India;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes formulated by the Government during the last three years to utilize such loans/grants;

(c) whether the Government has any plan to seek financial assistance from international financial agencies for creation of world class tourism infrastructure in India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The tourism infrastructure development related to development of Buddhist Circuits in India has been identified for assistance from Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC).

#### **Leasing Forest Land to Private Owners**

2711. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS:  
SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI:

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

(a) whether the Union Government is aware that certain State Governments have decided to give the forest land to private parties under lease;

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

(c) whether the Union Government is aware that lakhs of hectares of forest land is possessed by private parties which has expired the lease period; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to take over such forest land from private possession?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has received information about allotment of forest land under lease to private people by the State Government of Kerala in Cardamom Hill Reserve. Cardamom Hill Reserve is Reserved Forest under the administrative control and ownership of Revenue Department. The Revenue Department has allegedly granted lease to some persons in that area in violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. An Application has been filed by a voluntary organization namely One Earth—One Life, before the Central Empowered Committee constituted by the Supreme Court of India, and the matter, at present, is subjudice.

#### **Performance of Pharmaceutical Industry**

2712. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has made any projection for the performance of pharmaceutical industry for years ahead; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has informed that they have made some projections through Reports/ Studies such as:

#### **(i) India Brand Equity Foundation (IBEF) Report**

- The sector is expected to attain a size of \$25 billion by 2010.
- By financial year 2006, R&D expenditure is likely to go up to more than 12% from an average of 6% of sales during financial year 2004.

- Some estimates suggest that Indian companies can potentially corner almost a third of the global generics market by 2007.

**(II) CII-KPMG Consultants study on Vision for Pharmaceuticals**

- Indian domestic market at \$ 6 Billion expected to grow to US \$ 9 billion by 2010.
- Indian generic drug makers are expected to have 38% shares in global generics market by 2007 compared to 4% today.
- Top Indian players looking at 5 to 10 new drugs by 2008 to 2010 in global markets.

*[Translation]*

**Fairs, Festivals and Exhibitions in States**

2713. SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to organize fairs, festivals and exhibitions in States including Maharashtra for promotion of domestic tourism during 2005-06;

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

(c) the allocation of funds made and released to States including Maharashtra for the purpose during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) Promotion of fairs and festivals is the responsibility of the State Governments. The Ministry of Tourism, however, provides financial assistance to the State Govts for organizing two fairs and one event of national importance every year based on the proposals received from the State Governments which are prioritised in consultation with them. The funds released to various States during 2005-06 for this purpose is given in the enclosed Statement.

**Statement**

*Projects sanctioned by Ministry of Tourism during 2005-06 for Events and Fairs & Festivals*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Project	Funds Sanctioned	Funds Released
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	Celebration of Brahmaputra Darshan event	15.00	12.00
2.	Haryana	Celebration of Mango Mela at Pinjore in July 2005	2.45	2.45
3.	Delhi	Celebration of Ananya festival	12.00	12.00
4.	Jammu & Kashmir	Organising of Kashmir Food and Festival in Dubai in 3 metro cities of India	37.90	29.60
5.		Sindhu Darshan Festival	15.00	12.00
6.	Madhya Pradesh	Celebration of Orcha Festival 2005	5.00	4.00
7.		Celebration of National Folk Festival (Lokranjan) Khajuraho	5.00	4.00
8.	Maharashtra	Elephanta Festival	5.00	4.00

1	2	3	4	5
9.		Pune Festival 2005	15.00	10.00
10.		Celebration of Ellora— Aurangabad Festival 2005-06	5.00	4.00
11.	Meghalaya	Celebration of Nongkrem Festival	5.00	4.00
12.	Mizoram	Celebration of Thalfavang Kut Festival	5.00	4.00
13.	Nagaland	Celebration of Ahuna Festival at Sataka	5.00	4.00
14.		Celebration of Tsungremmong Festival at Lungkhum	5.00	4.00
15.	Pondichery	Celebration of Yoga Festival in Pondichery during 2005-06	5.00	4.00
16.	Sikkim	Celebration of Khangchendzonga Festival	15.00	12.00
17.		Namchi Festival	5.00	4.00
18.	Tamil Nadu	Celebration of Cultural Festival at Kanyakumari	5.00	5.00
19.		National Pilgrim Festival at Rameshwaram	5.00	5.00
20.	Uttar Pradesh	Celebration of Ayurveda/Yoga Mahotsav at Jhansi	2.50	2.00
21.		Investors meet at Agra	15.00	12.00
Total:			188.95	154.05

[English]

#### Shelter Belt for Forest Species

2714. DR. K.S. MANOJ: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted any proposal for erecting a shelter belt for suitable forest species all along the coast of Kerala;

(b) whether the Union Government has accorded the sanction for the project; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

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

MEENA): (a) to (c) During the Ninth Five Year Plan, Coastal Shelterbelt Plantation was carried out under Integrated Afforestation and Eco-development Project Scheme (IAEPS) of the Ministry of Environment and Forests which has been merged into National Afforestation Programme (NAP) Scheme launched by Ministry during the Tenth Five Year Plan. NAP Scheme is being implemented through a two-tier decentralized institution of Forest Development Agency (FDA) at the forest division level and Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) at the village level. Raising coastal shelterbelts to mitigate the adverse impacts of cyclonic winds is one of the objectives of NAP Scheme. 14 FDA projects have been approved in Kerala State so far to cover a project area of 12,845 hectares through 199 Joint Forest Management Committees. Of these, 6 FDAs have jurisdiction extending over coastal area.

**Destination Development Scheme**

2715. SHRI B. MAHTAB: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received proposals from the States particularly Karnataka and Orissa with regard to Centrally Sponsored Large Revenue Generating Schemes and Destination Development Schemes for development of tourist destinations; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the time by which the proposals are likely to be approved alongwith the funds sought/given to State Governments for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Development and Promotion of tourist destinations/products is a continuing process and is primarily the responsibility of State Govts/U.Ts concerned. The Ministry of Tourism provide financial assistance to the State/U.Ts for the tourism projects under various schemes including 'Product/Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuit's and 'Assistance to Large Revenue Generating Projects'. The details of the projects sanctioned by the Ministry of Tourism and funds released to States/UTs during the last three years of the Tenth Plan are given in the enclosed Statement.

**Statement***State-wise Tourism Projects sanctioned during the Tenth Five Year Plan (as on 31.3.2005)*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	State/UT	2002-03			2003-04			2004-05 (Provisional)		
		No. of Project Sancd.	Amount Sancd.	Amount Released	No. of Project Sancd.	Amount Sancd.	Amount Released	No. of Project Sancd.	Amount Sancd.	Amount Released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2	507.50	195.00	6	948.50	896.44	16	2827.19	2240.68
2.	Assam	9	768.13	618.85	3	313.46	313.06	8	966.03	766.22
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	5	41.30	32.50	6	1044.80	700.00	9	1325.50	927.96
4.	Bihar	8	505.00	505.00	6	1019.42	913.89	7	1901.43	1527.71
5.	Chhattisgarh	9	308.00	98.50	6	1005.00	364.00	6	1117.94	897.93
6.	Goa	1	0.50	0.50	2	36.76	34.76	3	110.00	38.00
7.	Gujarat	2	197.12	59.13	8	920.51	815.82	2	138.93	111.14
8.	Haryana	8	332.25	311.00	16	1215.38	879.23	6	693.55	513.64
9.	Himachal Pradesh	30	779.32	760.38	4	182.32	85.00	12	2680.00	2161.00
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	3	94.38	89.47	5	895.00	895.00	5	819.25	699.04
11.	Jharkhand	0	0	0	2	1109.00	774.60	2	945.91	756.72
12.	Karnataka	6	902.49	625.49	14	932.66	792.51	12	2461.76	1937.37
13.	Kerala	11	861.36	829.86	6	608.50	564.15	10	2283.63	1820.33

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
14.	Madhya Pradesh	18	711.18	574.79	10	621.90	394.51	11	1595.19	942.21
15.	Maharashtra	8	623.46	546.25	10	931.83	914.58	10	1620.62	925.30
16.	Manipur	2	5.24	2.62	1	82.44	24.73	0	0.00	0.00
17.	Meghalaya	3	70.35	21.20	2	40.22	24.92	2	963.30	607.91
18.	Mizoram	6	141.16	48.46	5	567.70	186.75	6	1096.35	382.38
19.	Nagaland	5	360.50	323.43	4	711.00	220.80	7	2250.69	1413.40
20.	Orissa	2	47.50	15.75	5	419.55	138.50	8	1320.74	1059.38
21.	Punjab	3	23.00	14.60	2	96.00	12.30	7	724.68	581.47
22.	Rajasthan	13	1098.70	1096.20	14	1644.81	1414.25	13	2516.61	1375.07
23.	Sikkim	13	346.24	269.76	8	1151.09	681.49	8	660.81	531.33
24.	Tamil Nadu	5	559.00	316.10	14	1339.82	850.53	7	1308.92	705.83
25.	Tripura	5	216.13	67.78	6	450.17	135.16	1	20.00	16.00
26.	Uttaranchal	3	548.00	418.00	4	230.44	203.94	7	2199.98	1750.73
27.	Uttar Pradesh	3	295.00	295.00	7	1115.80	916.26	9	1044.93	831.19
28.	West Bengal	5	201.10	60.00	10	717.44	384.34	10	513.04	407.43
29.	Andaman and Nicobar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
30.	Chandigarh	3	7.75	6.63	2	10.00	8.00	3	467.00	373.60
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2	8.07	6.46	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
32.	Delhi	14	504.00	449.02	17	3316.28	3222.13	8	628.85	511.00
33.	Daman and Diu	3	49.50	16.90	1	265.07	236.56	0	0.00	0.00
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	2	7.87	6.30	1	245.17	73.55	2	451.00	360.00
Total		212	11121.10	8680.93	207	24185.84	18073.76	217	37663.83	27371.97

Note-This includes the projects relating to Circuits, Destinations, Large Revenue Generating Projects, Rural Tourism (Software and Hardware) Project, IT, Event, Fair & Festivals Projects.

[Translation]

**Conference on Steel Industry**

2716. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any conference has been organized recently by the Government on Modernization of Steel Industry; and

(b) if so, the issues discussed and decisions arrived at?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) No, Sir.

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

*[English]*

**Revival of Kulti Works of IISCO Limited**

2717. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the requirement of both ferrous and non-ferrous casting metals has substantially increased due to enhancement of SAIL's capacity of 20 million tonnes of hot metal from the current level of 13 million tonnes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the amount spent on procuring these casting metals from the private sources has increased two fold;

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

(e) whether the Government proposes to revive the Kulti Works of Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited (IISCO) to curb the extra expenditure on these castings;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (d) No, Sir. The requirement of ferrous casting in all plants of SAIL is tapering due to reduction in production through ingot route of steel making as SAIL is increasing production through energy efficient continuous cast route. The requirement of non-ferrous casting is low and is being sourced locally.

(e) to (g) As part of revival package of Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO), it was decided to close down Kulti Works as the unit was not found to be economically viable. There is no plan to revive the unit.

**Foodgrains Scam**

2718. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC

DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred Question No. 512 dated May 02, 2005 regarding Foodgrains Scam and state:

(a) whether the final report of the study by Programme Evaluation Organization has since been received;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) 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) Yes, Sir.

(b) The performance evaluation of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) conducted by Programme Evaluation Organization of the Planning Commission covered 60 Districts, 88 Blocks, 16 towns, 176 village panchayats, 240 EPSs and 3600 households spread over 18 States.

The major findings of the study are as under:

- (i) The implementation of TPDS is plagued by targeting Errors, prevalence of ghost cards and unidentified households;
- (ii) Though the off-take per household has shown some improvement under TPDS, yet only about 57% of the BPL households are covered by it;
- (iii) The FPSs are generally not viable because of low annual turnover and they remain in business through leakages and diversions of subsidized grains;
- (iv) Leakages and diversions of subsidized grains are large and only about 42% of subsidized grains issued from the Central Pool reaches the target group;
- (v) Over 36% of the budgetary subsidies on food is siphoned off the supply chain and another 21% reaches the APL households; and
- (vi) The cost of income transfer to the poor through PDS is much higher than that through other modes;



The State-wise estimation of diversion of subsidized foodgrains as per the study report is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The findings of the study are being discussed in Regional conferences on Strengthening the TPDS and the State Governments have been asked to take necessary action.

**Statement**

(Percentage of off-take of BPL Quota)

State	APL Households' share in subsidized food-grains from TPDS	Total food-grains leakage (Col. 4+Col.5)	Foodgrains Leakage through Ghost Cards	Foodgrains leakage at FPS	Share of the poor households in Distribution
Andhra Pradesh	37.00	20.60	Neg.	20.60	42.40
Assam	12.00	41.68	33.35	8.33	46.32
Bihar	9.60	81.54	26.13	55.41	8.86
Gujarat	5.02	42.06	28.29	13.77	52.92
Haryana	11.00	55.65	Neg.	55.65	33.35
Himachal Pradesh	14.48	31.44	31.03	0.41	54.07
Karnataka	27.50	43.40	25.67	17.73	29.10
Kerala	17.30	21.71	3.91	17.80	60.99
Madhya Pradesh	3.64	62.42	54.48	7.94	33.93
Maharashtra	8.03	26.53	10.78	15.75	65.44
Orissa	12.98	23.39	13.49	9.90	63.64
Punjab	13.00	76.50	Neg.	76.50	10.50
Rajasthan	3.00	31.95	Neg.	31.95	65.05
Tamil Nadu	49.91	15.66	9.26	6.40	34.44
Uttar Pradesh	6.22	61.27	22.30	38.97	32.52
West Bengal	7.75	19.15	13.85	5.30	73.10
All India	21.45	36.38	16.67	19.71	42.17

[Translation]

**Participation of Farmers in Irrigation Projects**

2719. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government for making the participation of farmers compulsory in the irrigation projects financed by the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c) There is a provision for farmer's participation in the following ongoing schemes on irrigation development projects financed by the Union Government.

- (i) Under the Command Area Development and Water Management programme, formation of Water Users Association (WUA) is essential before taking up of construction of field channels/ full package of On Farm Development works, Correction of System Deficiencies and Renovation/De-silting of minor irrigation tanks.
- (ii) Under Minor Irrigation projects being taken up under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) schemes, the State Governments are required to give an undertaking for 10% beneficiary contribution and formation of Water User Association.
- (iii) Under the Pilot Scheme "National Project for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies directly linked to Agriculture", a key role is envisaged for WUAs in post implementation operation and maintenance. They are also involved in implementation phase, as their representative is included in the District Level Implementation Committee chaired by the District Collector.
- (iv) Under the Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP), Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and the Desert Development Programme (DDP) of Ministry of Rural Development, there is a provision for involving local inhabitants as User Groups and Self Help Groups.

*[English]*

#### **Relaxation in ISOPOM and Macro Management Work Plan**

2720. SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to give relaxation in the implementation of Centrally Sponsored Scheme ISOPOM (Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize) and Macro Management Work Plan;

(b) if so, whether any request was received from the Government of Rajasthan in June 2004 in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the action taken thereon till-date;

(e) whether some other States have also requested like-wise; and

(f) if so, the details alongwith the action taken by the Government thereon, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (f) There is no proposal before the Union Government to make changes in the existing provisions of ISOPOM and Macro Management Work Plan. No proposal has been received from any States for relaxation in respect of ISOPOM and Macro Management Work Plan.

#### **Showcase of Chola Period Sculptures**

2721. SHRI L. GANESAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government to showcase Chola period sculptures and temple towns by way of offering an exclusive tourism package connecting all ancient town in the Cauvery Basin Region right from Karnataka at Thanjaveer via Tiruchirappalli in Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Formulation of tourist packages is primarily the responsibility of the travel trade viz. Tour Operators, Travel Agents, Airlines, Railways and State Tourism Corporations. The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India does not formulate any tourist packages. However, the Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation is operating a 4 day

Chozhanattu Thirupathigal Package Tour covering Thanjavur, Nagapattinam, Thiruvarur and Thiruchirappalli District.

#### **Meeting of National Water Resource Council**

2722. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the main objectives formulated in the Resolution adopted by the National Water Resources Council in its last meeting;

(b) whether the Government has evolved any mechanism to monitor the execution of the objectives; and

(c) if so, the details and achievements thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The National Water Resources Council in its last meeting held on 1st April, 2002 resolved to adopt the (Revised) National Water Policy with modifications as agreed to by the Council and directed for its circulation to all concerned.

(b) and (c) The National Water Policy, 2002 has since been circulated to all State Governments for taking further actions. The programmes of implementation of National Water Policy is reviewed by National Water Board of National Water Resources Council.

*[Translation]*

#### **National Seed Board**

2723. SHRIMATI KALPNA RAMESH NARHIRE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Seed Board is not providing sufficient seeds to the States;

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

(c) the steps initiated to deal with the situation?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) There is no National Seed Board in the country. However, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation makes breeder seeds available to State Governments and other producers according to the indented requirements.

*[English]*

#### **Vacancies in ESIC**

2724. SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of posts are lying vacant in Employees State Insurance Corporation which is causing great difficulty to the beneficiaries in receiving proper services;

(b) if so, the details of vacancies in different parts of the country in ESIC particularly in Delhi recorded as on date;

(c) whether the vacancies are proposed to be filled up in near future; and

(d) if so, the time by which all the vacancies are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) The details of vacancies in the medical wing of ESI Corporation are given in the enclosed Statement. Besides this, there are 2005 vacancies on the non-medical side of ESIC.

The beneficiaries are not facing any problem because the medical services are being provided by appointing Sr./Jr. Residents and other staff on contractual basis till regular incumbents are posted. On the non-medical side, the services are being provided by redeployment/rationalization of staff.

(c) and (d) The filling up of vacancies is a continuous process and recruitment is done on a periodical basis because vacancies occur almost on a regular periodicity.

**Statement***Vacancy Position in ESI Scheme as on 31.03.2005*

Sl.No.	State	Medical Vacant	Para Medical Vacant	Others Vacant
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	285	414	430
2.	Assam	17	27	4
3.	Bihar	59	171	178
4.	Chandigarh Admn.	7	26	16
5.	Chhattisgarh	10	14	16
6.	Delhi	413	723	377
7.	Goa	03	3	5
8.	Gujarat	216	607	401
9.	Haryana	32	129	207
10.	Himachal Pradesh	—	8	17
11.	Karnataka	144	282	260
12.	Kerala	190	303	148
13.	Madhya Pradesh	49	160	91
14.	Maharashtra			
	(a) Mumbai	85	338	720
	(b) Pune	22	31	57
	(c) Nagpur	20	95	132
15.	Meghalaya	—	5	4
16.	Orissa	53	46	80
17.	Pondicherry	10	16	1
18.	Punjab	—	17	281
19.	Rajasthan	58	134	65
20.	Tamil Nadu	116	625	779
21.	Uttar Pradesh	107	279	158
22.	Uttaranchal	6	6	2

1	2	3	4	5
23.	West Bengal	215	933	1090
24.	Jammu & Kashmir	3	6	10
25.	Jharkhand	100	191	347
	Total	2208	5555	5986

#### Extra Land for Irrigation

2725. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to irrigate an additional one crore hectares of land;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether to achieve the above target the Government proposes to provide training and technologies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) The Government proposes to create an irrigation potential of one crore hectares over a period of four years under "Bharat Nirman" which includes creation of irrigation potential of (a) 4.2 Million hectares (Mha), through completion of identified on-going major & medium projects; (b) 2.8 Mha by implementing minor irrigation schemes; (c) 1.0 Mha by enhancing the utilization by extension, renovation and modernization (ERM) of major & medium project; (d) 1.0 Mha through repair, renovation and restoration of water bodies and ERM of minor irrigation schemes; and (e) 1.0 Mha by new schemes for ground water development for irrigation in areas with unutilised ground water potential (primarily for benefit of small and marginal farmers and tribals and dalits). The various schemes under Bharat Nirman are to be implemented by the respective State Governments by employing their own manpower. However, training programme on various topics related to water resources development are organized from time to time by Central Water Commission and Central Ground Water Board for officers associated with water resources including those from State Governments.

#### Procedure for Environmental Clearance

2726. DR. BABU RAO MEDIYAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure adopted for according environmental clearance for the construction of large dams and projects; and

(b) the measures proposed to be taken to protect Bio-Diversity from the ill-effects of construction of dams and such other projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The procedure adopted for according environmental clearance is as prescribed in the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification 1994, and its subsequent amendments notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

(b) The measures generally taken for conservation of biodiversity from the ill effects of construction of dams is the identification of areas that are rich in diversity of flora & fauna and stipulating *specific conservation measures to ensure their protection* such as—restoration and rejuvenation of degraded ecosystems/habitats in the catchment of the project area as well as forests in the immediate vicinity of the project sites, rehabilitation of keystone species, if any; and mitigation of biotic and/or abiotic pressures/influences on the habitats.

#### Environmental Clearance for Uranium Mining

2727. SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Atomic Energy has submitted a proposal for environmental clearance to its proposed uranium mining and processing plant at Nalgonda in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) If so, the details thereof alongwith the date of receiving it; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Ministry of Environment & Forests has received a proposal on 8th June, 2005 from the Department of Atomic Energy for environmental clearance of the proposed uranium mining project for mining of 1250 tonnes per day of uranium ore at Lambapur-Peddagattu in District Nalgonda in Andhra Pradesh.

(c) Expert Committee (Mining) has appraised the proposal in its meeting held in October 2005 and has recommended to the Government for grant of environmental clearance subject to stipulating stringent environmental clearance conditions inter-alia undertaking groundwater modelling studies and obtaining other requisite statutory clearances by M/s Uranium Corporation of India Ltd.

#### Use of BPT 5204 Variety of Rice

2728. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that by using BPT 5204 variety, farmers in Andhra Pradesh have produced higher quantity of rice paddy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has conducted any scientific study thereon; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to introduce this variety in the entire country as it consumes less water and gives higher yield?

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) BPT 5204 (Saba Mahsuri) is being grown in about 4.0 lakh hectares in Andhra Pradesh. It gives high yields with fine grain quality. It fetches higher premium price. It has wider adaptability and high input use efficiency. BPT 5204 is very popular in Telangana and Rayalseema regions of Andhra Pradesh.

(c) and (d) BPT 5204 is susceptible to certain insects and diseases viz. brown plant hopper, stem borer, leaf folder, blast, sheath blight etc. Hence, it cannot be recommended for the entire country. There are several other varieties of rice in the country which consume less water.

#### Losses Incurred by IISCO

2729. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the separate details of operational/non-operational profit/loss making units of Indian Iron and Steel Company, location-wise and State-wise;

(b) the quantity of steel produced by it and the profit earned therefrom during the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken and proposed to be taken to strengthen this PSU?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) The details of operational/non-operational profit/loss location-wise and State-wise is as under:

Units of IISCO	Location	State	Status	Profit(+)/Loss(-) (Rs./crore) during 2004-05
Burnpur Works	Burnpur	West Bengal	Operational	-3.54
Kulti Works	Kulti	West Bengal	Non-operational (operation ceased w.e.f. 1.4.2003)	-14.65
Collieries	Chasnalla Jitpur Ramnagore	Jharkhand Jharkhand West Bengal	Operational	57.39
Ore Mines	Gua Chiria/ Manoharpur	Jharkhand Jharkhand	Operational	7.39

(b) The production/profit is as follows:

Year	Quantity of Steel (Saleable) produced by IISCO (in '000 tonnes)	Profit earned (PBT) (IISCO) (Rs./crore)
2002-03	264	-182.23
2003-04	241	27.009
2004-05	274	46.59
2005-06* (*upto Sept'05)	129	3.60

(c) The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) approved a rehabilitation scheme for IISCO in November, 2003. The scheme approved the closure of Kulti Works as it was found to be economically unviable. The operation of Kulti Works was closed with effect from 1st April, 2003.

For optimum utilization of raw material resources of IISCO and harnessing synergies between IISCO and SAIL, Government has accorded approval to merge IISCO with SAIL.

Meanwhile, under the Corporate Plan 2011-12 for IISCO, Bumpur Works will be upgraded to produce 2 Million Tonne Per Year (MTPY) of Crude Steel in 2011-12, from a level of 0.35 Million Tonne (MT) in 2004-05. The plan also envisages development of collieries to enhance coking coal production to 1 MTPY. Chiria Iron Ore Mines will be developed to produce 7 MTPY of Iron ore. Total investment approved in the Corporate Plan is Rs. 8,017.00 crore.

#### **Repeal of Agriculture Produce Cess Act**

2730. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has planning to repeal the Agriculture Produce Cess Act, 1940 and the Produce Cess Act, 1966;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures being adopted to boost the farm industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Government has decided to introduce a Bill in Parliament for repealing:

(i) The Agriculture Produce Cess Act, 1940; and

(ii) The Produce Cess Act 1966.

(c) Government provides grant at the rate of 25% subject to a ceiling of Rs. 50 lakhs in general areas and at a rate of 33.3% subject to a ceiling of Rs. 75 lakhs in difficult areas for modernization and setting up of food processing industry. Government also provides support for setting up of food parks where infrastructure in the shape of improved facilities provides to such units. Further, the Government also implements a number of development programmes to increase the competitiveness of the Indian farmers. These include introduction of improved farming technology, improved availability of inputs including water, credit and fertilizer and price support through the Minimum Support Price (MSP) scheme and Market Intervention Scheme (MIS).

#### **Central Agricultural University**

2731. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to establish a Central Agricultural University at Uzhavoor in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be set-up?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

#### **Agro-Forestry Projects**

2732. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Agro Forestry Projects implemented in the country during the last three years alongwith the financial outlays, targets and achievements made thereunder, State-wise;

(b) the future plan of the Government to boost the Agro Forestry Sector; and

(c) the details of proposals cleared and pending as well for implementation of agro Forestry Projects in Assam indicating the status of each project, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The Agro-Forestry is one of the component under various Watershed Development Programmes; namely,

- (i) National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRRA).
- (ii) Soil Conservation for Enhancing the Productivity of Degraded Lands in the Catchment of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone Rivers (RVP & FPR).
- (iii) Reclamations of Alkali Soil (RAS).
- (iv) Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Area (WDPSCA).
- (v) Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP).
- (vi) Desert Development Programme (DDP).
- (vii) Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP).

The State-wise Physical achievement and expenditure of Watershed Development Programmes of Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Rural Development are given in the enclosed Statement-I and II respectively. In addition, an All India Coordinated Research Project on Agro-forestry (AICRPA) under Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) is being implemented through 35 Coordinating Centers consisting of 10 in ICAR and 25 in State

Agricultural Universities (SAUs). In last three years Rs. 10.70 crore has been utilized under this project.

(b) For boosting Agro forestry sector the Task Force on Greening India, constituted by Planning Commission has recommended, (i) agro-forestry in degraded agricultural land (ii) agro-forestry in rainfed areas (iii) agro-forestry in degraded forest lands etc. pooling internal and external funds.

(c) In the State of Assam following Watershed Development Programmes which have agro-forestry as a component are being implemented:

- (i) National Watershed Development project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRRA).
- (ii) Soil Conservation for Enhancing the Productivity of Degraded Lands in the Catchments of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone Rivers (RVP & FPR).
- (iii) Watershed Development Projects in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA)
- (iv) Integrated Waste-land Development Programme (IWDP)

In addition, Assam Agriculture University, Kahikuchi, Jorhat is one of the Coordinating Centre under All India Coordinated Research Project on Agroforestry. Recently Ministry of Environment and Forest has started National Afforestation Programme (NAP) for regeneration of degraded forest lands. Under the programme, promotion of agro-forestry on non forest land is permitted as an entry point activity. The programme is being implemented through two-tier decentralized mechanism of Forest Development Agency (FDA) and at forest division level and Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) at village level. Under this programme so far 650 FDA projects including 29 projects in Assam have been approved.

#### *Statement I*

#### *Physical & Financial Achievements of Watershed Development Programmes of Ministry of Agriculture during Last Three Years of X Plan (2002-2005)*

(Physical area in lakh ha & Financial in Rs. Lakh)

Sl.No.	Name of States	NWDPRRA		RVP & FPR		WDPSCA		RAS		Total	
		Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.270	1209.77	0.256	2134.25			0.000	0.00	0.526	3344.02
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.050	319.73	0.002	5.67	0.028	278.89			0.080	604.29



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
3.	Assam	0.070	333.00	0.019	148.27	0.117	1005.00			0.206	1486.27
4.	Bihar	0.000	66.95	0.000	0.000			0.000	0.00	0.000	66.95
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.450	2075.21	0.101	400.74					0.551	2475.95
6.	Gujarat	0.600	2633.57	0.252	2182.70			0.251	629.55	1.103	5645.82
7.	Haryana	0.040	263.98	0.143	496.18			0.320	818.00	0.503	1578.16
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.050	480.15	0.114	1840.32					0.184	2300.47
9.	Jharkhand	0.270	2806.48	0.00	0.00					0.270	2806.48
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.230	45.94	0.070	912.80					0.300	958.74
11.	Karnataka	0.520	4244.07	1.037	3333.58			0.023	325.65	1.580	7903.30
12.	Kerala	0.130	946.42	0.064	634.85					0.194	1581.27
13.	Madhya Pradesh	1.010	3015.25	0.675	2658.03			0.000	0.00	1.685	5873.28
14.	Maharashtra	0.550	3142.00	0.510	3433.84			0.000	0.00	1.060	6575.84
15.	Manipur	0.100	611.67	0.000	0.00	0.071	591.00			0.171	1202.67
16.	Meghalaya	0.190	1146.50	0.000	6.00	0.068	850.00			0.278	2002.50
17.	Mizoram	0.220	1630.40	0.024	299.85	0.122	1320.00			0.366	3250.25
18.	Nagaland	0.170	1361.00	0.026	174.00	0.100	1200.00			0.296	2735.00
19.	Orissa	0.330	1416.10	0.055	239.74					0.385	1655.84
20.	Punjab	0.010	68.38	0.000	0.00			0.013	19.81	0.023	88.19
21.	Rajasthan	2.050	9806.95	0.681	4998.33			0.134	171.51	2.865	14976.79
22.	Sikkim	0.080	546.58	0.008	78.20					0.086	624.78
23.	Tamil Nadu	0.840	5022.39	0.137	1710.55			0.021	50.41	0.998	6783.35
24.	Tripura	0.130	820.96	0.012	122.28	0.078	771.00			0.220	1714.24
25.	Uttar Pradesh	0.670	4021.48	1.039	5351.10			0.015	9.92	1.724	9382.50
26.	Uttaranchal	0.460	3208.93	0.098	739.74					0.558	3948.67
27.	West Bengal	0.010	172.92	0.092	483.81					0.102	656.73
28.	Goa	0.030	264.39							0.030	264.39
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	0.20	120.62							0.020	120.62
30.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.000	0.00							0.000	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
31.	Daman and Diu	0.000	0.00							0.000	0.00
*	DVC			0.304	3487.80					0.304	3487.80
*	PM Package to J&K			0.209	1609.46					0.209	1609.46
*	Hd. Quarter				119.00					0.000	119.00
Total		9.550	51981.79	5.926	37800.89	0.604	6015.89	0.777	2024.85	16.857	97823.42

NWDPRA-National Watershed Development Projects for Rain-fed Areas

RVP & FPR-River Valley Project & Flood Prone River

WDPSA-Watershed Development Projects in Shifting Cultivation Areas

RAS-Reclamation of Alkali Soil

**Statement II**

*Project Sanctioned and Fund Released under DPAP, DDP and IWDP Schemes of Ministry of Rural Development from 2002-03 to 2004-05*

Sl.No.	Name of States	DPAP		DDP		IWDP	
		Phy (No. of Projects)	Fin. (Rs. in crore)	Phy (No. of Projects)	Fin. (Rs. in crore)	Area (in lakh ha.)	Fin. (Rs. crore)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	865	138.00	330	35.53	1.320	77.89
2.	Bihar	188	8.84			0.900	8.72
3.	Chhattisgarh	348	47.23			0.836	34.71
4.	Gujarat	741	91.73	873	137.11	1.025	43.00
5.	Haryana			357	52.75	0.350	12.07
6.	Himachal Pradesh	130	13.26	160	18.83	0.580	41.96
7.	Jharkhand	296	8.68			0.520	5.19
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	466	28.31	158	22.48	0.550	8.86
9.	Karnataka	675	79.84	497	60.42	0.715	61.81
10.	Kerala					0.150	5.70
11.	Madhya Pradesh	803	150.31			1.470	87.38
12.	Maharashtra	899	62.65			1.029	32.54
13.	Orissa	452	30.89			0.830	42.82
14.	Punjab					0.154	2.45
15.	Rajasthan	305	49.84	2389	287.66	0.900	49.90

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
16.	Tamil Nadu	464	62.79			1.060	53.03
17.	Uttar Pradesh	478	46.73			1.521	54.33
18.	Uttaranchal	277	19.75			0.504	19.28
19.	West Bengal	176	5.94			0.236	2.39
20.	Goa					0.100	0.83
	Others	0	0.41			0.000	10.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>7563</b>	<b>845.20</b>	<b>4764</b>	<b>614.78</b>	<b>14.752</b>	<b>654.86</b>
1.	Arunachal Pradesh					1.567	16.15
2.	Assam					3.494	63.73
3.	Manipur					1.145	15.01
4.	Meghalaya					0.420	6.62
5.	Mizoram					1.207	27.41
6.	Nagaland					1.373	53.20
7.	Sikkim					0.344	7.77
8.	Tripura					0.275	4.19
	<b>Total North Eastern</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>9.845</b>	<b>194.08</b>
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>7563</b>	<b>845.20</b>	<b>4764</b>	<b>614.78</b>	<b>24.597</b>	<b>848.94</b>

DPAP-Drought Prone Area Programme

DDP-Desert Development Programme

IWDP-Integrated Wasteland Development Programme

Note: A project under DPAP and DDP generally covers an area of 500 hectares.

### Horticultural Products Export Zones

2733. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to set up Horticultural Products Export Zones in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds proposed to be allocated for the purpose, 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) Based on the proposals received from the State Governments, the Central Government has approved 60 Agri. Export Zones (AEZ) in 20 states. The Zones have been approved for various agricultural products including horticultural products.

(b) The State-wise, product-wise details of all the Agri. Export Zones alongwith the approved allocation of funds are given in the enclosed Statement.

*Statement**Projected Investment and Anticipated Exports from sanctioned 60 Agri Export Zones*

Sl.No.	State	AEZ Project	District/Area	Likely investment (Rs. in crores)	Support from State/Centre/Private			Total anticipated value of export (Rs. in crores) in 5 years	
					State Govt	Central Govt	Pvt.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	West Bengal	1	Pineapple	Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, Uttar Dinajpur, Cooch Behar, Howrah	35.59	0.51	4.15 (APEDA 1.22)	30.93	127.00
		2	Lychee	Murshidabad, Malda, 24 Pargana (N) and 24 Pargana (S)	10.44	2.25	6.12 (APEDA 1.93)	2.07	27.86
		3	Potatoes	Hooghly, Burdihwan, Midnapore (W), Uday Narayanpur, Howrah	36.66	3.24	4.82 (APEDA 1.71)	28.69	381.00
		4	Mango	Malda and Murshidabad	31.18	7.70	5.25 (APEDA 3.27)	18.23	103.15
		5	Vegetables	Nadia, Murshidabad and North 24 Parganas	28.80	3.60	3.65 (APEDA 1.45)	21.55	152.00
		6	Darjeeling Tea	Darjeeling	212.65	4.45	51.77 (APEDA 0)	152.42	673.75
			Sub total	355.31	21.75	75.76 (APEDA 9.58)	257.79	1464.75	
2.	Karnataka	7	Cherkins	Tumkur, Bangalore Urban, Bangalore Rural, Hassan, Kolar, Chitradurga, Dharwad and Begalkot	10.95	NA	3.20 (APEDA 3.20)	7.75	35.25
		8	Rose Onion	Bangalore (Urban), Bangalore (Rural), Kolar	6.10	0.56	1.92 (APEDA 0.65)	3.62	50.00
		9	Flowers	Bangalore (Urban), Bangalore (Rural), Kolar, Tumkur, Kodagu and Belgaum	29.28	7.37	11.71 (APEDA 6.92)	10.20	312.50

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		10	Vanilla	Districts of Dakshin Kannada, Uttara Kannada, Udupi, Shimoga, Kodagu, Chickamagalur	5.90	1.40	1.42	3.07	222.13
				Sub total	52.23	9.33	18.25 (APEDA 10.59)	24.64	619.88
3.	Uttaranchal	11	Lychees	Udhamsingh Nagar, Dehradun and Nainital	8.70	0.74	4.52 (APEDA 2.21)	3.44	38.20
		12	Flowers	Dehradun, Pantnagar, Udhamsingh Nagar, Nainital and Uttarkashi	13.76	1.43	1.55 (APEDA 0.55)	10.78	28.28
		13	Basmati Rice	Udham Singh Nagar, Nainital, Dehradun and Haridwar	6.33	1.73	1.34 (APEDA 0.00)	3.28	14.54
		14	Medicinal & Aromatic Plants	Uttarkashi, Chamoli, Pithoragarh, Dehradun, Nainital, Haridwar and Udhamsingh Nagar	18.81	4.23	5.53 (APEDA 1.53)	9.05	43.57
				Sub total	47.60	8.13	12.94 (APEDA 4.29)	26.53	124.59
4.	Punjab	15	Vegetables (Cabbage Broccoli, Okra, Peas, Carrot, Baby Corn, Green Chillies, Green Beans, Tomato)	Fatehgarh Sahib, Patiala, Sangrur, Ludhiana and Ropar	26.77	0.80	11.23 (APEDA 3.80)	14.94	129.00
		16	Potatoes	Singhpura, Zirakpur Distt. Patiala and satellite centres at Rampura Phul, Muktesar, Ludhiana, Jullundur	10.41	0.74	8.91 (APEDA 0.92)	1.48	393.75
		17	Basmati Rice	Gurdaspur, Amritsar, Kapurthala, Jalandhar, Hoshiarpur & Nawanshahar	23.30	1.85	11.85 (APEDA 0.00)	9.60	2340.90
				Sub total	60.48	3.19	31.27 (APEDA 4.72)	26.02	2893.65

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
5.	Uttar Pradesh	18	Potatoes	Agra, Hathras, Farrukhabad, Kannoj, Meerut, Baghpat and Aligarh, Janpad Badaiyun, Rampur, Ghaziabad, and Firozabad	10.42	0.24	8.19 (APEDA 0.92)	1.99	555.50
		19	Mangoes and Vegetables	Lucknow, Unnao, Hardoi, Sitapur and Barabanki	44.71	1.10	15.38 (APEDA 9.04)	28.23	170.82
		20	Mangoes	Saharanpur, Muzaffarnagar, Bijnour, Meerut, Baghpat and Bulandshahar, Jyotifulenagar	36.11	1.15	17.78 (APEDA 5.75)	17.18	71.00
		21	Basmati Rice	Bareilly, Shahjahanpur, Pilibhit, Rampur, Badaun, Bijnor, Moradabad, JB Phulenagar, Sharanpur, Mujafarnagar, Meerut, Bulandshahar, Ghaziabad and Baghpat	39.75	9.46	10.79 (APEDA 0.00)	19.50	510.00
				Sub total	130.99	11.95	52.14 (APEDA 15.71)	68.90	1307.32
6.	Maharashtra	22	Grape & Grapevine	Nasik, Sangli, Sholapur, Satara, Ahmednagar	3.50	1.15	2.35 (APEDA 0.87)	0.00	68.47
		23	Mangoes	Rantagiri, Sindhudurg, Raigarh and Thane	35.12	16.17	9.94 (APEDA 6.04)	9.01	145.59
		24	Kesar Mango	Aurangabad, Beed, Jalna, Ahmednagar and Latur	18.56	2.92	4.69 (APEDA 0.61)	10.95	44.19
		25	Flowers	Pune, Nasik, Kolhapur and Sangli	17.89	Nil	7.23 (APEDA 4.39)	10.66	75.00
		26	Onion	Nasik, Ahmednagar, Pune, Satara, Jalgaon, Solapur	32.24	12.99	6.13 (APEDA 0.58)	13.12	154.49

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		27	Pomegranate	Districts of Solapur, Sangli, Ahmednagar, Pune, Nasik, Osmanabad & Latur	14.98	3.97	3.89 (APEDA 1.74)	7.12	48.00
		28	Banana	Jalgaon, Dhule, Nandurbar, Buldhana, Parbhani, Hindoli, Nanded and Wardha	13.45	2.99	3.29 (APEDA 2.76)	7.16	52.55
		29	Oranges	Nagpur and Amraoti	26.24	5.36	5.47	15.41	77.28
				Sub total	161.96	45.55	42.59 (APEDA 12.6)	50.66	535.74
7.	Andhra Pradesh	30	Mango Pulp & Fresh Vegetables	Chittoor	26.14	6.41	11.29 (APEDA 11.71)	10.44	147.00
				Chittoor	25.54	3.11	8.67 (APEDA 0.00)	13.76	105.00
		31	Mango & Grapes	Rangareddy, Medak, Mehboobnagar	57.21	3.38	12.05 (APEDA 5.65)	41.78	59.69
		32	Mangoes	Krishna	17.89	4.23	3.77 (APEDA 2.32)	9.89	48.59
		33	Gherkins	Districts of Mahboobnagar, Rangareddy, Medak, Karimnagar, Warangal, Ananthapur and Nalgonda	20.05	1.82	1.91 (APEDA 1.11)	16.32	313.00
		34	Chilli	Guntur	23.68	3.86	5.10 (APEDA 0)	14.72	83.75
				Sub total	172.51	22.81	42.79 (APEDA 20.79)	106.91	767.03
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	35	Apples	Srinagar, Baramula, Anantnag, Kupwara, Kathua and Pulwama	85.35	Nil	27.65 (APEDA 4.30)	57.70	292.74
		36	Walnut	Baramulla, Anantnag, Pulwama, Budgam, Kupwara, Srinagar, Doda, Poonch, Udhampur, Rajouri and Kathua	36.93	Nil	17.36 (APEDA 6.80)	19.57	90.40
				Sub total	122.28	Nil	45.01 (APEDA 11.10)	77.27	383.14

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9.	Tripura	37	Pineapple	Kumarghat, Manu, Melaghar, Metabari and Kakraban Blocks	15.86	1.16	8.11 (APEDA 2.01)	6.39	31.64
				Sub total	15.86	1.16	8.11 (APEDA 2.01)	6.39	31.64
10.	Madhya Pradesh	38	Potatoes, Onion and Garlic	Mahwa, Ujjain, Indore, Dewas, Dhar, Shajapur, Ratlam, Neemuch Mandsaur and Khandwa	49.45	Nil	20.72 (APEDA 1.00)	28.73	128.19
		39	Seed Spices	Guna, Mandsaur, Ujjain, Rajgarh, Ratlam, Shajapur and Neemuch	31.93	8.43	8.06 Spices Board (2.68)	15.44	85.10
		40	Wheat (including Sharbeti wheat for Bhopal Zone	Ujjain Zone (Neemuch), Ratlam, Mandsaur and Ujjain, Indore Zone (Indore, Dhar, Shajapur and Dewas) and Bhopal Zone (Sehore, Vidisha, Raisen, Hoshangabad, Harda, Narsinghpur and Bhopal)	86.42	27.55	9.03 (APEDA 0.00)	49.84	1155.00
		41	Lentil and Grams	Shivpuri, Guna, Vidisha, Raisen, Narsinghpura, Chhindwara	18.65	5.27	2.11 (APEDA .36)	11.26	235.75
		42	Oranges	Chhindwara Jpejungebad, Betul	10.0	2.70	1.89 (APEDA .54)	5.86	29.91
				Sub total	196.45	43.95	41.81 (APEDA 1.9) (Spices Board 2.68)	110.93	1631.95
11.	Tamil Nadu	43	Cut Flowers	Dharmapuri	24.85	2.91	3.48 (APEDA 3.48)	18.46	158.76
		44	Flowers	Nilgiri	15.88	2.00	5.23 (APEDA 1.99)	8.65	109.88
		45	Mangoes	Districts of Madurai, Theni, Dindigul, Virudhunagar and Tirunelveli	24.60	4.12	6.56 (APEDA 1.51)	13.92	85.00



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		46	Cashewnut	Cuddalore, Thanjavur, Pudukottai and Sivaganga	10.35	1.5	2.7 (APEDA 8.5)	6.15	75.00
				Sub total	75.68	10.53	17.97 (APEDA 6.98)	47.18	431.64
12.	Bihar	47	Lychee, Vegetables & Honey	Muzaffarpur, Samastipur, Hajipur, Vaishali, East and West Champeran, Bhagalpur, Begu Sarai, Khagaria, Sitamarhi, Saran and Gopalganj	12.13	0.18	4.45 (APEDA 1.49)	7.50	154.00
				Sub total	12.13	0.18	4.45 (APEDA 1.49)	7.50	154.00
13.	Gujarat	48	Mangoes & Vegetables	Ahmedabad, Khaida, Anand, Vadodar, Surat, Navsari, Valsad, Bharuch, Narmada	33.72	5.34	10.02 (APEDA 5.11)	18.36	92.64
		49	Value Added Onion	Districts of Bhavnagar, Surendranagar, Amreli, Rajkot, Junagadh and Jamnagar Districts	35.06	7.10	9.64 (APEDA 2.28)	18.34	234.25
		50	Sesame Seeds	Amreli, Bhavnagar, Surendranagar, Rajkot, Jamnagar	10.0	5.52	.85 (APEDA 2.28)	3.64	381.50
				Sub total	78.8	17.96	20.51 (APEDA 9.67)	40.34	708.39
14.	Sikkim	51	Flowers (Orchids)& Cherry Pepper	East Sikkim	32.31	2.40	8.09 (APEDA 0.20)	21.82	45.06
		52	Ginger	North, East, South & West Sikkim	24.61	10.06	6.67 (APEDA 4.12)	7.88	78.90
				Sub total	56.92	12.46	14.76 (APEDA 4.32)	29.70	121.68
15.	Himachal Pradesh	53	Apples	Shimla, Sirmour, Kullu, Mandi, Chamba and Kinnaur	57.07	17.80	9.77 (APEDA 3.42)	29.50	170.00
				Sub total	57.07	17.80	9.77 (APEDA 3.42)	29.50	170.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
16.	Orissa	54	Ginger and Turmeric	Kandhamal	6.03	1.49	1.51 (APEDA 0.65)	3.03	143.97
				Sub total	6.03	1.49	1.51 (APEDA 0.65)	3.03	143.97
17.	Jharkhand	55	Vegetables	Ranchi, Hazaribagh and Loherdaga	7.09	1.93	1.93 (APEDA 0.97)	3.23	81.70
				Sub total	7.09	1.93	1.93 (APEDA 0.97)	3.23	81.70
18.	Kerala	56	Horticulture Products	Thrissur, Emakulam, Kottayam, Alapuzha, Pathanamthitta, Kollam, Thiruvananthapuram, Idukki and Pallakad	29.87	8.03	9.98 (APEDA 0.80)	11.86	163.00
		57	Medicinal Plant	Wayanad, Mallapuram, Palakkad, Thrissur, Emakulam, Idukki, Kollam, Pathanamthitta, Thiruvananthapuram	26.24	7.85	9.88 (APEDA 1.81)	8.51	157.00
				Sub total	56.11	15.88	19.86 (APEDA 2.61)	20.37	320.00
19.	Assam	58	Fresh and Processed Ginger	Kamrup, Nalbari, Barpeta, Darrang, Nagaon, Morigaon, Karbi Anglong and North Cachar	17.53	4.93	2.27 (APEDA 0.70)	10.33	40.83
				Sub total	17.53	4.93	2.27 (APEDA 0.70)	10.33	40.83
20.	Rajasthan	59	Coriander	Kota, Bundi, Baran, Jhalawar & Chittoor	12.63	3.07	2.93 (APEDA 0.00)	6.62	55.20
		60	Cumin	Nagaur, Barmer, Jalore, Pali and Jodhpur	28.37	4.72	5.97 (APEDA 0.00)	17.6	161.50
				Sub total	41.00	7.79	8.09	24.22	216.7
	<b>Total</b>				<b>1723.85</b>	<b>258.77</b>	<b>471.59</b> (APEDA 124.1)	<b>969.64</b>	<b>12118.60</b>

**Production of Disease Free Seedlings for Coconut and Arecanut Plantlets**

2734. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has standardized tissue culture protocols for mass production of disease free seedlings for coconut and arecanut plantlets;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be made available to the growers in Kerala?

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

(b) Arecanut tissue culture protocol for mass production of disease tolerant/resistant (yellow leaf disease) arecanut palms have been standardized.

However, Coconut tissue culture technique for mass multiplication is not yet successful. The experiments are continuing in this line at Central Plantation Crops Research Institute, Kasargod for standardizing the mass production of coconut seedlings through tissue culture.

(c) The arecanut tissue culture plantlets will be made available to the farmers of Kerala during 2008-09.

#### Procedure for Release of Funds

2735. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to streamline the procedures for release of funds for Project Tiger and ensure greater accountability in its proper utilization;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which the proposed changes would revitalize the system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) A time frame for fund release to States and receipt of their utilization certificates at the Ministry of Environment & Forests has been structured, viz:

(i) **Release of first installment of Central Assistance:** by four weeks after receipt of Annual Plan of Operations from respective State Governments, which should not be delayed beyond the month of May of the financial year.

(ii) **Release of second installment of Central Assistance:** by two weeks after receipt of utilization certificate pertaining to previous year from the States, along with 60% utilization report of funding support released as first installment,

which should not be delayed beyond the month of December of the financial year. This has the acceptance of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, which has further directed that the States/UTs shall within a period of 15 days release the Central Assistance to field formations. Apart from obtaining Utilization Certificate from States to ensure accountability that the money was actually utilized for the purpose for which it was sanctioned, the monitoring and evaluation of Tiger Reserves has also been done by a panel of independent experts, selected as per the normative guidelines of the Ministry.

(c) The above would revitalize the system by making funds available for use in the field, apart from achieving the purpose for which the Central Government gives assistance to States.

#### Visit of Tourists to Lakshadweep

2736. DR. P.P. KOYA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign/domestic tourists visited Lakshadweep during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the amount of revenue generated therefrom during the said period;

(c) whether any share is given to Panchayat bodies;

(d) if not, whether the Government earmark a share of income to PRIs; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to increase tourist inflow?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) As per the data received from the Union Territory of Lakshadweep, foreign and domestic tourists visits to the UT during the last 3 years and revenue generated is as follows:

Year	Tourist visits (domestic & foreign)	Revenue generated (Rs. lakhs)
2002-03	5004	341.83
2003-04	4322	271.99
2004-05	2588	177.79

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

(e) In order to increase tourist flow, the Union Territory has undertaken publicity through various media. Efforts have also been made to improve transport facilities.

*[Translation]*

**Freezing of Prices of Essential Medicines by Foreign Pharmaceutical Companies**

2737. SHRI SITA RAM YADAV:  
SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA:  
SHRI MITRASEN YADAV:

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

(a) whether the foreign pharmaceutical companies have agreed to freeze the prices of 272 essential medicines which were earlier being sold at very high prices by them;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the Government policy in regard to stabilizing the prices of essential drugs?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) A Task Force under the Chairmanship of Dr. Pronab Sen, Principal Adviser, Planning Commission was constituted to explore options other than price control to make available life saving drugs at reasonable prices. During the course of discussions with the Task Force, various drug industry associations had proposed that the Government may freeze the prices of medicines at the present level. The Task Force has submitted its report to the Government on the 20th September, 2005. The Task Force has recommended *inter-alia* that the Government should announce the ceiling price of the drugs contained in the National List of Essential Medicines, 2003 (other than the drugs procured by hospitals directly and which an individual does not have to purchase from the market) on the basis of the weighted average prices of the top three brands by value of single ingredient formulations prevailing in the market as on the 1st April, 2005. Further, it was also recommended that during the transition period (*i.e.*, till the time ceiling prices are fixed and notified) prices of all essential drugs may be frozen.

The Government is examining the recommendations of the Task Force with various stakeholders and is likely to announce the new Pharmaceutical Policy shortly. While formulating the new Pharmaceutical Policy, the Government would ensure that essential and life saving drugs and made available on the common man at reasonable prices.

*[English]*

**Construction of Fishing Harbour at Mangalore**

2738. SHRI D.V. SADANAND GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for construction of fishing harbour at Mangalore is pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the proposal is likely to be approved and the funds 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) to (c) No, Sir. The Union Government in September 1997 had accorded approval to the proposal of Government of Karnataka for construction of fishing harbour at Mangalore stage-II at a cost of Rs. 75 lakhs under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS). The Central share to the tune of 50% of the project cost amounting to Rs. 37.50 lakhs was released to the State Government in two instalments, the first instalment of Rs. 30 lakhs in July 2000 and the second of Rs. 7.50 lakhs in June 2003.

*[Translation]*

**Subsidy for Micro Irrigation**

2739. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:  
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:  
SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA:  
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:  
MOHD. SHAHID:  
SHRI MUNSHI RAM:  
SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:  
SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has sought a subsidy of 50 per cent for drip irrigation as part of this micro irrigation programme;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) the details of subsidy being given at present on drip irrigation;

(d) the percentage of subsidy borne by the States;

(e) the target fixed for bringing cultivable land under drip and sprinkler irrigation in the next 10 years; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to achieve the goal?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture has formulated a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Micro irrigation to be implemented during the Tenth Five Year Plan with the objective of increasing the coverage of area under drip and sprinkler irrigation in the country. The scheme envisages assistance to farmers @ 50% of cost of the system.

(c) and (d) The Government has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Micro Management in Agriculture Supplementation/Complementation of States Efforts through Work Plan to promote various agricultural and horticultural crops, under which assistance @ 25 percent of the system cost is being provided for promotion of micro irrigation involving drip and sprinkler irrigation. Besides, assistance for micro irrigation is being provided @ 50 percent of the system cost under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on (i) "Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in the North Eastern States" (TMNE) including Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and Uttaranchal" and (ii) "Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize" (ISOPOM)

(e) and (f) No target has been fixed for covering cultivable land under drip and sprinkler irrigation for a period of 10 years. however, an area of 6.2 lakh hectares is proposed to be brought under Micro Irrigation during the Tenth Plan period under the Scheme.

*[English]*

#### Processing of Mustard Oil

2740. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Agricultural Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) has taken any step to process mustard oil;

(b) if so, the States where NAFED has set up processing units so far;

(c) the quantum of oilseeds procured and oil production therefrom; and

(d) the target set for 2005-06 financial year?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. NAFED has taken steps to process upto 4 lakh MT mustard seed procured under Price Support Scheme during crop season 2005. NAFED has floated tenders for engaging mustard seed processing units in different producing states like Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Gujarat. NAFED has not set up its own processing units.

(c) NAFED has procured 20.93 lakh MT mustard, 31,805 MT safflower seed, 2084 MT copra and 2196 MT sesame seed under Price Support Scheme from Rabi/Kharif crop of 2005 season. NAFED has been allowed to process upto 4 lakh MT of mustard seed. However, actual quantity of oil production will be known after processing of the quantity allowed.

(d) Under the Price Support Scheme, NAFED, as central nodal agency, undertakes procurement of oil seeds as and when prices of any of the oil seeds fall below the Minimum Support Price (MSP) fixed by the Government for a particular crop season. The procurement under the scheme continues till the prices stabilise at or above the MSP fixed by the Government. Therefore, no target may be fixed for a particular financial year.

#### Cultivation of Mango

2741. DR. R. SENTHIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is having special schemes to promote cultivation of Mango in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Tamil Nadu is covered under this scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) There is no scheme exclusively for promotion of mango cultivation. However, Government is implementing the following schemes for promotion of horticulture including mango:

- (i) Centrally Sponsored Scheme on National Horticulture Mission.
- (ii) Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern States including Sikkim and Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Jammu and Kashmir.
- (iii) National Horticulture Board's Scheme:
  - Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production and Post Harvest Management.
  - Technology Development and Transfer for Promotion of Horticulture.

(c) and (d) Tamil Nadu has been covered under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Horticulture Mission launched in May, 2005.

#### **Decline in Prices of Agricultural Products**

2742. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the plight of farmers as a result of the crash the prices of Onion, Tomato, Maize and some other crops;

(b) if so, the response of the Government alongwith the details of the action plan to help the farmers;

(c) whether the Union Government has received any requests from the States seeking financial assistance; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action of the Union 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 (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Month-end wholesale prices of onion, tomato and maize have shown an increasing trend in recent months.

(b) to (d) On the request of a State/UT Government, the Government of India implements Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities generally perishable in nature and not covered under Price Support Scheme. During 2005-06, on the request of the Government of Rajasthan, Government of India implemented MIS for procurement of 5000 MT of onion at Rs. 250/- per quintal from 1.6.2005 to 31.7.2005. No proposal from any other State Government has been received for implementing MIS for onion during the current year.

Regarding Maize Government of India has appointed Food Corporation of India as the Central Nodal Agency for procurement of Maize. The MSP for Maize for the year 2005-06 is Rs. 540/- per quintal.

#### **Announcement of Revised Prices by NPPA**

2743. SHRI MUNAWAR HASSAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has recently announced the revised prices for various Salbutamol formulations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the name of the companies which are selling these formulations and they submitted the revised Form-V to NPPA;

(d) the name of the companies which have so far not submitted Form-V after the reduction in Salbutamol prices; and

(e) the action being taken by NPPA against the defaulting companies?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS

PASWAN): (a) to (e) The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) fixed the ceiling prices in respect of eight formulations packs based on bulk drugs Salbutamol Sulphate *vide* S.O. 1348 (E) dated the 16th September, 2005. The manufacturers selling these Salbutamol based formulations are M/s. Cipla and M/s. Sun Pharma which have not submitted form-V so far. Non-ceiling price for formulation Rheolin Rheocaps 200 mg-2x14's of M/s. Ranbaxy was also fixed *vide* price order dated the 16th September, 2005. M/s. Ranbaxy has submitted supplementary price list in form-V.

In addition to the above, non-ceiling prices under para 8 of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO 1995) were fixed on the 30th March, 2005 in respect of some Salbutamol based formulations involving M/s. Aristo, Pfizer/Elegant Chemical, Elder Pharma, Cipla, Sun Pharma, Nicolas, Cadila/Excel. Dr. Reddy/Cheminnova, Wonder and Khandelwal Labs. All these companies were asked to submit implementation report along with supplementary price list in form-V. Aristo Pharma has replied that they are an SSI unit and therefore, the order is not applicable to them. M/s. Elegant Chemical, Elder Pharma, Sun Pharma and Nicolas have replied that they have discontinued production of these formulations. M/s. Cadila has replied that they have changed the composition of the product. M/s. Cipla has filed a Review petition under para 22 of DPCO '95 after the issue of Price Order dt. 30.03.2005. As per the proviso to Para 22 of DPCO '95 it is mandatory for the manufacturer *i.e.*, M/s. Cipla Ltd. to implement the retail price fixed by the Govt. under the said Price Order for which a review has been applied for M/s. Cheminnova has submitted Form-V in respect of Salbutamol Liquid 60 ml bottle. Reply from M/s. Wonder and M/s. Khandelwal Labs. is still awaited.

Action against companies for non-implementation of prices fixed/revised by the NPPA is taken under para 13 of the DPCO 1995.

#### **Salem Steel Plant**

2744. SHRI A.V. BELLARMIN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether sanction has been accorded for setting up a second Rolling Mill in the Salem Steel Plant;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this unit has become sick; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed/taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) No, Sir.

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

#### **Assistance to Maharashtra Due to Flood**

2745. SHRI S.D. MANDLIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has requested the Union Government for Central assistance for restoration of farming land affected by the recent flood in the State particularly in Kolhapur district;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount released/proposed to be released; and

(d) the time by which the remaining assistance 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 (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (d) Kolhapur District was one of the districts of Maharashtra which was affected by floods during July-August 2005. The State Government of Maharashtra had submitted a memorandum on the damages caused by the floods in July-August 2005 in various sectors including the agriculture sector. A Central Team was deputed to the state for on-the-spot assessment of damage and requirement of funds. The report of the Central Team was considered by the Government of India and Government of India approved release of Rs. 697.45 crore from Natural Calamities Relief Fund (NCRF) including an amount of Rs. 65.17 crore for agriculture sector.

*[Translation]***Agricultural Labourers**

2746. SHRI CHHATTAR SINGH DARBAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of agricultural labourers living below the poverty line in the country, State-wise; and

(b) the efforts made by the Government to improve their financial condition?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) The Government has made assessment of incidence of poverty for the population as a whole. According to the NSSO survey (1999-2000), about 26% of the population is living Below Poverty Line. Rural economy being agriculture based, a large number of agricultural labourers live below the poverty line. However, no estimate of poverty among agricultural labourers separately is available.

(b) The Central Government has launched several welfare and poverty alleviation/employment generation schemes for the rural poor which, *inter-alia*, include agricultural workers. Some of such schemes are: Swamjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana, Sampooma Gramin Rojgar Yojana, Pradhanmantri Gram Sadak Yojana, National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), etc. The Government has recently enacted National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, which provides for 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. Further, Janshree Bima Yojana providing for insurance cover to people living below or marginally above the poverty line is also available for workers in the unorganised sector including agricultural labourers. The Government has also redesigned the Universal Health Insurance Scheme (UHS), which is available to families living below poverty line (BPL) which, *inter-alia*, include agricultural labourers, at subsidized annual premium.

*[English]***Export of Onion**

2747. SHRI HITEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to export Onion during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the amount involved and quantity of Onion exported till date and proposed to be exported during the remaining period of this year;

(c) the estimated yield of Onion this year and the areas under onion cultivation in the country particularly in West Bengal State-wise; and

(d) the measures taken by the Government to promote onion cultivation?

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) During the current financial year 2005-06, National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation and other state trading enterprises have exported total quantity of 4.52 lakh metric tonnes of onion valuing at Rs. 407 crore. There is no quantitative restriction for export of onion and hence export of onion during the current year depends upon the export demand and availability of export worthy stocks of onion in the market.

(c) The total production of onion is estimated at 60.34 lakh metric tonnes and the yield of per hectare is 13.27 metric tonnes. The area under onion cultivation in West Bengal is 17,000 hectare, total production estimated to be 1.90 lakh metric tonnes and the yield per hectare 11.18 metric tonnes. State-wise area and production figures for onion for the current year are given in enclosed Statement.

(d) Government has launched National Horticulture Mission from May 2005 for promotion of horticultural crops including onion with a total budget outlay of Rs. 2300 crore during Xth Plan.



**Statement***Area Production and productivity of onion during 2005-06*

State	Area (thousand hectare)	Production (thousand metric tones)	Productivity (metric tones/hectare)
Andhra Pradesh	22.85	197.00	8.93
Bihar	24.05	265.65	11.05
Gujarat	49.23	984.75	20.01
Haryana	13.05	257.00	19.69
Karnataka	41.64	306.60	7.35
Madhya Pradesh	25.50	303.80	11.91
Maharashtra	84.48	1661.00	19.66
Orissa	55.50	473.00	8.52
Rajasthan	26.35	380.60	13.43
Tamil Nadu	24.00	251.10	10.46
Uttar Pradesh	53.65	562.00	10.48
West Bengal	17.00	290.00	11.18
Others	16.10	201.75	12.53
<b>Total</b>	<b>454.00</b>	<b>6034.25</b>	<b>13.27</b>

**Problems Faced by Coconut and Arecanut Farmers**

2748. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Coconut and Arecanut farmers have been facing serious problems due to fall in price; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government to give fair price for these agricultural products 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 (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Wholesale prices of Milling and Ball Copra and Arecanut have shown decreasing trend in the recent

years. As a result the income realization by the farmers has been adversely affected.

(b) As a measure to avoid financial losses to farmers in the event of market prices falling below MSP, the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED), as the central nodal agency to undertake Price Support Operations, enters into market to purchase the Produce. NAFED has purchased a quantity of 2084 MTs of milling copra in the states of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and A & N Islands in 2005 season at the MSP rate of Rs. 3570/- per quintal.

Arecanut is covered under Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) on a specific request being received from the State Governments in the event of fall in prices to unduly low level. No such request has been received from the concerned State Governments this year.

*[Translation]***Child Labour Act**

2749. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA:  
SHRI AHOK KUMAR RAWAT:  
SHRI MUNSHI RAM:

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

(a) whether the Government has received the names of the States not pursuing the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 as reported in the 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated September 24, 2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these States have not utilized the fund allocated to them for the welfare of child labourers;

(d) if so, the number of hazardous industries where child labourers are working, State-wise;

(e) whether all the States have since started the schools under National Child Labour Project; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Grants under the Scheme of National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs) are released directly to the identified child labour endemic districts. The utilisation of funds are monitored through the audited accounts submitted by the concerned districts.

(d) Under the NCLP Scheme, survey is conducted in the identified districts to find out the number of children working in hazardous occupations/processes which are specified under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986. The number of hazardous industries in which child labourers are working are not maintained by the Ministry.

(e) and (f) The National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs) are selected by the Government on the basis of

the endemicity of child labour. The Scheme was being implemented in 100 districts in 13 States till the 9th Plan. It has subsequently been expanded during the 10th Plan to cover 250 districts in 21 States of the country.

**Subsidy to Agriculture**

2750. SHRI MITRASEN YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total subsidy being given to agriculture as on date;

(b) whether about 54 per cent of the subsidy earmarked for agriculture is being diverted to the industries;

(c) if so, the details and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the efforts proposed to be made to ensure that the subsidy earmarked for agriculture is spent only on the agricultural community?

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) Details regarding Agricultural Subsidy are given below:

	(Rs. in crore)	
Item	2002-03 (Actuals)	2003-04 (RE)*
Fertilizer (Total)	11015	11847
1.1 Indegenous fertilizer	7790	8521
1.2 Imported fertilizer	—	
1.3 Sale of decontrolled fertilizer with concession to farmers.	3225	3326
Electricity	7354	NA
Irrigation	15401	13627
Other subsidies given to marginal farmers and Farmers' Cooperative Societies in the form of seeds, development of oil seeds, pulses, etc.	1259	

\*Revised Estimates

Source: CSO.

(b) to (d) Subsidy earmarked for agriculture under various schemes/programmes is spent for agricultural growth and development.

**Development of Saplings and Agricultural Forestry in M.P.**

2751. SHRI NAND KUMAR SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal amounting to Rs. 687 lacs was sent by the Government of Madhya Pradesh on June 23, 2003 for the development of high quality saplings and agricultural forestry under Green India;

(b) if so, the latest position of the said proposal;

(c) whether this proposal is pending with the Centre for the last three years;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which this proposal is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Grants-in-Aid for Greening India Scheme of the Ministry of Environment and Forests which, *inter-alia*, supports production of quality planting material has become operational during 2005-06. However, the Ministry has not received any project proposal costing Rs. 587 lakh sent by the Government of Madhya Pradesh for production/development of high quality saplings and agricultural forestry in the year 2003.

(b) to (e) Do not arise in view of reply at (a) above.

*[English]*

**Non-Utilisation of Funds for Animal Husbandry**

2752. PROF. M. RAMADASS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Animal Husbandry has not fully utilised the funds earmarked for it during the first three years of Tenth Five Year Plan;

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

(c) its impact on the schemes of development conceived by the Department; and

(d) the measures/strategies proposed to be taken to ensure full and effective utilisation of allocation in the remaining two years of the Tenth Plan?

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) Due to various measures taken by the Department in terms of constant monitoring of schemes, evaluation studies, regular interaction with the State Governments, field visits by Officers, utilization of the Plan Allocation has improved considerably. During 2004-05, the Department was able to utilize Rs. 565.97 crores, which is over 98% of Revised Estimates 2004-05. The total expenditure of the Department in the first three years of the 10th Plan was Rs. 1076.63 crores. The Department is getting the evaluation studies conducted in respect of Rs. 1076.63 crores. The Department is getting the evaluation studies conducted in respect of various schemes. Various measures have been taken to improve coordination with the State Governments in the implementation of the schemes. All these steps are expected to lead to full and effective utilization of allocation in the remaining two years of Tenth Plan.

*[Translation]*

**Package for Badkal Lake in Haryana**

2753. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to provide economic package to the Government of Haryana for development of Badkal lake;

(b) if so, the time by which the same is likely to be done; and

(c) the number of foreign and domestic tourists visited Badkal lake during the last year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Development and promotion of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/U.T. Administrations. Ministry of Tourism, Government of India,

extends financial assistance to the State Governments/UTs for tourism related projects which are identified in consultation with the State concerned every year for providing financial assistance under the schemes Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits, Product/Infrastructure and Destination Development and Large Revenue Generating Projects.

Project proposals that are complete in all respect are approved on the basis of their *inter-se* priority competing demands from other States and availability of funds under the respective Head. A project for Landscaping/Beautification of Badkal Lake has been sanctioned for Central financial assistance of Rs. 146.05 lakh during 2004-05.

(c) 72,607 foreign tourists and 60,329 domestic tourists visited Badkal Lake Tourist Complex during the last year.

*[English]*

#### **Agricultural Land**

2754. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the agricultural land holdings in the country particularly Gujarat, State-wise;

(b) the average of agricultural production compared to the land holdings particularly Gujarat, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government is giving any financial help to farmers for the development of non-cultivable land; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) A statement is enclosed.

(b) Agriculture production data by the size class of land holding is not collected.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Some of the important schemes being implemented by Government to address the different kinds of degraded lands are:

- Soil Conservation for enhancing productivity of the degraded lands in catchments of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone Rivers;
- Watershed Development Project in shifting Cultivation Areas;
- Reclamation of Alkali Soils;
- National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas.

#### **Statement**

#### **Number and Area of Operational Holdings State-wise 1995-96**

Sl.No.	States/UTs	All Sizes	
		Number	Area
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10603	14374
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	104	344
3.	Assam	2683	3138
4.	Bihar	14155	10682
5.	Goa	70	59
6.	Gujarat	3781	9904
7.	Haryana	1728	3676
8.	Himachal Pradesh	863	1000
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	1336	1013
10.	Karnataka	6221	12109
11.	Kerala	6299	1712
12.	Madhya Pradesh	9603	21890
13.	Maharashtra	10653	19880
14.	Manipur	143	174
15.	Meghalaya	160	213
16.	Mizoram	66	85

(Number in 000 units)  
(Area in 000 hectares)

1	2	3	4
17.	Nagaland	149	720
18.	Orissa	3966	5144
19.	Punjab	1093	4147
20.	Rajasthan	5364	21250
21.	Sikkim	44	73
22.	Tamilnadu	8012	7303
23.	Tripura	301	181
24.	Uttar Pradesh	21529	18570
25.	West Bengal	6547	5588
	All Union Territories	107	130
Grand Total		115580	163357

#### Projects Pending with Planning Commission

2755. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of flood control projects of State especially from the Government of Gujarat are lying pending for approval;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for their pendency;

(c) the estimated cost of the projects; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No Sir. No flood control project is pending for action in the Planning Commission including that from the State of Gujarat.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

#### Power Plant Equipment

2756. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) is being geared to take up 800 MW supercritical thermal sets and 765 KV sub-stations through appropriate policy support;

(b) if so, whether the BHEL has made any agreement with foreign company for transfer of technology agreement for 800 MW supercritical thermal power plant; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the BHEL to meet the increased demand for power plant equipment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) BHEL has recently entered into a technology transfer agreement with Alstom S.A. France for steam generating equipment required for 800 MW Super-critical Thermal Power Plants. It has an ongoing technology transfer agreement with Siemens AG, Germany in respect of steam turbines and turbo generators for the same.

(c) BHEL is enhancing its annual manufacturing capacity from the present 6000 MW to 10000 MW by 2007 to cater to the expected power addition programmes in the country under 11th and 12-Five Year Plan Periods.

#### Impact of Rainfall on Agriculture

2757. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the States which have experienced shortage of rainfall in the country during the last three years and the expected actual rainfall during the years;

(b) whether the shortage of rainfall has affected country's overall agricultural production;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the comparative figures over the corresponding three years; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to tackle the situation?

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) In 2002, 19 States/UTs; in 2003, 3 States/UTs and in 2004, 6 States/UTs experienced deficient and

scanty rainfall (showing deviations of—19% to—99% from normal). The details of normal (expected) as well as actual rainfall for the last three years for all the States/UTs are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) and (c) Agriculture production of major crops in the year 2002-03 was 480.49 million tonnes as against 516.52 million tonnes in 2001-02 implying a decrease of 7% over the previous year. Agriculture production for the same crops in the year 2003-04 was 480.44 million tonnes, implying no change over the previous year and in the year 2004-05 it was 467.81 million tonnes implying a decrease of 3% over the previous year. Details are given in the enclosed Statement-II. It may be stated that besides rainfall, there are many other factors like supply of inputs, weather conditions, incidence of pests & diseases, etc., which also affect the agriculture production during a particular year.

(d) The Government has initiated several steps to tackle the situation. A new scheme "Enhancing Sustainability of Dry Land Farming System" has been formulated to address the issues of dry land farming systems in arid and semi-arid region of the country. The Government is also providing creation of additional irrigation facilities especially through micro irrigation. Under accelerated irrigation benefit programme also, special focus has been laid for speedy completion of last mile irrigation projects by enhancing the outlays during the current year. Further, in order to compensate the farmers for crop loss due to non-preventable risks including deficient rainfall, Government of India is implementing National Agricultural Insurance Scheme in 23 States and 2 Union Territories from Rabi 1999-2000. This scheme is available to all the farmers—loanee and non-loanee—irrespective of their size of holding. Efforts are also on to provide adequate credit facilities to the farmers.

*Statement I*

*State-wise Rainfall for All Seasons-2002 to 2004*

(in mm)

Sl.No.	State/UT	Total-2002				Total-2003				Total-2004			
		Normal	Actual	%Dvi.	Category	Normal	Actual	%Dvi.	Category	Normal	Actual	%Dvi.	Category
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands (UT)	2948.1	2289.0	-22	D	2945.7	2484.9	-16	N	3080.7	2508.0	-18	N
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3325.4	2573.4	-23	D	3003.2	2573.1	-14	N	2927.5	2953.8	1	N
3.	Assam	1880.4	2128.7	13	N	2385.9	2234.6	-6	N	2275.5	2570.3	13	N
4.	Meghalaya	6191.9	4631.2	-25	D	4940.2	5794.1	17	N	6878.6	7844.2	14	N
5.	Nagaland	2011.8	1260.3	-37	D	1935.0	1549.5	-20	D	1893.3	1452.7	-23	D
6.	Manipur	1362.4	1100.8	-19	N	1361.9	1283.3	-6	N	1373.1	1358.4	-1	N
7.	Mizoram	2612.8	1665.5	-36	D	2304.6	2734.3	19	N	2178.2	2442.2	12	N
8.	Tripura	2314.0	2086.8	-10	N	2314.2	2297.9	-1	N	2349.9	2598.0	11	N
9.	Sikkim	2556.5	2906.7	14	N	2918.1	3358.9	15	N	3090.5	2782.0	-10	N
10.	West Bengal	1796.4	1809.3	1	N	1823.4	2042.5	12	N	1745.9	1828.7	5	N
11.	Orissa	1427.4	1167.4	-18	N	1450.3	1718.9	18	N	1459.0	1332.3	-9	N

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
12.	Bihar	1188.7	1167.2	-2	N	1188.2	1419.3	19	N	1230.6	1127.4	-8	N
13.	Jharkhand	1299.8	1278.8	-2	N	1296.3	1275.7	-2	N	1328.8	1152.5	-13	N
14.	Uttar Pradesh	989.5	778.3	-20	D	951.0	1124.9	18	N	976.3	761.1	-22	D
15.	Uttaranchal	1612.6	1706.3	6	N	1586.2	1888.1	19	N	1553.8	1678.7	8	N
16.	Haryana	617.6	453.2	-27	D	584.7	680.0	16	N	556.6	517.7	-7	N
17.	Chandigarh (UT)	1061.9	1010.0	-5	N	1075.2	1042.4	-3	N	1077.7	1243.2	15	N
18.	Delhi	705.4	562.5	-20	D	794.1	1038.1	30	E	794.0	604.3	-24	D
19.	Punjab	648.5	401.2	-38	D	653.0	635.0	-3	N	649.1	443.9	-32	D
20.	Himachal Pradesh	1347.1	1041.1	-23	D	1387.6	1238.0	-11	N	1253.3	780.0	-39	D
21.	Jammu and Kashmir	921.4	745.3	-19	N	1025.0	1112.9	9	N	1124.5	922.3	-18	N
22.	Rajasthan	494.8	197.9	-60	S	575.8	552.8	-4	N	462.3	381.9	-17	N
23.	Madhya Pradesh	1104.3	912.2	-17	N	1079.5	1197.7	11	N	1090.9	885.4	-19	N
24.	Chhattisgarh	1311.0	1082.3	-17	N	1318.6	1656.5	26	E	1363.3	1194.2	-12	N
25.	Gujarat	764.1	543.5	-29	D	905.1	1069.9	17	N	716.1	711.4	-1	N
26.	DNH & Daman (UTs)	2195.6	1176.4	-46	D	2212.8	2233.2	1	N	2212.6	2732.9	24	E
27.	Diu (UT) (no data)	624.4	0.0		ND	625.0	0.0		ND	625.0	0.0		ND
28.	Goa	3289.3	2349.3	-29	D	3049.5	2961.7	-2	N	3045.2	2390.0	-22	D
29.	Maharashtra	1159.6	956.2	-18	N	1211.5	1063.1	-12	N	1146.9	1021.6	-11	N
30.	Andhra Pradesh	917.2	719.0	-22	D	887.8	955.3	6	N	904.0	808.2	-11	N
31.	Tamil Nadu	937.1	722.8	-23	D	954.0	916.2	-4	N	910.7	1099.9	21	E
32.	Pondicherry (UT)	1372.5	992.6	-28	D	1363.3	1139.7	-16	N	1363.2	1839.4	35	E
33.	Karnataka	1286.3	941.1	-27	D	1229.4	971.5	-21	D	1155.4	1084.3	-6	N
34.	Kerala	2870.7	2419.2	-16	N	3065.5	2281.0	-26	D	3158.6	2958.7	-6	N
35.	Lakshadweep (UT)	1577.1	1034.4	-34	D	1582.3	1532.5	-3	N	1584.7	2006.8	32	E
	All India	1206.6	977.0	-19	N	1197.7	1242.8	4	N	1187.8	1089.5	-8	N

Note: Normal (N) - +20% or more, Excess (E) - +19% to -19%, Deficient (D) - -20% to -59%, Scanty (S)- -60% to -99%

ND—No data.

Source: The above information has been provided by India Meteorological Department during Crop Weather Watch Group meetings held in DAC during the year 2002-2004.

**Statement II***Production of major crops during the years 2001 to 2004*

(in million tonnes)

crops	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	% change in 2002-03	% change in 2003-04	% change in 2004-05
Foodgrains	212.85	174.77	213.46	204.61	-18	22	-4
Total Nine Oilseeds	20.66	14.84	25.29	26.10	-28	70	3
Cotton	1.70	1.47	2.36	2.89	-14	61	23
Jute & Mesta	2.10	2.03	2.02	1.89	-3	0	-7
Sugarcane	279.21	287.38	237.31	232.32	3	-17	-2
<b>Total Crops</b>	<b>516.52</b>	<b>480.49</b>	<b>480.44</b>	<b>467.81</b>	<b>-7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-3</b>

*[Translation]***Monsoon Based Agriculture**

2758. SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD:  
SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to promote monsoon based agriculture in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the progress made in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) The Government is promoting agriculture both in irrigated and rainfed areas. Out of total agricultural areas of about 142 million hectare, about 40% is irrigated and 60% is rainfed.

Water and moisture conservation is the main strategy for improving monsoon based agriculture. Government of India is implementing following schemes for soil and moisture conservation to promote monsoon based agriculture.

*Ministry of Agriculture:*

(i) National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPR).

(ii) Soil Conservation in the Catchment of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone River (RVP & FPR).

(iii) Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Area (WDPSA).

(iv) Reclamation of Alkali Soil (RAS).

*Ministry of Rural Development:*

(v) Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP).

(vi) Desert Development Programme (DDP).

(vii) Integrated Waste Land Development Programme (IWDPP).

The total cumulative area developed under these programmes since inception till March, 2005 is 25.30 million hectares, at an expenditure of Rs. 8968.07 crores.

Besides, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has developed suitable crop varieties for dryland rainfed conditions for increasing agriculture production.



*[English]***Per-Capita Amount Allotted for Agriculture**

2759. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita amount allotted for agriculture during the last three years and thereafter till date in the country particularly for flood affected areas of Karnataka;

(b) the total amount demand by the Government of Karnataka; and

(c) the amount sanctioned and released by the Government for the purpose during this period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) As per the information furnished by the Planning Commission per capita outlay proposed and agreed to by the Karnataka Government for the last three years i.e. 2002-03 to 2004-05 and current year i.e. 2005-06 for Agriculture and Allied Activities as well as for flood control including flood protection works is shown below. The approved outlay for All-India for Agriculture and Allied Activities for the same period is also given below:

Year	Per capita approved outlay (in Rs.)		
	Agriculture & Allied Activities		Flood Control/ Protection Works
	All India	Karnataka	Karnataka
2002-03	59.48	76.98	1.12
2003-04	51.91	85.48	1.10
2004-05	58.91	149.69	0.27
2005-06	66.11	151.37	1.38

Further, as per the information furnished by Ministry of Home Affairs, details of funds released to the Government of Karnataka from Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) during the last three years and in the current year till date are given below:

Year	Amount Released (Rs. Crore)	
	CRF	NCCF
2002-03	61.66	196.88
2003-04	64.74	316.47
2004-05	67.98	63.62
2005-06 (till date)	86.00	198.85

*[Translation]***National Consumer Helpline**

2760. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a National Consumer Helpline (NCH), New Delhi has been started with the subsidy from the Department of Consumer Affairs, Government of India to provide help, information and counsel to consumers on matters relating to exploitation of consumers;

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

(c) the details of the works being currently executed by the helpline;

(d) whether the Government proposes to provide assistance to the States to start such helpline scheme at all the district headquarters;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the reaction of 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 TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, a National Consumer Helpline facility has been set up in Delhi by Delhi University with financial assistance from the Consumer Welfare Fund (CWF) under which a consumer from anywhere in the country can call toll free number 1600-11-4000 from MTNL/BSNL lines for information, advice and guidance.

(c) The Helpline follows a three tier approach. At first the consumer is informed of his rights in a particular consumer problem and whom he should approach in the

company/organization concerned. In case his problem remains unresolved he/she is directed to taken up the matter with the concerned industry or government organizations. It is only as a last resort the consumer is advised to take their case to the concerned consumer court under the Consumer Protection Act.

(d) to (f) No Sir.

*[English]*

#### **Contribution of Employees in EPF Scheme**

2761. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of monthly contribution by the employees of organized sector in the Employees Provident Fund (EPF) Scheme;

(b) whether the Government proposes to raise the monthly contribution and eligibility age for receiving pension for EPF scheme;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to safeguard the interests of the workers in the organized sector?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) Presently, the rate of contribution payable by the employers as well as the employees to the Employees' Provident Fund is 12% of basic wages, Dearness Allowance and retaining allowances (if any) except in case of certain categories of establishments. Further, according to the provisions of para 3 of the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995, Pension Fund contribution @ 8.33% of Employee's pay is payable from and out of the employer's share of Provident Fund contribution in each month by the employer within 15 days of close of every month.

(b) and (c) Currently there is no proposal for raising the rate of monthly contribution either under the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 or the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme, 1952.

(d) The Employees' Provident Fund benefits are being extended to the employees of covered establishments, in accordance with the provisions of the Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 and the schemes framed thereunder.

#### **Subsidy on Agro-Infrastructural Projects**

2762. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has started a scheme to provide subsidy on capital investment in agro-infrastructural projects;

(b) if so, the details of this scheme and its likely impact on agriculture sector;

(c) the time by which the scheme is likely to be started; and

(d) the projects included in the agro-infrastructural sector?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Agriculture is implementing a Scheme for "Development/Strengthening of Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure, Grading and Standardization." Under the scheme, investment subsidy is provided @ 25% on the capital cost of the project subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakh for each project in general and @ 33.3% of capital cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 60 lakh for each project in case of North Eastern States, hilly areas and to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes entrepreneurs. In respect of infrastructure projects of State Governments/ State Agencies, there is no upper ceiling on subsidy to be provided under the scheme. The assistance is available to individuals, Group of farmers/growers/consumers, Partnership/Proprietary firms, Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), Self Help Groups (SHGs), Companies, Corporations, Cooperatives, Cooperative Marketing Federations, Local Bodies, Agricultural Produce Market Committees & Marketing Boards in the entire country. The scheme is reform linked to be implemented in those States/Union Territories that amend the law dealing with Agricultural Produce Marketing Regulation (APMC) Act to allow setting up of competitive markets in private and cooperative sectors, direct marketing and contract farming.

The financial assistance provided under the scheme would motivate private and cooperative sectors in the development of alternative competitive markets and thus provide freedom to farmer to sell his produce in the market providing better prices and services without the

necessity of going through licensed traders and regulated markets. It would also incentivise the States to undertake reforms in the APMC Act.

(c) The Scheme has been approved for implementation with effect from 20.10.2004. The States of Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Manipur, Himachal Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Nagaland, Sikkim, Punjab and Andaman & Nicobar Islands have so far been notified as eligible for grant of Central assistance under the scheme.

(d) Assistance under the scheme is provided for the development of infrastructure projects in agriculture and allied sectors, including dairy, meat, fisheries and minor forest produce. Marketing Infrastructure may comprise of any of the following:

- (i) Functional infrastructure for collection/assembling, grading, standardization and quality certification, labeling, packaging, etc.
- (ii) Market user common facilities in the project area like shops/offices, platforms for loading/unloading/ assembling and auctioning of the produce, etc.;
- (iii) Infrastructure for Direct marketing, supply of production inputs and need-based services to the farmers; and for E-trading, market intelligence etc. and Mobile infrastructure for post-harvest operations.

#### Promotion of Aquaculture Industry

2763. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has evolved any scheme to promote aquaculture industry in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of such industries functioning at present;

(d) the number of applications received for setting up of such industries during the last three years, State-wise;

(e) the number of applications out of them approved so far; and

(f) the time by which the remaining applications are 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) Government has not evolved any scheme to promote aquaculture industry in the country as the list of scheduled industries, as laid down in the Industrial (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951, does not cover the activity 'Aquaculture'.

(b) to (f) Question do not arise.

#### Corruption in Procurement Centres

2764. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether wide ranging corruption and procedural bottlenecks at procurement centres such under weight, refusal to accept food grains in spite of fulfilling laid down specifications and denial of on the spot payment have led farmers to distress sale;

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

(c) the steps taken or being taken to remove the infrastructure bottlenecks at the procurement centres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No such complaint leading to distress sale has been received.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) During the procurement period squads comprising officials of the FCI and State Agencies are deputed to procurement centres to check that the laid down procedure is followed in order to ensure smooth procurement.

#### Environmental Projects

2765. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of centrally sponsored environmental projects launched in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the funds allocated by the Government during this period, State-wise;

(c) the details of the achievements made in this regard; and

(d) the details of the projects proposed to be launched in the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No new Centrally Sponsored Scheme was launched in Environment Sector during last three years.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) No new Centrally Sponsored scheme in the environment sector is proposed to be launched during current financial year.

#### **Construction of Dam on Polar River**

2766. SHRI A.K. MOORTHY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to provide financial assistance for construction of dams on the Polar river in Tamil Nadu; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) Irrigation is a State subject and the planning, execution, funding, operation and maintenance of irrigation projects are primarily the responsibility of the State Governments based on their priorities. The Central Government is providing Central Assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme for completion of irrigation projects, proposed by the State Governments, as per the guidelines of the programme. No proposal from the State Government of Tamil Nadu for assistance under the programme has been received for construction of dams on the Polar river in Tamil Nadu.

*[Translation]*

#### **Closure of Chemical Fertilizer Units**

2767. SHRI AJIT JOGI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received suggestions/recommendations to close down certain chemical fertilizer production units;

(b) if so, the authority from which the said suggestions/recommendations have been received;

(c) the name of units which are proposed to be closed down; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The closure proposals of sick fertilizer Public Sector Undertakings have been approved by the Cabinet.

(c) It has been decided to close down the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd.; Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. excepting its Jodhpur Mining Organisation which has been demerged into a new company *i.e.* FCI Aravalli Gypsum and Minerals India Ltd.; and Pyrites, Phosphates and Chemicals Ltd.

(d) The time frame will depend on the decision of the Hon'ble Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction/High Court.

#### **Cancer Medicines**

2768. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Novartis a Multinational Company from Switzerland has got the monopoly through patent on Enetib Messilet a cancer medicine;

(b) if so, its likely impact on Indian pharmaceutical companies engaged in making the said medicine prior the such patenting;

(c) the price of said medicine made by Indian companies and Novartis separately;

(d) whether the cancer patient have to buy the medicine costly to provisions in patent laws; and

(e) if so, the remedial measures being taken by the Government to provide cancer medicines at cheaper prices?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) On 10.11.2003 Exclusive Marketing Right (EMR) was granted for the product B-crystalline form of Imatinib Mesylete in its doses forms (Glivec capsules) to M/s Novartis by the Controller General of Patents for a period of 5 years or till the date of grant/rejection of patent. However, the matter is *sub-judice*, and some of the Indian pharmaceutical companies are continuing with the production of this drug.

(c) The price of one 100 mg Glivac Capsule manufactured by M/s. Novartis is being sold at Rs. 940.00. The same medicine manufactured by the following 4 Indian companies is being sold at the following price, as per available information:

Sl.No.	Company's name	Brand Name	Price per Caps. In Rs.
1.	M/s. CIPLA	Imatib Caps. 100 mg.	85.00
2.	M/s. Sun Pharma	Imalek Caps. 100 mg.	85.00
3.	M/s. Natco	Veenat 100 mg.	90.00
4.	M/s. Ranbaxy	Zoleta Caps.	100.00

(d) The patent law in the country provides for a strong and comprehensive set of safeguards including provisions to ensure availability of medicines at reasonable prices through compulsory licensing. Many of the drugs already in the Indian market, including those in the National List of Essential Medicines 2003, are off-patent and their pricing would not get affected by the new patent regime.

(e) Health being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to provide treatment to the cancer patients. The Central Government is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments by providing financial assistance for setting up radiotherapy

units in medical colleges/hospitals for providing treatment facilities and recurring grants to most of the recognized regional cancer centers in states for procurement of equipment and for research. The Central Government has set up a National Illness Assistance Fund under Department of Health for providing assistance to poor families for major life threatening diseases. The Central Government is also contributing to the State Illness Assistance Funds in various states for providing treatment to the needy and poor patients under the Rashtriya Aarogya Nidhi. Some of the anti-cancer drugs are provided free in the Government institutions. Besides the Central Government employees are covered under CGHS for the purchase of drugs required.

*[English]*

#### Payment of Statutory dues to Employees of CPSUs

2769. SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the total volume of non-payment of wages and other statutory dues to the employees of the Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) as on date; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure regular payment of their wages and other statutory dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) The Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) are expected to pay the salary/wages and other statutory dues of their employees from their own resources. Besides, the Government have advised CPSEs to pay in full the statutory dues of employees/workers alongwith their salary/wages regularly. The Government have sometimes provided assistance by way of Non-Plan loan to certain CPSEs to supplement their efforts for payment of wages/salaries and statutory dues when they are unable to generate enough resources. As per available information, an amount of Rs. 517.43 crore (details in the enclosed Statement-I) was approved by the Government during the year 2004-05 for payment of outstanding salaries/wages and other statutory dues to the employees of 24 CPSEs under the administrative control of the Department of Heavy Industries (DHI). During the current year the

Government have approved budgetary support amounting to Rs. 243.65 crore for 17 CPSEs under DHI for the same purpose as per details in the enclosed

Statement-II. However, centralized information in respect of the CPSEs belonging to all the Ministries/Departments is not maintained.

***Statement I***

Sl.No.	CPSEs under DHI	Rs. in crore
1.	Andrew Yule and Company Ltd.	32.12
2.	Bharat Pumps and Compressors Ltd.	14.07
3.	Burn Standard Co. Ltd.	4.27
4.	Hindustan Photofilms Manufacturing Corporation Ltd.	3.06
5.	HMT Bearing Ltd.	1.42
6.	NEPA Ltd.	12.86
7.	Praga Tools Ltd.	2.97
8.	Richardson and Cruddas (1972) Ltd.	1.61
9.	Bharat Heavy Plate and Vessels Ltd.	45.72
10.	Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Ltd.	1.95
11.	Bharat Wagon and Engineering Co. Ltd.	9.10
12.	Braithwaite and Co. Ltd.	1.11
13.	Cement Corporation of India Ltd.	11.55
14.	Heavy Engineering Corporation Ltd.	125.65
15.	Hindustan Cables Ltd.	105.11
16.	HMT Chinar Watches Ltd.	5.03
17.	HMT Ltd.	6.65
18.	HMT Machine Tools Ltd.	38.28
19.	HMT Watches Ltd.	30.43
20.	Instrumentation Ltd.	33.64
21.	National Instruments Ltd.	3.90
22.	Triveni Structural Ltd.	17.80
23.	Tungbhadra Steel Plants Ltd.	5.06
24.	Tyre Corporation of India Ltd.	4.07
<b>Total</b>		<b>517.43</b>

**Statement II**

Sl.No.	Name of CPSEs under DHI	Amount (Rs. crore)
1.	Andrew Yule and Company Ltd.	7.22
2.	Bharat Heavy Plate and Vessels Ltd.	39.0
3.	Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Ltd.	2.28
4.	Bharat Pumps and Compressors Ltd.	5.25
5.	Bharat Wagon and Engineering Co. Ltd.	6.12
6.	Hindustan Cables Ltd.	88.54
7.	Hindustan Photofilms Manufacturing Corporation Ltd.	12.98
8.	HMT (Watches)	36.39
9.	Instrumentation Ltd.	2.14
10.	National Instruments Ltd.	0.71
11.	NEPA Ltd.	14.01
12.	Praga Tools Ltd.	22.56
13.	Triveni Structural Ltd.	2.78
14.	Tungbhadra Steel Products Ltd.	3.02
15.	Bum Standard Co. Ltd. (Bumpur Unit)	1.95
16.	HMT (Chinar Watches) Ltd.	13.08
17.	HMT (MT)	5.62
<b>Total</b>		<b>243.65</b>

**Revival of BHPV**

2770. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA:  
SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI:

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

(a) whether the Union Government has received any request from the Government of Andhra Pradesh seeking revival package of Bharat Heavy Plates and Vessels Limited (BHPV), Visakhapatnam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In the suggested revival package, following four measures were indicated:-

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

(c) Government of India has been making efforts for revival of the company and a revival package based on

study of Consultants has been submitted to the Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE). After receipt of their recommendations, Government will take a decision in the matter.

#### **Revival of Sick PSEs**

2771. SHRI UDAY SINGH:  
SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY:

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

(a) whether the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises has started a review of Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) under its administrative control;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the purpose of reviewing such PSEs; and

(d) the efforts the Government proposes to take to revive sick PSEs in a time bound matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir, a list of 20 PSEs which have been submitted so far to Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) for seeking recommendations on revival/future of these companies are as under:-

1. Hindustan Salts Limited
2. Bridge & Roof Co. Ltd.
3. HMT (Bearings) Ltd.
4. BBJ Construction Co. Ltd.
5. Praga Tools Ltd.
6. Braithwaite & Co. Ltd.
7. Nepa Ltd.
8. Richardson & Cruddas Ltd.
9. Tungabhadra Steel Products Ltd.
10. Bharat Wagon Engg. Co. Ltd.
11. Bharat Pumps & Compressors Ltd.
12. Cement Corporation of India Ltd.
13. HMT (MT) Ltd.
14. Tyre Corporation of India Ltd.
15. Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Ltd.
16. Bharat Yantra Nigam Ltd.
17. Heavy Engineering Corpn. Ltd.
18. Triveni Structurals Ltd.
19. Bharat Heavy Plates & Vessels Ltd.
20. Hindustan Cables Ltd. (HCL).

(d) Revival plans are implemented, wherever such plans are approved, to improve viability of the enterprises.

#### **Research on Bt. Cotton Seed**

2772. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new report by scientists of the Central Institute of Cotton Research, Nagpur, published in the July 35 issue of current science gives scientific reasons for the failure of the Monsanto Bt. Cotton varieties;

(b) if so, whether the Government has examined this report;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof;

(d) the response of the Government, thereto;

(e) whether the Government has decided that Bt. Cotton will be permitted only in the form of true breeding varieties, not hybrids; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (f) The article published in "Current Science" in July, 2005 issue about the Bt. Cotton has been examined by the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) of Ministry of Environment & Forests and the Committee was of the view that the facts presented by the scientists do not speak against the efficacy and safety of the Bt. gene in cotton. The decision to approve Bt. technology was based



on extensive laboratory and field data and none of the results presented by Central Institute for Cotton Research (CICR) negate that. The Committee was aware that there is a possibility of variation in Cry 1 Ac protein expression in specific tissue of the plant depending on the genetic background of the host and the environment in which it is deployed.

Based on the above consideration, the GEAC has taken a decision to approve the Bt. hybrids on a case by case basis. All hybrids approved by the GEAC for release have been tested at several sites in various zones.

The Committee was of the view that the ongoing initiatives to increase awareness of farmers on the use of Bt. technology should continue and should include this aspect specifically.

In view of the biotechnological advancement, the Committee concluded that the present practice of reviewing the performance of released Bt. Cotton hybrids after every three years should also continue.

#### **Pamba Action Plan**

2773. SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has sanctioned the 'Pamba Action Plan' to clean river Pamba in Kerala, under its National River Conservation Plan (NRCP);

(b) if so, the details of the plan/project that had been approved;

(c) whether the first phase of the action plan has been taken up;

(d) if so, the details of the work completed and yet to be completed;

(e) the probable date of completion of the entire project;

(f) whether the Government proposes to take up more rivers and lakes under NRCP in the coming financial year; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (e) The Government has sanctioned the first phase of the Pamba Action Plan for pollution abatement in the river Pamba at Sabrimala and Pamba under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) at the cost of Rs. 18.45 crores including the Central and State's share of Rs. 12.92 crores and Rs. 5.53 crores respectively. The details of the approved works given in the enclosed statement. An amount of Rs. 75 lakhs has been released out of the Central share for implementation of the project. The components of the project sanctioned are at various stages of implementation with the expected completion of the first phase in 2007.

(f) and (g) The financial resources available with the Central Government are inadequate to complete the present approved works. Therefore, no further rivers are planned to be undertaken under the NRCP for the present. As regards the National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP), an allocation of Rs. 220 crores was originally made under the NLCP during the X Plan period out of which Rs. 103 crores have been released for implementation of conservation works in 37 lakes. Allocation of fund during the coming year shall be subject to the progress of ongoing projects, utilization of funds released and new proposals to be submitted by the State Governments.

#### **Statement**

#### ***Pollution abatement scheme for the river at Pamba & Sabarimala***

#### **General Abstract of cost**

Sl.No.	Item	Amount in lakhs
1	2	3
1.	Establishment of 3 MLD Sewage treatment plant at Sabrimala	240.00
2.	Establishment of 1.5 MLD Sewage treatment plant at Pamba of Technical report	120.00

1	2	3
3.	Sewage collection tank pumping system and sewer lines in Sabrimala and Pamba	184.30
4.	Construction of 300 latrines at Pamba and 400 latrines 100 bathrooms at Sabrimala	230.00
5.	Solid waste collection and disposal arrangements in Sabrimala and Pamba	250.00
6.	Segregation of existing drains and construction of new drains at Sabrimala and Pamba	126.95
7.	Construction of Mobile latrines at Sabrimala and Pamba	140.00
8.	Interception Barriers of Sewage across Kakka thodu and Urakkuzhi Theertham in Pamba	25.00
9.	Construction of Storage weirs and allied works for Flushing the Pollutants one each in Pamba river and Kakdi river Upstream of the confluence point in Pamba with fencing at Pollutant sources and storage shed for generator near weir	86.25
10.	Construction of weir Downstream of bathing ghat at Arattukadavu to prevent pollutants of Njunajar river entering the bathing Ghat at Pamba	18.00
11.	New Bathing Ghat and allied works on the left side of Pamba river opposite to the existing bathing ghat	30.00
12.	Public Awareness	20.00
	Sub-total (1 to 12)	1485.50
	Add 15 percent escalation	222.82
	Total	1708.32
	Add 8 percentage charges	136.66
	Grand Total	1844.98
	Say	Rs. 18.45 crore

**Locusts Invasion**

2774. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received reports of locusts invasion in some parts of Western India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any step is taken to tackle the problem; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Small Scale breeding of locusts was observed in parts of the Scheduled Desert Area in Western India

during the Monsoons. A contingency plan was prepared by the Locust Warning Organisation to deal with any impending locust situation. The State Governments of locust prone States like Rajasthan, Gujarat, Haryana and Punjab were alerted of the impending locust threat. Locust numbers subsequently increased in September when reports were also received of breeding in adjacent areas in Pakistan. Several border meetings were held between the locust officers of India and Pakistan to exchange information on the latest locust situation in both countries for preparing and adopting a suitable control strategy. The Locust Warning Organisation launched a campaign for the control of locusts in the affected areas of Jaisalmer, Bikaner and Jodhpur districts of Rajasthan with effect from the second week of September, 2005. 31 fully equipped control teams have been deployed in the infested areas of these districts due to which the locust menace has been able to be effectively controlled. Survey & Surveillance measures are in progress in the Scheduled Desert Area to monitor and control any further locust infestation.

[*Translation*]

#### **Ban on Cow Slaughter**

2775. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:  
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:  
YOGI ADITYA NATH:  
SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that constitution bench of Supreme Court has upheld the decision to ban slaughters of cow completely in one State of the country in October, 2005;

(b) if so, whether the Government has any proposal to impose ban on cow slaughter;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the name of the States which have already imposed ban on cow slaughter?

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) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) As per the distribution of legislative powers between the Union and States, the preservation of cattle is a matter on which the state legislatures have exclusive power to legislate (Entry 15 of the List II of 7th Schedule of Constitution).

(e) The names of the States which have already imposed ban on cow slaughter are given in the enclosed statement.

#### *Statement*

The following States/Union Territories have legislation on banning or restricting the slaughter of cow and its progeny.

Sl.No.	State
1	2
1.	Andhra Pradesh
2.	Assam
3.	Bihar
4.	Goa
5.	Gujarat
6.	Haryana
7.	Himachal Pradesh
8.	Jammu and Kashmir
9.	Karnataka
10.	Madhya Pradesh
11.	Maharashtra
12.	Orissa
13.	Punjab
14.	Rajasthan
15.	Sikkim
16.	Tamil Nadu

1	2
17.	Uttar Pradesh
18.	West Bengal
19.	Manipur
20.	National Capital Territory of Delhi
21.	Uttaranchal
22.	Jharkhand
23.	Chhattisgarh
<b>UNION TERRITORIES</b>	
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands
2.	Chandigarh
3.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli
4.	Daman-Diu
5.	Pondicherry

#### **Use of Fertilizers**

2776. SHRI RAKESH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a wide variation in the ideal ratio of NPK in the use of fertilizers has been found in different parts of the country; and

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to launch a nation wide educational programme for making farmers aware of the benefits of the balanced use of the fertilizers having ideal ratio?

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

(b) Government is promoting the soil test based balanced and judicious use of chemical fertilizers in conjunction with organic manures and bio-fertilizers as an Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) strategy. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), State Agricultural Universities and Extension Agencies are imparting training to the farmers of soil test based integrated nutrient management and organizing Front Line Demonstrations (FLDs) to make them aware of the usefulness of the

balanced fertilization for improving soil health and productivity.

*[English]*

#### **Testing of Fertilizer Samples**

2777. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government conduct any sample analysis of the fertilizers, insecticides and chemicals from the entire country;

(b) if so, the name of the laboratories from where these analysis are conducted in various States;

(c) the details of the target of testing of fertilizer samples fixed and achieved during 2003-04 and 2004-05 by such laboratories in the country;

(d) the number of samples of fertilizers, insecticides and chemicals found sub-standard;

(e) the action taken against the manufacturers of such samples during the said period; and

(f) the steps taken to make the Fertilizer Control Order, 1985 more user friendly in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The samples of fertilizers and insecticides are periodically drawn by State Enforcement Agencies and tested to ensure their quality as per the provisions of Fertiliser (Control) Order, 1985 and Insecticide Act, 1968 respectively. There are 67 fertiliser quality control testing laboratories including 4 laboratories of the Central Government. There are 46 Pesticide Testing laboratories in the States and two notified Regional Pesticide Testing Laboratories of the Central Government. State-wise location of fertilizer testing laboratories, their analyzing capacity & sample analysed during 2003-04 & 2004-05 is given in the enclosed Statement-I and location of Pesticide Testing Laboratories is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(d) During the year 2003-04 and 2004-05 the number of samples of fertilizer and insecticides found non-standard are as under:—

Year	Fertiliser	Insecticides
2003-04	5785	1752
2004-05	6535	1795

(e) State Governments are adequately empowered under the provision of Fertiliser (Control) Order, 1985, Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and Insecticides Act, 1968 to take administrative and legal action against those found indulged in malpractices of selling non-standard fertilizer/insecticide which includes prosecution, besides administrative action, like suspension/cancellation of authorization letter, Certificate of manufacture of manufacturer, suspension and cancellation of licence.

(f) The Fertiliser (Control) Order, 1985 is periodically reviewed and need based amendments are made. It has

recently been amended during 2003 to make it more user friendly. This includes dispensing with the requirement of registration certificate of dealers and its replacement with a simple system of memorandum of intimation for carry on the business of selling of fertilizer, providing grievances redressal mechanism to the aggrieved party through the provision of referee analysis and tolerance limits in physical parameters, reduction in the time limit from drawal of sample to finally communication of the results to the dealers from 97 to 52 days, restandardization of cut or torn fertilizer bags in the field and reprocessing and damaged fertilizers due to natural calamities and the provision of commercial trial of provisional fertilizers besides printing Maximum Retail Price (MRP) on fertilizer bags and also the month/year of manufacture/import etc.

#### *Statement I*

#### *State-wise & Lab-wise details of fertilizer samples analysed & found not-standard during 2003-04 & 2004-05*

Sl.No.	Name of State	Location of Lab.	2003-04				2004-05			
			Annual Analyzing Capacity	No. of Samples Analyzed	Non-Std.	% Non-Std.	Annual Analyzing Capacity	No. of Samples Analyzed	Non-Std.	% Non-Std.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Assam	Ulubari	250	76	1	1.3	250	167	2	1.2
2.	Bihar	Patna	2000	861	56	6.5	2000	881	34	3.3
3.	Jharkhand	Ranchi	1500	432	2	0.5	1500	677	1	0.1
4.	Orissa	Bhubaneshwar	2050	1278	38	3.0	2050	2429	197	8.1
5.		Sambalpur	1450	1256	101	8.0	1450			
6.	West Bengal	Tollyganj	2500	1559	257	16.5	2500	1722	189	10.9
7.		Berhampore	1200	848	62	7.3	1200	900	44	4.9
8.		Midnapur	800	775	22	2.8	800	664	23	3.5
9.	Mizoram	Aizwal	250	0	0	0	250	0	0	0
10.	Gujarat	Gandhinagar	2500	2698	27	1.0	2500	2629	48	1.7
11.		Junagarh	2750	2971	36	1.2	2750	2851	30	1.1
12.		Bardoli	2500	2596	44	1.7	2500	2726	20	0.7

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
13.	Madhya Praesh	Jabalpur	3910	1074	274	25.5	3910	1162	298	25.6
14.		Bhopal	2270	1593	281	17.6	2270	1807	250	13.8
15.		Gwalior	1330	1519	290	19.1	1330	1633	305	18.7
16.		Indore	1640	874	170	19.5	1640	786	144	18.3
17.	Chhattisgarh	Raipur	2843	2007	92	4.6	4800	1933	124	6.4
18.	Maharashtra	Pune	3450	3331	480	3.0	3050	3151	428	13.6
19.		Amrawati	2500	2780	262	9.4	2450	2285	224	10.7
20.		Aurangabad	3200	3173	153	4.8	2350	1686	275	16.3
21.		Nasik	2850	2861	174	6.1	2150	1984	265	13.4
22.	Rajasthan	Durgapura	2000	1806	27	1.5	2000	1488	72	4.8
23.		Jodhpur	2000	1432	68	4.8	2000	1277	26	2.0
24.		Udaipur	2000	1433	21	1.5	2000	1357	87	6.4
25.	Haryana	Karnal	1700	1584	50	3.1	1700	1413	70	4.9
26.		Hissar	1605	1498	41	2.7	1600	1388	117	8.4
27.	Jammu and Kashmir	Srinagar	6000	1268	3	0.2	600	822	17	2.1
28.		Jammu	680				680			
29.	Punjab	Ludhiana	2000	2017	49	2.4	2000	2009	66	3.3
30.		Faridkot	1500	1508	16	1.1	1500	1504	25	1.7
31.	Himachal Pradesh	Sundernagar	1000	540	2	0.4	1000	1019	209	20.5
32.		Hamirpur	1000	795	7	0.9	1000	743	9	1.2
33.	Uttar Pradesh	Meerut	1500	2313	166	7.2	1500	1651	154	9.3
34.		Varanasi	1500	2105	149	7.1	1500	2053	209	10.2
35.		Lucknow	3000	5712	609	10.7	3000	5857	609	10.4
		Rehmankhera/STLe	4000	968	137	14.2	4000	1286	61	4.74
36.	Uttaranchal	U.S. Nagar (Rudrapur)	400	396	12	4.2	400	308	5	1.6
37.		Srinagar (Pauri)	400	0	0	0	400	129	10	7.8
38.	Andhra Pradesh	Rajendra Nagar	3638	2099	51	2.4	3062	3018	70	2.3
39.		Warangal	3070	2088	41	2.0	3162	2380	67	2.8
40.		Ananthpur	3038	1689	85	5.0	2870	2470	27	1.1
41.		Bapatla	2818	2060	13	0.6	2914	3203	23	0.7
42.		Tadepalligudam	2436	1271	21	1.7	2992	2480	38	1.5

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
43.	Karnataka	Bangalore	1850	1330	134	10.1	1850	1533	111	
44.		Belthangadi	1850	1252	3	0.2	1850	1062	11	
45.		Dharwad	2600	1630	151	9.3	2600	1824	116	
46.		Gangavathi	1850	1660	59	3.6	1850	1337	50	
47.	Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram	2500	2411	128	5.3	2500	2016	144	
48.		Pattambi	2500	1944	127	6.5	2500	2016	232	
49.	Pondicherry	Pondicherry	700	519	Nil	Nil	700	682	1	
50.	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore	420	565	52	9.2	420	564	32	
51.		Kovilpatti	840	775	24	3.1	840	832	27	
52.		Madurai	2100	2219	95	4.3	2100	2202	120	
53.		Trichi	1680	1655	35	2.1	1680	1687	41	
54.		Paramkudi	1260	1413	32	2.3	1260	1322	47	
55.		Kancheepuram	2100	2207	46	2.1	2100	2162	69	
56.		Dindigul	1260	1284	22	1.7	1260	1261	35	
57.		Villupuram	1260	1268	19	1.5	1260	1291	29	
58.		Salem	1260	1266	26	2.1	1260	1271	36	
59.		Dharampuri	840	1103	56	5.1	840	1271	36	
60.		Kumbakonam	840	834	11	1.3	840	876	29	
61.		Thiruvarur	420	428	8	1.9	420	361	0	
62.		Nagarcoil	1260	1273	58	4.6	1260	1266	56	
63.		Ooty	1260	740	32	4.3	1260	835	36	
64.	Govt. of India	Faridabad	4000	3002	171	5.7	4000	3361	202	
65.		Chennai	1500	1325	12	0.9	1500	2430	29	
66.		Navi Mumbai	1500	1441	46	3.2	1500	2556	89	
67.		Kalyani	1500	1961	48	2.4	1500	2743	72	
Total			124778	104647	5785	5.5	124730	106859	6536	

**Statement II**

Sl.No.	State/UTs	Number of Laboratories	Location
<b>A. Pesticide Testing Laboratories in State/UTs</b>			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5	Rajendra Nagar, Guntur, Anantapur, Tadepalligud & Warangal
2.	Assam	1	Guwahati
3.	Bihar	1	Patna
4.	Gujarat	2	Junagarh & Gandhinagar
5.	Haryana	2	Karnal & Sirsa
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1	Shimla
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	2	Srinagar & Jammu
8.	Karnataka	5	Bangalore, Bellary, Dharward, Shimoga & Kotond
9.	Kerala	1	Trivendrum
10.	Madhya Pradesh	1	Jabalpur
11.	Maharashtra	4	Pune, Amravati, Thane & Auragabad
12.	Manipur	1	Mantripukhri
13.	Orissa	1	Bhubaneshwar
14.	Punjab	3	Amritsar, Ludhiana & Bhatinda
15.	Rajasthan	2	Jaipur, Bikaner
16.	Tamil Nadu	9	Coimbatore, Kovilpatti, Erode, Madurai, Trichy, Aduthrai, Salem, Cuddalore & Kanchipuram
17.	Uttar Pradesh	3	Meerut, Lucknow & Varanasi
18.	West Bengal	1	Midnapore
19.	Pondicherry	1	Pondicherry
<b>Total</b>		<b>46</b>	
<b>B. Regional Pesticide Testing Laboratories</b>			
	All States/UTs	2	
	Kanpur		
	Chandigarh		



*[Translation]*

**Setting up of Business Forum between  
India and Australia**

2778. SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA:  
SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Australia are proposed to set up a business forum for tourism development in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there has been an increase in the number of tourists visiting India from Australia during the current year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) India and Australia have agreed to provide a Trade and Economic Framework (TEF) for facilitating bilateral trade and investment relations on a balanced and comprehensive basis through various avenues. The areas identified in the TEF for expansion of economic relations include infrastructure, energy, mining, services, textiles/clothing, food/beverages, ICT, tourism, etc.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Foreign tourist arrivals to India from Australia in the current year for the period January to May are 34,293 as compared to 27,886 for the same period in the year 2004.

**Development of New Varieties of Pulses/Seeds**

2779. DR. CHINTA MOHAN:  
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:  
SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has recently developed some varieties of pulses and certain other seeds;

(b) if so, the names of these items and the areas in the country where they are likely to produce maximum yield;

(c) the yield per hectare rate of each of the said seeds;

(d) the percentage by which this yield rate is higher than the current year rate; and

(e) the production cost as compared to the current production cost?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) and (d) Yield per hectare and the percentage by which yield rate is higher than current year rate is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(e) The production cost of newly developed varieties is almost the same as that of the existing/traditional varieties.

**Statement I**

Pulse Crop	Variety	Condition/State
1	2	3
Chickpea	RSG 963	It is released for late sown conditions in the states of Rajasthan, Haryana, Punjab, Delhi, Uttaranchal and Western Uttar Pradesh
	BGM 547	It is identified for late sown conditions of Rajasthan, Haryana, Punjab, Delhi, Uttaranchal and western parts of Uttar Pradesh
	Phule G 9425-9	It is identified for late sown conditions of Rajasthan, Haryana, Punjab, Delhi, Western parts of U.P. and Uttaranchal

1	2	3
	BGD-128	This <i>kabuli</i> variety is identified for Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, parts of Rajasthan and Bundelkhand region of U.P.
Pigeonpea	MLA 13	Identified for U.P. and Bihar
	GAUT 001 E	Identified for Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh
	GHT 1	First CMS based pigeonpea hybrid GHT-1 was released for cultivation in the State of Gujarat.
	CORG 9701	Identified for South Zone (Tamil Nadu).
	NDA 98-1:	It has been identified for North East Plain Zone (Uttar Pradesh and Bihar).
Mungbean	COGG 912:	It was identified for the states of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, A.P. and Orissa
	TM 99-37	This variety was identified for summer season for eastern U.P., Bihar, Jharkhand, W.B. and Assam.
	IPM 99-125 (Meha)	It was identified for cultivation in spring season in the states of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Assam and West Bengal.
	HUM 16:	The variety has been identified for the states of U.P., Bihar, West Bengal and Assam.
	NDM 97-1	It has been recommended for release in Eastern U.P., Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Assam.
Lentil	HUL 57	It has been identified for cultivation in eastern and central Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Assam.
	VL Masur 507	The variety has been identified for the states of J & K, Uttaranchal, Himachal Pradesh and Hilly regions of NEH states.
Fieldpea	IPFD 99-13	It has been identified for cultivation in Central Zone (Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh).
	IPFD 1-10	The variety has been identified for the states of M.P., Maharashtra, Gujarat and Bundelkhand region of U.P., J & K, Uttaranchal, Himachal Pradesh and Hilly regions of NEH states.
Rajmash	IPR 98-5	This variety has been identified for cultivation in <i>rabi</i> season in eastern and central Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Assam.

*Statement II*

Pulse crop	Variety	Average yield (kg/ha)	Yield advantage over the best check of the zone (%)
Chickpea	RSG 963	1900	10.5
	BGM 547	1800	10.6
	Phule G 9425-9	1860	11.1
	BGD 128	1900	21.3
Pigeonpea	GHT 1	1760	33.3
	CORG 9701	914.5	9.7
	NDA 98-1	2407	24.0
	GAUT 001 E	1911	44.9
Mungbean	MAL 13	2465	25.0
	IPM 99-125	1200	12.0
	COGG 912	800	12.0
	TM 99-37	1200	11.0
	HUM 16	1017	11.0
Lentil	NDM 97-1	1100	25.0
	HUL 57	1400	21.0
	VL Masur 507	1204	14.9
Fieldpea	IPFD 99-13	2274	14.9
	IPFD 1-10	2104	27.0 (CZ) 31.0 (NHZ)
Rajmash	IPR 98-5	1800	17.0

*[English]*

**Information Counter for Technical Barriers  
to Trade Agreements**

2780. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) will function like an information counter on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Agreement;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the terms and conditions imposed on manufacturers and exporters to use this facility; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure that non-tariff barriers in the form of regulations, standards and testing and certification procedure do not create obstacles to trade?

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. As an obligation under the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), the Government has designated Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) as its TBT related National Enquiry Point. BIS, as the National Enquiry Point, answers all the reasonable enquiries from the Enquiry Points of other countries pertaining to technical regulations, standards and conformity assessment procedures adopted or proposed to be adopted within the country. BIS also disseminates the TBT Notifications of other WTO member bodies to the national stakeholders. It also functions as information center within the country.

(c) There are not terms and conditions imposed on manufacturers and exporters to use the facility.

(d) TBT Agreement does not allow WTO-Members to adopt any TBT related measures which create unnecessary trade barriers. If any regulation causes unnecessary trade barriers to our export abroad, the same are addressed appropriately through bilateral or multilateral mode by the Government.

*[Translation]*

#### Payment of Incidental Charges on Procurement

2781. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to sanction payment to incidental charges alongwith the procurement price for the wheat procured during the Rabi Marketing Year 2004-05;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The acquisition cost of wheat paid to the State Government/Agencies for the quantity of wheat procured and delivered to the Food Corporation of India (FCI) during each season including Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2004-05, includes procurement incidental charges along with Minimum Support Price (MSP).

(b) The details of incidental charges being allowed are as under:-

(i) Statutory Charges including Market Fee, Nirashrit Shulk, Dami Arhtia Commission, Rural Development Cess, Infrastructure Development Fee and Purchase Tax.

(ii) Mandi Labour Charges.

(iii) Transport Charges.

(iv) Storage and Interest Charges.

(v) Administrative Charges.

(vi) Cost of the gunnies.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Bansagar Dam

2782. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether second instalment of Central assistance pertaining to 2004-05 for Bansagar Dam under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme is pending with the Government; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) Against the instalment of central loan assistance pertaining to 2004-05 under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme amounting to Rs. 28.531 crore (comprising of Rs. 19.9717 crore as loan and Rs. 8.5593 crore as grant component) for Bansagar Dam (Madhya Pradesh), the grant component of Rs. 8.5593 crore has been released to the Government of Madhya Pradesh during September, 2005. As per the guidelines of AIBP effective from 1st April, 2005 the loan component is to be arranged by the State Government.

*[English]*

#### Expenditure Incurred on Media and Publicity

2783. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of expenditure incurred by the Government during each of the last three years and the current year on media and publicity to boost tourism;

(b) whether there has been any instance where the expenditure exceeded the sanctioned grant during the above period;

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

(d) whether there has been any diversion of funds to meet the extra expenditure; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) The details of expenditure incurred by the Government during each of the last three years and the current year on media and publicity to boost tourism is given below:

Year	Expenditure (Rs. in crores)
2002-03	83.09
2003-04	83.26
2004-05	136.60
2005-06 (till November)	62.65

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) The reason for excess expenditure under this head is mainly due to receipt of additional funds by some of the Tourist Offices abroad, from other sources on account of joint participation in Fairs & Festivals, etc. The liability of the Government was, however, restricted to sanctioned budget.

#### Approval for Liquid Steel Capacity

2784. SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD ALIAS SADHU  
YADAV:  
KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has cleared long pending proposals of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited to double the liquid steel capacity;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for delay in clearing the expansion project; and

(d) the sources from which funds are proposed to be mobilised therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Government has approved the expansion plan of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. at an estimated revised cost of Rs. 8692 crores (base June 2005 prices) for increasing its liquid steel capacity from 3 million tonnes to 6.3 million tonnes by 2008-09 with debt equity ratio of 1:1. The entire capital cost of the expansion plan is proposed to be met from its internal resources and partly by borrowing from financial institutions/banks. The proposal which was received in January 2005 was approved by the Government on 28th October, 2005 after due consultations and obtaining the concurrence of various Ministries/Organizations of the Government as per the laid down procedure.

#### Plan Fund to North Eastern States

2785. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage out of the total plan funds of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation actually reached the North Eastern States in the last three years;

(b) whether the fund has been fully utilized;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(f) the quantum of release of funds made under each sector for 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 (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation has allocated 10% of its plan Outlay for the North Eastern States including Sikkim during each of

the last three years. The details of funds utilized/spent in the North Eastern States as a percentage of the

Budget allocation during the last three years are as under:

(in Rs. lakhs)

Year	Budget allocation	Budget allocation for NE States	Expenditure in NE States	Percentage of expenditure w.r.t. Budget allocation
2002-03	216700.00	21675.00	16777.12	7.74
2003-04	216700.00	21670.00	15205.71	7.02
2004-05	265000.00	26500.00	26200.00	9.88

(d) The shortfall in utilization of funds during 2002-03 and 2003-04 is mainly on account of shortfall in release of funds under the two major schemes of this Department under implementation in the North Eastern States, namely, (i) Technology Mission on Integrated Development of Horticulture, and (ii) Macro Management of Agriculture. The shortfall was due to (a) non-receipt of adequate number of proposals from the State Governments concerned for creation of infrastructure facilities for post harvest management, marketing and establishment of processing units under the Mini Mission III & IV respectively, and (b) pre-conditions for release of

second/final installment were not met including non-receipt of utilization certificate, etc.

(e) The steps taken to ensure full and proper utilization of funds include timely release of funds; regular monitoring of implementation of schemes; and follow-up on obtaining of utilization certificates from State Governments/Implementing agencies.

(f) The amount of release of funds during the last three years is given in the enclosed Statement.

#### *Statement*

*Division-wise expenditure incurred by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation on various schemes in the North Eastern States during 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of Division	Expenditure during 2002-03	Expenditure during 2003-04	Expenditure during 2004-05
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Extension	115.00	158.07	487.13
2.	Agriculture Census	120.00	100.00	138.00
3.	Directorate of Economics & Statistics	143.80	189.94	189.18
4.	Seeds	59.79	93.83	252.26
5.	Fertilizer	0.00	0.00	79.23
6.	Plant Protection	0.00	0.00	45.00

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Machinery	74.00	0.00	49.98
8.	Crops	1380.00	0.00	22.00
9.	Technology Mission on Oilseeds & Pulses	820.00	810.00	116.00
10.	Horticulture	9100.00	9239.00	12952.79
11.	Agricultural Marketing	0.00	0.00	189.00
12.	Cooperation	325.00	325.00	350.00
13.	Macro Management	4639.53	4289.87	11329.43
Grand Total		16777.12	15205.71	26200.00

#### Amendment in E.P.F. and M.P. Act, 1952

2786. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to enact amendments in Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provision Act, 1952 to cover more workers under it;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time by which it is likely to be amended;

(c) whether all the offices of Employees Provident Fund Organization are computerized and online settlement of claims has been started in these offices; and

(d) if not, the time by which these offices are likely to be computerized?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) A comprehensive set of amendments to the Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 has been proposed by Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund, which is under examination of the Government.

(c) and (d) All the offices of Employees' Provident Fund Organization have been provided with Electronic Data Processing (EDP) centers to undertake limited data

processing activities. As regards online settlement, the same has not commenced.

Employees' Provident Fund Organization has embarked upon a modernisation project 'Re-inventing EPF India' and integration activities are currently underway to put in place appropriate delivery systems.

*[Translation]*

#### Investment in FP Sector

2787. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:  
SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA:  
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:  
SHRI MUNSHI RAM:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to allow private investment in the food processing sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the target has been fixed for the amount of investment to be made in the next ten years;

(d) if so, the amount of private investment targeted to be made;

(e) whether the target for the share of the private sector has been fixed;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the time by which the said scheme is likely to be finalized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (g) No permission of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries is required for private investment in the food processing sector. However, for attracting investment and for promotion of the Food Processing Industries in the country, Government has implemented several Plan Schemes. Under these schemes financial assistance is provided for establishment and modernization of the food processing units, creation of infrastructure, support for R&D, human resource development besides other promotional measures to encourage development of food processing industries. Recently in 2004-05 Government has allowed under Income Tax Act, a deduction of 100% of profit for five years and 25% of profits for the next five years in case of new agro processing industries set up to process, preserve and package fruits and vegetables. Excise duty on processed fruits & vegetable products has been waived so as to attract investment from private sector.

*[English]*

#### **Strengthening of Food Processing Sector**

2788. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the food processing industry is one major area that needs immediate attention; and

(b) if so, the measures being taken by the Government to strengthen supply chain between the farmer and the consumer by offering ware housing, cold storage and transport facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) There is adequate scope for growth of food processing industries in the country. Government has implemented several plan schemes to provide financial assistance for establishment/expansion/modernization of the food processing units, creation of infrastructure like food park, cold storage etc. Assistance @ 25% of the project cost in general areas and 33.33%

in difficult areas subject to a uniform ceiling of Rs. 75 lakh is provided for cold storage facilities for non horticultural produce. The National Horticulture Board of the Department of Agriculture provides assistance for cold storages for horticultural produce. In order to facilitate marketing of agri-produce in a more efficient manner, State Governments have been approached to carryout necessary amendment in the APMC Act so as to enable better sourcing of raw material by food processing industries. For improvement in cold chain facilities, the Government has reduced customs duty on reefer van from 20% to 10%.

*[Translation]*

#### **Availability and Prices of Fertilizers**

2789. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the prices of different fertilizers for farmers alongwith the subsidy available thereon during the current financial year, fertilizer-wise; and

(b) the total quantum of availability of Urea during the said period and policy of the Government in respect of its controlled & decontrolled sale?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Urea is the only fertilizer under statutory price control and available to farmers to uniform Maximum Retail Price (MRP) of Rs. 4830 per MT throughout the country. Government also announce indicative MRP of decontrolled P&K fertilizers covered under Concession Scheme excluding SSP. The present indicative MRP of decontrolled fertilizers are given in the enclosed Statement.

The indicative MRP of SSP is announced by the various State Governments and varies from State to State.

The Total budgetary provisions for subsidy on indigenous and imported urea for the year 2005-06 is Rs. 11053.90 crore. The budgetary provision for subsidy on de-controlled fertilizers during the current year is Rs. 5200 crore.

The availability of urea during Kharif 2005 & likely availability during Rabi 2005-06 is as under:-



(Qty. in lakh MT)

Season	Assessed Requirement by DAC & States	Availability
Kharif 2005	114.39	116.20
Rabi 2005-06*	119.86	127.94

\*Expected availability & sales.

Urea is under partial distribution control under the essential Commodities Act (ECA). At present 50% distribution of urea has been controlled and urea manufacturers are free to sell upto 50% of their production in the open market subject to the notified MRP.

There is no distribution control in respect of de-controlled fertilizers.

**Statement**

Product	MRP (Rs. per MT)
DAP	9350
MOP	4455
10:26:26	8360
12:32:16	8480
14:28:14	8300
14:35:14	8660
15:15:15	6980
16:20:0	7100
17:17:19	8100
19:19:19	8300
20:20:0	7280
23:23:0	8000
28:28:0	9080

SSP Fixed by State Governments and varies from state to state

*[English]*

**Unemployed Youth**

2790. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the unemployed youth are not getting jobs even after lapse of a period of more than 15 years of their registration in the employment exchanges;

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

(c) the average number of years it takes for the unemployed youth registered in employment exchanges to get employment; and

(d) the number of employment opportunities likely to be created during 2005-2006?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) to (c) Employment Exchanges mainly cater to the demand of labour in the public and private organised sector. Since employment creation in the organised sector has not been significant in the last few years, time taken to get placement through employment exchanges may have comparatively increased and varies widely depending upon the occupation and skill possession of the Job-seekers. Detailed data are not maintained.

(d) Government is targeting creation of around one crore employment opportunities per year during the 10th Plan period (2002-2007).

*[Translation]*

**Sugar Production Capacity**

2791. SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:  
SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE:

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

(a) the details regarding sugar mills in the country particularly Maharashtra both the public and private sectors separately, State-wise;

(b) the details regarding sugar production capacity in the country particularly Maharashtra during the year 2004 and 2005, State-wise;

(c) whether sugar production capacity in the country has declined during the current year as compared to last three years; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to overcome this trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The state-wise details regarding sugar mills in the country including Maharashtra both in the public and private sector are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) The details regarding state-wise sugar production capacity in the country including Maharashtra during the sugar seasons 2003-04 and 2004-05 are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**Statement I**

*The State-wise Sugar Mills in the country including Maharashtra in Public & Private Sector*

Sl.No.	State	Public Sector	Private Sector
1	2	3	4
1.	Punjab	—	7
2.	Haryana	—	3
3.	Rajasthan	1	1
4.	Uttar Pradesh	33	61
5.	Uttaranchal	2	4
6.	Madhya Pradesh	2	4
7.	Chhattisgarh	—	—
8.	Gujarat	—	—
9.	Maharashtra	—	21
10.	Bihar	15	13
11.	Assam	—	1
12.	Orissa	—	5
13.	West Bengal	1	1

1	2	3	4
14.	Andhra Pradesh	1	26
15.	Karnataka	3	23
16.	Tamil Nadu	3	19
17.	Pondicherry	—	1
18.	Kerala	—	1
19.	Goa	—	—
20.	Nagaland	1	—
Total		62	191

**Statement II**

*The State-wise Sugar Production Capacity in the Country including Maharashtra*

(In Lakh Tonnes)

Sl.No.	State	2003-04	2004-05
1	2	3	4
1.	Punjab	6.8423	6.8423
2.	Haryana	5.3572	5.3572
3.	Rajasthan	0.2320	0.2320
4.	Uttar Pradesh	44.1066	45.3682
5.	Uttaranchal	4.1168	4.1168
6.	Madhya Pradesh	1.5449	1.5449
7.	Chhattisgarh	0.2230	0.2230
8.	Gujarat	10.7070	10.7070
9.	Maharashtra	69.3499	69.7847
10.	Bihar	4.8488	4.8488
11.	Assam	0.1840	0.1840
12.	Orissa	1.0179	1.0179
13.	West Bengal	0.0670	0.0670
14.	Andhra Pradesh	9.0810	9.0810

1	2	3	4
15.	Karnataka	14.4603	14.5949
16.	Tamil Nadu	15.2420	15.2420
17.	Pondicherry	0.3830	0.3830
18.	Kerala	0.1020	0.1020
19.	Goa	0.0930	0.0930
20.	Nagaland	0.0640	0.0640
<b>Total</b>		<b>188.0227</b>	<b>189.8537</b>

*[English]*

**Group Accident Insurance Scheme  
for Fishermen**

2792. DR. K.S. MANOJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has provided financial assistance to the States for Group Accident Insurance Scheme for fishermen;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the total assistance provided to each State during the last three years and thereafter;

(c) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted any project proposal under the scheme;

(d) if so, the latest position thereof; and

(e) the time by which a final decision is likely 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 TASILMUDDIN): (a) and (b) The Group Accident Insurance for Active Fishermen component of the Centrally Sponsored National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen is implemented through the

National Federation of Fishermen Cooperatives (FISHCOPFED). The annual premium of Rs. 14 per fisherman is shared by the central and State Government on 50:50 basis. In case of states participating through FISHCOPFED, central share is released directly to the Federation rather than states. During the last three years (2002-05), central assistance of Rs. 239.46 lakh has been provided to the FISHCOPFED for this purpose.

(c) to (e) The State of Kerala implements its own insurance scheme and do not participate through FISHCOPFED. On receipt of proposal from the Government of Kerala, central assistance of Rs. 15.42 lakh and Rs. 15.86 lakh has been extended in 2004-05 and 2005-06 respectively to implement the Group Accident Insurance for Active Fishermen component of the welfare scheme.

**Unirrigated Land**

2793. SHRI B. MAHTAB: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of unirrigated land in the country at the end of Ninth Five Year Plan, State-wise particularly Orissa; and

(b) the area of additional land likely to be irrigated in the country by the end of the Tenth Five Year Plan, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) As per the information provided by the Ministry of Agriculture, the State-wise unirrigated land in the country including Orissa at the end of Ninth Five Year Plan is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) The State-wise targets of creation of irrigation potential in the country for the Tenth Five Year Plan is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

*Statement I**State-wise details of Net Irrigated Area, Net Sown Area and Unirrigated area**(In thousand hectares)*

Sl.No.	States	Net Sown Area (NSA)	Net Irrg. Area (NIA)	Unirrigated area
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10410	4238	6172
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	164	42	122
3.	Assam	2734	170	2564
4.	Bihar	5664	3462	2202
5.	Chhattisgarh	4800	1151	3649
6.	Goa	141	23	118
7.	Gujarat	9622	2994	6628
8.	Haryana	3566	2938	628
9.	Himachal Pradesh	550	102	448
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	748	310	438
11.	Jharkhand	1769	164	1605
12.	Karnataka	10031	2565	7466
13.	Kerala	2191	377	1814
14.	Madhya Pradesh	14859	4735	10124
15.	Maharashtra	17619	2975	14644
16.	Manipur	140	65	75
17.	Meghalaya	230	59	171
18.	Mizoram	118	16	102
19.	Nagaland	333	65	268
20.	Orissa	5845	1938	3907
21.	Punjab	4250	4038	212
22.	Rajasthan	16765	5420	11345
23.	Sikkim	95	17	78
24.	Tamil Nadu	5172	2801	2371

1	2	3	4	5
25.	Tripura	280	37	243
26.	Uttaranchal	793	347	446
27.	Uttar Pradesh	16812	12391	4421
28.	West Bengal	5522	2376	3146
Total States		141223	55816	85407
Andaman and Nicobar Island		38	0	38
Chandigarh		2	1	1
Daman and Diu		4	1	3
Dadra and Nagar Haveli		23	8	15
Delhi		29	29	0
Lakshadweep		3	1	2
Pondicherry		24	21	3
Total UTs		123	61	62
Grand Total		141346	55877	85469

*Statement II*

*State-wise targets for creation of Irrigation Potential during Tenth Five Year Plan*

(In thousand hectares)

Sl.No.	Name of State	Target for Creation of Irrigation Potential	
		Major & Medium Irrigation	Minor Irrigation
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	739.88	195.40
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4.00	20.00
3.	Assam	116.10	116.10
4.	Bihar	948.42	246.60
5.	Chhattisgarh	305.00	55.00
6.	Goa	26.66	4.54
7.	Gujarat	1904.00	64.00

1	2	3	4
8.	Haryana	119.00	42.50
9.	Himachal Pradesh	8.00	10.00
10.	Jharkhand	315.00	56.93
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	25.00	23.50
12.	Karnataka	999.89	221.29
13.	Kerala	90.00	50.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	265.30	125.00
15.	Maharashtra	1276.43	1158.00
16.	Manipur	28.15	14.45
17.	Meghalaya	—	12.50
18.	Mizoram	—	1.66
19.	Nagaland	—	9.43
20.	Orissa	465.07	132.37

1	2	3	4
21.	Punjab	160.30	NF
22.	Rajasthan	413.80	50.00
23.	Sikkim	0.00	5.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	9.38	9.02
25.	Tripura	10.50	32.40
26.	Uttar Pradesh	1000.76	3616.80
27.	Uttaranchal	6.20	11.88
28.	West Bengal	700.00	500.00
Total of all States		9936.84	6802.37
Total UTs		0.00	5.38
All India Total		9936.84	6807.75

[NF = Not Fixed]

Note: As per the Mid Term Appraisal of X Plan, the achievement in respect of potential creation is anticipated as 10.5 million hectares with 6.5 million hectare from major & medium irrigation and 4.0 million hectare from minor irrigation.

[Translation]

#### Construction of Godowns

2794. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE:  
SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA:  
SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:  
SHRI RANEN BARMAN:

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

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the requirement of godowns for storage of foodgrains in the country;

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

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

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any proposals have been received from the States for construction of godowns; and

(f) if so, the details thereof, 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) Yes, Sir.

(b) During February, 2004, the availability of godowns for storage of foodgrains was reviewed by the Government. It was decided that further construction of godowns, except in States of Jammu & Kashmir (J&K) and North-East (NE) States including Sikkim, may not be taken up as the storage capacity available with Food Corporation of India (FCI) in most of the States except these States is sufficient to meet the requirement of storage of foodgrains.

(c) and (d) From 2005-06 onwards, funds under the Plan Scheme for construction of godowns for storage of foodgrains would be released to FCI/Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC)/State Governments for construction of godowns in North East (including Sikkim) and J&K.

(e) and (f) State-wise details of proposals received for construction of godowns in J&K and N.E. States are given in the enclosed Statement.

#### Statement

*State-wise details of proposals received in the Ministry/Food Corporation of India (FCI) for construction of godowns for storage of foodgrains*

(Fig. in MTs)

Name of State	Name of Centre	Capacity
1	2	3
Jammu and Kashmir	Srinagar Valley	20,000
	Lethpora	6,160

1	2	3
North-East States	Bualpui (Mizoram)	5,000
	Sancheowa (Assam)	1,670
	Badarpurghat (Assam)	5,000
	Chalkowa (Assam)	4,170
	Changeari (Assam)	50,000
	Hailakandi (Assam)	5,000
	Dibrugarh (Assam)	25,000
	Nogaon (Assam)	25,000
	Karimganj (Assam)	5,000
	Shillong (Meghalaya)	5,000
	Jiribhum (Manipur)	7,500-10,000
	Chanderpur (Tripura)	5,000
	Kumarghat (Tripura)	5,000

*[English]*

**Agreement between KRIBHCO and Shyam**

2795. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the agreement has been signed between Krishak Bharti Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO) and Shyam Basic Infrastructure Projects Private Limited to buy Oswal Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited urea unit for Rs. 1,900 crore;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the whole process is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per information provided by KRIBHCO, the highlights of the joint venture agreement signed between Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO) and Shyam Basic Infrastructure Projects Private Limited (Shyam) are as under:-

- A SPV in the form of a public limited company is to be formed to purchase the urea plant of M/s. Oswal Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd. (OCFL).
- The SPV will have a Debt Equity Ratio of 70:30.
- KRIBHCO will have 60% of the equity of SPV and full management control.
- M/s. Shyam will have 40% of the equity and will be a strategic investor.
- KRIBHCO will have the entire marketing rights of all the products of the SPV on a fee which will be on a competitive and arms length basis.

(c) As per the terms of the Agreement to sell, the assets of OCFL's urea plant at Shahjahanpur is to be acquired by the SPV on or before January 13, 2006.

**Shortage of Fodder**

2796. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:  
SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is shortage of fodder in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the shortfall between demand and supply of fodder recorded in the country as on date, State-wise;

(c) whether the gap between the demand and supply of fodder has been increasing during the last two years;

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

(e) the steps taken by the Government to meet the gap especially in drought affected States and strengthen

Fodder Bank and Fodder Seed Production in the country; and

(f) the amount released out of the total allocations made to those States during the last three years and the current 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 (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) to (d) The report of the Working Group of Animal Husbandry & Dairying set up by the Planning Commission for the 10th Five Year Plan noted the following shortage of fodder for the country as a whole:-

(in million tonne)

Year	Supply		Demand		Deficit as % of demand	
	Green	Dry	Green	Dry	Green	Dry
1995	379.3	421	947	526	59.95	19.95
2000	384.5	428	988	549	61.10	21.93
2005	389.9	443	1025	569	61.96	22.08

The State-wise break-up is not available.

(e) In order to improve the availability of fodder in the country, the following steps have been implemented:

(i) The Government has established seven Regional Stations and one Central Fodder Seed Production Farm for production and propagation of certified seeds of high yielding varieties of fodder crops and pasture grasses/legumes.

(ii) Seeds of high yielding fodder crops/grasses/legumes in fodder minikits are allotted to States for onward distribution of farmers, free of cost, to make them aware about latest high yielding varieties of fodder crops and improved agronomic

package of practices to increase production of green fodder.

(iii) Centrally sponsored scheme "Assistance to States for Feed & Fodder Development", which provided assistance to States to supplement their efforts in feed and fodder development, establishment of Fodder Banks and enrichment of straw/cellulosic wastes in drought affected and rain deficient States (2002-03 to 2004-05).

(iv) A centrally sponsored Fodder Development Scheme to supplement efforts of the state Governments for fodder development to make available nutritious fodder to the animals.

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

#### *Statement*

*Release of Central Grant to States during the last three years and the current year*

(Rs. in lakhs)

States	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5
Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	99.00	—
Assam	—	—	68.35	—



1	2	3	4	5
Chhattisgarh	100.00	—	25.00	—
Himachal Pradesh	1.00	2.00	5.00	—
Jammu and Kashmir	55.50	—	—	58.40
Jharkhand	—	—	150.00	—
Karnataka	38.55	25.00	9.50	100.00
Kerala	—	—	90.00	—
Maharashtra	—	8.44	46.525	—
Mizoram	30.00	39.525	112.50	100.00
Nagaland	20.00	27.575	112.50	120.50
Punjab	20.00	—	—	—
Rajasthan	—	40.00	26.32	—
Sikkim	—	—	57.65	—
Tamil Nadu	—	—	—	24.00
Tripura	—	57.46	50.00	—
Uttaranchal	76.75	—	—	90.00
Uttar Pradesh	—	—	337.658	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>341.80</b>	<b>200.00</b>	<b>1190.003</b>	<b>492.90</b>

#### **Agriculture Research in Disarray**

2797. SHRI M. SHIVANNA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Agricultural Research is in disarray;
- (b) if so, the reasons for this pathetic condition of agricultural research; and
- (c) the measures, the Government is taking to save agricultural research in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise. Rather Agricultural Research is yielding tangible results. The Government is

endeavouring to make it globally competitive by enhancing Plan Allocation from Rs. 775 crore in 2003-04 to Rs. 1150 crore during the current financial year.

#### **Public Investment in Irrigation Sector**

2798. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to enhance public investment in irrigation sector;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) the names of projects in which the Government has decided public investments in various States; and
- (d) the response received by the State Governments so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) The National Common Minimum Programme stipulates significant enhancement in public investment in Irrigation. The allocation under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) has been enhanced from Rs. 2800 crore in the year 2004-05 to Rs. 4500 crore during the current financial year.

(c) and (d) The projects for seeking assistance under AIBP are identified by the state Governments and posed for support. State-wise list of projects which have been provided Central Loan Assistance (CLA) under AIBP during the years 2004-05 and 2005-06 is enclosed as statement.

**Statement**

*List of irrigation projects which have been provided Central Loan Assistance under AIBP during the years 2004-05 and 2005-06*

Sl.No.	Name of the Projects
1	2
<b>ANDHRA PRADESH</b>	
1.	Jurala (VI)
2.	Maddigedda (V)
3.	Yerrakaiva (V)
4.	Vamsedhera Ph. I
<b>ARUNACHAL PRADESH</b>	
5.	1340 ongoing Surface MI schemes
<b>ASSAM</b>	
6.	Pahumara (A.P. 1978-80)
7.	Mod. of Jamuna Irr. Project (IX)
8.	11 Ongoing MI Schemes of KAAC
9.	11 New MI Schemes of KAAC
10.	2 New MI Schemes of KAAC
11.	13 Ongoing Surface MI Schemes of KAAC

1	2
12.	11 New MI Schemes of KAAC
13.	2 Ongoing & 11 New MI Schemes of NACC
<b>BIHAR</b>	
14.	Western Kosi Canal (III)
15.	Upper Kiul (V)
16.	Sone canal modernisation (VII)
<b>CHHATTISGARH</b>	
17.	Koserteda
<b>GOA</b>	
18.	Salauli Phase-1 (IV)
<b>GUJARAT</b>	
19.	Sardar Sarovar (VI)
20.	Sardar Sarovar Project (VI) (FTP-II)
<b>HARYANA</b>	
21.	WRCP (VIII)
<b>HIMACHAL PRADESH</b>	
22.	Sidhata (IX)
23.	Changer Lift (IX)
24.	26 Ongoing Surface MI Schemes in 2004-05
25.	2 Ongoing Surface MI Schemes in 2005-06
26.	102 New Surface MI Schemes in 2005-06
<b>JAMMU AND KASHMIR</b>	
27.	Lethpora Lift (IV)
28.	Mod. of Ranbir Canal (VII)
29.	Mod. of Pratap Canal (VII)
30.	Mod. of Kathua Canal (VII)
31.	Rajpora Lift (A.P. 1978-80)
32.	Tral Lift (A.P. 1978-80)
33.	Igophey (IX)

1	2
34.	Rafiabad Lift Irrigation (IX)
35.	Zaingir Canal (IX)
36.	28 Surface MI Schemes
37.	54 Surface MI Schemes
38.	26 Ongoing Surface MI Schemes
JHARKHAND	
39.	Sonua (VI)
40.	Surangi (VII)
41.	Upper Sankh
42.	Panchkhero
KARNATAKA	
43.	UKP Stage-I (IV)
44.	Malprabha (III)
45.	Ghatprabha (V)
46.	UKP Stage-II (IX)
47.	Gandomala (VII)
KERALA	
48.	Muvattupuzha (V)
MADHYA PRADESH	
49.	Indira Sagar (VI)
50.	Bansagar (Unit-I) (V)
51.	Bansagar (Unit-II) (V)
52.	Rajghat Dam (V)
53.	Sindh Phase-II (VI)
54.	Mahi (VI)
55.	Bariaipur (V)
56.	Bawanthadi (VI)
57.	Mahan (VI)
58.	Omkareshwar (VIII)

1	2
59.	Bargi Dam RBC 16 Km.-63 Km. (V)
MAHARASHTRA	
60.	Gosikhurd (VI)
61.	Waghur (V)
62.	Upper Wardha (V)
63.	Wan (VI)
64.	Bahula (V)
65.	Krishna (III)
66.	Kukadi (AP 66-69)
67.	Upper Manar
68.	Hetwane
69.	Chaskman
70.	Upper Pen Ganga
71.	Bawanthadi
72.	Khadakwasla (II) (C)
73.	Kadvi (C)
74.	Jawal Gaon
75.	Kumbhi
76.	Kasari
77.	Patgaon
78.	Madan Tank
79.	Dongaragaon
80.	Shivna Takli
81.	Amravati
MANIPUR	
82.	Khuga (VI)
83.	Thoubal (A.P. 1978-80)
84.	35 Ongoing MI Schemes in 2004-05

1	2
<b>MEGHALAYA</b>	
85.	43 New Surface MI Schemes in 2004-05
<b>MIZORAM</b>	
86.	43 New Surface MI Schemes in 2004-05
<b>NAGALAND</b>	
87.	1146 Ongoing MI Schemes
<b>ORISSA</b>	
88.	Upper Indravati (RBC) (A.P. 1978-80)
89.	Subernrekha Multipurpose (VII)
90.	Rengali (IV)
91.	Upper Kolab (V)
92.	Lower Indira (IX)
93.	Lower Suktel (IX)
94.	Telengiri Irr. Project (KBK)
95.	Improvement of Sasan Canal
96.	Improvement of Salki Irr. Project
<b>PUNJAB</b>	
97.	Irr. to H.P. below Talwara (IX)
98.	Remodelling of UDBC (IX)
<b>RAJASTHAN</b>	
99.	IGNP Stage-II (V)
100.	Narmada Canal (VI)
101.	Chauli (VIII)
102.	Mahi Bajaj Sagar (IV)
103.	Mod. of Gang Canal (VI)
<b>TRIPURA</b>	
104.	Gumti (V)
105.	Manu (VI)
106.	Khowai (VI)

1	2
107.	202 Ongoing Surface MI Schemes in 2004-05
<b>UTTAR PRADESH</b>	
108.	Sarju Nahar (V)
109.	Kharif Channel in H.K. Doab (VII)
110.	Bansagar (V)
111.	Tehri (VII)
112.	Eastern Ganga Canal (V)
113.	Rajghat Canal (V)
114.	Mod. of Agra Canal (V)
115.	Jarauli Pump Canal (1990-91)
<b>UTTARANCHAL</b>	
116.	226 New Surface MI Schemes in 2004-05
117.	3 New Surface MI Schemes in 2004-05
118.	226 Ongoing Surface MI Schemes in 2004-05
119.	15 New Surface MI Schemes in 2005-06
<b>WEST BENGAL</b>	
120.	Teesta Barrage (V)*
121.	Pattoi (V)
122.	Hanumata (VII)
123.	Subernrekha Barrage (VII)+
<b>SIKKIM</b>	
124.	100 New MI Schemes in 2004-05

**Paddy Crops in Rabi Season**

2799. DR. BABU RAO MEDIYAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have preventing the paddy crops in Rabi season;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether 'Srivari', a paddy seed is being encouraged in some parts of Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(c) and (d) 'Srivari' is not a paddy seed but a method of rice cultivation known as System of Rice Intensification (SRI). During current Rabi season, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has taken up SRI popularization in a massive way. One acre demonstration on SRI is being organized in each Gram Panchayat wherever water regularization is possible. The Government will be providing SRI marker and Cono weeder at subsidized rate to farmers for popularization of SRI.

#### I.C.A.R. Pact for Golden Rice

2800. SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has signed a work plan with International Rice Research Institute, Philippines to enhance genetic qualities of Golden Rice;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the genetically modified Golden Rice may curb blindness among childrens; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Indian Council of Agricultural Research and International Rice Research Institute, Philippines have signed a workplan for the period 2005-2008 which includes a project on 'golden rice' entitled "The Development of Adapted Germplasm for India with High Levels of Provitamin Carotenoids" with an objective to transfer the Provitamin-A trait/events from 'golden rice' lines to popular Indian rice varieties.

(c) and (d) 'Golden Rice' is a variety of rice engineered to produce beta carotene (pro-vitamin A) to help to combat vitamin-A deficiency which is one of the causes of blindness.

#### Impact of Fly Ash on Barren Land

2801. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the findings recently that the fly ash can make barren land fertile;

(b) if so, whether any further study is likely to be made on this as this is likely to make large barren area fertile besides being environment cleaning process; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has not conducted any systematic study on use of fly ash for reclamation of waste/barren lands. The existing evidence in literature suggests improvement of physical properties of soils, especially water holding capacity in coarse textured soils, with the application of fly ash.

#### Franchisee for Sale of Paper

2802. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Cooperative Consumers Federation of India Limited (NCCF) has been appointed by M/s Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited for onward distribution and sale of paper on an all trade basis;

(b) if so, the details regarding quantity, period of allocation and price for distribution of paper;

(c) the profit margin likely to accrue to the NCCF;

(d) whether this margin is similar to the open market;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) the norms followed by NCCF Limited in appointing the sole indenting agent to oversee this operation; and

(g) the reasons for not inviting competitive bids for the said purpose?

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) Yes, Sir. This appointment is initially for Delhi and North Eastern Region.

(b) The National Cooperative Consumers Federation of India Limited (NCCF) has informed that the operational details for carrying out the business have not been made.

(c) to (g) In view of the above, do not arise.

#### Cooperative Sector

2803. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI:  
SHRI SUBODH MOHITE:  
SHRI UDAY SINGH:  
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:  
SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Ministers Conference on the Task Force report for the revival of the cooperative credit structure held recently;

(b) if so, the details of views and suggestions made by the participants;

(c) the response of the Government thereto;

(d) whether the draft statement of consensus on the proposed revitalization package for cooperative credit structure has been circulated to States for their comments;

(e) if so, the details of the proposed consensus;

(f) the response of the States thereon;

(g) whether the Government has finalized the data for implementation and revitalization package in the country;

(h) if so, the details thereof; and

(i) if not, the reasons for the same?

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

(b) to (h) The report of the Task Force constituted by the Government of India under the Chairmanship of Prof. A. Vaidyanathan to suggest an implementable action plan for reviving the Cooperative Credit Structure (CCS) has been accepted in principle by the Government of India. The Task Force Report was discussed in National Development Council meeting in June, 2005 and by Prime Minister in an interactive session with State Governments and other stakeholders on September 9, 2005. Based on further consultation with a few States, a revised package was drafted incorporating, among others, the consensus on issue like sharing of losses due to Public Distribution System a lower recovery level for eligibility of PACS and reasonable cap on State Government's share capital, etc. The revised package was sent to all States/UTs for comments. Comments have been received from some States.

The package for revitalization of Cooperative Credit Structure envisages provision of financial assistance for wiping out accumulated losses, covering invoked but unpaid and uninvoked guarantees given by the State Government and other dues to the CCS from them, and increasing the capital to specified minimum level. Technical assistance will also be provided to upgrade institutional and human resources of the CSS.

(i) Does not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### Milch and Hybrid Animals

2804. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state the number of milch and hybrid animals available in the country, at present, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): As per the latest Livestock Census conducted in the year 2003, the number of milch animals and cross-bred animals available in the country is given in the enclosed Statement.

**Statement***State-wise population of milch and cross-bred animals as per 17th Livestock Census conducted in 2003*

(In '000)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Milch Animals*			Cross-bred Animals**		
		Milch Cattle	Milch Buffaloes	Milch Goats	Cross bred Cattle	Cross bred Sheep	Cross bred Pigs
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2409	5227	3421	1107	380	48
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	116	4	98	13	0	8
3.	Assam	2195	199	1144	440	1	491
4.	Bihar	3408	2679	4400	1274	84	29
5.	Chhattisgarh	2379	281	1201	253	2	14
6.	Goa	23	16	5	12	0	3
7.	Gujarat	2437	3937	2668	639	1770	36
8.	Haryana	572	2725	297	573	70	35
9.	Himachal Pradesh	812	466	653	677	143	1
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1141	543	1152	1320	2002	1
11.	Jharkhand	1899	390	2450	145	16	18
12.	Karnataka	3404	2215	2597	1602	12	23
13.	Kerala	943	18	436	1735	0	51
14.	Madhya Pradesh	5840	4055	4282	317	120	34
15.	Maharashtra	4921	3476	5853	2776	52	23
16.	Manipur	101	22	13	69	0	208
17.	Meghalaya	229	5	110	23	1	28
18.	Mizoram	11	2	7	9	1	196
19.	Nagaland	137	6	67	243	2	362
20.	Orissa	3621	358	2727	1063	12	96
21.	Punjab	864	3106	154	1531	71	12
22.	Rajasthan	4483	5222	11582	464	66	28
23.	Sikkim	60	1	43	80	0	19

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
24.	Tamil Nadu	3694	793	4059	5140	769	49
25.	Tripura	240	5	223	57	0	95
26.	Uttar Pradesh	5544	10379	5932	1634	38	186
27.	Uttaranchal	694	682	649	228	90	6
28.	West Bengal	5782	247	7460	1119	23	61
29.	Andaman and Nicobar	21	5	25	13	0	3
30.	Chandigarh	4	15	1	5	0	0
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	11	1	12	1	0	0
32.	Daman and Diu	1	1	2	0	0	0
33.	Delhi	54	139	9	58	1	14
34.	Lakshadweep	2	0	22	2	0	0
35.	Pondicherry	35	2	24	63	1	0
	All India	58086	47224	63776	24686	5729	2180

\*Data on only milch cattle, milch buffaloes and milch goats have been collected in 2003 Census.

\*\*In the category of cross-bred animals, data for cross-bred cattle, cross-bred sheep and cross-bred pigs have been collected in the 2003 census.

Source: 17th Indian Livestock Census All India Summary Report.

[English]

### Irrigation Schemes

2805. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of irrigation schemes sanctioned for Ninth Five Year Plan have been included in the Tenth five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of funds sanctioned for such schemes during the Ninth Plan and Tenth Plan period;

(d) the progress of such schemes during the Tenth Plan, till date; and

(e) the area of unirrigated land during Ninth and Tenth Plans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a), (b) and (d) There are 103 major and 118 medium approved irrigation projects in the country which have spilled over from Ninth Five Year Plan to Tenth five Year Plan as on 1.4.2004. Out of these, 7 major and 8 medium irrigation projects have been taken up during the Ninth Five Year Plan. State-wise physical and financial details of these schemes are given in the enclosed Statement-I, II & III.

(c) Irrigation is a State subject and the planning, execution, funding, operation and maintenance of irrigation projects are primarily the responsibility of the State Governments based on their priorities. Central Assistance is released in the form of block loans and grants not tied to any sector of development or project. State-wise actual expenditure incurred on major and medium irrigation projects during Ninth Five Year Plan and approved outlay for Tenth Five Year Plan are given in the enclosed Statement-IV.



(e) State-wise net sown area and irrigated area in the country for 1999-2000 as per information available in "Land Use Classification and Irrigated Area 1998-1999 and 1999-2000" is given in the enclosed Statement-V.

**Statement I**

*Status of ongoing approved major irrigation projects of X Plan as on 01.04.2004*

(Rs. Crore/Pot. Thousand hectare)

Sl.No.	State	Number	Latest Estimated Cost	Cumulative Expenditure upto IX Plan	Likely Expenditure upto 3.1.04	Ultimate Potential	Potential Created upto IX plan	Likely Potential Created upto March 2004
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9	6903.9	4798.17	5783.7	1671.26	1311.09	1478.91
2.	Assam	5	1677.54	355.38	393.79	230.87	90.2	107.09
3.	Bihar	5	2193.21	1078.05	1312.16	331.84	37.98	62.98
4.	Chhattisgarh	3	1742.16	1201.7	1505.59	710.77	558.75	584.53
5.	Goa	1	966.56	470.36	501.61	26.89	7.73	13.21
6.	Gujarat	2	309.13	12688.83	16664.35	1809.54	130.75	251.113
7.	Haryana	3	360.88	259.47	279.1	254	168	168
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1	203.84	59.26	82.29	24.76	0.46	0.96
9.	Jharkhand	1	914.24	24.97	37.259	55.4	0	0
10.	Karnataka	6	10178.45	7541.23	8967.67	1035.92	657.84	752.34
11.	Kerala	2	1275.80	1019.20	1119.88	126.84	50.00	76.35
12.	Madhya Pradesh	13	15103.88	3441.76	4626.28	1358.76	73.15	95.56
13.	Maharashtra	23	15008.39	7935.46	8927.93	1727.83	924.38	964.57
14.	Manipur	2	639.22	340.84	408.66	48.4	4	4
15.	Orissa	10	6504.12	2182.03	140.48	717.99	196.02	245.3
16.	Punjab	1	1324.18	94.67	354.44	0	0	0
17.	Rajasthan	4	6497.19	3324.45	161	1186.46	713.93	799.921
18.	Uttar Pradesh	8	7059.13	3193.73	4182.86	2119.14	577.55	771.993
19.	Uttaranchal	2	1879	244.98	244.98	100.6	21	21
20.	West Bengal	2	2663.34	937.12	996.42	647.72	119.11	130.96
<b>Total</b>		<b>103</b>	<b>114008.03</b>	<b>51171.66</b>	<b>56690.449</b>	<b>14184.99</b>	<b>5652.94</b>	<b>6466.787</b>

**Statement II***Status of ongoing approved medium irrigation projects of X Plan as on 01.04.2004*

(Rs. Crore/Pot. Thousand hectare)

Sl.No.	State	Number	Latest Estimated Cost	Cummulative Expenditure upto IX Plan	Likely Expenditure upto March 2004	Ultimate Potential	Potential created upto IX Plan	Likely Potential created upto March 2004
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6	305.96	200.61	278.84	54.19	17.52	25.28
2.	Assam	5	163.34	94.74	102.71	37.3	18.4	24.13
3.	Bihar	3	180.21	109.38	113.89	28.85	12.88	16.88
4.	Chhattisgarh	2	90.3	33.62	50.05	13.94	1.49	1.84
5.	Gujarat	9	549.31	352.17	392.91	47.58	8.53	12.27
6.	Himachal Pradesh	2	84.73	5.27	10.73	8.39	0.15	0.15
7.	Jharkhand	13	818.46	292.62	345.425	69.38	4.03	4.03
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	7	226.30	101.50	143.07	34.55	7.73	10.34
9.	Karnataka	7	748.59	600.8	678.99	49	30.73	31.87
10.	Kerala	2	513.00	190.50	212.39	16.75	0.00	1.74
11.	Madhya Pradesh	4	161.12	47.74	49.78	36.1	2.49	2.49
12.	Maharashtra	34	1991.36	1179.28	1407.911	183.06	81.84	89.63
13.	Manipur	1	63.1	19.35	26.08	7.54	0	0
14.	Meghalaya	1	57.07	20.24	22.594	5.15	0	0
15.	Orissa	7	516.85	353.23	386.68	61.25	33.33	44.32
16.	Rajasthan	4	366.76	270.98	346.49	30.885	8.592	18.766
17.	Tripura	3	178	129.49	137.606	26.72	3.3	3.3
18.	West Bengal	8	65.082	41.22	42.53	12.86	6.46	8.634
<b>Total</b>		<b>118</b>	<b>7079.542</b>	<b>4042.74</b>	<b>4748.676</b>	<b>723.495</b>	<b>237.472</b>	<b>295.87</b>

*Statement III*

*Status of ongoing approved major & medium irrigation projects of X Plan  
as on 01.04.2004 (Taken up in IX Plan)*

(Rs. Crore/Pot. Thousand hectare)

Sl.No.	Name of State/Project	Plan of Start	Latest Estimated cost	Cumulative Expenditure upto IX Plan	Likely Expenditure upto March 2004	Ultimate potential	Potential created upto IX Plan	Likely potential created upto March 2004
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>Major Projects</b>								
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>								
1.	Changalanadu LIS	IX	70.70	44.22	59.87	14.17	0.00	12.80
	Sub-Total		70.70	44.22	59.87	14.17	0.00	12.80
<b>Assam</b>								
2.	Pagladiya	IX	1030.00	42.00	52.00	54.10	0.00	0.00
	Sub-total		1030.00	42.00	52.00	54.10	0.00	0.00
<b>Karnataka</b>								
3.	UKP Stage II	IX	2954.58	1645.00	2382.45	226.69	32.12	60.53
	Sub-total		2954.58	1645.00	2382.45	226.69	32.12	60.53
<b>Orissa</b>								
4.	Lower Indra	IX	211.70	44.28	134.71	26.19	0.00	26.19
5.	Lower Suktel	IX	217.13	17.17	28.97	27.06	0.00	27.06
6.	Bagh Barrage	IX	74.60	34.56	39.84	6.50	1.85	53.25
	Sub-total		503.43	96.01	203.52	61.75	1.85	66.60
<b>Punjab</b>								
7.	Shahpur Kandl Project	IX	1324.18	94.67	128.09	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Sub-total		1324.18	94.67	128.09	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Grand Total (Major)</b>			<b>5882.89</b>	<b>1921.90</b>	<b>2825.93</b>	<b>356.71</b>	<b>33.97</b>	<b>139.93</b>
<b>Medium Projects</b>								
<b>Gujarat</b>								
1.	Aji IV	IX	111.77	81.34	91.25	3.75	0.93	4.68
2.	Bhadar II	IX	119.30	67.62	78.69	8.57	0.50	9.07

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
3.	Varanasi	IX	19.60	9.60	12.75	1.81	0.00	13.75
4.	Brahmani II	IX	41.50	4.53	5.74	2.06	0.00	55.04
5.	Chinhal LIS	IX	13.35	7.65	11.00	7.00	0.00	7.00
Sub-total			305.52	170.74	199.43	23.19	1.43	62.04
<b>Himachal Pradesh</b>								
6.	Sidhata Project	IX	42.48	3.77	7.48	5.35	0.15	0.15
7.	Changer Lift Irrigation	IX	42.24	1.50	3.25	3.04	0.00	0.00
Sub-total			84.73	5.27	10.73	8.39	0.15	0.15
<b>Maharashtra</b>								
8.	Kirmiri Durur	IX	27.89	16.39	20.39	2.44	0.00	0.00
Sub-total			27.89	16.39	20.39	2.44	0.00	0.00
Grand Total (Medium)			418.14	192.40	230.55	34.02	1.58	62.19

LIS—Lift Irrigation Scheme

**Statement IV****Actual Expenditure during IX Plan and Approved Outlay for X Plan**

(Rs. Crore)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Major & Medium Expenditure during IX Plan	Major & Medium Outlay for X Plan
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4045.77	9153.84
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.73	1.66
3.	Assam	212.96	273.60
4.	Bihar	1621.94	3273.19
5.	Jharkhand	167.01	1720.86
6.	Goa	224.22	175.40
7.	Gujarat	5298.42	7660.91
8.	Haryana	1154.41	1129.64

1	2	3	4
9.	Himachal Pradesh	65.09	55.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	128.52	237.43
11.	Karnataka	8700.51	13277.33
12.	Kerala	703.33	600.00
13.	Madhya Pradesh	2203.68	3819.03
14.	Chhattisgarh	160.64	1721.37
15.	Maharashtra	14807.29	12150.10
16.	Manipur	171.67	221.60
17.	Meghalaya	10.65	24.75
18.	Mizoram	0.14	0.05
19.	Nagaland	0.86	0.50
20.	Orissa	2331.23	2329.02
21.	Punjab	334.92	1591.51
22.	Rajasthan	1725.14	2269.61
23.	Sikkim	2.16	0.00

1	2	3	4
24.	Tamil Nadu	1218.50	1700.00
25.	Tripura	32.44	44.17
26.	Uttar Pradesh	3014.68	6424.58
27.	Uttaranchal	60.96	103.28

1	2	3	4
28.	West Bengal	667.80	895.65
	Total States	49066.67	70855.28
29.	Total U.Ts.	4.18	6.50
	Grand Total	49070.85	70861.78

*Statement V**State-wise net sown area and irrigated area for 1999-2000*

(Thousand hectare)

Sl.No.	State/UTs	Net Sown Area	Gross Irrigated Area	Net Irrigated Area
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10610	5746	4384
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	166	36	35
3.	Assam	2805	209	174
4.	Bihar and Jharkhand	7437	4808	3625
5.	Goa	142	34	22
6.	Gujarat	9667	3840	3082
7.	Haryana	3552	5124	2888
8.	Himachal Pradesh	551	179	102
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	733	438	303
10.	Karnataka	10259	3162	2548
11.	Kerala	2239	471	380
12.	Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh	19898	7091	6740
13.	Maharashtra	17691	4618	3061
14.	Manipur	140	75	65
15.	Meghalaya	240	56	52
16.	Mizoram	91	11	8
17.	Nagaland	261	77	63
18.	Orissa	6075	2512	2005
19.	Punjab	4238	7894	4004

1	2	3	4	5
20.	Rajasthan	15509	6934	5612
21.	Sikkim	95	19	16
22.	Tamil Nadu	5464	3585	2972
23.	Tripura	277	57	35
24.	Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal	17585	17942	12060
25.	West Bengal	5472	3524	2353
26.	Union Territories	135	92	71
Total		141332	78534	56660

#### Loss due to Cyclone in Lakshadweep

2806. DR. P.P. KOYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total loss suffered and the number of mechanized fishing boats/crafts damaged due to cyclone in May 2004 in Lakshadweep Islands;

(b) the compensation provided and new boats/crafts distributed to the fishermen in the Island so far;

(c) whether the Government of Lakshadweep has sought Rs. 19 crores for relief works;

(d) if so, whether the Union Government had sanctioned only Rs. 1.25 crores;

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

(f) whether the Union Government proposes to reconsider to sanction sufficient funds and provide more new boats; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these are 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) to (g) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Uniform Retail Price for Drugs

2807. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN:  
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

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

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce uniform retail price for drugs; and

(b) if so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) A Task Force under the Chairmanship of Dr. Pronab Sen, Principal Adviser, Planning Commission was constituted to explore options other than price control to make available life saving drugs at reasonable prices. The Task Force has submitted its report to the Government on the 20th September, 2005. The Task Force has recommended *inter-alia*, that MRP in the case of medicines should be inclusive of all taxes.

The Government in consultation with various stakeholders is examining the recommendations of the Task Force. Based on this a view would be taken regarding the proposal to introduce uniform retail price for drugs.

[Translation]

#### Dairy Development Scheme in Uttar Pradesh and Delhi

2808. SHRI MUNAWAR HASSAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of centrally sponsored schemes implemented for dairy development in Uttar Pradesh and Delhi;

(b) the amount provided and utilized for the purpose during the said period; and

(c) the achievement made in dairy development in the said States as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) Two centrally sponsored schemes for dairy development *viz.* Intensive Dairy Development Programme (IDDP) and Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production (SIQCMP) are being implemented for dairy development in Uttar Pradesh by Government of India.

Under the scheme IDDP, Government of India has approved six projects covering 19 districts since inception of the scheme in 1993-94 with total outlay of Rs. 3523.19 lakh. An amount of Rs. 2336.68 lakh has been released to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh out of which an amount of Rs. 2031.79 lakh has been utilised by State Government, as on 31.03.2005.

Under the scheme SIQCMP, five projects at a total cost of Rs. 211.08 lakh with a central share of Rs. 185.05 lakh have been approved during 2004-05 and an amount of Rs. 96.64 lakh was released out of which an amount of Rs. 12.53 lakhs has been utilized upto 31.3.2005.

No proposal under the above mentioned schemes has been received from Delhi.

(c) Under IDDP in Uttar Pradesh, 2410 Dairy cooperative societies with about 1.27 lakh farmer members procuring about 90,000 litres of milk per day have been organised till 31.3.2005.

Under the scheme SIQCMP, 3300 farmer members have been trained till 31.3.2005 in hygienic practices for clean milk production.

*[English]*

#### **Merger of Steel and Mining Units**

2809. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has constituted an expert group to study the feasibility of merger of steel and mining Public Sector Undertakings;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken steps to ensure that Kudremukh Iron and Steel Company remains profitably functioning; and

(d) if so, the steps initiated to defend the Hon'ble Supreme Court's order on closure of this unit on environmental grounds?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In deference to demands from various quarters, the Ministry of Steel has constituted an Expert Group headed by Shri B.L. Das, Ex-Secretary (Steel) to evaluate the technical and financial feasibility of various proposals for merger of PSUs under the Ministry on 18th October, 2005. The Expert Group is yet to examine the matter and give its recommendations. Decision regarding merger will be taken only after the Expert Group gives its recommendations.

(c) The Hon'ble Supreme Court has not ordered closure of Kudremukh Iron and Steel Company which is a joint venture company promoted by Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited, MECON Limited and MSTC Limited. The Supreme Court's order relate to Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited (KIOCL).

(d) As far as Supreme Court's order on closure of KIOCL is concerned, the following steps have been initiated:-

(i) Discussions with the Ministry of Environment & Forests regarding filing of an Interlocutory Application by them.

(ii) Arranging discussion with Solicitor General of India regarding future steps.

#### **Release of Water to Tamil Nadu from Neyyar Dam**

2810. SHRI A.V. BELLARMIN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per 1965 agreement the water is not released since January 2004 to Tamil Nadu from Neyyar Dam in Kerala, through its left bank channel; and

(b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor indicating the time by which the water is likely to be released to the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) According to information furnished by Government of Kerala, there is no agreement between Kerala and Tamil Nadu for the supply of water from the Neyyar Irrigation Project to Tamil Nadu. Due to shortage of water in Neyyar reservoir and also due to enactment of the "Kerala Irrigation and Water Conservation Act, 2003" which specifically prohibits the State Government from distributing water from a water course to any other State or Union Territory (UT), except in accordance with the agreement between the State Government or UT in terms of a resolution to that effect passed by the Legislative Assembly of the State, supply of Kanyakumari Branch Canal was stopped since 2004. Government of Kerala has not given any timetable for the resumption of water supply from Neyyar Irrigation Project to Tamil Nadu.

*[Translation]*

#### Bonded Child Labour

2811. SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:  
 PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:  
 SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:  
 SHRI MUNSHI RAM:

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

(a) whether Non- Governmental Organizations (NGOs) have made assessment in regard to increase in number of child labourers in some districts of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has identified the units in those districts where bonded labourers and child labourers are working;

(d) the name of such industrial units in which child labourers are working; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) No, Sir. Government is not aware of any such assessment made by the NGOs.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Under the Scheme of National Child Labour Projects (NCLP), Survey is conducted in the identified districts to find out the number of children working in the hazardous occupations/processes. The Unit-wise data is not maintained by the Ministry.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs) Scheme is being implemented by the Government in 250 districts of the country for the elimination of child labour. Under the Scheme, children working in hazardous occupations/processes are withdrawn from work and put into special schools to be finally mainstreamed into the regular education system. In the special schools, there is a provision for formal/non-formal education, vocational training, stipend, nutrition, health-care, etc.

*[English]*

#### Strengthening Infrastructure Quality and Clean Milk Production

2812. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has introduced a new Centrally Sponsored Scheme during the Tenth Five Year Plan for strengthening the infrastructure and improving the quality of milk production;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the main objectives of the said scheme;

(c) the central assistance provided to each State under the scheme during the last three years;

(d) the number of proposals sent by the State Governments in this regard and the number out of them approved by the Union Government, State-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by the Union Government and the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) to improve the quality of milk and boost its production?



THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries in the Ministry of Agriculture has started a new Centrally Sponsored Scheme during 2003-04 entitled "Strengthening infrastructure for quality and clean milk production". Under this scheme, assistance is provided to the State Governments on 100% grant-in-aid basis for training of farmer members, supply of stainless steel utensils, chemicals and detergents and 75% Central Assistance is provided for bulk milk cooling facilities. The objectives of the scheme are as under:-

- (i) Creation of necessary infrastructure for the production of good quality milk and milk products at the farmers' level up to the point of consumption.
- (ii) Improvement of milking procedure at the farmers' level.
- (iii) Training and strengthening of infrastructure to create mass awareness about importance of clean milk production.

(c) It is a new scheme started during 2003-04. No funds were released during 2003-04. Statement-I indicating statewise funds released during 2004-05 is enclosed.

(d) Statement-II showing number of proposals received from the State Governments and the number out of them approved by the Union Government is enclosed.

(e) The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries is implementing following schemes/regulatory order to improve the quality of milk and boost its production in the country:

1. National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding
2. Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases
3. Assistance to States for Feed and Fodder Development
4. Intensive Dairy Development Programme
5. Strengthening infrastructure for quality and clean milk production

6. Assistance to Cooperatives.
7. Dairy/Poultry Venture Capital Fund
8. Milk and Milk Product Order, 1992.

National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) provides finance at soft terms to Cooperative Milk Unions for improvement in quality of milk for creation of infrastructure for clean milk production, technology innovations and strengthening of quality control laboratories. Dairies are being encouraged and financed by NDDB to go for quality management system/food safety management system.

*Statement I*

*State-wise funds released during last three years under the Scheme Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production*

Sl.No.	Name of State	Release made during 2004-05
1.	Andhra Pradesh	39.37
2.	Assam	8.02
3.	Bihar	100.53
4.	Haryana	162.89
5.	Himachal Pradesh	38.42
6.	Karnataka	697.47
7.	Kerala	20.00
8.	Madhya Pradesh	61.67
9.	Maharashtra	409.94
10.	Mizoram	10.90
11.	Nagaland	34.24
12.	Orissa	179.25
13.	Punjab	178.30
14.	Rajasthan	179.86
15.	Sikkim	19.06
16.	Tamil Nadu	227.47
17.	Uttar Pradesh	96.64
Total		2464.03

**Statement II**

*State-wise number of proposals received and approved (upto 31st March, 2005) under the scheme "Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality Clean Milk Production"*

Sl.No.	Name of State	(Provisional)	
		No. of Proposals received	No. of Proposals approved
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2	1
2.	Assam	1	1
3.	Bihar	5	4
4.	Gujarat	1	—
5.	Haryana	6	4
6.	Himachal Pradesh	2	2
7.	Karnataka	11	11
8.	Kerala	1	1
9.	Madhya Pradesh	1	1
10.	Maharashtra	7	3
11.	Mizoram	1	1
12.	Nagaland	1	1
13.	Orissa	6	6
14.	Pondicherry	1	—
15.	Punjab	4	2
16.	Rajasthan	10	7
17.	Sikkim	1	1
18.	Tamil Nadu	8	5
19.	Uttar Pradesh	15	5
20.	West Bengal	6	—

**Irrigation Projects**

2813. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of irrigation projects undertaken under the Command Area Development Programme (CADP) in Orissa during the Ninth Plan;

(b) the funds allocated therefor and actual amount spent thereon; and

(c) the progress achieved so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Command Area Development Programme has been undertaken in 14 Irrigation Projects of Orissa during the Ninth Plan. Details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) A total amount of Rs. 5604.22 lakh was released against which the actual expenditure was Rs. 5357.64 lakh.

(c) The physical progress achieved so far in respect of activities under Command Area Development Programme is as under:

Sl.No.	Activities	Area covered
1.	Topographical Survey	11,351 lakh ha.
2.	Construction of Field channel	4,219 lakh ha.
3.	Construction of Field drain	1,133 lakh ha.
4.	Enforcement of Warabandi	2,510 lakh ha.
5.	Reclamation of waterlogged area	889 ha.
6.	Crop demonstration	24,784 ha.
7.	Farmers' Training	2,63,700 Nos.

**Statement**

*Details of irrigation projects undertaken under the command area development programme in Orissa during the Ninth Plan*

(Area in Thousand Hectare)

Sl.No.	Project Name	Year of inclusion	Culturable Command Area
1	2	3	4
1.	Mahanadi Delta, Stage-I (Cuttack)	1974-75	179.41
2.	Mahanadi Delta, Stage-II (Puri)	1974-75	156.89
3.	Hirakud	1974-75	153.24
4.	Salandi (Left)	1974-75	41.96

1	2	3	4
5.	Pottaru	1985-86	70.10
6.	Salki	1994-95	19.89
7.	Rushikulya	1994-96	61.23
8.	Salandi Right Bank Canal	1994-95	40.18
9.	Pitamahal	1994-95	2.63
10.	Talsara	1994-95	3.03
11.	Salia	1994-95	8.97
12.	Baitarani	1998-99	32.77
13.	Daha	1998-99	4.76
14.	Jayamangla	1998-99	7.35

#### NSSO Survey of Agriculture

2814. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a recent survey by National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) has revealed that agriculture has been rendered economically unviable with per acre yield dwindling and land holdings squeezing over the years;

(b) if so, the extent of decline in per acre yield and the size of land holdings since the beginning of the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(c) whether the Government has revised the existing policy or proposes to evolve a new Agriculture Policy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The situation assessment survey of farmers submitted by National Sample Survey Organisation in July 2005 has estimated that 27 per cent of the farmer households do not like farming since they consider this profession is unprofitable.

(b) Although the per hectare yield has been fluctuating, it has generally shown increasing trend over the years in case of most of the crops. The position of yield is given in the enclosed statement. Further, as per the available reports, the average size of the operational land holdings has declined due to increase in population and other socio-economic factors.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. There is no such proposal at this stage.

#### Statement

Name of the Crop	Yield (Kg./hectare)						
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Rice	1900	1921	1986	1901	2079	1744	2077
Wheat	2485	2590	2778	2708	2762	2610	2713
Jowar	697	859	847	764	771	754	763
Bajra	791	748	650	688	869	610	1145
Maize	1711	1797	1792	1822	2000	1681	2039
Arhar	551	787	786	618	679	651	672
Gram	811	803	833	744	853	717	813
Groundnut	1040	1214	766	977	1127	694	1364

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Rapeseed & Mustard	668	869	960	935	1002	854	1151
Soyabean	1079	1100	1138	822	940	762	1210
Cotton	208	224	225	190	186	191	309
Sugarcane	71134	71203	70935	68577	67370	63576	58986

**Setting up of National Fisheries  
Development Board**

2815. PROF. M. RAMADASS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up National Fisheries Development Board (NFBD);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made in regard to setting up of NFBD 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 TASLIMUDDIN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A Feasibility Report has been prepared for setting up of National Fisheries Development Board and sent to Planning Commission for their approval.

**Death of Cheetals**

2816. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:  
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:

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

(a) whether the cases of death of many Cheetals in Keoladeo National Park has come to light;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to conduct a high level enquiry in this regard;

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be completed;

(e) If not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the remedial measures taken/being taken to check such deaths of wild animals in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEEINA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of Rajasthan has reported the death of 56 cheetals in Keoladeo National Park in the month of July 2005. A total of 157 cheetals escaped from Keoladeo National Park due to flood situation out of which 101 animals were rescued and transported back to Keoladeo National Park. 56 cheetals died due to shock and dog bites.

(c) and (d) Any enquiry in this matter was conducted by Forest Department, Rajasthan and report already submitted in August 2005.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Cheetal population in Keoladeo National Park has increased enormously in the last three years due to favourable conditions. Government of India has released Rs. 20.00 lakhs for construction as well as raising the well around Keoladeo National Park under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries" so that the cheetals do not escape out of the Park.

**Task Force to Prevent Atrocities on Animals**

2817. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up any Task Force to prevent the atrocities against the tigers and other endangered animals;

(b) if so, the main functions/objectives thereof; and

(c) the time by which the Task Force is likely to be set up?

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

(b) and (c) Questions do not arise.

[*Translation*]

#### Setting up of National Drug Authority

2818. SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD:  
SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up the National Drug Authority;

(b) if so, the details and objectives thereof alongwith the composition and functioning of the said authority; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) A Task Force under the Chairmanship of Dr. Pronab Sen, Principal Adviser, Planning Commission was constituted to explore options other than price control to make available life saving drugs at reasonable prices. The Task Force has submitted its report to the Government on the 20th September, 2005. The Task Force has recommended, *inter-alia*, to establish a National Authority on Drugs and Therapeutics (NADT) as a long term objective. This would integrate the offices of the Drugs Controller General (India), the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) and the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) alongwith all the powers and functions of these bodies.

The Government in consultation with various stakeholders is examining the recommendations of the Task Force. Based on this a view would be taken regarding the setting up of the National Authority on Drugs and Therapeutics.

[*English*]

#### Agricultural Land in Karnataka

2819. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the agricultural land in Karnataka is constantly turning non-remunerative;

(b) if so, the details of the same;

(c) whether any study has been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Union Government in this regard and provide incentive package to make agriculture remunerative; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) The report on situation assessment survey of the farmers submitted by National Sample Survey Organisation in July 2005 has estimated that 28 per cent of the farmer households in Karnataka do not like farming as a profession as it is not profitable.

(d) and (e) The Union Government, under its various schemes and programmes provides financial assistance to the State Governments including the State of Karnataka to supplement and complement their efforts to augment production and productivity of agriculture sector in order to make agriculture remunerative. The Government has been pursuing Regionally Differentiated Strategy (RDS) taking into account the agronomic, climatic and environmental conditions to realize the full growth potential of the region. For this, 17 Centrally Sponsored Schemes have been subsumed under "Macro Management in Agriculture Scheme" with a view to give freedom at the State-level in formulation of their own plans in the shape of Work Plan for development of agriculture based on their felt needs and regional priorities including diversification of agriculture towards income enhancing crops and activities for making agriculture more remunerative.

[Translation]

**Subsidy on Urea and other Fertilizers**

2820. SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has provided subsidy to the units producing Urea and other fertilizers in the country as well as on the fertilizer being imported from foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details of the subsidy being provided alongwith the rates of subsidy during the current financial year;

(c) whether any report has been prepared by the cost accounting branch of the Ministry of Finance on the cost price study of Single Super Phosphate (SSP);

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government after examining the report has completed the process to find out the appropriate measures to provide relaxation on SSP;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) With the objective of making available fertilizers to all farmers of the country at affordable prices, urea, being the only controlled fertilizer, is sold at statutorily notified maximum retail price (MRP), and the decontrolled phosphatic and potassic fertilizers, such as DAP, MOP and NPK complexes are sold at indicative MRPs. As the cost of production of these fertilizers is generally higher than the MRP/Indicative MRPs, the difference between cost of production as assessed by the Government and the MRP/Indicative MRPs is paid as subsidy/concession to the manufacturers of the these fertilizers. As the MRP/Indicative MRPs of both indigenous and imported fertilizers are fixed uniformly, subsidy/concession is also given on imported urea and decontrolled phosphatic and potassic fertilizers.

In the case of indigenous urea, the difference between the rate of concession payable to each urea unit under the group based New Pricing Scheme for urea units and the statutorily notified MRP, which is presently Rs. 4830/PMT, is paid as subsidy to indigenous manufacturing urea units. In addition, they are also paid equated freight and dealer's margin. In the case of imported urea, whose import is made on Government account through State Trading Enterprises, Government transfers ownership of the urea to the handling agencies at High Seas and recovers its cost at the pool issue price fixed by it. The handling and distribution expenses of urea imported on Government account are also borne by the Government. The difference between landed cost and pool issue price is borne by the Government as subsidy on imported urea. During the financial year 2005-06, a budgetary provision of subsidy/concession of Rs. 10110.37 crore for indigenous urea, Rs. 943.53 crore for imported urea and Rs. 5200.00 crore for decontrolled phosphatic and potassic fertilizers has been made.

In the case of decontrolled phosphatic and potassic fertilizers, subsidy/concession is provided on the sales of these fertilizers to the manufacturers/importers under the Concession Scheme. Department of Fertilizers announces indicative MRPs of phosphatic and potassic fertilizers except those of SSP and pays difference between normative delivered price and indicative MRP as subsidy/concession on these fertilizers. Base concession rates announced by the Government w.e.f. 1.7.2005 are given in the enclosed statement. In the case of SSP, indicative MRP is fixed by respective State Governments and Government of India pays *ad hoc* concession of Rs. 650/PMT (and @ Rs. 975/PMT w.e.f. 1.9.2005).

(c) to (g) Cost Account Branch (CAB) of Ministry of Finance had submitted its reports to the Department of Fertilizers in May, 2004. CAB had recommended the fair price of SSP at Rs. 3600/PMT. The Government, after examination of the matter, has decided to increase the *ad hoc* concession rate of SSP from Rs. 650/PMT to Rs. 975/PMT w.e.f. 1.9.2005. The MRP of SSP is still to be decided by various State Governments.

**Statement***Base concession rates of decontrolled P&K fertilizers for the year 2005-2006 w.e.f. 1.7.2005*

(Rate Rupees per MT)

Product	Base rates for 2005-06			
	w.e.f. 1.4.2005		w.e.f. 1.7.2005	
	Group I	Group II	Group I	Group II
Indigenous DAP	4867	4867	5613	5613
DAP imported	4867		5000	
MOP	6066		6066	
SSP	650		650	
16:20:0	2111	3014	2399	3302
20:20:0	2608	3736	2896	4024
20:20:0 (gas)	1604	—	1892	—
23:23:0 (gas)	1764	4216	2095	4547
28:28:0	5136	5134	5540	5538
10:26:26	5180	5744	5555	6119
12:32:16	4790	5466	5251	5927
14:28:14	4281	5071	4685	5475
14:35:14	5140	5930	5645	6435
15:15:15 (gas)	2918	—	3135	4734
15:15:15	3671	4517	3888	—
17:17:17	3570	4529	3815	4774
19:19:19	5459	5458	5733	5732

*[English]***Development of Tourist Complexes**

2821. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether huge tourism potential exists in some States particularly in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the areas identified where the Union and State Governments could jointly develop the tourists complexes in the States;

(c) whether any comprehensive action plan has been formulated in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Development and promotion of tourist destinations/products is primarily the responsibility of the State Govt/UT concerned. The Ministry of Tourism however, provides financial assistance to the State Govts/U.Ts for the projects which are prioritized in consultation with them.

(c) to (e) In order to assist the State Governments in identifying various places of tourist interest and their systematic and holistic development, the Ministry of Tourism has prepared 20 years. Perspective Plans for various States including Tamil Nadu, with broad objectives for development of tourism, which *inter-alia* provides an action plan for development of identified places.

#### Kissan Call Centres

2822. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has introduced Kisan Call Centres to solve the problems through specialists;

(b) if so, the details of such centers functioning in the country, State-wise;

(c) the approximate expenditure on each Kisan Call Centre; and

(d) the target fixed for opening of such Kisan Call Centres during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) has set up Kisan Call Centres (KCC) at 12 locations from where answers are given to the queries of farmers through toll free telephone lines. A country-wide common four digit number-1551—has been arranged for the purpose.

(b) The list of 12 KCC locations is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) About Rs. 16.8 lakh is currently required to provide manpower at all 12 KCC locations.

(d) There is no target for opening Kisan Call Centres during the current year as the entire country is covered from the 12 KCC locations.

#### *Statement*

##### *Details of Kisan Call Centres*

Sl.No.	Kisan Call Centres Location	States & UTs covered
1.	Mumbai	Maharashtra, Goa, Daman & Diu
2.	Kanpur	Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal
3.	Kochi	Kerala, Lakshadweep Islands
4.	Bangalore	Karnataka
5.	Chennai	Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry, Andaman & Nicobar Islands
6.	Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh
7.	Chandigarh	Chandigarh, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab
8.	Jaipur	Rajasthan
9.	Indore	Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh
10.	Kolkata	(i) West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, Jharkhand (ii) Tripura, Assam, Mizoram, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim
11.	Ahmedabad	Gujarat, Dadra & Nagar Haveli
12.	Delhi	Delhi, Haryana



**MoU for Import of Urea**

2823. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) signed between the Ministry and foreign companies for import of urea and other fertilizers as on date;

(b) the details of terms of agreements of each such company;

(c) the value of orders placed by the Government for the purchase of Urea from the international market; and

(d) the names of Indian agencies, which have been selected for the import deals?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS  
AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS

PASWAN): (a) to (d) Urea is the only fertilizer under Statutory Price and partial movement control. Its import is restricted and made through State Trading Enterprises i.e. MMTC, STC and IPL. Government imports urea to bridge the gap between assessed demand & supply through these State Trading Enterprises. Till date Department of Fertilizers has requested to MMTC & IPL to arrange imports of 7.50 lakh MT urea on Government Account during the current financial year. Details of contracts entered into by these two agencies are given in the enclosed Statement.

Besides this, Department of Fertilizers has also entered into a Urea Off Take Agreement (UOTA) with Oman India Fertilizer Company, a joint venture of Oman Oil Company and IFFCO & KRIBHCO to lift 100% production of the granular urea produced by the company during the first 15 years at the pre-determined fixed price. The Company has started its commercial production w.e.f. 14.07.2005. The FOB price for the first year is US \$ 150 per MT.

***Statement*****IPL**

Sl.No.	Contract Date	Name of foreign supplier	Qty (MTs)	Rate/Pmt (USD)	Amount (USD)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	28.10.05	M/s Transammonia, Switzerland	49509.997	256.50 (CNF)	12,699,314.23
2.	23.11.05	M/s Ruwais Fertilizers, UAE	15000.000	253.00 (FOB)	3,795,000.00
3.	23.11.05	M/s Helm, Germany	60000.000 30-50000	255.50 (CNF) 268.00 (CNF)	15,330,000.00 13,400,000.00
4.	23.11.05	M/s SABIC, Saudi Arabia	30000.00	253.00 (FOB)	7,590,000.00
5.	24.11.05	M/s SABIC, Saudi Arabia	40000.00	246.00 (FOB)	9,840,000.00
6.	01.12.05	M/s Helm, Germany	30000.00	256.50 (CNF)	7,695,000.00

**MMTC**

SI.No.	Quantity MT	Value	Rs. Crores
1.	M/s Helm	255247	299.38
2.	M/s QAFCO	67677	74.83
3.	M/s SABIC	20529	22.27
4.	M/s Ruwais	35809	40.23
5.	M/s Transammonia	60500	72.92
Total		439762	509.63

**Pending Projects of Karnataka under NHM***[Translation]*

2824. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects of Government of Karnataka pending before the National Horticulture Mission (NHM) for consideration and approval since 2002 till September, 2005;

(b) the details of the projects and the decision taken thereon during the said period; and

(c) the details of the projects being considered by the NHM for development of horticulture and introducing modern technology in the State?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) The Annual Action Plan for 2005-06 of Government of Karnataka was approved by the National Horticulture Mission (NHM) in September, 2005. No project proposal of Government of Karnataka is pending approval of NHM.

(c) The activities being implemented by the National Horticulture Mission in the State of Karnataka include production of quality planting material through nurseries and Tissue Culture Units, coverage of area under horticultural crops through establishment of new gardens in potential belts, use of modern technologies like green house cultivation besides creation of infrastructure facilities for post harvest management and marketing of horticultural produce.

**Pilgrimage of Labourers**

2825. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of landless and homeless labourers in the country as on date, State-wise;

(b) the names of programmes being implemented for improving their condition, State-wise;

(c) the funds allocated for this purpose during the last three years, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government has reviewed or purpose to review these programmes so that the assistance given for improving the condition of labourers may be evaluated;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) According to the Census 2001, there are about 10.7 crore agricultural labourers in the country. The State-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement. No details regarding homeless labourers are available.

(b) to (f) The Government have been taking several measures to improve the condition of rural poor including landless/homeless labourers. Some of the Schemes being implemented are Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Sampurna Gramin Rozgar Yojna (SGRY), National Food For Work Programme (NFFWP), Indira

Awaz Yojna (IAY), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP), Swajaldhara and Central Rural Sanitation Programme (CRSP), Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC), Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP), Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP), etc. Further Janashree Bima Yojana providing insurance cover to the people living below or marginally above the poverty line is available to these workers.

No separate allocation of funds for landless/homeless labourers is made. These Schemes/Programmes are reviewed from time to time to take corrective steps, if required.

**Statement**

*State-wise total Agricultural labourers  
(as per Census 2001)*

India/States	Agricultural Labourers
1	2
India*	106,775,330
Andhra Pradesh	13,832,152
Arunachal Pradesh	18,840
Assam	1,263,532
Bihar	13,417,744
Chhattisgarh	3,091,358
Goa	35,806
Gujarat	5,161,658
Haryana	1,278,821
Himachal Pradesh	94,171
Jammu and Kashmir	246,421
Jharkhand	2,851,297
Karnataka	6,226,942
Kerala	1,620,851
Madhya Pradesh	7,400,670
Maharashtra	10,815,262

1	2
Manipur*	113,630
Meghalaya	171,694
Mizoram	26,783
Nagaland	30,907
Orissa	4,999,104
Punjab	1,489,861
Rajasthan	2,523,719
Sikkim	17,000
Tamil Nadu	8,637,630
Tripura	276,132
Uttar Pradesh	13,400,911
Uttaranchal	259,863
West Bengal	7,362,957
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	5,169
Chandigarh	563
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	14,715
Daman and Diu	1,323
Delhi	15,773
Lakshadweep	—
Pondicherry	72,251

\*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]

**Revival of Wagon Manufacturing PSUs**

2826. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the utilization capacity of the wagon manufacturing Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) had touched the lowest figure during 2004-05;

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

(c) whether all the wagon manufacturing PSUs have been declared sick units;

(d) if so, whether there is any proposal to review these units; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) There are four wagon manufacturing Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) under the administrative control of the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises. The installed capacities at these units vis-a-vis production and capacity utilization during the last three years are given below:-

(Figures in FWUs)

Name of the Unit	Installed Capacity		2004-05	2003-04	2002-03
BSCL	8661	Production	2282.5	2190	3217.5
		Capacity Utilisation	26.4%	25.3%	37.1%
BCL	4350	Production	1000	1227.5	1480
		Capacity Utilisation	23.0%	28.2%	33.5%
BWEL	2500	Production	440	285	927.5
		Capacity Utilisation	17.6%	11.4%	37.1%
B&R	450	Production	144	128	181
		Capacity Utilisation	32.0%	28.4%	40.2%

The decline in capacity utilization is owing to delayed and inadequate receipt of matching free supply items from Railways, delayed and inadequate supply of critical components from registered vendors, unremunerative wagon prices up to 2003-04 and shortage of working capital.

(c) to (e) Out of the four wagon manufacturing PSEs, three PSEs, namely Burn Standard Company Ltd., Braithwaite and Company Ltd. and Bharat Wagon and Engineering Company Ltd. have been declared sick units. Under the policy of the Government as enunciated in the National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP), a decision has been taken in principle of plan for the revival of these companies through restructuring.

#### Use of Bio Fertilizers

2827. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:  
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has increased the use of Bio Fertilizers with adoption of Integrated Nutrient Management Concept;

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

(c) the number of Bio Fertilizer Production Units operating in the country alongwith their installed capacity as on date, State-wise;

(d) the details of the actual production of each of such units during each of the last three years and thereafter till-date; and

(e) the details of the existing monitoring mechanism to keep a check on quality of Bio Fertilizers being sold 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 TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and

(b) Yes, Sir. The use of Bio Fertilizers has increased from 2,371.80 MT per annum during 1992-93 to 10,594.90 MT during 2004-05 after adoption of Integrated Nutrient Management.

(c) and (d) At present there are 151 Bio Fertilizer Production Units in the country with installed capacity of about 18200 MT per annum. The Bio Fertilizer production was 9,064.79 MT, 9,753.98 MT and 10,594.90 MT during 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 respectively. The state-

wise number of production units is given in the enclosed Statement.

(e) The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) have notified specifications for Bio Fertilizers namely Rhizobium, Azotobactor, Azospirillum and Phosphate Solubilising Baterial Inoculant (PSBI). The National Centre of Organic Farming Ghaziabad and its Regional Centres at Hissar, Jabalpur, Nagpur, Bangalore, Bhubneswar and Imphal perform quality test of different Bio Fertilizer samples received through State Departments of Agriculture.

**Statement**

*Details of State-wise Biofertilizer Production facilities created by GOI & Others*

State	GOI financed units		Other Units	
	No. of units	Capacity (tonnes)	No. of Units	Capacity (tonnes)
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	3	225	6	660
Arunachal Pradesh	1	75	—	—
Assam	3	450	2	290
Bihar	3	300	—	—
Delhi	—	—	2	80
Gujarat	3	600	1	150
Haryana	1	75	1	130
Himachal Pradesh	1	75	—	—
Karnataka	9	1050	8	1160
Kerala	3	300	3	275
Madhya Pradesh	4	600	8	1200
Maharashtra	17	2250	12	1740
Meghalaya	1	75	—	—
Mizoram	1	75	—	—
Nagaland	1	150	—	—
Orissa	3	375	7	840
Rajasthan	2	225	5	750
Pondicherry	1	75	2	145

1	2	3	4	5
Punjab	—	—	1	40
Uttar Pradesh	4	225	4	540
Tamil Nadu	7	600	10	1320
West Bengal	3	225	8	885
<b>Total</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>8025</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>10175</b>

Total Biofertilizer production capacity of GOI & Other Units: 8025+10175=18200 Tonnes

Total estimated Biofertilizer production by GOI & Other Units: 10000 Tonnes

#### **New Guidelines for Environmental Clearance**

2828. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:  
SHRI UDAY SINGH:  
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:  
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:  
SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI:  
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:  
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:  
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

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

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to reorient its environmental clearance guidelines for major projects;

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

(c) the time by which the new regulations are likely to be operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A draft notification on the revised environmental clearance process has been published on 15.09.2005 inviting suggestions/objections from the public before making necessary amendments in the existing Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 1994 in order to make the environmental clearance process more effective and transparent.

(c) The final notification in respect of new regulation can be issued only after consideration of all the objections/

suggestions received in response to the said draft notification.

*[Translation]*

#### **Expansion of Vishakhapatnam Steel Plant**

2829. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has cleared the scheme for expansion of Vishakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP); and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has approved the expansion plan of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. at an estimated revised cost of Rs. 8692 crores (base June 2005 prices) for increasing its liquid steel capacity from 3 million tonnes to 6.3 million tonnes by 2008-09 with debt equity ratio of 1:1. The entire capital cost of the expansion plan is proposed to be met from its internal resources and partly by borrowing from financial institutions/banks.

*[English]*

#### **Reduction in Sugar Quota**

2830. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has decided to reduce the monthly quota of levy sugar to the States;

(b) if so, whether such a decision has created a shortage of sugar in the open market leading to increase in the prices of sugar;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to improve availability of sugar and control its 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) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Questions do not arise.

#### Purchase of Coal by SAIL

2831. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has purchased or it proposes to purchase coal from the US;

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

(c) whether any irregularity has been found in this transaction;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Under long term agreement, 1 Million Tonnes coking coal has been tied up with two companies from the USA for the year 2005-06. Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) is presently purchasing imported coal through open global tenders.

(c) to (e) An inquiry relating to spot purchases of coking coal made by SAIL between April and August, 2004 is in progress.

*[Translation]*

#### Ban on forming Workers' Organisation In I.T. Sector

2832. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has accorded approval for making rules to impose ban on forming workers' organizations in companies under the I.T. Sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the workers' organizations in the country have lodged their protest against the decision of the Government;

(d) if so, the main points of protest made by the workers' organizations; and

(e) the steps being taken to safeguard the interests of the workers in absence of these organizations under the I.T. Sector?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) to (e) The State Governments are the "appropriate Government" under the various labour laws and legally vested with the powers to deal with the enforcement of labour laws in information technology sector. Information Technology and information technology enabled services are covered under existing labour laws.

Accordingly, State Governments have been requested to take appropriate action in getting the labour laws implementation reviewed expeditiously.

*[English]*

#### Development of Shell Fish Farming in Kerala

2833. DR. K.S. MANOJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted any project proposal to the Union Government for development of shell fish farming in Kerala;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and  
 (c) the time by which it is likely to be sanctioned?

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.

#### **Agricultural Projects Funded by Foreign Countries**

2834. SHRI B. MAHTAB: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of agricultural projects being funded by the foreign countries;  
 (b) the present status of each such ongoing agricultural project, State-wise;  
 (c) whether any fresh projects seeking external assistance has been received from Orissa; and  
 (d) if so, the details of the same and the response of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Poor Response to SDF**

2835. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the total funds provided to sugar factories for modernisation and expansion from Sugar Development Fund (SDF) during the last three years, year-wise;  
 (b) whether there has been a poor response from the sugar industry to the SDF;  
 (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and  
 (d) whether the Government proposes to ease the conditions involved a procuring loans to improve the utilisation of the said fund?

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 total funds provided to the sugar factories for modernization and expansion from the Sugar Development Fund during the last three years are as under:

	(Rupees in Crores)		
	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Sanctioned	39.88	130.29	24.55
Disbursed	92.19	44.36	103.90

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Do not arise.

(d) The loans from the Sugar Development Fund are allowed to eligible Sugar Mills for, inter alia, expansion of capacity, modernization/rehabilitation of plant and machinery as well as technological upgradation. In order to encourage sugar mills to avail loans from the Sugar Development Fund, the rate of interest on loans from this Fund has been reduced to two percent below the Bank Rate with effect from 21.10.2004. Besides, the guidelines have also been revised to make sugar mills eligible for loans under this fund for expansion of capacity upto 10,000 TCD. Sugar Mills have also been made eligible for obtaining loan for production and ethanol and production of power from bagasse.

#### **Bennethora Project in Karnataka**

2836. SHRI M. SHIVANNA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Bennethora Irrigation Project in Karnataka is lying incomplete; and  
 (b) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which the construction work is likely to be completed and water released to command areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) As per the report of the State Government of



Karnataka Bennethora irrigation project spilled over from previous Plans is an ongoing project of Tenth Five Year Plan. The Annual Report 2004-05 of the Water Resources Department of Government of Karnataka indicates that the works of dam, embankment and spillway are completed and the canal works are in progress. The scheduled completion of the project is March, 2006 and water for irrigation is scheduled to be released thereafter.

#### **Meeting of Biological Resources**

2837. DR. BABU RAO MEDIYAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a ministerial level meeting was held in New Delhi in January 2005 on Access and Benefit Sharing of our Biological Resources; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir. An Expert and Ministerial level meeting of the seventeen Like Minded Megadiverse Countries (LMMCs) on Access and Benefit Sharing was held in New Delhi in January 2005.

(b) In this meeting, the LMMCs worked out a common position for developing an international regime on access and benefit sharing, and adopted the New Delhi Ministerial Declaration on access and benefit sharing.

#### **Benefits of Fly Ash**

2838. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the benefits of fly ash;

(b) the extent to which it helps clean the environment; and

(c) the steps proposed/taken to put fly ash to proper use?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) If fly ash is left as such it will cause air pollution. If it is disposed on land by way of ash pond it occupies huge area of land and also uses

large quantity of water. By utilising fly ash we can prevent air and water pollution and release the land being used up in ash pond construction. By using fly ash the environment would not only be clean but also there are benefits. The use of fly ash in the manufacture of clay bricks and in road construction reduce the consumption of soil which is required for maintaining our agricultural productivity and food security. It is used in the cement manufacture thus helping in the reduction of consumption of limestone. By using fly ash in agriculture some of the micro-nutrients are provided to the crops.

(c) A number of steps has been taken by Government of India to put fly ash to proper use. To cite a few, the Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests has already brought out legislation for conservation of soil and prevention of disposal of fly ash on land. Besides this, Bureau of Indian Standards has brought out standards for about 50 fly ash products. The Indian Road Congress has brought out specifications for construction of National Highways and Rural Roads which permits the use of fly ash in road construction. The Central and State Government and their agencies have included fly ash/fly ash products in their specifications, schedule of rates and tender documents.

#### **Garbage Management Projects**

2839. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments and non-Governmental Organizations have applied for financial assistance for garbage management projects;

(b) if so, the details of the application received in this regard and approved by the Government during the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether the Government has any scheme to grow awareness about environment; 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) Proposals were invited from the States for setting up of model facilities for the management of municipal solid waste as per the Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000. In response to the same 22 project proposals were

received through the State Pollution Control Boards by the Central Pollution Control Board during the last three years. Out of these, 7 proposals viz. North Dum Dum and New Barrackpore municipality in West Bengal, Municipal Corporation of Chandigarh in the UT of Chandigarh, Udumalaipet Municipality in Tamil Nadu, Kohima Municipality in Nagaland, Suryapet Municipality in Andhra Pradesh, Mandi Municipality in Himachal Pradesh and Kozhikode Municipal Corporation in Kerala, has been funded on a cost sharing basis.

(c) and (d) Since 1986, with the objective of creating environmental awareness at the national level, the Ministry of Environment & Forests is organising the National Environment Awareness Campaign (NEAC). During the last two years the theme for NEAC is "Solid Waste Management".

*[Translation]*

#### Smart Card for Foodgrains

2840. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to issue smart cards to replace the traditional ration cards for distribution of foodgrains under the Public Distribution System;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the States where this scheme is being implemented at present?

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) No, Sir. However, a Pilot Project on Food Credit Cards under the Targeted Public Distribution System is being implemented in some States. The Project consist of 2 phases. The first phase being Computerization of authentic and standardized database of households and all PDS operations at the Taluka, District and State level as a back-end operation, and the second being the front-end technology which could be either Food Credit/ Debit cards of Smart Ration Cards.

The scheme is presently being implemented in district Kangra of Himachal Pradesh, Ernakulam of Kerala, and Vidisha of Madhya Pradesh.

*[English]*

#### Authority for Looking after rights of Farmers

2841. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up any authority to look after the quality of plants and right of farmers in the country;

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

(c) the composition with aims and objectives of the said authority; and

(d) the extent to which Indian farmers are likely to be benefited therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) The Government has established Protection of Plant Varieties & Farmers' Rights Authority under Section 3 of the Protection of Plant Varieties & Farmers' Rights Act, 2001 on 11th November, 2005 for implementation of various provisions of the aforesaid Act.

(c) The Authority comprises Chairperson and 15 other Members. The main objectives of the Authority are ensuring protection of rights of farmers and plant breeders and to encourage the development of new varieties of plants.

(d) The enforcement of provisions of Protection of Plant Varieties & Farmers' Rights Act, 2001 will protect the interest of farmers, facilitate the growth of seed industry in the country and ensure the availability of high quality seeds & planting material to the farmers.

#### Fish Landing Centres at Lakshadweep

2842. DR. P.P. KOYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of estimated economic potential of the Exclusive Economic Zone comprising in Lakshadweep, Union Territory (UT);

(b) the details of fish landing centres functioning at present in the UT and the quantum of fish produced in the said centres per annum;

(c) whether the Union Government has long term perspective plan to tap the marine resources of Lakshadweep waters, enhance fish landing centres and include creation of infrastructure, value addition and marketing; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the share for public sector and private sector investment/participation therein?

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) It is estimated that economic fishery potential of the Exclusive Economic Zone of Lakshadweep is about one lakh tonne.

(b) It is reported that a total of 11 inhabitant islands are acting as different fish landing centres in the Union Territory of Lakshadweep Island. The centre-wise average fish landing in a year as reported by the UT Administration is as below:

Sl.No.	Name of Island	Quantity in tonnes
1.	Agatti	2127
2.	Amini	210
3.	Andrott	1242
4.	Bitra	409
5.	Chetlai	342.5
6.	Kadmat	269
7.	Kalpeni	523
8.	Kavaratti	1026
9.	Kiltan	740
10.	Minicoy	2115
11.	Suheli	586

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Central Marine Research Institute (CMRI) and Central Institute of Fisheries Technologies (CIFT), Cochin functioning under the control of Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) have been assigned to evolve a suitable long term perspective plan in collaboration with Department of Fisheries, Lakshadweep Administration for development of fishery sector of the UT of Lakshadweep.

#### Outstanding Dues of Employees in CPSUs

2843. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether settlement of dues of employees of various Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) who rendered jobless due to closure of the Units and/or VRS has been outstanding particularly in the State of West Bengal;

(b) the number of such employees alongwith the outstanding dues as on the October 31, 2005, PSU-wise;

(c) the reasons for non settlement of legitimate dues of these employees; and

(d) the time by which the outstanding dues of these employees would be disbursed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (d) When a unit of a Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) is closed, generally the Government ensures that all employees' dues are cleared before closure of the unit. Similarly, employees' dues are cleared simultaneously when employees are released under Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS). Details in regard to settlement of dues of ex-employees of CPSEs are not centrally maintained in the Department of Public Enterprises.

#### Exploitation of Ground Water in Delhi

2844. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ground Water has been overexploited and construction of new ground water structures is prohibited in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether despite prohibition large number of illegal bores have been bored in Delhi; and

(c) if so, the number of cases of violation has come to the notice of the concerned authorities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER

**RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV):** (a) Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA), constituted under Section 3(3) of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for the purpose of regulation and control of ground water management and development has declared South and South-West districts of Delhi as 'Notified Areas' on consideration of annual ground water withdrawal having exceeded the annual replenishable ground water resources. Restriction on construction of new structures for extraction of ground water resources in these areas has been imposed by CGWA to avoid further depletion of resources.

(b) and (c) A total of 93 complaints of illegal borings have been received in the CGWA. These complaints have been forwarded to the concerned Deputy Commissioners for necessary action.

**Committee on Restoration of Water Bodies**

2845. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:  
SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA:  
SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of traditional water harvesting structures such as ponds and water tanks have gone under disuse due to siltation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the expenditure so far incurred by the Government on revival or restoration of these water bodies, State-wise;

(d) whether the Union Government proposes to set up a Committee on the expansion of a pilot scheme on national projects on repair, renovation and restoration of water bodies;

(e) if so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard;

(f) the number of requests received by the Union Government from the States particularly Government of Andhra Pradesh for restoration of such water bodies particularly in Hyderabad; and

(g) the action taken by the Government thereon and provision of funds made for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per 2001 Minor Irrigation Census there are 72198 irrigation tanks and storage structures which have gone into dis-use due to siltation in the tank bed, breakdown of channels, encroachment and other factors. Statement-I showing the State-wise distribution is enclosed.

(c) to (e) The Government launched a pilot scheme of national project to repair, renovate and modernize traditional water bodies. This pilot scheme meant for one or two districts in each State. As the pilot project is in its early stage of implementation, it is too early to constitute a committee for expansion of the project.

(f) and (g) The State-wise proposals received and funds released is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

*Statement I*

*Number of Tank+Storages not in use*

Sl.No.	State	Not in use
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	23,968
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	122
3.	Assam	239
4.	Bihar	2,570
5.	Chhattisgarh	1,039
6.	Goa	97
7.	Gujarat	1,923
8.	Haryana	31
9.	Himachal Pradesh	42
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	87
11.	Jharkhand	3,360
12.	Karnataka	3,748
13.	Kerala	443
14.	Madhya Pradesh	3,768

1	2	3	1	2	3
15.	Maharashtra	7,700	25.	Tripura	47
16.	Manipur	0	26.	Uttar Pradesh	480
17.	Meghalaya	75	27.	Uttaranchal	3,358
18.	Mizoram	170	28.	West Bengal	6,762
19.	Nagaland	11	29.	Andaman	0
20.	Orissa	3,627	30.	Chandigarh	0
21.	Punjab	13	31.	Dadra	0
22.	Rajasthan	1,382	32.	Delhi	0
23.	Sikkim	65	33.	Pondicherry	3
24.	Tamil Nadu	7,068		<b>Total</b>	<b>72,198</b>

**Statement II***State-wise approved district projects under the Pilot Scheme (Till date)*

Sl.No.	Name of State	Name of District	Central share released so far (Rs. in crores) 2004-05 and 2005-06
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Mahabub Nagar	5.14
		Anantpur	5.1625
2.	Karnataka	Gulbarga	4.42
		Bangalore Rural	1.00
3.	Jharkhand	Saraikele	0.979
		Palamu	1.695
4.	Chhattisgarh	Kabir Dham	0.75
5.	Orissa	Ganjam	1.14
		Gajapati	0.55
6.	Rajasthan	Ajmer	1.125
		Pali	0.75
7.	West Bengal	Uttar Dinajpur	1.305
		South-24 Paraganas	1.41

1	2	3	4
8.	Tamil Nadu	Sivagangai	0.458
		Villupuram	3.5145
9.	Madhya Pradesh	Tikamgarh	0.70
10.	Himachal Pradesh	Mandi	0.156
11.	Jammu-Kashmir	Kupwara	0.6375
12.	Kerala	Palakkad	0.30
		Pathanamthitta	
13.	Gujarat	Sabarkantha	
		Banaskantha	
Total	13	22	31.1925

*[Translation]*

#### Construction of Houses for Fishermen

2846. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal regarding construction of houses with basic amenities for the fishermen under Fishermen Housing Scheme has been submitted by the Government of Madhya Pradesh on July 2, 2005;

(b) if so, the latest status of the said proposal; and

(c) the time by which the funds 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) to (c) The financial assistance under the centrally Sponsored National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen having various components such as construction of houses for fishermen is extended to the States including Madhya Pradesh on receipt of proposals, utilization certificate and progress of funds released under the scheme earlier. The utilization certificate and progress report pertaining to Rs. 20 lakh released to the State Government in 2004-05 is awaited. The letter dated July 2, 2005 was received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh regarding construction

of fishermen houses without the list of district-wise, village-wise number of houses to be constructed and other details required as per guidelines of the scheme. The State Government has been asked to resubmit the proposal. However, during the current financial year (till 2.12.2005) Central assistance of Rs. 5.86 lakh has been extended to Government of Madhya Pradesh under saving-cum-relief component of the welfare scheme to cover 3011 fishermen.

*[English]*

#### Irrigation Projects

2847. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the incomplete irrigation projects in Orissa;

(b) the target fixed to complete each of these projects;

(c) the reasons for non-completion of these projects so far; and

(d) the steps taken to expedite the construction of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER

RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) The project-wise details of ongoing major and medium irrigation projects of Tenth Five Year Plan spilled over from previous Plans including scheduled year/Plan of completion are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) Irrigation is a State subject and the planning execution, funding, operation and maintenance are primarily the responsibility of the State Governments based on their priorities. The completion of the irrigation projects inter-alia depends on the planning and financial allocation made by the State Government. The main reasons for non-completion of the major and medium irrigation projects are delay in forest clearance, land acquisition, resettlement

and rehabilitation issues, contractual litigation, railway line crossing and National Highway crossing, etc.

(d) The Central Government is providing Central assistance under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme for completion of the irrigation projects as per the guidelines of the programme. An amount of Rs. 993.67 crore has been provided to the Government of Orissa upto November 2005 in respect of 17 projects under this programme. Further, to expedite construction of the projects and to monitor the progress of the works, the State Government is arranging review meetings at the level of District Collectors and inter-departmental co-ordination meetings.

**Statement**

*Status of ongoing major and medium irrigation projects of Orissa during X Plan as on 01.04.2004*

(Rs. crore/Pot. Thousand hectare)

Sl.No.	Name of Project	Plan of Start	Approval Status	Latest Estimated cost	Likely Expenditure upto March 2005	Ultimate Potential	Likely Potential created upto March 2005	Anticipated year/plan of completion
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>Major Projects</b>								
1.	Potteru	IV	Approved	198.07	205.22	109.88	72.90	X Plan
2.	Upper Kolab	V	Approved	337.96	377.27	88.70	54.99	2004-05
3.	Upper Indravati	AP 78-80	Approved	480.96	694.24	102.52	100.26	2007-08
4.	Subamarekha	VII	Approved	1755.39	552.71	100.85	3.95	2007-08
5.	Kanupur	VIII	Approved	428.32	38.17	24.56	—	XI Plan
6.	Lower Indra	IX	Approved	211.70	164.71	26.19	4.80	2008-09
7.	Lower Suktel	IX	Approved	217.13	34.97	27.08	—	2008-09
8.	Bagh Barrage	IX	Approved	74.80	44.84	8.50	4.85	X Plan
9.	Rengali Irrigation	V	Approved	2621.16	1134.57	214.30	25.56	X Plan
10.	Mahanadi Chitrotpola	VII	Approved	178.83	31.71	15.43	14.93	X Plan
<b>Total</b>				<b>6504.12</b>	<b>3278.41</b>	<b>717.99</b>	<b>282.24</b>	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>Medium Projects</b>								
1.	Titlagarh Stage II	VII	Approved	33.68	38.39	2.27	1.47	X Plan
2.	Rukara	IX	Unapproved	52.92	11.66	5.48	—	X Plan
3.	Rajua	IX	Unapproved	14.85	5.26	2.99	—	X Plan
4.	Deo	VI	Approved	59.00	40.27	5.90	—	X Plan
5.	Hariharjore	VIII	Approved	83.22	85.82	13.70	13.95	X Plan
6.	Manjore	VIII	Unapproved	89.78	68.43	6.09	2.30	X Plan
7.	Upper Jonk	VII	Approved	91.45	91.95	16.40	13.90	X Plan
8.	Baghalati	VIII	Approved	84.62	54.00	5.49	4.41	X Plan
9.	Badanalla	VI	Approved	105.88	66.50	13.74	11.89	X Plan
10.	Sapua Badjore	VI	Approved	59.00	39.35	3.75	2.70	X Plan
<b>Total</b>				<b>674.40</b>	<b>495.63</b>	<b>75.79</b>	<b>50.62</b>	

#### **Economic Growth and Employment**

2848. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian economy has grown by 23.5% during 1999-2003 but employment growth has only been 9.5%;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether International Labour Organisation (ILO) in its recent report has pin-pointed this fact; and

(d) if so, the main reasons for not keeping balance between employment and the economic growth and the remedial steps taken or being taken by the Government in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) to (d) The International Labour Organization's report titled "Labour and Social Trends in Asia and the Pacific 2005" reported that Indian economy grew by 23.5% during 1999-2003 while the employment growth was 9.7%. As per the Economic Survey 2004-05, growth of the Indian economy in terms of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) during the period 1999-2003 was as given below.

Year	Growth rate of GDP (at factor cost) percentage change over previous year
1999-2000	6.1
2000-2001	4.4
2001-2002	5.8
2002-2003	4.0 (Provisional)

Estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained through quinquennial labour force surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation. Latest survey for which results are available pertain to the year 1999-2000. As per these surveys, employment on usual status basis grew at the rate of around 0.98% per annum during 1994-2000.

Decline in employment creating capacity of the growth is one of the main reasons for employment growth not keeping pace with economic growth. Government is therefore targeting creation of around 5 crore employment opportunities during the 10th Plan with special emphasis on promoting labour intensive sectors.



### Smart Cards to Migrant Workers

2849. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to issue 'smart cards' to the migrant-workers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof:

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) There is no proposal to issue "smart cards" to the migrant-workers at present.

(b) Does not arise.

### Expenditure on Food Processing

2850. PROF. M. RAMADAS: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of expenditure incurred on Food Processing Industries in the first three years of Tenth Plan out of the earmarked fund;

(b) whether any difficulties or constraints are being faced in the utilization of funds given by the Planning Commission;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the remedial steps being taken in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d) An amount of Rs. 217.21 crore was spent under different plan schemes as against the revised estimates of Rs. 225 crore allocated to the Ministry during first three years of the 10th Plan. Utilization of funds under the infrastructure scheme has been low due to non-receipt of complete and viable proposals. The matter has been examined and a proposal for liberalization of the infrastructure scheme worked out and submitted to the Planning Commission.

### Law for Food Processing Companies

2851. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to frame a new law making it mandatory for company manufacturing food products to provide all necessary information regarding contents and calories of the contents on packets and tins;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the law in this regard is likely to come into force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) The Government has introduced "Food Safety and Standards Bill, 2005" in Lok Sabha on 25th August, 2005, which inter-alia, provides that no person shall manufacture any packaged food products, which are not marked and labeled, in the manner as may be specified by regulations.

(c) The Bill has been referred to Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture for examination and report.

### Fish Farmers Development Agencies

2852. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Fish Farmers' Development Agencies (FFDAs) established in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the main objectives and functions of said FFDAs;

(c) whether the Government proposes to set up more such agencies in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the amount released/spent for the development of inland, coastal fisheries and aquaculture during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) No new Fish Farmers Development Agency (FFDA) has been sanctioned for establishment in the country during the last three years (2002-03 to 2004-05). However, a network of 429 Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDAs) had

been sanctioned for establishment earlier to all the States and Union Territory of Pondicherry under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture.

(b) The main objectives and functions of the above scheme are to popularise fish farming, diversifying aquaculture practices and provide assistance to beneficiaries for developmental activities to create a cadre of trained and well organized fishers.

(c) and (d) Question do not arise.

(e) A sum of Rs. 4228.97 lakhs of Central share was released for development of inland, coastal fisheries and aquaculture to all the States and Union Territories during the last three years (2002-03 to 2004-05).

#### **Development of Tourism In Gujarat**

2853. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any areas have been selected by the Government for development of tourism in Gujarat during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the outlines worked out by the Government for development of these areas; and

(d) the funds allocated/released to the State Government for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) Development of tourism infrastructure in the country is a continuous process. The Ministry of Tourism in consultation with the State Governments/UT Administration identifies places of tourist interest/spots and provides funds on the basis of project proposals prioritized every year. The following projects have been prioritized for grant of central financial assistance during 2005-06:

- (1) Dandi March and Gandhi Ashram
- (2) Destination development of Champaner and Pavagadh
- (3) Destination development of Saputara
- (4) Junagad-Veravati-Porbandar-Dwarka tourist circuit

(5) Navaratri Festival

(6) Kite Festival

(7) Tametar festival

On receipt of the proposals complete in all respect, they are appraised for assistance keeping in view inter-se priorities among projects, and funds are released subject to availability under the respective head.

(d) The following projects have been sanctioned for development of tourism during 2005-06:

- (1) Development of theme Park at Adalaj, Gandhinagar for Rs. 480.00 lakhs.
- (2) Infrastructural works to be taken up like roads and allied services at Mandvi District Kutch for Rs. 428.31 lakhs.
- (3) Dinossur Fossil Park at Balasinor for Rs. 345.00 lakhs.

#### **National Agricultural Insurance Scheme**

2854. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of farmers, crops and agricultural land covered under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) in the country particularly Karnataka, till-date and State-wise;

(b) the details of financial liabilities shared by Union Government and the States;

(c) the total amount of premium collected under the said scheme in the country during the last three years and thereafter, till date and State-wise; and

(d) the payment made against the insurance claims during the said period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Statement-I and II showing details of farmers, agricultural land and crops covered under NAIS are enclosed.

(b) The financial liabilities shared by the Union Government and the States/UTs under NAIS are—payment of indemnity claims, premium subsidy, bank service charges and administrative & operational expenses. The total liability paid since inception of the scheme is Rs. 1885.54 crores each by the Centre and the States/UT Governments.

(c) and (d) Statement-III showing amount of premium collected and claims paid during the last three years is enclosed.

**Statement I**

*State-wise details of Farmers Covered and Area Covered during 11 crop seasons i.e. from Rabi 1999-2000 to Rabi 2004-05 seasons under NAIS*

Sl.No.	State	Farmers Covered	Area (In Hec.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9921722	14728562.73
2.	Assam	47409	36076.48
3.	Bihar	952684	1031512.04
4.	Chhattisgarh	2824411	6379808.49
5.	Goa	4649	7052.29
6.	Gujarat	5747394	13675094.51
7.	Haryana	168351	239612.56
8.	Himachal Pradesh	104301	62374.23

1	2	3	4
9.	Jammu-Kashmir	4486	5909.62
10.	Jharkhand	170937	127098.05
11.	Karnataka	4887389	7438794.73
12.	Kerala	183878	163987.04
13.	Madhya Pradesh	8215415	21956972.92
14.	Maharashtra	12836654	14114479.38
15.	Meghalaya	8718	10620.77
16.	Orissa	5151353	5291399.35
17.	Rajasthan	2004230	4965512.50
18.	Sikkim	1133	733.96
19.	Tamil Nadu	573348	977363.70
20.	Tripura	4096	2247.53
21.	Uttar Pradesh	5403230	8223953.17
22.	Uttaranchal	19202	23408.85
23.	West Bengal	3179787	1652371.39
24.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	564	988.00
25.	Pondicherry	12390	20093.28
Total		62437711	101156127.47

\*Season is going on, Claims of some States are under process

**Statement II**

*State-wise list of Crops Covered under NAIS during Kharif 2004 and Rabi 2004-05*

Sl.No.	State	Crops covered	
		Kharif	Rabi
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Paddy, Jowar, Bajra, Maize, Ragi, Korr, Black gram, Green gram, Red gram, Groundnut (I), Groundnut (UI), Castor, Sesamum, Sunflower, Sugarcane (Plant), Sugarcane (Ratoon), Cotton (I), Cotton (UI) and Red Chilly	Paddy, Jowar (UI), Maize, Ragi, Black gram, Green gram, Groundnut, Sunflower, Onion and Red chilly.
2.	Assam	Ahu Paddy and Sali Paddy	Boro Paddy, Wheat Rape & Mustard, Potato and Sugarcane

1	2	3	4
3.	Bihar	Paddy, Maize, Banana and Red Chilly	Wheat, Lentil, Gram, Red gram, Rape seed & Mustard, Onion, Potato and Sugarcane
4.	Chhattisgarh	Paddy (I), Paddy (UI), Jowar, Maize, Kodo-kutki, Red Gram, Groundnut, Seasmum and Soyabean	Wheat (I), Wheat (UI), Gram, Linseed, Rape & Mustard and Potato
5.	Goa	Paddy, Groundnut, Pulses, Ragi and Sugarcane	Paddy, Groundnut, Pulses and Sugarcane
6.	Gujarat	Paddy, Jowar, Bajra, Maize, Black gram, Green gram, Beans, Red gram, Ragi, Castor, Groundnut, Sesamum and Cotton	Wheat (UI), Wheat (I), Gram, Summer Bajra, Summer Groundnut, Rape seed & Mustard and Potato
7.	Himachal Pradesh	Paddy, Maize and Potato	Wheat and Barley
8.	Jharkhand	Paddy, Maize	Wheat, Gram, Red Gram, Lentil, and Mustard
9.	Karnataka	Paddy (I), Paddy (RF), Jowar, Bajra, Maize (I), Maize (RF), Ragi, Red gram, Black gram, Green gram, Horse Gram, Groundnut, Soyabean, Sunflower, Cotton (I), Cotton (RF), Sugarcane, Potato, Onion, Castor, Seasmum, Chilly Navana and Savi	Paddy, Jowar, Wheat (I), Ragi, Wheat (UI), Maize, Sunflower, Gram, Safflower, Groundnut, Maize (I), Balckgram, Greengram, Horsegram, Linseed and Potato
10.	Kerala	Paddy	Rabi Paddy and Summer Paddy, Banana and Tapioca
11.	Madhya Pradesh	Paddy (I), Paddy (UI), Jowar, Bajra, Maize, Kodo-kutki, Red gram, Groundnut, Soyabean, Seasmum, Cotton, Banana and Chilly	Wheat (UI), Wheat (I), Gram, Linseed, Rape seed & Mustard, Onion and Potato
12.	Maharashtra	Paddy, Jowar, Bajra, Maize, Ragi, Groundnut, Niger, Soyabean, Sesamum, Sunflower, Green gram, Black gram, Red gram, Cotton and Onion	Summer Paddy, Wheat (I), Wheat (UI), Jowar (I), Jowar (UI), Gram, Sunflower, Summer Groundnut, Safflower and Onion
13.	Meghalaya	Alu Paddy, Sali Paddy, Kharif Potato and Ginger	Boro Paddy, Rape & Mustard and Rabi Potato
14.	Orissa	Paddy, Groundnut, Maize, Redgram, Niger and Cotton	Paddy, Groundnut, Mustard, Potato and Sugarcane
15.	Tamil Nadu	Paddy I, Jowar, Bajra, Ragi, Seasmum, Groundnut, Cotton, Red Gram, Turmeric, Onion and Potato	Paddy II, Paddy III, Jowar, Bajra, Ragi, Black gram, Horse gram, Groundnut, Cotton (I), Cotton (Rice fallow), Potato, Chilly, Tapioca and Banana

1	2	3	4
16.	Uttar Pradesh	Paddy, Maize, Black gram, Red gram, Groundnut, Soyabean and Sugarcane	Wheat, Gram, Peas, Mustard and Potato.
17.	West Bengal	Aman Paddy and Aus Paddy	Boro Paddy, Wheat, Mustard, and Potato.
18.	Pondicherry	Paddy	Paddy II and Paddy III
19.	A & N Islands	Paddy	No crops are notified
20.	Sikkim	Paddy, Maize, Blackgram, Soyabean and Ragi	Wheat, Rape seed & Mustard, Barley, Urd, Ginger and Potato
21.	Tripura	Aman Paddy and Aus Paddy	Boro Paddy and Potato
22.	Uttaranchal	Not implemented	Wheat
23.	Jammu and Kashmir	Not implemented	Not implemented
24.	Haryana	Cotton, Bajra, Arhar & Maize.	Mustard & Gram
25.	Rajasthan	Paddy, Maize, Jawar, Bajra, Moong, Moth, Urad, Chaulai, Arhar, Groundnut, Til, Soyabean, Castor, Guawar.	Wheat, Mustard, Gram, Zeera & Taramira.

*Statement III**Details of State-wise premium collected and Claims paid during last three years*

(Amount in Lacs)

Sl.No.	State/Season	Year 2002-03		Year 2003-04		Year 2004-05**	
		Premium Collected	Claims Paid	Premium Collected	Claims Paid	Premium Collected	Claims Paid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6001.29	26089.52	6083.96	21491.66	10598.31	9296.85
2.	Assam	12.47	1.99	21.37	34.55	37.62	0.00
3.	Bihar	210.05	1480.58	286.52	2638.30	1094.71	21184.71
4.	Chhattisgarh	1159.24	8455.04	736.17	5.17	1226.10	0.00
5.	Goa	1.78	0.00	0.55	0.00	0.25	0.00
6.	Gujarat	8841.8	72798.99	9937.44	585.50	10842.94	1058.06
7.	Himachal Pradesh	66.90	446.41	5.11	0.16	33.57	2.55
8.	Jharkhand	12.92	23.67	43.38	267.70	136.56	1006.38

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9.	Haryana	Not Implemented	Not Implemented	Not Implemented	Not Implemented	500.66	118.20
10.	Karnataka	4189.32	29558.21	4405.65	50720.29	3989.44	0.00
11.	Kerala	69.20	61.90	105.03	624.80	91.19	18.51
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3974.17	22431.56	3481.73	876.76	6039.00	5470.69
13.	Maharashtra	5479.97	4475.61	4602.46	29558.46	4803.36	13005.66
14.	Meghalaya	10.58	0.00	4.70	0.00	10.66	0.00
15.	Orissa	3240.00	24521.86	1718.40	1830.80	3048.13	1504.79
16.	Rajasthan	Not Implemented	Not Implemented	121.02	14.19	5509.62	14331.88
17.	Sikkim	0.24	1.28	0.36	0.00	0.17	0.00
18.	Tamil Nadu	258.57	3402.07	212.35	894.48	620.76	3853.24
19.	Tripura	2.27	3.31	1.74	3.66	6.61	1.27
20.	Uttar Pradesh	1762.82	2811.31	1686.93	3695.92	3178.54	1680.72
21.	Uttaranchal	5.47	2.92	15.50	32.63	3.28	1.87
22.	West Bengal	1089.21	4374.47	1257.52	681.17	1685.15	1861.53
23.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.11	0.00	0.24	0.00	0.31	0.00
24.	Pondicherry	9.14	32.40	10.94	15.39	14.68	34.75
25.	Jammu and Kashmir	Not Implemented	Not Implemented	Not Implemented	Not Implemented	4.71	0.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>36397.20</b>	<b>200973.08</b>	<b>34739.07</b>	<b>113971.59</b>	<b>53476.33</b>	<b>74431.66</b>

**National Institute of Food Technology and Management**

2855. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM:  
SHRI K.C. PALANISAMY:

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

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up a National Institute of Food Technology and Management in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the main aims and objective thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) National Institute of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship & Management (NIFTEM) is proposed to be set up with the objective of producing world class technologies, entrepreneurs and managers, undertake research in frontier areas, function as apex resource center for setting of food standards, provide global market intelligence, offer business incubation services, provide global level business consultancy, so as to gain rightful share of the global trade opportunities.

(c) No time limit can be given since it depends on the approval of competent authorities.

#### **Indian Farmers in International Competition**

2856. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to implement an action plan to enable Indian farmers to face international competition;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps to improve the productivity of items like maize, sorghum, soybean, pulses, coconut, clove and spices;

(c) whether the Government is planning to phase-out the schedule for lifting import curbs on farm goods; and

(d) if so, the details of safeguard provisions for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) The Government has taken a number of steps to improve the productivity and competitiveness of agriculture in general and of items such as maize, sorghum, soybean, pulses, coconut, cloves and spices, in particular. In 2005, the Government has launched the National Horticulture Mission to improve the productivity and competitiveness of horticulture crops including coconut, cloves and spices. The Government is also implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, 'Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM)' from 1.4.2004 for increasing production and productivity of oilseeds including soybean and maize. Another scheme, namely, Integrated Crop Development Programme—Coarse Cereals is being implemented as part of the Macro Management of the Agriculture Scheme to improve the production and productivity of coarse cereals including sorghum.

(c) and (d) As part of our international obligations, all quantitative restrictions including those on agricultural items, maintained by India on account of balance of payment reasons, were removed w.e.f. 1.4.2001. However, in order to ensure that the farmers of the country are not put to any hardship, the Govt. has put in place a suitable mechanism for monitoring the import of sensitive items

and provides protection to the domestic products by resorting to various WTO compatible measures which include appropriate calibration of applied tariffs within the bound levels and safeguard action under certain specified circumstances. As a sequel to these measures, import duties on a number of items including edible oils, tea, coffee, copra, coconut, wheat, rice, maize, pulses, spices, arecanut, apple and cut flowers have been increased in the last five years.

#### **Purity Standards of Indian Products**

2857. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Agriculture Produce (Grading and Marketing) Act, 1937 fixes quality standards;

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

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to consider purity standards fixed by the International Standard Organization in this field;

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

(e) the names of the agriculture products approved so far by the core group on harmonization of fruits and vegetables; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to increase the grading for export purpose?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Act, 1937 empowers the Central Government to frame Grade standards of agricultural produce. These standards are popularly called Agmark Standards and are voluntary. Till date Grade standards for 181 agricultural commodities in the category of cereals, pulses, oilseeds, spices, fruits and vegetables, vegetable oils, butter, ghee, honey etc. have been framed and notified.

(c) and (d) While framing the Agmark Standards, relevant national Standards fixed under the provisions of Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 and the International Standards fixed by Codex Alimentarius Commission, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), Economic Commission (EC), International Organization for Standardization, etc. are also

considered. However, the characteristics and intrinsic quality of Indian produce is kept in consideration while fixing the Agmark standards.

(e) Ministry of Commerce and Industry has constituted a Standing Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables for drafting and finalization of standard. A Core group of experts comprising of representatives of Directorate of Marketing and Inspection (DMI), APEDA, trade etc. is assisting the Standing Committee to draft standards. Standards of 18 fruits and vegetables namely table grapes, litchi, mangoes, pineapples, pomegranate, guavas, shelling peas, sugar snap peas, Brussels sprouts, headed cabbage, ribbed celery, spinach, banana, papaya, plums, tomato, garlic and onion have been notified. Standards of another 14 fruits and vegetables namely strawberries, cherries, melons, watermelons, beans, cauliflowers, pears, okra, chillies, capsicum, sapota, custard apple, gherkins and carrots drafted by the Core group have been approved by the Standing Committee. The above standards are harmonized with national and international Standards viz. Codex Alimentarius Commission, UNECE, EC etc.

(f) Director General of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce & Industries has notified DMI as official certification agency for export of fresh fruits and vegetables for export to European Union.

#### **Effect on Tourism due to Terrorist Attacks**

2858. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any impact on tourism sector due to recent terrorist attacks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has made any assessment in this regard; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to

(c) The foreign tourist arrivals to India witnessed an increase of about 14% during Jan-Nov. 2005 over the same period of last year, indicating that terrorist attacks have no impact on the tourist arrivals. Even during the month of November 2005, an estimated 3,83,400 foreign tourists arrived to India compared to 3,22,000 during October 2005 showing an increase of about 19% during November 2005 over October 2005.

(d) In order to prevent any adverse impact of recent terrorist attacks, the Ministry of Tourism took up the matter with the Ministry of External Affairs, domestic and overseas India tourism offices, and trade associations to counteract any negative publicity and adverse impact on tourist arrivals.

#### **Employment Opportunities**

2859. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of schemes are being effected by the Government in different names with a view to generate the employment opportunities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith their respective names;

(c) the date of inception of each of these schemes; and

(d) the total expenditure incurred upon each scheme till the end of March, 2005 and the details of allocation made to each of the said schemes?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) Yes Sir, various Ministries/Departments of Central as well as State Governments are implementing various schemes to generate employment opportunities.

(b) to (d) Some of the special employment generation schemes implemented by the Central Government alongwith the months and years of their implementation, allocation of funds made and employment generated during the last 3 years till the end of March, 2005 are given in the enclosed Statement.



**Statement***Performance of various schemes for Employment Generation during the years 2002-03, 2003-04 & 2004-05*

Sl.No.	Name of the scheme	Date of inception/ launching of scheme and implementing Ministry	Funds Allocation & Employment Generation		
			Year 2002-03	Year 2003-04	Year 2004-05
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>1.</b>	<b>Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY)</b>				
(i)	Central Allocation (Rs. In crores)	September, 2001	3552.53	4120.25	4495.25
(ii)	Central Release (Rs. In crores)	M/o Rural Development	3684.64	4121.04	4496.19
(iii)	Employment Generated (In lakh Mandays)		7482.93	8580.24	8223.09
<b>2.</b>	<b>Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY)</b>				
(i)	Central Allocation (Rs. In crores) M/o Rural Development	April, 1999 M/o Rural Development	567.90	800.00	1000.00
(ii)	Central Release (Rs. In crores)		504.64	645.12	900.10
(iii)	Swarozgaries assisted (In lakh numbers)		8.26	8.97	11.13
<b>3.</b>	<b>Swarn Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY)</b>				
(i)	Funds Allocated (Rs. In crores)	December, 1997	100.74	100.74	99.10
(ii)	Funds Released (Rs. In crores)		100.92	100.74	122.00
(iii)	Persons assisted to set up Micro Enterprises for Self Employment (In lakh numbers)	M/o Urban Employment & Poverty Alleviation	1.28	1.01	1.03
(iv)	Employment Generated (In lakh mandays)		31.26	49.74	36.21
<b>4.</b>	<b>Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY)</b>				
(i)	Fund Allocation (Rs. In crores)	October, 1993	169.00	169.00	218.90
(ii)	Funds Released (Rs. In crores)	M/o Agro & Rural Industries	168.10	167.83	218.17
(iii)	Employment Generated (In lakh mandays)		2.86	3.27	2.19(P)
(iv)	Persons assisted for self Employment (In lakh numbers)		1.91	2.18	1.94(P)
<b>5.</b>	<b>Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP)</b>				
(i)	Fund Allocation to KVIC (In crores)	April, 1995	202.67	281.75	282.00
(ii)	Margin Moiney Disbursed (Rs. In crores)	M/o Agro & Rural Industries	193.71	285.75	57.55

1	2	3	4	5	6
	(iii) Employment Generated (In lakh)		3.81	4.71	1.01
6.	<b>National food for work Programme (NFFWP)</b>				
	(i) Central Allocation (Rs. In crores)	November, 2004	—	—	2019.00
	(ii) Central Release (Rs. In crores)	M/o Rural Development	—	—	2019.45
	(iii) Employment Generated (In lakh mandays)		—	—	785.04

Note:

● Upto Oct. 2004

P-Provisional

[Translation]

#### Funds for Canals and Developmental Projects

2860. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated to various States including Maharashtra for development of projects and canals by the Union Government during the last three years;

(b) the details of works undertaken and amount sent thereon;

(c) the time by which these projects are likely to be completed; and

(d) the details of projects in tribal/rural areas of the country, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (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 own priorities. The expenditure incurred by the State Governments on irrigation and flood schemes during the last three years is given in the Statement-I. The Central Government is assisting the States under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP). The Central Loan Assistance/grant under AIBP released to the States during the last three years is given in the enclosed Statement-II. Completion of irrigation projects inter-alia depends upon the planning and budgetary allocation made by the State Governments. Major and medium irrigation projects benefiting the tribal areas in the country are given in the enclosed statement-III and Statement-IV respectively. The Central Government is assisting the State Governments by providing financial assistance under specific programmes.

#### Statement I

#### Actual Expenditure 2002-2003

(Rs. in crore)

Sl.No.	Name of States/ Union Territories	Major & Medium	Minor Irrigation	Command Area Development	Flood Control	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>States</b>						
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1246.30	193.73	6.90	40.06	1486.99
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.40	11.69	2.00	3.75	17.84

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3.	Assam	19.09	50.73	2.57	21.41	99.80
4.	Bihar	248.55	61.65	19.48	82.80	412.48
5.	Chhattisgarh	274.65	120.93	1.08	0.29	396.95
6.	Goa	14.68	10.69	2.54	2.73	30.64
7.	Gujarat	1347.99	123.15	3.89	1.72	1476.75
8.	Haryana	166.93	0.00	5.54	46.19	218.66
9.	Himachal Pradesh	11.92	69.13	1.69	13.41	96.15
10.	Jammu-Kashmir	33.55	43.02	6.66	18.31	101.54
11.	Jharkhand	167.01	39.31	0.00	0.00	206.32
12.	Karnataka	2761.68	113.92	33.15	8.11	2916.66
13.	Kerala	104.58	27.70	9.63	13.69	155.60
14.	Madhya Pradesh	794.84	194.81	0.00	2.61	992.26
15.	Maharashtra	429.37	102.45	18.29	1.26	551.37
16.	Manipur	26.78	8.40	0.71	3.09	38.98
17.	Meghalaya	1.05	6.51	0.15	1.06	8.77
18.	Mizoram	0.01	6.30	0.10	0.00	6.41
19.	Nagaland	0.00	4.38	0.20	0.05	4.63
20.	Orissa	489.93	84.82	2.83	6.13	583.71
21.	Punjab	125.57	31.30	34.63	38.74	230.24
22.	Rajasthan	280.09	56.57	29.70	3.87	370.23
23.	Sikkim	0.00	3.66	4.54	0.05	8.25
24.	Tamil Nadu	278.08	64.07	12.76	—	363.91
25.	Tripura	2.27	29.81	0.00	4.03	36.11
26.	Uttar Pradesh	665.97	34.37	84.22	39.74	824.30
27.	Uttaranchal	23.30	26.36	1.41	3.68	54.75
28.	West Bengal	81.73	20.72	5.49	90.61	198.55
	<b>Total</b>	<b>9605.32</b>	<b>1540.18</b>	<b>290.16</b>	<b>447.39</b>	<b>11893.05</b>
<b>Union Territories</b>						
29.	A & N Island	0.00	0.47	0.00	2.33	2.80

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
30.	Chandigarh*	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.55	0.75
31.	D & N Haveli	0.80	0.57	0.29	0.00	1.66
32.	Daman & Diu	1.08	0.05	0.00	0.22	1.35
33.	Delhi	0.00	0.49	0.00	18.79	19.28
34.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.63	3.63
35.	Pondicherry	0.00	13.99	0.00	12.12	26.11
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1.88</b>	<b>15.77</b>	<b>0.29</b>	<b>37.64</b>	<b>55.58</b>
	<b>Total States &amp; UTs.</b>	<b>9607.20</b>	<b>1555.95</b>	<b>290.45</b>	<b>485.03</b>	<b>11938.63</b>
	<b>Central Sector</b>	<b>48.48</b>	<b>82.91</b>	<b>152.16</b>	<b>110.11</b>	<b>393.66</b>
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>9655.68</b>	<b>1638.86</b>	<b>442.61</b>	<b>595.14</b>	<b>12332.29</b>

*Actual Expenditure 2003-2004*

(Rs. in crore)

Sl.No.	Name of States/ Union Territories	Major & Medium	Minor Irrigation	Command Area Development	Flood Control	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>States</b>						
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1460.84	271.55	4.54	7.44	1744.37
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.40	25.65	2.00	13.75	41.80
3.	Assam	21.36	41.75	3.26	12.75	79.12
4.	Bihar	259.73	198.63	14.74	73.47	546.57
5.	Chhattisgarh	289.56	148.20	1.58	0.15	439.49
6.	Goa	10.97	24.15	2.40	4.50	42.02
7.	Gujarat	1642.72	164.81	3.39	0.85	1811.77
8.	Haryana	151.14	0.00	13.97	44.87	209.98
9.	Himachal Pradesh	15.45	48.53	1.86	15.71	81.55
10.	Jammu-Kashmir*	71.01	66.50	8.60	25.05	171.16
11.	Jharkhand	255.70	42.04	0.00	0.40	298.14
12.	Karnataka	3133.01	133.85	15.74	7.11	3289.71

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
13.	Kerala	110.50	29.94	7.38	9.51	157.33
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1051.66	192.27	3.40	1.16	1248.49
15.	Maharashtra	271.61	54.76	0.00	0.00	326.37
16.	Manipur	51.00	16.00	11.20	5.20	83.40
17.	Meghalaya	1.30	5.29	0.20	1.62	8.41
18.	Mizoram	0.06	14.29	0.15	0.00	14.50
19.	Nagaland	0.00	10.87	1.33	4.03	16.23
20.	Orissa	374.49	68.65	5.55	0.01	448.70
21.	Punjab	36.11	15.52	31.86	21.76	105.25
22.	Rajasthan	819.09	56.07	37.53	4.05	916.74
23.	Sikkim	0.00	3.22	0.05	5.38	8.65
24.	Tamil Nadu	231.21	85.27	23.35	—	339.83
25.	Tripura	6.45	28.30	0.00	11.17	45.92
26.	Uttar Pradesh	616.27	37.88	30.22	61.35	745.72
27.	Uttaranchal	35.72	48.00	1.50	6.05	91.27
28.	West Bengal	65.40	36.62	5.01	67.83	174.86
<b>Total</b>		<b>10982.76</b>	<b>1868.61</b>	<b>230.81</b>	<b>405.17</b>	<b>13487.35</b>
<b>Union Territories</b>						
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	2.78	0.00	4.20	6.98
30.	Chandigarh	0.00	1.15	0.00	0.00	1.15
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1.86	0.57	0.18	0.00	2.61
32.	Daman and Diu	0.10	0.11	0.05	0.25	0.51
33.	Delhi	0.00	0.02	0.00	17.42	17.44
34.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.15	3.15
35.	Pondicherry	0.00	9.27	0.00	8.79	18.06
<b>Total</b>		<b>1.96</b>	<b>13.90</b>	<b>0.23</b>	<b>33.81</b>	<b>49.90</b>
<b>Total States &amp; UTs.</b>		<b>10984.72</b>	<b>1882.51</b>	<b>231.04</b>	<b>438.98</b>	<b>13537.25</b>
<b>Central Sector</b>		<b>61.68</b>	<b>74.27</b>	<b>144.02</b>	<b>120.23</b>	<b>400.20</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>11046.40</b>	<b>1956.78</b>	<b>375.06</b>	<b>559.41</b>	<b>13937.45</b>

*Revised Approved Outlay 2004-2005*

(Rs. in crore)

Sl.No.	Name of States/ Union Territories	Major & Medium	Minor Irrigation	Command Area Development	Flood Control	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>States</b>						
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3385.58	531.86	9.32	75.76	4002.52
2.	Arunachal Pradesh*	0.40	32.80	2.00	3.75	38.95
3.	Assam*	21.74	30.61	36.26	35.13	123.74
4.	Bihar	201.53	248.55	14.00	105.00	569.08
5.	Chhattisgarh	422.59	254.00	24.74	0.40	701.73
6.	Goa	30.44	24.49	2.93	4.96	62.82
7.	Gujarat#	1127.45	293.55	5.39	2.66	1429.05
8.	Haryana	200.00	0.00	52.35	45.00	298.25
9.	Himachal Pradesh	18.54	57.37	2.12	12.74	90.77
10.	Jammu-Kashmir	77.53	77.73	10.05	28.83	194.14
11.	Jharkhand	322.50	75.00	1.00	1.50	400.00
12.	Karnataka	3079.58	185.35	12.03	5.50	3282.46
13.	Kerala	57.85	8.81	8.25	6.45	81.36
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1270.24	232.69	5.17	8.10	1516.20
15.	Maharashtra	2850.00	148.38	72.21	0.00	3070.59
16.	Manipur	38.00	6.50	4.61	10.20	59.31
17.	Meghalaya	0.37	7.20	0.22	1.45	9.24
18.	Mizoram	0.01	14.20	0.15	0.00	14.36
19.	Nagaland	0.03	12.46	0.33	7.54	20.36
20.	Orissa	352.15	54.98	4.00	4.75	415.88
21.	Punjab	109.33	22.97	25.80	27.31	185.41
22.	Rajasthan	695.12	78.59	47.06	10.04	830.81
23.	Sikkim	0.00	4.00	0.05	4.00	8.05
24.	Tamil Nadu	223.96	76.28	13.95	—	314.19

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
25.	Tripura	5.92	20.44	0.00	6.66	33.02
26.	Uttar Pradesh	800.00	89.99	28.33	130.00	1048.32
27.	Uttaranchal	26.86	67.33	1.50	6.50	102.19
28.	West Bengal	101.76	34.11	7.56	113.14	256.57
<b>Total</b>		<b>15419.48</b>	<b>2690.24</b>	<b>392.28</b>	<b>657.37</b>	<b>19159.37</b>
<b>Union Territories</b>						
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands*	0.00	1.86	0.00	3.00	4.86
30.	Chandigarh*	0.00	1.54	0.00	0.00	1.54
31.	Dadra and Nagar - Haveli	0.01	0.67	0.20	0.00	0.88
32.	Daman and Diu*	0.05	0.15	0.05	0.22	0.47
33.	Delhi	0.00	0.07	0.00	19.03	19.10
34.	Lakshadweep*	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.50	3.50
35.	Pondicherry	0.00	22.84	0.00	12.51	35.35
<b>Total</b>		<b>0.06</b>	<b>27.13</b>	<b>0.25</b>	<b>38.26</b>	<b>65.70</b>
<b>Total States &amp; UTs.</b>		<b>15419.54</b>	<b>2717.37</b>	<b>392.53</b>	<b>695.63</b>	<b>19225.07</b>
<b>Central Sector</b>		<b>63.51</b>	<b>62.98</b>	<b>143.57</b>	<b>147.94</b>	<b>418.00</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>15483.05</b>	<b>2780.35</b>	<b>536.10</b>	<b>843.57</b>	<b>19643.07</b>

\*Approved outlay 2004-05 Revised Outlay not received

#Does not include Rs. 915 crore for Sujalam Sufalame Yojana.

**Statement II***State-wise details of CLA Grant released under AIBP during last three years*

(Rs. Crore)

Sl.No.	State	Amount Released					Grand Total
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05			
				Loan	Grant	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	33.1860	205.5300	61.2829	26.2641	87.5470	326.2630
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.5000	20.0000	1.0000	9.0000	10.0000	31.5000
3.	Assam	16.2738	19.2015	1.6930	15.2370	16.9300	52.4053

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
4.	Bihar	14.4805	74.6440	26.0505	11.1645	37.2150	126.3395
5.	Chhattisgarh	104.0000	74.6300	2.0475	0.8775	2.9250	181.5550
6.	Goa	0.0000	2.0000	0.4550	0.1950	0.6500	2.6500
7.	Gujarat	1000.3300	650.3590	484.7500	45.7500	530.5000	2181.1890
8.	Haryana	18.0000	7.7350	7.7945	3.3405	11.1350	36.8700
9.	Himachal Pradesh	8.1500	14.6920	0.3690	3.3210	3.6900	26.5320
10.	Jammu-Kashmir	34.9990	21.5450	1.2744	11.4701	12.7445	69.2885
11.	Jharkhand	9.6700	1.8330	14.8995	6.3855	21.2850	32.7880
12.	Karnataka	620.8500	266.4780	314.7921	81.5031	396.2952	1283.6232
13.	Kerala	5.6650	31.0000	34.6080	14.8320	49.4400	86.1050
14.	Madhya Pradesh	220.0000	568.4400	361.6907	155.0103	516.7010	1305.1410
15.	Maharashtra	133.1341	164.3950	370.5002	158.7858	529.2880	826.8151
16.	Manipur	19.5000	15.5000	1.3000	11.7000	13.0000	48.0000
17.	Meghalaya	1.5000	1.0880	0.1744	1.5694	1.7438	4.3318
18.	Mizoram	0.7500	9.3000	0.5000	4.5000	5.0000	15.0500
19.	Nagaland	2.6590	8.0000	0.4000	3.6000	4.0000	14.6590
20.	Orissa	179.5700	154.6850	16.9561	7.2669	24.2230	358.4780
21.	Punjab	36.6600	0.0000	—	—	—	36.6600
22.	Rajasthan	174.3850	499.8370	247.0328	105.8712	352.9040	1027.1260
23.	Tripura	13.3947	13.3769	1.1000	9.9000	11.0000	37.7716
24.	Tamil Nadu	0.0000	0.0000	—	—	—	0.0000
25.	Uttar Pradesh	359.0000	274.7850	123.1440	52.7760	175.9200	809.7050
26.	Uttaranchal	25.1625	25.5525	3.8992	35.0925	38.9917	89.7067
27.	West Bengal	28.1330	3.1440	9.4227	4.0383	13.4610	44.7380
28.	Sikkim	0.7500	0.7500	0.0750	0.6750	0.7500	2.2500
<b>Total</b>		<b>3061.7026</b>	<b>3128.5009</b>	<b>2087.2115</b>	<b>780.1257</b>	<b>2867.3372</b>	<b>9057.5407</b>



*Statement III**Status of Ongoing Major Irrigation Projects of X Plan benefitting tribal areas as on 01.04.2004*

(Rs. crore/Pot. Thousand hectare)

Sl.No.	Name of State/Project	Plan of Start	Approval Status	Districts benefited	Latest estimated cost	Likely Expenditure up to March 2004	Ultimate potential	Likely Potential created upto March 2004	Anticipated year of Completion
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>									
1.	Nagarjunasagar	II	Approved	Khammam	1184.00	1130.86	895.00	809.44	X Plan
2.	Suram sagar	III	Approved	Warangal Adilabad	2683.39	2497.75	392.00	406.84	X Plan
3.	Vamsadhara Stage I	IV	Approved	Srikakulam	109.00	108.41	59.99	57.16	X Plan
4.	Vamsadhara Stage II Ph I	VI	Approved	Srikakulam	123.94	47.97	25.20	11.92	Beyond X
5.	Yeleru Water Supply Scheme	VI	Unapproved	Visakhapatnam	484.54	343.62	58.28	0.00	X Plan
6.	Changalanadu LIS	IX	Approved	E-Godavari	70.70	59.87	14.17	12.80	X Plan
Sub-total					4635.57	4188.48	1444.64	1298.16	
<b>Assam</b>									
7.	Dhansui	V	Approved	Derang	355.00	179.42	83.37	35.63	X Plan
8.	Bordkharai	V	Approved	Sonitpur	49.94	43.17	34.00	34.62	Beyond X
9.	Champamati	VI	Approved	Kokharjhar	128.87	61.30	25.00	6.44	X Plan
10.	Pagladiya	IX	Approved	Nalban, Barpeta	1030.00	51.63	54.10	0.00	Beyond X
Sub-total					1563.61	336.52	196.47	76.89	
<b>Bihar</b>									
11.	North Koel Res. Project	V	Unapproved	Palamu	1118.00	585.41	105.9	52.00	X Plan
Sub-total					1118.00	585.41	105.9	52.00	
<b>Jharkhand</b>									
12.	Ajoy Barrage	V	Unapproved	Deoghar Dumka	361.85	203.44	40.13	0.00	Beyond X
13.	Ajtanga	VII	Approved	Palamu	914.24	37.26	55.40	0.00	Beyond X
14.	Punesi	VII	Unapproved	Dumka	185.82	81.25	24.00	0.00	Beyond X
Sub-total					1451.91	321.94	119.53	0.00	
<b>Goa</b>									
15.	Saiauli Irrg. Project	IV	Approved		160.00	157.18	14.33	12.13	X Plan
	Tillan (IS) (Goa Share)	V	Approved		806.56	344.43	12.56	1.08	X Plan
Sub-total					966.56	501.61	26.89	13.21	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>Gujarat</b>									
16.	Sardar Sarovar (IS)	VI	Approved	12 districts	30823.00	16659.28	1792.00	251.11	Beyond X Plan
17.	Zariman	VI	Approved	Surat	90.00	5.07	17.54	0.00	Beyond X
18.	Sidumber	IX	Unapproved	Valsad	205.35	0.36	17.41	0.00	Beyond X
<b>Sub-total</b>					<b>31118.35</b>	<b>16664.71</b>	<b>1826.95</b>	<b>251.11</b>	
<b>Karnataka</b>									
19.	Kabini	II	Unapproved	Mysore	1233.00	386.99	94.43	41.09	X Plan
20.	Herangi	III	Unapproved	Kodagu	400.00	332.20	54.59	41.77	X Plan
<b>Sub-total</b>					<b>1633.00</b>	<b>721.19</b>	<b>149.02</b>	<b>82.86</b>	
<b>Kerala</b>									
21.	Muvattupuzha	V	Approved	Idukki, Kottayam	515.00	451.07	34.74	22.74	X Plan
22.	Konarkutti	VIII	Unapproved	Palakkad	197.00	18.36	34.98	8.00	X Plan
<b>Sub-total</b>					<b>712.00</b>	<b>469.43</b>	<b>69.72</b>	<b>30.74</b>	
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>									
23.	Bensagar Canal	V	Approved	Sidhi	742.50	289.12	249.36	0.00	Beyond X
24.	Rani Avanti Bai Sagar	V	Unapproved	Jabalpur	1478.64	890.06	219.80	62.90	Beyond X
	Mahi			Dhar	266.00				
25.	Mahan	VI	Approved	Sidhi	155.10	44.70	19.74	0.00	Beyond X
26.	Jobat	VI	Approved	Dhar	117.45	107.57	9.85	0.20	X Plan
27.	Man	VI	Approved	Dhar	167.41	152.35	15.00	2.00	Beyond X
28.	Omkareshwar	VII	Approved	Dhar	3134.37	85.54	263.32	0.00	Beyond X
29.	Pench Diversion	VII	Unapproved	Chindwara	549.65	10.97	78.50	0.00	Beyond X
<b>Sub-total</b>					<b>6811.12</b>	<b>1580.31</b>	<b>875.57</b>	<b>65.10</b>	
<b>Maharashtra</b>									
30.	Kuhadi	AP 66-69	Approved	Pune Ahmednagar	1430.78	1097.75	158.28	132.30	X Plan
31.	Khadakvasla	II	Approved	Pune	343.67	283.60	62.15	61.52	X Plan
32.	Upper Tapi	IV	Approved	Jalgaon	230.76	140.48	55.14	51.86	X Plan
33.	Chakaman	V	Approved	Pune	388.13	224.42	44.17	23.14	X Plan
34.	Bhalea	V	Unapproved	Thane	368.25	279.97	42.55	11.08	X Plan

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
35.	Jayakwadi St. II	V	Approved	Ahmednagar, Nanded	792.20	628.86	126.53	95.67	X Plan
36.	Nandur Madhmeshwar	V	Approved	Nasik, Ahmednagar	606.00	354.44	45.58	0.00	Beyond X
37.	Upper Penganga	V	Approved	Yavatmal, Nanded	867.46	633.19	134.28	69.85	X Plan
38.	Upper Parvara	V	Approved	Ahmednagar	721.39	135.28	64.26	0.00	X Plan
39.	Upper Wardha	V	Approved	Amaravati	754.26	669.10	80.25	67.63	X Plan
40.	Waghur	V	Approved	Jalgaon	189.32	142.58	26.66	0.00	X Plan
41.	Surya	AP 78-80	Approved	Thane	276.16	249.83	27.09	22.55	X Plan
42.	Vishnupuri (Lower Godavari)	AP 78-80	Approved	Nanded	252.77	161.00	28.34	16.60	X Plan
43.	Goalkhurd	VI	Approved	Chandrapur	3544.53	887.60	250.79	7.71	Beyond X
44.		VI	Unapproved	Chandrapur	523.48	11.71	59.99	0.00	Beyond X
45.		VI	Approved	Nasik	76.07	63.63	10.12	8.81	X Plan
46.		VI	Unapproved	Nanded	225.99	43.71	15.79	0.00	Beyond X
47.	...	VI	Unapproved	Nasik	115.81	51.57	14.07	0.00	X Plan
48.	...	VI	Unapproved	Gadchiroli	169.40	6.60	30.59	0.00	Beyond X
49.	...	VIII	Unapproved	Yavatmal, Chandrapur	1886.94	6.16	227.27	0.00	Beyond X
50.		VIII	Unapproved	Yavatmal	622.48	194.14	47.00	0.00	Beyond X
51.		VIII	Unapproved	Pune	458.20	132.40	23.11	0.00	Beyond X
52.		VIII	Unapproved	Pune	144.24	128.98	13.84	0.00	Beyond X
53.		VIII	Unapproved	Pune	316.60	140.11	15.00	0.00	Beyond X
54.	...	IX	Unapproved	Pune	323.53	272.41	1.83	1.00	X Plan
55.	...	VIII	Unapproved	Pune	475.29	234.29	21.12	0.00	Beyond X
56.	...	IX	Unapproved	Ahmednagar	130.32	35.63	10.50	0.00	Beyond X
57.	...	IX	Unapproved	Pune	398.70	96.09	25.10	0.00	Beyond X
Sub-total					16420.92	7303.75	1659.50	571.52	
<b>Manipur</b>									
58.	Thoubal	AP 78-80	Approved	Senapati, Uthul	390.00	237.37	33.40	4.00	X Plan
59.	Multi-purpose Project	VI	Approved	Churachandpur	249.22	171.29	15.00	0.00	X Plan
Sub-total					639.22	408.66	48.40	4.00	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>Orissa</b>									
60.	Upper Kolab	V	Approved	Koraput	337.96	374.27	88.70	53.89	Beyond X
61.	Upper Indravati	AP 78-80	Approved	Kalahandi	480.96	674.24	102.52	96.76	Beyond X
62.	Submarekha	VII	Approved	Mayurbhanj	1755.39	527.71	100.85	3.95	Beyond X
63.	Kanupur	VIII	Approved	Keonjhar	428.32	26.17	24.56	0.00	Beyond X
Sub-total					3002.63	1602.39	316.83	154.40	
<b>Rajasthan</b>									
64.		IV	Approved	Banswara Durgapur	834.88	744.89	71.20	66.65	X Plan
65.	...	V	Approved		3522.00	2231.60	964.00	669.00	Beyond X
Sub-total					4356.88	2976.49	1035.20	735.65	
<b>West Bengal</b>									
66.	Teesta Barrage St I Ph I	V	Approved	Malda Darjheeling	2068.00	958.21	533.52	130.96	Beyond X
67.	Submarekha Barrage (IS)	VIII	Approved	Midnapur	595.34	38.21	114.20	0.00	Beyond X
Sub-total					2663.34	996.42	647.72	130.96	
Grand Total					76893.11	38636.31	8522.14	3466.40	

IS—Inter-State LIS—Lift Irrigation Scheme AP—Annual Plan

**Statement IV***Status of ongoing medium irrigation projects benefitting tribal area of X Plan as on 01.04.2004*

(Rs. crore/Pot. Thousand hectare)

Sl.No.	Name of State/Project	Plan of Start	Districts benefited	Approval Status	Latest estimated cost	Likely Expenditure up to March 2004	Ultimate potential	Likely Potential created upto March 2004	Anticipated year of Completion
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>									
1.		V	Khammam	Approved	15.85	10.88	1.05	0.00	X Plan
2.		V	East & West Godavari	Approved	81.20	66.66	10.00	3.84	X Plan
3.		V	East Godavari	Approved	10.90	7.59	2.43	1.11	X Plan
4.	...	IX	Vishakhapatnam	Unapproved	38.41	37.22	17.46	9.80	X Plan
Sub-total					130.51	113.47	29.89	14.55	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>Assam</b>									
5.	Bundeing	AP 78-80	Dibrugarh	Approved	27.30	10.81	5.05	2.40	Beyond X Plan
6.	Borcha	AP 78-80	Kamrup	Approved	69.32	44.35	13.56	2.80	X Plan
7.		AP 78-80	Barpeta	Approved	46.16	34.63	12.96	16.35	X Plan
8.		VI	Karbi Anglong	Approved	14.93	9.21	3.04	2.08	Beyond X Plan
9.	...	V	Karbi Anglong	Approved	5.54	3.71	2.80	0.50	X Plan
<b>Sub-total</b>					163.34	102.71	37.30	24.13	
<b>Bihar</b>									
10.	...	V	Palamu	Approved	57.00	43.72	9.87	7.38	X Plan
<b>Sub-total</b>					57.00	43.72	9.87	7.38	
<b>Jharkhand</b>									
11.	Basuti	VIII	Ranchi	Unapproved	55.00	0.16	5.67	0.00	X Plan
12.	Dhansingoli	VII	Gumia	Unapproved	29.52	24.36	2.90	2.00	X Plan
13.	Guman	V	Sarthal Pargana Dumka	Approved	125.00	70.22	12.75	0.00	X Plan
14.		V	Singhbhum	Approved	49.87	1.97	4.05	0.00	X Plan
15.		VII	Gumia	Unapproved	51.06	45.33	4.97	4.82	X Plan
16.		VII	Gumia	Approved	52.97	38.11	6.28	4.03	X Plan
17.		V	Ranchi	Approved	44.18	18.79	3.73	0.00	Beyond X Plan
18.	...	VII	Singhbhum	Approved	35.16	13.93	2.32	0.00	Beyond X Plan
19.	Ram Rekha	VII	Gumia	Unapproved	53.87	5.25	4.39	0.00	Beyond X
20.	Sorangi	VII	Singhbhum, Ranchi	Approved	57.42	29.60	2.80	0.00	X Plan
21.	Sonusa	VI	Singhbhum	Approved	79.24	46.13	6.01	0.00	X Plan
22.	Suru	VI	Singhbhum	Approved	36.00	7.77	3.97	0.00	X Plan
23.	Satpotka	VIII	Singhbhum	Unapproved	33.45	0.75	2.35	0.00	X Plan
24.	Upper Sanikh	VII	Gumia	Approved	105.44	48.04	7.07	0.00	X Plan
25.	Tonai	V	Dumka	Approved	62.57	24.80	6.00	0.00	X Plan
26.	Upper Sanikh	VII	Gumia	Approved	105.44	48.04	7.07	0.00	X Plan
<b>Sub-total</b>					870.77	375.01	79.15	10.85	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>Gujarat</b>									
27.	...	VIII	Panch Mahal	Approved	47.59	12.87	4.89	0.00	Beyond X Plan
28.	Koliyan	VIII	Panch Mahal	Unapproved	26.00	19.38	1.91	0.15	Beyond X Plan
29.		IX	Sabar Kantha	Unapproved	23.86	4.97	4.50	0.00	Beyond X Plan
30.	Men	IX	Vadodara	Unapproved	8.72	0.59	6.48	0.00	Beyond X Plan
31.	Mukteshwar	VI	Banaskantha	Approved	46.00	44.10	4.79	5.69	X Plan
32.	Singar	IX	Panch Mahal	Unapproved	20.00	5.55	2.20	0.00	Beyond X Plan
33.	Kuntali	IX	Valsad	Unapproved	43.99	5.18	3.16	0.00	Beyond X Plan
Sub-total					216.16	92.54	27.93	5.84	
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>									
34.	...	VI	Morena	Approved	5.31	0.40	3.90	0.00	Beyond X Plan
Sub-total					5.31	0.40	3.90	0.00	
<b>Chhattisgarh</b>									
35.	Bamai	VI	Surguja	Approved	29.46	20.07	2.82	1.84	X Plan
36.		VI	Baster	Approved	60.84	29.96	11.12	0.00	X Plan
37.	Sutiapal	IX	Rajendra Gaon	Unapproved	46.95	6.23	6.96	0.00	Beyond X Plan
38.	Upper Jonk	IX	Raipur	Unapproved	9.10	1.27	0.81	0.00	X Plan
39.	Kharikara Modhipat Canal	IX	Durg	Unapproved	43.82	17.18	12.14	0.02	Beyond X Plan
Sub-total					190.17	76.71	33.85	1.86	
<b>Maharashtra</b>									
40.	Amaravati	VI	Dhule	Approved	48.34	31.28	3.80	0.87	X Plan
41.		V	Yavatmal	Approved	71.28	61.53	10.07	10.06	X Plan
42.	Akkalpada	VIII	Dhule	Unapproved	131.40	40.28	6.19	0.00	X Plan
43.	Bahula	V	Jalgaon	Approved	44.04	29.55	4.05	0.37	X Plan
44.	Chandra Bhagha	VIII	Amaravati	Unapproved	177.64	116.11	6.73	1.45	X Plan
45.	Chenna Nadi	V	Gadchiroli	Unapproved	17.40	3.00	2.56	0.00	X Plan
46.	Dora	VIII	Dhule	Unapproved	37.38	5.82	2.30	0.00	X Plan
47.	Dehali	VI	Dhule	Approved	39.66	11.93	3.49	0.00	X Plan
48.	Dongargaon	VI	Chandrapur	Approved	41.16	27.83	3.94	2.30	X Plan

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
49.		VIII	Nasik	Unapproved	64.90	25.39	8.91	0.00	X Plan
50.		VIII	Dhule	Unapproved	26.94	14.26	2.75	0.00	X Plan
51.		VI	Gadchiroli	Approved	26.54	3.00	5.25	0.00	X Plan
52.		VI	Pune	Approved	33.15	29.74	4.12	4.12	X Plan
53.		VIII	Nasik	Unapproved	49.33	42.18	5.82	0.00	X Plan
54.		VIII	Dhule	Unapproved	21.25	0.00	2.74	0.00	X Plan
55.		VIII	Yavatmal	Unapproved	59.17	53.42	7.71	0.00	X Plan
56.		VIII	Dhule	Unapproved	59.94	21.20	3.36	0.00	X Plan
57.	...	VIII	Yavatmal	Unapproved	46.48	37.71	3.43	2.46	X Plan
58.		VI	Kolhapur	Approved	82.20	59.76	11.74	11.06	X Plan
59.		VIII	Amravati	Approved	143.46	91.86	7.53	0.00	X Plan
60.		VIII	Chandrapur	Approved	32.18	21.35	2.85	0.00	X Plan
61.		VIII	Dhule	Unapproved	149.15	90.47	7.56	0.00	X Plan
62.		VI	Dhule	Approved	31.37	19.90	3.01	2.68	X Plan
63.		VI	A'Nagar	Approved	25.86	18.67	3.62	0.00	X Plan
64.		VI	Nanded	Approved	145.28	56.44	12.00	0.00	X Plan
65.		VIII	Dhule	Unapproved	28.89	18.95	2.87	0.00	X Plan
66.	...	VIII	Dhule	Unapproved	98.44	22.90	7.18	0.00	X Plan
67.	...	AP 78-80	Pune	Approved	31.03	24.75	5.00	4.87	X Plan
68.		VIII	Chandrapur	Unapproved	42.33	29.92	4.54	0.00	X Plan
69.	...	IX	Pune	Unapproved	96.00	63.52	8.00	0.00	X Plan
70.		IX	Chandrapur	Approved	27.89	20.39	2.44	0.00	X Plan
71.	...	VIII	Dhule	Unapproved	155.56	88.11	8.86	0.00	X Plan
<b>Sub-total</b>					<b>2085.66</b>	<b>11081.02</b>	<b>172.82</b>	<b>40.24</b>	
<b>Manipur</b>									
72.	...	VIII	Senapat	Approved	63.10	26.06	7.54	0.00	X Plan
<b>Sub-total</b>					<b>63.10</b>	<b>26.06</b>	<b>7.54</b>	<b>0.00</b>	
<b>Meghalaya</b>									
73.	...	VIII	W. Garohills	Approved	57.07	22.59	5.15	0.00	Beyond X Plan
<b>Sub-total</b>					<b>57.07</b>	<b>22.59</b>	<b>5.15</b>	<b>0.00</b>	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>Orissa</b>									
74.	Baghaleti	VIII	Ganjam	Approved	84.62	48.00	5.49	3.41	X Plan
75.	Titagarh Stage II	VII	Bolangir	Approved	33.68	32.89	2.27	0.47	X Plan
76.	Rukara	IX	Sundergarh	Unapproved	52.92	6.66	5.46	0.00	X Plan
77.	Budanalla	VI	Rayagada	Approved	105.88	58.00	13.74	11.89	X Plan
78.	Upper Jank	VI	Noapada	Approved	91.45	91.95	16.40	13.90	X Plan
Sub-total					368.65	237.50	43.36	29.67	
<b>Tripura</b>									
79.	Gurmi	V	South Tripura	Approved	47.00	43.39	9.80	2.75	X Plan
80.	Khowai	VI	West Tripura	Approved	72.00	55.53	9.32	0.55	X Plan
81.	Manu	VI	North Tripura	Approved	69.00	40.69	7.80	0.00	X Plan
Sub-total					108.00	84.05	17.40	2.75	
<b>West Bengal</b>									
82.	Golamajore	V	Purulia	Approved	3.92	3.24	1.00	0.26	
83.	Monterjore	V	Purulia	Approved	1.90	0.69	1.07	0.51	
84.	Beko	V	Purulia	Approved	5.90	4.39	1.59	1.01	
85.	Pattoi	V	Purulia	Approved	10.80	5.72	2.16	1.87	
86.	Talko	V	Purulia	Approved	12.57	8.06	2.48	1.90	
87.	Futuary	VII	Purulia	Approved	17.04	11.43	1.20	0.00	
88.	Hanumata	VII	Purulia	Approved	8.80	5.66	2.78	2.72	
89.	Khairabhera	VII	Purulia	Approved	4.15	3.34	0.57	0.57	
Sub-total					65.08	42.53	12.86	8.83	
Grant Total					4321.72	2354.47	417.15	138.72	

\*AP—Annual plan

*[English]*

#### Dairy Development Technology Mission

2861. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the facilities provided to the farmers and dairy owners for dairy development and animal

husbandry under Dairy Development Technology Mission (DDTM);

(b) the number of new schemes and programmes initiated under the said mission during the last three years, till date; and

(c) the financial assistance being given to each State under these schemes during the said period and as on October 31, 2005 alongwith the results 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) The farmers and dairy owners were provided with animal health care, breeding and feeding facilities by dovetailing with programmes of Government of India under Technology Mission on Dairy Development during 1988-1999.

(b) and (c) Do not arise, as the Technology Mission on Dairy Development ended in March, 1999.

#### Development of Marine Fisheries Infrastructure and Post Harvest Operation

2862. DR. K.S. MANOJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has provided assistance to the States for development of marine fisheries infrastructure and post harvest operation;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the assistance provided during the last three years and the current financial year, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted any proposal for the scheme; and

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

[*Translation*]

#### Unemployment in Organised/Unorganised Sector

2863. KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH:  
SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD *ALIAS* SADHU  
YADAV:

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

(a) whether the unemployment has increased in the organized/unorganized sector in the country during the recent years;

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

(c) whether any survey has been conducted by the Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the findings thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to contain the unemployment rate in the country?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) to (d) Estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained through quinquennial labour force surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation. Latest survey for which results are available pertain to the year 1999-2000. As per these surveys, while employment on usual status basis grew at the rate of around 0.98% per annum during 1994-2000, the growth of Labour Force was around 1.03% per annum. Unemployment rate had marginally gone up from around 1.90% in 1993-94 to 2.23% in 1999-2000. State-wise unemployment rates were as given in enclosed Statement.

(e) With a view to control the unemployment situation, Government targeted creation of around 5 crore employment opportunities during the 10th Plan period through normal growth process as well as through special employment generation programmes.

#### *Statement*

#### *State-wise unemployment rate during 1999-2000*

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	State-wise unemployment rate*			
		Rural		Urban	
		Male	Female	Male	Female
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.2	0.7	4.2	4.2
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.9	0.1	1.4	10.0

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Assam	4.7	11.9	9.1	22.3
4.	Bihar	2.4	0.6	7.6	9.4
5.	Goa	7.0	18.7	15.3	35.2
6.	Gujarat	0.8	0.3	2.1	2.6
7.	Haryana	1.3	0.5	2.7	4.6
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3.0	1.8	6.3	11.8
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	2.6	7.1	4.7	12.8
10.	Karnataka	1.0	0.3	3.0	4.7
11.	Kerala	7.6	19.7	6.9	26.4
12.	Madhya Pradesh	0.7	0.2	4.3	1.6
13.	Maharashtra	2.4	1.1	6.1	7.8
14.	Manipur	2.4	2.5	7.4	10.3
15.	Meghalaya	0.5	0.3	3.4	6.8
16.	Mizoram	2.1	0.5	4.4	2.6
17.	Nagaland	3.0	3.8	9.3	10.8
18.	Orissa	3.1	1.6	7.2	6.7
19.	Punjab	2.3	6.2	3.1	3.5
20.	Rajasthan	0.8	0.2	2.7	3.7
21.	Sikkim	3.5	2.0	6.7	10.0
22.	Tamil Nadu	3.0	1.2	3.9	5.8
23.	Tripura	0.8	4.6	5.5	8.8
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1.3	0.6	4.5	4.6
25.	West Bengal	3.4	3.8	7.7	11.1
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	3.3	7.6	3.8	23.9
27.	Chandigarh	1.0	—	3.9	14.4
28.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1.6	—	1.6	—
29.	Daman and Diu	1.3	—	1.4	8.3
30.	Delhi	3.9	26.0	3.2	5.3
31.	Lakshadweep	10.9	52.9	8.2	26.3
32.	Pondicherry	4.7	2.6	3.5	6.9
All India		2.1	1.5	4.8	7.1

\*As per usual status approach.

Unemployment rate is the percentage of unemployed with reference

*(English)***Project Proposals from Andhra Pradesh**

2864. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects received from Government of Andhra Pradesh for environmental clearance;

(b) the present status thereof; and

(c) the time by which these projects would be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Ten projects have been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for environmental clearance during the last two years. The status of these projects is given in the following table:

Sl.No.	Project details	Date of receipt	Present status
1.	Thottapally Barrange Scheme in District Vizianagaram by Department of Irrigation & Command Area Development	14.12.2004	Cleared on 29.8.2005
2.	Guthpha Lift Irrigation Scheme in District Nizamabad by Department of Irrigation & Command Area Development	16.5.2005	Cleared on 25.8.2005
3.	Alisagar Lift Irrigation Scheme in District Nizamabad by Department of Irrigation & Command Area Development	16.5.2005	Cleared on 9.9.2005
4.	Tadipudi Lift Irrigation Scheme in Districts East Godavari by Department of Irrigation & Command Area Development	16.8.2005	Cleared on 19.10.2005
5.	Puskara Lift Irrigation Scheme in District East Godavari by Department of Irrigation & Command Area Development	16.8.2005	Cleared on 19.10.2005
6.	Indira Sagar (Polavaram) Multipurpose Project in District West Godavari by Department of Irrigation & Command Area Development	17.10.2005	Cleared on 25.10.2005
7.	J. Chokka Rao Godavari Lift Irrigation Project in District West Godavari by Department of Irrigation & Command Area Development	10.11.2005	Cleared on 7.12.2005
8.	Housing, Visakhapatnam by Visakhapatnam Urban Development Authority	2.5.2005	Cleared on 9.6.2005
9.	Pharmacy, Visakhapatnam by Ranky (joint venture with Government of Andhra Pradesh)	28.10.2004	Cleared on 10.3.2005
10.	1x500 MW Bhoopalapally Thermal Power Station near Neredupally, District Warangal by M/s. Andhra Pradesh Power Generation Corporation Ltd. (APGENCO).	10.5.2005	Considered by the Expert Committee on 14.6.2005. Information awaited from Project authorities for re-consideration.

(c) The appraisal of Bhoopalapally Thermal Power Station can be completed for grant of environmental clearance only after the required information is furnished by the project authorities.

#### Closure of Industrial Units

2865. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of workers affected due to closure of industrial units in the country particularly in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years and current year, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) the reasons for the closure of these industrial units;

(c) whether the Government proposes to take any steps to provide alternative employment to those workers or to revive those units; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) A Statement showing the number of workers affected due to closure of industrial units in the country, State-wise, during 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005 (January-September) is enclosed.

(b) The main reasons for the closure of these industrial units, inter-alia, are financial stringency, lack of demand for products and shortage of raw material.

(c) and (d) A scheme for Counselling, Retraining and Redeployment of rationalized employees of Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) is being implemented by the Department of Public Enterprises since 2001-02 with a view to provide opportunities of self-employment to the rationalized employees of the CPSEs.

#### *Statement*

##### *State-wise number of workers affected due to closure of Industrial Units*

	2002	2003	2004(P)	2005 (Jan-Sept) (P)
	1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	984	78	45	—
Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—
Assam	—	—	—	—
Bihar	0	101	750	—
Chhattisgarh	—	—	—	—
Goa	48	20	36	75
Gujarat	1,585	3,199	3,128	128
Haryana	207	92	46	21
Himachal Pradesh	203	—	11	—
Jammu and Kashmir	—	141	25	—
Jharkhand	171	393	84	—
Karnataka	530	183	349	146
Kerala	215	1,547	600	18
Madhya Pradesh	29	—	—	—

	1	2	3	4
Maharashtra	213	—	—	—
Manipur	—	392	—	—
Meghalaya	—	—	—	—
Mizoram	—	—	—	—
Nagaland	—	—	—	—
Orissa	111	200	139	—
Punjab	54	—	—	25
Rajasthan	323	497	29	—
Sikkim	—	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu	—	—	—	—
Tripura	319	228	732	1,999
Uttar Pradesh	4,793	958	7,066	452
Uttaranchal	—	—	—	—
West Bengal	136	505	96	—
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	—	—	—	—
Chandigarh	12	—	—	—
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	—	—	—	—
Delhi	17	40	—	—
Daman and Diu	—	—	—	—
Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—
Pondicherry	75	99	—	—
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>10,025</b>	<b>8,673</b>	<b>13,136</b>	<b>2,864</b>

Source: Labour Bureau, Shimla

(P): Provisional

—Nil

..Not Available

[*Translation*]

#### Pollution in Yamuna River

2866. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an intensive study regarding increasing pollution in the river Yamuna has been conducted by the Pollution Control Research Institute;

(b) if so, the findings thereof alongwith recommendations made in this regard;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the effective steps being taken by the Government to prevent growing pollution in the Yamuna?

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

MEENA): (a) to (c) The Pollution Control Research Institute at Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL), Hardwar has not conducted any intensive study about increasing pollution in Yamuna.

(d) To prevent growing pollution in the river Yamuna, Government has implemented Yamuna Action Plan (YAP) Phase-I. This phase was launched in 1993 in the three States of UP, Haryana and Delhi covering 15 towns with Japanese Bank for International Cooperation's (JBIC) funding. The project has been completed in February 2003. A total of 255 schemes of pollution abatement were completed including 34 sewage treatment plants having additional treatment capacity of 741 million litres per day (mld) under this Plan of which 402 mld is in UP, 309 mld is in Haryana and 30 mld is in Delhi. The details of work done under YAP Phase-I are given in the enclosed Statement.

Further, the YAP Phase-II has been formulated keeping in view the experience gained during implementation of YAP Phase-I and has started from December 1, 2004. The project is being implemented in the States of Haryana, UP and Delhi under the JBIC's Overseas Development Assistance loan. The main components to be implemented under the project are:

- Delhi — Sewage Treatment Plants (135 mld capacity new and 324 mld capacity rehabilitation)  
— Rehabilitation/replacement of trunk sewers (30.82 kms)
- UP — Sewage Treatment Plants (54 mld capacity new)  
— Rehabilitation of Sewer Lines/Rising Mains (85.7 kms)
- Haryana — Interception & Diversion of Sewer Lines (73 kms) and improvement in efficiencies of existing Sewage Treatment Plants.

**Statement**

Sl.No.	Type of Scheme	Number of Schemes
1	2	3
1.	Interception & Diversion	72
2.	Sewage Treatment Plant	34 (741 mld)
3.	Low Cost Sanitation	30

1	2	3
4.	Crematoria	18
5.	River Front Development	4
6.	Other Schemes (Afforestation, Public Participation etc.)	97
Total		255

*[English]*

**Loans to States under A.I.B.P.**

2867. SHR RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:  
SHRI HITEN BARMAN:  
SHRI SUBRATA BOSE:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has decided not to raise loans to State Governments for irrigation projects under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the State Governments have requested for continuation of the existing pattern of funding for on-going projects; and

(d) if so, the response of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) The Twelfth Finance Commission award stipulates that States will have to raise the loan component on their own from the market. Accordingly, the revised guidelines of the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) provide that from financial year 2005-06 onwards, the Union Government will release only the grant component of central assistance under AIBP while, the loan component would be raised by the States directly from the market. However, the Union Government stands committed to help the fiscally weak States to raise loans for them, if they face difficulties in raising loans on their own from the market.

(c) and (d) Some States have requested for maintaining status-quo in funding projects under AIBP. As the recommendations of the Twelfth Finance Commission in this regard have been accepted by the Government of India it would not be feasible to alter the position at this stage.

#### Import/Export by NAFED

2868. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of import/export of various products by NAFED recorded during each of the last three years, product-wise;

(b) the extent of profit earned/loss suffered by NAFED such import/export particularly from other than agricultural products;

(c) whether NAFED undertake such import/export through some canalizing agencies; and

(d) if so, the name of such agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) As per information furnished by NAFED, the quantum of import and export of various products by NAFED during each of the last three years product-wise is given in the enclosed Statement-I and II respectively.

(b) As per information furnished by NAFED, income earned by NAFED from import/export of non-agricultural items during 2003-04 and 2004-05 is Rs. 2.95 crores and Rs. 12.51 crore, respectively.

(c) and (d) Government of India has appointed NAFED as a canalizing agency for export of onion. However, NAFED has not undertaken import/export through any canalizing agencies.

#### *Statement I*

*Import undertaken by NAFED during 2002-03 to 2004-05*

(Value in Rs. in Lakh)

Sl.No.	Commodity	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005
1.	Oil Seeds/Extraction	—	—	259.00
2.	Horticulture	315.00	—	592.00
3.	Pulses	3513.27	—	143.74
4.	Spices	31.30	—	—
5.	Tie-up Agricultural	—	4234.00	18338.00
	Non Agricultural	—	14385.00	40304.00
	Total Import	3859.57	18619.00	59636.75

#### *Statement II*

*Export undertaken by NAFED during 2002-03 to 2004-05*

(Value in Rs. in Lakh)

Sl.No.	Commodity	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Oil Seeds/Extractions	19.06	592.41	382.89
2.	Horticulture	1792.86	2734.82	2710.32

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Foodgrains & Pulses	—	11450.60	3618.60
4.	Spices	152.17	179.20	262.94
5.	Other (Misc)	101.30	1114.95	196.20
6.	Export by Associate Shipper	9642.39	21955.28	31269.63
7.	Tie-up Agriculture	22782.49	18126.89	15694.99
	Non-Agriculture	—	—	7330.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>34490.27</b>	<b>56154.15</b>	<b>61465.57</b>

*[Translation]***Grant for Integrated Fishing in M.P.**

2869. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received the proposal from Government of Madhya Pradesh regarding allocation of grant to the farmers for integrated fishing under the aquaculture in fresh water fishing;

(b) the total cost and the present status of the proposal; and

(c) the funds allocated to the State Government under the scheme and 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) to (c) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture, the State Government of Madhya Pradesh has demanded Rs. 224.24 lakhs for Development of Freshwater Aquaculture through Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDAs). A sum of Rs. 100 lakhs of central assistance as first installment has been released to the State Government during June, 2005. The balance amount will be considered for release to the State Government of Madhya Pradesh on receipt of the utilization of the released amount as well as the progress report from the State.

*[English]***Statutory Charges of Procurement**

2870. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether statutory charges are levied by various States in the form of Market fee, rural development cess, infrastructural cess etc.;

(b) if so, whether these charges collected by the States from Food Corporation of India (FCI) are meant for making improvements at the procurement centres;

(c) if so, whether the amount so collected is not being used for the said purpose;

(d) if so, whether the Union Government has taken up the matter with the State Governments;

(e) if so, the details and outcome thereof; and

(f) the further steps taken or proposed to be taken to provide better services to the farmers at the procurement centres and also to reduce statutory charges?

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) to (f) The amounts collected under the statutory levies are meant to be utilized for the purposes for which



the levies are imposed. From time to time State Governments are impressed upon to furnish certificates to the effect that the amount collected on account of statutory charges *i.e.* Market Fee, Rural Development Cess etc. have been properly utilized.

#### Flood Control in Bihar

2871. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Water Commission (CWC) was entrusted with the responsibility of furthering and promoting measures for control, conservation and utilization of water resources in the country in irrigation, hydropower generation, flood management and river conservation;

(b) if so, the extent to which CWC has met with the responsibilities in flood management in Bihar, connecting rivers, developed hydropower generation, conservation and utilization of water resources;

(c) whether Central Water Commission has failed to provide Ganga water to Delhi to tide over water scarcity; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) As per the resolution dated 21st April, 1951, the then Central Water and Power Commission was charged with the general responsibility of initiating, coordinating and furthering, in consultation with the State Governments concerned, schemes for the control, conservation and utilization of water resources, throughout the country, for purpose of flood control, irrigation, navigation and water-power generation. With the bifurcation of Central Water and Power Commission, in Central Water Commission and Central Electricity Authority in the year 1974, the responsibility of works related to water power generation rests with Central Electricity Authority. Specific schemes related to flood management in Ganga basin States including Bihar are examined and monitored by Ganga Flood Control Commission which was established in the year 1972. National Water Development Agency has been established in the year 1982 to take up the works related to feasibility studies for the identified links under National Perspective Plan for Water Resources Development.

The subjects of water supply, irrigation and canals, drainage and embankment, water storage and water power are in the State List. The State Governments conceive, plan and implement water resources development schemes. Central Water Commission (CWC) provides technical assistance and guidance to the State Governments particularly in techno-economic evaluation of irrigation and multipurpose projects. Other important activities of Central Water Commission include maintenance of network of key hydrological observation sites and flood forecasting stations.

(c) and (d) The issue of providing Ganga Water to Delhi is to be resolved between the Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Delhi. However, CWC acts as facilitator. At present Government of Delhi is getting Ganga water for its Bhagirath Water Treatment Plant with installed capacity of 100 million gallons per day. Further, Government of Uttar Pradesh had conveyed its no objection in 1988 for reserving 300 cubic metre per second of water for supply from the Tehri dam for meeting the needs of Delhi.

[*Translation*]

#### Relief Package for Families of Farmers

2872. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Swaminathan Committee has recommended relief package to the families/dependents of farmers who have committed suicide on the line of relief given to families of fishermen killed in Tsunami;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for the rehabilitation of families/dependents of farmers who have committed suicide?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The National Commission of Farmers headed by Dr. M.S. Swaminathan has so far submitted two Interim Reports to the Government. Both the Reports do not contain any recommendations relating to assistance to the affected families of the farmers referred in part (a) of the Question.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) In order to provide relief to the affected families of the deceased farmers, the Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra have been granting ex-gratia amount of Rs. 1 lakh. The Government of Kerala has extended financial assistance of Rs. 50,000 to each of the affected families. In addition to ex-gratia, the Government of Andhra Pradesh is also granting in amount of Rs. 50,000 towards debt liquidation of the deceased farmer. Other welfare measures for relief and rehabilitation have been taken by State Governments.

*[English]*

#### Permission to ONGC for Exploration

2873. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received a proposal from Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) to grant permission for exploration in Mahanadi basin;

(b) if so, the date when the proposal was received by the Government from ONGC and the possible effects on environment thereof;

(c) whether the Government has examined the proposal; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has received two proposals from Oil & Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) for exploratory drilling in Mahanadi Offshore Blocks (1) in Block MN-DWN-OSN-2000/2 under NELP-II in east coast of India and (2) Exploratory drilling in Mahanadi Offshore in east coast of India on 4.1.2005 and 5.1.2005 alongwith Environment Impact Assessment Report (EIA) and Environment Management Plan (EMP). The anticipated impacts on marine environment including breeding/migration of Sea turtles and other marine biota are reported in the EIA report.

(c) and (d) After due deligence, the Government has accorded environmental clearance to both the proposals on 17.10.2005 with adequate safeguards and strict monitoring mechanism to safeguards marine to biodiversity.

#### Welfare Schemes for Labourers

2874. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has initiated any schemes for the welfare of the labourers in the country;

(b) if so, the details of such schemes which are being implemented at present;

(c) the amount allocated for the above schemes during the last three years; and

(d) the status of such scheme as on date, State-wise particularly for Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Labour & Employment has set up five welfare funds to provide social security to some specified groups of the workers in the unorganised sector such as beedi workers, cine workers and certain non-coal mine workers to provide health care, housing, educational assistance for children, drinking water etc. The state-wise allocation of funds is not made. The details of allocation of funds (region-wise) during last three years is given in the enclosed Statement.

In addition to above, the Government has launched several welfare and poverty alleviation/employment generation schemes for the labourers through various Central Ministries/Departments. Some of such schemes are: Swarnjayanti Gram Swarjgar Yojana, Sampooma Gramin Rojgar Yojana, Pradhanmantri Gram Sadak Yojana, National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), etc. The Government is implementing Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) with the objective to provide assistance to the Below Poverty Line (BPL) rural households. Further, Janshree Bima Yojana providing for insurance cover to people living below or marginally above the poverty line, is also available for workers in the unorganised sector including agricultural workers. The Government has also redesigned the Universal Health Insurance Scheme (UHS), which is available to families living below poverty line (BPL) which, inter-alia, include agricultural workers, at subsidized annual premium. The Government has recently enacted National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, which provides for 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work.

*Statement**Allocation of funds under Welfare Funds Act*

(Rs. in thousand)

Year	Funds*	Region (Welfare Commissioner)**								
		Ajmer	Allahabad	Bangalore	Bhubaneswar	Hyderabad	Jabalpur	Karma	Kolkata	Nagpur
2003-04	BWWF	26789	32267	143903	64063	223029	82881	39912	73972	108231
	LSDM	19728	3761	3339	6362	9956	15950	5854	1088	2186
	IOMC	—	—	14883	36025	2807	15148	12988	—	14508
	MICA	1802	—	—	—	5629	—	5542	—	—
	CINE	97	—	723	191	4025	—	—	880	1980
2004-05	BWWF	28759	44862	172393	76687	226490	89164	61552	90025	111300
	LSDM	31808	4728	3653	8964	11003	17282	5410	1478	2456
	IOMC	—	—	15867	38520	3151	17014	16480	—	19593
	MICA	2080	—	—	—	5712	—	5003	—	—
	CINE	75	—	1563	291	3758	—	—	1050	2363
2005-06	BWWF	34516	48695	175737	87270	223645	93208	62689	98914	138710
	LSDM	24552	5669	4320	8630	11026	18698	6833	1491	2426
	IOMC	—	—	15400	38261	3594	16347	25390	—	17738
	MICA	2563	—	—	—	5275	—	5962	—	—
	CINE	78	—	815	345	3448	—	—	1288	2086

\*BWWF—Beedi Workers' Welfare Fund

LSDM—Limestone and Dolomite Mines Welfare Fund

IOMC—Iron Ore, Manganese Ore and Chrome Ore Mines Welfare Fund

MICA—Mica Mines Labour Welfare Fund

CINE—Cine Workers' Welfare Fund

\*\*Region—state covered

Ajmer—Gujarat, Rajasthan &amp; Haryana

Allahabad—Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Jammu &amp; Kashmir and Uttaranchal

Bangalore—Karnataka &amp; Kerala

Bhubaneswar—Orissa

Hyderabad—Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh

Jabalpur—Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh

Karma—Bihar and Jharkhand

Kolkata—West Bengal, Assam, Tripura and Meghalaya

Nagpur—Maharashtra and Goa.

**Production of Cotton**

2875. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated target/production of various brands of cotton in the country during the last two years and the current year, brand-wise and State-wise particularly in Maharashtra;

(b) the total domestic requirement of cotton and the surplus available for export during the above period; and

(c) the total area, as on date under cotton cultivation in each State, particularly in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) As estimated by the Cotton Advisory Board (CAB) in its meeting held on 7th December 2005, the

cotton production for the cotton season 2005-06 is 242.50 lakh bales. The CAB is not estimating production for different varieties of cotton. The details of state-wise cotton production, including Maharashtra, for 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 are given in the enclosed statement-I.

(b) During the years 2003-04 and 2004-05, the total requirement (including mill consumption, small mill consumption and non-mill consumption) has been placed at 177.10 lakh bales and 194.00 lakh bales respectively. The total carry forward stock during the above period has been placed at 21.00 lakh bales and 72.00 lakh bales respectively. The cotton consumption during 2005-06 has been estimated at 213.00 lakh bales. The carry forward as at the end of the season 2005-06 is estimated at 82.50 lakh bales.

During 2003-04, 12.11 lakh bales and during 2004-05, 10.76 lakh bales of cotton were exported.

(c) The required information is available in the enclosed statement-II.

**Statement I****CAB Estimates of Cotton Production for 2005-06, 2004-05 and 2003-04**

(Quantity in lakh bales of 170 kgs. each)

State/UT	2005-06	2004-05	2003-04
Punjab	21.00	16.50	10.35
Haryana	14.00	15.50	11.50
Rajasthan	11.00	11.00	9.15
Gujarat	80.00	73.00	50.00
Maharashtra	46.00	52.00	31.00
Madhya Pradesh	15.00	16.00	19.65
Andhra Pradesh	30.00	32.50	27.40
Karnataka	7.00	8.00	4.20
Tamil Nadu	5.50	5.50	3.75
Others	1.00	1.00	1.00
Plus Loose Lint	12.00	12.00	11.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>242.50</b>	<b>243.00</b>	<b>179.00</b>

**Statement II****CAB Estimates of Cotton Area for 2005-06**

State/UT	2005-06
Punjab	5.80
Haryana	5.97
Rajasthan	4.54
Gujarat	20.77
Maharashtra	28.89
Madhya Pradesh	6.35
Andhra Pradesh	9.72
Karnataka	3.63
Tamil Nadu	1.50
Others	1.00

**Land under Cultivation in Karnataka**

2876. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of agricultural land in hectares under cultivation in the country particularly in Karnataka, State-wise;

(b) the number of persons employed in these agricultural lands, State-wise;

(c) the details of the steps being taken by the Union Government to boost agriculture in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) The total area under foodgrains and commercial crops in Karnataka and other major states as well as the state-wise number of cultivators and agricultural labourers are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The programmes aimed at boosting production and productivity of foodgrains include the following:

Integrated Cereals Development Programmes in Rice Based, Wheat Based, Coarse Cereals Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Rice, Wheat, Coarse Cereals).

From October 2000, these schemes have been subsumed under Macro Management Programme with a view to provide flexibility to the States according to the regionally differentiated needs of the states. To boost agriculture sector and enhance yields, improved crop production technologies are being popularized. Under this scheme assistance is provided for various inputs and training of farmers/extension workers as well as supply of critical inputs like seeds, sprayers and water saving devices like sprinklers and drip systems etc.

A new Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'On Farm Water Management for increasing Crop Production in Eastern India' was launched in 2002-03. The objective of the scheme is to increase production and productivity of crops through exploiting abundant ground/surface water in the Eastern India. Under the scheme, assistance is provided for (i) installation of Shallow Tube Wells (STW) with pumping sets, (ii) electric/diesel regions. The scheme is being implemented in Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Manipur, Mizoram, Orissa, West Bengal and Eastern Uttar Pradesh.

In order to increase the production and productivity of oilseeds and pulses, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize" (ISOPOM) is being implemented since 01.04.2004. Under this scheme, assistance is provided for Production of breeder seed, foundation seed and certified seed, crash programme for quality seed production, distribution of certified seed, and Minikits, infrastructure development, integrated Pest Management etc. Besides, front line demonstrations on improved production technologies in oilseeds and pulses are being conducted through Indian Council of Agricultural Research as a transfer of technology efforts among the farmers.

A new scheme 'Enhancing Sustainability of Dry land/Rainfed Farming Systems' aims at addressing issues like rainwater harvesting and its efficient utilization *in situ* soil moisture conservation; use of organics/organic manures; alternate land use; and adoption of improved dry land farming technologies. This scheme is proposed to be implemented in the arid and semi arid regions of the country particularly in the districts having low annual rainfall and less coverage under assured irrigation.

**Statement**

*Total area under foodgrains and commercial crops in Karnataka and other major states and the state-wise number of cultivators and agricultural labourers*

State/UT	Area (In Million)*	Cultivators (In Million)#	Agricultural Labour (In Million)#	Total number of persons employed in agricultural land (In Million)#
Andhra Pradesh	10.62	7.86	13.83	21.68
Assam	3.15	3.73	1.26	4.99
Bihar	6.93	8.19	13.42	21.61
Chhattisgarh	5.43	4.31	3.09	7.4
Gujarat	8.88	5.8	5.16	10.96
Haryana	5.65	3.02	1.28	4.3
Himachal Pradesh	0.88	1.95	0.09	2.04
Jammu and Kashmir	1.04	1.59	0.25	1.84
Jharkhand	1.95	3.89	2.85	6.74
Karnataka	10.83	6.88	6.23	13.11
Kerala	0.30	0.72	1.62	2.34
Madhya Pradesh	18.86	11.04	7.4	18.44
Maharashtra	19.01	11.81	10.82	22.63
Orissa	5.67	4.25	5	9.25
Punjab	7.03	2.07	1.49	3.56
Rajasthan	16.75	13.14	2.52	15.66
Tamil Nadu	4.66	5.12	8.64	13.76
Uttar Pradesh	22.61	22.17	13.4	35.57
Uttaranchal	1.19	1.57	0.26	1.83
West Bengal	7.79	5.65	7.36	13.01
Others	1.41	2.55	0.81	3.36
<b>All-India</b>	<b>160.62</b>	<b>127.31</b>	<b>106.78</b>	<b>234.09</b>

\*Fourth Advance Estimates of 2004-05

#Census of India 2001

**Self Employment Scheme for Fishermen**

2877. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has started any scheme for self employment of fishermen in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the States in which this programme has been started; and

(d) the number of fishermen benefited by the scheme in the country, especially in Gujarat, during the last three years and thereafter State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) No, Sir. The Government has not started any Central Scheme in the country to provide self employment to the fishermen.

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

**Setting up of Automobile Testing Facility**

2878. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any long pending demand for setting up of an "Automobile Testing Facility" in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Central Team had visited the State and held discussions with the State Government for setting up of the same;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the time by which the project is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (e) In response to the request for setting up of an

"Automobile Testing Facility" in Tamil Nadu, a joint Government-Industry team visited Tamil Nadu in November 2004. Based on the recommendations of the team, Government has approved setting up of an Automotive Testing and Homologation Centre at Orgagadam, Chennai in Tamil Nadu to meet the emerging testing and homologation demands including the developmental testing requirements of automotive industry in southern region. The facility will be set up over a period of six years under the National Automotive Testing and R&D Infrastructure Project.

**Foodgrains for Export**

2879. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has imposed certain terms and conditions for the issue of foodgrains for export by Food Corporation of India;

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

(c) whether some exporters have failed to submit the required documents within the prescribed period;

(d) if so, whether the Government has forfeited the bank guarantee furnished by such defaulting exporters; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) The Government has stopped fresh allocation of foodgrains from the Central Pool for commercial export purposes, with effect from 11.8.2003 and issue of foodgrains has been stopped for export purposes with effect from 1.10.2004.

(c) and (d) When the scheme of sale of foodgrains for export purposes was in force, from November 2000 to September, 2004, some exporters failed to submit required documents as proof of export transactions, despite relaxation in the prescribed time period and bank guarantee furnished by them were forfeited in all such cases.

(e) Does not arise.

**Tourist Map**

(Qty. in lakh Qtis.)

2880. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has prepared any tourist map for the country; and

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

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

(b) The map has been produced as a folder with India map on one side and carries various tourist attractions, region-wise overleaf. It is distributed free of cost through India tourism Offices in the country and overseas and through events/fairs that the Ministry participates in.

**Scarcity of High Quality Seeds**

2881. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has recently reported about the scarcity of high quality seeds in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to establish a seed bank to store seeds of high quality; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No, Sir. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has not reported the scarcity of high quality seeds in the country. However, the Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments by organizing Zonal Seed Review Meetings and also National Conferences on Agriculture prior to Kharif and Rabi Season every year. The overall availability of certified seeds including quality seeds against the requirement of all field crops for the last three years is as under:

Year	Requirement	Availability
2003-04	99.32	124.38
2004-05	110.83	132.27
2005-06	107.08	140.51

(b) and (c) The scheme for Establishment & Maintenance of Seed Bank was launched with the basic objective of meeting the requirement of seeds during natural calamities like flood and droughts and also development of necessary infrastructure for storage of seed. The Scheme is being implemented through National Seeds Corporation, State Farm Corporation of India and State Seed Corporations of several States. A target of 160.00 lakh quintals of seeds has been kept for Seed Bank during the current year. Thus the storage of crop varieties for normal conditions is not envisaged in this Scheme.

**Financial Assistance to Agricultural Universities**

2882. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance provided by the Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR) under various heads to the State Agricultural Universities during the Tenth Plan university-wise alongwith the utilization status thereof including the Assam Agricultural University, faculty-wise; and

(b) the name of the research projects sanctioned by the ICAR to the Assam Agricultural University, faculty-wise and details of those projects which have been awaiting clearance, faculty-wise during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) provides financial assistance to the State Agricultural Universities for Strengthening & Development of Agricultural Education under the heads Development Grants, Rural Awareness Work Experience and Centre for Advance Studies. The financial assistance is not provided faculty-wise. Statement-I showing the financial assistance provided to the State Agricultural Universities under the above



mentioned heads university-wise alongwith the utilization status thereof including the Assam Agricultural University during the Xth Plan is enclosed.

(b) The required information is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

**Statement I**

*Funds Released and its utilisation status during the Tenth Plan period to the State Agricultural Universities Head-wise*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	University Name	Development Grant		Rural Awareness Work Experience		Centre of Advanced Studies	
		Sanctioned	Expenditure	Sanctioned	Expenditure	Sanctioned	Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Assam						
	AAU, Jorhat	978.23	211.04	41.5	41.5		
2.	Andhra Pradesh						
	ANGRAU, Hyderabad	959.00	618.34	59	15	31.4	20.71
3.	Bihar						
	RAU, Pusa Samastipur	733.50	493.79	11.5	10.96		
4.	Chhattisgarh						
	IGKV, Raipur	888.19	266.64	30.5	10.95		
5.	Gujarat						
	SDAU, S.K. Nagar	521.25	418.28	29	6		
	AAU, Anand	63.25	56.78	2	1.98		
	NAU, Navasari	62.25	60.00	2	1.98		
	JAU, Junagadh	62.25	52.95	2	1.8		
6.	Haryana						
	CCSHAU, Hisar	951.86	674.75	17.47	9.96	50.37	38.62
7.	Himachal Pradesh						
	CSKHPKV, Palampur	786.50	453.41	24	20.03		
	YSPUH&F, Solan	683.50	267.03	15.5	6.3	15.62	11.75
8.	Jammu and Kashmir						
	SKUAS&T, Srinagar	819.43	281.14	15	1.35		
	SKUAS&T, Jammu	3512.38	717.01	7.68	7.02		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9.	<b>Jharkhand</b>						
	BAU, Ranchi	1072.00	711.80	12	0.71		
10.	<b>Karnataka</b>						
	UAS, Bangalore	962.74	667.27	51	35.04	16.63	16.63
	UAS, Dharwad	773.00	560.99	36	12		
11.	<b>Kerala</b>						
	KAU, Thrissur	1035.50	692.40	42.24	13.81		
12.	<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>						
	JNKVV, Jabalpur	796.50	473.65	68	32.86	28.75	24.58
13.	<b>Maharashtra</b>						
	BSKKV, Dapoli	772.00	378.92	36.5	18.39		
	MA&FSU, Nagpur	909.00	636.17	5.7	1.52		
	MAU, Parbhani	749.50	387.12	51.5	23.26		
	MPKV, Rahuri	803.50	378.89	64	45.69	44.07	37.49
	PDKV, Akola	723.50	358.17	38	11.71		
14.	<b>Orissa</b>						
	OUT&T, Bhubaneshwar	959.26	448.96	24.5	4.49		
15.	<b>Punjab</b>						
	PAU, Ludhiana	1227.00	900.87	40.5	19.49	70.18	67.52
16.	<b>Rajasthan</b>						
	RAU, Bikaner	848.50	385.32	28.39	6.64		
	MPUA&T, Udaipur	988.00	697.67	40.5	10.03		
17.	<b>Tamil Nadu</b>						
	TNAU, Coimbatore	979.00	653.24	28	10.4	92.5	79.71
	TNV&ASU, Chennai	663.75	381.82	0	0	52.64	45.9
18.	<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>						
	AAI, Allahabad	136.94	89.43	7.5			
	CSAUA&T, Kanpur	1047.50	600.72	26.5	21.82		
	DDUV&ASU, Mathura	550.50	249.56	2	0		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	NDUA&T, Faizabad	747.00	363.18	23.5	3.98	19.3	11.61
	AVPUA&T, Meerut	656.50	209.19	7	0.52		
19.	Uttaranchal						
	GBPUA&T, Pantnagar	1178.13	606.16	28.32	9.26	39.74	36.59
20.	West Bengal						
	BCKVV, Mohanpur	496.05	345.37	16.85	14.21		
	UBKVV, Cooch Behar	628.75	297.13	17	1.28		
	WBUA&FS, Kolkata	733.75	392.74	5	1.05		

*Statement II*

*Names of the Research Projects sanctioned by the ICAR to the Assam Agricultural University and details of those projects awaiting clearance main subject-wise*

Sl.No.	Name of the Project/Scheme	Location
1	2	3
<b>Crop Science</b>		
1.	AICRP on Sugarcane (Buralikson center)	AAU, Jorhat
2.	AINP on Jute & Allied Fibres (Nawgaon center)	-do-
3.	AICRP on Soybean	Jorhat
4.	AICRP on Rapeseed & Mustard	Shillongani
5.	AICRP on MULLARP	Shillongani
6.	AICRP on Chickpea	Shillongani
7.	AICRP on Honey Bee	AAU, Jorhat
8.	AICRP on Biological Control	AAU, Jorhat
9.	AICRP on Rodent Control	AAU, Jorhat
10.	AICRP on Nematodes	AAU, Jorhat
11.	AICRP on White Grubs	AAU, Jorhat
12.	AICRP on Rice	1. Jorhat 2. Karimganj
13.	AICRP on Wheat	Shillongani

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1	2	3
14.	AICRP on Maize	Jorhat
15.	AICRP on Forage	Jorhat
16.	Breeder Seed Production	Jorhat
17.	Seed Technology Research	Jorhat
<b>Natural Resources Management</b>		
18.	All India Coordinated Research Project on Agrometeorology	AAU, Jorhat
19.	All India Coordinated Research Project on West Control	AAU, Jorhat
20.	All India Coordinated Research Project on Cropping System Research	AAU, Jorhat
21.	All India Coordinated Research Project on Dryland Agriculture	AAU, Jorhat
22.	All India Coordinated Research Project on Water Management	AAU, Jorhat
23.	All India Coordinated Research Project on Agroforestry	AAU, Jorhat
24.	All India Coordinated Research Project on Network on Biofertilizer	AAU, Jorhat
<b>Horticulture</b>		
25.	AICRP on fruits	AAU, Jorhat
26.	AICRP on palms	AAU, Jorhat
27.	AICRP on betelvine	AAU, Jorhat
28.	AICRP on vegetable	AAU, Jorhat
29.	AICRP on Tuber Crops	AAU, Jorhat
30.	AICRP on potato	AAU, Jorhat
31.	AICRP on floriculture	AAU, Jorhat
32.	AICRP on mushroom	AAU, Jorhat
<b>Animal Sciences</b>		
33.	AICRP on Pigs	Khanapara
34.	AICRP on Improvement of feed resources and nutrient Utilization in Raising Animal Production	Khanapara
35.	AICRP on FMD	Khanapara
36.	Network Project on Buffalo Improvement	Khanapara
37.	Network Programme on Hemorrhagic	Khanapara
<b>Education</b>		
38.	AICRP on Home Science	AAU, Jorhat

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1	2	3
<b>National Agricultural Technology Projects</b>		
39.	System oriented socio-economic assessment of transitions in hill agriculture	AAU, Jorhat
40.	Development of IPNS for rice and maize based cropping system in hills.	AAU, Jorhat
41.	Improvement and local pig of NEH region.	AAU, Jorhat
42.	Evaluation and improving locally available feed resources and developing feeding systems for improved livestock production.	AAU, Jorhat
43.	Geo-referenced resource Inventory preparation for rainfed rice ecosystem	AAU, Jorhat
44.	Socio economic dynamics of changes in rice production system in Eastern India	AAU, Jorhat
45.	Soil Tillage requirement for rainfed rice production system	AAU, Jorhat
46.	Development of regional scale watershed plans and methodologies for identification of critical areas for prioritized land treatment in the watersheds	AAU, Jorhat
47.	Assessment and improvement of soil quality and resilience for rainfed production system	AAU, Jorhat
48.	New approaches to Integrated Pest management in rainfed rice based production systems	AAU, Jorhat
49.	Evaluation of cultivars of major crops of rainfed eco system for increased water use efficiency	AAU, Jorhat
50.	Participatory and Integrated assessment of natural resources and evolution of alternates sustainable land management options for tribal dominant watershed	AAU, Jorhat
51.	Application of crop simulation models of develop crop and nitrogen management strategies for increasing rice productivity under rained favourable lowland situations of eastern India	AAU, Jorhat
52.	Improvement of jute through rice necrosis mosaic virus technology for sustainable yield and quality under jute rice production system	AAU, Jorhat
53.	Development of improved jute cultivars in rainfed agro-ecosystem for quality textile fibre	AAU, Jorhat
54.	Integrated nutrient management on yield targeting for jute-rice production system	AAU, Jorhat
55.	Improve indigenous technology for milling, drying and storage or rice	AAU, Jorhat
56.	Develop and promote prototype of implements for tillage and seeding in participation with local manufacturers/artisalm	AAU, Jorhat

1	2	3
57.	On-farm evaluation of deep water rice varieties and production technologies in rainfed ecosystem of eastern India	AAU, Jorhat
58.	Development of agro techniques for sustainable productivity of rice based utera cropping system	AAU, Jorhat
59.	Management of castor for rearing eri silk worm	AAU, Jorhat
60.	Identification research gaps in intercropping systems under rainfed conditions in India	AAU, Jorhat
61.	Measures to counteract/detoxify aflatoxins in oilseeds and nutrition coarse cereals based poultry and livestock feeds	AAU, Jorhat
62.	Develop and evaluate production technology for the indigenous Cotton in NE Region	AAU, Jorhat
63.	Utilization of nutritious cereals and by products of oilseed based cropping system for poultry production	AAU, Jorhat
64.	Develop sustainable Potato based production system for eastern plains with the use of true Potato seed (TPS)	AAU, Jorhat
65.	Evaluation of the production potential of Boro Rice	AAU, Jorhat
66.	Technology Assessment and Refinement through IVLP in Brahmaputra valley zone of Assam	AAU, Jorhat
67.	Sustainable Management of Plant Bio-diversity	AAU, Jorhat
68.	Household Food and Nutritional Security for Tribal, Backward and Hilly areas	AAU, Jorhat
69.	Processing of Soybean for Diversified Uses and its Socio-Economic Aspects	AAU, Jorhat
70.	Increasing Wheat Production and Building up of Research Capabilities in the Warmer Areas and Eastern India	AAU, Jorhat
71.	Animal Genetic Resource Biodiversity	AAU, Jorhat
72.	Weather based animal disease forecasts	
73.	Livestock—Crop Production System Analysis for Sustainable Production	AAU, Jorhat
74.	Germplasm Inventory, Evaluation and Gene Banning of Freshwater Fishes	AAU, Jorhat
75.	Mechanization of Experimental Plots	AAU, Jorhat
76.	Economics of Post Harvest Management of perishable Agril. Commodities in North-Eastern	AAU, Jorhat
77.	In-situ Decomposition of Rice Crop Residues and Production of improved compost as a carrier of Multiple Microbial Inocula for Use in Rice-based Cropping System	AAU, Jorhat

1	2	3
78.	Agrarian Institutions in Assam: An Economic	AAU, Jorhat
79.	Screening Chrysanthemum Cultivars and standardization of technique for offseason flowering plastic Green House cum Rain shelter	AAU, Jorhat
80.	Identification of molecular markers linked to the gene for resistance to Rice Hispa ( <i>Dicladispa armigera</i> oliv.) in rice.	AAU, Jorhat
81.	Mycoinsecticide and Botanical for Management of Rice Pests in Assam	AAU, Jorhat
82.	Development of Integrated Disease Management Strategies for sheath Blight Disease under Rice-Rice Cropping system	AAU, Jorhat
83.	Development of <i>Apis mellifera</i> in the North-Eastern States of India	AAU, Jorhat
84.	Biochemical Characterization of Traditional Medicinal plants used against Jaundice Caused by	AAU, Jorhat
85.	Integration of Rain-Water Harvesting and Drip Irrigation for Increasing Productivity of High Value Fruit Crops in Assam	AAU, Jorhat
86.	Standardization of some agrotechniques of anthurium ( <i>Anthurium andreaeanum</i> Lind.) production in low cost polyhouse under Assam	AAU, Jorhat
87.	Development of appropriate Post-harvest technologies for handling and transportation of	AAU, Jorhat
88.	Post harvest value addition to indigenous plant sources of North East India for development of natural food colorants	AAU, Jorhat
89.	Involvement of rural women of Assam in sustainable horticultural Development	AAU, Jorhat
90.	Development of cell culture adapted duck plague vaccine from a local isolate	AAU, Jorhat
91.	Agro-ecological analysis and land evaluation of citrus growing areas of Assam for sustainable	AAU, Jorhat
92.	Identification of molecular marker linked to the gene for submergence tolerance in rice	AAU, Jorhat
93.	Molecular Tagging of Gene for Cold Tolerance in	AAU, Jorhat
94.	Integrated management of citrus canker	AAU, Jorhat
95.	Development of vaccine and vaccination strategy against Pneumnic Pasteurellosis and swine fever in Pigs	AAU, Jorhat
96.	Development of post-harvest technologies and value addition of certain commercially important flowers of north east region	AAU, Jorhat
97.	Sustainable management of sheath rot of rice for the cropping system in Assam	AAU, Jorhat

1	2	3
98.	Productivity potential assessment for rice and mustard in Brahmaputra valley of Assam	AAU, Jorhat
<b>Agriculture Extension</b>		
99.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Tezpur, C/o P.B. No. 51, Sonitpur, Tezpur-784001	Tezpur
100.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Arunachal, Silchar-788025, Cachar	Cachar
101.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Khumtai, Golaghat-785619	Golaghat
102.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Talipara, Gossaigaon-783360 Kokarajhar	Kokarajhar
103.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Nazira-785685, Sibsagar	Sibsagar
104.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Nalbari C/o Vice-Chancellor, Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat	Jorhat
105.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Barpeta C/o Vice-Chancellor, Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat	Jorhat
106.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bongaigaon C/o Vice-Chancellor, Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat	Jorhat
107.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Zonal Agricultural Research Station Diphu-782460, Distt. Karbi Anglong	Karbi Anglong
108.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Horticultural Research Station, Kahikuchi, District-Kamrup	Kamrup
109.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Regional Agricultural Research Station, Baisa Gorumoria-787032, District-North Lakhimpur	Lakhimpur
110.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Regional Agricultural Research Station, Shillongani, District-Nagaon-782001	Nagaon
111.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Citrus Research Station, Gelapukhuri Road, District-Tinsukia-788125	Tinsukia
112.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Regional Agricultural Research Station, P.O. & Distt. Karimganj-788710	Karimganj
113.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Chirakuta (Revenue village Jamduar Pt. II) Dhubri	Dhubri
114.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Silagaon (Silapathar) Dhemaji	Dhemaji
<b>Ad-hoc Schemes</b>		
<b>Crop Sciences</b>		
115.	Role of vascular arbusecular Mycorrhizal fungi in the management of root knot nematode <i>Meloidogyne incognita</i> on pulse crop in Assam	AAU, Jorhat



1	2	3
116.	Compatibility and persistence of <i>Pasteuria penetrans</i> in a sequential crop eco system	AAU, Jorhat
117.	Network project on Poverty alleviation in tribal areas through quality seeds	AAU, Jorhat
118.	Revolving Fund Scheme—Seed Production of Pulses and Wheat	RARS, Navgaon
119.	Modern Approach to cooking and reeling of muga and silk worm cocoon	AAU, Jorhat
<b>Natural Resources Management</b>		
120.	Recycling and management of crop residue in rice based cropping system under high rainfall situation in acidic soil of Assam	AAU, Jorhat
121.	Systematic study on weed seeds of India	AAU, Jorhat
122.	Soil characterization and resource management of acid soil regions for increasing productivity.	AAU, Jorhat
123.	Sulphur fertilization for increased yield and quality of rapeseed rice in Assam	AAU, Jorhat
124.	Screening of efficient <i>Azospirillum</i> and other diazotrophs for enhancing rice production	AAU, Jorhat
125.	Integrated land use planning of char areas of Assam using remote sensing and GIS techniques	AAU, Jorhat
<b>Horticulture</b>		
126.	Improvement of Indigenous Orchids of North Eastern Region of India through hybridization	AAU, Jorhat
127.	Integrated Management of Rhizome rot disease of ginger	AAU, Jorhat
<b>Animal Sciences</b>		
128.	Development of recombinant monoculture for fermented	Khanapara
129.	Production of raw-dried carabeef	Khanapara
130.	use of starter culture for extended storage of communicated chevon	Khanapara
131.	Studies on type characterisation of Nageshwari duck of Assam	Khanapara
132.	Studies on seminal attributes in Assam local beetal and crossbred bucks and evolving technology for improving the quality of frozen semen	Khanapara
133.	Physical and biochemical studies on temen—a hybrid of mithun and bala (local cattle)	Khanapara
134.	Studies on hydatidosis cysterococosis of different animals of north eastern region	Khanapara

1	2	3
135.	Epidemiology pathology and host immune response of rota virus infection in pig	Khanapara
136.	Effect of pro-biotics and enzymes on the intestinal mucosa of poultry	Khanapara
137.	Studies on sub estrous condition of crossbred cattle of Assam and its therapeutic management	Khanapara
138.	Filarial dermatitis in cattle and buffalo in Assam with special reference to epidemiology and control of humpsore	Khanapara
139.	Epidemiology pathology and treatment of canine parvovirus infection in Assam	Khanapara

**Ad-hoc projects Awaiting clearance—****Crop Science**

- |    |                                                                                                                                                                |           |
|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. | Screening for temperature and photoperiod response and characterization of temperature sensitive genetic male sterile source in rice ( <i>Oryza Sativa</i> L.) | Titabar   |
| 2. | Botanicals for rice management                                                                                                                                 | Jorhat    |
| 3. | Biodiversity of plant parasitic nematodes associated with rice in Assam                                                                                        | Lakhimpur |
| 4. | Improvement of mass-production and formulation of <i>Beuvaria bassiana</i> for management of rice pests                                                        | Jorhat    |

**Natural Resources Management**

- |    |                                                                                                                                                                                |             |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 5. | Status and Response of Crop to micronutrients with Special Emphasis on Boron and zinc in Soils of Assam                                                                        | AAU, Jorhat |
| 6. | Climatic variability in North East India over the Twentieth Century and assessment of its impact on future Agriculture                                                         | AAU, Jorhat |
| 7. | Estimation of reserve determination of recharge characteristics and quality of ground water in soil of upper Brahmaputra Valley and Central Brahmaputra Valley zones of Assam. | AAU, Jorhat |

**MoU between NAFED and Earthtech Enterprises Limited**

2883. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether NAFED has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Earthtech Enterprises Limited for import of various items;

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

(c) the percentage of security deposit obtained by NAFED for said MoU;

(d) whether NAFED has investigated the creditability of the company, its Director/Promoters;

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

(f) the criteria for selection of companies for such purpose;

(g) whether EEL has lift the material after import from NAFED on credit basis;

(h) if so, the manner in which NAFED has secured its financial interest from EEL; and

(i) mark-up of NAFED on the CIF value agreed between both of them for 90 days and 180 days L/C?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (i) The information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Bio Fertilizer Plant in Foreign Country

2884. SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD *ALIAS* SADHU YADAV:  
KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) is planning to set up bio-fertiliser plant in Mauritius;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total expenditure proposed to be occurred;

(d) the time by which the said plant is likely to be set up;

(e) whether NAFED is also planning to set more such plants in other countries; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (f) Does not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### Decrease in Arrival of Tourists

2885. SHRI MUNAWAR HASSAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of decreasing number of tourists to bird sanctuaries, sanctuaries and National Park in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the decrease in the number of tourists registered during the last three years, till date; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) As per the information received from U.P. Forest Department, there is one National Park (Dhudhwa) and 24 Wildlife sanctuaries in U.P. and tourists mostly visit the Dhudhwa National Park. Tourist visits to the Dhudhwa National Park are as follows:

Year	No. of tourists
2002-03	4902
2003-04	4465
2004-05	4734

There has been a marginal fluctuation in the number of tourist visits to the "Park" in the last three years but there is no decreasing trend.

(c) Development of tourism in the States, including at the National Parks, sanctuaries etc. is the responsibility of the State Governments. The tourism in Dhudhwa National Park is being promoted by the State Tourism Department in collaboration with U.P. Forest Department. The Ministry of Tourism, as part of its promotional activities has, however, brought out a theme brochure on "Nature & Wildlife", *inter-alia*, giving details about the Park, best time to visit, lodging facilities available and how to get there.

*[English]*

#### Technology Mission on Cotton

2886. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has started Technology Mission on Cotton in the country;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) the details of the funds allocated under the Mission to various States so far during each of the last three years, till date;

(d) whether the outlay for 2002-03 has not been fully utilized;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to obtain the objectives of the Mission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In order to improve production, productivity and quality of cotton in the country, a Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC) is under implementation since 2000-01 in 13 States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. The Technology Mission on Cotton has four Mini Missions. Mini Mission-I deals with research and development to improve cotton production technologies and is implemented by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. Mini Mission-II deals with the development programmes for increasing production and productivity of cotton and is implemented by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation. Mini Mission-III focuses on the development of marketing infrastructure. The upgradation and modernization of ginning and pressing factories to improve quality of cotton is undertaken and Mini Mission-IV. Mini Mission-III and IV are implemented by the Ministry of Textiles.

(c) Funds allocated under technology Mission on Cotton during the years 2002-03 to 2005-06 are as under-

Year	Allocation (Rs. in Crores)
2002-2003	53.80
2003-2004	72.20
2004-2005	102.54
2005-2006 till date	132.00

(d) and (e) No, Sir. An amount of Rs. 65.57 crores have been utilized against allocation of Rs. 53.80 crores during 2002-03.

(f) Steps have been taken to achieve the objectives of the Technology Mission on Cotton through the implementation of four Mini Missions of Technology Mission on cotton, under which financial assistance is provided for research and development of improved cotton production technologies, supply of critical inputs, like production and distribution of seeds, sprayers, water saving devices like sprinkler and drip irrigation system, bio-agents, pheromone traps, transfer for technology through frontline demonstrations, training of farmer through Farmers Field School (FFS) and extension workers, insecticide resistance management and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) demonstration, development of marketing infrastructure activities like construction of market yards, auction centers, grading facilities as well as upgradation and modernization of ginning and pressing factories.

#### Survey/studies on Agricultural Marketing

2887. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:  
SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Research Surveys and Studies on different aspects of agricultural marketing has been taken up by the Directorate of Marketing and Inspection;

(b) if so, the details of technical guidance and studies undertaken during each of the last three years, till date; and

(c) the details of the schemes for estimation of Marketing surplus and post harvest losses of foodgrains being implemented by the Directorate?

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

(b) A Statement indicating the studies undertaken by the Directorate of Marketing & Inspection (DMI) during the last three years is enclosed.

(c) DMI had implemented a Central Sector Scheme to assess Marketable Surplus and Post Harvest Losses of foodgrains and pulses at the producer level. For this purpose, a survey was taken up for the crop years 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99, covering Cereals, namely,

Paddy, Wheat, Jowar, Bajra, Maize, Ragi and Barley and (Massor). For this survey, 15,000 Cultivator Households  
Pulses, namely, Red gram (Arhar or Tur), Gram (Chana), were selected from 100 Districts in 25 States.  
Green gram (Moong), Black Gram (Urad) and Lentil

***Statement***

*List of the Studies conducted by Directorate of Marketing and Inspection  
during last three years till November, 2005*

Sl.No.	Year	Name of the Study/Report
1	2	3
1.	2003-04	Post Harvest Management of Mushroom with special reference to Himachal Pradesh.
2.	2003-04	Marketing Cost and Margins of Onion in India.
3.	2003-04	Methodology and Profile of Sample Villages in India.
4.	2004-05	Revision and Updating of Directory of Wholesale Agricultural Produce Assembling Markets in India.
5.	2004-05	Marketable Surplus and Post Harvest Losses of Paddy in India.
6.	2004-05	Marketable Surplus and Post Harvest Losses of Wheat in India.
7.	2004-05	Marketable Surplus and Post Harvest Losses of Maize in India.
8.	2004-05	Marketable Surplus and Post Harvest Losses of Bazra in India.
9.	2004-05	Marketable Surplus and Post Harvest Losses of Jowar in India.
10.	2004-05	Marketable Surplus and Post Harvest Losses of Red Gram in India.
11.	2004-05	Marketable Surplus and Post Harvest Losses of Barley in India.
12.	2004-05	Marketable Surplus and Post Harvest Losses of Ragi in India.
13.	2004-05	Marketable Surplus and Post Harvest Losses of Bengal Gram in India.
14.	2004-05	Marketable Surplus and Post Harvest Losses of Lentil in India.
15.	2004-05	Marketable Surplus and Post Harvest Losses of Black Gram in India.
16.	2004-05	Marketable Surplus and Post Harvest Losses of Green Gram in India.
17.	2004-05	Post Harvest Profile of Paddy/Rice.
18.	2004-05	Post Harvest Profile of Bengal gram.
19.	2004-05	Post Harvest Profile of Red Gram.
20.	2004-05	Post Harvest Profile of Mustard—Rape Seed.
21.	2005-06	Post Harvest Profile of Wheat.
22.	2005-06	Post Harvest Profile of Soybean.

1	2	3
23.	2005-06	Abstract of Report on Marketable Surplus & Post Harvest Losses of Foodgrains in India.
24.	2005-06	Post Harvest Profile of Groundnut.
25.	2005-06	Manual on Good Agricultural Marketing Practices of Paddy/Rice.
26.	2005-06	Manual on Good Agricultural Marketing Practices of Bengal Gram.
27.	2005-06	Manual on Good Agricultural Marketing Practices of Red Gram.
28.	2005-06	Manual on Good Agricultural Marketing Practices of Mustard—Rapeseed.
29.	2005-06	Manual on Good Agricultural Marketing Practices of Soybean.
30.	2005-06	Manual on Good Agricultural Marketing Practices of Training of Trainers.
31.	2005-06	Manual on Good Agricultural Marketing Practices of Standardization, Grading and Certification.
32.	2005-06	Manual on Good Agricultural Marketing Practices of Marketing and Marketing Infrastructure.
33.	2005-06	Manual on Good Agricultural Marketing Practices of Groundnut.

12.00 hrs.

### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

*[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): On behalf of Shri Sharad Pawar, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the Annual Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Agricultural University, Imphal, Manipur, for the years 1993-1994 to 1996-1997, along with Audited Accounts.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3130/05]

*[Translation]*

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the National Steel Policy, 2005 (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3131/05]

- (2) A copy of each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Manganese Ore (India) Limited, Nagpur, for the year 2004-2005.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Manganese Ore (India) Limited, Nagpur, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3132/05]

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Automotive Research Association of India, Pune, for the year 2004-2005, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Automotive Research Association of India, Pune, for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3133/05]

(2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

(a) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Rehabilitation Industries Corporation Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2004-2005.

(ii) Annual Report of the Rehabilitation Industries Corporation Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2004-2005, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3134/05]

(b) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Instrumentation Limited, Kota, for the year 2004-2005.

(ii) Annual Report of the Instrumentation Limited, Kota, for the year 2004-2005, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3135/05]

(c) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Andrew Yule and Company Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2004-2005.

(ii) Annual Report of the Andrew Yule and Company Limited, Kolkata, for the year

2004-2005, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3136/05]

(d) (i) A copy of the Review by the Government of the working of the Engineering Projects (India) Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005.

(ii) Annual Report of the Engineering Projects (India) Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3137/05]

*[Translation]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Tourism and Travel Management, Gwalior, for the year 2004-2005, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Tourism and Travel Management, Gwalior, for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3138/05]

(2) A copy each of the Annual Reports for the year 2004-2005 (Hindi and English versions) alongwith Audited Accounts in respect of the following institutes:—

(a) (i) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering and Nutrition, Chandigarh.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3139/05]

(ii) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Kolkata.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3140/05]

- (iii) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Gandhinagar.  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3141/05]
- (iv) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Bangalore.  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3142/05]
- (v) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Bhopal.  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3143/05]
- (vi) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Bhubaneswar.  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3144/05]
- (vii) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Chennai.  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3145/05]
- (viii) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Goa.  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3146/05]
- (ix) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering and Nutrition, Gurdaaspur.  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3147/05]
- (x) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Guwahati.  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3148/05]
- (xi) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Gwalior.  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3149/05]
- (xii) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Hyderabad.  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3150/05]
- (xiii) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Jaipur.  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3151/05]
- (xiv) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering and Nutrition, Lucknow.  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3152/05]
- (xv) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Mumbai.  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3153/05]
- (xvi) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering and Nutrition, New Delhi.  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3154/05]
- (xvii) Institute of Hotel Management, Patna.  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3155/05]
- (xviii) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering and Nutrition, Shimla.  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3156/05]
- (xix) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Shillong.  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3157/05]
- (xx) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Srinagar.  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3158/05]
- (xxi) Institute of Hotel Management and Catering Technology, Thiruvananthapuram.  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3159/05]
- (xxii) National Council for Hotel Management and Catering Technology, New Delhi.
- (b) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the above institutes for the year 2004-2005.  
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3160/05]



[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): On behalf of Shri Taslimuddin, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

(i) Review by the Government of the working of the Karnataka Meat and Poultry Marketing Corporation Limited, Bangalore, for the year 2004-2005.

(ii) Annual Report of the Karnataka Meat and Poultry Marketing Corporation Limited, Bangalore, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3161/05]

(2) A copy of the Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Fourth Amendment Rules, 2005 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 572(E) in Gazette of India dated the 9th September, 2005 under sub-section (4) of section 83 of the Standards of Weights and Measures Act, 1976.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3162/05]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Dairy Development Board, Anand, for the year 2004-2005, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Dairy Development Board, Anand, for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3163/05]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy of the Environment (Protection) Third Amendment Rules, 2005 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 546(E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th August, 2005, under section 26 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3164/05]

(2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central for Environment Education, Ahmedabad, for the year 2004-2005, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Centre for Environment Education, Ahmedabad, for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3165/05]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the C.P.R. Environmental Education Centre, Chennai, for the year 2004-2005, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the C.P.R. Environmental Education Centre, Chennai, for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3166/05]

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 Food Corporation of India (Staff) (4th Amendment) Regulation, 2005 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. EP-7(1)/2005 in Gazette of India dated the 29th October, 2005, under sub-section (5) of section 45 of the Food Corporations Act, 1964.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3167/05]

12.01½ hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE****Sixth and Seventh Reports***[English]*

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL (Kopergaon): I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Defence:-

- (1) Sixth Report on 'Procurement Policy and Procedure'; and
- (2) Seventh Report on 'Defence Ordinance Factories'.

12.02 hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT****Tenth and Eleventh Reports***[English]*

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore): I beg to present a copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment:-

- (1) Tenth Report on "Grants-in-aid to State Tribal Development Cooperative Corporations for Minor Forest Produce Operations"; and
- (2) Eleventh Report on the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Amendment Bill, 2005.

12.03 hrs.

**CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

**Need for a comprehensive package to help the Coffee Sector in the country, particularly the small growers in Kerala, Karnataka & Tamil Nadu and the steps taken by the Government in this regard**

*[English]*

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR (Calicut): Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Commerce and Industry

to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The need for a comprehensive package to help the Coffee sector in the country, particularly the small growers in Kerala, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu and the steps taken by the Government in this regard."

\*THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): Hon. Speaker, Sir, Coffee in India is mainly grown in the southern States of Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. In recent years, coffee producers the world over including India, had been affected by unremunerative prices. The annual average price of coffee as indicated by the Indian Coffee Trade Association which was approximately Rs. 130 per kg. for Arabica (Plantation 'A') and Rs. 56 per kg. for Robusta (cherry AB) in 1997 came down to approximately Rs. 57 per kg and Rs. 28 per kg respectively in 2002. The situation was further aggravated in 2002-03 and 2003-04 due to drought conditions which also encouraged an outbreak of the white stem borer pest, adversely affecting production in many of the coffee-growing regions of south India. These conditions resulted in lower production of coffee and added to the difficulties faced by the growers in servicing their debt burden, which related mainly to loans taken when the prices were at peak levels during the mid 1990s. Growers were not in a position to take up capital investments like replanting, in addition to regular estate operations.

In 2002, a Special Coffee Term Loan (SCTL) was announced for the coffee sector, under which various types of loans including interest were consolidated into a single term loan, with a number of concessions, including a moratorium on the repayment of the principal amount for a three year period starting 2002-03. However, owing to the continuing problem of low returns, the coffee growers remained in financial difficulties and many of them were unable to service their debt, including the mounting interest burden.

In the above circumstances, in May 2005, the Government approved a package of relief measures which were primarily aimed at debt amelioration to bail out the coffee industry from its crisis. The relief measures approved envisage—(i) sharing the total interest burden on STCL, estimated to be Rs. 287.10 crores, for the

three year moratorium period equally amongst the banks, the Government and the grower loanees to the extent of one-third each; (ii) requesting the banks to lower the interest rates charged on SCTL from the existing 11 per cent to nine per cent or the rate applicable to agriculture sector whichever is lower during the remaining repayment period of SCTL loans; (iii) writing off of coffee developmental loans along with interest amounting to around Rs. 24 crore, due from the Coffee Board to the Government of India and waiving by the Coffee Board of the old developmental loans amounting to around Rs. 64.59 crore extended by the Board to the small coffee growers (below 10 hectares) and (iv) continuing the interest subsidy scheme on working capital loans for small growers (below 10 hectares) at the rate of five per cent and large growers at the rate of three per cent for the remaining years of the Tenth Plan which would be reduced by one per cent in the case of those growers who received the benefit of the reduced interest burden on SCTL during the moratorium period.

I am happy to inform the House that the measures approved by the Government have been welcomed by the grower community. Besides, this year the international and domestic prices of coffee have improved. The average ICTA price for the period January to October 2005 was approximately Rs. 106 per kg for Arabica (Plantation A) and Rs. 53 per kg for Robusta (cherry AB). It is expected that the "coffee package" would help revive the coffee sector and improve the financial condition of the growers.

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Hon. Speaker, Sir, the Minister in his statement has stated that prices of coffee have improved this year but the price quoted is erroneous. It is misleading. Here for Robusta, the average price of AB variety, that is the superior quality, but the bulk is not taken into account. Coffee industry is a small man's industry and 95 per cent of the growers do not have any infrastructural facilities for grading etc. Hence, the coffee is sold in bulk.

Now, what is happening is that the prices have plummeted to such an extent which has never happened in the last 100 years, especially as far as Robusta is concerned. I can quote the figures. For 1995-2003, from Rs. 137 per kilogram, it has come down to Rs. 17 per kilogram. This decline in Robusta is the lowest in 100 years in 2003-04. This is the real position of Robusta, and to say that the prices have improved is not true. There is only a slight fluctuation in the prices. The picking

season of coffee has not started. The moment picking season starts, the price will go down.

Secondly, in his statement hon. Minister has stated about the package, the SCTL, especially for 2005. SCTL has not benefited anybody. It is regarding the interest component. It is a three-tier system where one-third is apportioned to each tier. Grower has to pay. Grower is already under difficulty. Unless grower pays, it will not be operative at all. My information is that because of the hedging condition, this SCTL scheme is totally a failure.

He has talked about another package of Rs. 24 crore about waiving of old development loan of the Coffee Board. In 1996-97, I was in the Ministry of Finance. During Shri V.P. Singh's time, Rs. 10,000 crore farmers loans were waived off. ...(*Interruptions*) But the Coffee Board did not waive off the development loan.

MR. SPEAKER: There is so much noise inside the Chamber. If you want to discuss, you can go outside.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: When I was the Minister, I waived off the penal interest of the Board's development loan. Prices were so high at that time that some of the farmers did not avail of the opportunity given to them. The package scheme SCTL announced now is of no help to the farmers.

I would just bring to the notice of the House the situation prevailing now. There are three traditional areas where coffee is grown. In Karnataka, the traditional area is 2,04,000 hectares; Kerala comes next with 85,000 hectares; and in Tamil Nadu, the area is 30,600 hectares. In the non-traditional area, Andhra has the coffee cultivation area of 18,000 hectares; Orissa has 2,034 hectares and in the North Eastern Region, it is 14,000 hectares. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI LAL MUNI CHOUBEY (Buxar): Mr. Speaker, Sir. ...(*Interruptions*) There is so much hue and cry over it outside it is such a big issue. But I don't know what has happened to the Members. They are not making it an issue. All are sitting here but silent. The dignity of the Parliament has been lowered and it needs to be restored. I don't know why the Hon. Members are not getting agitated over it?

MR. SPEAKER: You should also maintain the dignity, you are going against the dignity.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have already announced in the House. I have discussed it with all the hon. Leaders. You know about this. I have told you that I have already announced.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI LAL MUNI CHOUBEY: They did not allow calling attention, and question hour to take place.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is a very sad day for everyone of us. Do not trivialize the issue.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: I have just informed the House about the total coffee cultivation area. Now I come to the number of small growers.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: It is not correct.

[English]

This is an important matter. I have allowed the Calling Attention because of the importance of the subject.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: In Karnataka, out of 56,000 growers, 54,000 are small growers.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, it is very sad that I have to go on reminding you. When the matter is being discussed in the House, you are discussing and whispering among yourselves and disturbing the proceedings. It is very unfortunate. Some semblance of order should be there.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: In Karnataka, out of 56,000 growers, 54,000 are small growers. In Kerala, out of 76,067 growers, 75,718 are small growers. In Tamil Nadu, out of 14,500 holdings, 14,000 are small holders. The total Indian production in 2004-05 is 2,75,500 metric tonnes. Out of this, in Karnataka, the total production is 1,98,600 metric tonnes out of which Robusta accounts for 52,975 metric tonnes and Arabica accounts for 1,325 metric tonnes. In Kerala, the total production is of the order of 54,300 metric tonnes out of which Robusta accounts for 52,975 metric tonnes and Arabica accounts for 1,325 metric tonnes. In Kerala, Wayanad district accounts for 45,775 metric tonnes, out of which 45,700 metric tonnes is of Robusta and 75 metric tonnes is of Arabica. In Idukki and Nelimabathi, the total production is 6475 metric tonnes, out of which Robusta accounts for 5625 metric tonnes and Arabica 850 metric tonnes. I do not want to quote all the figures.

Small growers constitute 92 per cent of the total holdings accounting for 52 per cent area and contributing to 60 per cent of the production. Among small growers, 63 per cent grow Robusta whereas 37 per cent grow Arabica.

In 2001-02, average productivity of small growers' in Robusta was 750 kg/hectare and in Arabica was 700 kg/hectare.

Sir, I want to bring to the notice of the House that though we account only. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What is happening there, I do not understand? I will have to name some of you.

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Sir, though we have only four per cent in the global market, we hold the position in the market, because we produce the best quality of Robusta in the world and we produce the best Arabica in the world.

Now, we are losing the market. It is true that if the prices in the world fluctuate, the domestic prices also fluctuate. But traditionally, the coffee growing countries have given the fiscal assistance and other assistance to the growers. Whenever we talk of subsidies or packaged scheme, we say that there are WTO conditions.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Veerendra Kumar, the whole problem of coffee cannot be discussed today in a Calling Attention. You seek clarifications only. That is what the rules require.

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: South American countries are in the WTO. When the prices crashed, Brazil who is a part of WTO, had written off the loans of farmers up to 12 years. Special loans with low interest rates were also given to them.

MR. SPEAKER: What are your clarifications?

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Sir, a special financial package up to 600 million US dollars was also given to farmers though Brazil is a part of WTO.

In Vietnam, the Central Bank of Vietnam ordered moratorium on loans for three years and interests amount has been waived off and many other incentives were given to the farmers in Vietnam.

In Columbia, debt relief package of 270 billion Pesos has been announced. In Mexico, 209 million US dollars has been allocated under the minimum support price scheme in 2001-02.

MR. SPEAKER: Many countries have done it.

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Sir, Government always say WTO, WTO, and that is why I say this.

Similarly, in El Salvador, private banks have announced special loans amounting to 35 million US dollars in the year 2001-02. There is an additional 10 million US dollar assistance were also given during the harvest season.

Not only that, Sir, they are increasing the domestic consumption whereas our domestic consumption is stagnating. If we just look at our domestic consumption of coffee, during 1991-1998, it was 55,000 tonnes. During 2000, it went up by 10,000 tonnes to 60,000 tonnes. In 2001, it was 64,000 tonnes; in 2002, it was 68,000 tonnes; and in 2003, it was 70,000 tonnes.

But the Indian Government or the Coffee Board has done nothing to increase our domestic market.

I would like to highlight one more point here. There is an import of coffee from other countries. ...(*Interruptions*) During 2001-04, we have imported more than 8000 tonnes of coffee of various kinds.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please do not go in between the Chair and the hon. Member speaking. You should learn all these things. It is not proper.

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Sir, we have brought a huge amount of foreign exchange. As regards our export earnings, during 2000-01, it was Rs. 1,374 crore; during 2001-02, it was Rs. 1,050 crore; during 2002-03, it was Rs. 1,051 crore; and during 2003-04, it was Rs. 1,158 crore.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Veerendra Kumar, I am sorry, this is not the way. You please ask the questions.

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Sir, this is our foreign exchange earnings.

MR. SPEAKER: You can ask only clarifications.

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: I am asking clarifications.

MR. SPEAKER: Please do so; I have already given you 15 minutes.

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: This is the position. Taking into account the whole scenario, the coffee industry is facing a very serious crisis in all the coffee growing areas. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government would announce a special package and other fiscal measures to help the small holding coffee growers.

Secondly, a special package should also be announced in order to boost the investment in the coffee plantations. Input subsidies such as fertilisers and irrigation subsidies should be covered under the package.

Would the Government announce better infrastructural facilities and give better seeds and subsidy for fertilisers and loans on better terms for re-plantation?

I would also like to know whether the Government would take necessary steps to write off the loans taken by small growers below 10 acres.

Would the Government classify coffee as special product under the special safeguard measure provided for developing countries as per the WTO conditions? It should be negotiated in the Ministerial Conference in Hong Kong?

Sir, in the year 2004, the imports from other countries have gone to the level of 3000 tonnes. If it touches 10,000 tonnes, the domestic market for coffee will totally collapse.

[Shri M.P. Veerendra Kumar]

The rate of suicide by farmers is very high. I do not want to repeat all these things. Finally, in this grave situation, will the government take serious steps and study what all measures other coffee growing countries are taking for the farmers when prices fall down. Do they give some other package? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. There is a specific rule about the Calling Attention. You should look into those rules. We have become very liberal. Anybody, who raises hand, is allowed to put a question on Call Attention. In future it will not be done. I have all respect for her but I cannot allow this type of total violation of rule. In future, only those Members, whose names will be there in the list, will be allowed to speak. Please take note of this. It is for the Members to remain alert and give notice in time. Today, I am allowing only two hon. Members who have given notices in writing.

Dr. Babu Rao, Please ask question, otherwise I will not allow it to be recorded.

DR. BABU RAO MEDIYAM (Bhadrachalam): My pointed question is, what is the role of Coffee Board in fixing the rate as also procurement of coffee.

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID (Periyakulam): Sir, the rate of coffee has become very low. Small growers are the greatest sufferers. They are affected like anything. The coffee is sold at less than Rs. 50. The package announced by the hon. Minister has not reached properly to the growers. The old development loans given earlier should be waived off and new loans be given for development as also to eradicate the pests. Fertiliser loan should also be given. Market should be strengthened. Coffee shops should be opened at every tourist spot. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: These are suggestions for action.

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID: More than 50,000 small growers are there in Tamil Nadu. Export subsidy should be given and import of coffee should be stopped. Will the Government take care of these things? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the Minister.

SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN: Hon. Member, Shri Veerendra Kumar has mentioned about the facilities given to the coffee growers in other countries. He also mentioned that the Government of India and the Coffee

Board have not given any special packages for the coffee growers in India and even if some special package was announced it was not useful to the coffee growers. I may not agree with him, but I appreciate his sentiments. As he is interested in helping the coffee growers, in the same way the Government of India and the Coffee Board are interested in helping the coffee growers.

I would like to say a few words about the special schemes which have been announced for the benefit of coffee growers. I may also mention the number of beneficiaries State-wise. The benefits extended to the coffee growers, including in Kerala, are: the interest subsidy scheme. The Board extended interest subsidy of five and three per cent to small and large growers respectively on working capital loans availed by the growers during 2001-02 to 2003-04. The year-wise details of subsidy disbursed and the overall number of beneficiaries, particularly in Kerala, is furnished hereunder.

In 2001-02, 70,399 people got the benefit of this Scheme. In Kerala alone, 44,027 beneficiaries were there. In 2002-03, in Kerala 46,755 beneficiaries were there. Again in 2003-04, in Kerala alone 58,260 people were benefited. Of course, I am not saying that with all this, the coffee growers will be fully benefited but the Government is taking the steps and people are really benefiting from that.

As regards coffee package, in Kerala majority of the growers make use of Kisan Credit Card to avail of loans. Majority of them did not avail the Special Coffee Term Loan package that came into effect in April 2002. However, nearly 800 growers who availed the SCTL package amounting to Rs. 5 crore will get the benefit of two-third interest waiver. In this regard, the Kerala growers are major beneficiaries. The Coffee Development loans along with the interest have been waived and this will benefit mainly Kerala growers. Out of total 11,850 beneficiaries, over 6880 are from Kerala and they will get the benefit of waiver of loan along with the interest amounting to about Rs. 23 crore.

So, the Coffee Board and the Government of India have been extending special package programme to the coffee growers. If the hon. Member wants to give some more suggestion as to how we can solve the problem, the Government is prepared to consider them. I would also request him if he wants more details and more particulars about it, I am prepared to give it to him.

Then Mr. Babu Rao has asked as to what is the role of Coffee Board. The Coffee Board is encouraging R&D in this particular sector. It has been educating the farmers as to how they could have more export volumes, especially to countries like US and European countries where the market for coffee is good and where hundreds of coffee pubs are coming up every month. The Coffee Board have been instructing and giving them ideas how to export coffee to all these countries. It also keeps a watch on the market. It makes all these arrangements so that the prices do not fall to the lowest. In fact, for the past one year, we have been seeing a rise in the coffee prices which has been benefiting both small and large coffee growers. I would also like to tell you that Coffee Board does not fix prices because it is decided by the market forces. The only thing is that the Coffee Board helps the growers to identify good markets both abroad and within the country. The Coffee Board is also trying—through media and through documentary films—to create a bigger domestic market. The Board is trying to see that the non-coffee users more aware of the coffee. These are the jobs of the Coffee Board right now.

My friend, Shri Aaron Rashid has said that the special packages and loans are not given to the coffee growers. We have already announced a lot of schemes for the benefit of coffee growers. As regards Tamil Nadu, I am sure he wants to ask about his Constituency, Pariyakulam. I have got all the details and I would give it to the hon. Member.

12.30 hrs.

RE: ALLEGATIONS OF IMPROPER  
CONDUCT ON THE PART OF SOME  
MEMBERS—*Contd.*

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: We shall now take up matters of urgent public importance. Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav may speak now.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: He has already given notice and mentioned the matter in it.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): Sir, I want to say something on the shifting of the centre of the National Institute of Science. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: This is not the way. Without permission, you are standing and speaking. You are such a responsible Member.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Does everybody in this House speak with your permission? It is as if every Member is speaking with your permission. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: If you have something important to speak, then please send a note to me and I will try to accommodate you.

[*Translation*]

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV (Sambhal): Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have issued instruction on the notice which I had given. The operation Duryodhan is being run on T.V. it is a very serious matter.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Certainly.

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV: Most stringent action should be taken after inquiry. This is my request to you.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Panskura): Sir, I have just got something to add.

It is a reflection on our parliamentary system. It is as if the people are made to understand that many such black sheep are there within the system. I want proper inquiry. Of course, you will do it within the shortest possible time. I want expulsion of such Members. ...(*Interruptions*) There have been many such complaints earlier also even with regard to questions.

MR. SPEAKER: This is very serious matter and a very sad thing. We have to maintain our great parliamentary system.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: It is not only that I am sad but I am angry also. My blood boils to know that there have been such colleagues in this House with whom I am sharing the same platform. I demand exemplary punishment by you and by the House.

MR. SPEAKER: At the beginning of the proceedings of the House today, I have announced it from the Chair

[Mr. Speaker]

and I have already requested them not to come. At the moment, I cannot do anything more. That shows that serious action has already been taken. I have discussed with all the hon. Leaders and I have also discussed with very eminent persons in our set-up and we will certainly take action.

Shri Harin Pathak, you may please associate by speaking one or two sentences.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, whatever is being shown on a T.V. channel about the conduct of certain hon. Members, since morning is a matter of grave concern for the House and all of us. Our party takes it very seriously. You also spoke very well in the beginning. So, as our party came to know the names of the Members involved in it, the party immediately suspended them from parliamentary party. The party has constituted a high level internal committee to inquire into the matter and submit its report to the House and then the report will be presented before the Privilege Committee. Nevertheless, it is a matter of serious concern for all of us. As you just said that all of us are sitting in this august House. I do agree with you that we are really fortunate that we are sitting in this House despite that if such incident takes place it is a really a matter of deep concern for all of us. Therefore, I associate myself with you and with whatever hon. Members have spoken here so far.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have already spoken to the hon. Leader of the Opposition.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): Sir, I got to know of this sordid affair through a statement of our head of the Media Department that the Congress had contemplated action against one of the erring Members. I also compliment you for the action taken in the morning after consulting all Party Leaders. I also compliment the Chairperson of the UPA and other leaders for being very prompt in taking action against them. I am sure that the action that you would take after consultation with every Party Leader would be, in fact, a trend-setter and would also come out as a corrective measure to ensure that things like these are not repeated in future. Sir, action has to be deterrent and exemplary.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Operation Duryodhan which is being shown on a TV Channel, was also discussed in the leaders' meeting and all members associated themselves with your feelings. It is a serious matter and immediate action should be taken on this. Today the situation is that no Members of Parliament can go to the people with such image. It has become a suicidal case for Members of Parliament. I would like to say that whatever level of inquiry is ordered into it should not take much time and a time-limit should be set for it. I would like to request that the membership of such members, who have lowered the dignity of this profession and created an embarrassing situation for the other members of parliament should be terminated.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, we all should condemn what we have seen today in a television channel. It was about a few Members—seven or eight—of this House taking money raising Questions on the floor of this House. This is a serious incident that has taken place. It has defamed the dignity of this House.

MR. SPEAKER: Certainly. Anybody found guilty will be suitably dealt with.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Stringent action should be taken against those persons who are found taking money openly. This should not be taken lightly. Their membership should cease to exist immediately, without much time.

MR. SPEAKER: We should come to a decision. We should work jointly and found out a solution.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is one of the saddest days for every one of us. I also share the views expressed by you. I, on my behalf and on behalf of my Party, assure you to extend 100 per cent support for whatever action you purpose to take. This matter should be referred to the Ethics Committee immediately.

MR. SPEAKER: I am sure, on this matter we will all be united.



SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: The Ethics Committee should decide immediately what stringent action can be taken against these Members.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Mr. Speaker, Sir, today whatever has been shown on a T.V. channel is regretful. It is against our dignity. I would like to say to all members that all of us belong to the biggest Panchayat of this country and the entire country is watching us. If our conduct will be like this we cannot hold our heads high. We associate ourselves with your emotions and want to request to you that such action should be taken against them that no member dares to act like this in future and defame our prestige. I, on behalf of my party condemn it.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you for your support. I am sure all of us are concerned.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, if any member indulges in corruption in the name of asking questions, it becomes a serious matter and it is an insult to the House. I demand that the membership of such members should be terminated. I request you to take such strict step so that nobody dares to act like this.

*[English]*

SHRI A.K.S. VIJAYAN (Nagapattinam): Sir, on behalf of my Party, the DMK, I associate myself with the opinions expressed by the hon. Members in the House on this issue.

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI (Kutch): Sir, I also associate myself with this issue.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the morning itself, you yourself took the initiative of calling the meeting of the leaders of various parties. You also had a telephonic conversation with the Leader of the Opposition. In your chamber, all of us agreed that at the beginning, before starting the Question Hour, you will express concern about the dignity and prestige of this House. All of us agree

that your prompt intervention has, to some extent, restored the prestige of the House in making known that the House is not silent over such an ignominious issue which has taken place. The matter should be investigated and should be investigated very quickly. After investigation, whoever is found guilty, strict action should be taken against them. I do hope that on this matter there is no difference of opinion. All political parties have already initiated action against the respective Members of their parties.

I do hope that sometimes the House collectively asserts itself through you. This is an occasion when we have to maintain and uphold the prestige and dignity of the sovereign Parliament. The entire House will rise as one behind you and whatever necessary steps you will take, the entire House will be with you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you very much.

Shri Prabhunath Singh, do you wish to raise any other matter?

*[Translation]*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Sir, I have left papers, but even than I can speak.

MR. SPEAKER: The subject of Shri Anant Kumarji is quite urgent.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Sir, I can speak even without papers. ...*(Interruptions)*

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH (Udhampur): Sir, just to make their news, they are killing all.

MR. SPEAKER: We shall correct them.

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: Only we shall correct them.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: You should give another notice.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Sir, I shall speak tomorrow. Tomorrow I should be the first speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Today I reserve your number for tomorrow.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, I have given a notice.

MR. SPEAKER: I have got a list of all the notices. Hon. Members, please cooperate with me. If anybody is feeling disturbed, when the matter is going on, for any matter, here is a Lobby just a little out. You can go there.

12.42 hrs.

### SUBMISSION BY MEMBER

**Re: Allocation of funds for relief and rehabilitation work in flood affected areas of Karnataka**

[English]

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR (Bangalore South): Thank you very much, Sir.

I am raising a very shocking issue about the flood relief that has been given to the State of Karnataka. In that, Rs. 158.15 crore has been instructed to be returned back. The entire Karnataka went under severe flood for three times. The Karnataka State Government submitted three memoranda to the Union Government, to the tune of Rs. 4896 crore. When the hon. Prime Minister wanted to inspect the flood situation in Karnataka, he came to Goa but could not come to Karnataka. Telephonically, he told the Agriculture Minister, Shri Sharad Pawarji that the Union Government is giving an *ad hoc* relief of Rs. 300 crore. But it is unfortunate that despite our three memoranda for Rs. 4896.97 crore, this is the situation.

Sir, more than 18 districts and 104 *tehsils* are affected; 5-1/2 lakh acres of crops have been totally devastated; 1,30,000 houses have been destroyed; and 130 people have died. The Union Government gave an *ad hoc* interim relief of Rs. 357 crore only. I want to draw the attention of the hon. Leader of the House also. In that Rs. 357 crore also, now it is the most shocking news to the people of Karnataka, the flood-affected farmers and land labourers of Karnataka that Rs. 158.15 crore has been ordered to be returned back to the Union Government. Therefore, I also want to bring to your kind notice, and through you, to the Leader of this House that

we had two Calling Attention notices. During that, the Union Home Minister said on 28th November, which I quote as;

"Both the instalments of the Central share of Calamity Relief Fund of Rs. 86 crore for the current year has already been released to the State Government on May 30, 2005 and August 11, 2005, respectively. In addition, an *ad hoc* release of Rs. 357 crore was made to the State from National Calamity Contingent Fund on August 11, 2005 towards July-August flood relief."

He gave this statement on the floor of the House on 28 November 2005. On 29 November 2005, the Reserve Bank of India gave a direction to the Karnataka State Government to return back Rs. 158.15 crore.

With your permission, there was again another Calling Attention in this august House. While replying to that Calling Attention, the Union Home Minister said: "Another Central Team has been deputed to assess the flood-affected areas and the damage of the flood-affected areas in Karnataka State in November." They have already received the details and they are going to process the details.

The hon. Union Minister also gave the assurance saying: "The Government of India is standing with the people." Sir, through you, I am drawing the attention of the hon. Leader of the House and also the attention of the hon. Parliamentary Affairs Minister to a statement. The Union Government, through the hon. Home Minister, said:

"The Government of India is standing with the people of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka during this hour of natural calamity. The Relief Fund, which has been allocated, is only meant for expeditious relief for the people. A Central Team has already been despatched to assess the devastation caused by this natural calamity. The Team has submitted its report and it is being studied by the Government. The Government is committed to provide more funds as soon as the Government reach the conclusions."

This is the reply given by the Union Home Minister on the floor of the House on 7th December. I think its misleading the entire House because on 29th November only the Government of India gave a direction to the Government of Karnataka to return Rs. 158.15 crore which

it has allocated for the flood relief work of Karnataka. It is not only that.

It is unfortunate that the same thing has happened to various States. The Union Government has directed Maharashtra to return Rs. 362 crore; Gujarat, Rs. 195 crore; and, Himachal Pradesh, Rs. 35 crore.

Therefore, I would request that the Union Government represented here by the hon. Defence Minister should intervene. He should assure the House that whatever *ad hoc* relief that has been given to various States, especially to the State of Karnataka, would be deemed to be released to that State. It is not only that.

The Government of Karnataka needs more money, more funds as assured by the Union Home Minister in this House. Therefore, I would request an intervention by the hon. Defence Minister. It is a very serious matter. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, that is why, I have allowed you although you have not given any notice in time.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: I thank you very much for that. The entire State of Karnataka is agitated. I would request him to intervene. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed you to speak nearly for ten minutes.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Yes, Sir, you have allowed me. But I want to reply from the Government because it is such a serious matter. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: How can he reply just now? Shri Basu Deb Acharia to speak now.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: He can simply say that he will look into the matter and he will talk to the hon. Prime Minister. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: He is patiently listening to you all through your speech.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: The hon. Prime Minister has telephonically assured the State of Karnataka that

Rs. 300 crore would be released. *...(Interruptions)* I am cooperating with you. I want an assurance.

MR. SPEAKER: You are such a cooperative hon. Member. Please cooperate with me.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: I want an assurance from the Government.

MR. SPEAKER: How can you get it? I cannot compel anybody to give an assurance.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: It is a very serious matter. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing more will be recorded now.

*...(Interruptions)\**

MR. SPEAKER: Only Shri Basu Deb Acharia's statement will go on record.

*...(Interruptions)\**

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, the Ministry of Power, Government of India has decided to abandon the 280 megawatt, gas-based power project at Monarchak in Tripura. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ananth Kumar, I earnestly request to sit down now. I have allowed you because of the importance of the matter concerning the people.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: I entirely appreciate it.

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed you although your notice is not in time. But I cannot compel anybody.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You know very well that I cannot compel anybody to make any response.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: I am only requesting the hon. Minister, through you, Sir, to intervene. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Why do you say that you would come to the Well of the House?

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: It is a serious matter. The hon. Leader of the House can just intervene and say something.

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\*Not recorded.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Sir, he has stated in respect of a number of States. He has referred to not only Karnataka but also he has referred to Maharashtra and Gujarat. These matters are to be ascertained. I cannot just give an off-the-cuff response to him. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: He has said that how could he always give an instant reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: He can talk to the hon. Prime Minister. I am raising a very serious matter of public importance.

MR. SPEAKER: How can he say that? When the matters are being mentioned, it is assumed that the Government is listening to them for taking appropriate action. Shri Ananth Kumar, this is unfair.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The other Members have important matters to raise.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, the Ministry of Power, Government of India had decided to abandon the 280 MW gas-based power plant at Monarchak, Tripura. This decision of the Government has disappointed the people of Tripura. This gas-based power plant of 280 MW capacity was sanctioned in the year 2002. Its foundation stone was laid by the former Power Minister in the year 2002. This project had received all the statutory and technical clearances from the competent bodies and gas allocation was also assured by the ONGC. There were some disputes regarding the pricing of gas which have also been resolved.

MR. SPEAKER: The matter should be brief.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, combined cycle gas-based project at Palatana of South Tripura, which is promoted by IL&FS and ONGC and for which foundation stone was laid by hon. Prime Minister on 29.10.2005, will in no way affect the functioning and viability of this particular project. There will be no shortage of gas supply for this project. The transmission line is being erected by Palatana project. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No, Mr. Thangkabakul

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: The decision of this Government to abandon the project, which was sanctioned and for which all clearances were obtained and foundation stone laid in the year 2002, will affect the development of the North-Eastern States.

Sir, I urge upon the Government to reconsider the decision to abandon a project which was sanctioned and cleared. The NEEPCO has already spent Rs. 30 crores. The infrastructure has already been provided and developed. So, I urge upon the Government to reconsider the decision and the 280 MW gas-based power project—which was sanctioned and for which foundation stone was laid—the construction of that project should be started.

Sir, this is the demand of the people of Tripura.

DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA (Lakhimpur): Sir, I would like to associate with this.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Santosh Gangwar.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): Sir, please accommodate me. The hon. Minister is here. He said he would make a statement. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I too have an issue to raise. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Sumitra ji, you know that I will call one by one. Please cooperate.

*[English]*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: He said he would make a statement about this shifting of the National Institute of Science. The Leader of the House is here. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: There is no notice from you. You are a veteran Member. You should have given notice.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had given a notice but the House was adjourned at that time. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I am trying to speak so good Hindi but still you are getting angry.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, I am just asking the hon. Minister, when he is going to make a statement.  
...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: A Member of your party has been called—Shri Santosh Gangwar.

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR (Bareilly): Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you. I want to draw the attention towards a matter related to the Ministry of Agriculture. A prominent Indian Veterinary Research Institute is functioning in my district. The staff of scientific and technical category in the institute are given promotion, increment and non-practising allowance etc. through the process of assessment but the administrative category staff are not given the same facility. ...(Interruptions)

Here, I would like to mention that the staff or officials in the technical category are getting promotion and increment in proper manner. There are even fifth standard pass technical staff, tractor driver, vehicle driver and bread maker working in the institute are getting benefits under the assessment but highly educated staff in the administrative category who are graduate or MBA are not being assessed even after 12-15 years which is causing great resentment among them.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to urge the hon. Agriculture Minister to take action to remove this anomaly. They should also be given promotion and other facilities. The administrative staff should also be extended the same facilities on the lines of the scientist and technical staff.

[English]

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: When is he going to make a statement? ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: What is the matter? I do not understand anything?

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not record.

...(Interruptions)\*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): We are in touch. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is not the way. I will not allow.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No hon. Minister, I have not asked you. I will not allow the House to be disturbed in this fashion. I am requesting you.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: You can suspend me from this House. I will go and sit in the well.

12.56 hrs.

*At this stage, Shri Kharabela Swain came and stood on the floor near the Table.*

MR. SPEAKER: I have not suspended you. You cannot have a matter at your disposal, at your sweet will.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot have any thing at the midst of the matter.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are disturbing the House.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: I am not disturbing.  
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are disturbing. What is this?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have told you just now.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER: I leave it to the hon. Members to decide anybody can stand up at any moment.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.00 p.m.

12.58 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Fourteen  
of the Clock.*

14.06 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Six  
Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

## MOTION RE: NINETEENTH REPORT OF BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House shall now take up Item No. 12 listed in today's List of Business.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Nineteenth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 9th December, 2005."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Nineteenth Report of the Business Advisory committee presented to the House on the 9th December, 2005."

*The motion was adopted.*

14.07 hrs.

## MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House shall now take up Item No. 13. If the House agrees, the Matters under Rule 377 be treated as laid on the Table.

[Translation]

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA (Kheri): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, please let these pages be read out. I have not been able to speak even one time. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We have too much business today which may take time upto midnight. I will get it read out next time.

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a very important matter. We are ready to sit late.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is too much business today and therefore I want that half-an-hour is saved.

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: It is very important.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Alright.

### (1) **Need to set up a Division Bench of Supreme Court at Chennai**

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID (Periyakulam): Sir, I raise the issue in the interest of the Southern States of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Pondicherry, which even by Army are treated as one zone, known as ANTKP zone. In the olden days, all the elderly people in these States used to speak Tamil because the people of these States generally graduated from Tamil Nadu in Arts, Science, Law and Medicine. As the premises of the High Court of Tamil Nadu is the largest one, it is most suitable for setting up the division Bench of Supreme Court in Chennai. If it is set up in Tamil Nadu, a lot of time and travel expenditure of people of these five Southern States will be saved. It is in the general interest of all the five Southern States and common people will be benefited if Supreme Court Division Bench is established in Chennai.

**(ii) Need to sanction Rs. 30 crore for early completion of Nuapada-Gunnupur narrow gauge rail line into broad gauge**

SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU (Berhampur-Orissa): Sir, the conversion of Naupada-Ganupur narrow gauge rail line into broad gauge project was included in the past three budget from 2003 to 2006. In the past year's Railway Budget, a proposal for survey of extension from Gunapur to Theruvali has been approved. Rs. 35 crore was sanctioned for the project. Land acquisition has already been done and construction is in progress. It is learnt that there is no money left now with the authority. So the pace of work has come down. The total cost of the conversion as per the estimates is Rs. 95 crore. To complete the project more than Rs. 60 crore is required keeping in view the cost escalation. So, I request the hon. Railway Minister through you, Sir, to provide at least Rs. 30 crore in the 2006-2007 Railway Budget so that the work will proceed and the project is completed in time.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Virendra Kumar.

Shri Virendra Kumar—not present.

Shri Avinash Rai Khanna—not present.

Shri Harishchandra Chavan—not present.

Dr. Laxminarayan Pandey—not present.

**(iii) Need to develop Kollam as a major port of Kerala**

SHRI P. RAJENDRAN (Quilon): Sir, Kollam was one of the oldest ports in the west coast. History has it that Kollam is the "former emporium of Trade" and that centuries back the Arab and Chinese vessels visited this port regularly for trade. Lack of modern facilities thwarted cargo ships to ports with better berthing, communication and other technical facilities. The number of ships calling began declining and now, this port is at standstill. Many of the traditional industries based in Kollam began to die out or were shifted to major port locations. Cashew, coir and marine products industries are the worst affected. Titanium, one of the major industries of Kerala, is also located in Kollam. It is reported that the depth of the sea at the entrance is 12.5 metres and the other technical parameters are quite favourable for development of a commercial harbour which can cater to ships of 35,000 or 45,000 DWT without large investment.

In this background, there is sufficient justification for developing Kollam as one of the major ports in the country. So, I would request the Government, through you, Sir, to consider the legitimate demand of the people of Kollam in general and Kerala in particular to establish Kollam Port as one of the major ports in our country.

**(iv) Need to amend Indian Penal Code providing stringent punishment for the rapists**

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, I am raising a very important matter under Rule 377. Even in today's paper it was reported that the limbs were cut off for having reported the heinous offence of rape.

The move to bring in a new legislation for giving deterrent punishment to rapist is an issue of national importance. It has become a common occurrence now-a-days that the rapists escape punishment on technical grounds. There is a need to amend the penal code regarding the offence of rape wherein the consent of the victim can be presumed in cases where the victim is above the age of 16 and below 18. This is a grave situation arising out of a wrong provision in the statute. It is high time for amending penal law raising the age from 16 to 18 in matters of giving consent. I request the Central Government to take immediate steps to amend the penal code. This is a matter of urgent public importance.

**(v) Need to bring a legislation for inclusion of certain castes in the list of Scheduled Castes**

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA (Kheri): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Union Government towards such families which migrated from the East Pakistan (Bangladesh) and have resettled in various districts in Uttar Pradesh and which have been declared as scheduled castes in West Bengal. The proposal for inclusion of these families in the list of scheduled castes is under consideration of the Union Government on the request of the U.P. Government.

Under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Order (Amendment) Bill, 1967, it has been provided that any person belonging to a caste included in the list of scheduled castes for West Bengal living as a displaced person in other state will be treated as one belonging to

[Shri Ravi Prakash Verma]

scheduled caste in the state. This Bill was introduced in the fourth Lok Sabha but could not be passed due to its dissolution.

A number of persons belonging to Nama, Sudhra, Paund, Manjhi etc. castes are living at various places in the state and are included in the scheduled castes list of West Bengal. These castes are demanding again and again that they should be included in the scheduled castes list.

I, therefore, want to urge the hon. Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment that an amendment Bill for including Nama, Sudhra, Paund, Manjhi etc. castes in the list of scheduled castes should be brought as soon as possible so that the persons of these castes can avail the benefits reserved for the scheduled castes.

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Raghunath Jha—Not present.

Shri Ashok Kumar Rawat—Not present.

**(vi) Need to take up gauge conversion work on Thanjavur-Thiruvavur-Nagore route in Tamil Nadu**

SHRI A.K.S. VIJAYAN (Nagapattinam): In 1993 the Railways announced the project pertaining to gauge conversion between Thanjavur and Nagore section that comes under the Southern Railway. Every year a token sum is earmarked but the project is still pending. Nagore, Nagapattinam and Velankanni near Nagapattinam are important and famous pilgrim centres that attract pilgrims across the globe. Even the Velankanni Basilica Church Management Committee has given an undertaking to pay Rs. 2 crore to the Railways to lay railway lines between Velankanni and Nagapattinam. Even after announcements and promises, the Railways are yet to fulfil the announcement made in this august House of the People in this regard. Hence, I urge upon the Railways to take up the prioritized gauge conversion project between Thanjavur and Thiruvavur and further up to Nagore at the earliest within this financial year. Southern Railway has proved its capability to complete projects on time. This is necessary to provide a boost to economic activity and promotion of pilgrim tourism.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Tukaram Ganpat Rao Renge Patil—Not present.

**(vii) Need to provide Central assistance to the Government of West Bengal for providing relief to the people affected by heavy rains in southern part of West Bengal, especially Midnapore (East and West)**

SHIR PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore): During heavy rains in last October, southern part of West Bengal, especially Midnapore Purva (East) and Midnapore Paschim (West) districts are the worst affected. A large part of those districts are facing serious problem due to damage of total paddy crops, roads and streets, dams and river embankments. Thousands of houses have been fully damaged and lakhs have been damaged partly. School buildings and hospitals are also damaged. Acute problem of drinking water persists there. Even till today a large part remains submerged and water logged. The State Government of West Bengal and the local bodies have promptly responded and provided relief to the affected people. West Bengal sanctioned Rs. 100 crore reconstruction work. But that is inadequate to address the problem. The State Government has sought necessary Central financial assistance in this regard.

I urge upon the Union Government to respond it promptly and render necessary assistance to the State Government for reconstruction work at the flood affected area.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Dr. K. Dhanaraju—Not present.

**(viii) Need to provide market outlets to the Societies and Cooperative of J&K engaged in handicrafts/handloom works at the important railway stations and airports**

SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN (Baramulla): Sir, the State of Jammu and Kashmir has gone through a traumatic experience of violence, which left the lacerating wounds behind on the minds and memories of affected population.

With healthy change in the world economic scenario, Foreign Direct Investment process started in the rest of the country but zero investment was recorded in Jammu and Kashmir, especially Kashmir and Ladakh Provinces of the Jammu and Kashmir State. But there has been improvement in the handicraft sector. With the increase of production and modernisation of designs promotion, now the paucity of market is disheartening to the craft workers.



I earnestly request the Government to provide market outlets to the societies and co-operatives of handicrafts/handloom workers on the important railway stations and airports of the country so that the production in handloom and handicraft sectors remain stable and the jobs of handicrafts and handloom workers remain secure.

14.20 hrs.

## DISASTER MANAGEMENT BILL, 2005

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, we will take up Item No. 14, Disaster Management Bill, 2005. The time allotted with us is three hours. One hour and eighteen minutes have already been taken and one hour and forty-two minutes are left with us. When the House was adjourned, Shri Mohan Singh was on his legs. Now, I would request Shri Mohan Singh to continue. Shri Mohan Singh—not present.

Shri Vijayendra Pal Singh.

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH (Bhilwara): Sir, I stand to speak on the Disaster Management Bill, 2005. This Bill is a much needed Bill, and everybody knows that disaster is not a new phenomena in any way. Disasters have been happening for centuries and centuries. If you see, in the last 15 years, six major earthquakes have taken place in India, four major cyclones have taken place and the worst of all was the tsunami. The frequency of cyclones is everywhere in the world. There has been a Disaster Management Board, in the United Nations also, and many countries have it. Everybody knows that in America, there were three worst cyclones, super cyclones as we call them; Rita, Wilma and Katrina. We see that with all the money that America has, it could not really cope with the rescue and the relief. I will not go into the details of that. Let me welcome this Bill that has been put forth by the UPA Government. I do wish to mention here that this Bill was drafted by us, the NDA Government, much before and it could not come to the House and see the light of the day. It was for very many reasons, it is worthwhile mentioning that before this Bill has come to the Parliament, the Gujarat Government has a Disaster Management Act already in place. I have got a first hand information on a manmade disaster which happened near Baroda, a train accident,

and I had the opportunity to go and see it. This train accident happened in the were hours of them morning. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Silence please.

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH: And because of this Disaster Management Act which came into existence there, the information went to the Chief Minister and by about 8 o'clock in the morning, the rescue work was already completed. The causalities were removed to the hospital, the people who died were also handed over, and all this took place because of this Disaster Management Bill and the Act that was in Gujarat. It is worthwhile mentioning here that because of the tsunami, a lot of Far Eastern countries who were also wanting to put of this kind into existence is their countries, came and consulted the Gujarat Government for this.

Let me not delve on that subject a little too long but let me tell the hon. Minister that the National Disaster Management Authority must have a technologist or a scientist on the Authority so that a lot of thing which need to be done are also done at that level.

The India Meteorological Department has spent about Rs. 50 crore but I feel that more has to be done. It needs total overhauling; it needs modernisation; it needs automatic weather stations; it needs automatic rain gauges; and it needs wind profilers. It needs accurate forecasting systems which are much needed in the country. The seismic networking has to be upgraded. Telecom and other facilities also have to be upgraded. So, it should cost much more than Rs. 50 crore; it should cost about Rs. 300-400 crore. It must be given immediately by this Authority.

Let me also talk about multi-level co-ordination which is required. You have an Authority; you also have the management committees. What is the subject that would be in the purview of the management committees and what would be in the purview of the Authority? That has not been really specified. I feel that this must be informed to the House by the hon. Minister.

The hon. Minister has stated, when he was talking about this Bill to the House, that when a disaster occurs, the first step is to give relief. I do not agree with him. The first step that has to be taken is not relief but it is the rescue work. In international fora, it is called the 'red zone'. The first 48 hours and 72 hours are most important.

[Shri Vijayendra Pal Singh]

First, during that period, you need to do a lot of rescue work; and then relief comes into play.

In rescue work, I feel the Defence Forces must be involved in some way or the other at every level because the sort of expertise that they have is very essential. Even when the Tsunami disaster struck, the Defence Forces, because of the distance of about 1,200 kilometres from Chennai and about equidistant from Kolkata, came into the act and did a lot of rescue work. I feel that it is very important that the multi-level co-ordination needs to involve the Defence Forces, not just for rescue work but also for training. Training has to be imparted at every level, through different layers of training.

It has been proposed to have an institute for training in disaster management. I welcome that proposal but where is this disaster management institute going to be located? I feel that it should be located particularly in the areas which are prone to cyclones or earthquakes rather than in New Delhi. It is important that it should be manned by the Defence Forces.

Sir, may I also point out that the meetings of these management committees have also to be stipulated, whether these meetings will take place every month or every three months? Sir, these Committees feel that this can happen to somebody else. When the 9/11 incident happened—that was a manmade disaster, not a natural disaster—in New York, they thought 'why New York'. They had never thought that it can happen in New York. We have that feeling. It is a natural phenomenon. We feel that if it is a disaster that happens, or an accident that takes place, it happens to other people and not to us. So, it is very important that these district level committees meet very often and they do the exercises along with Defence Forces so that they are kept in readiness, which is of prime importance.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude now.

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH: Sir, I have just started.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have taken more than 10 minutes.

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH: There may occur disasters which are manmade disasters. There may also occur natural disasters like earthquakes, floods, cyclones, tsunamis, and avalanches. I will not get into manmade disasters right now.

Then, the next factor is the affect factor, the extent of area. Like, tsunami originated 1,200 kilometres away. Accessibility is a problem. Then, we have to see how much damage and loss has been done. That is where the communication part comes into play. The communication is very important and it should be informed at all levels that this has happened, that is the loss and this is what is required.

After that, the next phase is the rescue and not the relief, what the Minister was talking about. The first thing to be done is rescue and that is most important. You can divide it into a red zone which is 48 hours, then immediate relief, that is, till about seven days, then intermediate rehabilitation and lastly, the permanent rehabilitation which can take a few years. One year has passed since the tsunami had occurred. I had the opportunity of assessing that. The Defence Forces have done a great work there. Schools are back. Other works are in progress. That is why, I have been, again and again, harping on the fact that Defence Forces along with the co-ordination of all other Department are very important.

In the end, let me once again welcome this Bill, although it is a belated one.

\*SHRI A.K.S. VIJAYAN (Nagapattinam): Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, I welcome the Disaster Management Bill 2005 that has been conceived and moved in this august House by the UPA Government. This is a move wrought with farsightedness.

Employment Guarantee Act, Right to Information Act, are the legislative measures that aim at benefiting the masses ensuring their basic rights. I congratulate the Government and welcome this Bill as passed by the Rajya Sabha with the amendments accepted and moved by the Government. One of the poems of our leader Dr. Kalaignar's talks about the hapless nature of helpless people as a paper boat swayed by the waves of the ocean. I find the condition of the people of my constituency Nagapattinam to be the same. The people in the coastal region are yet to come out of the grip of fear and the grief of losing heavily the lives and properties due to tsunami. This welcome Bill is there to provide a ray of hope in their lives. Series of disasters affected our country in the past decade one after the other. It started with the earthquake in Latur. Then came the devastating Gujarat earthquake. Recently thousands

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

of people died in the J&K earthquake. These three huge earthquakes affected Indian subcontinent in a big way. Apart from this, four very big cyclone disasters have hit our country causing great damage. Last year's tsunami that devastated the southern coasts of the country on 26th of December 2004 has left its indelible mark. The relief and rehabilitation measures are still pending. The recurrent floods and storms and drought conditions cause great calamity and their woes continue as a sad tale.

In the absence of a National policy pertaining to natural disasters, there were loopholes in the rescue and relief measures. After almost 60 years of independence, only for the past ten years there has been serious thinking about evolving a Bill of this kind. As a consummation of this ceaseless effort, this Bill has seen the light of the day. There was a continuous consultation process among leaders in the making of the Bill. Hence, I would like to thank Mrs. Sonia Gandhi, the Chairperson of the National Advisory Committee for the endeavor to bring this Bill. I also thank her on behalf of our leader Dr. Kalaignar Karunanidhi and Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam.

Weather monitoring observations are with the Centre. Remote sensing satellite facilities are with the Centre. Investigating agencies are with the Union Government. But still giving a pep to the Federal spirit, this Bill seeks to establish both NDMA and SDMA. There will be Disaster Management Authority both at the Central and State level. But at the same time there will be Disaster Management Committees at the district level. It is a welcome feature that as a people's representative Prime Minister and Chief Ministers will be heading the authorities both at the Central and State level. While welcoming this move, I would like to ask of the Centre as to what would they do to impress upon certain State Governments that either go slow or resort to unfair methods and discriminatory methods in extending relief assistance. Sir, any disaster must be immediately followed with Rescue and Relief measures on the one hand and rehabilitation and reconstruction projects on the other hand. Both of them call for different funds. Relief assistance must reach the affected people immediately. At least during natural disasters there must be a viable mechanism in place to reach the needy at the district level. Cyclone hit and those affected by rain floods must get safer shelters. With a clear vision and a farsightedness in planning, mitigation funds must be extended to thwart heavy damages during natural calamities.

Drought is a natural disaster that hits at the root of agricultural sector and breaks the backbone of the farmers who contribute to the agro-economic activity that is the backbone of our economy. Such drought conditions must be forewarned and drought prone areas must get the attention of agricultural researchers with suitable advice regarding cultivation methods and about appropriate crops and techniques to continue with cultivation and agricultural activities. This Bill seeks to gather knowledge to obviate and mitigate sufferings and thereby suggests the need to consider knowledge as power to handle the might of Mother Nature. Technologists and experts from various fields are to be roped in the NDMA. This is a welcome step. The people's representative in the form of Prime Minister is in the NDMA. It is not unnatural to have Chief Minister to Chair the State authority. But will it not be natural to impress upon the delaying and erring State Governments that do not extend relief assistance in an impartial manner. Discriminatory measures must be condemned. I do not know why the Union Government is silent on this when the far cry of the people is quite deafening after every disaster. As far as District Committees are concerned they must not be left entirely with officials. People's representatives like MPs, MLAs and local body members must be included in the monitoring and implementation committees at the Districts. This decision must be taken by the Central Government. Immediately after the recent rain flood havoc, our leader Dr. Kalaignar convened an all party meeting and pleaded with the Centre to extend the assistance sought by the Government of Tamil Nadu. Cutting across party affiliations unanimous resolution was passed. They also impressed upon the Government to form all party monitoring committee at the local level.

I have brought to the notice of the august House on several occasions that the flood affected and the tsunami affected are not getting timely assistance in the absence of proper co-ordination. Since co-ordination is missing the tsunami hit people in my constituency are yet to get the benefit of rehabilitation measures and safer permanent shelters are yet to be constructed for them. Those who cause hurdles in the way of constructive measures must be put under check. I would like to illustrate certain instances here. It was announced that Rs. 1000 in cash and 10 kgs of rice would be distributed to the flood affected families. But in reality, just Rs. 800 was given away and a mere 7 kg of rice was supplied to flood hit families. Though the Centre gave an interim relief of Rs.

[Shri A.K.S. Vijayan]

500 crores, the Centre's benevolence was not highlighted. The local Ministers in Tamil Nadu were found giving them away claiming as though it came only from their 'Ammā'. The Union Home Minister who has investigating agencies with him, despite our highlighting these misdeeds, remains a silent spectator and we know not why. Our late lamented former Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi said in 1985 that out of every rupee we spent for the poor through development schemes only about 15 paise reach the needy people. But in 2005 we find in Tamil Nadu only 1.5 paise out of every rupees spent on the under privileged reach the pitiable poor.

I would like to urge upon the Union Government's coalition led by Madam Sonia Gandhi to ensure that the money set apart from the poor reach them in full measure.

As far as farmers are concerned, they are the worst hit in the 4 successive incessant rain havoc. They have lost almost everything. Only those who have got loans from nationalised banks get insurance covers. Others who have got loans from private parties or even those who did not take loan are not given insurance cover after September this year. This must be extended to December this year. Crop insurance must be streamlined to benefit all the farmers. The Central schemes meant for farmers must reach them without going through middlemen. Fishermen must get insurance cover for their boats. They must get insurance benefit for partly damaged boats also. As this Bill can ensure a mechanism that can take up measures on a war footing I welcome this Bill while impressing upon the need to include the people's representatives in its implementation. This must not be a mere experimentation. This must continue. We seek to overcome economic ravages caused by natural disasters with the help of technology and knowledge through this Bill. This is a constructive move in the wake of destructive disasters caused by natural calamities. Expressing my support to this Bill, let me conclude.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Before I call the next hon. Member to speak I want to make a request to all the hon. Members. I have a very long list of speakers with me but the time available is very short. Therefore, I would like to request the hon. Members to make suggestions only within two or three minutes. I now call Shri Sandeep Dikshit.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SANDEEP DIKSHIT (East Delhi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me time to speak. I

support the Disaster Management Bill introduced by the U.P.A. Government. You have said that there is time constraint. I have always got your protection, therefore, abiding by your direction, I will try to finish my speech within few minutes.

Through you, I would like to bring two-three things to the notice of the hon'ble Home Minister. The first thing is that there is a need to give a wide and specific definition of disaster in the Bill. There is mention of man-made and natural disaster in it but there are so many other disasters about which there is ambiguity in this Bill as to whether these disaster are covered under this disaster management Bill or not?

The example of drought can be cited in this regard. Whether drought is covered under disaster? Whether drought is covered under the provisions of this Bill or not? Similarly what magnitude of flood is covered under the provision of this Bill? There is a need to specify all this because when any district or state is hit by drought and the question of declaring that district or state drought affected it becomes a political issue instead of fact based issue. In many states when the question of declaring any district as drought affected district arises a sort of confrontation rises between the political parties as well as leadership in the State and no conformity is seen between figures generated from the grass root level and the declaration made by the Government. In this way the people virtually affected by disaster in those districts cannot get benefit in true sense and they are not benefited to the required extent because the relief in cash and kind meant to be provided to such places is divided in more number of places and assistance can not be provided in a concentrated manner. Therefore, I request the hon'ble Home Minister to kindly specify clearly the rules framed in this regard?

The Government of India has already implemented the National Disaster Resource Network to use the information technology. It has been ensured that such things will be used in it for exchange of information but still there is a need to include so many things in it. Similarly, the question of insurance is there. The question of insurance arises always after occurrence of disaster. Several times it has been seen that in many areas people have anyhow got insured their houses and taken loan from banks but on occurrence of national calamity like flood or disastrous Tsunami neither official records are safe nor it is possible to ascertain as to who have got their houses insured. After occurrence of Tsunami I tried

to find out from the insurance agency the number of people who have got their houses insured before occurrence of Tsunami and got the benefit of insurance. It is very difficult to ascertain such figures. I request to link at least these companies be they public sector companies or private sector companies with this database so that the people who have got their houses insured could be ascertained. So far as the record of property or land records is concerned, if once all these are included in the National Resource Database after occurrence of calamity it would be easy to ascertain as to who are people who have lost and what they were having with them before the calamity. In this way all these things can be ascertained clearly.

Similarly, we should learn a number of lessons from Bhopal gas tragedy. Even after twenty long years of this devastating tragedy we have not been able to know till now as to what is the actual culpability? How many areas of Bhopal were affected? After that tragedy, the facts about chemical tragedy, which are gradually coming to the force, can now be linked to Bhopal gas tragedy. I urge to have a National Institute of Disaster Management or any such other organization to deal with different types of calamities and look into the legal aspects of the calamity and see the possibility and the manner in which people can suffer and evolve the manner in which it can be spread out and what can be the cut off dates thereof. If some rules are framed in this regard, then better performance can be achieved.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will take two minutes more. Similarly, there is a question of existing upgradation, particularly one thing has come to the notice after the earthquake in Bhuj, Gujarat. Bhuj earthquake occurred in urban areas. I represent Delhi as a whole and east Delhi in particular and often it is said that Delhi may experience devastating earthquake. Besides it is also reported that most of our buildings will not be able to resist earthquakes of the magnitude of six or seven on the Richter scale. It is most unpredictable phenomenon about which nobody can say anything with certainty. Therefore, it is said that there is a need of retrofitting of buildings. Poor people who have constructed unauthorized houses it is very difficult to say about them as to whether they will be able to protect their houses or offices from natural calamities. Therefore, I request that people should be educated in a simple way again and again as to how they should check their houses and localities. In this way a common man will be convinced to some extent that he can avail or minimize his loss from any possible calamity.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Members who spoke before, said that Army should be associated with it. We have N.C.C. cadets and services of N.C.C. cadets should be taken during natural calamities. In every district plans are formulated but when natural calamities strike, these plans remain only on papers. Collectors make efforts to bring the situation under control. I am of the view that plan should be formulated in a practical manner. The officers who have experience to control the situation during calamities should be associated with such plans. The hon'ble Members who spoke before me said one thing more that the people's representatives should also be associated with such plans. In case a plan is formulated and the collector is not capable, the peoples representatives can help him. It will be in the interest of the people. Therefore, I am of the view that people's representatives should also be associated with it. People's representatives can help the Government in better implementation of the said plan. If this provision is actually made, the people's representatives can have a say in it, and can put forth their views. Supporting this Bill I conclude.

SHRI ANANT GUDHE (Amravati): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I welcome the Bill on Disaster Management introduced by the hon'ble Home Minister.

We have been witnessing calamities for several years in any of the States in the country. Some calamities are natural while some are manmade. Recently heavy rains in Mumbai caused flood in Mithi river resulting in a lot of difficulties to people. I would like to address one or two points.

First of all, I would like to say that this Bill was the most needed one. The Prime Minister will be the ex-officio head of the committee at national level and the Chief Minister at State level but the Collector will head the Committee at the district level constituted under this Bill. The elected representative has been made Co-Chairman at the district level Committee. My suggestion is that when the Prime Minister and the Chief Minister are the Chairman at national and state levels respectively then the Committee at district level should be headed either by the Chairman of the district board or the Member of Parliament.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other important point is that the funds provided for the said Committee should not lapse because one can not predict for any calamity to occur in two years, 4 years or 10 years. Therefore the

[Shri Anant Gudhe]

funds allocated for the Disaster Management Committee should also not lapse like the funds provided under the MPLADS because no body knows the magnitude of the calamity which may occur in future. Whenever such calamity occurs we will need a lot of funds. We have seen that the State Governments look forward to the Central funds only. As we have seen in the calamities that occurred recently in Tamil Nadu and Gujarat. So, in such circumstances the funds available at State and district levels can be used to extend help to the people caught in such calamities, there should be such an arrangement.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, an hon'ble Member was saying that some calamities occur for no reason. For example, suicides by farmers are also a sort of calamity. Whenever such situation occurs and farmers are faced with such calamity, they should be covered under this scheme so that they can get some assistance from this disaster management fund. There is no mention here as to how funds will be mobilized in the States where such calamities are a regular feature occurring year after year. Therefore, it should be clear here as to what the Center is to provide to the States and States to the districts. Besides, this, the funds collected under the said scheme should not lapse, it should accumulate there in the fund. There should be such provisions in that Bill. With these words I support this Bill.

[English]

\*SHRI SUGRIB SINGH (Phulbani): Hon. Deputy speaker Sir. I am grateful to you for allowing me to speak on this Bill on Disaster Management. The State of Orissa is the capital of India so far as natural calamities are concerned. Whether it is flood, cyclone, super-cyclone, drought, heat wave or cold wave all these are part and parcel of the climate of Orissa. It is a backward State of India where 47.3% people live below the poverty line. Among them majority belong to the category of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes. This segment of the population lives life in abject poverty. My State Orissa is a land of temples, forests and is abundant with the bounties of nature. But it has not reached the desired level of development. The primary reason is step motherly attitude of the Central Government and apathy towards Orissa in central planning. That is why Orissa is not yet at par with national mainstream. Sir, Orissa lies in a

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

seismic belt which is very much prone to earthquakes and tsunamis. Hence, it is even more imperative that adequate preparedness for such disasters is reflected in the present Bill. The Central Government should adequately emphasize upon the protection of the vulnerable section and immediate rescue operation in case of any contingency. This Bill should address the issue of rehabilitating the victims too.

In the month of October 1999, the super cyclone that visited Orissa, was a disaster of great magnitude. Its impact was so severe that it completely debilitated the economy of Orissa. Millions lost their lives, lost their homes and the uprooted people are yet to properly settle down. Natural calamity is the worst enemy of Orissa. Hence, I want to emphasize that this Bill should in no way narrow down the sphere of activity of the body called 'Disaster Management Authority'. I have nothing against this Bill, only I want that this Bill should act a vigilant protector for the rights of the affected people.

15.06 hrs.

[Translation]

SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA (Samastipur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, like tsunami, flood is also a natural calamity which causes loss to life and property every year in States like Bihar and Assam. There is a need to revisit the provisions in the Disaster Management Bill to prevent it. Situation in some part of Bihar remains grim and grave for 8 to 10 days due to flood. By the time the State provides relief like motor boat etc. a great loss is already suffered.

Our UPA Government at the center had also provided assistance to Bihar last year for conducting relief work in the State. Our district Samastipur was also in the worst condition due to flood. Relief material was sent but it could not reach there in time. In order to ensure better flood management in future, motor boats and other relief material should be arranged well in advance and before the expected dates of flood. This is my submission to our Government.

The dams which were damaged last year have not been repaired even before the onset of next flood. I would like to say that in order to justify the meaningfulness of the words disaster management, we should remain prepared in advance to deal with the situation of flood. Collectors are head of the disaster management committees at district level but attendance of MPs and

MLAs is not ensured in their meetings which creates a lot of scope for irregularities. Assistance for constructing 25000 houses collapsed due to flood has been provided under Indira Awas Yojana but the said assistance has not yet reached the real beneficiaries during the last two years. The houses of the people have not been constructed whose houses had collapsed. It should be examined and responsibility should be fixed. If the person responsible for managing things is committing irregularities, then there is little scope for improvement even after lodging complaints. Therefore, the Government should take steps to remove such irregularities and ensure that the term disaster management justifies its true meaning. With these words, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Bachi Singh Rawat. All Members will now speak for two minutes each.

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' (Almora): Perhaps I am the last speaker from my party.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Two more Members from your party are yet to speak. You please conclude in two or three minutes.

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA': Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, six major incidents have taken place in the country during the last 15 years. A high power Committee on Disaster Management was constituted under the Chairmanship of hon'ble Vajpayeeji to devise ways of dealing with any calamity that may occur in the country. After the earthquake in Bhuj, an All Party National Committee on Disaster Management was constituted representing all the political parties, Moving further in this direction, as it is the need of the hour, the hon'ble Home Minister has introduced this Disaster Management Bill. All the hon'ble Members have welcomed it and so do I.

In this context, I would like to submit that in clause 8(B) various Ministries viz. the Ministry of Communication, Ministry of Railways etc. have been included in national executive Committee and advisory committee but the Ministry of Surface Transport has not been included therein. As road transport has an important role to play in transporting relief material to any place in time, I request to include the Ministry of Surface Transport also therein.

There is another clause numbered as 55(B). It provides for certain penalties. According to that, the head

of any department will be held responsible for any acts of omission and commission on the part of that department. This is against the again of criminal jurisprudence according to which criminal liability attaches only to the perpetrator of the crime. While on the other hand, the departmental enquiry under the Act may provide for imprisonment of two years and in the case it will not be fair to hold the head of that department vicariously liable to undergo such punishment for any acts of omission or commission committed by an employee of that department. Criminal liability should be fixed, upholding the principles of criminal jurisprudence, therefore, it is imperative to reconsider and amend it.

I would like to address two or three points in brief. We have seen incidents like collapsing of big buildings in Bhuj. Bulldozers had problem in moving in to narrow lanes. Right now an hon'ble Member from Delhi was submitting that Delhi also is a sensitive zone, earthquake prone area as it falls in Category-4. God forbid any such incident but in case it happens, how will we able to remove the rubble from the narrow lanes. Small bulldozers should be arranged for this. Such machinery should be kept ready in police stations and Tehsils. The issue relating to dozers should also be included under the preventive measures.

Similarly, in hilly areas also when the Satluz was flooded, 11 bridges got washed away. If we keep valley bridges in readiness at State and district levels, we can join them without delay as an immediate step in order to run the traffic. It should also be ensured that atleast one such valley bridge is available in each district headquarters.

Similarly, to meet the flood situation embankment should be kept ready in advance. Flood and drought are the biggest calamities to handle for which the task of interlinking of rivers was taken up. This work should be expedited as interlinking of rivers was taken up. This work should be expedited as inter-linking of rivers will help get relief from flood and drought besides several other benefits may also accrue in its wake.

Sir, these five points include the issue of rescue as well. How we can provide immediate relief. In my constituency an incident had occurred at Malapa near Kailash Mansarovar in which 67 persons got buried alive under the hill and nobody knew about it for 24 hours. This was a case of land slide. 24 hours elapsed. The news was communicated through ITBP wireless. Road Communication was not available at that time as it stood completely disrupted with all the approach roads getting

[Shri Bachi Singh Rawat 'Bachda']

broken. Helicopters also could not reach due to cloud burst. Nobody could have access to that spot for five days. Road communication and telecommunication network are the two most essential things. To the places as distant as 20 kilometers where only pedestrians can reach how can we provide relief to the victims of any natural calamity. In this context, I would like to refer to the demand of associating the Member of Parliament to that endeavour. I do not agree to this proposition. Reason for this is that the MPs are already preoccupied with numerous assignments and they are in advisory Committees or the district Committees.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the suggestion of making the Chairman of the District Panchayat as the Co-Chairman of the Committee is not proper. When we are providing for punishment of imprisonment for two years, it is not proper to appoint an elected representative as Chairman rather an officer appointed as Chairman will be better.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when some thing occurs only then the issue of providing relief is taken up. I wish to speak a lot on this issue, but time is short. I do hope whenever this issue is discussed here in the House, I shall be given adequate time.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Whenever such an issue is discussed then you shall certainly be given time.

SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA (Jammu): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I shall be obliged if you could give me some more time to speak on this subject as I could not come to the House for full last week. Today, I have come to the House for the first time. In fact, I was visiting the earthquake-affected places in Jammu and Kashmir. Therefore, I would like to give suggestions only. I should, therefore, get more time.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at first I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on this Bill. Therefore, I would like to thank you hon'ble Union Minister of Home Affairs who has decided to enact a Bill to tackle natural calamities and has, therefore, introduced this Bill, which after being passed will form part of law.

Sir, several hon'ble Members who have spoken prior to me, have put forth many a valuable views and have made various suggestions also. I wanted to speak in detail as I belong to the State of Jammu and Kashmir and this is the State where two major incidents have

occurred. Since time allotted to me is short so I shall try to be brief. First, heavy snowfall occurred and lakhs of people got devastated therein. A lot of loss of life and property was suffered. Secondly, there was an earthquake. This has hit hard Tangdhar and Beetwal areas in two districts of Punch and Uri of Jammu and Kashmir. Its epicentre was in Azad Kashmir of Pakistan where devastation has been much more than here.

Sir, I extend my sincere thanks to UPA Government, Prime Minister and our party President Smt. Sonia Gandhi who visited the affected areas thrice and rescued the earthquake affected people there by providing timely help of 700 crores of rupee but this money is quite inadequate. After enactment of law if such events or natural disaster strike, then the institutions set up under this law at ground level, panchayat, block, Tehsil and district level would start functioning.

Sir, I wanted to tell about the geography of my state of Jammu and Kashmir and not about whole of India. Geographically there are three parts of this state. Laddakh, Kashmir and Jammu. There are as much as 400 k.m. gaps between two districts and district has 400 k.m. of area where there is no transport facility. If we create a state level disaster management there then it would not be sufficient. Unless we constitute the committees down the low from district to block panchayat, we would not be able to provide relief to the affected people facing ground level difficulties. I would, therefore, request that the committees should be set up at lower level and all those elected representatives like Sarpanch should be included therein.

Sir, I would also like to tell, whenever natural calamities have struck, our jawans have reached there and started relief operation. No administration officers or any sort of relief reached there before the Jawans of our armed forces reached there and provided relief. It is, therefore, my suggestion is that our armed forces should have an important role in it. Serving as well as ex-service men should be taken into such committees, as they are disciplined force. They remain conscious of their duty and discharge their duty in an earnest manner.

Sir, I would mention the fact, which has not been mentioned here and then conclude. As time is short, I would not speak long. Our country has its border with neighbouring country Pakistan from Gujarat to Leh besides this Rajasthan, Gujarat and Punjab have also their borders with that of Pakistan but since Kargil war in 1999, our



armed forces are engaged with relief operation in Kashmir. They have not been rehabilitated so far. Lakhs of people living in border areas should be taken care of in this Bill. As goes the saying, you can change your friends but cannot change your neighbours. Those living in border areas especially those adjacent to Pakistani border come under Pakistani shelling quite frequently and suffer damages in terms of losses to life and property. Therefore, such losses are quite akin to those suffered under the natural calamities; therefore, such people should also be covered thereunder.

Sir, I welcome this legislation and would request you to kindly include my suggestion therein.

*(English)*

DR. R. SENTHIL (Dharmapuri): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on behalf of Pattali Makkal Katchi, I rise to support this historical Bill on disaster management. I have given notices for moving four amendments to this Bill. I request you to give me time just to justify those amendments. Of course, I welcome this Bill which is historical. For the first time, since Independence, we have got a Bill that actually is going to deal with the disasters. We have a Constitution, in which Schedule VII has three lists. Unfortunately, in any of the lists, disaster management was not mentioned. The reason being we never thought of disaster management as a science. This Bill attempts to give a comprehensive answer to all other problems relating to disaster management, starting from prevention, emergency rescue operations, rehabilitation and other aspects of disaster management.

One thing has shocked me. That is why I have presented these amendments. What is disaster management and disaster prevention? I will give you just an example. We had an earthquake in Bhuj. A 12-year old boy was trapped under the rubble for nine long days. Any one can imagine the misery the boy must have undergone under the rubble for nine long days. He was rescued after nine days. What happened in the USA? When the twin tower fell down, within 48 hours all the rescue forces were in action. They searched every nook and corner. All the available modern mechanisms were used, including the sniffer dogs. They saw to it that after 48 hours there is no more life under the rubble. But what happened in India was really a disaster.

Do you think that this Bill attempts to produce a force that will actually tackle these disasters? No. This Bill

is going to produce hierarchy after hierarchy of bureaucrats to look after disaster management. I am sorry to say this. Unfortunately, this Bill is going to give a lot of job opportunities to IAS officers rather than actually producing forces that can tackle disasters and emergencies. That is why, I have given four amendments. We will have a Disaster Management Authority. The hon. Prime Minister himself will be the Chairman. That is welcome. Then, we will have an Executive Committee. Who will be chairing this Executive Committee? It will be a bureaucrat. For example, take other countries and organisations. Let us consider the WHO. Who is heading the WHO? It is headed by somebody who is committed to health care for years. A person who is working on health care for nearly 22 years becomes the Chairman of the WHO. But what happens in India? Here, we have a person who talks of health for three months, then he is transferred and he talks of forest conservation and then he is transferred from there also. So, we do not have technical persons heading the Departments. I have given an amendment saying that instead of having Secretaries who are bureaucrats, who do not have technical knowledge on disasters, we should have experts who are committed to this subject for years and years.

That is why, I have given notice of an amendment suggesting that instead of Secretaries, the Departmental heads of the Departments concerned should be put in place and they should be heading these teams.

Likewise, clause 12 of the Bill discusses about giving special provisions for widows and the orphans. It is a welcome step. But I just want to add a few words suggesting that the physically and mentally challenged persons also need special provisions. All these amendments must be there because we need special provisions for the physically and mentally challenged persons like the blind, the deaf and the dumb. We need a very different mechanism to reach the people.

Likewise, we already have a force in every district to handle emergency situations like fire and rescue operations. To cite an example, the District Fire Officer is there in every district. Unfortunately, this officer is not given a place in the District Executive Committee. I have given notice of an amendment to insert one thing. The District Fire and Rescue Officer should be the *ex-officio* member of the Committee. I just want to reiterate this.

Since there is lack of time, I will be very brief. This Bill is a wonderful Bill. It is a first-ever attempt to form

[Dr. R. Senthil]

a force. There are 76 clauses in this Bill. Unfortunately, there is only one clause that talks about creating a force. We do not need managers. In this connections, I just want to tell a small story. There was a boating competition between the US and the Japan. Japan had won the event. The Americans found out why Japan had won the event. They found out that Japan had nine rovers and one captain whereas the US had 9 captains and one rover. Again, the US had constituted an inquiry committee. They changed the team. Again, there was one Chief Executive Officer, there were three Assistant Executive Officers, three Managers, three Assistant Managers and one rover. The team again failed. The point is that we have created managers. We have not created the force. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister to take into account not only the creation of a force but also execution of this Bill.

With these words, I conclude.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Shailendra Kumar. You have only two or three minutes. You have to give suggestions only.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): Our party has 40 Members. Mohan Singh ji spoke from our party, then he continued his speech and no other could speak except him. What submission I can make in two minutes.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Disaster Management Bill, 2005. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Dr. Mohan Singh of your party took eight minutes whereas only four minutes were allotted to your party. Even then I am giving you time to speak.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Thank you, Sir. I am pleased whatever time you allow me. I am putting forth some suggestions point-wise.

Setting up of the National Disaster Management Authority has been in waiting since a long time because our country has been facing so many disasters. Besides, rescue and relief work, it has been provided in the Disaster Management Bill that at least awareness should be created among people and they should be educated about it. For example people again settle at the place

from where they are displaced during the flood situation. So, they need to be educated not to settle at that place again. An endeavour should be made so that our national property suffers minimal damage.

As Madanji was just saying that the earthquake which hit Jammu and Kashmir affected lots of people. Though the Government has been doing the rehabilitation work but it is not as much as it should have been. Therefore, the Government need to pay special attention towards it. Recently, when the Tsunami hit the coastal areas of the country, the Hon. Members made contribution for the rescue and relief work from their funds. Therefore, if such a calamity occurs at any place, the Hon. Members should have so much of freedom as to contribute some amount from their funds. As regards the M.P.'s funds, so many calamities occur in our areas also. Sometimes people die due to lightening and sometimes people suffer losses due to storm, somewhere fire breaks out and a large number of people die in that, sometimes farmers suffer huge losses due to the incidents of fire in their farms and granaries. Lots of people die in road accidents. So, there should be a provision that if any such calamity occurs in the parliamentary constituency of any Member, he or she should be ask to provide some monetary assistance from the said fund.

Secondly, a task force is to be set up under the National Disaster Management. Just now one hon. Member suggested that the services of the ex-servicemen should be taken for that. It's a good thing but at the same time, the youths should be recruited to the said force under the National Disaster Management, so that they also could serve in this force. They should be given training of different fields such as carrying relief work, learning swimming and boating and transporting relief materials etc. We have fire fighting system to douse fire. The Fire Brigade personnel are fully skilled in it. A force of 8000 personnel are said to be raised under this Authority and it is a good thing. The army and paramilitary forces personnel are sent promptly to carry out relief work and they do it very skillfully. The said force should be trained to tackle the biological attacks, flood, earthquake, cyclone and landslides, which occur in hilly areas as Bachi Dada was mentioning. They should be trained in such a manner so that they could undertake relief work properly.

Disaster prone areas have been identified which include Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, West Bengal, Bihar,

Gujarat, Maharashtra, North Eastern States but Uttar Pradesh has been excluded. The Ghagara, the Ganga and the Yamuna are the major rivers of Uttar Pradesh and the floods caused by these rivers affect a large number of people resulting in huge loss of life and property. Uttar Pradesh should also be included in the list of disaster prone areas.

Besides, it has also been mentioned therein about taking assistance from America in disaster management. It is mentioned that under the said Authority India and America would work together. If we get assistance from them and it is for the good then we should have no problem in that.

Delhi experienced tremors recently. I think only five- earthquake resistance buildings have been built. In Gujarat, Jammu and Kashmir and many hilly areas, which are hit by the earthquake off and on, similar earthquake resistance houses should be constructed to avoid lost of life and property. The Disaster Management Authority should be given adequate powers so that it does not have to wait for orders of any committee and it could undertake relief and rescue works immediately.

Very good steps have been taken in the direction of Disaster Management in our Uttar Pradesh. The cooperation of the institutions like Local Bodies, Zila Police, Home Guards, Civil Defence, Fire Stations and common man, NCC, Rashtriya Sevak Yojana and Nehru Yuva Kendras' is also being taken. So many things have been said in this House like the Committee which is being setup in this regard would include Prime Minister at the National level and the concerned Chief Minister of the State level. Similarly, a demand was made that the people's representatives of the areas should also be included because people approach them with for their local problems. As the peoples representatives are easily accessible and it is difficult to have an access to the concerned officers or the District Magistrates. If we want to have a meeting with the District Magistrate of our area, we do not get appointment easily. It takes one or two days' time. The District Magistrate is the head of the department and monitors its entire work. He is over burdened with work. I don't say that only Members of Parliament be included, local people should also be included in that. The cooperation of local peoples' representatives should also be taken to tackle such calamities. The cooperation of panchayat people, people from lower panchayats should also be taken.

Since you are pressing the bell repeatedly, I conclude my speech with these suggestions. Thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Bill.

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. I also have my own compulsion.

Shri B.K. Deo.

*[English]*

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI, DEO (Kalahandi): Thank you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Only two to three minutes.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: Sir, only two to three minutes is very less. ...*(Interruptoains)*

*[Translation]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What can I do? I am also helpless. You continue, please.

*[English]*

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: It is because I come from the State of Orissa and Orissa is synonymous with disaster. We are having the cyclones; we are having regular floods and we are having regular droughts. So, this Bill is a welcome Bill. It is definitely a welcome Bill but there are still some anomalies in the Bill which, I think, will be rectified in future as the number of disasters, the magnitude of disasters is becoming big every year.

Sir, these disasters are not only in our country but now these disasters have become global.

There was an earthquake or tectonic movement in the ocean of the intensity of 8.5 on the Richter Scale in Sumatra. There was tsunami and India had badly affected by this. For example, in 1990, in Chile—the epicentre of earthquake was near the Chilean Coast—the Chilean tsunami had forced to travel for 22 hours across thousands of kilometres killing people in Japan. It was the fourth largest earthquake since 1900 and the largest since 1964 earthquake in Prince William Islands, Alaska where the epicentre took place and the effect was felt in different countries. Therefore, Sir, our planning has not

[Shri Bikram Keshari Deo]

been done internally. Our planning has to be done with international agencies and with neighbouring countries throughout the globe. There must be discussion on this. It is because we have already had two important Summits at Rio de Janeiro and another one at the World Summit for Sustainable Development at Johannesburg. Sir, if these things are not followed properly, the disasters will be increasing year by year.

This Bill is a welcome Bill. The Bill formulates National Disaster Management Authority, States Disaster Management Authorities and an Institute for National Disaster which the Government had never contemplated before. It was only after the super-cyclone in Orissa, when the debate was taking place, this was conceived. At that time, the idea was mooted both from the then Opposition's side that a Disaster Management Institute should be installed so that our people in India right from the grass root level could be made akin with the disasters which they are going to face with. It has been seeing that this idea of disaster management first came during the Bengal Famine in the 1940s when there was a famine in Bengal. At that time, a famine code was created. Thereafter, relief codes were made in all the States to manage all these natural disasters.

Sir, I do not understand that the people's representatives had been left out from the Bill to participate in national disasters. Today, Sir, in every State, natural calamities or natural disasters are managed and monitored by the relief code of respective States which is an archaic law, which is an old law and which has no relevance with the times. So, those laws have to be changed. I feel that the Common Relief Code for the whole country, including all kinds of disasters, should be framed which can be carried out by the Central Government in the time of a severe natural calamity or of rare severity like the earthquake in Gujarat, tsunami in Andamans and Tamil Nadu or super-cyclone in Orissa on October, 29. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: You are giving very less time. I have already told that my State of Orissa is a synonym with disaster. So, in every relief code, there is a saying to make a flood-free zone during floods or to make a drought-free zone but what has the Government done till today? I think, there is a lack of coordination among the Home Department, Irrigation Department, Water Resources Department and the Health

Department. It is because when a natural disaster takes place, it is a traumatic experience. I would like to commend the hon. Home Minister that he has framed this Bill.

Sir, Chapter X is very important. It says:

"Failure of Officer in duty or his connivance at the contravention of the provisions of this Act."

As per our Bihar experience where a Collector was involved in scandal during flood, he ate money, and an inquiry has been initiated. Sir, you will be surprised to know that during super-cyclone in Orissa, 36 million people were affected. Sir, 70,00,000 acres of paddy was destroyed and 13,000 million tonnes of foodgrains which were sent by the Centre to the State were undelivered.

Sir, relief will be given when a natural calamity occurs, but it has to be properly distributed to the poor people. So, this provision under Chapter 10 which provides for offences and penalties is a very good initiative taken by the Government in this Bill and I welcome this particular provision.

Sir, other matters relating to Natural Calamities Committees at the Central Level and the State Level have already been discussed. Before I conclude, I would like to request the hon. Home Minister to include the people's representatives right from the panchayats level to Parliament, not as part of the Disaster Management Authority, at least in the Advisory Panel where they can advise the officials regarding the problems which they face during the time of flood or drought. The Government cannot do away with the people's representatives because we are for the people, by the people, of the people and we are answerable to the people. So, they should be included in the Advisory Panel so that the goods delivered during a natural disaster could reach the people properly.

*[Translation]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Laxman Seth ji, the time allotted to your party is nil. Still, I am giving you two minutes.

*[English]*

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH (Tamiluk): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this Bill is unique in nature and also this Bills is comprehensive to some extent. But in spite of

that, this Bill is having many shortcomings. So, it needs improvement.

Sir, many steps have been mentioned in the Bill for combating a natural disaster. A disaster takes place after any calamity or catastrophe. I think we can prevent some disasters if we prepare a comprehensive plan. For example, floods and droughts can be really prevented by desilting of rivers, by restoration of water bodies, by re-excavating canals etc. But no such provision for preparation of preventive measures has been included in this Bill. This Bill is silent, to some extent, so far as preventive measures are concerned. So, the preparation of a comprehensive plan for prevention of a disaster should be inserted in the Bill.

Secondly, MLAs and MPs are people's representatives and so they should be given a proper role in disaster management. The bureaucracy has been given more authority. So, at the district level, the Member of Parliament should be made the Chairman of the Advisory Committee and the District Magistrate may be the Chief Executive. Then, the Chairman of the Zilla Parishad should be made the Co-Chairman of the district level committee. Then, the people's representatives at the block panchayat and the municipality should also enjoy some authority so that they can effectively render rescue and relief operations. The municipality and the panchayat are constitutional bodies and so, they should be given some authority to deal with this matter.

Then, the National Institute of Disaster Management is only meant for training the persons as to how to deal with rescue operations. But I would like to suggest that the National Institute of Disaster Management should undertake research so that we can forecast natural disasters like earthquake, tsunami etc. or they should evolve or discover scientific methods of prevent a natural calamity or catastrophe from occurring.

So, this Bill is comprehensive in nature. In spite of that, there are many shortcomings and they should be removed. That is why, I think, a proper amendment should be brought by the Home Minister so that the Bill will really become very effective and it can be implemented usefully.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI (Hyderabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at the outset, I welcome this Bill. During

the last 30 years, the monetary loss to our country in terms of natural disasters is nearly \$50 million. I would like to raise a very important point here. When the hon. Home Minister rises to reply to the debate on this Bill, I would request him, through you, to clarify this. There was a National Disaster Response Force and nearly Rs. 650 crore was earmarked for it.

We do not know the fate of this National Disaster Response Force. Now, we are told that a sum of Rs. 650 crore, which was earlier earmarked, is being shifted to the Authority. At the same time, the National Cyclone Risk Mitigation project was there. The World Bank sanctioned a sum of nearly Rs. 1100 crore. For three years, the previous NDA Government also talked about it, but it is not yet finalised.

Now, the nodal agency for the National Disaster Management is going to be the Home Ministry. There are 13 Ministries as per the constitution of this National Executive Committee. The Woman and Child Welfare Department is not included in this. Usually, whenever a national disaster takes place, it is the woman and child who are the biggest sufferers, whether it is tsunami or the disasters in Chennai or in Bangalore also. So, I request that Women and Child Department should also be included in the National Executive Committee.

There needs to be a proper coordination between the IMD, CWC, ISRO and NRSA. Unless and until there is a proper coordination and networking, we cannot get the desired results. We also had a cloud burst in Mumbai city. If Mumbai city had Dookla Radar, then only three hours notice could have been given to the citizens of Mumbai to take necessary precautions. The cost of this Dookla Radar is only Rs. 16 crore. My request to the Union Government is that all metropolitan cities should have the Dookla Radar because in terms of cost it is not very expensive.

Now, the nodal agency is the Home Ministry. So, the bureaucratic mind has to change because members are there and if bureaucracy still sticks to it, then I think, we cannot get desired results. I do not know how far it is true, but I am told that the bureaucracy in the Home Ministry is not very much happy. Now, it is the responsibility of the Government to ensure what they do in this regard because it is the brainchild of the UPA Chairperson that this Bill has been brought in this august House. Now, the bureaucratic mindset has to change.

[Shri Asaduddin Owaisi]

Lastly, I hope that the Woman and Child Department will also be included in the National Executive Committee. I would also like to know what is the status of the members of National Disaster Management. Are they going to be of the rank of Minister of State? This is what I have to say.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA (Surat): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for allowing me to speak on this Bill.

I rise to support this Bill by making some suggestions in the ongoing discussion on it in this House. I believe that this bill will not only help in dealing with calamities with greater success and ease in various states of the country but also prove to be effective in putting an end to injustice being done in providing relief to states which are affected by the calamities time and again. I am saying so because it has been my experience that although Gujarat previously faced a number of calamities like cyclone, earthquake, drought again and again but the state did not get as much money from the Union Government as it should have got the money which should have been used for the development of the states is not used and, therefore, I believe that this Bill will put an end to injustice being done to the States.

I would like to give one or two suggestions on this subject. Clause 42(1) of the Bill provides for establishment of a National Institute of Disaster Management. It is a very good provision. I believe that such an Institute will be set up for training only. But, how many Institutes will be set up—it is not mentioned in the Bill. Perhaps, that will be decided later when rules are framed. I think that these Institutes should not be for training only. My suggestion is that we should raise a force for disaster management because India is a country where calamities strike again and again in so many states. We should raise such a force whose members can do the rescue work on the basis of their training and educate the people when such calamities strike. Normally, we have to take military's help and call experts from abroad too. Therefore, my suggestion is that a force should be raised for disaster management so that we can immediately do the rescue work there.

My second suggestion is regarding constitution of National Disaster Mitigation Fund. I think that this fund will be in addition to the National Calamity Fund and other funds because we know that even after spending

billions of rupees on the calamities, we are not able to provide sufficient assistance and rescue work. Though, it is a good provision but my suggestion is that this provision should not remain limited only to the Bill but it should be properly implemented. It will be better if hon'ble Home Minister throws some light on how this Fund will be utilized.

Finally, like we have constituted various Committees for disaster management here and also there is a mention of setting up a National Disaster Management Authority headed by the Prime Minister alongwith few more experts and executive committees. Similarly, committees will also be constituted in the state for disaster management. Regarding Disaster Management Committees to be formed at the district level, I would like to say that as there is a provision for Chairmanship by the Prime Minister in National Authority and by the Chief Minister in the State Authority, similarly instead of District Magistrate or Additional Commissioner at the district level, the elected Zila Panchayat Pramukh or other official should be appointed so that the people can get required relief in the event of a calamity. The public representative can rightly judge as to how the people should be provided relief in a proper manner.

I feel that it will be very good thing if these suggestions are included in the Bill. The provisions of the Bill should not remain limited to the Bill itself rather they should be implemented in a better way so that the people who lose their life and all their belongings in such calamities can be helped in a proper manner.

[*English*]

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Madhusudan Mistry, the time allotted to your party is over. Still, I am allowing you to speak. Conclude your point in two minutes only, please.

[*English*]

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Sir, I will just give three or four suggestions.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Take only two minutes.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Sir, I congratulate the Government and the hon. Minister for bringing this Bill. In fact, it is a long-pending requirement of this country. I hope that it will streamline a number of things especially the distribution of relief and supply of material. It is because a number of State Governments are incompetent. I come from a State which is very much drought-prone. After the earthquake, in the first few days, it was realised that the Government itself was not capable to handle the entire distribution system and also was not able to give an account as to how the money were being used as well as how the relief supplies were in fact being used. So, I hope that the Disaster Response Force as well as the Authority will streamline all these things.

That is why, I congratulate the Government. Another thing that I would like to say is that under the Calamity Relief Fund, the Central Government gives 75 per cent money to all the States and the State's contribution is only 25 per cent. A number of State Governments are not using this money. After five years, there is always a tendency of the State Government to take this money into a Plan scheme. In fact, they are demanding to allow them to invest the money they like. What I would suggest to the Minister is that all those State Governments, which have not been able to use this money, should hand over this money to the Disaster Management Authority under this Bill. I think that will satisfy their demand and this may be used, in fact, for running the National Institute of Disaster Management under this Bill. Also, this may be used to smoothen the work of carrying out the activities under various disasters.

Second thing that I would like to tell the Minister is that in this country there are a number of institutions. When the disaster occurs, they raise the fund. I do not think there is any account of it. I remember very well like in the earthquake as well as in the tsunami, there were people and private institutions that raised crores of rupees. For example, they raised fund during the Kargil war and even during the drought. All those private trusts, institutions and newspapers raised the money. Nobody knows what has been happening to this money and where they are spending. I would just tell the Minister and the Government that if there is a requirement to bring a Bill to monitor this, I think we should bring a Bill to monitor this. Not only that, but also the Government and the people should have a claim over this and we should have a right to know, if whoever has contributed money,

where this money is lying and how it has been used. So, that is also a requirement which they should do.

The third thing is that a few days back, the Chief Minister of Gujarat held a meeting of all the MPs. The claim of the Chief Minister of Gujarat is that the Government of India at that time raised a two per cent surcharge to give to the Government of Gujarat for earthquake relief. Now, according to the claims of the Gujarat Government, part of the money is not given to them. In fact, the Government of Gujarat is asking for Rs. 1,282 crore from the Centre. We say the Government of India has already given Rs. 2,200 crore to the Government of Gujarat. We have no idea, in fact, where, this money is. We do not know whether the Government of India owes the money to the Government of Gujarat. If it is yes, then we would also like to know when this money would be given. But nonetheless I again congratulate the hon. Home Minister for bringing forward this Bill.

And the last thing is that despite creating all this machinery, the question is whether it would really click when there is a need. In fact, with all the scientific pronouncements or warning, I doubt whether there is scientific mind in the Collector as well in the district officers and other authorities and whether they rise to the occasion. That has been the demand. I think we should prepare them accordingly.

Nonetheless, I again congratulate the Government for bringing this Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Chandra Bhushan Singh—Not present.

Now, Chaudhary Bijendra Singh, this is my humble request that you take only two minutes.

*[Translation]*

CHAUDHARY BIJENDRA SINGH (Allgarh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on Disaster Management Bill 2005. I would like to congratulate hon'ble Prime Minister, Home Minister and Soniaji for bringing this Bill at this point of time. It is a great effort. At present the fury of natural disasters is on the rise. It has been seen in recent years that earthquake are striking at one place and Tsunami at the other. In such a situation a Bill like this was badly need.

[Chaudhary Bijendra Singh]

I would like to draw your attention towards two points only. Disasters do not take place at a specified area or at a particular time, therefore, immediate help is what is needed to deal with it. However, the process of providing such help is quite lengthy and slow. So, we want that relief is integrated in disaster management to deal with disaster in such a way that assistance may be provided immediately. I would like to congratulate hon'ble Home Minister that he has made provision for the setting up of an authority at national level which will be chaired by the Prime Minister. Similarly, the Authority, which is to be set up at state level, will be chaired by the Chief Minister. But public representatives have not been included at district level. No Bill can be useful for the people until public representatives are not included in its implementation. So, My suggestion is that public representatives should be included in it. There are various practical problems at district level, which public representatives understand very well. Unless public representatives are included, those problems cannot be solved.

I would like make a request to hon'ble Home Minister. In 1991 a Disaster Management Authority was set up at state level in Orissa but certain shortcomings were found in its functioning. Similarly, regarding the Authority which set up when the earthquake struck Bhuj, it was published in a magazine that the Authority did not prove to be useful for the people. I would like to say that the shortcomings noticed in the functioning of those Authorities should also be taken care of in this Bill so that no lacuna remains in this Bill. Many of the disaster are not included in the list of Disaster Management Authority. For example accidents, hailstorms should also be included in this list. The norms laid down for providing compensation for the damage caused to agriculture by hailstorm have become out dated. The compensation should be provided to the farmers on the basis of the cost input and not on the basis of old norms. It is necessary to bring in some changes in the old norms as per present needs. The sum of Rs. 200 has been fixed as compensation in Disaster Management Authority which is a very small amount. Keeping in view the cost of the farmers whether it is the cost of seeds or fertilizers, the said amount will do not good to them and even this amount is also not paid to them in time. Therefore, old norms need to be changed in such a way that they may more useful.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): Sir, while moving that the Bill be taken into

consideration, I had made a very lengthy statement in the House relating to different provisions in this Bill. So, I can afford to be very brief now.

Many hon. Members have participated in the debate and each and every one of them has supported the Bill. I would like to thank all of them for the support that they have given to this Bill. There are only two or three points on which some suggestions were given by hon. Members. I would only explain the position of the Government on those points and conclude my speech.

One of the questions asked was why the President of the Zila Parishad should be a Co-Chairman of the district body and why should he not be made the Chairman of the district-level Authority, as the Chief Minister and the Prime Minister are the Chairpersons of the State-level authority and national level authority respectively. We have to understand the administrative set up that is available at the district level to understand why this has been done. In the districts, zila Parishads, panchayat samitis and gram panchayats are there. There are also municipalities. They have come into existence under the laws made by those States and they have jurisdiction only in certain areas. Their jurisdiction is not unlimited. Their jurisdiction does not extend to all the activities in the district.

16.00 hrs.

Their jurisdiction is limited to the subjects which are given to them under the laws. In other matters, they do not have the jurisdiction whereas the Prime Minister and the Chief Minister have the jurisdiction which extends to all the activities of the Union Government and the State Government. Now, this difference, this distinction has to be understood.

We had created district national planning committees and when those committees were created in some States, the question was who should chair those committees. It was suggested that the President of The *Zila Parishad* should chair those committees, but then it was found that the officers, who were working with the State Governments, were not subjected to the authority of the President of the *Zila Parishad* or *Zila Parishad* as such and it was difficult for the President of the *Zila Parishad* to issue orders to them and then, difficulties were created. That is why, to overcome this difficulty in Maharashtra and some other States, the Minister was made the Chairman of the district body.



We are not making the Minister as the Chairman of the District Disaster Management Authority; we are making the District Collector and the *Zila Parishad's* President also the Chairpersons. So, the matters which are within the jurisdiction of the *Zila Parishad* can be controlled by the President of the *Zila Parishad* and the matters which are within the jurisdiction of the State Government which have to be done at the district level will be under the control of the District Collector. We have made this arrangement. For any reason if we find in future that this arrangement is not working and this arrangement is creating any difficulty, we will be at liberty to make any other change and then provide either the Minister or someone else as the Chairman of the body, but at this stage, I would request the hon. Members to understand this kind of situation that prevails at the district level and to allow that thing to continue.

16.03 hrs.

[SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN *in the Chair*]

The second point on which there was difference of opinion related to the membership of the MPs and MLAs. You, Sir, now sitting in the Chairman's position, when you were sitting there, it was you who had raised this issue. I had tried to explain the rationale behind not having the MPs and the MLAs as members of the National Disaster Management Authority and the State Disaster Management Authority. We have nearly 800 Members of Parliament—Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha together—and the number of members in the National Disaster Management Authority is only ten. How do we have all the Members of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha participating in the National Disaster Management Authority?

Sir, please let me complete. Even from the Chair, you can ask me the question. How, can we have these many Members participating? Then, as far as the State Governments are concerned, we have nearly 5,000 members in all the States Legislatures and the State Disaster Management Authority is having only 10 members. In each of the States, there are 100 or 200 MLAs. What do we do to have them as *ex officio* members of the State Disaster Management Authority? It will be too big a body and an unwieldy body. It will not be possible. So, there also, it is difficult whereas in the districts, there are three million or 30 lakh members of *Zila Parishads*, *Panchayat Samitis*, municipalities and *Gram Panchayats*. How do we have them as members sitting in these bodies? This is the question.

Let me explain at this point of time that this law does not prohibit the Union Government or the State Government from appointing any MP or MLA as the Member of a District Disaster Management Authority or the State Disaster Management Authority or the National Disaster Management Authority.

The National Disaster Management Authority that we have today has one Member, who is a Member of the State Legislature. We also have the hon. Prime Minister in it. So, this law does not prohibit the appointment of an MP or an MLA in any of these bodies. If the State Government wants to appoint the MLA or the MPs in the State Bodies or the District Bodies, then there is no prohibition provided in this law, and there is no difficulty in doing it.

We have also said that the National Disaster Management Authority can have Sub-Committees, and can have Advisory Committees. In the Sub-Committees and the Advisory Committees—as was suggested by many hon. Members—the MPs can be invited to sit as Members at the National level, at the State level, and at the District level. Supposing in one district the disaster has taken place, then who would not like to take the help and assistance of the MP of that district; and who would not like to take the help and assistance of the MLA of that district? They will certainly be involved in helping the people to overcome the difficulties. They can also be involved through the system of Advisory Committees to advice the District Bodies as well as the State and National Bodies to prepare plans, which would ultimately be part of the National Plan. So, there is no difficulty in it.

We were discussing about the disaster, which had taken place in Tamil Nadu. Unfortunately, Tamil Nadu is affected a great deal by heavy rains, and the people are suffering there. Some of the hon. Members got up here and said that: "Why should not the MPs be involved in helping the people?" I stood here in this House and made a plea to the State Government that: "If the MPs are willing to help the people, help the Government, and lend a helping hand in providing relief to the people, then they should be involved." I had also said that: "We would ask the State Government to take their help." It is possible to do it under this law. But if you want to make them *ex-officio* Members of these bodies, then it is not practicable, and it is not possible because the numbers are asymmetrical. The Authority consists of 10 Members and the number of MPs, MLAs and the number of

[Shri Shivraj V. Patil]

Members of the local bodies are too big to be accommodated in these bodies. Therefore, this has to be clearly understood.

Sir, I do not have anything more to say at this point of time. I would only like to say that this is one of the new institutions, which we are creating in our country. This institution has the authority to plan, and has the authority to take steps to see that if disasters occur, then they are mitigated. It also has the authority to help the people in giving relief, and later on, in preparing plans for reconstruction and rehabilitation at the National level, State level, District level, and at the local level.

The third point on which I think some hon. Members spoke was this. Why should the Head of the Department veraciously be made liable for any act of omission or commission by his subordinates? This was the question asked by some of the hon. Members. Actually, the lives of thousands of people are involved when disasters occur. It becomes necessary for each and every person having any authority in the district or any other place to be very prompt, and not to be lazy or to give excuses. They should come out and help the people.

It is expected to be done by the officers. If this kind of difficulty is not understood by the responsible officers, they will be held responsible. But, if he has understood the danger involved, the damage which is caused, the difficulties faced by the people, and if he goes out and gives orders and directions and encourages his colleagues and his subordinates to perform their duties, he will not be held responsible. But if he reclines in his own easy chair and does not do anything, it would be not proper not to hold him responsible also.

Moreover, it is provided that any officer against whom a case can be lodged will not be asked to go to the court of law and defend himself. The first step which has to be taken in this respect is to obtain the permission of the Government for prosecution. It is only after obtaining the permission of the Government for prosecution the case can be taken up. That is provided in the Criminal Procedure Code. This is provided in this law also. So, an officer who is not really guilty need not be afraid of anything. We should be very careful, we would be very careful in not demoralising and discouraging the officers and unnecessarily take action against them also.

These are the points on which I wanted to give explanation. I would like to request the hon. Members to

support this Bill. I would again like to say that this is a new experiment. Let us try to make this institution a very important institution of international standing. Shrimati Sonia Gandhi is very keen about it; the Prime Minister is very keen about it; this Government is very keen about; the previous Government was keen about it; and all the hon. Members are keen about it. Our country is facing many difficulties. That is why, if we should build this institution into a wonderful national institution of international importance, we would have discharged a very important responsibility of ours.

So, instead of just trying to pick holes in the existing law, let us experiment with it and let us find out where we have gone wrong or where we are correct, and try to make amends later on and not at this stage.

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister has stated that whenever MPs, or MLAs seek help, the District Magistrates will certainly take their help. I think the hon. Minister is putting MLA and MPs at the mercy of the District Magistrates and the District Collectors. MPs and MLAs should be given a proper place in the planning for combating disasters. This is a very important point and this should be taken into consideration. In West Bengal, Chairman of the District Jila Parishad is enjoying the status of a Minister of State. How will he act under the instructions of a District Magistrate? This will be creating a lot of contradiction and conflict.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have a pinpointed question to the hon. Minister regarding the funds arrangement. Following the recommendation of the 11th Finance Commission the States are mandatorily getting some amount to mitigate the situation that has arisen due to disasters. But our past experience has been very bitter. The States which are prone to natural disasters are not getting sufficient funds. The funds they have been getting as a result of the 11th Finance Commission are not sufficient. The 12th Finance Commission is also following the same path. Will the Government of India give assistance to the States which are prone to disasters? We demand that the entire requirement of funds should be met by the Government of India? Will this arrangement be made by the Government of India?

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chall): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to ask only one question. As the hon'ble Members expressed their views and said that District

Magistrate would be the Chairman of District Committee. The hon'ble Members were concerned as to how public representatives would function under him. Similarly, by making changes in the meetings of DRDA the District Magistrate used to preside over it but now it is presided over by the Chairman of Zila Panchayats. Can such arrangements be made that the voluntary organizations, which are carrying out very good work in addition to Government assistance, be included in the committee of national, state or district level?

[English]

SHRI P. RAJENDRAN (Quilon): I would like to make a few points. Firstly, our Minister has stated that the MPs cannot be included in the National Disaster Management Authority. Two MPs—one from the Treasury Benches and one from the Opposition Benches—may be included in the National Disaster Management Authority.

Secondly, several points were raised seeking clarification. So many organizations have collected money in the name of the natural disasters. In the case of Tsunami, 400 NGOs have collected money, as per the Press reports, above Rs. 5,000 crore. What was the purpose for their collecting money? This Authority should have the power to hold an inquiry. This money has to be accounted. The collection of money should be accounted.

Thirdly, a clarification was sought about public awareness. Public awareness of natural disasters should be included in the curriculum from the primary school storage itself. Everybody should be aware of the natural calamities. On these points, I am seeking the clarification.

[Translation]

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH (Mathura): Mr. Chairman Sir, my suggestion is that keeping in view the sentiments of the House, hon'ble Members should at least be given place in district committees. We too all have seen many a time that local people are deeply involved in it and they reach the spot earlier than the Government machinery. So, I, through you would like to suggest that in schools and colleges compulsory education subject should be introduced for imparting in disaster management so that trained people may help victims when at the time of such incidents.

[English]

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: What I would like to know categorically from the hon. Minister is this. Would

the Government locate the Disaster Management Institute in the State of Orissa as Orissa is always disaster-prone? Already a track record is there. Will the Minister and the House consider locating the Disaster Management Institute in Orissa? If it is located in my constituency, Kalahandi, I would be grateful.

SHRI A.V. BELLARMIN (Nagercoil): I may be permitted to lay my speech on the Table.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right.

There must be some arrangement on the global basis to meet the disasters in future. Some scientific arrangement between nations should be there. In this regard, is there any proposal before the Government? Some developed countries should come together for having arrangement to meet the disasters. Some method should be in place for even predicting the disasters so that people can get to know in advance the information about disasters.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I will reply to your question first. We have made that kind of an arrangement in the law. The National Disaster Management Authority will be speaking to the Disaster Management Authorities or the Departments and the Ministers in other nations or with the International Disaster Management Authority in this regard. It is provided that the National Disaster Management Authority will also help other countries and receive help from other countries in order to prepare the plans and help. It is already provided.

As far as Zila Parishad and other things are concerned, I have said that the MPs and MLAs should be associated with the disaster rescue, relief and rehabilitation. It can be done. There is no difficulty in doing under the present law. Only difficulty is in having the *ex-officio* Member. As far as funds are concerned, let us understand this.

One is the Calamity Relief Fund and the National Calamity Relief Fund. Under these Funds, the resources, which are available, are very limited. Under these Funds, only that amount of money is available which the Finance Commission allows. The amount, which is available, is not sufficient at all. We shall have to help them. The difficulty with our officers in my Ministry and with hon. Members and others is that we are coming to the conclusion that it is only under these two Funds that the Government of India is capable of helping the State

[Shri Shivraj V. Patil]

Governments. That is not the case. These two Funds are there for giving immediate relief without waiting for anything. But, over and above this amount of money, if more money is required, it is possible for the Government of India to take a decision in the Cabinet and help. That is exactly what we are doing. We have given Rs. 500 crore to many of the States. Gujarat got Rs. 500 crore; Maharashtra got more than Rs. 500 crore; Karnataka got nearly Rs. 500 crore; Tamil Nadu got Rs. 500 crore. This kind of money is not going to come from these Funds. These are special funds or special amount of money given to the States. Let us understand that these funds are created to help the States immediately without waiting for anything. More than that, we are giving funds to the State Governments. Let us understand that the State Governments also have a duty to help their own people. If they do not do that and all the time say that money has to come from the Union Government, that is also not correct.

The NGOs can help. We have provided in the law itself about this. There is no difficulty. The NGOs have been helping and whatever help they give, at least, there is nobody to criticise them; everyone praises them. But anything done by the Government is criticised. It should be criticised. We have made arrangements in the law under which NGOs will have no difficulty in participating or helping in these activities.

One of the Members has said that NGOs have been collecting the money. Is it being spent properly? As far as funds collected by the NGOs are concerned, these NGOs will be subject to the laws of the land. The law on cooperative societies is there. We have the law on registration. Any fund collected by them has to be spent for the purpose for which it is collected. If it is not spent, that fund has to be utilised in a manner which is allowed by the rules and laws. If they are not doing, they are liable to be prosecuted or liable to the proceeded against. That will be done by other organisations in the State. It is not done by the organisations at the national level.

As far as having a curriculum in the school is concerned, we have already provided for it. We have not only provided for it but we have also prepared the courses which can be adopted by educational institutions for informing the youngsters as to how they should conduct themselves and help in times of calamity. There is no difficulty. These were some of the points which were raised. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: What about my question?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Your question gets a negative reply because there will be demands from many others.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the effective management of disasters and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration".

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 2 to 5 were added to the Bill.*

#### **Clause 6 - Powers and functions of National Authority**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Amendment Nos. 2, 3 and 4. Dr. Babu Rao Mediyam, are you moving your Amendments?

DR. BABU RAO MEDIYAM (Bhadrachalam): No, Sir, I am not moving my Amendments.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 6 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 6 was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 7 was added to the Bill.*

#### **Clause 8 - Constitution of National Executive Committee**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Amendment No. 9. Dr. R. Senthil, are you moving your Amendment?

DR. R. SENTHIL (Dharmapuri): I am not pressing my Amendment, but I would request the hon. Minister to kindly consider my amendment.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So, I presume that you are not moving your Amendment.

The question is:

"That clause 8 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 8 was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 9 was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 10 - Powers and Functions of National Executive Committee**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Amendment No. 5. Dr. Babu Rao Meidyam, are you moving your Amendment?

DR. BABU RAO MEDIYAM: No, Sir. I am not moving my Amendment.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 10 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 10 was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 11 was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 12 - Guidelines for minimum standard of relief**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Amendment No. 10. Dr. R. Senthil, are you moving your Amendment?

DR. R. SENTHIL: Sir, I am not moving.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 12 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 12 was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 13 to 17 were added to the Bill.*

**Clause 18 - Powers and Functions of State Authority**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Amendment Nos. 6 and 7. Dr. Babu Rao Mediyam, are you moving your Amendments?

DR. BABU RAO MEDIYAM: Sir, I am not moving.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: You can ask all the Members whether they are moving their Amendments or not.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 18 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 18 was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 19 was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 20 - Constitution of State Executive Committee**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Amendment No. 11. Dr. R. Senthil, are you moving your Amendment?

DR. R. SENTHIL: I am not pressing my Amendment but I would request the hon. Minister to consider inclusion of all the 500 district officers. It can be done as an order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So, I presume that you are not moving it.

The question is:

"That clause 20 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 20 was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 21 to 24 were added to the Bill.*

**Clause 25 — Constitution of District Disaster Management Authority**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Amendment No. 1. Shri C.K. Chandrappan, are you moving your Amendment?

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN (Trichur): This is about the District Co-Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may tell me whether you are moving it or not.

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN: If the Minister agrees to that, I would not press to move it.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: If there are two Chairpersons, Co-Chairperson, the senior one will preside and the junior one will not preside. If in West Bengal the State Minister's rank is given to the President of the Zila Parishad, he will preside and not the District Collector.

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN: The Panchayati Raj system is there in most of the districts in our country and Zila Boards' Chairmen are there. It would be better to say that District Council Chairman will preside over that.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I will explain it. This is a very important point. Without understanding the administrative machinery available in the district, if we take any decision, it will create problem. Zila Parishad has limited jurisdiction. It does not have the jurisdiction and so the Zila Parishad Chairman will not be in a position to issue orders to the officers in Irrigation or Transport Department. That sort of difficulty was faced in some States where the Zila Parishad was there and that is why the Minister was made the Chairman. In this case we are saying that if he has a State Minister's rank, it is he who will preside and not the District Collector. We cannot have the District Collector as the Chairperson. Otherwise, it will be difficult for him to discharge his duty and also provide relief.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I presume Shri Chandrappan that you are not pressing your amendment. Dr. Senthil, you are also not pressing your amendment.

The question is:

"That clauses 25 to 60 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 25 to 60 were added to the Bill.*

#### **Clause 61 — Prohibition against Discrimination**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Babu Rao, are you moving your amendment?

DR. BABU RAO MEDIYAM: In view of Minister's reply, I am not pressing for it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 61 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 61 was added to the Bill.*

*Clauses 62 to 79 were added to the Bill.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the long Title were added to the Bill.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister may now move that the Bill be passed.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

16.34 hrs.

## **DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS—(RAILWAYS), 2005-2006**

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House shall now take up the next item.

Motion moved:

"That the respective supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President of India, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2006, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 2 and 16."

**List of Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2005-06  
submitted to the Vote of Lok Sabha**

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Supplementary Demands for Grants to be submitted to the vote of the House
2.	Miscellaneous Expenditure (General)	1,000
16.	Assets—Acquisition, Construction and Replacement	
	<i>Other Expenditure</i>	
	Capital	200,00,05,000
	Railways Funds	50,000
	Railway Safety Fund	10,000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>200,00,66,000</b>

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you. Whenever I got time to speak on railway budget, it always came to my mind that the railways do not have foresight while preparing the budget for the railways or vision and future is not taken care of. Today also, the points are same. Things were pulled on in such a way if nothing will remain to do in the days to come, then the hon. Minister can entertain his grand children on a toy train by playing it in a garden at Patna. Therefore, on opening the first page of supplementary demand, I came across a proposal regarding renovation of track at Sanjay Gandhi Park in Patna. It is very good. At least he has got that much foresight in his life now.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, whether I rise to speak on railways, whether it be a matter of renovation of railway track or of construction of railway line as a whole, whenever the money is allocated for these purposes, the railway does not appear to be thinking properly in terms of improving the economy of the country as well as its own development. I would repeat the same thing today. If we look at the railway budget we find that there was a need for Rs. 1644 crore but provision for only Rs. 658 crore was made *i.e.* there was a shortage of Rs. 986 crore at that time. We had told at that time that a provision of less amount is being made, it will not do, work will not be done properly due to this.

Sir, we do not think properly about railways. Whether it be the matter of laying a new railway line or of gauge conversion, only the socio-economic circumstances of the country is kept in mind but there remains a lack of foresight. The same thing is happening in fixing the

priority. I have been pointing it out always that there is lack of vision somewhere. An effort was made in 1998 and some criteria was tried to be fixed for determining the priority at that time but no effort was made in this direction after that.

Sir, there are 84 such projects on which some expenditure has been made, but they are still incomplete. If one sees it in totality it becomes a big investment. A substantial amount of money of this country is spent on such projects, which are of no use for us. Money is spent, but in spite of that, the project is not completed. When the project is not completed in time, the cost increases; and in spite of all these we cannot make use of the incomplete project for the country.

Sir, I have been drawing the attention towards the only one railway line, time and again that is Maksi-Dohod Railway line. The progress of this project is so slow that its cost has increased to thirty times and we are unable to utilize the part of the track, which has been completed. It can be utilized to introduce new trains from Delhi via Dewas, Maksi, Guna, Gualior, Jhansi. Similarly, new trains to Bhopal via Dewas, Maksi can be introduced, but we are still not considering that. We are unable to fulfill the demand of connecting the industrial area of Pitampur, for which the said railway line was laid. The track could have been utilized for development of tribal areas line Dhar-Indore and for extending it towards west to Mumbai and beyond that towards Gujarat in order to open a new rail route but we have not been able to make of that even.

Therefore, I say that the railway lacks vision while fixing priority. We will have to mend it, we will have to fix criteria as to which project is to be completed first.

[Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan]

The Railway Development Corporation has just been established in 2005. The same Railway Development Corporation has been given approximately 53 projects, out of which 32 projects support golden quadrilaterals, and if I am not wrong 21 projects provide port connectivity. There are several other projects also which have been given to the Railway Development Corporation. Out of those, many projects were given to the zonal railway. When the construction work was given to the zonal railway, it came to their mind that zonal railway has its own priorities and it is possible that they may utilize the fund diversion as well as material diversion. If we go through the report of standing committee, it is mentioned in that that concrete sleepers which were got constructed by railway development corporation were utilized by the zonal railway for their own use. It only means that railway development corporation does not have monitoring mechanism and it will have to keep in mind that railway development corporation will not be able to work properly until it has its own monitoring mechanism.

Sir, I would like to tell one more thing that while framing policy, at times we talk of improving skill and production capacity at the time of finalizing projects, whether it be of gauge conversion or construction of new railway line. While preparing these projects according to policy we must keep in mind the balance of development, so that the country may develop in a balanced manner. It should also be kept in mind as to whether the work being done will be utilized in totality or not. If we lay out new railway line, we must consider whether it will be utilized for the country or not. For this, one thing has been mentioned in the policy that the missing link will be kept in mind. This missing link, which connects the railway lines, may make a supplementary resource. The missing link has its own use as a supplementary resource also. It may be used in decreasing the congestion of main line; we can get a new route. But this important thing also is not being kept in mind.

Sir, I would not deliver a long speech, because it is a very small supplementary demand; but I would like to say that conversion of metre gauge line into broad gauge is being talked of. Actually, the shortest route between north and south was that of metre gauge line. If we talk of the shortest route between Delhi and Hyderabad, we see that it was only metre gauge, which could have been the shortest route. We started to talk of gauge conversion, and we took it up in fragments; we planned it in fragments. This is the way in which planning was done,

for example work in Ajmer, Chittor, Udaipur and Akola sections was undertaken but it was not considered if this investment would be meaningful or not. I can say with certainty that this investment would not bear fruit. I am talking about the missing link. Till the time the conversion of metre-gauge in the Mahu-Ratlam and Mahu-Akola section is not carried out it would not be possible to use it as a shorter route of north-south corridor. Be it Delhi, Mumbai, Howrah or Howrah-Mumbai a new opening would not be possible till the missing link is constructed. That is why I had said that what should have been planned well has not been done so far. Even today while studying the supplementary demands I observe that many small projects have been included by Madhya Pradesh, has been left completely out of the loop. As I said, it is impossible to travel from one corner of India to the other without getting linked with Madhya Pradesh. Many small electrification projects have been included. Only a small part of Madhya Pradesh, from Indore-Ujjain remains to be electrified but all efforts in this direction have gone waste. Indore, which is a big industrial city, has been similarly neglected. There are many such small and big projects, which are needed to be undertaken in Madhya Pradesh but they have not been given any consideration.

These are supplementary demands and sanctions the two or four small demands placed by us would not be a big matter. But my main point which I would like to reiterate is that railways is a very important means of uniting the nation, it plays a very important role in the development of the whole nation. Therefore, it is important that before formulating any scheme or project the objectives and the usefulness of such projects should be clearly mapped-out. It should be clear as to how the projects would be implemented so as to help in national building and how they would be completed. Otherwise, we would be confined to delivering lectures. The hon. Minister may perhaps feel that he need not care about these things. He may think that it would be sufficient to build a children's railway line in Patna and to spend the rest of his life there. But we have to work for the betterment of the country and it is my request that the above point should be considered.

[English]

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU (Salem): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak on the Supplementary Demands for Grants for Railways. Railways are the lifeline of the nation. As we



know, it is not only the lifeline but also an Organisation, the only Organisation, which interconnects the country, whether it is North, South, East or West. People from all regions, communities and castes are interconnected by the Railways. It is a rarest opportunity for any one to support the Bill, through which we are going to appropriate Rs. 200,00,66,000 from the Consolidated Fund of India for the financial year 2005-06 for the betterment of Railways.

After the UPA Government came into power, we have a dynamic Minister, Shri Lalu Prasad for Railways. After his taking over this Ministry, we have seen enormous developments and achievements. I do not want to dwell upon those things because the time is very short. The improvements that have taken place is all-round. Improvements have taken place in gauge conversion, doubling of lines and in the advancement of existing facilities. These are the areas where a right direction and right leadership has been given. That is why we are today proud of the Railways and their achievements. I would like to emphasise a few points.

Those points are related to my State of Tamil Nadu, the State of Pondicherry, the State of Kerala to which our hon. Chairman belongs, to the States of West Bengal, Assam, Madhya Pradesh and in respect of almost all the States. We are proud that he has done well in the two subsequent Budgets. After this, some other projects are not able to take off due to paucity of funds.

I would, particularly, like to go over to Tamil Nadu. Now of the very important and long-felt demands of the Tamilians is this. We are proud to say that we have been demanding, for the last 45 years, the creation of a Salem Division. As you know, the 40 hon. Members of Lok Sabha from Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry as also the Members from Rajya Sabha have been demanding this. I have friends from Kerala including the hon. Chairman. Almost all of us would like to have this dream project implemented. *...(Interruptions)* Of course, it should be done without affecting Palakkad. I support that the Palakkad Division should continue. This is our arrangement. We want that Division to continue. In the same way, we want the creation of a new Division to help and support the people of our region. I am personally thankful to our friends from Kerala as well as the hon. Ministers in this regard.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (Kasargod): The same status of Palakkad has to continue. Do you agree to it?

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU: Yes, the same status of Palakkad should continue. We are not objecting to that. We want the Palakkad Division should continue. There is no difficulty in it. We want a new Division to be created, the Salem Division, without affecting Palakkad with the districts like Salem, Erode, Coimbatore, the Nilgiris, Namakkal, Dharmapuri, Krishnagiri and part of Vilupuram, Cuddalore, Vellore, Karur and so on included in it. This will help the State of Tamil Nadu. Leaders like Dr. Kalaingar Karunanidhi, Dr. Ramadoss, Shri Vasana, Shri Vaiko and all the Left leaders like Shri Nallakkannu and Shri Vardharajan, Shri Kader Moideen jointly made a request to the hon. Minister after the UPA Government came into power. With 40 Members' support, this can be done. This is a long felt-dream. We want the hon. Minister to announce about it today. This will go a long way in the history. Shri Lalu and Shri Velu will go down well in the history by creating this wonderful scheme. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Both Lalu and Velu only will go down well in the history! *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU: It is under the Chairmanship of Shri Radhakrishnan! *...(Interruptions)* All our friends from Kerala will be included.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: With the condition that Kerala needs some more things like new lines, trains etc.

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU: I am supporting it. Karunkaran ji, while starting my speech, I said about Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Pondicherry, West Bengal as also all the States. I started with them only.

Coming to my point, the Salem-Karur project was enunciated long back. *...(Interruptions)* The Salem-Karur line is getting delayed for want of funds and because of a lot of problems. The hon. Minister, Shri Velu came personally a number of times and discussed with the authorities concerned in sorting out this issue. I would request the hon. Minister to consider the issue and give more funds for the early implementation of the projects.

Likewise, the Salem-Cuddalore BG line is another most important factor. In the last Budget, only Rs. 45 crore had been earmarked. The project is on. But to complete the project, it needs additional funds. I hope the hon. Minister will consider it in due course, - if not immediately, in the next Budget at least.

[Shri K.V. Thangabalu]

In my constituency particularly and the nearby constituency of Dr. Senthil, we want one thing to be done. A passenger train has to be re-introduced between Salem and Mettur. It should be done immediately and made to work immediately. So also is the case in respect of Salem and Attur. We need to request the hon. Minister to re-build the Vazhapadi Station which is a long left need in the area. Apart from that, a number of hon. Members from Tamil Nadu have given a long memorandum.

In that, our leaders jointly wrote to you. All those projects need to be considered very, very effectively and speedily so that the programmes which we have given to the people, aspirations which we have given to the people and the demands of the people can be met through its implementation.

Sir, coming to the ROBs, there are about 13 ROBs which we have requested for Tamil Nadu. Out of them, 3 ROBs are coming in my constituency also. The hon. Minister had very candidly accepted my proposal last time that while building ROBs the Central Government Railway Department has to pay 50 per cent and the State Government has to give 50 per cent. But the State Governments are not coming forward. Instead of that, the Railways have to give to the State Government the cess money that can be kept with the Central Government itself for the Railway Department itself and they can construct the ROBs so that you need not go to the State asking money for that. It is not only in Tamil Nadu area but also in almost all over the country; this ROBs problem can be solved. In my constituency Mutthampati gate, Ayodhapattinam gate, and Salem Mulluvadi gate are the three very critical areas where people have to wait for 2-3 hours and there is no movement due to this passage of train. I would request the hon. Minister to consider this.

There is one more important, Sir. While the hon. Minister announced last time the South-South Corridor, Mumbai-Delhi Corridor, Mumbai-Kolkata Corridor, Chennai has been left out whereas it is one of the very important cities in the country. Chennai, being the gateway of South India, is totally left out. This is the long felt need of the people that Chennai—Delhi, Chennai-Mumbai, Chennai-Kolkata freight corridor is to be immediately accepted in principle and announced so that there is a facility of doubling and creating new environment for the freight movement in the country.

Sir, with regard to the broad gauge conversion, you have very emphatically decided that Unigauge facility of connecting all the places in the country. In my State of Tamil Nadu, 1,800 kilometres of metre gauge lines are still there. It is the only State where the huge volume of kilometres is unattended to. Our people are suffering a lot. I would request you to kindly turn to our side. Please attend to all these poor States like Tamil Nadu and Kerala where metre gauge lines are there. They are very farther. Delhi is far away for us. Kindly consider us very sympathetically and accept this proposal so that all the metre gauge is converted into broad gauge and thereby all areas can be connected with more facilities.

As regards electrification project also, Sir, I would like to say that. *... (Interruptions)* electrification project is one of the very important projects. Sir, the Congress Government—and the UPA Government—have been doing enormous service in this regard. There is an effective movement over this. We want to improve our State. In terms of electrification of projects, the all India percentage is 27 per cent. In case of Tamil Nadu, it is about 20 per cent. We do not have the broad gauge line and electrification. This imbalance should be sorted out. We need a patronage from the Railway Ministry that the electrification projects in our State are completed at the earliest.

Sir, the Dindigul—Palghat BG line via Pollachi—Coimbatore project should be immediately announced. This is a long felt need of the people and process is very, very simple now. You have to only announce it and just allocate funds immediately. The MPs from both the States of Kerala and the Tamil Nadu are demanding this. I would request the hon. Minister to announce it today and, if possible, release funds also. Likewise, Sir, the Chengalpattu—Villupuram line is also to be announced. You have to give this facility. This is also a very long felt need of the people. In addition, there is Thiruvarur—Karaikkal line which is in Pondicherry. You have to add Pondicherry. We want to add these small States. We want Pondicherry also to get the benefit of railway linkage and an additional fund should be given immediately to Thiruvarur—Karaikkal line to complete the project.

17.00 hrs.

Now, I would like to say something about Karaikkal-Nagore-Nagapattinam-Velankanni. Velankanni is a very important shrine; Nagore is also a very important place

not only for minorities but also for other communities. Velankanni is a place which is worshipped by the Christians. The other communities people also go there for worship. I would like to request the hon. Minister to allocate some more funds—it needs to be given some boost too—so that the remaining projects can be implemented in this year itself.

17.01 hrs.

[SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN *in the Chair*]

Now, I would like to say something about Tiruchendur-Tirunelveli. I would like to add here that this particular project is more or less in the stage of completion—70 per cent works is over and 30 per cent work is pending. I would humbly request the hon. Minister to release some more funds immediately so that we will get the facilities and further loss of time.

Madam, as suggested railway is one of the very important factors not only connecting the people but also connecting the minds, connecting the communities and others. It needs to be broad-based and need-based as well so that the railway system is on par with all over the country in a phased and equitable manner. The other day we, the Tamil Nadu MPs, met the hon. Railway Minister personally and our leaders gave representations to the hon. Minister. Our request has not been acceded so far to the satisfaction of our MPs. We, the 40 Members, constitute this august House and this Government. I urge upon the Government, through you, that the needs of our people and our Members should be considered favourably. I also request the hon. Railway Minister to consider about the Salem Railway Division and also other requests I made with regard to Tamil Nadu projects. In due course, I would also request him to consider the pending projects for early clearance, maybe in respect of broad gauge, electrification, doubling of lines, extra-connectivity and extension of trains in Tamil Nadu without any further loss of time. This is my humble request.

As I said, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Pondicherry, West Bengal, Assam and almost all over India, the hon. Minister would see the aspirations of all the Members of Parliament, maybe from this side or that side. We have to provide facilities—be it Chandigarh, Punjab and Kashmir. The hon. Minister should consider this venture. By this, I support this Appropriation (Railways) No. 5 Bill, 2005.

SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA (Mavelikara): Thank you Madam Chairman. I thank you for giving me this opportunity to participate in this discussion. The development of railway system is the basic requirement for the economic development. It is a fact that our Railway system is the biggest in the world.

The country has achieved a great deal of development in this area. But, I think, there are certain lacunae in the development pattern. We failed to provide equal opportunities to all regions and States for development the railway network. Various regions and States are still being neglected and this is hampering the overall economic development of these areas. My State Kerala is an example. We have been continuously raising this issue, but adequate attention is not given by the authorities concerned.

Madam, there were reports that the work on many of the railway projects in South India are not progressing due to inadequate fund allocation. It includes many projects in the State of Kerala too. Necessary funds should immediately be released to speed up the ongoing works.

The issue of doubling of lines is not being addressed satisfactory. It is the most urgent work required for the overall development of the State. It has to be done and also electrification, computerisation, opening of Information Centres, Touch Screen facilities, increasing platform length, platform shelters, construction of ROBs etc. have to be taken up. The doubling work in Ernakulam-Kayankulam sector via Kottayam has to be expedited by providing adequate funds. Then, there is a need for additional trains, coaches and increasing the number of general compartments to help ordinary passengers.

Madam, Kerala Express is the only train from North India to Thiruvananthapuram via Kottayam. Till the presentation of last Railway Budget, it used to stop at Changannassery. Now this stop has been removed. This has caused hardship to passengers in this area. I request the Government to restore the stop for Kerala Express at Changannassery and also allow a stop for this train at Mavelikara.

Then, Shoranur is very important in the railway map of Kerala. The lines from Kozhikode, Palakkad and from Southern Kerala converge at this point. But the lack of adequate facilities and space forces many of the trains not touching this station. There was a proposal for

[Shrimati C.S. Sujatha]

construction of a Triangular Railway Station at Shoranur, but the development of Shoranur still remains unattended. The situation is the same at the stations of Kayankulam and Chengannur. Kayankulam was declared as a Model Railway Station and Junction during the previous Government's time, but nothing has been done to increase the facilities and infrastructure there.

Madam, Chengannur is the major stop over point for the lakhs of pilgrims enroute the famous temple at Sabarimala. There is utter chaos during the period of pilgrimage. There are no proper facilities arranged for the pilgrims who come from all over the country. There are booths and centres put up by voluntary organisations to provide necessary assistance and help to the pilgrims in the premises of Chengannur Railway Station. Now the Railway authorities have imposed deposits and fees for setting up such stalls. The Railway authorities have stopped providing even electricity to these stalls. The Railway authorities have stopped providing even electricity to these stalls. It is ridiculous. On the one hand, the Railway authorities keep away from their responsibilities and on the other hand, they are preventing others from extending help to these pilgrims. This station contributes enormously in the revenue earnings of the Railways.

Madam, another very important issue is related to the Railway porters. There are about 1,50,000 licensed porters all over the country. The Railways have restricted the volume of parcel carried by passengers and also in the break vans. Along with this, offloading parcel service to private contractors further shrunk the employment opportunities of these poor porters causing unprecedented hardships to them and to their families. Such anti-poor measures have to be withdrawn.

The Railways have recently revised the parking fee on the vehicles parked in the Railway vicinities. There is an increase of five times and more. This is putting enormous financial burden on the ordinary daily passengers, who mostly depend on two wheelers to reach at the respective stations. The auto-rickshaw and taxi operators are also over burdened. They are mostly self-employed and cannot afford the steep hike.

Madam, Kerala suffers from lack of railway development. There are many issues. Special attention has to be paid in this area. For the State's comprehensive railway development, it is essential to set up a Railway Zone centred in the State. The people of the State have been time and again demanding this. I would request the

Government to consider this request of the people of Kerala.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): Hon. Madam, Chairman, thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on Supplementary Demands for Grants for Railways (2005-2006). A demand for 20,000.66 lakh rupees has been made in the Supplementary Demand of Grants for Railways. I support this demand. But, as you just said development of the nation, as a whole would be possible only when all the States are included in the exercise, be it the Supplementary Budget or the Main Budget. The people of Bihar are very fortunate in that, most of the Railway Ministers in the political history of the country have belonged to Bihar. On reading the Rail Supplementary Budget booklet I found that the first item get was revived was the toy train in Sanjay Gandhi zoological park in Patna. I support this step. I do not oppose it because children would be able to enjoy the train and when we would take our children there they would also be entertained by it. I do not oppose it. The Railway Minister is not present here. The Minister of State for Railways is sitting here. So, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government and of the railway officers towards the fact, that we are elected by the people. I belong to Uttar Pradesh, which is the heart of the country. If Uttar Pradesh is neglected by the Railways then the development of the country would not be possible.

Madam Chairman, as you mentioned in your speech, development of the country would not be possible without development of Madhya Pradesh. In my opinion Uttar Pradesh is an important State and development of the country would not be possible without development of Uttar Pradesh. The main train route from Mughalsarai to new Delhi passes through Uttar Pradesh. Through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the fact that it is very difficult to get permission or a no objection certificate for any project, be it regarding a water supply pipeline or some construction work under a railway crossing.

Similarly, getting NOC simply to lay an electric cable line under a railway line is a difficult prospect, let alone getting one for construction of a flyover. I was elected in 1998 and then again later. Since that time I got Rs. crores sanctioned by the government for Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana after a lot of effort. There is a newly

demarcated district, called Koshambi. Manjhanpur Headquarter is situated there. There is a station near it called Baramari. Traffic remains stalled for more than half an hour at a time at that place. We have managed to get a provision of Rs. 12 crores under the Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana but permission for construction of the upper portion of the flyover has not get been granted by your department.

Letters have been written many times in this regard. I have been raising this issue in the House repeatedly, be it the construction of fly overs, laying the electric cable lines, water supply line, several hurdles are faced while executing these works. The Department of Railways is for the convenience of the rail passengers. Similarly, water supply line is also for the convenience of the passengers. And similarly laying of electric cable line and construction of flyovers and roads are also for the convenience of the passengers. I, therefore, demand that sanction should be accorded immediately for the execution of these works. If we work as per your parameters, then I think there cannot be any development in any area. So, kindly relax these parameters so that the main problems concerning the public could be addressed to.

Now take the example of the main road to the Tehsil headquarters. Most of the railway crossings are on this road. Here not to talk of villages and towns, but there is the need to pay attention to the main roads at the Tehsil headquarters. Manauri, Siravu and Khaga in my constituency which are having the Tehsil headquarters, office of the Deputy Commissioner of Police and Block office. So people have to visit Tehsil for their works. As there is no flyover or overbridge which results in traffic jam lasting for half an hour at a stretch. People could not reach their work places in time and thus they are facing difficulty and this has also stalled developmental work. So, there is a need to pay attention towards this problem.

I consider myself fortunate enough that one Indian Oil Corporation's office is coming up in my constituency Allahabad. There is one Mundera village. This town is there for the last many hundreds years. Waste water used to be drained out through a nullah there but now you have acquired the land. Now there is no exit point for draining out the waste water. In the coming rainy season, there is possibility of water logging in the village and there is fear of submerging of the entire village and this could work a havoc in the village. Therefore, the nullah of the village should be connected with main nullah

of the ACR because there is a very large nullah a little further and that would facilitate the easy draining out of waste water.

We talk of development of the country through the Railways but there are so many projects which are connected with his department, so kindly speed up sanctioning these projects. He talks of people's interest. I am also talking of people's interest of my area. So kindly issue a NOC for all these works immediately.

A new district Koshambi has come into existence there and Bharmari is its main station. I have been demanding repeatedly that this station should be converted into a junction. Besides, there should be the facility of computerized railway reservation centre there and all major trains should have a stoppage there. I am raising the same issue tomorrow under Rule 377 wherein I am demanding for stoppage of three trains viz. the Magadh, Katihar and Kalka Express. I want that these trains should have a stoppage there. Kausambi is a religions place of the Buddhists and Jains. Buddhists from the countries like Japan, Indonesia etc. visit there. Budha stayed at Kaushambi for 12 years. It is also a religious place of Jains. This is the reason why the foreign tourists visit there in large numbers. I, therefore, demand that arrangement should be made to provide a two minute stoppage of these trains there.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): Works are being carried out. But talking too much would not serve any purpose. You put forth on points in brief.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: All right, I will be brief. My demand is that each of these trains should have a two minute stoppage there. As this would transform his district and the foreign tourist would also be benefited. This would promote tourism from the commercial view point and passengers would also have convenience.

Allahabad is the main district of Uttar Pradesh. This district had been the focal point of our freedom struggle. There are so many offices of both the Central and State Governments there. High Court is also there. Allahabad is also a religious place because of confluence of these rivers and it has been a centre of education as well. The Allahabad University is called mini Oxford. If one travels to Lucknow from Allahabad by road it takes three and half-an-hour and if double track is laid there, one can reach there in the same time but presently it takes five

[Shri Shailendra Kumar]

to seven hours to reach there by train. This is the reasons that people prefer to travel by bus or private vehicles to reach there. Therefore, the mail-express trains should run between these two places. If double track is laid, that would be much better. Allahabad and Lucknow are the main districts of Uttar Pradesh. If this facility is provided there, that would be better.

Most of the people travel by train. And trains halt at such stations in the night where there is no arrangement of light and people have to alight from trains in the darkness. If passengers want to fill their thermoses and bottles with water at some stations, they do not get drinking water. Therefore, arrangement should be made to provide light and drinking water at the railway stations. The hon. Minister has listened to me carefully and I hope that he will also take care of what I have said.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: I would like to request all the hon. Members to speak in brief as the list of speakers is very long. If some hon. Members want to lay their written speeches on the table of the House, they could do so as it would help us. The discussion has to be completed on this supplementary demand today itself.

SHRI GANESH PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Madam, I express my sincere gratitude for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Appropriation Bill, 2005-06. Development of railways is utmost essential. Railways connect the country from Kanyakumari to Kashmir and from Assam to Delhi. It not only connects other states but also other places and people speaking different language. There can not be any other cheaper mode of transport especially for traders. Therefore, this Bill of Rs. 200 crore and sixty six thousand should be passed unanimously. Shri Lalu Prasad Yadav ji, after assuming charge of Railway Ministry has increased the income of railways. The income of poor people associated with railways has also increased. Honourable Minister of Railways has played very important role for the overall development of Railways be it doubling, renovation or strengthening of railway tracks. Just a little while ago toy train of Sanjay Gandhi Udayan was mentioned. Earlier, the train was operational and kids used to enjoy it alongwith their guardians. But in last three-four years, the tracks have pealed off and the coaches have also become dilapidated. But the work undertaken there for the development of kids is quite appreciative.

The list of items of work for which money has been sought in the Demands for Supplementary Grants includes

58 projects which are quite important projects. Therefore, these demands should be cleared. I have been elected from Jahanabad constituency.

Madam, through you, I would ask honourable Railway Minister to urgently undertake doubling of Patna-Gaya rail line which is quite old railway track and passes through crowded areas.

Second demand was put to honourable Railway Minister at the time of last budget that construction of a railway line from Bihata to Anugarh Narayan Road viz. Pali and Arval is very important. The old rail track needs to be replaced. Money is required to execute all these works.

I, therefore, support the Supplementary Demands for Grants and would request the honourable Members to pass them unanimously.

[English]

\*DR. M. JAGANNATH (Nagar Kurnool): Our Indian Railways is the Asia's biggest Railway system with following infrastructure.

63,122 K.M. Track	1 Lakh signals
8,081 stations	40,000 level crossings
14,761 trains daily	6 lakh operational and maintenance staff
14 million passengers travel Daily	

Our Railways travel is the cheapest mode of transport for poorer Section of the society.

Directly it might be giving employment to few lakhs only. But indirectly it provide employment for crores of people.

People used to feel proud to travel by Railways some time back but now they are scared to travel by railway because of recent incidents.

People are questing how safe is the Railway travel with the following Data of Accidents.

Derailments 75% of all accidents and 14% of Fatalities.

Level crossings 16% of all accidents and 46% of all fatalities.

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\*The speech was laid on the Table.

Collision 7% of all accidents and 38% of all fatalities.

New we have to sit and introspect ourselves whether railways are living upto the expectations of people of India.

Notwithstanding with the realities and unmindful of long term interests of this vital infrastructure in sustaining the national's economic and industrial growth. The successive railway minister's have their own railway agenda.

Budget allocations were unrealistic causing the back log of projects like gauge conversion, new lines, doubling and safety measures.

There is whooping Rs. 30,000 crores require for only gauge conversion which might take 10 to 20 years to complete depending up on the availability of financial resources.

#### **Train Accidents:**

The Train accidents over the last decade is increasing the number every year. The most attributed fact is human failure. No action is coming forth to correct this aspect. This shows the deep root of disillusionment with the political leadership and indiscipline that has settle in.

The Train accidents which occurred Velugonda of Nalgonda district of Andhra Pradesh shows how casual we are inspite of such measure mishap where hundreds of people lost their lives. And crores rupee of property loss.

Instead of we introspecting ourselves and correcting we are trying to cover up the episode in such a manner which is a shameful act.

#### **Safety Measures:**

There are thousands of old bridges and thousands kilometers old tracks which are to be re-built and replaced. But we are not sensitive to those works unless a major mishap is taking place.

On the safety aspect much concentration to be shown we should try to adopt world class safety measures for the safety of passengers and goods.

#### **state of Andhra Pradesh:**

Coming to my own state of Andhra Pradesh gradually the budgetary allocations are getting reducing in all the

departments whether it is new lines, gauge conversions, doubling and on the safety measures.

I request the Hon'ble Railway Minister to increase the allocation for the state of Andhra Pradesh.

Now I request the Hon'ble Railway Minister to

1. Take necessary steps to doubling the Secunderabad-Dronachalam Section as it is becoming the very busy route for the south bound trains.
2. Electrification of Railway track between Secunderabad and Dronachalam Section.
3. Construction of Road under Bridge (RUB) at Jedcherla Railway Station between Jedcherla and Gollapalli Railway Stations.
4. Construction of ROB's at Yenugonda level crossing gate and Gadwal level crossing gate near Gadwal Railway Station.
5. Provision to stoppage for Dharmavaram Express at Jedcherla Railway Station.
6. Stoppage of all the passenger trains which passes through Kotturu Railway station between Secunderabad and Dronachalam section.
7. Construction of new Railway line between Gadwal and Macherle for which survey had been already conducted.

With this I support the supplementary grants for Railways on behalf of TDP and on my personal behalf.

SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI (Tiruchendur): Thank you, Madam Chairperson, for giving me this opportunity to speak on Supplementary Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Railways. I also thank our beloved Leader, Dr. Kalaignar Karunanidhi, and Tamils' Jupiter, our Thalapathi Thiru M.K. Stalin, without whom I would not be here.

The Indian Railways has played a very vital role in the development of our country. Development of railways is of paramount importance for the growth of our country. Throughout the world, the Indian railways has the longest route from North to South and East to West. We have to do a lot to improve our railway system. Our hon. Minister of Railways, Shri Lalu Prasad, and the hon.

[Shrimati V. Radhika Selvi]

Minister of State, Thiru R. Velu, have taken a number of steps to improve the system.

I am representing the Tiruchendur constituency which is at the southern tip of India, in which the famous Kanyakumari is located. Kanyakumari is a very famous tourist spot in which the 133-foot tall Thiruvalluvar statue has been erected by our beloved Leader, Kalaignar Karunanidhi. The confluence of the Bay of Bengal, the Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean is the fascination of Kanyakumari. The famous Vivekananda Rock Memorial is situated at about 200 metres off the shore. People from all over India and abroad visit Kanyakumari throughout the year to see these places.

The Railways play a major role in bringing people from all over India to Kanyakumari. The railway reservation counters at Kanyakumari were working from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. earlier. Now, the reservation counters are working only from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., causing inconvenience to tourists and also to the people living in and around Kanyakumari. So, the earlier working hours of these reservation counters should be restored.

The Mumbai-Nagercoil Express is run only for four days a week. It runs to full capacity on all the four days but it is not run on Saturdays and Sundays. Since the train is running to full capacity for four days a week, it should be run on all seven days. Moreover, Kanyakumari being a tourist centre, this train could be extended up to Kanyakumari. By doing this, the Railways could earn more revenue. I would request the hon. Minister to make Kanyakumari, which is the southern tip of India, as a model railway station.

To benefit the students, workers and office-goers, the Chennai to Kanyakumari doubling of BG track should be provided. These passengers are unable to report for their duties on time because there is only a single line. It is high time that Valliyur and Nazareth railway stations are computerised. There has been a long pending demand from the people of my constituency for gauge conversion between Tirunelveli and Tiruchendur.

Tiruchendur is one of the most important pilgrimage centres in Tamil Nadu. Lord Mruguga's temple in Tamil Nadu is a world renowned one. Many arts and professional colleges are situated in this area and students from all over India are studying in them. So, rail transport is very important for people in this section.

Arumuganeri, which is near Tiruchendur is well known for production of salt. The salt producers find it very difficult to transport salt from Arumuganeri by train.

They have to send salt by metre gauge up to Tirunelveli and by broad gauge to other parts from Tirunelveli. They incur double loading charges because of this. To put an end to salt producers' problem, the gauge conversion is a must and needs immediate action. Moreover, 90 per cent of works in minor bridges have been completed. Except one or two, all the works in major bridges have also been completed. The Railway Department can finish gauge conversion between Tirunelveli and Tiruchendur with minimum amount and in least time. So, I would humbly request the hon. Railway Minister, Shri Lalu Prasad, to consider gauge conversion from Tirunelveli to Tiruchendur. I hope and trust that the wish of people of my constituency will come true with words of sanction by your goodself at the time of reply today since this is the immediate necessity for my Tiruchendur constituency.

Coimbatore, Nilgiri, Salem, Erode, Dharmapuri, Namakkal, Villupuram, Thiruvannamalai, Krishnagiri and Cuddalore areas are under the administrative control of Palakkad Division. The officers who are working in Tamil Nadu are facing many hardships in respect of their administration. Even the public face difficulty with respect to their ticket reservation and confirmation of berths. We request your goodself to have an additional division in Salem.

With these words, I support the Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2005-06 on behalf of DMK.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN (Sonapat): Madam Chairman, discussion is going on Supplementary Demands for Grants. Where as I support the demands, I, in the presence of Union Railway Minister, say that as goes the saying, 'nearer the church, further from the heaven'. Similarly, Delhi is our national capital but adjacent areas of Delhi belonging to UP. Haryana and Rajasthan have been ignored as far as development of railway is concerned. National Capital Region (NCR) was carved out for this very purpose so as to reduce the population pressure of Delhi and help the people to settle in adjacent areas. Out of total NCR area, 40 per cent lies in Haryana. This is my third term as MP. Every time the Railway



Budget is presented. I always say that Haryana is most neglected state as far as railways is concerned though Haryana is close to Delhi and adjoins Delhi from three sides yet people of Haryana are not getting any railway facilities. Lakhs of daily commuters come to Delhi for trade, education and marketing purpose but the trains are so over crowded that several passengers die in accidents. At least 80 percent Delhi bound trains do not have any stoppages at stations in Haryana. Haryana, being close to Delhi, a large number of daily commuters come from there and they face a lot of problems. Whenever there is any discussion on Railways, I raise this issue. Neglect of Haryana is obvious. From all sides, electrification of railway tracks has been completed but Delhi-Rohtak-Bahadurgarh rail line is the only rail line which has not been electrified so far and Haryana has not got any railway project in last thirty years.

Jind-Gohana-Sonapat and Rohtak-Jhajhar Riwadi, lines were sanctioned, I had requested Railway Minister at the time of last railway budget for sanctioning these two projects and making some allocations for them. But only Rs. 3 crores and Rs. 2 crores were allocated for these two projects respectively. All formalities have been completed and now land acquisition work is to be undertaken for starting these projects. I would request the Railway Minister to have a sympathetic consideration for Haryana as it has also been his working field. When he started politics, he used to visit Haryana frequently. Now Budget session is due, therefore, please make budgetary provisions for both these railway lines so that project would take off smoothly.

Now it is the era of the Metro trains but we have been neglected in this also. Schemes are underway for expanding and extending the Metro all around. Sonapat is adjoining Delhi and is an industrial area and Bahadurgarh is just fifteen kilometers away from Delhi, rather it has become a part of Delhi. I demand from him that metro should also be expanded towards those areas.

Apart from this there are so many other small things too. Daily passengers are facing a lot of problems regarding providing stoppage to trains, their timings and rescheduling. These are very small things yet causing great hardship to people. Daily passenger's associations have been duly writing in this regard and we have also been raising the demand that a meeting of those associations be called and readjustment and rescheduling should be done as it involves no disturbance to the traffic while the problem of these people will also be solved.

Similarly, there is a demand for rescheduling of a number of trains as also additional coaches. This problem can be solved by adding four coaches to those trains. There is a town named Gannaur from where about thirty five to forty thousand people commute daily but Express trains do not stop at Gannaur station. I demand that EMU trains should be introduced from Gannaur. I also demand that a train should also be started from Sonapat which is an industrial area and particularly number of coaches in trains should be increased to solve this problem.

My second point is very important: Reschedule departure of 303 up on DV section from Delhi should be made 3 PM. Timing of banks there has changed and bank employees are facing difficulty in commuting. Its timing should be made 3 PM instead of 3.15 PM. There is no to and fro train to Sonapat after 7.15 AM. Therefore adjustment of a passenger train to Sonapat should be made for facility of other people.

There is yet another major problem persisting since long. On the Sonapat section which is a part of the Chandigarh section, work of four laning of the track was taken up but little progress has been made since then. If it becomes a four lane track it can solve the problems of stoppage and timing. Stoppage to Jammu Mail and Superfast trains should be provided at Gannaur station. There are some problems which can be solved by effecting some minor adjustments.

There is yet another major thing to which I would like to draw his attention. He had provided some concession in railway journey to family members of martyrs in the last budget but they have not got it fully. You know that only a very small number of freedom fighters are still surviving in the country and they are very old. The people who are laying down their lives for the country be it Kargil conflict or some other operations and be they armed forces personnel or be they para military forces personnel, there should not be any discrimination between them. A martyr is a martyr irrespective of whether he lays down his life on the border of the country while defending it or while taking on terrorists elsewhere. Whoever lays down his life for the country whether he is from police force, para military forces or from army, free train journey should be provided to their families. It will be a great service.

Hon'ble Chairperson, generally it is seen that security is not available for women in trains. I had raised this point during discussion on last rail budget that security is

[Shri Kishan Singh Sangwan]

not available to women in trains. They are being made to suffer a cruel joke. The police personnel deployed in trains do not protect them. I suggest that a women police force should be raised for safety of women in trains.

I demand rescheduling of train No. 4731 Delhi-Bhatinda Express. Thousands of employees will be benefited by changing timing of this train to 2.50 PM. Rescheduling of this train will not disturb rail traffic in any way. Generally the letters we write to the hon'ble Minister or the matters which are raised here in the House are taken up by the officials under the hon'ble Minister in their normal routine matters and write back that our letter has been received or that report has been called for from lower levels or that there is shortage of time or there is no budget. I mean to say that the department has no positive approach towards the work. I think that their approach should be as to how the problems which have come to their notice can be solved. In this way they just tend to fulfil the formalities, caring little for the outcries of the people. I suggest that the administration should be tightened with a positive thinking so that problems of the people could be solved.

Madam Chairperson, I hope that the hon'ble Minister will take care of all these problems and take action thereon.

[English]

\*SHRI SANTASRI CHATTERJEE (Serampore): Hon'ble Railway Minister may kindly consider the following:

1. Improvement of passenger amenities in Howrah to Sealdah Station.
2. To take up development programme of Sheorahauli, Serampore, Dankuni, Janai, Uttarpara, Konagore stations on the Eastern Railway.
3. To take up further development programme in Howrah—Amta line of the Southern Eastern Railway so as to care to the needs of the passengers.
4. To take up construction of R.O.Bs in some areas of West Bengal in consultation with the State Government.
5. To expedite the work of sanctioned R.O.Bs.

\*SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Hon'ble Sir. As per the direction of the chair, I am submitting my speech on the Supplementary Demand for Grants of Railways for the year 2005-06. Sir, I am approaching through you to Hon'ble Minister of Railways for allotment of additional funds in the supplementary budget for expediting the ongoing Railway development project and inclusion of new projects, which have not been covered in the Railway Budget for 2005-06.

Mr. Sir, as you are aware Orissa is located in the East Coast of India and has population of 3.68 crores and having an area of 1,56,000 KMs, the State has one of the lowest per capita income coupled with inadequate rail infrastructure albeit having endowed with abundant minerals resources like Iron Ore, Chrome, Bauxite and Manganese etc. Against the national average of 19 Km<sup>2</sup>/1000 Sq. Kms., Orissa has a route length of 15.03 Kms. only. Neighbouring states like Bihar and West Bengal have a railway route length to the extent of 30 Kms. and 42 Kms. respectively. In near future various corporate houses will invest for setting up of Mega Steel Plants, Aluminum Plants and major industries and the generation of additional traffic in the State is expected to be 40 million tonnes by 2010. The establishment of a separate zonal railway headquarters at Bhubaneswar i.e. East Coast Railway has generated substantial revenue for Indian Railways.

Hon'ble Sir, East Coast Railways was made operational from 1st April, 2003 with Sambalpur, Khurda Road and Waltair divisions. The Jurisdiction of the Sambalpur division has been reduced affecting the viability of the division. To ensure Sambalpur division as profit centre, Ministry of Railways is requested that its territorial jurisdiction to include the (a) Jharsuguda-Himgir, (b) Jharsuguda-Barsuan/Kiriburu (c) Rourkela-Nugaon sections. East Coast Railways had transported 64 million tonnes freight in 2003-04. The operating ratio is 63% perhaps one of the lowest in Indian Railways. It is necessary that all requirements of infrastructural development for East Coast Railways should be expeditiously completed. At present since Sundergarh district has also got tremendous potential for Iron Ore and other mineral based industries, Ministry of Railways may consider creation of new division with Headquarter either at Rourkela or at Jharsuguda with Jurisdiction of Jharsuguda-Himgir, Jharsuguda-Barsuan/Kiriburu and Rourkela-Nugaon sections.

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\*The speech was laid on the Table.

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\*The speech was laid on the Table.

The Govt. of Orissa had presented a memorandum to the Ministry of Railways for allotment of more funds towards ongoing projects like B.G., Rail Links, gauge Conversion, Doubling and Electrification etc. during 2005-06, but this is not reflected in the Supplemented Budget also. The Ministry should complete the sanctioned projects

amounting to Rs. 4825.99 crore within next 5 years and make the State of Orissa profit centre for the Ministry of Railways. I had requested the Railway Minister through you in my Railway Budget Speech to allot funds for 2005-06 in this manner.

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Estimated Cost (Rs. in crores)	Actual Allocation for 2004-2005 (Rs. in crores)	Proposed Allocation for 2005-06 (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3	4	5
<b>NEW LINES:</b>				
1.	Daitari-Banspani	90.60	83.00	(RVNL) 100.00
2.	Lanjigarh Road-Junagarh	119.29	8.00	80.00
3.	Khurda Road-Bolangir	700.00	15.38	70.00
4.	Haridaspur-Paradeep	344.54	6.00	40.00 (RVNL)
5.	Angul-Duburi-Sukinda Road	441.92	2.00	20.00
6.	Talcher-Bimalagarh	727.00	5.00	10.00
<b>ELECTRIFICATION</b>				
1.	Kharagpur-Nimpura-Bhubaneswar	323.48	36.00	100.00
2.	Bhubaneswar-Visakhapatnam	294.00	35.00	
<b>GAUGE CONVERSION</b>				
1.	Rupsa-Bangriposi	80.00	27.54	60.00
2.	Naupada-Gunupur	91.30	15.00	50.00
<b>DOUBLING</b>				
1.	Nirgundi-Cuttack-Raghunathpur	123.68	15.00	
2.	Rahama-Paradeep	63.47	11.90	
3.	Titilagarh-Lanjigarh Road	100.05	20.00	250.00
4.	Raja Athagarh-Nirgundi	71.85	1.00	
5.	Raghunathpur-Gorakhnath	67.89	1.00	
6.	Rahama Raj Athagarh-Baranga	178.98	15.00 (RVNL)	
7.	2nd Bridge on Birupa & Mahanadi	109.45	11.00 (RVNL)	
8.	Khurda Rd.-Puri	48.00	10.00	

1	2	3	4	5
9.	Cuttack-Baranga	127.13	20.00 (RVNL)	
10.	Khurda-Baranga 3rd Line	133.41	10.00 (RVNL)	
11.	Sambalpur-Rengali	70.37	10.00	
12.	Jharsuguda Bypass	1962	3.50	
Grand Total		4825.99	366.34	780.00

However, regrettably I have to say through you Speaker Sir, that the same has not been given adequate attention and the aspirations of the people of Orissa has been totally ignored.

Sir, I would also like to elaborate some of the major projects in Orissa, which deserve immediate attention of the Railways:

#### Doubling of existing Railway Lines

##### 1(a) Doubling of Khurda Road-Puri railway line in view of importance of Puri from International Tourism point.

Khurda road-puri railway track is of more than 100 years old and is the only railway line connecting Shri Jagannath Dham. The track is already 100% saturated. Though phase I work of the track had begun 4 years back, yet no satisfactory progress has been made so far and there is no sanction for phase II Work. In the Railway Budget 2005-2006 only Rs. 10 crore has been earmarked, which is inadequate for completion of this project. Considering Puri as a national and international tourist centre the doubling work may be undertaken expeditiously. I would request you the Hon'ble Minister to allot the requisite funds in the supplementary Budget for completion of Phase-I work and make provision of sanction for expediting the Phase-II work.

(b) Daitari-Banspani B.G. rail links (155) Kms. Since the Industrial scenario has been changed in the area dramatically and private parties are interested to set up Steel Plants in a big way. Ministry of Railways therefore is requested to sanction in supplementary Budget for doubling of Daitari-Banspani B.G. Rail links in 2005-06 and also sanction electrification in view of the fact that East Coast from Bhubaneswar-Palasa has already been electrified.

(c) Talcher-Sambalpur B.G. rail links: This was commissioned in the year 1998 which has reduced the distance from Bhubaneswar-New Delhi by 150 Kms. The Ministry of Railways is therefore requested to sanction doubling to Talcher B.G. rail links.

It is also requested that doubling of Nirgundi-Cuttack, Rangunathpur, rahama-Paradeep Rail Line may be completed at the earliest. Titilagarh-Lanjigarh Road, Raj Athagarh-Nirgundi, Raghunathpur-Gorakhnath, Rahama-Raj Athagarh-Barang, 2nd Bridge on Birupa 7 Mahandi, Cuttack-Barang, Khurda-Barang 3rd Line, Sambalpur-Rengali, Jharsuguda Bypass Railway lines which had in progress may be expedited for early completion. The allocation of 0.01 crore each to in Budget 2005-06 for doubling of Raghunathpur-Gorakhpur-Rahama, Rajaathagarh-Cuttack-Raghunathpur require Rs. 15 crore whereas in the Budget only Rs. 8.97 crore had been allotted. Mr. Speaker Sir, for the doubling of Titilagarh-Lanjigarh Road a demand of Rs. 250 crore was made by the Govt. of Orissa, whereas only Rs. 10 crore had been allotted. Mr. Speaker Sir, for doubling of Rahama-Rajaathagarh-Baranga Line, second Bridge on Birupa and Mahanadi, Cuttack-Baranga Line and Khurda-Baranga third line in the Budget-2005-06 Rs. 30.00 crore, Rs. 28.60 crore, Rs. 30 crores and Rs. 30 crores respectively had been allotted, which was entrusted to Rail Vikash Nigam Ltd. (RVNL). The past experience shows RVNL didn't spend more than 5% of the total allotment and the same was an eye wash on the part of Railway so far as allotment for the doubling of these projects in Orissa is concerned. Allocation of Rs. 10.70/- crore for doubling of Sambalpur-Rengali Line was totally inadequate. But inspite of our request there is no provision for these projects in the Supplementary Budget too.

#### Electrification

Work for Electrification is in progress from Kharagpur-Bhubaneswar. A stretch of 200 Kms between Palasa to

Bhubaneswar was commissioned on 27.03.2004. Ministry of Railways was requested to allot Rs. 100 crores against sanctioned amount in 71 crores in 2004-05 keeping in view the progress and early completion. But it was not resulted, hence more funds should be allotted in the Supplementary Budget for expediting this electrification project. Mr. Speaker Sir, I am requesting for sufficient fund allocation for Korapur-Rayagarh electrification project against Rs. 0.1 crore allotted in 2005-06 Railway Budget, but there is no provision in the Supplementary Budget also.

#### **New Lines:**

**Khurda Road-Bolangir (289 Kms):** The land acquisition is in progress Ministry of Railways was requested for allotment of Rs. 70 crore for 2005-06 for construction and land acquisition in 6 districts. In the Budget 2005-06 only Rs. 10 crores had been allotted, which was very small amount against the projected demand of Rs. 70 crores for 2005-06. Hence an additional amount of atleast 50 crore to be allotted in the Supplementary Budget.

**Haridashpur-Paradeep (78 Kms.):** The projected traffic flow for Steel Plants in Duburi-Kalinga Nagar complex is expected to rise by 2010. Ministry of Railways is requested to allot additional 20 crores in the Supplementary Budget against the allotment of 20 crores in the Railway Budget 2005-06.

**Angul-Duburi—Sukinda Road (90 Kms.):** The final location survey for this project has been completed and land acquisition will commence shortly. Ministry of Railways is requested to allocate Rs. 20 crores in Supplementary Budget of 2005-06 to enable land acquisition, but an allotment of Rs. 0.10 crore only in Railway Budget 2005-06 is minuscule.

**Talcher-Bumlagarh (154 Kms):** Project has been sanctioned in the year 2004-05 and land acquisition work is to be commenced. Ministry of Railways is requested allocation of Rs. 10 crores for 2005-06. Against this demand of Rs. 10 crore, in the Budget only Rs. 5 crore had been allocated. I would request Hon'ble Railway Minister through you Speaker Sir, for allotment of another Rs. 5 crore in Supplementary Budget.

**Lanjigarh Road-Junagarh (54 Kms.):**- All private and Govt. land between Lanjigarh-Bhawanipatna have been handed over for construction. Earth work is in progress

in all the sections. Since some private parties are setting up of Alumina/Aluminium Plants. Ministry of Railways was requested to make a provision of Rs. 80 crores for 2005-06 for construction between Lanjigarh-Bhawanipatna as well as to start land acquisition work between Bhawanipatna-Junagarh. Mr. Speaker Sir, only Rs. 8 crore has been allocated in the Railway Budget which was insufficient and I would request that an amount of 50 crores to be allotted in Supplementary Budget to keep the project going.

**Daitari-Banspani Rail links (155 Kms):** All the private, forest and Govt. land have been handed over for construction. Work is in progress from Keonjhar to Tomka (98 Kms). It was targeted that Daitary-Banspani Rail links to be completed by Dec., 2005, because bridges of the slow progress it may not be possible.

**Gauge conversion: Rupsa-Bangiriposi (89 Kms.)** conversion work is under progress Ministry of Railways was requested to allot Rs. 60 crore for 2005-06 and complete the conversion at the earliest. As against the demand for Rs. 60 crore nearly Rs. 3 crore has been allocated in the Budget 2005-06. Hence I would request for additional allotment of Rs. 40 crore in Supplementary Budget to expedite the project.

**Nuapara-Gunupur (90 Kms.)** conversion work has commenced with land acquisition. Final location survey has been completed. Ministry of Railways was requested for an amount of Rs. 50 crore for 2005-06. As against the demand of Rs. 50 crore only Rs. 5 crore had been allocated in the Railway Budget 2005-06. Hence, Sir, I would request through you to the Hon'ble Railway Minister for allotment of Rs. 20 crores in the Supplementary Budget for expediting the project.

#### **New Lines and Surveys**

Sir, I would also like to request to Hon'ble Minister for Railways through you for sanction of funds in the Supplementary Budget for five new B.G. Rail Links.

#### **a. Conversion & Extension of Nuapada-Gunupur B.G. Rail Link to Theruvalli (79 Kms.)**

A traffic survey was completed in March, 1999 for extension of the Converted Nuapada-Gunupur B.G. Rail Link to Theruvalli with a favourable rate of return.

The Extension will enable import and Export of cargo via-Gopalpur Port. Although this project has been

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incorporated in the Budget speech of the Hon'ble Railway Minister no budgetary provision has been made in this regard.

**b. Jeypore-Malkangiri (117 Kms.):**

This broad-gauge rail link for which a survey report has been submitted to Ministry of Railways which forms a part of the most backward districts of Orissa *i.e.* KBK area, which has been accorded special status by Govt. of India for speedy development. This requires immediate implementation.

**c. Talcher-Gopalpur (245 Kms.)**

The survey report of Talcher-Gopalpur Broad-gauge Rail Link line submitted to Ministry of Railways indicated a favourable rate of return. The recent thrust of industrialization with setting up a of Steel, Power and Aluminum Plants would require a dedicated Railway link between Talcher to Gopalpur (Special Economic Zone) for export and import of raw material and finished products. No action has been taken in the present Supplementary Budget also.

**d. Bargarh-Nuapada-Via-Padampur (120 Kms.):**

Survey for this Broad-gauge Rail link was completed and report submitted to the Ministry of Railways. Rail infrastructure in Western Orissa is not developed adequately despite a large number of industries and heavy production of food grains. The B.G. Rail Link will traverse through acutely backward areas of the State, and ensure economic development.

**e. Puri-Konark (35 Kms.):** Puri attracts thousands of pilgrims to visit the temple of Lord Jagannath regularly. The famous Sun Temple is located at Konark. This monument is famous throughout the world and is visited by thousand of tourists every year. Considering all these aspects a survey was completed for construction of New B.G. Rail Link between Puri-Konark on the year 1997. This link will facilitate visits by the tourists and pilgrims to the last link of the golden triangle.

**For Bargarh-Nuapada-Via-Padmapur (120 Kms.):** and Puri-Konark (35 Kms.) although Hon'ble Railway Minister has announced for further detailed survey, no funds have been allocated in the Supplementary Budget.

I would also request to Hon'ble Railway Minister through you for allotment of funds in the Supplementary Budget for five surveys.

**(a) Gopalpur-Rayagada (282 Kms.):**

All Bauxite deposits are located in Rayagada and Kalahandi area. Recently, Government of Orissa has signed number of Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) for setting up of Aluminium industries for production of Alumina and Aluminium. Therefore, sanction of a survey is imperative to cater to the traffic that will be generated.

**(b) Jaleswar-Digha (40 Kms):**

Digha is a popular beach resort which will be connected from Tamluk. It is necessary that a survey be sanctioned from Jaleswar to Digha a stretch of 40 Kms. so that the vast areas in Bhogarai and Jaleswar Block can be connected. Although this project has been announced, no funds have been allocated.

**(c) Jaipur Keonjhar Road-Jajpur (30 Kms.):**

Biraja Khetra at Jajpur Town is a famous place of Pilgrimage in India at Par with Dwaraka and Kasi. A large number of pilgrims visit this area regularly. The Ministry of Railways is requested to sanction a survey for extension of the East Coast Railway Line from Jajpur-Keonjhar Road to Jajpur.

**(d) Gorumahisani to Buramara (35 Kms.)**

Work is in progress for gauge conversion of Rupsa-Bangiriposi N.G. Rail Link. However, a survey may be sanctioned for linking Gorumahisani on Tata-badampahar B.G. Rail Link to Buramara on Rupsa-Bangiriposi Rail Link.

**(e) Badampahar to Keonjhar (70 Kms.)**

A survey needs to be sanctioned between Badampahar to Keonjhar which shall link the rich iron ore area with Tatanagar.

Sir, the state of Orissa is far short of number of Trains in proportion to its area and population, I would like to request the Hon'ble Railway Minister through you for introduction of several new trains and other amenities for passengers benefit.

**(a) Super-fast Express from Puri-Jaipur:** There is no direct train service from Puri to pink city of Jaipur. Introduction of a Train Services from Puri-Jaipur, Via-Sambalpur, and Raipur will enable tourists and pilgrims from Central and Western India to come to Orissa and

this service will immensely benefit people of western Orissa. Although Jaipur-Bilashpur Express Train has been extended to Bhubaneswar in the Budget Speech of Railway Minister, this train should further to be extended to Puri. Necessary provision should be made in the Supplementary Budget.

**(b) Super-fast Express from Sambalpur to Allahabad**

There is no direct train from Sambalpur to Allahabad in order to meet the growing demand of traffic from Western Orissa. Introduction of a train from Sambalpur to Allahabad via-Ranchi and Gaya will enable the people of Western Orissa to Visit important places of pilgrimage.

**(c) Super-fast Express Train from Bhubaneswar to Kanyakumari**

There is no direct train originating from Bhubaneswar to South India. A train from Bhubaneswar to Kanyakumari via Chennai shall go a long way in carrying pilgrims and tourists from Orissa to various places in South India.

**(d) Inter City Express between Koraput and Rourkela Via-Rayagada**

The Raipur-Vizianagram-Koraput Kirandul B.G. rail link passes through the most backward areas of the state like Koraput, Bolangir and Sundargarh. An Inter City Express linking Rourkela with these areas of this state will give the much needed impetus for business and commerce of the area.

**(e) Express Train from Titilagarh to Puri, Via-Sambalpur**

Presently there is no direct train from Titilagarh area to cater the needs of Western Orissa. Introduction of Express Train on this route will provide relief to the people and also ensure emotional, social integration with coastal Orissa.

**(f) Express Train from Visakhapatnam to Howrah-Titilagarh, Raipur & Bilaspur**

The area from Visakhapatnam to Titilagarh is backward and requires additional train services to ensure increase of commerce and trading with neighboring states.

**(g) New Puri-Hyderabad Express and New Puri-Chennai Express**

There is no direct Train Link form pilgrim centre of Puri famous for Lord Jagannath to South India. Two direct

trains from Puri-Hyderabad and Puri-Chennai will fabulously benefit pilgrims of South India and people of Puri and Orissa.

**Introduction of EMU Services**

Electrification work between Khargpur-Bhubaneswar is in progress and stretch of 200 kms between Palasa to Bhubaneswar has been commissioned. Ministry of Railways is requested to introduce fast Moving EMU Trains from Puri-Palasa and Puri-Balasore to cater to the need of passengers of Puri-Khurda Road-Bhubaneswar and Balasore.

Sir I would like to request the Hon'ble Railway Minister through you for increasing in frequency of the existing trains.

Visakhapatnam-Nizamuddin Express Train may be increase to daily from 3 days in a week to cater the need of passengers traveling from Western Orissa to the capital of India. The frequency of New Delhi-Bhubaneswar Rajdhani Express may be increase from 4 days to 7 days in week. In remaining three days the Rajdhani Express may be run Via-Sambalpur, Rourkela and Ranchi. The frequency of Puri-Ahmedabad Express Via-Sambalpur and Vizianagaram may be increased to facilitate journey of large number of workers from Orissa employed in Gujarat. It is requested that the frequency of this train Via-Sambalpur may be increased to thrice a week and via-Vizianagaram to four days in a week. The frequency of Bhubaneswar-Kuria Express may be increased to three days in week. This train is immensely popular by passengers traveling from Western Orissa. Frequency of Puri-Tirupati Express which is running once in a week may be increased and converted it as a daily. Since large number of fishermen folk are visiting Puri and have business connections, the Puri-Tirupati Express may be having an additional stoppage at 'Tuni' Railway Station under South Central Railway.

**Extension of Trains**

At present there is no direct train available for the people of South Orissa for linking New Delhi the capital of India. The Ministry of Railways is requested to extend the Bhubaneswar-Nizamuddin Express to Visakhapatnam with more coaches in order to cater to passengers from Palasa, Barhampur, Chhatrapur and Balugaon. The introduction of Bhubaneswar-Bangalore Express has helped in IT Education and Medical Treatment for the

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students and people of Orissa. The Ministry of Railways is requested to extend the Bangalore-Visakhapatnam Express to Bhubaneswar or alternately increase the frequency of Bhubaneswar-Banglore Express as daily.

The Ministry of Railway has introduced an Express Train from Sambalpur to Raipur this may be extended to Puri as this will facilitate a direct link between the capitals of two states. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am requesting the Hon'ble Railway Minister through you that even though the existing Hirakund Express from Nizamuddin to Bhubaneswar has been extended up to Visakhapatnam considering its long distance provision of pantry can may be made, introduction of three tier AC and the frequency should be increased from 3 days in a week to daily service.

#### **Passenger amenities**

Ministry of Railways has requested for increase in passenger amenities for Orissa, with the creation of East Coast Railway and its Headquarters established in Bhubaneswar the aspiration of people of Orissa for better infrastructural developments of the stations has increased manifold. The Ministry of Railways was requested to improve passenger amenities at Puri, Titlagarh, Rayagarha, Raigarha, Koraput, Kessinga, Chattrapur, Balugaon, Jaleswar and Balangir Stations. The Ministry is also requested to further increase the network computerized reservation at Baragarh, Sakshigopal, Kuhudi, Kalupadaghat, Balugaon, Chattrapur, Hirakud, Khariar Road, Jaleswar and Sora Stations. Janakideipur Railway Station may be developed as a full-fledged Railway Station to cater for a large chunk of people.

#### **Establishment of passenger halt at Indrayumna, Puri**

I would like to brief you on this project that for the establishment of a passenger halt at Indrayumna near Puri near Khurda Road Division, the Railways had conducted a survey and asked for certain information. Though the necessary information has been provided to the Railways and the proposal is a financially viable one, no further progress has been made. I would request the Hon'ble Railway Minister through you Mr. Speaker Sir, that in the Supplementary Budget. This project should accord sanction.

#### **Introduction of Pantry Car**

Some long distant trains originating from are not provided with Pantry Services, Ministry of Railways is

requested for pantry car services for Bhubaneswar-Bangalore Express (8415/8416). Bhubaneswar-Kural Express 1045/1046 and Puri-Tirupati Express (8439/8440). Necessary provision of funds in this regard may be made in the Supplementary Budget.

#### **Coaching Terminals**

Orissa has only one coaching terminal at Bhubaneswar, which is land locked and inhibits expansion. This terminal should be expanded in order to accommodate more number of Trains.

The Coaching Terminal at Puri, which has been closed, may be revived in order to accommodate more number of trains. Proper coaching terminals may be developed Barhampur, Sambalpur and Koraput.

At length I would request through you Mr. Speaker Sir, for sanction of atleast an additional amount of Rs. 425 crores in the Supplementary Budget for the ongoing projects and also accord necessary sanction for the new lines in the Supplementary Budget 2005-06. I would urge the Hon'ble Railway Ministry through you Speaker Sir, for allotment of this amount in the Supplementary Budget and sanction of Rs. 4825/- crores within next five years, which will go a long way in developing infrastructure for the Railways in the State of Orissa and culminate in overall economic growth of the State.

*[Translation]*

SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU (Berhampur, Orissa): Madam Chairman, I support the Supplementary Demands for Grants for the Railways for the year 2005-06 presented by the hon'ble Minister of Railways. I am sad to see these supplementary demands as there is no mention of East-Coastal Railways in it. Today itself, I have raised this matter under Rule 377 that an amount of Rs. 5 crore only was allocated for gauge conversion work from Navapada to Gunpur under the previous budget and today the said work has been stopped.

Madam Chairman, the hon'ble Minister of Railways had announced extension of a number of trains in the last budget but only a couple of trains have got extension in Orissa. Extension of Nizamuddin-Bhubaneswar Hirakud Express upto Vishakhapatnam was announced but it has not been implemented. Likewise, Chennai-Vishakhapatnam Express was announced to be extended upto Bhubaneswar but that too has not been implemented.



Madam Chairman, numerous railway projects like Rupasa-Bangaripose, Navapada-Gunpur, Khorada-Bolangir are going on in Orissa for many years. Even one percent of the funds required for these projects has not been provided in the budget. It seems that these projects will never complete if such a pattern of providing fund remains in place for 40-50 years.

Right now, I was listening to some of hon'ble Members from Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. They said that it was very difficult to connect the entire country. I am not opposed to this idea. But Orissa is a small state. Since my childhood, I have been seeing that a train namely Howrah-Chennai mail is in operation since the British period and it is still the same. This is the oldest train. I have written on number of occasion for providing a pantry car to this train. The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways, Shri Rathawaji has visited my area. There also we had given him in writing with regard to attaching pantry car to this train as this is one of the oldest trains and it takes two nights to travel from Howrah to Chennai. But pantry car has not been provided to this train till date. I have come to know that some racket is working against this. Similarly, the doubling of railway line from Khudra to Puri is also going on in Orissa which is yet to complete. Same is the story with electrification work, that too is incomplete. I request the hon'ble Minister of Railways to pay a little more attention to these small states in this budget. We were very hopeful of some provision in this supplementary budget as we had written on several occasions with regard to Navapada-Gunpur line on which gauge conversion work is going on. But I am sorry to say that there is no mention of East-Coast railways and Orissa in this supplementary railway budget. ...(*Interruptions*) This is not a question of regime, the UPA Government is providing more funds in the budget than those provided by the NDA Government. But we except more funds. Industrialisation is very fast in Orissa these days because of MOU signed by the State Government regarding iron ore, though we are not sure about its fate. But presently industrialization is very fast there. So the hon'ble Minister should pay attention to this also. The ongoing work of railway lines on Paradip, Rupasa, Bangariposi, Bolangiri rail routes should be completed at the earliest.

Madam Chairman, I have been raising this issue since the time of previous consultative Committee and our Minister of Railways has also been saying that in view of increased crowd at stations unreserved ticketing system

has been introduced at model station which are 'A' class stations from where people can buy unreserved tickets two or three days in advance. I am not aware of this facility elsewhere in Orissa, but this has not been introduced at Berhampur station which is a model station and an 'A' class station in my Parliamentary constituency. The hon'ble Minister should pay attention to this also.

Madam, I am fortunate that now it is you in the Chair. At stations like Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai, Kolkata and other 'A'-class and model stations, separate counters for ladies are not provided which causes a lot of inconvenience. Numerous complaints are coming in this regard. Through you, Madam, I would like to request the hon'ble Minister of Railways to pay attention towards this. I have raised this point expecting more time of 4-5 minutes to speak. Today, water problem is very common at stations including Berhampur station in my constituency. Hon'ble Rathawaji has visited the said station. People had also given him representation there. There is problem of drinking water for the railway employees as all posted there. The hon'ble Minister should do something for them also. Several hon'ble Members have raised the issue of road over bridges. I want to reiterate this demand. Road over bridges can never be constructed with 50 : 50 share of the railways and the States. A road over bridge is pending in my town for the last six years. The railways has provided its share but the State Government is not able to provide funds. This has to be considered serious and funding system needs to be changed to 80 : 20 or something else like that. Lajuji had said that he had a lot of funds but no State take sit for this work. The States will never be able to take that fund as none of them will be able to provide 50% funds hence the work can never be completed.

With taking no more time, I support the Supplementary Demands for Grants of Railways and conclude.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: I would like to request all the hon'ble Members to mind the time crunch.

Shri Brahmananda Panda.

18.00 hrs.

[*English*]

\*SHRI BRAHMANANDA PANDA (Jagatsinghpur):  
Madam Chairperson, I sincerely thank you for giving me

[Shri Brahmananda Panda]

the opportunity to speak on the supplementary Demand for Grants on Railways. As you are well aware Orissa is full of natural resources. For a very long time Orissa has been contributing coal and iron ore for the development of the nation. My previous speaker Hon. Mr. Chandra Sekhar Sahu was expressing how Orissa remain neglected by the Railways even after 57 years of independence. I want to remind the Hon. Railway Minister that in the year 2004 on 6th October, an all party delegation from Orissa had met him as well as the Prime Minister. They had submitted a memorandum which contained the details of some long-pending railway projects of which work needs to be speeded up. They had expressed grave concern over such negligence. Recently the Chairman of the Standing Committee for Railways hon. Mr. Basudev Acharya had visited Orissa. While addressing a press conference at Bhubaneswar he had expressed his anguish over the non-completion of Railway projects which had begun way back in 1992-93. This is primarily the reason why Orissa lags behind in railway connectivity. Railway connectivity is the life-line of a country's economic prosperity.

Prior to independence, had the Calcutta-Chennai and Delhi-Bombay railway lines were not laid, Orissa would have remained untouched by the Railways. Thank goodness Orissa has got the railway connectivity either by default or by God's grace. Even then her bounty of resources remain largely unexplored and she is labelled as a backward state only because of lack of expansion of network. Hon. Railway Minister has always been very vocal in this house about protecting the interests of the backward castes, SCs and STs and the deprived sections. But by merely expressing sympathy nothing will be achieved. A realistic initiative has to be heralded and executed by the Railways. This is the operative moment to do some introspection.

Madam, India is a holy land. All the States of India must simultaneously march towards progress and prosperity. Orissa should not be the one to lag behind and be at the receiving end. If she is neglected, her people will never forgive the Railway Department and the Railway Minister.

Madam, I want to highlight an architectural marvel of Orissa which is known as Konark. It is a global heritage site and its splendor is world famous. But unfortunately this picturesque place has no railway connectivity. Not only this, there are backward districts like Phulbani in Orissa, which even now remains untouched by the

railways. Even after 57 years of independence, people in several districts of Orissa are yet to see what a railway line or a train looks like. No wonder the menace of naxalism has cropped up in this peaceful State.

Madam, Orissa is the land of Lord Jagannath who is a symbol of love, harmony and humanitarianism. This beautiful land is the abode of goodwill and fraternity. Orissa and Bihar have very strong historical ties dating back to the era of King Asoka.

Madam, I represent the Biju Janata Dal (BJD) whose leader late Shri Biju Patnaik had understood the value of this holy land. It was his dream to see Orissa as a strong, self-reliant, prosperous front-ranking State of India. He visualized that. In order to hasten up the pace of progress a good network of railways is very urgently required. But very sadly I want to state that Orissa's railway connectivity leaves much to be desired. In a country if some part remain backward and there is no uniformity in development it is not going to usher in a healthy future.

In this context Madam, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Railway Minister to some specific cases which display the step-motherly attitude of the railways to Orissa. The Paradeep port is an important port of India, which is strategically located. But due to lack of railway connectivity this port is not playing a very prominent role as it should in the nation's economic progress. The delay in the doubling of the railway line over river Mahanadi is another case in point. The Daitari-Banspani railway project was sanctioned by Government way back in 1992-93 whose work is not yet complete. Other such long pending projects are the Haridaspur-Paradeep Lanjigarh-Junagarh, Khurda Road-Bolaner, Angul-Duburi-Sukinda Road, Talcher-Gopalpur, Jeypur-Malkangiri etc.

*[Translation]*

MADAM CHAIRMAN: It is 6 o'clock. If the House permits, the time of sitting may be extended for concluding the discussion on the Supplementary Demands for Grants for Railways.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Madam.

*[English]*

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OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE): We would like to conclude it today.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Bolasore): We have no objection provided you feed us.

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA (Rampur): I have to raise a very important 'Zero Hour' matter.

*[Translation]*

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Today we have to complete the Supplementary Demands, after that, if the House agrees, Zero Hour will be taken up for to minutes. We have to conclude the discussion on Supplementary Demand today. After that if the House agrees, we will think about 'Zero hour'. Hence, the House is extended till the discussion on Supplementary Demands is concluded.

*[English]*

SHRI BRAHMANANDA PANDA: Madam, please allow me to conclude.

My learned friend has also talked about conversion and extension of Nuapada-Gunupur B.G. rail link to Thervuali, Gorumahisani to Buramara, Badampahar to Keonjhar.

With regard to introduction of pantry car, my learned friend has pointed out. Then introduction of EMU Services, introduction of new trains, Superfast Express Train from Puri-Jaipur *via* Sambalpur and Raipur, Superfast Express from Sambalpur to Allahabad, Superfast Express Train from Puri to Kanyakumari, Express Train from Titilagarh to Puri *via* Sambalpur, Inter City Express between Koraput and Rourkela *via* Rayagada, Express Train from Visakhapatnam to Howrah *via* Titilagarh, Raipur and Bilaspur.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Please leave some points for future discussion.

SHRI BRAHMANANDA PANDA: Madam, please allow me to conclude.

I want to thank you Madam and want to caution the Hon. Railway Minister that if you neglect Orissa, Lord Jagannatha will never bestow with benevolence and our country will suffer. Hence a backward State like Orissa deserves all the attention. The Supplementary Demand

for Grants should think of allocating additional funds for furtherance of railway projects.

*[Translation]*

MADAM CHAIRMAN: I request you to be brief.

SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA (Hazaribagh): Madam, Chairman, while supporting the demands for supplementary grants for the Railways, I want to submit that Jharkhand State has always been neglected from the point of view of the Railways. It was neglected during the RJD rule and also during the Congress rule and even now it is still being neglected when there is UPA Government and hon. Lalu ji is Minister of Railways. Now in this supplementary Budget, you will see that survey for a new railway line has never been conducted nor any railway line has been started in Jharkhand. All the members from Jharkhand had met the hon. Minister of Railways and had complained that Jharkhand is being grossly neglected in the matter of Railways.

Madam, today, the maximum income for the Railways in the whole country is generated from Dhanbad and Ranchi Division in Jharkhand while the minimum expenditure is incurred in Jharkhand and it is being grossly neglected. I hail from Hazaribagh which is the headquarters of the northern Chhota Nagpur commissary till now it has not been linked with a railway line. In 2001 when hon. Yashwant Sinha ji was the Finance Minister, then just for the sake of political gain, foundation stone was laid for it by bringing former Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji while complete process had not even started. Work could not be started till 2003 and it was started later but only 25% work has been completed on it so far. The speed at which this work is being on, I feel that Hazaribagh can not be linked with a railway line even in ten years whereas maximum coal, mica and other minerals are found there. I think that Hazaribagh and Northern Chhota Nagpur Commissary produce the maximum coal and minerals in the whole country but no measure has been taken to connect it with a railway line. This work is going on very slowly almost at snail's pace.

Madam, I met hon. Railway Minister many a times and also talked to R.K. Singh, the former Chairman of the Railway Board. I had asked him to at least get the railway line work improved there by calling a meeting and complete the Hazaribagh railway line urgently, but

[Shri Bhuvaneshwar Prasad Mehta]

no work has been done so far. Koderma to Hazaribagh line, Hazaribagh to Ranchi, Koderma to Giridih and Hazaribagh to Todichandwa line, for which Coal India has deposited 100 crore rupees, but work has not been started there yet. In this way, Hazaribagh and Jharkhand are being neglected. Ranchi Rajdhani runs for two days in a week and it has been decided to run it for three days. Today, I have arrived by the same train and all the Members from Jharkhand arrive by it. It was decided to run Rajdhani train from Ranchi and it was said that a very good train would be provided, but all the rejected poor quality bogies are attached to the Ranchi Rajdhani. I want that the hon. Minister and the Minister of State should pay attention to it. Batra ji is sitting here. I would like to tell him the abysmal condition in which the Ranchi Rajdhani runs and Bhuvaneshwar Rajdhani also is in the same condition. We have written many times for providing at least a stoppage at Koderma for the Sealdah Rajdhani but this has not been done so far. Jharkhand should not be neglected in this way. You will see that half of the districts in Jharkhand are not connected with railway line.

18.09 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Sir, Jharkhand has mineral wealth and the Railway Board and the Railway Ministry earn billions of rupees. The same Railway Ministry is neglecting Jharkhand. Hon. Speaker has also arrived, therefore, I want to say few things that the Ranchi Rajdhani which is being run twice a week, should run daily so that the people get the transport facility. Besides, the Bhuvaneshwar Rajdhani should also be run daily. ...*(Interruptions)*

18.10 hrs.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

**Re: Constitution of a committee to go into allegations of improper conduct on the part of some members**

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Mehta, please take your seat. I have to make an important announcement. You may continue after that.

Hon. Members, my attention has been drawn to some serious allegations of improper conduct on the part of some hon. Members of Lok Sabha in the matter of submitting Questions for Answer by the Government. In view of the extreme gravity of the matter, I spoke to the hon. Leader of the House and the hon. Leader of the Opposition and I also discussed the matter with the Leaders of different Political Parties in Lok Sabha and all of them have unanimously agreed with the course of action I proposed to take. Accordingly, a mention was made by me in the House and I expressed concern at the same and requested the hon. Members concerned not to attend the House until further decision.

I have decided, which has been agreed to by the hon. Leaders, that all the concerned Members will be asked to submit their individual statements/explanations regarding the allegations made against them today on the TV Channel *Aaj Tak* before 10.30 a.m. on 14th December, 2005. The statements/explanations given by those Members will be placed before the Inquiry Committee consisting of the following hon. Members:

1. Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal (Chairman)
2. Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra
3. Md. Salim
4. Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav
5. Thiru C. Kuppasami

The Committee is requested to give its Report/s by 4 p.m. on 21st December, 2005. The Committee is authorised to follow its own procedure. The Report will be presented before the House for its consideration.

18.11 hrs.

#### DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS (RAILWAYS), 2005-2006—*Contd.*

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA (Hazaribagh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Railway Minister is sitting her. The Rajdhani Express running from Jharkhand should be run daily instead of three days a week. Also, the poor quality bogies should be replaced with good ones.

Secondly, the timing of the Sampurna Kranti Express train between Ranchi and Delhi is so inconvenient that the people have to get down at night and it starts also at night. Therefore, its time should be changed. Also, Sealdah Rajdhani should be provided a stoppage at Koderma.

18.12 hrs.

[SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN *in the Chair*]

About Rai Station, I would like to tell the hon. Minister that this station ranks fourth in the country in terms of profit but not even a single passenger train stops there, leave aside express train. The people there are agitating continuously. The Railway Station and the railway tracks are disrupted there for 4-5 days but the Board has not taken any decision on it. I have given it in writing many times so far. I want that a stoppage of all the passenger and express trains running on that route should be provided at the Rai Station.

Similarly, stoppage for a passenger train running from Ranchi Road to Chain Gomia via Gomia should be provided at Digwar. Thousands of people go to Surat and Gujarat from Dhanbad and Jharkhand but there is no train on this route. lakhs of people go here and there in search of job. A new train should be run between Dhanbad and Surat in Gujarat.

Though I like to congratulate hon'ble Minister of Railways as he has presented a budget which is showing a profit of rupees eight thousand crore but the catering facilities are in a worse condition and the bed rolls provided to the passengers are such dirty stuff as to make it quite evident that they are never washed. Regarding this I have written several times but it seems that no action is taken on that. Making the Railways run in profit is all right but the misuse of its catering facilities and bedrolls in this manner also need to be remedied.

With this I conclude.

[*English*]

\*SHRI P. MOHAN (Madurai): Madam Chairperson, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak in the discussion on Supplementary Demands for Grants for Railways. I would like to point out that Southern Railway

has been left out in this Demands for Grants. At this juncture, I would like to wholeheartedly thank the MPs from Kerala who have unanimously endorsed our request from all the Members hailing from Tamil Nadu including our Hon. Minister of State for Railways Shri R. Velu to declare Salem as the headquarters of a newly carved out Salem Division.

Recently Railways have announced the launch of Freight Corridor to boost export and goods traffic. This corridor with the aid from Japan excludes not only Chennai but the entire southern region. When the other three Metropolitan cities are covered, it is unfortunate that Chennai the traditional port city is left out. Hence I urge upon you to include Chennai in this mega project. Tiruchirappalli and Madurai are major business centers in Tamil Nadu. There is an ever-increasing demand for running more trains from these centers to other parts of the country. The present single line section between Chengalpattu—Villupuram—Tiruchirappalli—Madurai is not able to cater to ever-increasing demand for more trains. Though Dindigul—Madurai doubling has been sanctioned, there is no progress in the work. There is an urgent need for an electrified double line from Chennai to Madurai so that not only more trains can be introduced; the running time between these cities will also be reduced. Another reason given for non-introduction of more trains in Chennai-Madurai sector is non-availability of coaches. More coaches should be allotted for Southern Railway. Many major stations do not have platforms of sufficient length and sufficient height, which puts passengers to a lot of inconvenience. The budget hotel promised at Madurai is not making any headway. Madurai-Rameswaram gauge conversion should be completed at the earliest. Progress of ROB works, in general, is very poor. There should be some drive to expedite these works. The quality of catering and bedrolls continues to be poor.

I would like to highlight the need to go for a new railway station at Bharathipuram in the Nagercoil and Alloor section in the Trivandrum Division for which a proposal is under consideration. An evening train may be originated from Nagercoil to Coimbatore. Financial sanction with necessary approval may be given to develop and give a facelift to Kanyakumari station as proposed by Trivandrum Division. The pending road over bridge projects in Madurai city like Madurai Ellis Nagar, Koodal Nagar and Sellur may be taken up with needed fund allocation at the earliest. There is also a public demand to operate a Current Ticket Booking Counter and Enquiry

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

[Shri P. Mohan]

office at the western entry of Madurai Junction. Madurai-Villupuram passenger Train timings may be rescheduled as it is run at unearthly hours. It may kindly be run as a day train that may benefit common passengers who prefer ordinary fares. The timings of Sampark Kranthi Express train that is run between Nizamuddin and Madurai may also be rescheduled. There is also a need to provide South Indian Cooks in the pantry car of Sampark Kranthi Express Train. Both Lajuji and Veluji are present here and I hope they will look into it. Before I could conclude, I would like to make a request to construct a road over bridge on both the sides of Tirupparamkundram Station in Madurai. Our Minister of State for Railways Shri R. Velu bears the name of Lord Muruga. Thirupparamkundram is one of the six shrines of Lord Muruga and a famous pilgrim Centre and I hope Shri Velu will look into this request.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA (Kheri): I am grateful to you as you gave me an opportunity to speak on the Supplementary Demands of Rail Budget. Through you, I would like to convey some important points to hon'ble Minister of Railways. I would like to congratulate him as the performance of the Ministry of Railways has been actually very good and now it has raised many expectations. Since it is an era of globalization and there are various challenges before the corporations of India, the Railways will also come forward as a profit-making corporation and further improve its performance. I congratulate the hon'ble Minister and expect that its performance will continue to improve at the same pace.

Earlier also I have mentioned on thing several times during debate on rail budget, I would like to reiterate that the entire world is changing, the whole earth has become narrower commercially of making efforts for the need connecting Europe to South East by making a land corridor through railways is being urgently felt. I mentioned it earlier during debate on rail budget also. It has also been estimated that even if it gets 5 percent of the global trade, this mega project will be a great success. I request him to ponder over it.

No doubt he has improved the performance of the Railway but there is still some corruption in booking offices. The traders of my constituency, Lakhimpur who get their goods loaded at the railway station of NER have given me a written complaint, which I have forwarded to the department, that money is taken

separately for booking parcels and they have to also pay when they come to receive parcels. Illegal transaction worth about Rs. 8,000-9,000 takes place there daily whereas that money should go to the department. Goods are loaded in those trains which are meant for it but goods are also loaded in those trains which are not meant for it, by stopping them upto or more than half an hour. I think it is an administrative matter. No effective steps were taken despite my writing letters and bringing it to the notice of officers. Instead, Members are jeered at on account of those letters. It is an act of the employees of the department. I want to bring it to his notice.

One more point is that there is no doubt that after the constitution of catering corporation as a policy matter, income of the department has increased. I have also seen the policy document, and it was decided that contracts of SC and ST would continue as earlier. The officers have informed me that all the contracts of SC and ST are being brought back under the new policy. It seems to me that there is contradiction in it. It should be looked into.

There are certain problems of my constituency about which I would like to apprise him. I hope if he bestows his favour it will be of great help in raising the standard of living of the citizens of Terai area.

Lucknow-Sitapur, Lakhimpur-Pilibhit-Barailly NER line is a narrow gauge line and it is our long-standing demand to convert it in broad gauge line. I had also raised this issue under Rule 377 last time. All the hon'ble members whose constituencies are located on this route had associated themselves with it. I request you to make effort to convert it into broad gauge. I was apprised that an up-to-date survey of it was conducted last time in this regard. It is a strategic link, which runs parallel to Indo-Nepal border. I request to you to convert it into broad gauge at the earliest.

A survey was conducted from Shahjahanpur to Gola Gokarannath but it is gathering dust even today. Our request to you is to extend this survey from Shahjahanpur to Tikunia via Gola Gokarannath, which is an important trading town on Indo-Nepal border.

Tikunia-Belrayan-Dudhawa-Palla NER line runs through the middle of Dudhawa National Park. Many incidents have taken place there. A number of accidents have accrued in which elephants; lions and preserved animals got killed. On this issue, a mass movement was

launched by the people there and they are disappointed. There is a great demand to plan the second route through Tikunia-Belarayan-Singhazi-Nidhasan-Majhagant and Palia which runs outside the park. We request you to construct a new route. ...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: I am concluding it in one minute. ...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Keep something for the future.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: I shall put only points.

Our highways are being upgraded. There are three railway crossing on it—first at Vanbhaliya near Gola Gokarannath Second at Phardhan and third at Rajapur. If you will issue orders to construct road over bridges at these three points, the speed of traffic will improve and the number of accidents will decrease. The flow of traffic keeps getting disrupted because of the railway line that passes through Lakhimpur. A railway overbridge (ROB) is needed in this town too. I hope you will expedite action in this regard.

· Palia railway station is the linkage to the Dudhwa National Park. We want a computerized reservation center at the station. Kindly take action in this regard. It is also requested that Gokul Express which passes through Palia should also halt at Bhira Station. Century Express should have a halt at Kheeri Station. No passenger train stops at Rajaganj station after 6.00 PM although it is fast developing into a town. I request that any one train should be given a halt at this place. Also, the level of platform at this station needs to be raised a bit since women and children find it difficult to climb up on a train.

Further, since the Lakhimpur railway line passes through the city, walls have been raised on both sides along the line thereby stopping up the 'Kutchhi nali' which used to flow there. This has created a problem of waterlogging in the adjacent colonies. I request you to get a 'pucca nali' constructed in place of the 'kutchhi nali' that lay in railway territory so that water drainage becomes possible.

In the end, I would like to thank you for having given me a patient hearing. I hope that you would give due consideration to the issues raised here.

\*SHRI SHANKHLAL MAJHI (Akbarpur): Sir, I support the Supplementary Demand for Grants for Railways which links the multi-dimensional and multi-lingual India together and I would like to draw your attention towards certain problems faced by my constituency and division.

Sir, Akbarpur Station in Uttar Pradesh is the headquarters of the newly created district Ambedkar Nagar. This is an area where weavers are in the majority and it is a major center for powerloom, handloom trade where traders come from all over the country to buy textiles and cotton. Since no long distance fast train has a stoppage at this important trading station it causes a lot of inconvenience to the travellers. To solve this problem I request that Kaifiyat Express 4026 up and down should given a halt at this station. Since the Akbarpur Station is very old and is in a dilapidated condition hence the platform should be extended to accommodate 25 bogies. In addition, shelters and AC waiting room should also be constructed.

Malipur is a very old station where platforms conform to metre gauge standards. Lack of overbridges for crossing platforms have caused many accidents. To solve this problem I demand that the level of platforms at Malipur station be raised and overbridges and shelters be constructed thereon.

At the time of laying the foundation stone of the Railway bridge with a project cost amounting to crores, at the Sarayu River in the Dharnagri Ayodhya, the then Prime Minister had announced a direct railway track to link the city with the North-Eastern Railway Headquarters Gorakhpur to facilitate tourists. But instead of providing a direct link the track was linked to Manikapur junction. Since this is a long and winding route hence the Railway is finding itself unable to develop a Allahabad-Gorakhpur via Ayodhya route.

Sir, Gorakhpur is an important center for foreign tourists coming from Nepal. Maghar is the place where the world—renowned Sufi saint Kabir attained Nirvana which is visited by thousands of tourists who also go on to visit Allahabad. Hence, a 70 km long new railway track should be constructed to provide a direct route by constructing bridge over connecting Katra, Vikramjot, Kalwari, Ghanghata and Maghar.

With this, I support the Supplementary Demands for Grants for Railways.

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\*The speech was laid on the Table.

SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI (Udaipur): Madam Chairman, I thank you for giving me this opportunity for speaking on the Supplementary Demand for Grants (Railways). ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN: You are not on your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI: I am not on my seat. Kindly permit me to speak from here.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Alright.

SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI: Madam Chairman through you I want to draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister because we had presented some demands to the Rail Minister when the Railway Budget was presented. At that time the Railway Minister had assured us that he would fulfil the demands presented by us. At that time, the Railway Minister had said that gauge conversion would be carried out at Kawali Narwad junction which lies between Marwar and Mewar. I am happy that this work was included for survey in the Budget but no work was carried out thereafter. As on date, the work of survey regarding gauge conversion in Mawali Marwar junction is progressing very slowly. It is my request that budget provision should be made for gauge conversion in this region. You should take whatever strict action is needed to be taken in this regard. It is very important to carry out gauge conversion here. MP from Udhampur in Kashmir is sitting here. 200 crore rupees have been sanctioned for the construction of a new rail line in Kashmir. Udaipur is the Kashmir of Rajasthan. Udaipur is a tourist place which is also the land of the brave Maharana Pratap and the land of Meera's Bhakti. Not only Indians but foreigners also come to visit this place. People want to visit this place which is associated with such great personages but there is no railway link with this place. Rajasthan has been badly neglected. This neglect has been reflected in the Rail Budget too and Rajasthan has got no mention even in the supplementary (Rail) Budget and neither has anything been offered for the State. I would like to draw your attention towards these few with regard to the Mawali-Marwad junction-Gauge conversion needs to be done because Mawali is linked to Udaipur. There is a broad gauge railway line also upto Mawali. Udaipur is a cantonment. If we see from security point of view, a part of Jodhpur is connected with Pakistan. There is a cantonment in Jodhpur also.

...*(Interruptions)*

*(English)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Shri Athawale, this is not the way of doing things.

*(Translation)*

You are not on your seat. Please take your seat and let him speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Do not worry about it. She will present her point. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI: Both Jodhpur and Udaipur have cantonments. Therefore, it is necessary to connect both these cantonments from security point of view. Therefore, it is quite necessary to connect Marwar junction with Mawali upto Jodhpur. At the same time, this railway line should also be converted into broad gauge. We have our high Court in Jodhpur. There is no train from southern Rajasthan-Dungarpur, Banswara, Udaipur, Rajsamand districts to Jodhpur. People can go there only by road. Therefore, I would like to say that it is quite necessary to provide railway facility there. I would request you to provide the same at the earliest because there is also a marble market in Kankroli. There is an important Nathdwara tourist site where people go to have Darshan of god Shrinath. There is no broad gauge railway line in Nathdwara. There is a marble market in Kankroli, but no broad gauge railway line is there. If you convert the railway line there into broadgauge, the railways will get revenue and it will also be beneficial for the development of entire area. It will also provide impetus to the economy of the country. I have raised this issue time and again as a Member of Railway Consultative Committee but unfortunately it has neither been connected nor any provision has ever been made in this regard. Our Minister of Railways is sitting here and he is well aware of the problems of the people. Therefore, I would like to say that he should take up this project at the earliest to connect these places with broad gauge line which will benefit the poor tribal people of that area.

The survey work of gauge conversion between Udaipur and Ahmedabad is also on the verge of completion but in spite of demand of gauge conversion between Udaipur and Ahmedabad since long, you have been continuously postponing it on the pretext of shortage of funds. Last time, all the Members of Parliament from



Rajasthan met the hon'ble Minister in this regard. But in spite of that the gauge conversion of Udaipur-Ahmedabad rail line could not be taken up. I hope that a provision for the same will be made either in supplementary budget or in the next budget. In addition to that, I also hope that you will definitely make a mention of the gauge conversion between Udaipur-Ahmedabad in your speech so that necessary budgetary provision may be made for this purpose.

Not only this, the gauge conversion work between Neemuch and Ratlam is also going on. This work is going on at snail pace. If Neemuch and Ratlam are connected with broad gauge line, we can go to Ratlam from Udaipur via Chittaur. Ratlam is well connected and in this way we can get connected with every corner of the country. Therefore, I would like to say that the work relating to gauge conversion of Neemuch-Ratlam rail line, which is going on at snail's pace, should be speed up.

I would like to thank the Minister of Railways for providing a broad gauge train from Udaipur to Delhi after the completion of Udaipur-Chittaur gauge conversion. But this train runs between Udaipur and Delhi via Kota. The shortest route of this train is via Ajmer and Jaipur, but it will not be possible until the gauge conversion between Chittaur and Ajmer is completed. The work is going on at a very slow pace. It is stated time and again that it will be completed by 2006. But looking at the progress on the ground it does not appear to be completed so soon. These all works can not be completed at the earliest until sufficient budgetary allocation is made. Therefore, we want that it would be better if this work is completed at the earliest.

I would like to draw your attention towards one more point. It is necessary to change the timings of newly introduced train, Mewar Express, You have given assurance about the change of timings of that train but till now it has not been changed. The train departs from Udaipur at 9.50 PM and schedule to arrive at 10.30 AM but generally it arrives late by half-an-hour to one-and half an hour and thereby waste the whole day of the passengers. Therefore, it is quite necessary to re-schedule the timing of this train. Not only this, the train route be extended a little further. If the train is extended upto Dehradun, Udaipur will get directly connected with Dehradun. Both are tourist places, and the people can directly go to Haridwar, a religious place. Therefore, this train needs to be extended upto Haridwar. Southern

Rajasthan has been quite neglected in view of the railways, therefore, I request you that action should be taken at the earliest and the southern Rajasthan be connected with broad gauge railway line. The dream of connecting every place with broad gauge railway line will become true only when you connect this tribal belt with railways at the earliest.

DR. KARAN SINGH YADAV (Alwar): Madam, Chairperson, first of all I would like to thank the hon. Railway Minister who has committed himself in making the Indian Railways number one Railways in the world. The railway department made good earning under the leadership of Shri Lalu ji last year. The rail fares were not increased therefore the first time in the country a token cut of just one rupee in the fares sent out a message that good management, efficient leadership and optimal utilization of existing facilities could be the key to the progress of department. The example set by the hon. Minister has made the entire country to look forward to him with a hope that his dream of making Indian Railways number one in the world would be fulfilled. Today he has presented the Supplementary Demand for Grants for running a train at Sanjay Gandhi Biological park and for development of the Udampur-Srinagar-Baramulla line which is in a sensitive area and is very important for the country. I would like to thank the previous speaker also who belongs to Rajasthan, for putting up relevant demands but she has perhaps not read that chapter of Supplementary Demands where budget provisions have been demanded for many schemes relating to Rajasthan. The provisions have been made in Supplementary Demands for the renovation of the entire line from Jaishamer to Rai Ka Bagh Palace. There is a provision for starting double-stack container train between Pipalva and Jaipur. Similarly, there is a provision for Bararutiya loop line and for extending the length of platforms number 5 and 6 in Sawai Madhopur. While thanking the Minister for the works accomplished, I support the demands made in respect of the works yet to be completed. The hon. Minister has said that nothing has been done for Rajasthan and being a member of the ruling party I would like to point out that she has not gone through the Supplementary demands thoroughly.

SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI: But there are no provisions for Southern Rajasthan.

DR. KARAN SINGH YADAV: Since I belong to Rajasthan, I support all of his demands. Without getting

[Dr. Karan Singh Yadav]

diverted from the issue I would like to place a few demands regarding my constituency. There is no day train, particularly no passenger train, between Jaipur and Delhi. All the present trains are fast trains that run at night or reserved trains. Hence, daily passengers face a lot of problems. Therefore, it is my request that a provision for a fast passenger train from Jaipur to Delhi which should run twice a day in the morning as well as evening, be made in the forthcoming budget. Till this is achieved, the Dehradun-Delhi train No. 4041 and 4042, which, arrives in Delhi from Dehradun at 7.00 in the evening, be extended upto Jaipur. This train would be able to return to Delhi in time to leave for Dehradun in the evening. This would make for optimal utilization of the trains and the people of Rajasthan going to Haridwar would be particularly benefited by it. I would like to request him to consider this matter.

My constituency Alwar falls in the National Capital Region and thousands of people from there, come to Delhi to work as labourers. I would like to request him to consider starting a DMU from Alwar to Delhi. I have pointed out many times that Bhiwadi in Alwar district in Rajasthan is an industrial area where there are thousands of factories, inland container depots and the private sector plans to implement many large schemes there. Two years ago a survey of railway line had been carried out there. The construction of this 25 km long line would link Rewari and Bhiwadi and also contribute substantially to the development of Rajasthan and particularly of my constituency. I would like to request that another survey be conducted which might find this project to be an economically viable proposition now. Without taking up much time I would like to raise another point or two. Ashram Express passes through my constituency. Thousands of people had turned out at the Rajgarh and Khairthal station to welcome the hon. Railway Minister when he had visited Bandi Kui and school children had lined up by the streets. At the time the Minister was deeply moved and had promised that a halt of Ashram Express would be provided at these stations. Perhaps the higher officials in the Railway Ministry find this to be unfeasible but since he is the messiah of the poor and common man would request him to think about this. Computerised reservation system should be provided at the Khairthal station. Alwar is a big city. It has a population of about 10 lakhs. The existing reservation facilities are not sufficient. If possible, the private sector should be involved in this work. A few days ago I had read in the newspapers that the Government was planning

to provide facility in seven to eight thousand stations so as to provide help to unemployed people. Hence, I would like request the Government to consider opening a railway reservation centre in Alwar or to open a reservation with the assistance of private sector.

With this I support the Supplementary Demands presented by the Railway Minister and thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak.

\*SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha): Sir, I rise to support the Supplementary Demands for Grants for Railways. Railways are a precious property of the country and play a very important role as the means of transportation. Even so, I would like to point out that there are many areas, which are yet to be covered under the railway network or which lack transportation facilities or where no modernization has taken place such as tribal areas. Construction of RoB has not started at Gate No. 81/A in my constituency Sabarkantha even though tenders have been invited.

Survey has been carried out for laying broad gauge line at Modasa-Shamlaji in Sabarkantha but no budget provision has been made for the purpose so far. Hence, I demand that budget provision should be made for the same.

Ahmedabad-Himmat Nagar-Udaipur metre gauge line should be converted into broad gauge. Himmat Nagar-Khed Brahma metre gauge railway line may be extended upto Ambaji Abu Road and a survey may be conducted in this regard.

Mahesana, Taranag line may be extended upto Ambaji. A new passenger or fast train may be started between Ahmedabad-Abu Road.

Railway stations at the Ahmedabad-Himmat Nagar-Modasa Railway line are in a dilapidated condition, hence renovation work should be done at these railway stations.

Ahmedabad-New Delhi Rajdhani train should be given a halt at the satellite station Sabarmati in Ahmedabad. This would benefit those getting off at Ahmedabad. People could be able to board Rajdhani Express at Sabarmati. At present Rajdhani Express does not halt at Sabarmati.

I hope the Railway Minister would give due consideration to these issues.

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\*The speech was laid on the Table.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Madam, I thank you for allotting me time to speak on Supplementary Demands for Grants of Railways. At first, I want to express my gratefulness to the Hon. Minister of Railways who transformed the loss-making railways into a profit-making one by his efficiency and getting cooperation of all during his one and a half years tenure. He has done an extraordinary job of making the Railway a profit-making department. The Railway has been running in loss for many years and earlier used to depend on the Government. But the Minister of Railways has enhanced the capacity of Railway through his efficiency and that too, without any increase in fare. He has tried to have co-operation of everyone in this work. He has tried to uplift every class and everyone in this work. He has tried to uplift every class and every section. He has implemented many schemes for them due to which many unemployed persons could get employment. I do not want to repeat it as it has already been discussed in the House.

The Hon'ble Members from opposition have mentioned many things. But I want to tell that had they appreciated the works done by the Minister of Railways, it would have reflected the spirit of positive co-operation talked of by them, but they did not do so. The Minister has made the Railway to earn a profit of ten thousands crore by virtue of his efficiency while on the one hand the Prime Minister appreciated the works done by Minister of Railways, on the other hand these people are grudging. Many of them feel jealous and start complaining. Members of NDA especially of BJP and Janata Dal (U) believe only in criticism of the Minister of Railways. If they talk of positive co-operation, then they should also praise his good works, here criticism will not do.

The Minister of Railways has made the railway to progress by having co-operation from one and all. He wants that the Indian railway should be ranked No. 1 in the world. He will make all efforts in this direction without any discrimination. This will make the railway system on a large scale all over country. The Minister will fulfil the dream of the people by connecting every village by rail. Many Hon'ble Members have alleged that he has paid his attention only towards Bihar. Many Hon'ble Members have said that most of the Minister of Railways have been from Bihar. But I want to say that Bihar has been neglected a lot. Only 2-3 schemes pertain to Bihar out of the 58 schemes mentioned in supplementary demands for grants presented by the Minister of Railways, for which

fund is being asked from the House. If viewed from this angle Bihar is not being treated properly. Many Hon'ble Members allege that the rail budget pertains to Bihar only and he is doing everything for Bihar. But I want to state that Bihar is still neglected. It has been exploited since long. It has not got its right. I would like to draw the attention of the Minister of Railways toward my parliamentary constituency, Patna. Hon'ble Minister, has sanctioned 34 ROB, for entire Bihar. Eight overbridges have been sanctioned for Patna Parliamentary constituency. The work on 4 ROB's has started there and for remaining 4 the work is still to be started. The road leading from Bihar to Aurangabad remains very congested. There also, he has laid foundation stone for construction of an overbridge, there is always rush rather a traffic jam there. But the work has not started there. I would like to request the Hon'ble Minister of Railways to get the work for remaining 4 ROB's started immediately in the manner he has got the work started for the other 4.

Hon'ble Minister, Bihta Road falls under my constituency. He had promised to get a new railway line laid down between Bihta and Anugrahnarayan Road. Population of lakhs in number resides there. Lakhs of people will be benefited of the railway there. He had promised to get the survey carried out there, but no provision has been made for survey. I would request him to get the survey work started there, so that the first step for laying railway line may be started.

Sadisopur is a very important station and the people have been demanding for the last 40 years to have a halt of some train there. You have provided a halt of the Janata Express there. I request that it will be better if a halt of Kurta Express is also provided at Sadisopur. Sadisopur station may be upgraded so that the demand of the people there may be fulfilled. I would like to draw the attention of Hon'ble Minister of Railways to provide a halt of Janata Express at Noora station. There is a DRM office at Danapur, staff quarters are in dilapidated condition. The doors of quarters are broken and there is seepage from the roof. I request the Hon'ble Minister to take care of them.

There is Itwarpur village in my parliamentary constituency between Parsa and Kunkun. Accident often take place there resulting into the death of passers by. I request that a railway crossing be constructed there. I had written a letter earlier to the Hon'ble Minister. I hope that action will be taken in view of that letter, also hope

[Shri Ram Kripal Yadav]

that he will also pay attention to the neglected people of Bihar, besides the people of my parliamentary constituency. Members of opposition say that Bihar is getting every thing. I want to request them to rise above this level and get the work done wherever it is required at country level. Whether it be Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu or it be other states of the country, the Government should provide the funds as per the necessity, wherever it is required. Today railways are not running in loss, it is running in profit; therefore share the profit with all. A single person can do nothing until he gets co-operation from all, and the co-operation from the citizens of the entire country. He should get the works of people done with a co-operation from railway employees and strengthen the co-operation with people. I request the Hon'ble Minister to make the dreams of the common man of the country come true who have direct connection with you and who have thought that they will be connected with rail in the tenure of Lalu Prasadjee and make the Indian Railway ranked No. 1 in the world. My good wishes are with him. I would request my colleagues from opposition to praise the good works of Hon'ble Minister, mere complaints would not do. Your leaders were speaking emphatically, on their tour to Bihar, they should work prudently.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Ram Kripaljee, the Hon'ble Minister is capable of replying.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: I express my gratefulness with these a few requests and believe that the Hon'ble Minister will fulfil the demands made by people.

[English]

SHRI T.K. HAMZA (Manjeri): Thank you Madam Chairperson. I will be very brief.

There is an important temple, Guruvayur, in my district, Malappuram of Kerala. We have requested for a railway line from Tanur to Guruvayur. It is called Tanur-Guruvayur railway line. We have been waiting for that for the last 20 years. Everything is over. Survey is over; and it is approved. Line is clear. Only fund has to be provided and the work has to be started in the Tanur-Guruvayur railway line. We have been waiting for that for the last 20 years but it has not started. I would request the hon. Minister to provide fund and start the work.

Another thing is that in Malabar area, there are four ROBs from Calicut to Kasaragod. The work is going on

very, very slowly. I enquired the reason behind the slow progress and came to know that for want of funds, the work is not progressing speedily. So, sufficient fund may be provided and the ROBs may kindly be completed. There are only four ROBs. Work is going on but it is going on very slowly. Umpteen number of trains are going on in that line from Mangalapuram to Calicut. In that sector, there are four ROBs. So, fund may be provided for that also, and the work may be speeded up.

And the last point I would like to make is that Tirur is an important railway station. It is the only railway station at the centre of Malappuram district. All the people are depending upon the Tirur railway station. Some long distance trains may kindly be given stop over there. All the trains are going on in that line. We are not getting the benefit of them. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister to kindly consider stoppage of some more long distance trains at Tirur railway station.

I would again request you to kindly start the Tanur-Guruvayur railway line and construct the ROBs as early as possible.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI: (Rewa): Hon. Madam Chairman, while speaking on the supplementary Demands, I would like to say that be it the main budget or supplementary demands, Madhya Pradesh has been overlooked. One Hon. Member was saying while referring to your speech how did you say that the North could be linked to South bypassing Madhya Pradesh. I want to tell the Hon. Member that everybody knows one cannot reach south without taking a route via Madhya Pradesh. Suppose if you start from Delhi, you have to pass through Madhya Pradesh and if Madhya Pradesh is overlooked then the things would go away. Rewa has been overlooked somewhat more. I know the Hon. Railway Minister since 1974 and I want to praise him also but there is a saying "Ko na kusangti, pai na sai". There is no fault in him but he is in a bad company. I was going through the supplementary demands. At serial No. 57, there is a mention of 49 kilometers of rail line between Satna to Rewa. And a supplementary demand for Rs. 1000 crore has been put up for that. In the last Railway Budget, he announced that survey for Rewa-Mirzapur rail line would be conducted. He has neither done anything for the purpose in the main budget nor in

this. I want to appreciate him but when we approach him he should not give us hollow promise. Ram Kripal ji, I request you to please come out of Bihar elections. What one said during that time has nothing do with these supplementary demands.

I want to put forth some demands of my area before the Hon. Railway Minister. There is a fertilizer factory at Guna in Madhya Pradesh. There is no arrangement of siding at Rewa. And the fertilizers manufactured there do not reach to the people of Rewa, Sidhi and Shadol. If the arrangement of Siding is made at Rewa, it would be better and this does not entail much expenditure. And you are talking of farmers and this move would benefit the farmers. Rewa, Sidhi and Satna are backward areas. People visit Mumbai from there. They do not get reservation from the Satna Railway Station. One special coach should be added to the Mahanagariya Express or the Mumbai-Satna, Rewa and Sidhi and that should be exclusively for the people belonging to these areas. I have put forth this demand several times. The Hon. Minister had given an assurance that one Inter-City Express would be introduced between Rewa and Jabalpur. The Madhya Pradesh High Court is located at Jabalpur. This train is required so that the people may go for work from Rewa in the morning and work at Jabalpur through out the day and return to Rewa in the evening. This would be much help for the people but the Hon. Minister gives us assurances merely. Whenever I go to see him, I feel that there cannot be any other person more fortunate than me, he meets me very affectionately but he never fulfils his promise. Therefore, it is my request that one Rewa Inter-City Express should be introduced. One train runs between Rewa and Delhi and this train departs at 12.00 hrs in the night and reaches here at 3 p.m. This is a Super Express train. Its timing should be changed so that it could reach here at 8 a.m. and this train should reach Rewa on time too. And the Railway Ministry would also get more revenue as a result of it. At one time that train was being discontinued but I requested the Hon. Railway Minister and at my request he kept continued this train. If the time schedule of that train is not changed, it would run in losses and we will have to request the Railway Minister repeatedly to keep on continuing this train. A first AC coach used to be there in Mahakaushal Express but now that has been disconnected. I want to congratulate and thank him that at our request he has attached one half first AC coach to the Rewanchal Express. It is shown in the Time Table that one train plies from Rewa-Chirmiri to Bilaspur. It

would run for Satna in the morning and then on return from there, it would depart for Satna in the evening. But this train does not run between Rewa and Satna even a single day, it remains stationed at Rewa. If this train remains stationed at Rewa then why is it shown in the Time Table that it departs for Satna from Rewa in the morning and then on return from Rewa to Satna. I do not know whether your officer are listening to what you pay or not? ...(*Interruptions*) Because the Time Table shows that it is plying between Rewa and Satna but this is not happening.

You have formulated the catering policy, 2005. There are Swaran category and reserved category in that for the A-B-C categories of stations. The backwards and minorities should get reservation in education and jobs. I understand this thing but wanted their licensers be renewed for the sake of business and earning livelihood? There are such 24 Satabdi and Rajdhani trains.

19.00 hrs.

And out of these, the licence for ten Satabadi and Rajdhani trains has been provided to one person, one company for rupees one crore 51 lakh. Whereas the Department of Railway says that the annual income from them could be Rs. 16 crore annually. When there were small businessmen, a common man could also take tea and snacks. I happened to visit the Nizamudhin Station one day. Eatables are provided at high rates there. I paid three-four hundred rupees just for tea and snacks; there what I want to say is that if you do not feel the pain of the poor, whom should the look upto? I want to request the Hon. Railway Minister and hope that he would not only give assurances but also pay attention to our demands so that we can give reply to queries of the people of our constituency. Only sweet tongue is not going to serve any purpose. People say that the Hon. Railway minister is an old friend of mine, therefore, I should get something but I am getting nothing.

Now I conclude. I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH (Udhampur): Madam, Chairman through you, I rise to support the Grants presented by the hon. Railway Minister. I would like to give just two-three suggestions because we need them. Firstly, I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister for introducing a train to Udhampur. He deserve accolades for this. Earlier, this train used to run thrice a week but

[Chaudhary Lal Singh]

after my request it runs six days a week now. The devotees of Vaishno Mata come here from all over the country and abroad as well and you will see that the train remains jam-packed. My submission is that one or two more trains should be introduced there. Besides, the other trains arriving there should be extended till Udhampur so that the devotees coming for Darshan of Vaishno Mata are not inconvenienced and they reach there comfortably.

Besides, I would like to submit that a DRM office was set up in Ferozpur Cantt. in the year 1926 during the British Rule. The same office functions for Jammu-Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh. Two-three more offices have been opened in Punjab too. The train running in Jammu-Kashmir since 1970 is being extended from Udhampur to the whole of Kashmir. This train is also being extended to Banihal and Baramula and the work on it is going at a rapid pace. I want to say that even for a simple work one has to go to Ferozpur which makes no sense. You have to build an office there in any case and it will be a big achievement if this happens because it does not seem proper that someone should be opened, as it will increase the speed of our work after a division is made there. The contractors are there and the common public is there. Even for joining a lower post one has to go there and thus the people of Jammu and Kashmir are deprived of the access to it.

Shatabdi train does not run in Jammu and Kashmir except upto Pathankot. I had also urged earlier that Pathankot is the first district adjoining Jammu-Kashmir which is 18 kilometres long. It's no use if the train does not stop at Kathua in night during the 18 kilometres long stretch and goes to Jammu. Therefore, the people should get the facility for some distance.

Madam, Chairman, I submit that there is a railway hospital in Jammu which is in a very bad condition. A lot of people visit it and therefore it should be attended to. There is also a school for the children of the railway employees, which is in a dilapidated condition. For 800 children of the school there are only 2-3 rooms and two tin shades. I request the Railways to pay attention to it so that the children of the employees can study properly.

Madam Chairman, number of rail accidents take place in Jammu region because all the roads reach into hilly areas where there are many turns hiding the view of the trains and more accidents take place in the absence of crossings. Such accident prone areas are-Lakhanpur,

Jagatpur, Janglot, Loget, Chanrodia, Chankhatrish, Gangwal, Dayalchak and Barwal. Among them the population of Lakhanpur and Jagatpur is around 40,000 but there is no road and people have to walk on foot. In order to avoid rail accidents, there is a great need for railway crossing at these places. I had gone to Ferozpur Cantt. personally to make a demand for crossing there when I was an MLA from Jammu. The expenditure for construction of a crossing in Jagatpur-Lakhanpur was estimated to be Rs. 40 lakh at that time. Even in this, 20 lakh rupees have to be paid by the State Government and 20 lakhs by the Railways. But, in my opinion, this work is required not more than 5 lakh rupees. It seems that Government has no interest in this. Since, it is railway's work, therefore, I request that this crossing should be constructed for the benefit of the people.

Madam Chairman, trains are run from remote corners of the country to Haridwar for the devotees on Amavasya but no train is run from our area. I request that special trains should also be run from Jammu to Haridwar for the benefit of the passengers. I hope that I will not need to raise these matters again in the coming days. I conclude with the request that these problems should be sorted out and the people are benefited.

19.09 hrs.

[SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAI *in the Chair*]

[*English*]

PROF. M. RAMADASS (Pondicherry): Respected Chairman, Sir, let me, at the outset, congratulate the hon. Railway Minister for the splendid work that he and his colleagues are doing in the Ministry of Railways to spread the network of railways throughout the length and breadth of the country.

The hon. Minister has come before this House for a Supplementary Grant of Rs. 200,00.66 lakh. Out of this, 99 per cent will go for capital works, and the remaining amount will go for the Railway Funds, and the Railway Safety Fund.

It is also worth noting that the hon. Minister will be spending this Supplementary Grant on 58 schemes. The breakup of these schemes—that are given the Supplementary Budget—shows that the Northern Railway will get the lion's share of the total amount that is going to be spent in it, and the Southern Region will get not

even a raw deal. Therefore, I would like to request the hon. Minister to spread the outlay equally on the basis of development and backwardness of various States. I am saying this because Railways are considered to be the nerves of development.

Today, Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry are on the roadmap of higher and higher trajectory of growth. But this growth requires the infrastructure of Railways, and in the absence of Railways, a number of developmental projects are shelved, and the acceleration in the development of the State itself is at stake. If we take the example of Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry, we find that we have accepted the principle of uni-gauge according to which all the areas must be, by now, converted into broad-gauge. But, unfortunately, we find that only 45 per cent of the total length of Railways in Tamil Nadu is broad-gauge, and 55 per cent is yet to be broadened.

As far as electrification in Tamil Nadu is concerned, it lags behind when compared to other States in India. While the national average of electrification is 27 per cent, the degree of electrification in Tamil Nadu ranges between 20 per cent and 25 per cent. Therefore, the work of electrification in Tamil Nadu, in general, must be speeded up.

I also endorse the views of all the MPs of Tamil Nadu that there should be a separate Railway Division for Salem because it satisfies all the parameters required for setting up a division. There is also the issue of proximity, administrative units, accessibility, etc. There will be accessibility not only for the people, but also for the staff working there. If we take into account all these angles as also the operational convenience of the Division, we find that there is 100 per cent justification for the creation of a new Division. Therefore, we expect that the hon. Minister for Railways would make the people of Tamil Nadu cheerful and happier today. A new spurt of a development will take place in Tamil Nadu by the announcement—that is to be made by the Hon. Minister—that a separate Division, keeping Palghat Division as such, for Salem being announced today. The whole of Tamil Nadu is awaiting this happy announcement from the hon. Minister.

Sir, in addition, I would like to mention that.  
...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Prof. M. Ramadass, I am sorry for interrupting you, but please be very brief while making your points now.

PROF. M. RAMADASS: Sir, I have not even taken two minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am aware of the fact that you have already taken five minutes.

PROF. M. RAMADASS: Sir, it is totally unfair. I am the leader of a party.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Prof. Ramadass, please appreciate my point. I am not asking you to sit down. Please briefly make your points, and bear with me. Let me make this point very clear. We have over 40 names with us, and only 19 hon. Members have spoken till now. We have to accommodate everybody, and we will have to ration the time available with us. Therefore, kindly be brief with your points.

PROF. M. RAMADASS: I am really surprised and baffled by this kind of a mandate.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Well, I am sorry if you feel so, but that is what we will have to do now.

PROF. M. RAMADASS: The Hon. Minister must also take into account the Chengalput-Vilupuram railway line doubling work. The Dindigul *via* Pollachi-Palghat rail line also must be taken up as also Vandavasi line.

We require additional funds for Thiruvavur line from Thiruvavur to Nagore, and Nagore to Karaikal, which is part of the Pondicherry Parliamentary Constituency. This work also must be taken up.

In terms of connecting the headquarters to districts, Dharamapuri should be connected to Chennai, and the work must be taken up. Katpadi-Velore line must also be taken up as also Vandavasi line.

I will take one minute to explain the problems of the Union Territory of Pondicherry which I represent. The Union Territory of Pondicherry is in a peculiar situation. It is largely scattered in four regions. Pondicherry is the headquarters. We have Karaikal 162 kilometres away from there. Mahe is 890 kilometres away in Kerala. Yanam is 800 kilometres away from Pondicherry. As a matter of principle, all these scattered places must be connected with the headquarters of the Union Territory of Pondicherry. Unfortunately, even after 58 years of independence these three-four places lie scattered without any railway link. I appeal to the hon. Minister to take this fact into consideration.

[Prof. M. Ramadass]

Electrification of line between Villupuram and Pondicherry is nearing completion. Our heartfelt thanks to the hon. Minister for that. At the same time, there are other areas of interest like Chennai-Pondicherry train *via* Dindivanam, which must be looked into. Chennai is the capital city of Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry is the headquarters of the Union territory of Pondicherry. There is no express train running even today between these two places. I appeal to the hon. Minister to take all this into account.

I only wish that the Railway Budget is equitably spread. We know the principle of equity and efficiency. It is not only efficiency that matters but equity is equally important. An amount Rs. 20,000 lakh is being spent. The whole amount is being spent on the Northern Railway and not even a paltry sum is shown in the Supplementary Grants against the Southern Region. It is quite unfair. We should take the development scenario that is emerging in the Union Territory of Pondicherry and Tamil Nadu. While congratulating the hon. Minister for all the splendid work that is done, I only request him to pay equal attention, if not more, to the Union Territory of Pondicherry and Tamil Nadu.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let me please tell you that the time allotted to the parties is otherwise over. So, please be brief in your submission.

[*Translation*]

\*SHRI RAKESH SINGH (Jabalpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am presenting important proposals on Demands for Supplementary Grants (Railways) 2005-2006 related to my constituency Jabalpur-Katni. I hope that through you, the hon. Railway Minister will approve them.

The railway and the development of the rail routes have an important contribution in the development of the country. But, this cannot be limited to a state or region and the development related to the railway in one state or region cannot be termed as development of the whole country. Important schemes in all the states will have to be completed without discrimination for this. But, with deep regret I have to say that presently the Railway Ministry of UPA Government is discriminating in this matter and its example is the gauge conversion work between Jabalpur and Gonda.

Sir, eastern Madhya Pradesh is relatively backward and is awaiting development. This area has remained neglected continuously since independence. Understanding this, the then Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee had sanctioned the gauge conversion work between Jabalpur, which is the most important city in the Mahakaushal area, and Gondia during the NDA Governments rule. This gauge conversion will not only reduce the distance between north and south by 274 K.M. but will also increase the speed of the development of the whole of Mahakaushal and eastern Madhya Pradesh and that is why the NDA Government had even allotted Rs. 110 crore for this work. About 80% of the work between Gondia to Balaghat had been completed during the NDA Government for completion of the remaining work, only Rs. 38 crore in the first instance and after that even lesser amount of only Rs. 25 crore was sanctioned and that too for completion of the remaining work between Gondia to Balaghat. No provision has been made in the budget for Jabalpur to Balaghat, which is a major and an important part of this project. This project of more than Rs. 500 crore will take more than 10 years time for completion and the project cost will also increase too much by then if the work will go on with this pace.

Sir, a huge reserve of marble has been found in Kathi district under Jabalpur Lok Sabha constituency. There are enough reserves of manganese and bauxite at Balaghat. On completion of gauge conversion there a comparatively less expensive route will be in place for their transportation and there will be development of this region.

Sir, despite raising this issue time and again in the House and apprising the Ministry of Railways with all the facts, lump sum payment of sufficient amount has so far not been made for gauge conversion. In this regard, I, through you, would like to draw the attention of hon'ble Minister of Railways towards one more important fact that the agency appointed for this gauge conversion in South-East Central Railways which is headquartered at Bilaspur (Chhattisgarh) in gauge conversion, the primary and important work is land acquisition. The remaining work is to be carried out from Jabalpur to Balaghat in Madhya Pradesh and the headquarter of West-Central Railway zone is also located at Jabalpur. It would definitely be easier to complete this work, if it is entrusted to West-Central Railway. But despite continuously drawing attention towards this issue, the Ministry of Railways does



not seem to be taking any initiative for changing the agency. It proves that U.P.A. Government of the Centre is adopting a discriminating and malicious attitude in the matter of development of Madhya Pradesh, which is not correct. Hence, a big lumpsum amount should be allocated for this work of gauge conversion.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have been regularly giving proposals to start new trains at important and essential routes. The introduction of a direct train from Jabalpur to Jammu for the darshan of Vaishno Devi is a long standing demand. Recently devotees travelled directly from Jabalpur to Jammu by getting the entire train reserved for this purpose. It proves that there is great demand for such a train. It will benefit not only the people of Jabalpur but entire Mahakaushal. If the Ministry has any difficulty in introducing a new train then Mahakaushal or Gondwana Express may be extended upto Jammu or any other nearby station.

There is a need for direct train from Jabalpur to Mumbai and Pune. It will connect the railway headquarters of Western railway and Central railway located in Mumbai and the headquarters of Western Central railway located at Jabalpur. The marble industry is rapidly developing in Katni district under Jabalpur Parliamentary constituency. Marble is being supplied from here to the entire country. But to link the marble business of Rajasthan to this region, Jabalpur—Kota train be extended upto Pushkar via Jaipur, as it will facilitate in providing market to the marble mines located in Jabalpur Katni parliamentary constituency.

There is a big network of defence institutes in Jabalpur in which there are five industrial units along with a cantonment. Therefore a fast and direct train should be run from Jabalpur to Bangalore, Hyderabad and Tiruvananthapuram.

The Madanmahal station in Jabalpur should be developed on the lines of Habibganj station, Bhopal, for which enough space is available. Kachhpura station should be developed as passenger main station along with goods train station which will balance the development of Jabalpur.

Sir, the construction of an overbridge at Khirahani railway crossing located at Katni is urgently needed. Here the crossing gate remains closed for 18 hours in 24 hours. So, the overbridge should be constructed at the earliest. I would like to especially mention it that Katni is an important railway junction of the country where

all trains have their stoppage. It is in this district where production from the mines of marble and lime stones have been recently started. Karondi, which is the geographical centre of our country is located in this district for which development late Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia was also concerned. The condition of the station of such an important district Katni is very bad. The renovation and beautification of this station should be carried out so that Katni railway junction may be developed on the lines of other major rail junctions of the country.

The work on Jabalpur Damoh railway line should be started at the earliest so that the distance of 100 km. which one has to travel for going ahead on this line, may be reduced.

Today electrification of all important railway lines in the country has been completed. Whereas in the absence of electrification diesel engines are still being used between Itarsi and Katni which is expensive and time consuming because engines are required to be changed frequently. Hence, the electrification of Itarsi-Katni line should be completed at the earliest which will be economically beneficial for the department of Railways and the fast trains will take lesser time.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am putting forward all these proposals before with this belief that hon'ble Minister of Railways will include these proposals in the budget on priority basis thereby putting an end to political bias.

*(English)*

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPA (Trichur): Sir, I wanted to bring some important aspects of railway development on the western coast to the attention of the House. There was a hope that the western coast would get the benefit of economic development through Konkan Railway. If that benefit is to come to Kerala, the doubling work of Mangalore-Shoranur line should be completed as soon as possible. It is moving at a very slow pace now. Electrification of that line also must be taken up.

My friend Hamza just now talked about the importance of Taranur-Guruvayoor line which has been sanctioned for a long time. The work is not moving forward. That has to be taken up. Also, Guruvayoor should be connected to Edappally. The completion of Konkan Railway will bring the benefit to the area. ...*(Interruptions)*  
I hope you know the geography there.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): Acquisition of land is the problem.

SHR C.K. CHANDRAPPAN: We will acquire the land provided you give the green signal. We will see that land is acquired and the work is done. Netravati bridge on that line should be completed. These are some of the important items of work related to development of Konkan Railway to ensure that full benefits flow to Kerala.

Regarding Trivandrum, there is a second terminal at Veli. I do not blame the Minister for that, it only started. It has to be given all the modern facilities that are necessary for a second terminal. This work has to be given priority. In a letter the Minister has promised that the Railways would take up the Petta road overbridge work in Trivandrum. That work should be taken up on a priority basis.

There is a Janshatabdi Express that runs between Trivandrum and Ernakulam. The whole run of that train takes place in three and a half hours and then the train waits there till afternoon before it returns doing another three and a half hours return journey. I would request the hon. Minister to extend the train a little further in order to utilise that time. That train should either be extended to Trivandrum-Guruvayoor to Shoranur so that it can be of greater to the people.

I understand from your statements that the electrification of Ernakulam to Trivandrum *via* Alleppey and *via* Kottayam is near completion. When the electrification work is completed, we should get electrical multiple unit to run in Kerala, which would immensely benefit the commuters, and the problem of traffic of Kerala would be solved in a big way. When the work is completed, kindly make arrangements so that one unit each from Trivandrum to Ernakulam *via* Alleppey and from Trivandrum to Ernakulam *via* Kottayam is put. One more unit from Ernakulam to Palghat would take care of the problems that the commuters are facing in Kerala.

At present, Maveli Express is running for three days between Trivandrum and Mangalore. It is time that it should be made a daily train because the train gets a lot of passengers to travel.

I do not want to take much of the time. My own constituency, Trichur, has a small problem. I do not know as to how it will be taken care of. There is a demand for

construction of a foot over-bridge. The suggestion is pending with the Railway Board for the last so many years. Please ensure that it is cleared so that we get a railway foot over-bridge. Land is available and facilities are there. If a second entry to the station is permitted, the same would very much benefit the people of the area.

Lastly, there is a need of one railway over-bridge in Chimbisery. A very unfortunate accident took place, and the work has been stopped for more than one year. Now, the work has started. I understand that because of lack of permission from the Railway Ministry, a span across rail line has to be constructed over the railway line. That work is not being done. Same is the case with many ROBs in Kerala. Because of lack of permission from the Railways, without having one span, which is across the railway line, the bridge is not completed. Kindly look into the matter and give permission to the contracting authority, that is, the Kerala Government's own contracting organisation. They say that if permission is granted, in no time, work can be done. I would kindly request that this should be looked into so that permission is speedily given so that a number of ROBs in Kerala are completed. This would give credit to you also. I hope you would kindly do that. Thank you, Sir, for giving time.

*[Translation]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Tufani Saroj. Time allotted to your party has expired, so please speak in brief.

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ (Saidpur): Sir, I support supplementary demands of grants for the year 2005-06 presented by hon'ble Minister of Railways. With this, I would like to draw the attention of hon'ble Minister towards the largest state of the country i.e. Uttar Pradesh. A perusal of demands for grants reveals that Uttar Pradesh has been neglected and proper attention has not been paid towards this state. I represent Saidpur parliamentary constituency. There is a unmanned railway crossing at Trilochal Mahadeo near Jaunpur under northern Railway, there is a long standing demand to convert it as a manned railway crossing. Efforts have been made to draw the attention of hon'ble Minister towards this through local administration. Accidents take place at this forty year old crossing and dozens of people have lost their lives in it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I, through you, would like to request to hon'ble Minister to convert that unmanned crossing into manned crossing. With this I want to make

one more request and which is one of the long standing demands of the people of that region that a computerised railway reservation counter be opened at Aaudihar railway junction, in Gajipur district in Northern railway. I demand that both these demands be fulfilled at the earliest.

*(English)*

\*SHRI S. MALLIKARJUNIAH (Tumkur): Mr. Chairman Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Railway Supplementary Demands for the year 2005-2006.

The heavy traffic between Tumkur and Bangalore has created a lot of problems for the passengers. The roads are highly congested and the number of vehicles on the roads between these two cities is increasing day by day. Accidents are taking place almost every week. The trains running between these two cities are also jam packed that is why I am demanding the Centre to complete the ongoing gauge conversion at the earliest. In fact, it is Shri Jaffer Sharief, the then Railway Minister, who laid the foundation stone of this gauge conversion project. Gauge conversion work has been completed up to Dabaspet. But unfortunately 50% of the entire gauge conversion is pending for the last one decade. Surprisingly the amount allocated for this work has been diverted for completing other railway lines. Now, it is high time for the Hon. Railway Minister to take up this pending work and complete it before the end of the year 2006.

One train leaves Bangalore at 5.30 PM and after that up to 9 PM there is no train for Tumkur. More than 200 persons particularly Government employees, students, businessmen and workers employed in private companies are completely dependent upon trains. Hence, there is an urgent need to introduce one more train between these two cities at 7 PM.

The people of Tumkur district especially those who are living in Shettyhally are urging the Government of India to construct one road over bridge to connect both the sides of Shettyhally. This town is developing very fast on both the sides. Small industrial units are coming up and businesses centres are also being set up. The number of schools is increasing along with the number of shops. There is heavy traffic and construction of road-over-bridge would enable the people of both the sides of town move easily. This would also avoid traffic jam and

wastage of time. The people of this town are very much agitated about the inordinate delay in the construction of this over-bridge at Shettyhally. The public here went on strike several times in the past, processions were held on several occasions and several memorandums have been submitted to Railway Ministry. But strangely, till now this work has not commenced despite the fact that funds have been released both by the Centre and the State. This work has been allotted to a department. Unfortunately, this work has been put in the cold storage. I request the Hon. Railway Minister, to start the work of this over-bridge before the situation in Shettyhally goes out of control.

The Railway Ministry should give importance to cleanliness and availability of drinking water in all the railway stations in Karnataka State. At present drinking water facility and seats in the railway stations are not at all satisfactory.

The trains running between Bangalore and Tumkur are over-crowded. There is an urgent need to increase the number of compartments (bogies) in these trains. At least three additional bogies should be attached to these trains.

The railway route between Sampige and Nittur is more than 15 kilometers. Ramapura is in the middle of these two places. The people of these places are demanding for the construction of a railway station here, in Ramapura. I hope the Centre will take up this matter seriously and the construction work of this railway station will begin without any further delay.

A new railway line between Maddur and Davanagere via Kestur, Hulyurdurga, Kunigal, Hebbur, Nagavalli, Honnudiike cross, Gulur, Tumkur, Sira, Hiriyur, Chitradurga is a dream of the people of our state. Now at present we have a very long and circuitous railway line connecting the above-mentioned place. It is not only time consuming but also very expensive. That is why I am pleading with the Centre for the past ten years to take up this very important and urgent work. This line provides an excellent railway connectivity in the entire state of Karnataka and also with the major and important towns of the neighbouring States. My friends and colleagues Shri Siddeshwara from Davanagere and Shri Hanumanthappa from Chitradurga have raised this issue in this august House several times and there have also written to the Hon. Minister for completing this very important line in Karnataka.

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

[Shri S. Matlikarjuniah]

I once again request the Hon. Shri Laluji, Shri Veluji and Shri Muniyappa ji to make this dream of the people of Karnataka a reality by starting the work of this railway line immediately.

I thank you and with these words I conclude my speech.

[*Translation*]

SHRI V.K. THUMMAR (Amreli): Mr. Chairman, Sir, honourable railway minister has introduced Supplementary Demands for Grants and I have risen to support him. The work has been going on a faster pace in the railway for the last two years. I congratulate the honourable Minister of Railways for carrying out development work at such a fast pace and putting forth some suggestions for his kind consideration. Today, Gujarat is marching ahead on the path of development in terms of port connectivity, Gujarat is a number one state. Kandla is a big port. Likewise Pipawava has become a big port in my parliamentary constituency. Connectivity with foreign countries has also improved. I would like to congratulate Railway Minister for improving port to port connectivity.

Sir, honourable railway minister has introduced Supplementary Demands of Grants and money has also been sought for double track connectivity Trains from Palanpur to Pipwava mentioned on page number 21 therein. I extend my support for it and would also request that the Ministry of railways should work more on broadgauge programme. People have pinned their hopes on honourable railway minister and I would request the railway minister to make this programme a success. I was assured to introduce a train from my area Pipwava, I met Union Railway Minister and MoS, for railways Shri J.J. Rathawa as the ministry was not doing anything to start a new train from Pipwava to Rajula and from Mahna to Dhanla but now this train has been introduced. This train from Mahna to Pipwava and from Pipwava to Gola *via* Rajula has got linked to broadgauge line, therefore, two coaches, one sleeper class and the AC-II tier should be added thereto to facilitate people of Amreli to travel by this train. Surat has emerged as diamond town and is connected with Saurashtra.

Sir, many a people travel by buses and fall prey to accidents on the tracks. There work is in progress to add one more coach to the Bandra train. That needs to be strengthened at an early date and I make a demand to that effect. I would request that a coach should be

added from Bandra. This train was plying on metre gauge from Ahmedabad to Botad from the times of Britishers and Maharaja Gaikwad. The honourable minister has replied in response to my Q. No. 2368 that gauge conversion from Ahmedabad to Botad has been sanctioned. I had been given the same reply last time as well and I would request that this work should be started early and be included in the next budget. I again reiterate that this train plying since the British times should be restarted.

Sir, I have put forth several demands under the rule 377. The Rajdhani Express commencing from Ahmedabad starts from platform No. 5 though platform No. 1 remains vacant with the result that sometimes passengers fail to catch the train. I had raised this issue earlier also that this train should start from platform No. 1 as it reaches Delhi in time. People feel that they can reach their destinations in time by travelling on this train. In view of the advent of a number of airlines, aircrafts are ferrying people to Delhi at cheaper rates than that of railway, Rajdhani Express needs to be spruced up.

I have to make just one suggestion. I too have been nominated as member of the Western railway committee but no meeting has been held in the last two years. I have been issued an identity and also but two years are going to elapse but no meeting has been held so what suggestion I could give in the absence of any meeting having been held. I am, therefore, to give the suggestion in the Parliament. In its place Western Railway Zonal subcommittee has been instituted, its meeting should be held in three months time. Today, we are fortunate enough to have Shri Lalu Prasad Yadav as railway minister and our own Shri N.J. Rathwaji is also minister of state for Railways. I would, therefore, request that its meeting should be held regularly at the interval of three months time so that our petty works like railway level crossing for which I have to come here to put a Parliamentary Question which never figure in the priority list and I have to mention it in my budget speech. Therefore, zonal committee's functioning should be strengthened but zonal committee is not doing anything. I would also request the hon'ble Railway Minister to introduce a train on Viramgam—Mehsana track so as to connect Saurashtra and Delhi. It is broad-gauge rail line upto Viramgaon, therefore, we should be given quota in the trains coming from Viramgam Mehana and Ahmedabad and the Viramgam—Mehsana is the line for the purpose.

Sir, Railway Minister is doing a good job and Shri Naran Bhai Rathawa should also be given rights to do something for Gujarat. Shri Lalu ji I hope I am saying the right thing and some more funds should also be given. Gujarat has become a developed state. Railway is getting maximum revenues from Gujarat, therefore, port connectivity work should be taken up at a faster pace. I, therefore, support that the supplementary demands for grants be passed. He also deserves to be congratulated for the hopes he has raised to rest assured that he will be doing much more in future.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Alok Kumar Mehtaji, the time allotted to your party is up, therefore, you may please conclude in just two minutes.

SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA (Samastipur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I, through you, would like to thank and congratulate hon'ble Minister of Railways Shri Lalu Prasad ji, the most successful Railway Minister of the country, so far. During the last one and a half year he gave a new look to the railways of this country and the Railway, which was running in loss earlier, has now touched the figure of Rs. ten thousand crores of profit. Besides, he has introduced various welfare schemes, khadi, kulhad etc., which have generated a large scale rural employment in the country and many rural craftsman got employment. He has launched welfare schemes for the coolies, installed stalls for milk producing farmers and introduced refrigerated vans, for vegetable producing farmers and thereby changed the face of railways'.

I, through this supplementary rail budget, would like to raise certain issues pertaining to my constituency. I have five points. Out of which three have already been announced by the hon'ble Minister. The introduction of Lichchhavi Express train from Samastipur to Delhi has already been announced. My demand is that it should be implemented at the earliest. The Samastipur Railway workshop, which has been manufacturing bogies of good train since 1909, has not yet been given the status of a factory. During Second World war bogies for carrying tanks were used to be manufactured here. The hon'ble Minister was well aware of this thing. He has made an important announcement that expansion and upgradation of this factory will be carried out. I request him to implement this announcement.

The name of Vidyapatinagr, which is of Pauranic importance, be changed to Vidyapatidham. The hon'ble Minister has made an announcement to this effect in a

meeting. I request him to implement all these announcements. Apart from this, there are two more issues. We have a long pending demand of upgradation and expansion of Dal Singh Sarai Station and the construction of a road over bridge at crossing No. 32 near our station. I request the hon'ble Minister to fulfill these long pending demands of the people. I had proposed earlier to set up a DMU terminal at Samastipur station. There should be a DMU train via Darbhanga-Samastipur-Bachhawara-Patori to Hajipur. I request him to fulfill these demands in the interest of the people.

Freight equalization policy was very important. The entire country had accepted it. Minerals were sent through railways from Jharkhand to the entire country. As Delhi is the political capital of the country, Mumbai is the commercial capital of the country. The industries were being run there with the minerals of Jharkhand. The leaders of Bhartiya Janata Party issued some narrow minded statements as a result of which labour class people belonging to different parts of the country, are being harassed there. On 6th an incident of rape took place in the train near Nasik. In that incident a jawan of PF was involved. The local employees were also involved in that incident. Generally they are not irresponsible but they get affected by such type of emotions as were expressed by the leaders of Bhartiya Janata Party. I demand that a thorough inquiry should be conducted not this incident. I hope that hon'ble Minister will get an inquiry conducted into this incident and get the culprits punished.

The freight equalization policy is very important as it has been formulated to strengthen the solidarity of the country. The hon'ble Minister has worked for the experiences of railway network in the entire country and for that we thank him.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before I invite the next member to speak I want to say that the members who want to lay the written speeches on the Table, they may do so.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): Sir, I rise to support of the supplementary demands for Grants of the railways. Since Shri Lalu is our Minister of Railways so what more I can speak on these demands. Nitishji was our Railway Minister, and Ms. Mamata Banerji was also Railway Minister. Nitishji had weakened railways but in the last one and a half year Laluji brought the railways back on the right track. Shri Nitishji failed the railways while Shri Laluji passed it. If the country has to develop the development of railways is a must. In my

[Shri Ramdas Athawale]

parliamentary constituency of Pandharpur, the work of broad gauge line is going on at Latur-Miraj line. Last year, an amount of Rs. 50 crore only was released for this work. I demand that rupees one hundred crore should be allocated in the next year budget for this purpose so that this work could be completed in the next two-three years. Chandrabhaga Express runs twice in a week from Pandharpur to Mumbai. It is a very good train. My demand is that this train's frequency be increased and it should run every day in a week. There is a workshop in Phoduadi in our area and the work of broad gauge conversion is also going on there.

The cost incurred on metro railway is rupees three hundred crore per kilometer, but the cost of sky metro is just rupees fifty crore per kilometer. Shri Gangaramji of Konkan has carried out an experiment over it in Madgaon. My demand is that the introduction of sky metro in cities like Mumbai, Delhi Kolkata and Patna should be given serious thought. A good effort has been made to connect Konkan railway. The performance of Konkan railways has been excellent, so there is a need to keep it separate. The experiment undertaken by Konkan Railway is required to be undertaken in other railways. There is also a need to increase the number of local trains in Mumbai because a large number of daily passengers travel by them.

The last point is that 'Maha-parinirwan Diwas ceremony of Baba Saheb Ambedkar is celebrated in Mumbai. On 14 October, every year people visit Nagpur. The arrangements were made to stop people at Mumbai, Nagpur and Sholapur when the present Government came to power. My suggestion is that when people travel for such purposes they do not need tickets. It cause more loss to the railways because if they are stopped from travelling they would travel by trains next time. Therefore, such emotional issues need to be tackled carefully.

I support the supplementary demands for Grants of the railways. The hon'ble Minister should go ahead. We are with him, something might have happened in Bihar, but try to go ahead at a fast speed, we all are with you.

SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA (Seoni): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon'be Minister has grossly neglected Madhya Pradesh in the Supplementary Budget. Putting forth my point right from here, I want to say that the Railways have created sort of records in two fields since the UPA Government took over—rail accidents and the incidents of molestation and rape of women passengers. There is a long chain of rail accidents every month affecting

thousands of families. Mostly, these accidents happen due to human errors. I request the hon'ble Minister to take security measures for checking such human errors and provision be made for it in the Budget so that the day-by-day increasing railway accidents are reduced or checked and thousands of people may be saved from becoming crippled or checked and thousands of people may be saved from becoming crippled or dying in accidents. People should be able to travel by train thinking that their journey by train is safe. The incidents of misbehaviour and rape of women are rising everyday in so far as that many a times railway employees too are involved in such crimes. Women have started feeling afraid in travelling alone. A separate arrangement should be made for their safety so that they can travel safely without any feeling of insecurity and also without accidents.

Seoni area in Madhya Pradesh is my constituency. It is a tribal dominated area. Moghlland Pench National Park is also there which is very backward in the development race. It is said that for the development of any area this concept of development emerges only when means of transportation are available there in plenty. Only then, industrialists from outside think of investing in that area. Development will take place at high speed when industries will be set up there. But, even today, there is metre gauge rail line in Seoni and railway facilities do not exist due to which the development of the area is blocked. No project has been started so far even after 228 surveys for new rail lines have been conducted by the Railway Ministry whereas many projects are so low cost that they can be started easily. Surveys regarding construction of some rail lines in Madhya Pradesh like Ramtek to Gotegaon via Khwasa, Seoni and Dhooma in my constituency which is only 275 km long are also included in the survey report. It will cost Rs. 528 crore. It is being demanded for a long time by the local people. Agitations and dharmas have been organized from time to time in the area for this project. But, this project has not been included in the survey causing discontent among the public there. Gotegaon and Ramtek rail line should be sanctioned in the present budget on priority basis so that there can be all round progress of the area and unemployment is also removed.

Gauge Conversion work on Gondia Jabalpur rail line is in progress. It is going on very slowly. It looks like there is a lack of budgetary funds for it. This work should also be expedited. Seoni, where there is metre gauge line, is only 65 kms. away from Chhindwara.  
...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You just put up your points only as there are five more Members to speak from your party.

...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA: The distance between Nainpur to Seoni is just 75 kms. If Nainpur to Seoni and Seoni to Chhindwara are linked then Seoni will be linked to broad gauge and development work will start taking place. My Lok Sabha constituency includes Jabalpur also. About 2000 passengers travel everyday from Jabalpur to Mumbai. Therefore, a train should be run from Jabalpur to Mumbai. Gondbag Express train which runs from Jabalpur should be operated from Jabalpur with full rakes. Train No. 1469/1470 from Jabalpur to Kota should be extended upto Jaipur. A new train should be run from Jabalpur to Amritsar and Jammu Tavi for the benefit of the devotees willing to visit Swarn Mandir and Vaishno Devi for darshan. Narsinghpur is the third district where Gotegaon railway station is situated. Computerised reservation center should be set up in Gotegaon. Stoppage for the train Nos. 2159/2160 and 2061/2062 should be provided at Shridham railway station. Electrification of the rail route from Itarsi to Katni in Madhya Pradesh should be done. Besides, the Train No. 1271/1272 Vindhyaçal Express which runs between Bina and Itarsi, stops at most stations but its fare is same as that of Mail and Express trains causing financial loss to the passengers. Therefore, I request that its fare should be reduced.

Finally, I request the hon'ble Minister to include my Lok Sabha constituency Seoni in the Budget so that Seoni gets linked to metre gauge line and the area can be developed.

*[English]*

\*SHRI A.K.S. VIJAYAN (Nagapattinam): Sir, let me thank the Chair for laying my speech. I wish to participate in this discussion on Supplementary Demands for Grants for the Ministry of Railways. I am pained to point out that Southern Railway has again been ignored in this Demands for Grants also. As early as in 1993, it was announced that the gauge conversion project pertaining to Tiruchi-Thanjavur-Thiruvarur-Nagapattinam-Velankanni-Nagore and also Nagore-Karaikkal section in my constituency. Due to our repeated efforts in taking up

\*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil and also laid on the Table.

this matter in this august house, the shelved project of laying broad gauge line Thanjavur-Thiruvarur-Nagore section was taken up again. During the term of 13th Lok Sabha an announcement in this regard was made and even fund allocation was made. But still the work is pending. When Shri Lalu and Shri Velu, who was a Deputy collector in our district are now at the helm of affairs in the Railway Ministry, I do expect that our long pending demands will be attended to. In the targets fixed for the year 2004-05 in the Railway Budget this was mentioned. We were also hoping that the project would be completed by December 2004. Based on the announcement by the General Manager, Southern Railway we even expected that the project would be completed by January 2005. But there is no hope even now and it is not to be completed even by January 2006. Under rule 377, I had brought to the notice of this august House this sorry state of affairs. Though Velankanni Basilica Church has come forward to hand over to the Railways Rs. 2 crore to defray the expenses to lay Broad gauge Railway line between Nagapattinam and Velankanni, no steps have been taken.

Rail car service was in operation between Thiruthuraiipoondi and Agasthiampallik, a place known for the famous Salt Sathyagraha. The diesel rail car service must be resumed. Common salt is moved from Vedaranyam to several places in the country. Hence the broad gauge conversion of the existing metre gauge must be taken up expeditiously. Computerized Railway Reservation centre must be established in Thiruthuraiipoondi. I urge upon the Railways to allocate funds immediately facilitating gauge conversion between Thiruvarur—Nagapattinam. Since it is a secular pilgrim centre where pilgrims throng to visit all the three worship places that belong to three different major religions, Railways must link it with railway lines.

Similarly there is a need to lay broad gauge Railway line connecting Villupuram with Cuddalore via Chidambaram, Mayiladuthurai, Thiruvarur, and Muthupet. I request the Hon. Minister to allocate funds to commence this project. This was the main line between Chennai and Rameshwaram. Now that meter gauge section is left almost abandoned. I urge upon the UPA Government to go for gauge conversions in this section. Our leader Dr. Kalaignar reiterated the plea made by the Hon. MPs of Tamil Nadu in a meeting he had convened. With a request to take up this long felt need of the people of Tamil Nadu, let me conclude.

SHRI ANWAR HUSSAIN (Dhubri): Sir, while supporting the Supplementary Demands for Grants as presented by the Ministry of Railways, I am sorry to express my utter disappointment over the antipathetic attitude as reflected in the Supplementary Demands for Grants for the North-Eastern region, especially for Assam.

I was really pleased when I got a communication about one and half years ago that a Consultative Committee of the NF Railway has been constituted and that I have been made a Member of that Committee. But I am really sorry to say that during the last one and half years not a single meeting has been convened by the Ministry of Railways. I would, therefore, urge upon the Minister of Railways to hold a meeting in order to discuss the problems of Assam and other parts of North-Eastern region.

Another disappointing matter is that, in the last Railway Budget the hon. Minister of Railways had declared that a factory for manufacturing the cement blocks would be established in the North-Eastern region. But during the whole year, the Ministry has taken no step till date. So, I would request the Minister to take necessary steps in this regard.

Sir, through different Media, you might have come to know that the Bogibeel mega Project is a matter of disappointment for the people of Assam. They have been agitating for months together and the news reports are coming in the newspapers. We demanded that this Mega Project should be declared as National Project. I do not like to go into the details. But, I once again urge upon the Government to declare Bogibeel Mega Project as a national Project.

Sir, the new Moinaguri and Jogighopa railway line was taken up in the year 1998. During the last seven years, you will be astonished to know that only five per cent work has been done so far. If you go by arithmetical calculation, you will find that it will take more than a century to complete the work. So, I request that the Railway Ministry's attitude towards North-Eastern Region in Assam should be changed immediately. They should take a positive step and try to complete the railway line as early as possible and a target date should be fixed. I urge upon the Government to finish it within the year 2008.

Sir, in this railway line, there is a bridge, namely, Golakganj Bridge. The people of that area has been

demanding since the day of calling tender that there should be a footpath on both the sides of the railway line. I would request the Railway Ministry to think about the matter.

Sir, from the strategic point of view, Dhubri-Fakiragram railway line is very important. It has been remaining disrupted since the year 2002. This Government has already crossed 1½ years. So, the conversion of metre gauge to broad gauge should be completed as early as possible. You will be astonished to know that Dhubri is the district headquarters within my Constituency. This district has 18 lakhs of people whereas not even a single inch of railway line is running there. This matter should be taken up very seriously. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI ANWAR HUSSAIN: Sir, I am concluding. Actually, there are many points.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Then, you just refer to them very briefly.

SHRI ANWAR HUSSAIN: There is a huge rush of patients from Assam and the whole north-Eastern Region to Chennai. I urge upon the Government to introduce a new Express Train from Guwahati to Chennai as early as possible.

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI (Kutch): Sir, I rise to express my views on the Supplementary Demands for Grants. First of all, I welcome the proposal for the provisions in Item Nos. 35 and 48 for removal of infringement of running of Double Stack Container Trains on Palanpur-Pipavav-Delhi route.

20.00 hrs.

Similarly, I would like to request the hon. Minister to make provision for the Palampur Gandhidham route. All the North-Indian traffic is from Mundra to Kandla Ports as container traffic is increasing day-by-day at Kandla and Mundra Ports.

A similar provision also requires to be made between Bhiñdi and Jodhpur route which will facilitate transportation of container traffic from North India, Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir to Kandla and Mundra Ports.

I would also like to submit that the gauge conversion work on the Palampur-Samkhiyali route, which is in



progress, requires to be expedited as this whole route will be very much important for all the Northern States like Haryana, Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. When this route is completed, much pressure would come on the Samkhiyali-Gandhidham track which is a most over-utilised track. On that portion, if doubling of the line is not made, then, what will happen? One route comes from Ahmedabad to Samkhiyali. Another route will come from Palampur to Samkhiyali. So, between Samkhiyali and Gandhidhama, doubling of the track is a must. Nowadays, it is over-utilised. The capacity of the track is to handle 30 trains. But, at the moment, 36 to 40 trains are running on this route. So, more trains would be coming. Therefore, doubling of the line between Samkhiyali and Gandhidham is required.

Under the Port Connectivity Projects, the following Ports of Gujarat may be linked or connected with the BG line. The first Port is Bedi, the distance of which is 15 kilometres. The amount required is Rs. 26 crore. The second Port is the Porbander Port, the distance of which is five kilometres and the amount required is Rs. 16 crore. The third Port is the Hazira Port (Magdala) which is of 37 kilometres distance and the amount required is Rs. 99 crore. The fourth Port is the Bharuch-Dahej Port which is of 64 kilometres distance and the amount required is Rs. 137 crore.

Now, I would like to take this opportunity to request the hon. Railway Minister to re-introduce our old train, which was the Inter-City Express Train, between Bhuj-Gandhidham to Vadodra, which was discontinued. So, my only request to the hon. Minister is that this train may kindly be re-introduced.

Secondly, I would like to request the hon. Minister to increase the frequency of the Ala Hazarat Express between Bhuj and Bareilly. At the moment, it runs for five days. Its frequency may kindly be increased by making it a daily service. This train may, for two or three days in a week, kindly be diverted to Hardwar so that the passengers from Bhuj can go to Hardwar directly. Now, it goes to Bareilly. If it can be diverted for two or three days in a week to Hardwar, that will be very much useful. Previously, in the Howrah-Ahmedabad Express Train, there were bogies which were joined for Kutch. Now, as a policy matter, all bogies were discontinued. So, my only request to the hon. Minister is that the Howrah-Ahmedabad train may kindly be extended to Bhuj for at least two or three days in a week.

Similarly, one additional Express Train is very much necessary between Mumbai and Bhuj. At the moment, there are two trains which are running, which are overcrowded. After the earthquake in Kutch, instead of migration, the population of Kutch has increased to 25 per cent and many industries have come up. For the whole of North India, Ports in the Kutch are becoming very much important. So, when traffic is increasing day by day in all these Ports, one additional Express Train may kindly be introduced.

With these words, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak.

*[Translation]*

SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA (Banaskantha): Hon. Chairman, Sir, first in all I thank our powerful and dynamic Minister Shri Lalu Prasad ji and his team who have taken revolutionary steps to give railways a positive turn. It has created a good feeling in the country. We are happy with the steps he took in the previous budget. The hon. Minister has provided employment to the people by following the Gandhian way of khadi and village industries. This has made the khadi and village industries people happy for which I congratulate the Minister of Railways. I would like to draw attention of the Railway Minister towards some problems in my Parliamentary constituency Banaskantha. This region is a part of North Gujarat. No train passing through or originating from this place goes to Mumbai, whereas numerous people from this place go to Surat and Mumbai in relation to diamond business and for labour. Banaskantha is named after the local river Banas. So, my demand is that a train under the name Banas Express or Palanpur Express be introduced from there to Mumbai which will be a great facility for thousands of our people.

A DMU runs from Palanpur to Ahmedabad but it is always very crowded so the number of DMU racks be increased. Earlier a Nawab Saheb ruled Palanpur, those were very good times but this station has not seen any improvement. I request that this station should be extended and upgraded and status of a model station be given to it because this is a junction and trains to Kutch also operated from there. State highway also passes through this place but this Gandhidham to Kandla Road is very crowded so an over bridge be constructed there immediately.

[Shri Harisinh Chavda]

I have another request for the Minister for Railways that the Rajdhani express which runs for six days a week be plied on all the seven days. Ahmedabad-Delhi railway line is a single line; it should be doubled at the earliest. Gandhidham-Palanpur gauge conversion work is very slow, it should be completed soon. There are habitations on both sides of the Palanpur railway line but there is only one over Bridge. I request the hon. Minister of Railways to sanction another 'Foot over Bridge'. Reservation Quota from Palanpur station is very less. The quota in every train should be increased because people from Kutch also come there.

With these words, I thank the Minister of Railways Shri Lalu Prasadji and support the Supplementary Demands for Grants presented by him.

DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA (Khajuraho): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Demands for Grants of Railways. I would like to request the Minister of Railways that if a meeting of the MP's of the zones with the GMs is arranged, the regional problems can be solved. In this context I want to point that 14 stoppages of Bundelkhand Express have been cancelled but no meeting with the Members of Parliament of that zone has been called or any discussion held in this regard. As a result of which necessary arrangements have not been done at the time of making this train an Express train.

20.09 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

This resulted in an accident at Datia claiming 27-28 lives and injuring many. I went to the spot to provide the assistance from the State Government side but the assistance which was to be provided by the Centre has not been provided to the dependent of the deceased or the injured so far. I request that the said assistance be provided to them at the earliest. I want to put up some proposals which do not involve any financial implications. Mere better arrangements will provide great relief to the people of that area. If Tulsi Express is made a daily train then Bundelkhand will benefit from it. People of Tikamgarh and Chhatispur demand a five minute halt of Bhopal Express which will be a great facility to the people those. Likewise the 14 cancelled stoppages of Bundelkhand Express be restored. Orchha-Khajuraho are places of pilgrimage in Bundelkhand. Well off people can afford to go by air but common people willing to visit

these places of pilgrimages have great difficulty. So it will be very kind of you if these stoppages are revived.

Taj Express terminates at Gwalior if this train is extended upto Jhansi, it will promote Orchha and Khajuraho pilgrimages as well as revenue will increase, as also this involves no financial burden. If Jabalpur Kota train is extended upto Pushkar *via* Jaipur, Ajmer Sharif and Pushkar both the places of pilgrimage will be promoted.

Lalitpur-Singroli railway line has been sanctioned but the work is progressing at a slow pace. Budget allocations for this should be increased so that good facility is made available to the people of Bundelkhand and Vindhya region. Likewise, the work on Khajurao-Mahowa railway line is very slow which needs to be accelerated. This will promote tourism in Khajuraho.

Damoh is my previous Parliamentary constituency. A model railway station was sanctioned here but nothing has been done in this direction in last two years. It will be better if the said work is done. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA (Etawah): I thank you for allotting me time to speak on Supplementary Demands for 2005-2006. I thank the hon. Minister for presenting a budget of Rs. 200 crore and 66 thousand and a profit of Rs. 10 thousands crore. Thanks to the Minister of Railways for doing the work of bringing 'Kulhar' to khadi in the Ministry of Railway for poor. Balwai station falls within my parliamentary constituency. There are two or three inter-colleges and a temple of goddess Brahmani there. But on construction of loop-line at Balwai station, the crossing has fallen within. The goods train stops there for two to four hours. School children go to school by crossing under the train. People have to cross under the train for going to the temple of goddess Brahmani also. I had requested the hon. Minister and several times the matter has been raised under Rule 377 to shift the crossing towards east. We have got the bridge connected from both sides. If the crossing is shifted, the problem would be solved and the school children and the people going to the temple will not have to face problem. There is Chandipur Kothi crossing on loop line. This crossing has fallen in middle of village. We have done the work of connecting the road from both sides. It will be better if the crossing is shifted to the east. The crossing in the village is without any purpose and it also serves as a bypass for Etawah. We have demanded to shift both the crossings towards the east.

There is Manoranjan Sadan of railway towards the north of Etawah railway station and quarters of railway staff and officers are also there. The roads are in a very bad condition there. There are potholes in them and water get logged there due to potholes. As this does not fall under State Government and belongs to railways, therefore, I would request the hon. Minister to get the roads repaired since often persons also crosses through that railway colony. I would request the hon. Minister to beautify the area around Manoranjan Sadan. The toilet of all the railway stations are dirty, it stinks while crossing by that. I would request the hon. Minister in this regard to issue necessary directions to the officers, so that, the toilets may remain clean and no disease may break out. We had demanded earlier in the House to arrange for beautification of Jaswanthnagar Phaphund Railway station. The street lights are out of order there so, the same may be repaired. An EMU Express stops at Etawah. We have demanded several times to stay the train at Phaphund Railway Station. If it is originated from Phaphund Railway station, Etawah will fall in the way. Businessmen reside around Phaphund. There is an NTPC undertaking and GAIL undertaking there. Many passenger travels from there. All the passengers will be benefited, if the train being originated from Etawah is originated from Phaphund.

[English]

\*SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): Respected Deputy Speaker, Sir, I stand here today to discuss on the Supplementary Demands for Grant of Railway for 2005-2006. At the outset I may state that Railways are responding to the challenge and are making all out efforts to sustain the existing traffic as well as to attract new traffic, bag in bulk and non-bulk segments. Use of information technology in freight traffic is also needed and is being given due attention.

I would draw the attention of the Government through you Sir, to a Task Force on integrated Transport Policy which was set up in 2001 under the Chairmanship of Shri K.C. Pant, the then Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission. This Task Force had suggested to regain its share in Freight through qualitative capacity augmentation aided by corrective pricing policies and organisational change. It had also suggested to focus on technology upgradation and modernisation. It impressed upon the Railways to augment capacity on the saturated

high-density routes and replace over aged assets, thereby facilitating reduction in asset failure and improve productivity and enhance safety of rail operations.

The Rakesh Mohan Committee also has studied the railway sector in order to estimate the financing requirements of an expansion and upgradation programme. It also suggested to identify sources of funding of estimated investment over 15 years period. The root cause of financial problem confronting the Indian Railway is found in lack of adequate productivity increases that are commensurate with real wages overtime. The Railways has to modernise and expand its capacity to serve the emerging needs of the growing economy. Indian Railways has to adopt a economy. Indian Railways has to adopt a strategic perspective to achieve high growth in both the passenger and freight segments.

I am constraint to note that most of the projects taken up in Orissa by the Railways are progressing in snail's pace. Some of the ongoing projects in Orissa have been identified as part of National Rail Vikas Yojana for strengthening Quadrilateral and Diagonals and Port Connectivity routes. But execution of these projects in Orissa, especially under East Coast Railways and South Eastern Railways are not to our satisfaction. These projects should be expedited, especially the doubling of Talcher to Paradeep rail line and completion of construction of second bridge over river Mahanadi is essential. Similarly, the second rail bridge over river Kathjodi and river Kuakhai is necessary for which budgetary provisions been made but no work has started. Government of Orissa had submitted a memorandum to the Railway Minister and subsequently the House Committee of Orissa Legislative Assembly had also met the authorities of the Railway Ministry and have apprised the anxiety of the people of Orissa. It was a all party delegation.

There is a need for higher allocation of funds to the tune of Rs. 780 crore, for the ongoing projects in the State of Orissa. I would like to deal with some project in detail.

The Broad gauge rail line link project of Daitari-Bansapani traversing a length of 155 Km which was sanctioned in the year 1992-93 needs utmost attention. Land for the project has already been handed over to the East Coast Railway. The section between Bansapani-Keonjhar of 58 km has been commissioned since August 2004. Formation and earth work has been completed from

[Shri B. Mahtab]

Keonjhar to Tomka of 98 kms. Presently, bridge works are in progress. I would like to mention here that initially the Ministry of Railways had planned to Commission the rail link by December 2005 and later postponed it to March 2007. In view of the construction and commissioning of steel plants in Dubri area, I would request the Railway Minister to expedite commissioning of Daitari-Bausapani rail link as early as possible.

There is a necessity to sanction and take up Surveys for doubling of the lines namely—

- (a) Daitari-Bansapani-Jakhapur BG Rail Link;
- (b) Haridaspur-Paradeep BG Rail Link;
- (c) Angul-Dubri-Sukinda Road BG Rail Link; and
- (d) Talcher-Sambalpur BG Rail Link.

Once the survey are completed these projects may be taken up departmentally or through special purpose vehicle or SPV mechanism through Rail Vikas Nigam Limited. Timely action on this front will reduce the gestation period in creating requisite infrastructure to support the rapid industrialisation process taking place in the state, even at the present single line stage the land acquisition part may be planned for eventual doubling in order to save time.

The third point is, already RITES Limited has submitted a draft report, which provides for a MGR system with around 29 km length and development of station yards at Baghupal, Sukinda Road and Jakhapura for 118 km track at an estimated cost of Rs. 325 crore in two phases.

I would urge upon the Minister to participate in the SPV (JCDL) and also take a view regarding construction, maintenance and operations of the MGR system.

The conversion of Nuapada-Gunupur narrow gauge rail link project was sanctioned in the year 1997-98 and Rs. 30.65 crore has been already spent. Land acquisition and construction are in progress. It is learnt that RVNL started a bank ability study for extension of this rail link of Theruvali to enable the Alumina industries in Rayagada and Koraput districts have connectivity with the Gopalpur port. Orissa government has already assured assistance in participation of industries in the Special Purpose Vehicle for construction of this extension. I urge again to take up these projects in full earnest.

Lastly, I draw the attention of the minister through you Sir, towards the expansion of century old Cuttack Railway Station. Though budgetary provision has been made for last two years, very little work has been done to have a second opening of Cuttack Rail Station.

Railway is facing competition today. All investment must be done judiciously. Orissa has become the happening State of the Country where more than Rs. 150,000 crore of investment is going to take place within another 10 years of time. Railway should upgrade the load factor of all new lines accordingly about which I had mentioned in this House a week earlier. At the same time, I would again urge upon the Minister to expedite the completion of all ongoing projects at the earliest.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID (Periyakulam): Thank you Sir, for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways). I would make a few points concerning my parliamentary constituency, in particular, and my State Tamil Nadu, in general. I rise to support these Grants.

I understand that Railways being the lifeline of the nation, has a big role in catering to the needs of the whole country. We could not find a sizeable improvement in the Railway network in Tamil Nadu. The Ministry has an important task, which, I hope, they would try to fulfil with all out efforts by taking into consideration the genuine demands of the State of Tamil Nadu.

Sir, a delegation of 40-Member of Parliament from the State of Tamil Nadu has met Shri Lalu Prasad and have requested to forming a new Salem Division. I hope, Shri Lalu Prasad will definitely consider this demand.

The Railways is one of the most important lifelines in the country for the poor people. It is an important vehicle for the poor and downtrodden. My constituency, Periyakulam and Theni district, where I come from, is an industrial and agricultural district. Here we produce agricultural items like sugarcane, spices like cardamom, pepper, cotton, and other important items. If Salem Division is formed, it will cater to the needs of the business community in the Tamil Nadu region.

Sir, Delhi to Chennai Rajdhani is plying only two times a week. But Rajdhani from Mumbai-Delhi, Kolkata-Delhi, Hyderabad-Delhi and Bangalore-Delhi are plying

daily. I do not know why the Railway Department has neglected the State of Tamil Nadu. I would request the hon. Minister to take this into consideration and consider plying a daily Rajdhani from Delhi-Chennai.

I would request the hon. Minister for the construction of a new railway line from Dindugal a Ayyappan Temple via Vattalagundu, Theni, Bodi, Kambam, and Gudalur. From Gudalur to Ayyappa temple, a tunnel can be constructed for three kilometres in the hills. If this tunnel is provided by the Ministry of Railways, it would be the shortest route for the lakhs and lakhs of devotees who come to the Ayyappan temple. Even the Railway Department charges Rs. 100 extra from a passenger. They were ready to pay because they have to go around 150 kilometres to the uphill. At the time of going to the uphill, they have to face severe consequences because of the wild elephants, wild bisons and all other animals that are attacking them. Last year, two devotees were killed.

Sir, if you want me to lay my speech, I will lay the rest of my speech on the Table of the House.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You can lay the rest of the speech on the Table of the House. It will form part of the proceeding.

The rest of the speech will be laid on the Table of the House.

...(Interruptions)

\*SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID: If this railway tunnel is constructed, Government would be doing a great service to the people in the area and the Government, if there is any dearth of funds, can collect a toll fee from the pilgrims so that the entire cost of the tunnel could be recovered within a year. This railway tunnel from Gudalur to Ayyappan Temple will lead straight to the foothills of the Ayyappan temple. This will save 150 kms. for the pilgrims. Even from pilgrims toll can be travel via tunnel every year lakhs and lakhs people are travelling government will get the tunnel investment in one year even put foreign operators are ready for it.

Another point which I wish to state here that there is a Kuzhandai Velappan temple in Kodaikanal. If this tunnel is constructed, Kodaikanal would also attract huge tourists and the Government can earn more revenue.

Finally, I would like to state that Bodi is a world's largest cardamom producing and auctioning likely. Spices like cardamom, pepper are grown. There are a lot of tea plantations in Theni district. There is a sprawling BIS Tata tea estate covering 2,00,000 acres. In Theni district, there are a lot of cotton growers and textile mills too. Theni is next only to Coimbatore as a textile hub in South India. There is no facility of booking cargo in Bodi. Hence, a long-standing and genuine demand of the area is to open a Cargo Booking Centre by the Railways.

This would benefit lakhs of small growers. At present, they have to go either to Coimbatore or Madurai for booking of their the products for exporting. They are paying sales tax, octroi, etc. which is an additional burden on them. Added to this burden, there is harassment by police and revenue officials of our state. They could not bear such burden no longer. They have been pleading for the opening of a Permanent Cargo Booking Centre in Bodi.

If country has to prosper, 1000 small farmers have to be happy, not ten rich business. So, their interest should be protected. Sir, since you are champion of minorities first in the railways I will request you to take necessary action for protecting that interests in the Railways.

Sir, I conclude my speech with the hope that the hon. Minister of Railways would give topmost priority to the problems mentioned by me in my speech as they are long-pending issues concerning the genuine demands of the people of my constituency and implement the same it as early as possible."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Hansraj G. Ahir. Be very brief and take only two minutes.

[Translation]

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR (Chandrapur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support the Supplementary Demands for Grants presented by the Minister of Railways. Maharashtra is mentioned nowhere in this Supplementary Budget. I belong to Chandrapur Parliamentary Constituency of Maharashtra. Chandrapur is a tribal dominated area and district Gadachiroli comes under it, but there is no rail connectivity there. I have raised this issue several times in the House. A survey has also been conducted for laying railway line from Vadasa to Gadchiroli. A sum of 77 crore rupees is required for laying out railway line in

\*.....\* This part of the speech was Laid on the Table.

[Shri Hansraj G. Ahir]

about 50 kilometers. I request to make a provision for this amount. Surjagarh region is also included in it. Iron ore is found there. It is a tribal-dominated and inaccessible area affected by Naxalism. Make a provision for laying railway line there.

Candafort is a station of South-Eastern Railway. Yashwantpur-Bilaspur train originates from here. I demand to extend this train upto Howrah. The narrow gauge railway line on this route has been converted to broad gauge. Only one or two trains are being operated after spending a huge amount of money. I demand to operate some more trains there. The work on Jabalpur-Nainpur broad gauge railway line is going on. It be expedited. Northern India can be connected with Southern India through the shortest route by it. The difference of two hundred and fifty kilometers will be decreased by it. Train be operated from Bangalore and Hyderabad to Varanasi. Chandrapur railway station is at the district head quarters of my parliamentary constituency. This station has been provided with the status of a model station; but for want of provision in the budget, the work is not going on. A provision for this be made in the budget to make the funds available. I have demanded several times to operate a shuttle train from Chandrapur station to Nagpur. Please consider it sympathically. Bhagyanagari train originates from Hyderabad and goes upto Kagaj Nagar. I demand to extend it upto Ballarshah. The passenger train operating between Vardha-Balasa be extended upto Gadachandur. The train originating from Chandrapur and going upto Ghughghus has been discontinued from some time. I demand to operate it again. Railway reservation centers be set up at Chandafort, Rajoora, Varora and Bandak stations.

Chandrapur is a big and industrial city. A population of more than four lakhs resides there. Twenty nine trains stop there but Rajdhani Express trains going to Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Jodhpur and Kerala crossing *via* Chandrapur do not stop there. I request to provide stoppage for all these trains here.

With these words, I thank you.

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, while I must appreciate the hon. Minister, his team, the Members of the entire Railway Board and the employees for the new impetus that has been imparted to the working of the Railways, there are only one or two points that I would like to make.

One point is that it was a long pending demand of the people of the region that Chandigarh should be connected to Ludhiana. I am happy that the work is going on at an accelerated rate now after many years. But there is one very important point about it, that is, that the track is not being electrified. At present, Delhi-Chandigarh route is electrified. The route from Ludhiana onwards up to Amritsar, etc., is electrified. So, this would be a missing link. Unless this is electrified, I do not think the starting of the train on this route from Chandigarh to Ludhiana would serve the desired objective.

Secondly, I must thank the Minister for starting this year the Kerala Sampark Express between Chandigarh and Thiruvananthapuram. It is a weekly train. I would urge the Minister to make it at least a bi-weekly one. At the same time, the Railways should provide more coaches for III-tier AC because that is the need. On the way, there must be some more stoppages provided to that train because what really happens presently is that it is a through train and that may not be very viable for the Railways. If there are two or three stoppages at important places, the train would become more viable and it can certainly be made a bi-weekly train.

Chandigarh, as we all know and Sir, as you know, in particular, is the capital of both Punjab and Haryana. It is the headquarters of the Union Territory and it is an important place. It is fast emerging as the IT centre also and is proudly on the tourist map of the country now. But the railway station here is still that 50 years old building. The building must change. It must also reflect the new mood of the city which is surging forward on the path of development.

With these words only, I would like to thank the hon. Minister once again. But these are very important points. Rest I would reserve for the main Budget next year or I would write to him in between. But these are the important things because, maybe, in the next few days only that train may be flagged off from Chandigarh to Ludhiana side up to some place, Morinda on the way. It must be electrified immediately and that process should start.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I think that the hon. Minister will certainly pay attention to your request.

Now, I would request Shri Virchandra Paswan to speak. Please be brief.

*[Translation]*

SHRI VIRCHANDRA PASWAN (Nawada): I will take only two minutes to State my point. Railways has seen a lot of development under the able leadership of the Hon'ble Minister and substantial improvements have taken place in the quality of work of all the departments of the Railways. His sagacity has turned the Railways into a profit-making body and enhanced the consolidated funds of the country. The railway officers who have worked under the leadership of the Hon'ble Railway Minister should be thanked for achieving this success. The entire country is thanking him for his efficiency and efficacy.

I thank him for displaying such leadership on behalf of my constituency and myself. I would like to submit a few points relating to my constituency and my home town in Bihar in a few words. I have drawn the attention of the Minister many times towards the demand of the people that the Gaya-Dhanbad Intercity Express train should have two minute halt at Gurpa in my constituency Navada since it is a place of mythological and historical importance. People travel to Dhanbad frequently. When I wrote to them about this matter, the reply was that people should go to Gaya and get the train for Dhanbad from there. This is not practical. Hence, I would like to request that this train should have a two-minute halt at Gurpa.

The Hon'ble Railway Minister is aware of the need for a railway overbridge (ROB) at Hajipur Dighi and Ekara, my native place. The Railway Board Chairman has also lived in that area. Railway over-bridge is needed there because of the density of traffic which causes frequent traffic jams. For the past many years it is being said that a Railway Over Bridge is going to be constructed there but no concrete action has been taken so far. It is my request that construction of Railway Overbridges at Hajipur, Didhi and Ekara be expedited.

Deputy Speaker, Sir, Hajipur is a historical place with a high density of population. It links the districts of Vaishali, Samastipur etc. in Bihar. It has a Market Committee which draws people of various States from all over the country. People buy tickets. I had requested that in addition to a railway station, a computerized reservation center should also be opened in the precincts of the Market Committee for the convenience of the people. I hope that the Hon'ble Railway Minister would give orders for establishment of a computerized rail reservation center at the place at the earliest.

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I think you belong to the same party.

*...(Interruptions)**[Translation]*

SHRI VIRCHANDRA PASWAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Railways is the lifeline of India, the means of transport for the common man. Express trains have a large number of general and sleeper class coaches. The open windows of fast trains allow dust and grit to come inside the coaches. This has an adverse effect on the lungs of the poor and they fall ill. It is my request that these general and sleeper coaches should be furnished with ACs. This may prove to be slightly expensive but would be beneficial for the people. I hope the Hon'ble Railway Minister would give due consideration to the matter.

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, you please sit down.

*[Translation]*

SHRI VIRCHANDRA PASWAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, when the Rail Budget for all the year 2004-05 was presented last year a provision for doubling of Kiyul-Navada rail line had been made but no progress has been made in this regard so far. Since Magadh is an important region from where people go on to Mumbai, Kolkata and Delhi therefore keeping in mind the important of this rail route, doubling of this 123 km long stretch of rail route should be undertaken. *...(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down. This is the discussion on Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) and not the discussion on the main Budget.

*...(Interruptions)**[Translation]*

SHRI VIRCHANDRA PASWAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the end I would like to request that\*

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\*Not recorded.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down. This is not to be recorded.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down. He is not to be recorded.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, Shri Haribhau Rathod. You would be very brief; conclude within two minutes.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD (Yavatmal): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is a discussion regarding the Supplementary Demand for Grants for Railways for the year 2005-06 in which there is no provision for Maharashtra. A few days ago I had a meeting with the Chief Minister where the point of discussion was that no new work has been undertaken with respect to the railways in the last 150 years apart from the work done during the British Rule. The old railway lines laid by the British are being used but not a single new railway line has been laid in Maharashtra after independence. The only work undertaken thereafter was the work on Konkan Rail line during the tenure of Shri Madhu Dhandavate. Last time, I had demanded the construction of Nagpur-Vardha-Nanded rail route. You might be aware that the 300th birth anniversary of Guru Gobind Singhi would be celebrated in the year 2008 at Nanded. Preparations are going on in full swing. Through you, I would like to demand the Railway Minister to get the work on Vardha-Nanded rail line completed by 2008. Vardha is the district to which Mahatma Gandhi belonged. He had his home there. This is also the region to which Shri Vinoba Bhave had belonged. It leads on to Poragarh which is a major place of pilgrimage for the followers of Sant Sewa Bhaya. The 300th birth anniversary of Guru Gobind Singhji is going to be celebrated there in the year 2008. If the Minister is willing and puts in an effort then this work will surely be completed. People are preparing for this event with great enthusiasm. He should also be in readiness for it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in addition, there is a small private rail line called Shakuntala in Yavatmal. Its official

name is not Shakuntala. People call it Shakuntala affectionately. This line was built during the British Rule. I have heard that instead of converting this narrow gauge into broad gauge the Ministry proposes to remove or close this line. First of all, there is no rail facility in Yavatmal and this tiny line runs from Murtazapur to Yavatmal. Time and again we have reiterated our demand that it should be converted into broad gauge but instead of doing so it is sought to be removed. We request the Railway Minister that private or public, no rail line should be closed down. We request that it should be converted into broad gauge.

I had made a demand that two or three trains should be given a stoppage at Dhamangaon particularly Howrah Express, Azad Hind Express and Ahmedabad-Chennai Navjivan Express, but this has not been done yet. Dhamangaon needs an overbridge. The Minister may kindly look into this matter too. Another bridge needs to be built in Buttibori near Nagpur-Vardha. This place is growing into a large industrial estate. I had asked for an overbridge to be constructed there. Basal was shaken by a people's agitation recently. Trains were stopped. What did the Government do to fulfill their demands? We frequently quote the example of Mumbai where so much revenue is generated.

Train facility is not being provided in that part of Mumbai. There is no provision of this in the budget also. The passengers have taken to the streets to press for their demands. I have written a letter to the hon'ble Minister and met him personally in this regard but nothing is being done in this regard. He has done something for Muthkhed, Adilabad and Vani where two-three stations are to be constructed. I request the hon'ble Minister to come over there for inauguration of these stations. But a small piece of work is yet to be completed. It would be better if this is completed during his tenure.

In the end by making one last point I would conclude. The point is about railway staff *i.e.* engine drivers, running staff whom we want to benefit more, curtailment in the allowances they are getting for years is being considered. In the year 2002 a running staff allowance Committee was constituted which has suggested curtailment in the said allowance due to which staff members are worried. The people who operate railways, who are responsible for the safety of thousands and lakhs of passengers, in stead of increasing their allowances a suggestion to curtail their allowances has been given. I would request you to kindly definitely do something in this regard.

\*Not recorded.



THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): It is not being done.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It has to be mentioned in the reply that it will not be done.

SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD: It has not been done, but the Committee has recommended it. If no such thing is being done then it is very good. This message will go all over the country.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I also support his request regarding the coming 300th birth anniversary of Guru Gobind Singhji.

SHRIMATI RUBAB SAYEDA (Bahraich): Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, sir, first of all I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak today here in the House. It is my maiden speech but I shall be brief. I will not waste the time of the House by making a long speech. I would like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister towards a major problem of my constituency. Before this I have met the hon'ble Minister on one occasion and brought this thing to his notice and had discussed this problem with him. He had assured me in this regard. I still believe that he will take timely steps to solve the problem of my constituency. The problem of my constituency is that even after so many years of independence, even after the passage of more than half century my constituency has not yet seen the light of development because broad gauge rail line has not been laid there. In that area meter gauge trains are operating even today whereas broad gauge lines have been laid in every part of the country which have contributed a lot to development. The only reason of backwardness of our area is lack of proper train facility. This area is also emerging as a tourist place by the name of Shrawasti. Bahraich is no longer an unknown area for people. I would like to request hon'ble Minister that the people of my constituency are disappointed due to stopping of work sanctioned for that area for which survey was conducted and some amount of fund was also allocated. Though it was not a big amount. I want to see that disappointment of people be turned into hope and happiness during the tenure of the hon'ble Minister and wish that that day should come early when we will take this step for the advancement of eastern Uttar Pradesh. If you get this work done as early as possible, it will be the first step towards development in the history of Baharaich. We the people of that area will be very grateful to you for this. I once again express my gratitude to the chair for giving

me an opportunity to speak. Though I got opportunity several times earlier also but I could not make my point due to paucity of time. I congratulate the Hon'ble Minister for putting Railways on the track of development during his tenure. I once again thank you.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon'ble Minister that in Kharagpur division of South Eastern Railway Rupsa to Baripada narrow gauge line has been converted into broad gauge line. As per budget provision a D.M.U. train is to be introduced on that line and I have talked to the officers in this regard. The officers informed me that the Minister will flag off the train. Sir, through you I would like to request the Minister to fix a date for this within the next 10-15 days and come over there for flagging off this train.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first of all, I want to express my gratitude to the Hon. Members who participated in the discussion on the supplementary Demands for Grants of the Railways for the current year 2005-06 and apprised the House and me of their important views and suggestions.

I want to assure the House that the proper positive action would be ensured over whatever suggestions have come from the Hon. Members after careful consideration of them. The supplementary Demands for Grants have been put up for the Udampur-Srinagar-Baramulla project to the tune of Rs. 200 crore as a dividend free budgetary assistance by the Central Government and to undertake certain through put enhancement construction works out of two for the sanction of the House.

As for the work performance so far during the current year, we have not only achieved the prescribed additional income and the target but also more than 120 percent achievement in many commercial areas. We had targeted 33 million tones additional freight loading for the year 2005-06 but so far we have achieved the target of more than 37 million tones which is 112 percent more than the target set. While presenting the budget I had set a target of 635 million freight loading for the year 2005-06. I am to inform the House that we will set a new record of loading 58 million additional freight in a year by loading more than 660 million tones of freight this year. Similarly, we were to effect annual increase in the earning to the tune of a total Rs. 2702 crore on the freight loading account whereas we have so far earned an additional income of Rs. 3378 crore which is 125 percent more

[Shri Lalu Prasad]

than that against the target for the entire year. Sir, I am not only hopeful but have firm belief that we would achieve success in many commercial areas beyond the targets and particularly in freight business we would register an increase in the earnings about upto 200 per cent against the target set. We are determined to create a new history by earning a pre-dividend income of more than Rs. seven thousand crore this year.

Sir, we did into make up the additional burden of Rs. 2000 crore due to steep hike in diesel prices and increase in the expenditure on account of salary etc. by increasing the passenger fares and freight rates only. The elite class has always been of the view that the Indian Railway is incurring losses due to losses in the passenger business and this deficit could be made good by increasing the passenger fares only. Sir, as a matter of fact the health of the and the health of Railways are inseparable. Indian Railway incurred losses in 2000 because the health of the freight business had deteriorated and the growth rate of freight loading had come down to 2-3 percent only. Now when we have increased this rate from 8 to 10 percent. We are marching ahead rapidly to earn an additional revenue of Rs. 5000 crore by loading about 60 billion tones of additional freight.

We are getting a stiff competition from the road transport in the freight business. So we have given up the policy of increasing freight rates and we have shaped our freight policy to fine tune it with that of the road transport. Our freight rate is very low as compared to freight rates charged by truck operators. So, we have effected increase in the freight of the items like the iron ore to rationalise the same in which the Indian Railways does the Door to Door delivery on the other hand, the total cost of items like coming increases due to its loading unloading at several places despite the low railway freight *vis-a-vis* the road transport and we do not stand in the competition. So, we have given a concession of 20 percent for loading of such items on the return vacant trains and it is 10 percent on other trains. Besides, we have launched schemes like mini rake, to-point rake with a view to reducing the cost of loading and unloading. Following these policies we have been ask to attract such freight traffic towards the Railways and our market share has increased this year due to the loading of the items like iron, steel, coal, POL etc.

In the passenger business also we have not resorted to easy measures like "Yatri Bhada Badao" but on the

contrary we have made an incisive analysis of the causes for losses in this business and we have found that to a great extent losses are attributed to vacant running of many trains and catering and parcel items. We have strengthened the passenger profile management system to increase the occupancy in trains, an effective control is kept on the ticketless travel and more number of ticket counters have been opened. We have decided to bring down the losses upto 50 percent this year in the catering and parcel business which is presently more than one thousand two hundred crore rupees and we would wipe it out by the end of the next year. I am happy to inform the House that we are expecting unprecedented increase in the income on both these counts.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, so far as safety is concerned, I would like to assure honourable Members that highest priority is being given to the safety in railway operations. The number of rail accidents is constantly decreasing as a result of continuous efforts of various safety measures. The number of rail accidents in the year 2000-01 was 473 which came down to 415 in the year 2001-02, 351 in 2002-2003, 325 in 2003-04 and 234 in 2004-05. The number of resultant rail accidents has come down to 0.31 per million train kilometer in the year 2004-05 which is the lowest in last several years in spite of the heavy increase in the traffic being carried out by the Railways. All efforts are being made to maintain this trend of constant decrease in the accidents. These efforts include implementation of safety system, improvement of maintenance of assets and better coordination with state governments for timely warning of any possible danger.

Sir, as I had informed the House earlier too, we have decided to reoperate the capital fund. the Railways Convention Committee too have delved upon this subject and are likely to accord their approval shortly. The Railways will accelerate several through-put promotional works by spending Rupees 700 crore approximately through the Capital Fund in the current year itself.

Sir, the implementation of schemes already announced in the Budget is being closely monitored, and several announced schemes have been implemented. I agree with the concern expressed by the honourable Members in regard to delay in completion of the projects going on in their constituencies and states. We are making all efforts to complete all pending Projects with the help of Budgetary support, extra-budgetary initiative and internal

resources. We have also fixed order of priority to complete the said projects in a time bound manner.

Sir, I have made special requests to the honourable Prime Minister to declare the projects regarding construction of road-cum-rail bridges on the river Brahmaputra at Bogibil in Assam, on the river Ganga at Patna and Munger and a railway bridge on Kosi river in Bihar as National Projects and to make available enough funds for these projects. We are committed to complete the construction work of all these bridges in next 4-5 years and to dedicate them to the service of the people. The construction work of all the rail-over bridges under construction in all the states, including Bihar, will be completed expeditiously. Every year, floods cause heavy damage to rail lines, bridges and other rail infrastructure in Bihar. Therefore, in flood prone areas, we are planning and implementing the work of under-construction new-line, gauge conversion and bridge construction in such a way that the rail route does not get damaged even when heavy floods hit the area. We will see to it that there is no shortage of fund for all these works.

Sir, honourable Members of all parties from Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry, met me and requested to fulfill the long pending demand of setting up of Railway Division at Salem. I am glad to inform the House that keeping in view the sentiments of the people of Tamil Nadu, we have accepted in-principle the demand of creating a new Rail Division at Salem. We are urgently deputing an Officer on Special Duty at Salem and efforts will be made to complete all the formalities relating to the creating of a new Rail Division very soon. On Member's demand, the Ministry of Railways has accorded approval in-principle to the electrification work of Vellupuram-Tiruchirappalli rail line and it has been sent to the Planning Commission for approval. The demands for the gauge-conversion work of Dindigul-Polachi-Palaghat and Polachi-Coimbatore rail lines are also under consideration.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have noted all the points raised by honourable Members and I will inform them through letters about the present status of all these issues alongwith the action taken in that regard. I once again thank honourable Members for extending full support to the Demands for Grants of the Railways and urge the House to accord its approval to the Supplementary Demands for Grants of Railways for the year 2005-06 and the related Appropriation Bill.

*[English]*

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU (Salem): On behalf of the people of Tamil Nadu, thank you very much.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I shall now put the Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2005-2006 to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That the respective supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President of India, out of the consolidated Fund of India, to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2006, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 2 and 16."

*The motion was adopted.*

20.56 hrs.

### APPROPRIATION (RAILWAYS) NO. 5 BILL, 2005\*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up Item Nos. 16 and 17.

*[Translation]*

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the service of the financial year 2005-06 for the purposes of Railways."

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums

[Mr. Deputy Speaker]

from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the service of the financial year 2005-06 for the purposes of Railways."

*The motion was adopted.*

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Sir, I introduce the Bill.\*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Minister may now move that the Bill be taken into consideration.

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Sir, I beg move:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2005-06 for the purposes of Railways, be taken into consideration."

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2005-06 for the purposes of Railways, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.*

*The Schedule was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, the Minister may move that the Bill be passed.

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow at 11 a.m.

20.59 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, December 13, 2005/ Agrayana 22, 1927 (Saka).*

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\*Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

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