

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Fifth Session
(Fourteenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Monday, August 8, 2005/Sravana 17, 1927 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Harish Chandra Chavan—Q No. 201.

[*Translation*]

Decline in Population of Wild Animals

+
*201. SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN:
SHRI M. SHIVANNA:

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

(a) whether the population of wild animals and birds has been declining constantly in the country for the last several years;

(b) if so, the factors attributed thereto;

(c) the population of each of the wild animals and birds State-wise, National Zoological Park/Sanctuary/ Reserve-wise as on date and their comparative figures recorded during each of the last three years;

(d) whether any responsibility has ever been fixed for missing of wild animals;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the other concrete steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure their protection and arrest the decline in the population of wild animals?

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

MEENA): (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) No, Sir. The population of all the wild animals has not been declining constantly in the country over the last several years. Fluctuations in population of wildlife is a natural phenomenon. However, census figures for birds are not collated at Government of India level.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Changes in the estimated population of the flagship species of India, based on the census carried out by respective States, are given at Annexure.

(d) and (e) Changes in population status of wildlife animals are attributed to many factors. No case of fixing of responsibility on decline of population of wild animals has been reported by the State Government.

(f) The steps being taken to ensure the protection of the wild animals are as follows:

1. The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and its amendments provides for the protection and conservation of the wildlife and its habitat in India.
2. National Wildlife Action Plan (2002-2016) adopted by the Ministry of Environment and Forests outlines the strategy for conservation and protection of wildlife in the country.
3. Necessary technical and financial assistance is provided to the State Governments for conservation and development of habitats of wild animals under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes.
4. India is a signatory to many International Conventions for conservation as well as regulation of international trade in wildlife and its derivatives.

Annexure
Population Census of Important Wild Animals
State Wise Details

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Tiger		Leopard		Asiatic Lion			Elephant		Rhino		Sengai		Wild Ass	
		1997	2001-02	1997	2001-02	1995	2001	2005	1997	2002	1993	1998/99	1996	1997	1999	2004
1.	Andhra Pradesh	171	192	138	505	—	—	—	57	74	—	—	—	—	—	—
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	*	**61	98	NR	—	—	—	1800	1607	—	—	—	—	—	—
3.	Assam	458	354	246	248	—	—	—	5312	5246	1440	1684	—	—	—	—
4.	Bihar/Jharkhand	103	110	203	164	—	—	—	618	772	—	—	—	—	—	—
5.	Goa/Daman & Diu	6	5	25	41	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6.	Gujarat	1	0	832	999	304	327	359±10	—	—	—	—	—	—	2839	3863
7.	Haryana	—	—	25	NR	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—	821	NR	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	NR	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10.	Karnataka	350	401	620	NR	—	—	—	6068	5838	—	—	—	—	—	—
11.	Kerala	73	71	16	NR	—	—	—	3600	3850	—	—	—	—	—	—
12.	Madhya Pradesh/Chhattisgarh	927	937	1851	2206	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
13.	Maharashtra	257	238	431	513	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
14.	Manipur	—	—	NR	NR	—	—	—	30	12	—	—	143	147	—	—
15.	Meghalaya	*	47	NR	NR	—	—	—	1840	1888	—	—	—	—	—	—
16.	Mizoram	12	28	28	NR	—	—	—	22	33	—	—	—	—	—	—
17.	Nagaland	*	23^	NR	42	—	—	—	158	145	—	—	—	—	—	—
18.	Orissa	194	173	422	457	—	—	—	1800	1841	—	—	—	—	—	—
19.	Rajasthan	58	58	474	481	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20.	Sikkim	*	NR	NR	NR	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
21.	Tamil Nadu	62	60	110	41	—	—	—	2971	3062	—	—	—	—	—	—
22.	Tripura	*	NR	18	NR	—	—	—	70	40	—	—	—	—	—	—
23.	Uttar Pradesh/Uttaranchal	475	535	1412	2168	—	—	—	1200	1667	12	13	—	—	—	—
24.	West Bengal	361	349	108	331	—	—	—	276	328	44	120	—	—	—	—
25.	Dadra Nagar Haveli	—	—	15	NR	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	—	—	—	NR	—	—	—	35	40	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total		3508	3642	7893	8203	304	327	359±10	25877	26413	1496	1817	143	147	2839	3863

NR = Not reported.

* = Tiger census was not carried out.

** = Only for Namdapha Tiger Reserve.

^ = Entire State not covered.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a pillar between you and me which may create some problem for me. But as per my division number my own seat is here.

MR. SPEAKER: You may please come forward.

SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN: Thank you Sir.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): You have been promoted.

SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN: My question was whether the number of wild animals and birds has been declining constantly in the country for the last several years—The Hon'ble Minister has replied—"No, Sir". But I have got some figures with me which I want to share, through you, with this august House—one tiger was killed in the year 2001 and one leopard was killed in the year 2002 in Andhra Pradesh. Besides, in Assam in the year 2001, 10 rhinoceroses, in the year 2002 five rhinoceroses were killed in the year 2003, one elephant and six rhinoceroses were killed. Six leopards were hunted in Delhi in the year 2001 in the same year in Maharashtra 17 tigers, six leopards and three peacocks were killed. I have got more such figures with me. It means that the Hon'ble Minister wanted to conceal this information from this House. I want to know from him who is responsible for all such acts. Either Forest Officers or the contractors are responsible for all this. I would like to know as to whether any action is to be taken against these people by Government?

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has asked in his original question

[English]

whether the population of wild animals and birds has been declining constantly in the country for the last several years.

[Translation]

I have given the answer in negative, it means that certainly their numbers have declined but it is not a constant phenomenon. I have the figures regarding

poaching with me. I have the figures of poaching and killing taken place in the year 2001, 2002 and 2003 and census. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You please cooperate with him. You have not to answer the question, Mr. Minister have to answer the question.

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: So far as the question of census of animals is concerned, this is conducted once in every four years and the figures available with me, have been collected in last four years. So far as the information given by the hon. Members about poaching and killing is concerned, on that account I have the figures from the year 2001 to 2004.

53 tigers, three leopards, 102 elephants and rhinoceros have been poached upon or killed. This has not decreased constantly. There are so many reasons for it.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister is saying that this has not declined constantly but there is a decline.

SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, had wild animals and trees capacity to Speak, head of the man would have bowed down in shame today.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is very well said.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN: The reasons behind this is that encroachment is being done on a large scale in Maharashtra, especially in the districts like Nasik, Dhulia, Nandurbar, Thane, Garhchirolli, Chandrapur, Gondia and the hilly areas of the state. That is why area under forest cover as well as number of wild animals is constantly decreasing. Either forest department of the contractors are responsible for this. Whether action will be taken by the Government against those people?

I want to ask one more question. After encroachment not even a single mouse is found in the places where there used to be tigers, leopards and different other wild animals. Who is responsible for that?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, please tell, who is responsible? Not even a single mouse seen there?

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I agree with the hon. Member. There is a problem of encroachment but I want to inform him that this subject is related to the States. We have been writing to the State Governments from time to time to remove the encroachment. State Governments have taken up this matter to the Supreme Court. The hon. Court has directed to take stringent action on the matters of encroachment. This depends on the State Governments because this is a subject of concurrent list. The responsibility to develop and maintain the national parks and sanctuaries lies on the State Governments.

[English]

*SHRI M. SHIVANNA: Mr. Speaker Sir, the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 is in vogue for the last several years. Unfortunately this Act also is not in a position to protect the wild life.

In Sariska Tiger Reserve there are no tigers today. Every now and then tigers are killed in Nagarhole, Karnataka. More than hundred elephants have been killed in my constituency during past 15 years. The number of endangered species will be more than hundred if the poaching continues at the present rate.

Recently, in Bidar District, Karnataka Police have arrested poachers and seized tiger skins, deer horns and leopard skin etc. worth several crores of rupees.

MR. SPEAKER: You put your question.

SHRI M. SHIVANNA: Smuggling skins, nails, horns of animals at the international level is worth 6 billion US Dollars, second only to narcotics.

MR. SPEAKER: No. I would not allow this thing. This is misusing the Question Hour. I am sorry. You are not here only to give information to the Minister. You put your question.

SHRI M. SHIVANNA: Yes Sir. India is over legislated and under-governed. The National Forest Policy and Wildlife Act 1972, with other supporting regulations are well crafted but poorly enforced.

Therefore, will the hon. Minister take steps for convicting the poachers and to dispose the poaching cases at the earliest?

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Kannada.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Will you convict the poachers quickly?

[Translation]

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon. Member has expressed concern about the poaching of wild animals. The whole nation including me agree with this. Hon'ble Prime Minister visited Ranthambhore recently, he has also expressed his concern on the matter. I am also ready to accept this fact that smuggling of wild animals' skins is being done in the international market on a large scale and it comes next only to narcotics. Derivative products are being manufactured with the skins of wild animals. As I have said earlier, there are a number of laws to check it's the enforcement of which lies with the State Government. Apart from that, the Government of India has signed so many conventions to check the smuggling of wild animals and we are partner with other countries in those conventions. We have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Nepal. Smuggling of tigers skin for derivatives is taking place and we have also signed MoU with China and efforts have been made by the Government to check it. We are providing funds for the development of sanctuaries. We are making efforts on international level and the task force, set up by Hon'ble Prime Minister recently, have submitted its report. On the basis of that report we will be able to stop poaching with the help of State Governments. I assure you that the UPA Government at the Centre is very much serious to stop poaching and we are making all efforts to stop it.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: What is needed is both relevance and brevity.

Dr. Karan Singh Yadav.

[Translation]

DR. KARAN SINGH YADAV: Mr. Speaker Sir, I am a Member of Parliament from Alwar district of Rajasthan, which is called "Singh-Dwar" and where famous tigers sanctuary is situated. Recently it was widely discussed in the newspapers and in the whole nation that poaching of tigers has been done there on a large scale and in the census it has also been found that not even a single tiger is there in Sariska as on date. This is a matter of

shame. The economy of Alwar district depends on tourism. Most of the tourists visit Sariska to see tigers, whether they find tigers there or not. But today, people have come to know that tigers are not there, so that number of tourists going there is decreasing. And because of that, the business of tongawala, horse owners, hotel owners, tourists guides etc. has been affected. Poaching have been done there on a large scale, thereby not even a single tiger is present there. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether the tigers will be kept in Sariska by fetching them from other sanctuaries on the basis of recommendations of the Task Force of the Central Government and the team constituted under the leadership of Prime Minister so that people can believe the presence of tigers in Sariska again.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to ask another question as well. Many villages are located there. It was recommended to relocate those villages from the forest area.

[English]

Animal and man have existed there for years together. People have survived there. ...*[Interruptions]*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: First, let the tigers be brought in there, then only the purpose will be served.

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: I share the concern of the hon. Member. As I have said in my earlier reply that the State Governments are responsible for the management and development of sanctuary and its adjacent areas. The State Government have also constituted a Task Force on Sariska. We have not received any information about its findings, but the Prime Minister had sent the CBI there for an enquiry and even our Ministry has asked some experts from Dehradun to submit the report on it.

They have not found any evidence of tiger there. As far as the matter of rehabilitation of Sariska Tiger's Sanctuary is concerned, the report of Task Force has come. Many suggestions have been given therein. I want to assure the hon. Member that since Sariska is a natural habitat area of tigers. Therefore, we will have a comprehensive deliberations in this regard and efforts will be made to rehabilitate the same. We are examining the suggestions given by the Task Force. Thereafter, we will decide our future course of action.

[English]

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Sir, the whole country was shocked to hear that there were no more tigers in the Sariska Wildlife sanctuary when the hon. Prime Minister went there personally to take stock of the situation. After that, there were reports about the Ranthambore Wildlife Sanctuary that the population of tigers there are coming down. This sort of a situation could come about only with the connivance of the officials in charge of the sanctuaries. These officials are helping the poachers. So, in view of all these reports, I would like to know what action does the Government contemplate against those officers, in addition to the visit of the hon. Prime Minister, to protect the tiger life in our wildlife sanctuaries and to prevent poaching.

[Translation]

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Prime Minister did not visit Sariska, but he visited Ranthambore. I would like to bring this to the notice of hon. Member. As I have submitted earlier that all the arrangements of National Parks and sanctuaries, their protection depends upon the State Government. We provide them technical and financial assistance. We have received information that the Government of Rajasthan have also constituted a Task Force for Ranthambore. Its report has not been received so far. I share the concern of the hon. Member. It is a matter of grave concern indeed that tigers have absolutely disappeared from Sariska. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, it is not a matter of concern. You just spell out the actions to be taken and steps to be taken to check the poaching?

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: We will hold discussion with the Government of Rajasthan in this regard and. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You would recommend action to be taken.

[Translation]

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I have requested earlier, the officers are under the State Government, therefore, only the State Government can take action against them.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Next, Shri Dushyant Singh. He is a young Member and he comes from Rajasthan.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, hon. lady Members are neglected.

MR. SPEAKER: Nobody would be neglected. Give them 33 per cent reservation and you would see that they get their share!

...(Interruptions)

SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Sir, poaching of animals has been a constant process not only now. It has been going on for about ten to twelve years. I have got material, which says that in Uttar Pradesh there were serious cases of poaching since 1997. It goes on to say that successive Governments have tried to curb poaching. It is not only in one State that there is poaching. There are many more States. As per the list, poaching is prevalent in Karnataka, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi. In Delhi, large tiger skins have been caught in 1999. What has the Government done about that?

The Rajasthan Government has set up a Task Force and successive Governments had tried to do their best to curb poaching of animals. We need to work together in a concerted manner to create a working environment where animals and human beings live together.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. It is a very eminent suggestion. The question does not identify only one State; the names of all other States are also there.

Mr. Minister, what is your reaction?

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, I want to share the information with the House and I must admit in the House and outside also. Of course, I made admissions also with regard to Sariska. There are some problems in Sariska, but the problem of Sariska cannot be equated with the problem of other tiger reserves in the country. It has been probed by the IUC methodology. It was categorically reported in the recent Task Force Report that the Sariska reserve cannot be compared with other tiger reserves in the country. I cannot accuse the State Government politically as to what happened in Sariska. But what is happening in Sariska is that there is unregulated tourism. There is a *Hanuman* temple for which more and more pilgrims

are being taken to the tiger reserves. It has been pointed out in the recent Task Force Report that some of the business communities, those who are having hotels within Sariska and in and around that area, are also conniving with the poachers. So, these are all the reports that came from the Task Force. We directed them to the hon. Chief Minister. The hon. Prime Minister himself addressed to the Chief Minister. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: In the Corbett Park also, there is poaching. Why does the hon. Minister not mention about the Corbett Park also? *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member feels that Rajasthan is being singled out. You say that in other States also there are problems. But there is a special problem of Sariska.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have got the answer from him.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, all efforts and endeavours are being made so far as Sariska is concerned. For other tiger reserves, so far as the wildlife is concerned, the Act came into existence in 1972. I cannot deny that there is no poaching at all. Poaching is there. It has been reported in the Government report. We are facing some troubles with the State Governments under which persons were deployed in the forest areas, those who were not able to regulate poaching. So, all efforts are being made in this regard. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you for your full answer.

[Translation]

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I hail from eastern part of Uttar Pradesh. Earlier, the villagers used to throw the dead animals outside the periphery of village which were eaten by vultures and kites, that protected the environment from getting polluted but now-a-days the vultures and kites have become extinct, their number has declined sharply, almost leading to extinction. Which is polluting the villages' environment. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This question is not related to the original question. It is not covered by this question.

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Whether the Government will give reply in this regard? I would like to know from the hon. Minister that vultures and kites are also a part of wildlife. This is a very important question and villages are being polluted on account of it. What are the reasons for extinction of Vultures and Kites? If they have become extinct, what measures the Government are taking for environmental balance. People are in trouble owing to it. What are the reasons for extinction of wildlife and how would the Government correct the natural imbalance caused by it. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Tufani Saroj, you are not a new Member.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Whether only tigers and lions fall under the category of wildlife and the pollution which is a cause of concern for the villagers does not have any link to it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You should ask your question. It is not good to make a speech here about some other question. Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Do not answer this question. You please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded except Shrimati Maneka Gandhi's Supplementary.

...*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Shrimati Maneka Gandhi, you are requested to put the question.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: If it is very important, discuss with him.

...*(Interruptions)*

*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: Shrimati Maneka Gandhi.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It is not being recorded. Why are you doing that?

...*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Tufani Saroj, it is very unfortunate.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You please sit down. You are not Maneka Gandhi. What is this? There are rules to be followed about questions.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Sir, may I just take the liberty, before asking the question, of answering that particular intervention which is that because vultures no longer exist, dead bodies now. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No, you do not have to answer him.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Sir, I want to ask one thing. Everything ties into one. Instead of focussing only on Sariska, Ranthambore or specific sanctuaries, the question is about poaching. We cannot blame China or any other country because we do the poaching ourselves and then it is sent abroad. Delhi, Kolkata and Mumbai are the three main export centres of poached goods.

In the North-East it is butterflies. Amritsar is also sending butterflies. In Delhi you can get everything in Jama Masjid.

MR. SPEAKER: It is going a little beyond the main question.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Sir, Delhi has only two wildlife inspectors, none of whom has made a single raid or a case in the last ten years. What has happened? If the Government is serious, what has happened in the Pataudi case? All the people who were missing were found in*. ...

*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: Do not take those names.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: You can cut them out, but it is true.

MR. SPEAKER: Maybe true. But there are rules. I am not stopping you from mentioning elsewhere, but not in this House.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: In the North-East, day before yesterday a man was caught with a tiger skin in a police van being escorted across the border. The policeman has merely been suspended and the man has been arrested.

MR. SPEAKER: Very well. These are serious charges. Mr. Minister, what are you going to do with regard to it?

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Can you please tell me what are you going to do regarding a special police force to catch all these poaching items?

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow a half-an-hour discussion on this. You give notice.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Sir, will you allow a half-an-hour discussion?

MR. SPEAKER: I will do not. You give notice.

MD. SALIM: She has become wiser after losing power. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, it is true that we are facing some problems. Some State Governments, not all the State Governments, are not deputing the officers at the lower level with correct age and with correct stamina. For that the Government of India is deciding to set up a Wildlife Crime Bureau in which a centralised staff mechanism can be there. We can build a political will between the Centre and the States. Thereafter we can have a centralised mechanism in the name of Wildlife Crime Bureau. As soon as it comes into existence, I think that everything will be solved. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL: Sir, I should also be allowed to put a supplementary question on National Parks. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: What is all this? About which thing do you want to speak? ...

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL: There is a question relating to it. The National Park. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. I have allowed a half-an-hour discussion. If you also want to participate, go through the rule book and give a notice.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will not allow it. I have allowed five-six supplementary. I am not going to allow more than four questions.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It is very very unfortunate. I can only say it.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

Pesticide Contents in Edible Products

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

(a) whether any scientific analysis of various edible products like rice, cereals, oil seeds, vegetables and animal feed and fodder has been conducted to know the extent of pesticide content injurious to the health of the consumers;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the areas where the pesticide content in such products have been found to be the highest; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to ensure the pesticide content at a safe level and to check the unsafe farming practices in the country?

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

Statement

(a) and (b) The Registration Committee constituted under Section 5 of the Insecticides Act, 1968 registers pesticides only after satisfying itself regarding their efficacy and safety. Toxicity and residue data generated under supervised trials is analysed and used to fix Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 and Rules framed thereunder. A statement indicating the extent of pesticide residues in various agricultural commodities monitored under the All India Network Project of ICAR on Pesticide Residues is enclosed as Annexure.

(c) The introduction of new generation of pesticides which have lower persistence in the environment and are required to be used in lower dosages have helped minimize pesticide residues in food commodities. Labels and leaflets accompanying pesticide packets contain instructions regarding the approved uses, dosages, time of application, precautions, pre-harvest interval (waiting period) etc. to ensure safe use of pesticides. The Central/ State Governments also impart training to various extension functionaries, dealers, farmers on the safe and judicious use of pesticides. Government is also promoting the strategy of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) which envisages cultural, biological, mechanical and other methods of pest control and only need based judicious use of pesticides. A Central Sector Scheme for Monitoring of Pesticide Residues at the National Level has been approved this year in order to ascertain the prevalence of pesticide residues at farmgate and market yards to enable remedial measures to be undertaken as required.

Annexure**Vegetables***

Year	No. of samples analysed	Samples above MRL(%)
1999	277	10 (3.6)
2000	712	81 (11)
2001	796	93 (11.7)
2002	592	54 (9)
2003	666	35 (5.3)
Total (1999-2003)	3043	273 (8.97)

*Cabbage, cauliflower, brinjal, okra, potato, bean, gourds, tomato, chilli, spinach, carrot, cucumber, cowpea etc.

Fruits**

Year	No. of samples analysed	Samples above MRL(%)
1999	122	8 (6)
2000	378	8 (6)
2001	378	0 (0)
2002	359	3 (0.8)
2003	317	1 (0.3)
Total (1999-2003)	1554	15 (0.97)

**Apple, banana, mango, grapes, oranges, pomegranate, guava, chekoo, ber etc.

Milk

Year	No. of samples analysed	Samples above MRL(%)
1999	194	116 (60.0)
2000	537	94 (17.5)
2001	468	71 (15.0)
2002	No study conducted	
2003	No study conducted	
Total (1999-2003)	1199	281 (23.4)

[English]

SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Sir, from the answer it is found that the Central and the State Governments also impart training to various extension functionaries, the dealers, farmers about the judicious use of pesticides. May I know from the hon. Minister through you as to how many training camps have been conducted so far, year-wise and State-wise, and how many trainees have participated in the training camps. This is Part 1-A of my question. Part 1-B of my question is this.

MR. SPEAKER: Part 1-B will come later. You have got two supplementaries.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): I will collect the information and give it to the hon. Member.

MR. SPEAKER: Now you come to Part-B.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA: My Question No. 2-A is...

MR. SPEAKER: Is it is a pleasure to defy the Chair?

SHRI PRABODH PANDA: No, Sir. This is my second supplementary.

Sir, it is known to the hon. Minister and I think he is aware of the fact that particularly how the villagers and the customers who are used to buy their food materials in the *mandis* and local markets or local *haats*, how the people and the customers in the rural areas will get to know the residue of pesticides and residue of fertilisers in different food material. Is there a mechanism so that the customers can get to know this? In this connection, I would like to put a question which is related to that, that whether the hon. Minister is envisaging to entrust the work to the local agricultural officers in village level so that they can conduct the training or some kind of a programme of giving awareness to the local people.

MR. SPEAKER: Good question.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, it is very difficult to collect the residue level of each and every agricultural produce which is produced in the country. Recently, the Government of India has taken a decision to set up a small organisation which will take care of the issues. But, under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, there is an all-India project which collects information from various parts of the country and assesses the residue level, whether it is pesticides or whether it is fertilisers and communicates to the Government and other appropriate authorities. Except that, there is no other organisation as on today.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has stated that there is no such organisation which can collect all these informations. Though there is no blend of Chemical Fertilizer in the pesticides, yet number of diseases is increasing due to it. Because of this number of people falling ill and lying in the hospitals is more than the increase is the population in the country. In the reply given by him, it was mentioned that there had been no survey about the vegetables etc. since 2002-2003. We want to know that the way the number of diseases is spreading whether he will get a survey

conducted by constituting a joint team of his department's technical persons or the scientists and the scientists of health department to find out the kinds of diseases spreading because of chemical fertilizers and pesticides among the people. What are the New medicines that are being developed for the treatment of the people falling ill due to them.

[*English*]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: It is a good suggestion, but the Government's total approach is to promote the strategy of integrated pest management which envisages cultural, biological, mechanical and other methods. So, it is better to encourage this type of practice.

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: In Kasargod district and many of the *panchayats* adjoining Peria, Cheemeni etc. farmers used endosulfan as pesticide and many people as a result, got chronically ill. Many have become invalids. Though the spraying of endosulfan is stopped, nothing has been done to help the people either by the State Govt. or Central Govt. Will the Government take steps to ban use of endosulfan throughout the country, taking example of what has happened in Kasargod district?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: This particular subject regarding the problem caused by use of endosulfan in Kasargod district of Kerala State has been raised in the court. The Government took a conscious decision to ban this particular item in Kerala and to wait for that decision. Thereafter, we will take the final decision.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Sir, the residue of pesticides and poisonous elements in drinks and cold drinks was widely discussed and debated in the country. In this connection, a Joint Parliamentary Committee was appointed of which, fortunately, our present Minister of Agriculture was the Chairman. They had a wide range of discussions and evidence. They submitted a Report, but the earlier Government did not take action against those culprits. I would like to know whether the hon. Minister will take action on his own Report to make cold drinks free of pesticides.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: It is a different question.

MR. SPEAKER: It does not arise from this question.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: But JPC's recommendations had been accepted by the previous Government also and some of the corrective actions have been taken by the then Government and this Government.

[Translation]

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the samples taken particularly from apples, bananas and mangoes etc. show that their percentage is considerably higher than that of MRL. It was 60% in 1999, thereafter it reduced a bit and now it is 23.4 percent in total. It was stated in the reply that there had been no study since 2002-2003. I want to know from Mr. Minister what have been the reasons for not conducting any study since 2002-2003? Whether the Government have any concern about the percentage found higher than MRL and also have anxiety about the deadly drugs and medicines proved to be fatal to the people and banning the same in the entire country finding out them?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Circumstances are not such that there should be a uniformity in the whole country. Samples are taken from some places. Sometimes there is spray of DDT and some other medicine on the grass in some areas and if that grass is eaten by any animal, there might be its higher percentage therein if its milk's analysis is made. At the national level such higher percentage is not found in the milk of cows and Buffaloes. It's not fair to generalise it by taking the samples from here and there.

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I haven't got the answer of my question. I asked the reasons for not conducting the study in 2003-04? What is the reason for not doing it?

[English]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, there is no specific reason for it.

[Translation]

DR. RAJESH MISHRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit through you to the Minister that it was asked in the part 'B' of this question as to what are to areas where the pesticide content in such products has been found to be the highest. But it is not being clarified. I would like to know from the Minister whether the

Government will make some arrangements to set up any organisation at the State and the District level for importing training to the farmers particularly in context of the produce found to contain maximum content of pesticides. If the farmers are able to detect at the early stage that so and so item contains maximum pesticides, they will be able to restrict its use.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: There are some cases in which their limit crosses the level. In such circumstances, some pesticides are banned and several other such pesticides have also been banned in our country.

[Translation]

Illegal Sale of Bottled Water

*203. SHRI D.P. SAROJ: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of companies engaged in manufacture and supply of bottled water in the country particularly in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted to find out the number of companies engaged in said business without certification from the Bureau of Indian Standards;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government is aware that the quality of water in certain cases has been inferior;

(e) if so, the details of such cases detected during the last three years and till date;

(f) whether the Government has taken any action against such companies;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check sale of inferior quality of water as also illegal sale of bottled water?

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

Statement

(a) Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has so far granted 1150 licences to use its Standard Mark on Packaged Drinking Water as per IS 14543: 2004 and 6 licences for Packaged Natural Mineral Water as per IS 13428:1998 in India. In Uttar Pradesh, 51 licences for Packaged Drinking Water have been granted and no licence for Packaged Natural Mineral Water has been issued.

(b) and (c) No such survey has been carried out by BIS.

(d) to (h) Packaged Natural Mineral Water and Packaged Drinking Water were brought under mandatory certification of BIS by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare

vide Gazette Notification No. GSR 759 (E) and 760 (E) dated 29th March, 2001 under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954. BIS through its Scheme of Testing and Inspection and Surveillance Inspection ensures that all its licensees for Packaged Drinking Water/Packaged Natural Mineral Water strictly adhere to the specifications prescribed in the relevant Indian Standards. Wherever any discrepancy is observed by the BIS, the licensee is placed under 'Stop Marking' which implies that Packaged Drinking Water/Packaged Natural Mineral Water is not to be manufactured till corrective action is taken by the licensee. Where the licensee fails to take corrective action for improvement of quality or any misuse is detected during period of stoppage of marking, licence is cancelled by the BIS. The details of action taken against the licensees during the last three years is given below:

Actions taken	Year		
	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05 & till Date
Number of Samples Drawn	1787	2709	2937
Number of Samples found failing	286	455	389
Number of Stoppage of Marking due to failing of samples and unsatisfactory performance of the factory	200	372	750
Number of Licences Cancelled	2	18	35

The Enforcement Wing of BIS keeps a watch on such companies who misuse ISI Mark without a valid licence and carries out raids and takes legal action as per BIS Act. Action against the manufacturers of Bottled Water without ISI Mark is taken by the designated State Health Authorities under the provisions of Prevention of Food Adulteration Act and Rules framed thereunder.

[Translation]

SHRI D.P. SAROJ: Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission I would like to know from the hon. Minister the total number of companies particularly engaged in the production and supply of bottled water in the country. Has any survey has been conducted to ascertain the number of companies engaged in the said business without certification from the Indian Bureau of Standards?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: This year i.e. in the year 2004-05 total 172 samples have been taken by yesterday.

Out of the said number in 34 percent cases the fixed level was not found maintained. There was unsatisfactory performance in 52 places. So, their production was stopped. Licences were cancelled at four places and seven places were raided by Enforcement. Some steps have also been taken there according to the rules.

SHRI D.P. SAROJ: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell the Minister that 57 companies have been given licences especially for Uttar Pradesh. You just told that there were several such companies, which had been given licences through unfair means for the bottled water. I would like to know from the Minister how many such companies have been shut down and what kind of action is taken against such companies? I would like to know the names of such companies because their names were not given in the reply.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: It is difficult to name such companies here. I said that

[English]

the number of Stoppage of Marking was due to failing of samples and unsatisfactory performance of the factory.

[Translation]

There are 52 such cases in Uttar Pradesh.

SHRI D.P. SAROJ: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very important matter. I am constrained to say with a heavy heart that licences have been issued by the department of the hon. Minister but he doesn't know their names. It is a very important matter. Particularly there are several such persons, persons from the particular section.
...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You have asked both of your questions, so please sit down.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know through you from the hon. Mr. Minister that different kinds of bottled water is available during the train journey. Although the Ministry of Railways instructed that only Rail Neer would be offered there. I mean to say why other brands' bottles, whose water is not authentic, are being sold there?

I would like to know that in order to avoid any dispute why not Rail Neer be supplied to all the places to facilitate its availability during train journey.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: We will convey your suggestion to the hon. Railway Minister.

MD. SALIM: Mr. Speaker Sir, selling of bottled water has increased in the last several years. Some companies have made arrangement of Rs. 800 crores for the same and we have raised question about their standard time and again and also large scale discussion has taken place on the subject. You know it very well, but in the answer of part 'B' of the original question hon. Minister is saying that

[English]

"No such survey has been carried out by the Bureau of Indian Standards."

[Translation]

You are issuing licenses in thousands, bottled water is also being sold in lakhs and the trade is being carried out in millions, but who is responsible to see that the trade is actually being carried out or not? How are you planning to implement it in a proper manner and if needed, do you set up an Inter Ministerial Task Force, as so many departments are associated with it. That is why if you are not able to do it alone, will you try to associate it with other departments?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: There is a Food and Adulteration Department under the Ministry of Health in every State. They are responsible to over see this and the job is performed by them. As far as the BIS standard, to whom it is granted is concerned, it is being checked by BIS and in the rest of the cases, general action is taken by the Health Ministry of the respective State.

[English]

SHRIMATI K. RANI: Sir, my question has already been answered.

MR. SPEAKER: You have no more questions to ask and I thank you for your cooperation.

[Translation]

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV: Now-a-days trade of packaged drinking water has become very lucrative and it is a business of least investment with maximum profit.

MR. SPEAKER: Drinkers are also there.

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV: So many companies have been black listed, but people do not know as to which of them are black listed and which one is a sub-standard company. I would like to know from the hon. Minister that would you place the list of sub-standard or black listed companies at all the main stations and at other places so that people avoid to drink their product.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Those cases have come before us against whom action has been taken or who have produced the product in a wrong manner. We will take steps to publish their list through Media.

[English]

DR. SUJAN CHAKRABORTY: All of us know that this is a very important issue. These days, the habit of drinking mineral water is increasing. On this issue, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any 'protocol' for manufacturing, bottling, labelling or selling has been formulated by the Government.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: There is a 'protocol' and there are guidelines. These guidelines are always suggested, and unless and until these guidelines have been accepted, they do not get the clearance.

MR. SPEAKER: The problem is that of enforcement.

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Sir, as you would remember, some years ago, everybody used to drink tap water in India, but today because of chemical and other kinds of pollution, we are compelled, especially when we travel, to drink bottled water. In case of bottled water, the problem is, that no one specifies what is the TDS (Total Dissolved Solids). Since that is not specified, the bottled water as such is only a psychological trip. It does not help us in finding out what we are drinking.

I would like to know whether the Government of India has any proposal to compel manufacturers to put TDS on the bottle and to let the public know which water is of what quality, which producer is blacklisted, which water should not be drunk, etc. Is there any stringent law that is going to come into effect? Does the Government have any idea of what the companies are doing out to the public and how to stop the public from being duped?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: As I have already replied, the names of all those companies which have been blacklisted will definitely be published in the media.

As for the other suggestions which have been made, we will definitely give a serious thought and take appropriate action.

[English]

Decentralisation of Procurement

*204. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India (FCI) proposes to promote decentralised procurement by seeking private participation to modernise storage infrastructure and networking through information technology etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some States have already switched over to the new system and some others are likely to join soon;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the centralised system will help in increased procurement of foodgrains; and

(f) if so, the estimated increase in procurement of foodgrains?

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) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Government of India has been encouraging State Governments to adopt the Decentralised Procurement Scheme, though there is no specific proposal to involve the private sector under the Scheme.

However, a bulk grain handling, storage and transportation project to the tune of 5.5 lakh MTs capacity is being implemented with private sector participation under the "National Policy on Bulk Handling, Storage and Transportation of Foodgrains", for which a service agreement has been signed between the FCI and M/s Adani Exports Limited on 28th June, 2005.

Information technology is being used for networking of depots through, the "Integrated Information System for Foodgrains Management" project presently under implementation by the FCI. The project, *inter alia*, will provide computerised information on the stock position in all FCI depot at any given point of time.

(c) and (d) 11 States/Union Territories have adopted the Decentralised Procurement Scheme. These are West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttaranchal, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Karnataka and Kerala.

(e) and (f) The decentralised procurement system has led to increased procurement of foodgrains from non-traditional States such as Chhattisgarh, Orissa and Tamil Nadu. The estimated increase in the procurement of rice through the States which have adopted the Decentralised System of Procurement is 10 lakh tonnes in KMS 2004-2005 over the procurement in these States last year. In the case of wheat, however, there has been a fall in procurement in the Decentralised Procurement States to the tune of 10.6 lakh tonnes in RMS 2005-06 in comparison to the procurement in RMS 2004-05.

[English]

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, will the Central Government prevail upon the States to adopt the decentralised procurement scheme? I put this question because the food grains that are given to the States are not fit for consumption. What are the testing methods adopted by the FCI in ensuring that they are procuring quality rice? I put this question because what we see is that they are not following the necessary requirements.

[Translation]

DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH: It is the duty of the Government of India to provide remunerative prices and MSP to the farmers and to save them from distress sell. We have also mentioned this in our Common Minimum Programme. From the time of formation of the Government of UPA alliance, TPDAS and other welfare schemes are meant to provide foodgrains at subsidized rates to the poor families, we procure foodgrains through FCI to create buffer stock to ensure food security. Till today, eleven States—10 States and one Union Territory have adopted the Decentralized Procurement Policy. So far as the concern of hon. Member and the question regarding Procurement of rice after the implementation of decentralized policy raised by him are concerned, certainly we have procured 10 lakh ton more foodgrains but in the case of wheat, 10 lakh ton less procurement have been made in the States who have adopted the Decentralized policy.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAI: Will the hon. Minister be kind enough to state whether the US-based

consultancy group McKenzie and Company has suggested that FCI outsource key operations like food grains programme? Has the Central Government accepted the report of McKenzie and Company? If so, will the Government go along and amend the Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee Act? Is it a fact that a Steering Committee has also been formed? What is the Government's opinion or stand on the McKenzie and Company's report?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): With regard to the APMC Act, we have already written to all the State Governments saying that there should be an amendment in the APMC Act, the monopoly status of APMC should go and others also should be allowed.

Regarding the McKenzie Report, the first part of that report has been received by the Government but the second part is yet to be received. Ultimately, the Government of India would take a composite approach regarding the McKenzie Report.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Sir, we find that there is a programme of networking all the depots throughout the country. May I know from the hon. Minister as to what is the total cost involved, what are the agencies involved, how much progress has already been made, and when this work is targeted to be completed?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Budget allocation for this particular project in the current financial year is Rs. 43.2 crore. In the year 2004-05, an amount of Rs. 39.14 crore was provided. Budget provision in the year 2003-04 was Rs. 15.50 crore. Coming to the point of agencies involved, FCI is coordinating with NIC and NICSL. They are supposed to execute the work. We expect that they will be able to complete this work in this year.

SHRI K.S. RAO: Sir, at a time when there was a shortage of food grains in this country, the existence of FCI was a necessity. However, today there is surplus production of food grains in this country. So, I am of the opinion that the Food Corporation of India is now like a white elephant in this country.

I am very happy to know that the hon. Minister has now taken up decentralisation of food procurement and distribution. It is very nice. I wish to know from the hon. Minister whether, having gone through this idea, he would

restrict procurement from the States which have excess production and limit the storage only to States which have a shortage of food grains, instead of continuing the same system even in States where there is surplus production.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: The Government has decided the buffer norms, and as per these norms we have to keep stocks. There are a number of responsibilities which the Government has taken up like the Public Distribution System, Food for Work Programme, etc. We have seen on a number of occasions that some of the States are facing the problem of floods or drought. In such situations we require sufficient stocks according to norms.

DR. K.S. MANOJ: Even though the Government of India has been encouraging the State Governments to adopt decentralisation of procurement scheme, many FCI godowns are under the threat of closure. In Kerala, there is a subtle move from the authorities to close down the FCI godowns at Mavelikkara and Koilandi. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Ministry would reopen these godowns, and also give assistance to open up more godowns to encourage the decentralisation policy.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Definitely, a review has been taken about godowns. There are a number of godowns whose capacity utilisation is less than 30 per cent to 40 per cent. That is where we have no choice but to take corrective decision. But, there is a demand also from some States and some of the Districts where there is no provision for godowns. This type of proposals will be accepted.

Impact of Quarrying Activities on Environment

*205. **SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA:** Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether quarrying activities are causing damage to the environment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the case studies done by the Government thereon so far along with the outcome thereof; and

(d) the manner in which the Government is tackling/proposes to tackle the environmental damage caused by such activities?

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

Statement

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Quarrying activities are known to have environmental impacts in terms of (i) degradation of land and change of land use, (ii) depletion of ground water resources, (iii) pollution of ground water and surface water, (iv) damage to flora and fauna, (v) pollution of air including noise, (vi) socio-economic impacts including health, (vii) change of drainage pattern etc.

(c) A few studies have been undertaken by various organizations on different aspects of mining which inter-alia include:

- (i) A study on small scale marble mining at Jhiri in Alwar District, Rajasthan by M/s. Ecomen Consultants Pvt. Ltd., Lucknow, sponsored by Ministry of Environment & Forests in 1995. The study assessed the environmental status of the Jhiri area and ascertained the impact of small scale marble mining activity in socio cultural, economic and environmental conditions of the area.
- (ii) Study of environmental problems of Aravalli Hills and preparation of action plan for restoration of environmental quality in Gurgaon District of Haryana by Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited (CMPDIL) at the instance of Central Pollution Control Board in 2003. The study has been completed and the action plan prepared.
- (iii) Regional Environmental Impact Assessment for mining operations in Bellary-Hospet Region in Karnataka by National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) at the instance of Government of Karnataka in 2004. A number of recommendations to remedy/improve the environment have been made.

(d) Prior environmental clearance is mandatory in the case of projects involving mining of major minerals with lease area of more than 5 ha. The proponents are required to undertake an environmental impact assessment study along with environmental management plan and undergo public hearing for eliciting public concerns. Based

on the outcome of above appraisal, environmental clearance is granted by stipulating environmental safeguards.

SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Hon. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, through you, the manner in which the Government proposes to carry out the environmental impact analysis of quarrying operations to establish the baseline conditions in which this industry is operating, to assess the future growth, and to propagate scientific measures of quarrying in order to provide suitable solutions to the existing problems.

MR. SPEAKER: All right. Everything under the sun!

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI A. RAJA): Sir, for all development activities including mining, we do have a system of environmental impact assessment to foresee and address the potential environmental problems at an early stage before the developmental activities are to be commissioned. For that, we have our own system in the Ministry before it goes to the State Government. Usually, the State Governments are asked to process all papers for environmental clearance for mining. The State Pollution Control Boards and the State Forest Departments identify the problems. Before we give mining or other clearances, we ascertain as to what environmental implications would be caused, and mitigating measures should be contemplated in the project itself. After verifying the environmental impact and all the mitigating measures the Government of India issues clearance for the mining projects.

SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: I would like to know whether the hon. Minister has conducted any study to introduce modern technology in the quarrying activities by studying similar activities in countries where quarrying activities are being carried out without having any negative impact on environment. If so, what are the details thereof?

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, the Government is very meticulous before giving environmental clearance. Based on the apprehensions in the minds of the Government of India and the respective State Governments, while clearing the projects, relevant stipulations would be contemplated in the order itself. Only after fulfilling these mitigating measures by the project proponents, clearance will be given.

SHRI D.V. SADANAND GOWDA: Sir, many locations and licenses are being obtained by suppressing some

material facts which affect the environment. Before issuing licenses, it is very essential to take public grievances into account. Are any steps being taken in this regard by the Government?

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, usually, public hearing is conducted by the State Government. If the project proponent has any knowledge of concealment of facts which are affecting the environment, if the same are brought to our notice or the State Government, definitely action will be taken.

MR. SPEAKER: Q.206—Shri P.S. Gadhavi—not present.

Q.207—Shri Srichand Kripalni—not present.

Q. 208—Shri Ganesh Singh.

[English]

Children in Mines Sector

*208. **SHRI GANESH SINGH:**
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

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

(a) whether several lakh children are still working in the mines throughout the country and a large number of them starting from the age of five, working in most hazardous conditions and leading a horrible existence as reported in the *Hindu* dated May 16, 2005;

(b) if so, whether there is a demand to conduct an enquiry in all the mines in the country and to come up with a comprehensive report on child labour;

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

(d) whether the school dropout rate is much high in mining region of the country; and

(e) if so, the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (e) The number of working children is collected through the decadal census conducted by the Census authorities. The number of working children as per the census conducted in 2001 is 1.26 crore in the entire country. These figures include children working in all occupations including in the mines. It is not true that several lakh children are working in mines in Karnataka as reported in the *Hindu* dated May 16, 2005. The use of child labour working in mines is prohibited under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986. Working in mines has been identified as a hazardous occupation and any employer employing children below the age of 14 in mines is liable to penal action which includes imprisonment. Instructions to enforce strictly the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act in the entire country for all hazardous occupations including working in mines for children has been conveyed to all the State Governments including the Government of Karnataka. The Government is very serious in effective enforcement of the Act and in the implementation of the National Child Labour Projects in the country. Mining is a very widespread activity in the country and it takes place both in the organized sector and in the unorganized sector. There is no evidence to indicate that the school drop out rates amongst children working in mines is higher than the general drop out rates in the other areas in the country.

[Translation]

SHRI GANESH SINGH: Hon. Speaker Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, as he has told the number of child labourers working in mines, is 1.26 crore, which is a matter of great concern, whether any plan has been prepared by the Ministry to liberate those child labourers?

[English]

SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO: Elimination of child labour is a matter of great importance. It is a matter of serious concern to the Government of India. In this regard, we also periodically report to the hon. Supreme Court. The officer of the hon. Prime Minister is continuously monitoring the programme on child labour.

On the one hand, I would like to say that implementation of the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) covers about 250 districts cutting across 21 States

in the country. On the other hand, we also encourage the NGOs and voluntary organisations, who are participating in this programme. The figure of children working in the mines is on the decline. The Government is very serious on this issue. Government would take necessary steps in this direction. If a particular issue is brought to the notice of the Government, we would act very fast.

[Translation]

SHRI GANESH SINGH: Hon'ble Speaker Sir, a large number of child labourers are engaged in Hotels, Restaurants and at other places besides the Mining areas. I think, there is a need to make the laws enacted by the Government of India more stringent to prevent child labour. I would like to know whether the hon. Minister is going to take actions to check it by reconducting a survey in this sector?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Your question is about the mining sector. In view of its importance. I am allowing it.

SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO: This morning only, while discussing with the Department officials, as it is a very important issue, we have taken a decision to conduct a survey very shortly to know the facts on this. For example, as to what is the exact figure of the child labour working in the country. With all the concern, Government would conduct the survey, and would take necessary steps which are required to be taken.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Adhalrao Patil Shivajirao.

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: I have no question at the moment, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Very good! Thank you very much.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, hon. Minister is speaking about the children working in the mines. But while replying to the question, he also referred to the children working in other places. Arising out of his reply to the question, may I be allowed to ask him this? There were recently reports appearing in media very prominently that in Delhi and Mumbai hundreds of child workers had to be liberated by the police, and in the course of that, it has come to light that there are more such places right in the Capital where children work.

Hon. Minister is saying that if the complaint is made to the Ministry, then they will take action. My specific question is this. Is the Minister of Labour aware that by violating law, child labour is being used as slave labour even in the metropolitan towns? In view of that, will they take very stringent action to find out where they are working, and make arrangements for their rehabilitation?

SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO: Whenever we find such cases, the Government immediately steps into action. After liberating those children, they are put in special schools which are meant for them. I agree with the hon. Member that this is a social evil. I cannot escape saying that children do not work in our country. Unfortunately, this is a social evil which needs to be curbed, which needs to be eradicated in toto. I fully agree with the hon. Member that we are also taking necessary steps to see that the child labour is eradicated from the country.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Performance of Dairy Projects

*206. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the performance of dairy projects launched in the country particularly in Gujarat under centrally-sponsored schemes during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the profit and loss making projects, State-wise;

(c) the measures taken by the Government to revive the loss-making projects; and

(d) the details of funds allocated to these projects during the said period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC

DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. This Ministry is implementing two centrally sponsored schemes for dairy development namely 'Intensive Dairy Development Programme (IDDP)' for hilly and backward areas and 'Strengthening of Infrastructure for Quality & Clean Milk Production'. The assistance is provided to various State Governments under these schemes on the basis of proposals received from them.

No proposal was received from the State Government of Gujarat during last two years under IDDP. A proposal was received from the State Government of Gujarat under the scheme 'Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production' during December, 2004. The proposal was examined and not found to be prepared as per the guidelines of the scheme. The State Government was asked to revise the proposal during January, 2005.

The progress of the projects approved under these schemes are monitored on regular basis by Technical Management 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. The field visits are also conducted from time to time to assess the progress of the projects.

IDDP, being limited to hilly and backward areas, is essentially developmental in nature. So far 62 projects have been assisted under IDDP. The scheme has benefited about 7.56 lakh farm families organised into about 11,766 Village level Dairy Cooperative Societies in 25 States and one UT procuring more than 7.00 lakh litres of milk per day.

The scheme 'Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production' was approved in October, 2003 and 56 projects have been approved under the scheme only during 2004-05.

(d) The State-wise details of funds released under IDDP and 'Strengthening of Infrastructure for Quality & Clean Milk Production' during last two years are enclosed as Statement I & II respectively.

Statement I

Funds released under Intensive Dairy Development Programme (IDDP) during last two years (2003-04 and 2004-05)

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl.No.	Name of the States	Amount released during 2003-04	Amount released during 2004-05
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	8.19	—
2.	Andhra Pradesh	150.00	—
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	14.20	—
4.	Assam	—	296.04
5.	Bihar	100.00	—
6.	Jharkhand	99.91	—
7.	Himachal Pradesh	50.75	160.17
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	180.79
9.	Kerala	—	57.63
10.	Meghalaya	50.00	150.00
11.	Mizoram	—	128.82
12.	Nagaland	—	72.59
13.	Orissa	—	295.01
14.	Rajasthan	—	118.10
15.	Sikkim	324.80	51.73
16.	Tamilnadu	—	55.45
17.	Uttar Pradesh	325.09	364.82
18.	Uttaranchal	483.00	586.02
19.	West Bengal	—	42.01

Statement II

Funds Released Under Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production" During the Last Two Years

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Amount released during 2004-05
1.	Assam	8.02
2.	Andhra Pradesh	104.87
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	179.45
13.	Punjab	178.30
14.	Rajasthan	179.86
15.	Uttar Pradesh	96.64
16.	Tamil Nadu	227.47

No releases were made under the scheme during 2003-2004.

[Translation]

Procurement of Coarse Grains

*207. SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India (FCI) does not procure coarse grain (Bajra) directly from the farmers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Food Corporation of India depends on State level agencies for the purchase of coarse grains;

(d) if so, whether considerable time is taken in the clearance/disposal of payments as a result of this practice;

(e) if so, whether the Government proposes to direct the Food Corporation of India to purchase coarse grains directly from the farmers to avoid the delay in payment;

(f) if so, the details thereof and steps taken by the Government thereon; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) Procurement of coarse grains, including bajra, from farmers under price support operations is presently being entirely undertaken by the State Governments and their Agencies in view of the larger outreach of State Governments/Agencies and the FCI's focus on the procurement of wheat and paddy/rice.

(d) The FCI takes over the quantity of procured coarse grains required for distribution under the Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and arranges for disposal of the remaining quantity of coarse grains through tender immediately after the closure of the procurement period. The State Governments have informed that payments to farmers are being made promptly by the procuring agencies.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) and (g) The Government of India assists the State Governments in availing timely and adequate credit from Banks to enable the procuring agencies to make payments to farmers on time. Advance funds are also being released to State Governments by the FCI for undertaking coarse grains procurement, wherever necessary. The Government of India reimburses all expenditure incurred by the State Governments in the procurement of coarse grains.

[English]

Cotton Production

*209. SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that some of the cotton producing States like Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra are facing glut in cotton production resulting in pitiable condition of the cotton farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is a decline in the demand for cotton both in the domestic and foreign markets;

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

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to assure a remunerative price to the cotton growers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) The year 2004-05 witnessed significant increase in cotton production in the country, which reflects the impact of measures taken by the Government like implementation of Technology Mission on Cotton in major cotton producing States, supply of quality seeds, including Bt. Cotton, transfer of technology to farmers through frontline demonstrations with special focus on production and plant protection, etc. The cotton production in the country during 2004-05 reached a record level of 23.20 million bales as per the figures of Cotton Advisory Board (CAB). As may be seen from State-wise figures of cotton production (Statement), there has been significant increase in production in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra which together account for nearly two thirds of the total cotton production in the country. In view of higher production/supply vis-à-vis consumption/demand, both in India and abroad, cotton prices came under downward pressure in 2004-05. With a view to avoiding distress sale by farmers arising from supply-demand imbalances, the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) has undertaken substantial procurement of cotton in major cotton producing States. The CCI procured a quantity of 140.24 lakh quintals of kapas (seed cotton), equivalent to 27.52 lakh lint bales, upto August 2, 2005. This included procurement of kapas to the tune of 64.24 lakh quintals in Andhra Pradesh. Keeping in view the need to strengthen the infrastructure for cotton procurement, the Government of India declared in 2005 the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd.

(NAFED) as an additional agency for cotton procurement, in addition to CCI. The procurement of cotton by NAFED for 2004-05 amounted to 1.84 lakh quintals, equivalent to 0.39 lakh lint bales. In the case of Maharashtra most of the cotton procurement is done by the Maharashtra State Cooperative Cotton Growers Marketing Federation under the monopoly procurement scheme.

(c) and (d) The demand for cotton is expected to increase in view of the growing opportunities for textile trade arising from the termination of Multifibre Agreement w.e.f. January 1, 2005. In view of the fact that the domestic cotton sector is fairly integrated with the world economy, through backward and forward linkages of the textile industry, Indian cotton prices reflect the trends in international cotton prices. In order to avail of the opportunities for the growing demand for cotton both within the country and abroad, it is necessary to improve production of quality cotton. The efforts being made through the Technology Mission on Cotton has started giving results, as discernible from the improvement of yield from 324 Kgs. per hectare in 2003-04 to 440 Kgs. per hectare in 2004-05.

(e) As regards remunerative prices to farmers, the main objective of price policy for agricultural produce is to ensure remunerative prices to the growers for their produce, including cotton, which in turn seeks to encourage higher investment and production in agriculture. With this objective in view, Government announces each season MSPs for major agricultural commodities. Since MSPs for individual crops/varieties are uniform for the whole country, efforts are made to ensure that the MSPs announced cover atleast A2+FL costs (actual expenses incurred in cash and kind, including rent for leased in land, and the imputed wages of family labour) in relatively high cost States/regions while the MSPs cover C2 cost (actual expenses paid in cash and kind, including rent for leased in land and, the imputed values for wages of family labour, rent for owned land and interest on fixed capital) in relatively low cost States/regions. With a view to enabling farmers to decide on the crops for cultivation, efforts are made to announce MSPs well before the sowing season. Thus, the MSPs for Kharif crops of 2005-06 season including cotton were announced by the Government in April, 2005.

Statement**State-wise Cotton Production**

(Quantity in Lakh bales of 170 kgs each)

Name of State	2003-04	2004-05*
Andhra Pradesh	26.00	32.50
Gujarat	50.00	62.00
Haryana	11.50	15.00
Karnataka	4.00	9.00
Maharashtra	31.00	52.00
Madhya Pradesh	19.50	16.00
Punjab	11.00	16.50
Rajasthan	8.50	10.50
Tamil Nadu	3.50	5.50
Sub-Total	165.00	219.00
Other States	1.00	1.00
Loose Lint	11.00	12.00
Grand Total	177.00	232.00

Source: Cotton Advisory Board (CAB).

*[Translation]***Irrigation Projects Under A.I.B.P.**

*210. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:
MOHD. SHAHID:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of major and medium irrigation projects started in 1996-97 by the Union Government under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) and completed so far;

(b) the estimated additional amount likely to be incurred on these projects owing to their non-completion within the scheduled time;

(c) the names of States where such irrigation projects have not been completed within the scheduled time alongwith the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the construction work of such projects hampered due to non-payment of share by the States;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government for timely completion of such projects?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) The Central Government commenced the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) in the year 1996-97 by providing Central Loan Assistance (CLA) to 51 approved ongoing major/medium irrigation projects of 18 States and out of these 18 projects were completed. So far under the programme 184 major and medium irrigation projects/project components spread over in 24 States have received CLA/Grant and 40 projects have been reported as completed under AIBP upto 2004-05. The remaining 144 projects are receiving the benefits of AIBP.

(b) and (c) As per the information provided by the States, Central Water Commission has estimated the balance cost of these 144 projects/project components as Rs. 14,105 crore. The guidelines of AIBP stipulate that the State Governments are required to enter in to a memorandum of understanding for each individual project under the programme indicating balance cost, balance potential and year-wise phasing of expenditure and balance potential. A statement indicating names of States and number of projects receiving CLA not yet completed is enclosed. The major reasons for delay in completion of irrigation projects are land acquisition including forest land, resettlement and rehabilitation of the project affected people, contractual problems, legal issues, public resistance, inadequate budget including State share not being provided by the State Governments, delay in transfer of AIBP funds by the State Finance Departments to the user departments/project authorities, changes in scope of the project, etc.

(d) to (f) There was delay in release of CLA and State's matching share in respect of 43 projects in the States of Goa, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and

Kashmir, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Punjab and Rajasthan. Further, there was short release of CLA for 62 projects in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal thereby hampering the progress of construction work in AIBP projects. As per the guidelines of AIBP, the central assistance is released in two instalments of 50 per cent each. The next instalment of central assistance is released only after Utilisation Certificate is received from the State Governments for the previous instalment provided. The loan assistance provided to the State under the programme is recovered with interest by the Government of India in instalments as provided in the norms of the programme. The guidelines also stipulate that the central assistance must be released to the project authorities by the State Governments within 15 days of its release by the Centre.

Statement

Sl.No.	Name of State/Project
--------	-----------------------

1	2
---	---

Andhra Pradesh

- | | |
|-----|------------------------|
| 1. | Sriram Sagar (Stage-I) |
| 2. | Jurala |
| 3. | Somasilla |
| 4. | Nagarjunsagar |
| 5. | Madduvalasa |
| 6. | Gundalavagu |
| 7. | Maddigedda |
| 8. | Kanupur Canal |
| 9. | Yerrakalva |
| 10. | Vamsedhera Ph. I |

Assam

- | | |
|-----|--------------|
| 11. | Pahumara |
| 12. | Hawaipur LIS |
| 13. | Dhansiri |
| 14. | Champamati |
-

1	2
15.	Borolia
16.	Kolonga
17.	Burhi Dihang LIS
18.	Mod. of Jamuna Irr. Project
19.	Integrated Irr. Scheme in Kollong Basin
	Bihar
20.	Western Kosi Canal
21.	Upper Kiul
22.	Durgawati
23.	Bansagar
24.	Orni Reservoir
25.	Sone canal modernisation
26.	Batane
	Chhattisgarh
27.	Hasdeo Bango
28.	Jonk Diversion
29.	Koserteda
30.	Barnal
	Goa
31.	Salauli Phase-1
32.	Tillari
	Gujarat
33.	Sardar Sarovar
34.	Mukteshwar
35.	Aji-IV
36.	Ozat-II
37.	Brahamini-II
38.	Bhadar-II
	Haryana
39.	WRCP

1	2
40.	JLN Lift Irr.
	Himachal Pradesh
41.	Shahnehar Irrgn. Project
42.	Sidhata
43.	Changer Lift
	Jammu & Kashmir
44.	Marwal Lift
45.	Lethpora Lift
46.	Koil Lift
47.	Mod. of Ranbir Canal
48.	Mod. of Pratap Canal
49.	Mod. of Kathua Canal
50.	Rajpora Lift
51.	Tral Lift
52.	Igophey
53.	Rafiabad Lift Irrigation
54.	Zaingir Canal
	Jharkhand
55.	Gumani
56.	Torai
57.	Kansjore
58.	Sonua
59.	Surangi
60.	Upper Sankh
61.	Panchkhero
	Karnataka
62.	UKP Stage-I
63.	Malprabha
64.	Hirehalla
65.	Ghatprabha

1	2
66.	Karanja
67.	UKP Stage-II
68.	Gandorinala Kerala
69.	Kallada Project
70.	Muvattupuzha Madhya Pradesh
71.	Indira Sagar
—	Bansagar (Unit-I) Bansagar (Unit-II)
72.	Rajghat Dam
73.	Sindh Phase-II
74.	Mahi
75.	Bariarpur
76.	Bawanthadi
77.	Mahan
78.	Omkareshwar
79.	Bargi Dam RBC 16 Km.-63 Km. Bargi Div. Pro. Canal (63 Km to 1600) Maharashtra
80.	Gosikhurd
81.	Surya
82.	Waghur
83.	Bhima
84.	Upper Wardha
85.	Wan
86.	Vishnupuri
87.	Bahula

1	2
88.	Krishna
89.	Kukadi
90.	Upper Manar
91.	Hetwane
92.	Chaskman
93.	Upper Pen Ganga — Bawanthadi
94.	Kumbhi
95.	Patgoan Manipur
96.	Khuga
97.	Thoubal
98.	Dolaithabi Barrage Project Meghalaya
99.	Rongai Valley Orissa
100.	Upper Indravati (RBS)
101.	Subernarekha Multipurpose
102.	Rengali
103.	Anandpur Barrage
104.	Upper Kolab
105.	Titlagarh
106.	Lower Indira
107.	Lower Suktel
108.	Potteru
109.	Naraj Barrage
110.	Telengiri Irr. Project (KBK)
111.	Ret Irr. Project (KBK)

1	2
112.	Kanupur
113.	Chheligada Dam
114.	Improvement of Sasan Canal
115.	Salandi Left Main Canal
116.	Improvement of Salki Irr. Project
	Punjab
117.	Remodelling of UBDC
118.	Irr. to H.P. below Talwara
119.	Shahpur Kandi
120.	Kandi Canal Extension St. II
	Rajasthan
121.	IGNP Stage-II
122.	Bisalpur
123.	Narmada Canal
124.	Chauli
125.	Mahi Bajaj Sagar
126.	Mod. of Gang Canal
	Tripura
127.	Gumti
128.	Manu
129.	Khowai
	Tamil Nadu
130.	WRCP
	Uttar Pradesh
131.	Sarju Nahar
132.	Kharif Channel in H.K. Doab
—	Bansagar

1	2
133.	Lakhwar Vyasi
134.	Tehri
135.	Eastern Ganga Canal
136.	Rajghat Canal
137.	Mod. of Agra Canal
138.	Jarauli Pump Canal
	West Bengal
139.	Teesta Barrage
140.	Modernisation of Barrage & Irrg.
	System of DVC
141.	Tatko
142.	Patloi
143.	Hanumata
144.	Subemarekha Barrage

**Remunerative Prices to Farmers
for their Produce**

*211. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:
SHRIMATI RUPATAI D. PATIL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the farmers made a record production despite devastating floods and severe drought last year;

(b) whether the farmers incurred heavy losses owing to non-procurement of their produce at fixed prices in several parts of the country;

(c) whether the Government is aware that the farmers were on the verge of starvation and some of them even committed suicide; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the steps being taken by the Government to ensure remunerative price to the farmers for their produce?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) According to the Fourth Advance Estimates, the production of Foodgrains in the country during last year i.e. 2004-05 (July-June), was 204.61 million tonnes. The decline in foodgrain production in 2004-05 mainly reflects the deficiency in rainfall from both south-west monsoon (June-September) and north-east monsoon (October-December). However, the year 2004-05 witnessed a record production of oilseeds at 26.10 million tonnes, which mostly reflected the record production of rapeseed/mustard of 8.36 million tonnes in 2004-05. As regards other commercial crops, the year 2004-05 witnessed record production in Cotton at 23.20 million bales of 170 kgs. each, as per the figures released by the Cotton Advisory Board (CAB). According to the figures released by the Central Statistical Organisation, the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in agriculture, including the allied sectors of forestry & logging, and fishing, at constant (1993-94) prices amounted to Rs. 3,134,180 crore compared to Rs. 3,10,611 crore in 2003-04.

(b) As regards procurement, the marketing year 2004-05 (October-September) witnessed procurement of rice in significant quantities in a number of States, namely, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Orissa. In fact the year 2004-05 witnessed record procurement amounting to 23.78 million tonnes in the country till 01.08.2005. In the case of wheat, the procurement in the marketing year 2005-06 (April-March) was 14.79 million tonnes, which mostly consisted of the wheat produced in major wheat producing States, namely, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab, which together accounted for around 80% of the total wheat production in the country during agriculture year 2004-05 (July-June). In addition to paddy/rice and wheat, substantial procurement was also done in the case of cotton and mustard with a view to avoiding losses to farmers through distress sale.

(c) and (d) No incidence of starvation deaths has been reported so far by any State Government/UT Administration. As regards suicides by farmers, besides crop failure and indebtedness, there are other reasons for suicides like family problems, incurable ailments, addiction to alcohol, fragmentation of land etc. With a view to enabling the farmers to meet their growing credit needs, a sum of Rs. 1,15,242 crore were disbursed in 2004-05. It is proposed to step up credit flow by 30% in 2005-06. The State-wise number of suicides by farmers is given in the enclosed Statement. As for steps aimed

at ensuring remunerative prices to farmers, the main policy instrument is Minimum Support Price (MSP). In fact, the main objective of price policy for agricultural produce is to ensure remunerative prices to the growers for their produce, which in turn seeks to encourage higher investment and production in agriculture. With this objective in view, Government announces each season MSPs for major agricultural commodities. Since MSPs for individual crops are uniform for the whole country, efforts are made to ensure that the MSPs announced cover atleast A2+FL costs (actual expenses incurred in cash and kind, including rent for leased in land, and the imputed wages of family labour) in relatively high cost States/regions while the MSPs cover C2 cost (actual expenses paid in cash and kind, including rent for leased in land and, the imputed values for wages of family labour, rent for owned land and interest on fixed capital) in relatively low cost States/regions. With a view to enabling farmers to decide on the crops for cultivation, efforts are made to announce MSPs well before the sowing season. Thus, the MSPs for Kharif crops of 2005-06 season were announced by the Government in April, 2005.

Statement

Number of suicides by farmers in States

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Period	No. (Based on the figures reported by State Govts.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2001-02	233
		2002-03	280
		2003-04	258
		2004-05 (upto 31/12/04)	758
2.	Karnataka*	2000-01	2630
		2001-02	2505
		2002-03	2340
		2003-04	708
		2004-05 (upto 28/2/05)	216

1	2	3	4
3.	Maharashtra	2001	64
		2002	131
		2003	180
		2004	524
4.	Punjab	2001	1
		2002	—
		2003	2
		2004	—
5.	Kerala	2002	44
		2003	40
		2004	96
6.	Tamilnadu	2004-05 (upto 30/9/04)	31

*Note: As per the information furnished by the State Government of Karnataka, the figures for the years 2000-01 to 2002-03 are based on the records with the State Crime Records Bureau; and for the years 2003-04 and 2004-05 (upto 28th February, 2005) on the basis of records maintained by the Agriculture Department of the State.

Desilting of River

*212. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether large scale silting in the rivers in the country, especially in Uttar Pradesh has reduced their water carrying capacity;

(b) if so, whether the Government has formulated any scheme for desilting of rivers;

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

(d) the funds allocated/proposed to be allocated during the current year for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (d) Flood Management being within the purview of State

Government, the schemes are planned, funded and executed by the State Governments. The assistance rendered by Central Government is technical, catalytical and promotional in nature.

In order to study the problem of silting in rivers, the Government of India had constituted a Multi-disciplinary Committee in October 2001 under Dr. B.K. Mittal, Ex-Chairman, Central Water Commission. The Committee looked into this aspect and studied the cross sectional areas which were available for the last 5 to 10 years in respect of few sites on Ganga, Brahmaputra, Godavari, Krishna, etc. and concluded that siltation in rivers is not pronounced and alarming. The action points in view of recommendations of the above Committee have subsequently been communicated to State Governments etc. for follow up action.

[English]

Procurement of Mustard

*213. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a fall in mustard procurement price from Rs. 2,300/-per quintal to approx. Rs. 1,600 per quintal;

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

(c) whether this is due to the reduced tariff on Australian Palm-Oil; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to safeguard the interest of the mustard farmers of the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No, Sir. The procurement of mustard, which is a Rabi season crop, is undertaken at the Minimum Support Price (MSP) fixed by the Government each year. The MSP fixed for mustard marketed in 2005-06 is Rs. 1700 per quintal compared with Rs. 1600 per quintal for mustard marketed in 2004-05. Thus, there was no decline in price at which mustard has been procured in 2005-06.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Construction of Watersheds

*214. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY:
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has formulated a comprehensive scheme for construction of watersheds in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of watersheds sanctioned/constructed under the River Valley Project in Maharashtra so far and in other States separately;

(d) the total amount sanctioned under the scheme during each of the last three years;

(e) the total amount disbursed to States as financial assistance under the scheme;

(f) the targets fixed and achievements made thereunder during the above period, State-wise;

(g) whether the small agriculture watersheds are not being properly utilized;

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

(i) the steps taken by the Government to ensure the proper utilization of small watersheds?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Government of India has formulated comprehensive schemes/programmes for development of watershed in the country. The Watershed development programmes being implemented are (i) National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPR), (ii) Soil Conservation for Enhancing Productivity of Degraded Lands in the Catchments of River Valley Project and

Flood Prone River (RVP & FPR)), (iii) Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSA), (iv) Reclamation of Alkali Soils (RAS), (v) Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), (vi) Desert Development Programme (DDP), and (vii) Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP). The size of watershed varies from 500 ha. to 2000 ha. and such watersheds are being treated in an integrated manner with suitable soil and water conservation measures for development and management of natural resources. In addition to above programmes, a Watershed Development Fund (WDF) has been created at National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD) with total corpus of Rs. 200.00 crore for Watershed Development. At present, 11 States, namely, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Orissa, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal are utilizing the support.

(c) to (f) In the State of Maharashtra, out of these programmes, four programmes namely, National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPR), Soil Conservation for Enhancing Productivity of Degraded Lands in the Catchments of River Valley Project and Flood Prone River (RVP & FPR), Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) and Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP) are being implemented. The scheme-wise details of number of ongoing watersheds, physical and financial achievements for three years (2002-05) of the States covered under each programme including Maharashtra are given in enclosed Statement-I to VII, under WDF, 365 number of projects have been approved amounting to Rs. 66.31 crore, out of which an amount of Rs. 20.56 crore has actually been released so far.

(g) to (i) Small watersheds are also included under these Watershed Development Programmes. Thrust has been given for involvement of beneficiaries/farmers in planning, implementation and maintenance of assets created. For this purpose, Watershed Committees/Associations have been constituted to ensure effective participation. The capacity building and trainings of the beneficiaries, demonstrations, exposure visits etc. are organized for the farmers to utilize the resources of small watersheds in sustainable manner.

Statement I

State-wise Physical and Financial Progress of National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRA) during last three years of X Plan.

Phy. Area in lakh ha. & Fin. In Rs. lakh

Sl.No.	Name of States	No. of Watersheds	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		Total	
			Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	143	0.02	88.68	0.09	402.72	0.16	718.37	0.27	1209.77
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	45	0.00	0.00	0.02	134.80	0.03	184.93	0.05	319.73
3.	Assam	75	0.04	188.00	0.02	100.00	0.01	45.00	0.07	333.00
4.	Bihar	74	0.00	2.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	64.67	0.00	66.95
5.	Chhattisgarh	185	0.10	455.10	0.16	705.67	0.19	914.44	0.45	2075.21
6.	Gujarat	450	0.00	41.81	0.25	1255.61	0.35	1536.15	0.60	2833.57
7.	Haryana	36	0.01	57.63	0.01	88.72	0.02	117.63	0.04	263.98
8.	Himachal Pradesh	10	0.00	45.13	0.02	137.62	0.03	277.40	0.05	460.15
9.	Jharkhand	200	0.04	586.26	0.10	975.91	0.13	1244.31	0.27	2806.48
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	172	0.00	2.52	0.00	3.60	0.23	39.82	0.23	45.94
11.	Karnataka	568	0.04	776.54	0.15	1743.82	0.33	1723.71	0.52	4244.07
12.	Kerala	148	0.00	6.61	0.00	139.00	0.13	800.81	0.13	946.42
13.	Madhya Pradesh	594	0.33	1097.98	0.23	721.28	0.45	1195.99	1.01	3015.25
14.	Maharashtra	433	0.08	686.00	0.16	850.00	0.31	1606.00	0.55	3142.00
15.	Manipur	79	0.00	47.50	0.03	190.00	0.07	374.17	0.10	611.67
16.	Meghalaya	78	0.07	415.00	0.06	361.55	0.06	369.95	0.19	1146.50
17.	Mizoram	105	0.03	360.00	0.07	410.00	0.12	860.40	0.22	1630.40
18.	Nagaland	100	0.01	250.00	0.08	480.00	0.08	631.00	0.17	1361.00
19.	Orissa	212	0.10	373.04	0.14	617.80	0.09	425.26	0.33	1416.10
20.	Punjab	49	0.00	0.00	0.01	68.38	0.00	0.00	0.01	68.38
21.	Rajasthan	1138	0.39	2555.20	0.84	3669.46	0.82	3382.29	2.05	9806.95
22.	Sikkim	66	0.01	90.00	0.03	191.12	0.04	265.46	0.08	546.58
23.	Tamil Nadu	763	0.31	1408.33	0.34	1525.00	0.19	2089.06	0.84	5022.39
24.	Tripura	62	0.03	177.00	0.04	307.51	0.06	336.45	0.13	620.96

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
25.	Uttar Pradesh	400	0.09	1121.80	0.24	948.72	0.34	1950.96	0.67	4021.48
26.	Uttaranchal	158	0.07	446.00	0.13	975.44	0.26	1787.49	0.46	3208.93
27.	West Bengal	136	0.01	42.92	0.00	0.00	0.00	130.00	0.01	172.92
28.	Goa	27	0.00	14.34	0.01	74.32	0.02	175.73	0.03	264.39
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	8	0.00	24.11	0.01	45.51	0.01	51.00	0.02	120.62
30.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
31.	Daman and Diu	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		6514	1.78	11359.78	3.24	17323.56	4.53	23298.45	9.55	51981.79

Statement II

State-wise Physical and Financial Progress of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone River (RVP & FPR) during last three years of X Plan

Phy. Area in lakh ha. & Fin. in Rs. lakh

Sl.No.	Name of States	No. of Watersheds	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		Total	
			Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh (a) Fprests	15	0.060	533.80	0.062	628.00	0.027	339.54	0.15	1501.34
	(b) Agri.	6	0.028	199.45	0.039	230.19	0.040	203.27	0.11	632.91
	Sub-Total	21	0.088	733.25	0.101	858.19	0.067	542.81	0.26	2134.25
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.002	5.67	0.00	5.67
3.	Assam	3	0.004	76.03	0.015	72.24	0.000	0.00	0.02	148.27
4.	Bihar	1	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	9	0.039	158.41	0.040	122.65	0.022	119.68	0.10	400.74
6.	Gujarat (a) Forest	8	0.012	123.00	0.020	215.33	0.015	116.45	0.05	454.78
	(b) Agri.	9	0.026	283.03	0.061	458.73	0.118	966.16	0.21	1727.92
	Sub-Total	17	0.038	406.03	0.081	674.06	0.133	1102.61	0.25	2182.70
7.	Haryana	6	0.050	168.02	0.051	149.96	0.042	178.20	0.14	496.18
8.	Himachal Pradesh	42	0.034	519.76	0.042	673.21	0.038	647.35	0.11	1840.32

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9.	Jharkhand	0	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	13	0.028	270.23	0.018	193.00	0.024	449.57	0.07	912.80
11.	Karnataka	90	0.592	1564.24	0.228	952.66	0.217	816.68	1.04	3333.58
12.	Kerala	8	0.005	215.87	0.033	187.87	0.026	231.11	0.06	634.85
13.	Madhya Pradesh (a) Agri.	22	0.186	716.88	0.165	686.96	0.106	501.35	0.46	1905.19
	(b) NVDD	19	0.098	343.15	0.064	302.50	0.056	307.19	0.22	952.84
	Sub-Total	41	0.284	1060.03	0.229	989.46	0.162	808.54	0.68	2858.03
14.	Maharashtra	127	0.167	1606.07	0.176	947.65	0.167	879.92	0.51	3433.64
15.	Manipur	0	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.00	0.00
16.	Meghalaya	0	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000	6.00	0.00	6.00
17.	Mizoram	4	0.010	90.00	0.006	110.00	0.008	99.85	0.02	299.85
18.	Nagaland	1	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.026	174.00	0.03	174.00
19.	Orissa	7	0.030	115.80	0.010	42.48	0.015	81.46	0.06	239.74
20.	Punjab	5	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.00	0.00
21.	Rajasthan	44	0.218	1430.19	0.227	1730.23	0.236	1837.91	0.68	4998.33
22.	Sikkim	1	0.000	0.00	0.002	20.00	0.004	58.20	0.01	78.20
23.	Tamil Nadu	19	0.039	525.74	0.038	557.29	0.060	627.52	0.14	1710.55
24.	Tripura	6	0.005	44.80	0.003	50.00	0.004	27.48	0.01	122.28
25.	Uttar Pradesh	145	0.237	1633.50	0.379	1551.95	0.423	2165.65	1.04	5351.10
26.	Uttaranchal	39	0.039	227.39	0.018	227.00	0.041	285.35	0.10	739.74
27.	West Bengal	7	0.008	55.23	0.004	230.32	0.080	198.26	0.09	483.81
#	Chandigarh	—	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.00	0.00
#	Delhi	—	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.00	0.00
#	DVC	45	0.124	1054.78	0.083	1176.12	0.097	1256.90	0.30	3487.80
#	Hd. Quarter	—	0.000	40.00	0.000	39.00	0.000	40.00	0.00	119.00
	Total	704	2.039	11995.37	1.784	11555.34	1.894	12640.72	5.72	36191.43
#	PM Package for J&K	89	0.00	0.00	0.052	546.05	0.157	1063.41	0.21	1609.46
	Grand Total	793	2.039	11995.37	1.836	12101.39	2.051	13704.13	5.926	37800.99

Statement III

State-wise Physical and Financial Progress of Watershed Development Projects in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA) during last three years of X Plan

Phy. Area in lakh ha. & Fin. in Rs. lakh

Sl.No.	Name of States	No. of Watersheds	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		Total	
			Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	13	0.002	17.85	0.016	160.53	0.010	100.51	0.03	278.89
2.	Assam	15	0.053	360.00	0.040	395.00	0.024	250.00	0.12	1005.00
3.	Manipur	30	0.027	141.00	0.018	200.00	0.026	250.00	0.07	591.00
4.	Meghalaya	38	0.014	250.00	0.026	300.00	0.048	300.00	0.09	850.00
5.	Mizoram	42	0.040	480.00	0.046	490.00	0.036	350.00	0.12	1320.00
6.	Nagaland	26	0.031	450.00	0.026	300.00	0.043	450.00	0.10	1200.00
7.	Tripura	39	0.027	268.40	0.028	275.86	0.023	226.74	0.08	771.00
	Total	202	0.194	1967.25	0.200	2121.39	0.210	1927.25	0.604	6015.89

Statement IV

State-wise Physical and Financial Progress of Reclamation of Alkali Soils (RAS) since inception up-to IX Plan, during first three years of X Plan

Phy. Area in lakh ha. & Fin. in Rs. lakh

Sl.No.	Name of States	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		Total	
		Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Bihar	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Gujarat	0.031	135.83	0.048	204.37	0.172	253.35	0.25	629.55
4.	Haryana	0.097	400.00	0.119	218.00	0.104	200.00	0.32	818.00
5.	Karnataka	0.008	142.94	0.009	111.71	0.006	71.00	0.02	325.65
6.	Madhya Pradesh	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Maharashtra	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.00	0.00
8.	Punjab	0.008	13.38	0.005	6.43	0.000	0.00	0.01	19.81

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9.	Rajasthan	0.070	112.00	0.013	8.54	0.051	50.97	0.13	171.51
10.	Tamil Nadu	0.000	0.00	0.009	19.28	0.012	31.13	0.02	50.41
11.	Uttar Pradesh	0.010	1.10	0.005	8.82	0.000	0.00	0.02	9.92
Total		0.224	805.25	0.208	613.15	0.345	606.45	0.78	2024.85

Statement V

Project Sanctioned and Funds Released Under Desert Development Programme (DDP) of Ministry of Rural Development from 2002-03 to 2004-05

(Phy. No. of projects & Fin. in Rs. crore)

Sl.No.	Name of States	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		Total upto 2004-05	
		Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial
1.	Andhra Pradesh	110	12.12	110	5.67	110	17.74	330	35.53
2.	Gujarat	277	34.18	298	56.12	298	46.81	873	137.11
3.	Haryana	121	18.10	118	19.20	118	15.45	357	52.75
4.	Himachal Pradesh	73	8.51	49	7.87	38	2.45	160	18.83
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	77	9.02	41	11.27	40	2.19	158	22.48
6.	Karnataka	165	14.12	166	23.20	166	23.10	497	60.42
7.	Rajasthan	779	88.94	780	91.47	830	107.26	2389	287.66
	Others	—	—	—	—	—	0.20	0	0.20
Total		1602	184.99	1562	214.80	1600	215.19	4764	614.98

Note: A project under DDP generally covers an area of 500 hectares.

Statement VI

Project Sanctioned and Funds Released Under Drought Prone Area Programme of Ministry of Rural Development from 2002-03 to 2004-05

(Phy. No. of Projects & Fin. In Rs. Crore)

Sl.No.	Name of States	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		Total upto 2004-05	
		Phy.	Fin.	Phy.	Fin.	Phy.	Fin.	Phy.	Fin.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	291	48.55	287	49.37	287	40.08	865	138.00
2.	Bihar	60	2.50	60	3.23	68	3.11	188	8.84

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
3.	Chhattisgarh	116	16.00	116	13.29	116	17.94	348	47.23
4.	Gujarat	241	32.73	250	33.63	250	25.37	741	91.73
5.	Himachal Pradesh	50	3.71	40	5.30	40	4.25	130	13.26
6.	Jharkhand	164	2.23	66	4.22	66	2.23	296	8.68
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	66	5.54	200	12.12	200	10.65	466	28.31
8.	Karnataka	221	22.65	227	32.16	227	25.03	675	79.84
9.	Madhya Pradesh	265	47.21	269	50.22	269	52.88	803	150.31
10.	Maharashtra	300	12.95	296	14.84	303	34.86	899	62.65
11.	Orissa	160	9.01	146	10.46	146	11.42	452	30.89
12.	Rajasthan	113	14.31	96	19.79	96	15.74	305	49.84
13.	Tamil Nadu	144	10.60	160	24.02	160	28.17	464	62.79
14.	Uttar Pradesh	158	17.18	160	14.98	160	14.57	478	46.73
15.	Uttaranchal	97	3.76	90	4.73	90	12.26	277	19.75
16.	West Bengal	32	1.08	72	2.43	72	2.43	176	5.94
	Others	—	0.01	—	0.20	—	0.20	0	0.41
	Total	2478	250.02	2535	294.99	2550	300.19	7563	845.20

Note:-A project under DPAP generally covers an area of 500 hectares.

Statement VII

Area and Funds Released Under Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP) of Ministry of Rural Development from 2002-03 to 2004-05

(Area in lakh ha. and Fin. in Rs. crore)

Sl.No.	Name of States	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		Total upto 2004-05	
		Area	Fin.	Area	Fin.	Area	Fin.	Area	Fin.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.120	13.95	0.600	34.36	0.600	29.58	1.320	77.89
2.	Bihar	0.000	0.66	0.450	3.71	0.450	4.35	0.900	8.72
3.	Chhattisgarh	0.000	5.50	0.400	11.97	0.436	17.24	0.836	34.71
4.	Gujarat	0.000	14.94	0.575	17.34	0.450	10.72	1.025	43.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
5.	Haryana	0.000	2.06	0.200	3.89	0.150	6.12	0.350	12.07
6.	Himachal Pradesh	0.000	15.01	0.430	13.50	0.150	13.45	0.580	41.96
7.	Jharkhand	0.000	0.41	0.330	2.72	0.190	2.06	0.520	5.19
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.000	2.21	0.050	2.42	0.500	4.23	0.550	8.86
9.	Karnataka	0.065	13.94	0.450	23.20	0.200	24.67	0.715	61.81
10.	Kerala	0.000	0.96	0.150	3.14	0.000	1.60	0.150	5.70
11.	Madhya Pradesh	0.000	29.92	0.870	28.38	0.600	29.08	1.470	87.38
12.	Maharashtra	0.079	7.05	0.450	9.49	0.500	16.00	1.029	32.54
13.	Orissa	0.000	8.85	0.380	19.40	0.450	14.57	0.830	42.82
14.	Punjab	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.51	0.154	1.94	0.154	2.45
15.	Rajasthan	0.000	7.72	0.450	20.97	0.450	21.21	0.900	49.90
16.	Tamil Nadu	0.000	8.38	0.550	19.94	0.510	24.71	1.060	53.03
17.	Uttar Pradesh	0.221	16.57	0.650	19.74	0.650	18.02	1.521	54.33
18.	Uttaranchal	0.000	3.36	0.160	3.64	0.344	12.28	0.504	19.28
19.	West Bengal	0.000	0.00	0.100	0.83	0.138	1.56	0.238	2.39
20.	Goa	—	—	0.100	0.83	—	—	0.100	0.83
	Others	—	—	—	10.00	—	—	0.000	10.00
	Total	0.485	151.49	7.345	249.98	6.922	253.39	14.752	654.86
North Eastern States									
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.542	4.59	0.320	3.52	0.725	8.04	1.587	16.15
2.	Assam	0.904	14.40	0.840	17.30	1.750	32.03	3.494	63.73
3.	Manipur	0.445	6.42	0.300	3.13	0.400	5.46	1.145	15.01
4.	Meghalaya	0.000	0.24	0.280	4.44	0.140	1.94	0.420	6.62
5.	Mizoram	0.407	11.55	0.400	6.12	0.400	9.74	1.207	27.41
6.	Nagaland	0.573	17.41	0.400	18.68	0.400	17.11	1.373	53.20
7.	Sikkim	0.000	1.84	0.180	2.69	0.164	3.24	0.344	7.77
8.	Tripura	0.000	—	—	0.32	0.275	3.87	0.275	4.19
	Total North Eastern	2.871	56.45	2.720	56.20	4.254	81.43	9.845	194.080
	Grand Total	3.356	207.94	10.065	306.18	11.176	334.82	24.597	848.935

Problem faced by Fertilizer Industry

*215. SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPAPARAI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the problems facing by Fertilizer Industry due to New Pricing Scheme and the policy for switching over to Natural Gas (NG)/ Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG);

(b) if so, the action taken for reviving the fertilizer industry;

(c) whether the Government has received any suggestion from the fertilizer industry in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (d) The fertilizer industry has given its views/suggestions mainly on the following issues of New Pricing Scheme (NPS) for urea units being implemented w.e.f 1.4.2003:

- (i) On the provision of grouping of urea units based on vintage and feedstock, many urea companies have given suggestions on changing the groupings based upon the locations of the plants, quantum of usage of fuel like coal, size of the plant etc.
- (ii) No reduction of Rs. 100 per tonne from the primary freight for decontrolled quantity of urea.
- (iii) Reimbursement of increase in the road transport component of the primary freight.
- (iv) Reimbursement of the increase in secondary freight.
- (v) Compensation for escalation in conversion costs and overheads beyond 1999-2000.
- (vi) Reimbursement of working capital allowance due to a sharp increase in input prices.
- (vii) Compensation for increase in the cost of bags.
- (viii) Compensation for increase in other variable costs.

- (ix) Compensation for changes in all state levies like rates of purchase tax, entry tax, electricity tax, sales tax, VAT, etc.

The above mentioned issues are under consideration of the Working Group constituted under the chairmanship of Dr. Y.K. Alagh to review the effectiveness of stage-I & II of NPS and to formulate a policy for urea units for Stage-III commencing from 1.4.2006.

Naphtha based urea units situated in the vicinity of HBJ pipeline have already started taking steps for conversion to natural gas/LNG. IFFCO has already signed a firm contract for supply of LNG for both its units located at Phulpur to the extent of its feed/fuel requirement. The work on the conversion and laying of the pipeline is in progress, which is expected to be in early 2006. The Gadepan-II unit, a naphtha based urea unit of Chambal Fertilizers & Chemicals Limited has also made arrangements to use LNG and is already using LNG to the extent available with the existing pipeline infrastructure. Shriram Fertilizer & Chemicals Limited's naphtha based urea unit at Kota has formulated a scheme for conversion to NG/LNG but the pipeline and gas are not yet available.

The progress of conversion of rest of the non-gas based urea units to natural gas/LNG is dependent to a large extent on the availability and pricing of natural gas/LNG and creation of spur lines etc.

Harvesting of Rain Water

*216. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has encouraged the State Governments and NGOs to promote rain water harvesting;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes formulated by the Union Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government has given any special package/assistance to the State Governments which are successfully implementing the rain water harvesting;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (e) 'Water' being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to formulate plans for promoting rain water harvesting.

The Ministry of Water Resources implemented a Central Sector Scheme for Study of Recharge to Ground Water in the country during the VIII & IX Five Year Plans.

The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) under the Ministry of Water Resources, has prepared a report entitled "Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water", which envisages recharge of 36453 Million Cubic Meter volume of surplus monsoon runoff, through construction of 39.25 lakh artificial recharge and roof top rain water harvesting structures.

Ministry of Rural Development (Department of Land Resources) is implementing three area development programmes, namely, Integrated Waste Land Development Programme (IWDP), Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) and Desert Development Programme (DDP).

Under these programmes funds are allotted to States for various activities, which includes soil and water conservation works. However, funds are not exclusively allotted for checking declining ground water, which is a resultant activity of moisture conservation works undertaken for the development of watershed areas. Similarly the Ministry of Agriculture is implementing the Watershed Development in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDSCA).

In addition to the above, following steps have been taken by the Union Government in this regard:

- (i) Circulation of Manual/Guidelines on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend of ground water levels.
- (ii) Central Ministers/Departments of Railways, Defence, Posts, Telecommunications, Central Public Works Department and National Highway Authority of India have been requested to provide roof top rain water harvesting structures in the buildings under their control.

- (iii) Demonstrative projects of roof top rain water harvesting were also implemented through Community Based Organisations/Voluntary Organisations/Voluntary Agencies in rural Government schools in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Orissa, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Uttaranchal and West Bengal.
- (iv) States/Union Territories have been requested to provide water harvesting structures in buildings under their administrative control.
- (v) All the States/Union Territories have been requested for advising the local bodies in their respective States/Union Territories to allow rebate in property tax to persons, who adopt roof top rainwater harvesting in their premises.
- (vi) CGWB has provided technical guidance on rain water harvesting to around 2000 agencies, including State Government agencies, educational institutions, private entrepreneurs and individuals.
- (vii) Launching of a website on Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting (www.cgwb.net) to make aware and educate the public about various techniques of harvesting rainwater and store it for future use.
- (viii) Organisation of mass awareness programmes and training courses on rainwater harvesting and artificial recharge of ground water.
- (ix) Water conservation campaign has been launched keeping in view the various target groups like youth and children, women, farmers and villagers, policy and opinion makers. Publicity through print media, telecasting of spots on the television, broadcasting messages on radio, holding of seminars, workshops, conferences etc., have been undertaken for the purpose.

Indians Going Abroad on Work Permit

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

- (a) whether the percentage of Indians going abroad on work permit has declined over the years;

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

(c) whether the Government disseminate information to unemployed youths regarding courses/training beneficial for gaining employment abroad; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs is responsible for administering the Emigration Act, 1983 which regulates the emigration of Indian workers going abroad for employment. Under the provisions of the Act, only the persons having ECR (Emigration Clearance Required) endorsement on their passports are required to obtain emigration clearance while going abroad for employment to any of the ECR countries. As per the available information the number of workers who were given emigration clearance for contractual employment abroad have registered a progressive increase during the last five years.

(c) and (d) Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs is not disseminating information to unemployed youth regarding courses/training helpful for joining employment abroad.

Violation of Food Products Norms

*218. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that various artificial colours and flavouring agents are at present being indiscriminately used, especially by the Small Scale Industries not only in soft drinks but also in confectionary items;

(b) if so, whether the existing food law is sufficient enough to make the violators to strictly comply with its provisions;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to discourage the use of such synthetic flavours and colouring agents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d) The use and limits of various

artificial colours and flavouring agents in food products is governed by the provisions of Prevention of Food Adulteration Act (PFA), 1954 and Rules made thereunder.

There have been reports on use of non-permitted colours and flavouring agents or use of more than permitted quantities of colours and flavouring agents in some food products. The State/Union Territories, who are the implementing agencies of the PFA Act/Rules, have been requested from time to time to have a strict vigil on this. The violation in this regard attracts penal action under provisions of PFA Act.

[Translation]

Inspection of Godowns

*219. SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV:
SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:

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

(a) whether some of the godowns of Food Corporation of India (FCI) have been inspected recently;

(b) if so, whether some old stocks of foodgrains and sugar unfit for human consumption were found during the said inspection;

(c) if so, whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard to fix responsibility;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the actions taken or proposed to be taken against the erring officials?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir. All the godowns of the Food Corporation of India (FCI) are inspected periodically and regularly at all levels. The Assistant Manager (Quality Control) invariably inspects godowns once in a month.

The Minister of State Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution also paid a surprise visit to Food Storage Depot, FCI at Phulwarisharif, Bihar on 21st July, 2005.

(b) The quantity of foodgrains and sugar, unfit for human consumption, detected and categorized as damaged, in the FCI godowns, as on 1.7.2005, are as under:

Damaged foodgrains	12,070 MT
Sugar	581 MT

The above stock position includes 314.5 MT of damaged foodgrains observed during the Minister's visit to the FCI depot at Phulwarisharif, Bihar.

(c) to (f) Detailed verification of the stocks at Phulwarisharif depot was carried out by the FCI Regional Office staff on 21st July, 2005 itself. The FCI has reported that the damaged stocks have been tendered and financial arrangements made by the successful tenderers. The release order to lift the stocks have also been issued and stocks are expected to be lifted by the tenderers shortly.

The Depot Officer and Assistant Manager (QC) have been placed under suspension and disciplinary action initiated against the delinquent officials. Further, directions have been issued to the FCI to conduct detailed inspection of all the FCI depots in Bihar.

[English]

Production of Phosphate

*220. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had set a target of 2.132 million tonnes for production of phosphate during April-November of 2004-05;

(b) if so, whether the production was below the target during the said period;

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

(d) whether phosphate is a raw material used in the production of phosphatic fertilizer;

(e) if so, whether India is largely dependent on imports of raw materials and intermediates for phosphatic and potassic fertilizer;

(f) if so, the total requirement of the said fertilizer for rabi crops; and

(g) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to meet the requirement of the country and also to improve its production?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Production target of phosphate from DAP was setup at 2.132 million tonnes for April-November 2004.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Main reason for production being lower than the target is limited availability of Phosphoric acid, the main raw material, in the international market.

(d) Rock phosphate is a raw material used in the production of phosphatic fertilizer.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Requirement/consumption/sale of DAP for last five years for Rabi Crops is as follows:

Year	Consumption/sale (in lakh MT)
2000-2001	31.41
2001-2002	33.06
2002-2003	31.43
2003-2004	33.13*
2004-2005	37.12*

*Sales.

(g) DAP is a decontrolled fertilizer and imports can be freely made. Further, Indian companies are entering into Joint ventures with foreign suppliers of raw materials to ensure smooth flow of raw material into the country. Besides, Department is maintaining buffer stocks of DAP & MOP in States at different places to meet exigencies.

Payment for Purchase of Raw Material

2097. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of different raw materials therapeutically-wise, which are converted to medicines in the country;

(b) whether these have been regularly monitored for pricing from availability angle during each of the last three years;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of the price paid by the Government for purchase of various medicines therapeutically by armed forces, Railways, ESI vis-à-vis maximum retail price of unscheduled medicines in the country during the said period;

(e) whether the percentage of these suppliers are from small scale pharma units vis-à-vis large unit; and

(f) if so, the steps taken by the Government to regulate unintended profits for sale of unscheduled drugs in the country?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) It is estimated that there are about 500-600 bulk drugs used in the country for manufacture of formulations (medicines). Many of them and the combinations thereof are used for more than one therapeutic use. Presently 74 bulk drugs specified in the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 and the formulations based thereon are under price control and their prices are fixed/monitored by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority.

(d) to (f) Bulk supplies made to various Organisations by the drug manufacturers are mostly based on the system of tendering or rate contract as per the Organisational/Government norms. The prices quoted by manufacturers for such formulations therefore are not directly linked to the retail price in the market generally. The number of formulations in various dosage forms and pack sizes manufactured in the country runs into thousands. Prices of non-scheduled formulations are fixed by the manufacturers themselves keeping in view various factors like cost of productions, marketing/selling expenses, trade commission, market competition, product quality etc. Even in the case of such non-scheduled formulations, the Government takes corrective measures where the public interest is found to be adversely affected.

A Committee under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (PI) in the Department was constituted to examine the span of price control (including trade margin) to suggest measures to ensure the availability of life saving drugs at reasonable prices. In its interim report, the Committee has recommended, *inter-alia*, intensive monitoring on the prices of all those drugs out of the selected basket (National List of Essential Medicines, 2003) which are not under price control, ceilings on trade margins of drugs, a system of price negotiations for the new patented drugs, special schemes for people below poverty line, introduction of Rajasthan Model of Life Line Fluid Stores (hospital pharmacy stores run by Medicare Societies) for bulk purchase of drugs directly from manufacturer and selling them at reduced prices, compounding of offences under the Essential Commodities Act, establishment of DPCO cells in all States on the model of Karnataka etc., efforts to increase public awareness, wide publicity to policies and decisions of the Government and NPPA etc. Follow up action has been initiated on the recommendations made by the Committee in its interim report.

A Task Force headed by Principal Adviser (PP), Planning Commission has been set up to examine options other than price control for making available essential and life saving drugs at reasonable prices. This Task Force is examining various options in this regard and would make suitable recommendations to the Government.

Peritoneal Dialysis Inexpensive

2098. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of types of dialysis solutions and cycling machine that are available in the country for Peritoneal Dialysis;

(b) whether there is no price control and patients are being exploited by multinationals; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to make peritoneal dialysis inexpensive?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Employment Exchanges

2099. SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:
SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:
SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL:
SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS:
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO:
DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

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

(a) the details of employment exchanges working in the country, State-wise as on date;

(b) the number of total job seekers registered in each employment exchange with their occupation;

(c) the number of handicapped/SCs/STs/OBCs persons out of them, exchange-wise; and

(d) the number of persons category-wise provided with employment through these exchanges during the last three years and current year, employment exchange-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) State-wise details of the number of employment exchanges as on 31-12-2004 and the number of physically handicapped, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes jobseekers, all the whom are not necessarily unemployed, registered with the employment exchanges as on 31-12-2003 are given in the statement-I enclosed. Employment exchange-wise data in respect of various categories are not maintained by the Ministry of Labour & Employment.

(c) Broad Occupation wise distribution of jobseekers as on 31-12-2001 (latest) is given in statement II enclosed.

(d) State-wise and category-wise placements effected by the employment exchanges during 2001, 2002 and 2003 are given in the statement-III enclosed.

Statement I

Sl.No.	State/Union Territories	Employment Exchanges as on 31.12.2004 (In Actual Number)	Number of job seekers as on 31.12.2003 (in thousand)			
			Physically Handicapped	Scheduled Castes	Scheduled Tribes	Other Backward Classes
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	31	88.9	600.2	151.8	934.2
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	10	0	0.3	11.9	0.2
3.	Assam	52	5.0	102.0	177.1	210.8
4.	Bihar	37	15.1	238.0	21.0	548.9
5.	Chhattisgarh	18	9.6	98.2	166.4	125.0
6.	Delhi	14	7.6	169.7	25.7	29.7
7.	Goa	1	0.8	2.4	0.3	7.8
8.	Gujarat	42	21.1	184.4	124.0	11.5
9.	Haryana	61	12.8	153.6	0	20.0
10.	Himachal Pradesh	15	10.4	179.8	26.3	42.2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	14	0.9	5.1	2.1	1.2
12.	Jharkhand	33	7.7	173.9	273.3	279.1
13.	Karnataka	40	31.1	293.7	68.8	44.0
14.	Kerala	86	43.4	506.9	29.2	1640.3
15.	Madhya Pradesh	58	23.2	305.5	393.4	240.8
16.	Maharashtra	46	46.7	680.3	168.2	804.6
17.	Manipur	11	1.7	6.4	130.7	0.3
18.	Meghalaya	11	0.1	0.1	27.6	0.1
19.	Mizoram	3	0.3	●	36.3	—
20.	Nagaland	7	1.4	0.2	41.9	●
21.	Orissa	40	10.6	126.6	90.1	56.7
22.	Punjab	46	10.7	148.3	—	8.4
23.	Rajasthan	42	26.4	147.2	90.1	128.0
24.	Sikkim*					
25.	Tamilnadu	34	70.9	1148.4	13.8	2534.7
26.	Tripura	5	2.0	62.5	62.4	10.5
27.	Uttaranchal	23	3.7	47.9	10.2	19.6
28.	Uttar Pradesh	84	26.8	431.9	5.5	345.3
29.	West Bengal	75	69.2	779.7	154.2	158.2
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1	0.6	—	—	—
31.	Chandigarh	2	1.1	16.3	0.1	1.2
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	●	0.2	0.9	—
33.	Daman and Diu	2	0.1	0.2	●	—
34.	Lakshadweep	1	0.1	—	6.4	—
35.	Pondicherry	1	1.7	18.0	0.1	28.8
	Total	947	551.8	6627.9	2309.9	8231.9

Notes:- *No Employment Exchange is functioning in this State.

Figures may not add up to total due to rounding off.

—NIL,

● Figures less than fifty.

Statement II

State-wise Number of Job-Seekers on the Live Register of Employment Exchanges Classified by Broad Occupational Group As on 31st December 2001 (Latest)

(In Thousands)

Sl.No.	State/Union Territories	Professional Technical & related workers	Administrative executive and managerial workers	Clerical & related workers	Sales workers	Service workers	Farmers fishermen hunters & related workers	Production & related workers transport equipment Labourers	Workers not classified by any occupation	Total Live Register \$
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
(A) States										
1.	Andhra Pradesh	313.6	0.4	343.1	0.3	7.4	4.5	341.7	2147.2	3158.2
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.5	—	0.8	—	0.1	0	0.6	19.1	22.1
3.	Assam	14.2	0	6.7	0.5	4.9	0.1	26.1	1434.0	1485.5
4.	Bihar	57.9	0.2	59.2	100.2	11.6	1.7	53.5	1497.6	1781.9
5.	Chhattisgarh	36.4	0.5	20.0	0	1.3	0.2	52.5	683.4	794.3
6.	Delhi	240.7	0	49.2	0.2	1.4	6.4	124.9	583.5	1006.3
7.	Goa	7.3	0.1	16.3	0.1	2.5	0.1	13.1	63.8	103.3
8.	Gujarat	120.9	0.7	62.3	0	12.4	2.3	187.8	708.5	1094.9
9.	Haryana	70.4	0.2	53.6	0.2	27.8	2.9	51.8	462.6	669.5
10.	Himachal Pradesh	108.2	1.0	47.7	0.1	11.5	3.8	71.6	654.2	896.1
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	8.7	0.2	3.2	—	5.6	0.2	48.3	97.5	163.7
12.	Jharkhand	78.9	0.8	73.6	0.3	46.7	6.0	132.5	1144.1	1482.9
13.	Karnataka	241.8	0.5	197.8	0.1	5.2	9.5	163.3	1421.7	2039.9
14.	Kerala	286.6	16.4	742.3	1.9	40.3	27.9	230.1	3061.6	4407.2
15.	Madhya Pradesh	58.1	0.3	33.6	0	11.7	0.5	624.8	1085.5	1814.5
16.	Maharashtra	203.9	1.7	254.3	0.9	39.4	16.3	215.7	3691.0	4423.2
17.	Manipur	3.7	0.1	0.4	0	0	0.1	1.3	399.9	405.5
18.	Meghalaya	4.4	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	6.6	16.5	38.5
19.	Mizoram	0.3	0	0.1	0	0	0	34.7	49.5	84.6
20.	Nagaland	0.6	0	0.3	0	0	0	0.5	36.2	37.6

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
21.	Orissa	122.9	0.4	22.8	⊙	5.0	0.7	44.8	711.8	908.5
22.	Punjab	183.0	0.1	18.2	⊙	23.4	1.7	49.7	260.5	536.7
23.	Rajasthan	52.0	0.2	67.4	⊙	4.9	0.3	334.4	299.3	758.5
24.	Sikkim*									
25.	Tamil Nadu	1030.0	4.2	387.1	1.6	70.3	13.4	459.1	2959.6	4925.5
26.	Tripura	4.1	0.8	0.4	⊙	1.3	0.1	3.9	316.2	326.8
27.	Uttaranchal	11.2	0.1	3.5	0.2	1.8	0.2	5.6	304.7	327.2
28.	Uttar Pradesh	154.9	3.2	39.2	0.2	41.4	0.8	128.8	1480.7	1849.1
29.	West Bengal	210.6	0.4	197.7	0.7	187.8	3.9	430.2	5131.2	6162.6
(B) Union Territories										
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	34.5	34.5
31.	Chandigarh	13.1	0.2	4.1	⊙	5.1	0.2	6.7	59.7	89.1
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5.4	5.4
33.	Daman and Diu	1.4	⊙	1.0	0	⊙	⊙	0.9	4.5	7.7
34.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11.2	11.2
35.	Pondicherry	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	142.2	142.2
Total		3639.3	34.9	2708.1	109.7	573.0	106.0	3845.5	30978.9	41996.0

Note: *No Employment Exchange is functioning in this State.

Figures may not add up to total due to rounding off.

—Nil.

⊙ Figures less than fifty.

Statement III

Placements Effected by the Employment Exchanges in Respect of Physically Handicapped, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes & Other Backward Classes for the Years 2001-2003

(In Actual Number)

State/UTs	Physically Handicapped			Scheduled Castes		
	2001	2002	2003	2001	2002	2003
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	25	224	351	628	879	885
Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	5	3	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Assam	18	—	1	74	24	32
Bihar	7	9	8	69	62	83
Chhattisgarh	—	—	10	30	126	108
Delhi	5	11	9	8	6	38
Goa	3	—	1	19	4	10
Gujarat	473	447	408	6564	5513	5026
Haryana	11	7	1	170	136	115
Himachal Pradesh	52	17	24	365	391	213
Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—	—	3	—
Jharkhand	1	—	—	12	80	81
Karnataka	89	140	56	614	599	528
Kerala	1223	1049	1194	1623	1461	1230
Madhya Pradesh	7	12	25	354	284	525
Maharashtra	158	153	167	2329	1467	2827
Manipur	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meghalaya	1	5	—	2	—	2
Mizoram	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nagaland	—	—	—	—	—	1
Orissa	25	27	14	442	305	206
Punjab	41	17	11	277	221	374
Rajasthan	149	91	107	235	190	351
Sikkim*	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu	1057	970	1284	3084	2274	3744
Tripura	7	—	4	114	98	98
Uttaranchal	1	7	5	178	756	361
Uttar Pradesh	15	22	21	729	572	570
West Bengal	110	131	137	1809	1495	1514
(B) Union Territories						
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	—	1	1	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chandigarh	13	20	21	140	23	191
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	—	6	—	—	—	—
Daman and Diu	—	—	—	2	2	—
Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pondicherry	—	1	—	44	148	50
Total	3491	3367	3660	19920	17122	19163

State/UTs	Scheduled Tribes			Other Backward Classes		
	2001	2002	2003	2001	2002	2003
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	351	841	240	587	565	642
Arunachal Pradesh	10	121	—	4	—	—
Assam	90	19	35	210	37	103
Bihar	4	3	11	42	104	159
Chhattisgarh	173	218	356	82	259	97
Delhi	2	4	9	5	41	78
Goa	—	—	1	86	72	14
Gujarat	5372	4043	3924	110	276	236
Haryana	—	—	—	12	10	15
Himachal Pradesh	95	114	79	151	202	97
Jammu & Kashmir	—	1	—	—	—	—
Jharkhand	5	305	50	257	510	19
Karnataka	207	196	159	203	176	153
Kerala	189	170	121	4787	3869	3879
Madhya Pradesh	761	253	423	325	425	318
Maharashtra	856	477	1019	2211	1561	3155
Manipur	—	3	—	—	—	—
Meghalaya	39	151	30	4	2	—
Mizoram	21	7	16	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Nagaland	3	56	53	—	—	—
Orissa	135	240	247	206	114	149
Punjab	—	—	—	55	29	44
Rajasthan	56	112	178	181	131	362
Sikkim*	—	81	—	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu	47	—	412	6587	3053	6104
Tripura	16	95	250	11	19	51
Uttaranchal	3	31	31	100	328	287
Uttar Pradesh	3	15	30	843	409	257
West Bengal	223	408	238	518	536	681
(B) Union Territories						
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chandigarh	—	1	1	62	62	73
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	—	—	—	—	—	—
Daman and Diu	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pondicherry	—	1	—	83	533	104
Total	4255	7966	8013	17722	13323	17077

- Note:
1. *No Employment Exchange is functioning in this State.
 2. Figures may not add up to total due to rounding off.
 5. —Nil.
 6. @Figures less than fifty.

Rehabilitation Package for Tribals

2100. SHRIMATI KALPNA RAMESH NARHIRE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States where rehabilitation package for tribals of forest areas are proposed to be provided by the Government;

(b) the number of States where tribals of the forest areas have benefited under the scheme; and

(c) the total amount allocated by the Government under the scheme during the current financial year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Ministry of Environment and Forests is not implementing any rehabilitation package for tribals. However, funds are provided for relocation of villages including tribal villages from Protected Areas/Project Tiger Reserves, under "Project Tiger Scheme". These funds are provided for site-specific proposals submitted by the State Governments.

(b) Six States namely, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Orissa, Karnataka and Arunachal Pradesh, have been provided financial assistance under the scheme. During Tenth Five Year Plan, an amount of Rs. 1768.83 lakh has been allocated to these States till the end of last financial year.

(c) During current financial year, no funds have been allocated so far for relocation of villages.

Loans for Agro Processing Projects of Cooperative Sector

2101. SHRI SITA RAM SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of loans sanctioned and released for several agro-processing projects of cooperative sector and the schemes implemented by the National Cooperative Development Corporation during 2004-05, State-wise;

(b) the details of financed projects in Bihar during the last two years; and

(c) the details of sanctioned amount related to the Government sector and the proposal pending for clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) State-wise details of funds sanctioned and released for agro-processing projects during 2004-05 is given in Statement-I enclosed.

(b) During the year 2003-04 the total sanctioned amount was Rs. 27.12 lakhs and release was Rs. 863.12 lakhs (including release from spillover projects) and in the year 2004-05 the total sanctioned amount was Rs. 121.49 lakhs and release was Rs. 1487.78 lakhs (including release for spillover projects) for Cold Storage, Integrated Cooperative Development Project and Capital Investment Subsidy Cold Storage (NHB) in the State of Bihar.

(c) The details of sanctioned amount and proposal pending with National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) are given in statement-II enclosed.

Statement I

State-wise details of funds sanctioned and released for Agro-Processing Project in 2004-05

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State	Activity	Amount sanctioned	Amount released
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Sugar Mills	9600.00	9600.00
		Foodgrains	112.04	
2.	Gujarat	Sugar Mills	13400.00	1512.65
3.	Karnataka	Sugar Mills	3200.00	2827.29
4.	Kerala	Spinning Mills including powerlooms	2616.30	2083.00
		Plantation Crops	50.3433	
5.	Madhya Pradesh	Spinning Mills including powerlooms	1500.00	1100.00
6.	Maharashtra	Sugar Mills, working capital finance	1486.90	1459.93 1500.00
				1660.47 (SDF)

1	2	3	4	5
		Food grains,	222.85	
		Fruit & Vegetables	328.50	
		Spinning Mills		5245.29
		Weavers Cooperative Mills		1125.00
		Other Processing Units		2185.09
		Powerloom Units		2440.75
7.	Meghalaya	Plantation Crops	13.30	6.65
8.	Orissa	Spinning Mills	—	9.50
9.	Rajasthan	Spinning Mills including powerlooms	4046.54	1485.37
10.	Tamil Nadu	Sugar Mills	8620.00	8620.00
11.	Uttar Pradesh	Sugar Mills	6000.00	400.00
12.	West Bengal	Spinning Mills	—	15.30
13.	Chhattisgarh	Sugar Mills	3047.00	—

Statement II

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State	Scheme	Activity	Amount Sanctioned		Details of proposals pending with NCDC
				2003-04	2004-05	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Central Sector Scheme	Rice Mill ICDP Livestock	— 2.75	112.04 —	Proposal under process
2.	Gujarat	Gramin Bhandran Yojana	Godowns Storage	105.70	143.81	Proposal under process
3.	Karnataka	Central Sponsored Scheme for Growers and Weavers Coop Spinning Mills.	Processing (Spinning- Rehabilitation)	855.00	—	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Gramin Bhandaran Yojana	Godowns	3.15	49.71	
4.	Kerala	Central Sector Scheme	ICDP	109.00	—	
		Credit linked Capital investment subsidy	Godowns (Tribal)	—	2.225	
		Gramin Bhandaran Yojana	Godowns	20.79	18.88	
5.	Madhya Pradesh	Gramin Bhandaran Yojana	Godowns	143.98	10.50	
6.	Maharashtra	Gramin Bhandaran Yojana	Godowns Storage	2087.20	—	Proposal under process
7.	Meghalaya	Central Sector Scheme	Spices Processing	—	13.30	
			Dairy	—	25.70	
		Gramin Bhandaran Yojana	Godowns	—	13.50	
8.	Orissa	Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Growers and Weavers Coop. Spinning Mills	Processing (Working Capital for G & P Unit)	200.00	—	
			Fruit & Vegetables			Proposal under process
9.	Rajasthan	Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Growers and Weavers Coop. Spinning Mills.	Processing (Spinning-Rehabilitation of 2 Units)	—	4046.54	
		Gramin Bhandaran Yojana	Godowns	11.75	4.13	
		Central Sector Scheme	Dairy	—	76.46	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10.	Tamil Nadu	Central Sector Scheme	ICDP	2.50	—	
		Gramin Bhandaran Yojana	Godown Storage	—	53.97	Proposal under process
11.	Uttar Pradesh	Central Sector Scheme	ICDP	—	8.50	
		Gramin Bhandaran Yojana	Godowns Storage	1918.49	—	Proposal under process
12.	West Bengal	Central Sector Scheme	Fisheries Poultry ICDP	788.97 61.00 0.90	829.77 — —	Proposal under process
13.	Chhattisgarh	Gramin Bhandaran Yojana	Godowns	174.15	—	
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	Central Sector Scheme	Poultry ICDP	— 206.00	391.50 —	
		Gramin Bhandaran Yojana	Godowns	28.80	—	
15.	Manipur	Central Sector Scheme	Poultry Dairy Livestock	—	69.60	Proposal under process
16.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Central Sector Scheme	Tribal Development	—	27.522	
17.	Uttaranchal	Central Sector Scheme	ICDP	6.45	—	
		Gramin Bhandaran Yojana	Godowns	36.00	13.50	
18.	Assam	Gramin Bhandaran Yojana	Godowns	—	8.00	
19.	Himachal Pradesh	Gramin Bhandaran Yojana	Godowns	—	24.00	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
20.	Delhi	Gramin Bhandran Yojana	Godowns	15.00	—	
21	Punjab	Gramin Bhandran Yojana	Godowns	—	274.74	
22.	Haryana	Gramin Bhandaran Yojana	Godowns	—	76.22	

Rehabilitation of Child Labour

2102. SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE
PATIL:
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO:
DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:

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

(a) the details of programmes started by the Government for rehabilitation of child labourers engaged in hazardous industries in the country particularly in Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand;

(b) whether the Government has sanctioned any funds for the purpose during the current year;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of the welfare measures being implemented by the Union Government in the interest of the child labour; and

(e) the extent to which these measures have been successful?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) With a view to rehabilitate children withdrawn from hazardous occupations and processes, Government is implementing National Child Labour Project Scheme in 250 districts across 21 States of the country including 13 districts of Maharashtra, 41 districts of Uttar Pradesh and 9 districts of Jharkhand. Under the Scheme, special schools are set up for the child labour to provide bridging education before they are mainstreamed into the regular school education system.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Statement is enclosed.

(d) National Child Labour Project Scheme is the main scheme for the rehabilitation of child labour. Under the Scheme, Special Schools/Rehabilitation Centres are set-up for the rehabilitation of child labour, which provide following facilities to the children withdrawn from employment:

- formal/non-formal education,
- vocational training,
- supplementary nutrition @ Rs. 5/-per child,
- stipend @ Rs. 100/-per month to children withdrawn from employment,
- Health care facilities.

(e) The progress of these special schools is monitored through regular inspections and returns and the results of these efforts are found quite successful.

Statement

State-wise release of funds during the year 2005-06
(As on 30.7.2005)

Sl.No.	State	Fund Released During 2005-06
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	123076664
2.	Assam	12468000
3.	Bihar	17152500
4.	Chhattisgarh	29668000

1	2	3
5.	Gujarat	859000
6.	Haryana	1718000
7.	Jharkhand	17551000
8.	Karnataka	20090400
9.	Madhya Pradesh	27688200
10.	Maharashtra	8612600
11.	Orissa	81371400
12.	Punjab	9158400
13.	Rajasthan	49238700
14.	Tamil Nadu	58699800
15.	Uttar Pradesh	16401000
16.	Uttaranchal	592000
17.	West Bengal	56266500
Total		530612164

[English]

Use of High Yielding and Hybrid Varieties

2103. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Council for Agricultural Research's high yielding and hybrid varieties are used by farmers;

(b) if so, whether coupled with poor extension services, the inability of ICAR and other public sector research organisations to reach the farmers effectively, forces the Government to rely on the private sector;

(c) if so, whether the processes like hybridisation are the technological means that stop seed from reproducing itself;

(d) whether hybrid varieties do not produce true-to-type seed and farmers must return to the breeder each year for new seed stock; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The role of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is primarily to produce breeder seed. The production of foundation and certified seed is through State agencies and in this respect ICAR has been able to produce breeder seed as per the requirement of the Government and often in excess of the requirement placed. The Government continues to sponsor seed produced in the public system.

(c) The harvest of a hybrid crop does not produce true to the type seed in the next generation because of segregation. The Government of India has not allowed any terminator technology, which hinders the seed from reproducing itself.

(d) and (e) It is known that the hybrids give the best performance in its 1st generation and latter on segregates. The next generations do not produce the same yield and therefore, farmers have to purchase hybrid seeds every year.

Water Level in Delhi

2104. SHRI TUKARAM GANGADHAR GADAKH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of lower water level in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether the water level has gone deep due to unplanned digging and installing submersible pumps;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government proposes to adopt scientific water management system as per other developed countries to provide adequate water to Delhi; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Ground water levels in various parts of Delhi have declined due to various reasons including

increased withdrawals of ground water for meeting demands for various uses, reduced natural recharge due to non availability of open land because of urbanizations etc. As per water level data collected by Central Ground Water Board, the water levels have registered significant decline (more than 20 cm per year) during the last decade 1995-2005 in South, South West, North West and New Delhi districts.

(d) and (e) Delhi Jal Board has informed that in order to manage distribution of water in Delhi, measures like bulk/consumer metering, digitising of maps of transmission/distribution system, rehabilitation of transmission and distribution system and adoption of Management Information System (MIS), use of modern leak detection equipments and water auditing etc., are being adopted. They have also informed that production capacity is being increased in a phased manner to meet the rising demand. To deal with the situation of depleting ground water levels, Central Ground Water Authority have notified South & South-West districts of Delhi for regulation of ground water development and management. Further, Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) is promoting the adoption of rain water harvesting and artificial recharge of ground water. In this regard, CGWB organizes mass awareness programmes, training programmes and provides technical guidance on the design of rain water harvesting structures.

Operation of Five Star Hotels

2105. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether operation of a five star hotel comes under the purview of industrial activities in Delhi/New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of hotels situated within five kilometres of Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi, category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) All hotels including five star ones in the country are regulated by the rules, regulations and laws of the State Governments/Union Territories concerned and Central Governments.

(c) The following hotels are located within five kilometres of Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Radisson Hotel Delhi | 5 Star Deluxe |
| 2. Uppal's Orchid | 5 Star |
| 3. Centaur Hotel | 5 Star |

[Translation]

Scarcity of Water

2106. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO:
SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE
PATIL:
DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any intensive survey has been conducted in the country particularly in districts of Jharkhand and Maharashtra to ascertain the reasons of falling water level;

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

(c) whether any action plan has been formulated to tackle the problem of scarcity of sources of water for irrigation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) A long-term analysis of ground water levels by Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), under the Ministry of Water Resources, during the years 1995-2004, indicates decline in ground water levels in some parts of districts of various States including the States of Jharkhand and Maharashtra of the country. The names of these States/districts having pockets of declining water level in the last 10 years (1995-2004) are given in Statement enclosed. The main reasons for decline in ground water level are rapid pace of urbanization, increasing demand for agricultural, industrial and domestic purposes, change in cropping pattern, excessive withdrawals of ground water, poor rainfall etc.

(c) and (d) 'Water' being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to formulate plans for augmenting water resources. The CGWB has prepared a report entitled "Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water" which envisages recharge of 36453 Million Cubic Meter volume of surplus monsoon runoff, through construction of 39.25 lakhs artificial recharge and roof top rain water harvesting structures. The CGWB has implemented a Central Sector Scheme for Study of Recharge to Ground Water in the country during the VIII & IX Five Year Plans. The CGWB has also proposed a Scheme at an estimated cost of Rs. 175 crores for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water and Rainwater Harvesting during the remaining period of the X Five Year Plan.

In addition to the above, following steps have also been taken:

- (i) Circulation of Model Bill in the year 1970 which was re-circulated in 1992 and again in 1996 to all the States/Union Territories to enable them to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development. A revised Model Bill, 2005 to regulate and control the

development and management of ground water has been again circulated to all the States/Union Territories.

- (ii) Circulation of Manual/Guidelines on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend of ground water levels.
- (iii) The Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) constituted under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 has notified 11 critical areas on consideration of over-exploitation of ground water resources and 32 over-exploited areas for registration of ground water structures.
- (iv) Water conservation campaign has been launched keeping in view the various target groups like youth and children, women, farmers and villagers, policy and opinion makers. Publicity through print media, telecasting of spots on the television, broadcasting messages on radio, holding of seminars, workshops, conferences etc., have been undertaken for the purpose.

Statement

Name of Districts showing fall of water level (in parts) in last 10 years (1995-2004) during Pre-Monsoon period

Sl.No.	State/ Union Territory	Districts showing declining trends (more than 20 cm per year)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Adilabad, Anantapur, Chittoor, Cuddapah, East Godavari, Guntur, Hyderabad, Karimnagar, Khammam, Krishna, Kurnool, Mahbubnagar, Medak, Nalgonda, Nellore, Nizamabad, Prakasam, Ranga Reddy, Srikakulam, Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram, Warangal, West Godavari
2.	Assam	Jorhat, Nagaon, Sonitpur
3.	Bihar	Bhagalpur, East Champaran, Munger, Muzaffarpur, Navada, Saharsa, Saran
4.	Chhattisgarh	Bastar, Bilaspur, Dhamtari, Durg, Janjgir-champa, Kanker, Kawardah, Koriya, Mahasamund, Raigarh, Raipur, Rajnandgaon, Surguja
5.	Delhi	New Delhi, North West, South, South West
6.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad, Amreli, Banashkantha, Bharuch, Bhavnagar, Dangs, Gandhinagar, Jamnagar, Junagarh, Kheda, Kutch, Mehsana, Panchmahal, Rajkot, Sabarkantha, Surat, Surendranagar, Vadodara, Valsad

1	2	3
7.	Haryana	Ambala, Bhiwani, Faridabad, Fatehabad, Gurgaon, Hissar, Jhajjar, Jind, Kaithal, Karnal, Kurukshetra, Mahendragarh, Panipat, Rewari, Rohtak, Sirsa, Sonapat
8.	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra, Kullu, Mandi, Sirmur, Solan, Una
9.	Jharkhand	Dhanbad, Dumka, Hazaribagh, Lohardaga, Paschim Singhbhum, Palamu, Purvi Singhbhum, Ranchi
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	Jammu, Kathua, Rajouri, Udhampur
11.	Karnataka	Bagalkot, Bangalore, Belgaum, Bellary, Bidar, Bijapur, Chamrajnagar, Chikmagalur, Chitradurga, Coorg, Dakshin Kannada, Dharwad, Gadag, Gulbarga, Hassan, Haveri, Kolar, Koppal, Mandya, Mysore, Raichur, Shimoga, Tumkur, Udupi, Uttar Kannada
12.	Kerala	Idduki, Kannor, Kasargod, Kollam, Kottayam, Mallapuram, Palakkad, Thiruvananthapuram, Thrissur, Wayanad
13.	Madhya Pradesh	Barwani, Balaghat, Betul, Bhind, Bhopal, Chhatarpur, Chhindwara, Damoh, Datia, Dewas, Dhar, Dindhori, Guna, Gwalior, Harda, Hoshangabad, Indore, Jabalpur, Jhabua, Katni, Khandwa, Mandsaur, Morena, Mandla, Narsinghpur, Neemuch, Panna, Raisen, Rajgarh, Ratlam, Rewa, Sagar, Satna, Sehore, Seoni, Shahdol, Shajapur, Sheopur, Shivpuri, Sidhi, Tikamgarh, Ujjain, Umaria, Vidisha, West Nimar
14.	Maharashtra	Ahmadnagar, Akola, Amravati, Aurangabad, Beed, Bhandara, Buldana, Chandrapur, Dhule, Gadchiroli, Gondia, Hingoli, Jalgaon, Jalna, Kolhapur, Latur, Mumbai, Nagpur, Nanded, Nandurbar, Nashik, Osmanabad, Parbhani, Pune, Raigad, Ratnagiri, Sangli, Satara, Sindhudurg, Solapur, Thane, Wardha, Washim, Yavatmal
15.	Orissa	Angul, Baleswar, Bargarh, Cuttack, Dhenkanal, Ganjam, Jaipur, Jharsuguda, Kalahandi, Koraput, Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj, Nawapara, Phulbani, Puri, Rayagada, Sambalpur, Sundargarh
16.	Punjab	Amritsar, Bhatinda, Faridkot, Fatehgarh, Ferozepur, Gurdaspur, Hoshiarpur, Jalandhar, Karpurthala, Ludhiana, Mansa, Moga, Nawashahar, Patiala, Ropar, Sangrur
17.	Rajasthan	Ajmer, Alwar, Banswara, Baran, Barmer, Bharatpur, Bhilwara, Bikaner, Bundi, Chittorgarh, Churu, Dausa, Dholpur, Dungarpur, Hanumangarh, Jaipur, Jaisalmer, Jalore, Jhalawar, Jhunjhunu, Jodhpur, Karauli, Kota, Nagaur, Pali, Rajsamand, Sawaimadhopur, Sikar, Sirohi, Tonk, Udaipur
18.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai, Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Dharmapuri, Dindigul, Erode, Kancheepuram, Kanyakumari, Karaikal, Karur, Madurai, Namakkal, Nilgiri, Perambalur, Ramanathapuram, Salem, Sivaganga, Thanjavur, Theni, Tiruchirappali, Tirunelveli, Thiruvallur, Tiruvannamalai, Tuticorin, Vellore, Vellupuram, Virudhanagar
19.	Uttar Pradesh	Agra, Aligarh, Allahabad, Auraiya, Azamgarh, Badaun, Baghpat, Ballia, Bijnore, Chandauli, Chitrakoot, Deoria, Etawah, Fatehpur, Gautam Budh Nagar, Ghaziabad, Gonda, Hamirpur, Hathras, Jalaun, Jhansi, Kanpur Dehat, Kanpur Nagar, Lakhimpur Kheri, Lalitpur, Lucknow, Mahoba, Mathura, Meerut, Mirzapur, Pratapgarh, Saharanpur, Sitapur, Sultanpur, Unnao
20.	Uttaranchal	Dehradun, Haridwar

1	2	3
21.	West Bengal	Bankura, Bardhaman, Birbhum, Haora, Hugli, East Medinipur, Malda, Murshidabad, Puruliya, South Twenty four Parganas, West Medinipur
22.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Dadra & Nagar Haveli
23.	Pondicherry	Pondicherry

Project Tiger

2107. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the date on which the Project Tiger was launched;
- (b) the main objectives behind launching this project;
- (c) whether the project tiger has not been successful in achieving its objective;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the further steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Project Tiger was launched on 1st April, 1973.

(b) The objective of the project is to ensure maintenance of a viable population of tigers in India for scientific, economic, aesthetic, cultural and ecological values, and to preserve for all times, areas of biological importance as a national heritage for the benefit, education and enjoyment of the people.

(c) No Sir. Project Tiger has put the endangered tiger on an assured course of recovery within the designated reserves.

(d) Question does not arise.

(e) The Government of India has taken several measures for tiger conservation, which are given in Statement enclosed.

Statement

1. Ongoing Funding Schemes:

Funding and technical help are provided to States under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of "Project Tiger",

"Assistance to National Parks & Sanctuaries" and "Project Elephant" for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of States to provide effective protection to wild animals including tiger.

2. Legal Measures Taken:

- (i) Legal protection has been provided to wild animals under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, which has been amended and made more stringent.
- (ii) The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders.

3. Administrative and other Measures:

- (i) A National Wildlife Action Plan (2002-16) has been adopted by the Indian Board for Wildlife under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister in January 2002, which outlines the strategy for conservation and protection of wildlife in the country.
- (ii) Government of India has set-up regional and subregional offices for wildlife preservation in major export and trade centres of the country to prevent smuggling of wild animals and their products.

4. International Conventions:

India is signatory to many international conventions relating to biodiversity conservation and control of illegal trade in wild flora and fauna.

5. Bilateral Agreements:

India has bilateral agreements with Nepal and China for controlling trans-boundary illegal trade in wildlife.

6. Global Tiger Forum:

A Global Tiger Forum of tiger range countries has been created for addressing international issues relating to tiger conservation.

7. Initiatives Taken for eliciting public support:

- Complementary inputs for Eco-development and voluntary village relocation provided earlier in separate projects have now been merged with Project Tiger as an "Umbrella Scheme".
- Under the externally aided "India Eco-development Project", as many as 572 eco-development committees have been formed in seven Protected Areas (which included six Tiger Reserves) covering 75,600 families, to reduce the dependency of local people on Protected Area resources, with reciprocal commitments. An amount of Rs. 15,892.30 lakhs has been provided to States for 6 Tiger Reserves till the completion of this Project in 2004.

8. Constitution of Task Force:

A five member Task Force has been constituted for reviewing the management of Tiger Reserves and to make various measures for improvement.

9. Other Initiatives Taken:

- Eight more potential sites have been identified for Project Tiger coverage.
- "Project Allowance" has been provided under the scheme to field staff working in tiger reserves.
- Regional Monitoring of Tiger Reserves has been undertaken by a group of experts as per the normative standards of the Ministry.
- 100% Central Assistance is provided for deploying anti-poaching strike squads in Tiger Reserves, apart from expenditure relating to research, veterinary, monitoring and evaluation, compensation to the legal heir of staff/person killed while performing duty, and for monitoring of tiger population.
- Information and communication technology is under use for linking important tiger reserves in the GIS Domain for evolving a management support system and crime detection, dissemination of information through web and

evolving a 'National Tiger Monitoring and Habitat Evaluation System' with regional protocols.

- The allocation under Project Tiger has been enhanced from Rs. 7500 lakhs in the IX Plan to Rs. 15,000 lakhs in the X Plan.
- Country level appraisal of habitat fragmentation has been done to facilitate restorative inputs.

[English]

Polluting Industrial Units

2108. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:
SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:
SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:
SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI:
SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL:
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:
SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:
SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN:

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

(a) the number of industrial units causing water and air pollution in the country;

(b) whether the Government has registered any case under relevant acts against those industrial units;

(c) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and current year, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to rehabilitate the affected employees as a result of closure/shifting of such units?

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

[Translation]

Proposal to Sustain Ghana National Park

2109. SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD:
SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI:

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

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal to sustain the Ghana National Birds Sanctuary located at Bharatpur;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which this proposal is likely to be approved by the Government; and

(d) the reasons for delay in the approval of this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Every year, the State Government of Rajasthan submits Annual Plan of Operation (APO) for financial assistance for development of Keoladeo National Park under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries". The funds released during the last three years as follows-

Year	Rs. in Lakhs
2002-2003	27.50
2003-2004	17.31
2004-2005	52.92

In addition project proposal for dedicated pipeline for supply of water to Keoladeo National Park received in the Ministry has been submitted to the Planning Commission.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

[English]

Task Force on Flood Management

2110. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Task Force on Flood Management has recommended construction of reservoirs in Assam and catchment areas of Brahmaputra to control the perennial floods in Assam and other parts of North-East; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the estimated cost involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Task Force has recommended that the Long-term solution to the flood problems of Assam, North Bihar & Eastern Uttar Pradesh from the annual floods lies in creating storage reservoirs of adequate capacity with the requisite allocated flood cushion on the Brahmaputra, its tributaries, the Barak, and the tributaries of Ganga whether in India or in Nepal. As regards the catchment area the Task Force has recommended that the catchment management/treatment plans undertaken/proposed to be undertaken by different development authorities and the States should be integrated and incorporated in the watershed management plans.

(b) The details of the schemes/projects identified as long term measures on river Brahmaputra and its tributaries are given in statement enclosed. The costs involved in the above suggested measures have not been estimated by the Task Force.

Statement

Details of the schemes/projects identified as long term measures on river Brahmaputra and its tributaries

The major tributaries of the Brahmaputra, which contribute significantly to its flow, are Siang (37.45 per cent), Subansiri (10.66 per cent), Lohit (9.50 per cent), Dibang (7.65 per cent) and Kameng (5.84 per cent). As per the Master Plan prepared by the Brahmaputra Board, the permanent solution to the perpetual problems of Assam from the annual floods in Brahmaputra lies in creating storage reservoirs of adequate capacity with the requisite allocated flood storage capacity on the tributaries of Brahmaputra. Major tributaries of Brahmaputra and the storage schemes on them were identified as under:

1. Siang River: Siang basin projects in Arunachal Pradesh with proposed reservoirs of 20,000 million cubic metre gross capacity (approx). This includes three projects namely Siang Upper, Siang Middle and Siang Lower which came up as alternative to single dam project.
2. Subansiri River: Subansiri basin Projects in Arunachal Pradesh with

proposed reservoirs of 4800 million cubic metre gross capacity (approx). This includes three projects namely Subansiri Upper, Subansiri Middle and Subansiri Lower which came up as alternative to single dam project.

3. **Dibang River:** Dibang Dam Project in Arunachal Pradesh with a proposed reservoir of 3600 million cubic metre gross capacity (approx).
4. **Lohit River:** Lohit Dam project in Arunachal Pradesh with a proposed reservoir of 5100 million cubic metre gross capacity (approx).

In addition, there are many other schemes on other tributaries of the Brahmaputra, details of which are given in table below:

Tributary	Main River	Gross Storage (mcm)
Noa-Dehing	Brahmaputra	57
Jiadhal	Brahmaputra	1344
Dikrong	Brahmaputra	—
Kameng	Jiabharali	6500*
Dhansiri (S)	Brahmaputra	1500*
Pagladiya	Brahmaputra	313
Manas	Brahmaputra	920*
Aie	Brahmaputra	—
Killing	Brahmaputra	58
Kulsi	Brahmaputra	795
Dikhu	Brahmaputra	1000*
Dhansiri (N)	Brahmaputra	—
Janji	Brahmaputra	300*
Kopilli-Kollong	Brahmaputra	1620*

*Storage potential as indicated in the Master Plan.

Project Funded by Foreign Countries

2111. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of agricultural projects being funded/proposed to be funded by the foreign countries in the country particularly in Kamataka, State-wise;

(b) the present status of each such ongoing agricultural project, State-wise;

(c) whether any fresh projects seeking external assistance have been received from any State Governments, especially from Kamataka Government; and

(d) if so, the details of the same and the response 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 (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Adventure Tourism

2112. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (MOHANLAL GANJ): Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are taking any steps to promote adventurous tourism in the country particularly in Uttaranchal;

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

(c) the amount allocated/released to the State Governments during the current year for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Tourism assists infrastructural project proposals of the State Governments/UT Administrations for development of tourist places through Central Financial Assistance, in consultation with them based on the inter-se priority, merit and availability of funds in a particular financial year, in the country under the following schemes:

1. Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits

2. Product/Infrastructure and Destination Development
3. Assistance for Large Revenue Generating Projects

A project for Purchase of Winter Sports equipments for Development of Winter Tourism in Dayara-Bugyal Circuit in Uttaranchal has been sanctioned for Central Financial Assistance of Rs. 134.41 lakh with release of first instalment of Rs. 107.52 lakh during the current financial year.

Irrigated Land

2113. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of unirrigated land in Uttar Pradesh at the end of Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(b) the area of additional land likely to be irrigated in the State by the end of the Tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) As per the information provided by the Ministry of Agriculture, the Net Sown Area in Uttar Pradesh was estimated as 16.81 million hectare at the end of Ninth Five Year Plan, out of which unirrigated land was 4.42 million hectare.

(b) The State Government has indicated the target

for creation of irrigation potential of 1.00 million hectare under major & medium and 3.62 million hectare under minor irrigation.

[English]

Review of Child Labour Project

2114. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of National Child Labour Projects set up in the country so far, State-wise;

(b) whether any step is being taken to review the activities of these Child Labour Projects of the States including Orissa; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) The National Child Labour Projects Scheme has been expanded to cover 250 districts. State-wise list of these projects is given in the Statement.

(b) and (c) The progress of the National Child Labour Projects are constantly being reviewed by the Government through inspections, periodical returns and review meetings. During 2005, the reviews of these projects were conducted at the regional level in order to augment the pace of implementation of these Projects.

Statement

Sl.No.	Name of the States	Name of the Districts
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Anantapur, Chittoor, Guddapah, East Godavari, Guntur, Hyderabad, Karimnagar, Karnool, Medak, Nalgonda, Khammam, Nellore, Nizamabad, Prakasam, Rangareddy, Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Vishakhapatnam, Warangal, West Godavari, Mehbubnagar, Adilabad and Krishna (23 districts)
2.	Bihar	Nalanda, Saharsa, Jamui, Katihar, Araria, Gaya, East Champaran, West Champaran, Madhepura, Patna, Supaul, Samastipur, Madhubani, Darbhanga, Muzaffarpur, Nawada, Khagaria, Sitamarhi, Kishanganj, Begusarai, Banka, Saran, Purnia and Bhagalpur (24 districts)
3.	Jharkhand	Garwah, Sahibganj, Dumka, Pakur, West Singhbhum (Chaibasa), Gumla, Palamu, Ranchi and Hazaribagh (9 districts)

1	2	3
4.	Karnataka	Bijapur, Raichur, Dharwad, Bangalore Rural, Bangalore Urban, Belgaum, Koppal, Tumkur, Devangere, Haveri, Mysore, Bagalkot, Chitradurga, Gulbarga, Bellary, Kolar and Mandya. (17 districts)
5.	Madhya Pradesh	Mandsaur, Gwalior, Ujjain, Barwani, Rewa, Dhar, East Nimar, Rajgarh, Chhindwara, Shivpuri, Sidhi, Guna, Betul, Shajapur, Ratlam, West Nimar and Jhabua (17 districts)
6.	Chhattisgarh	Durg, Bilaspur, Rajnandgaon, Surguja, Raigarh, Dantewada, Raipur and Korba (8 districts)
7.	Maharashtra	Solapur, Thane, Pune, Ahmadnagar, Sangli, Kolhapur, Jalgaon, Nandurbar, Nanded, Nasik, Yavatmal, Dhule and Beed (13 districts)
8.	Orissa	Angul, Bargarh, Bolangir, Deograh, Gajapati (Udayagiri), Ganjam, Jharsuguda, Kalahandi, Koraput, Malkangiri, Mayurbhanj, Nabarangpur, Nuapada, Rayagada, Sambalpur, Sonepur, Cuttack and Balasore (18 districts)
9.	Rajasthan	Jaipur, Udaipur, Tonk, Jodhpur, Ajmer, Alwar, Jalor, Churu, Nagaur, Chittaurgarh, Banswara, Dhaulpur, Sikar, Dungarpur, Bharatpur, Bikaner, Jhunjhunu, Bundi, Jhalawar, Pali, Bhilwara, Ganganagar and Barmer. (23 districts)
10.	Tamil Nadu	Chidambaranar (Tuticorin), Coimbatore, Dharmapuri, Vellore, Pudukkottai, Salem, Tiruchirapalli, Tirunelveli, Krishnagiri, Chennai, Erode, Dindigul and Theni. (13 districts)
11.	Uttar Pradesh	Varanasi, Mirzapur, Bhadohi, Bulandshahar, Saharanpur, Azamgarh, Muzaffarnagar, Gonda, Kheri, Bahraich, Balampur, Hardoi, Barabanki, Sitapur, Faizabad, Badaun, Gorakhpur, Kushinagar, Maharajganj, Siddharthnagar, Rae Bareilly, Unnao, Sultanpur, Fatehpur, Shravasti, Pratapgarh, Basti, Sonbhadra, Mau, Deoria, Banda, Ghaziabad, Jaunpur, Rampur, Bareilly, Lucknow, Meerut, Etawah, Agra, Ghazipur and Mathura. (41 districts)
12.	West Bengal	Burdwan, North Dinajpur, South Dinajpur, North 24 Parganas, South 24 Parganas, Midnapore, Murshidabad, Kolkata, Maldah, Bankura, Purulia, Birbhum, Nadia, Hugli, Howrah, Jalpaiguri, Cooch Bihar and East Midnapore. (18 districts)
13.	Punjab	Jalandhar, Ludhiana and Amritsar (3 districts)
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	Jammu, Srinagar and Udhampur (3 districts)

1	2	3
15.	Arunachal Pradesh	Lower Subansiri (1 district)
16.	Assam	Nagaon, Kokrajhar and Lakhimpur (3 districts)
17.	Goa	Goa (1 district)
18.	Uttaranchal	Dehradun (1 district)
19.	Gujarat	Surat, Panchmahals, Bhuj, Banas Kantha, Dahod, Vadodara, Bhavnagar, Ahmedabad and Rajkot (9 districts)
20.	Haryana	Gurgaon, Faridabad and Panipat (3 districts)
21.	Mizoram	Aizwal (1 district)

Environmental Education Awareness Programme

(b) Does not arise.

2115. SHRI SURESH WAGHMARE:
SHRI TUKARAM GANGADHAR GADAKH:

(c) The State-wise details of assistance provided under NEAC during 2004-05 are given in Statement enclosed.

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

(d) The NEAC will be continued during the year 2005-06.

(a) whether Environmental Education Awareness Programme (EEAP) through Non-Governmental Organisations is not getting momentum;

(e) No State specific allocations are made for this programme. The allocation depend on the number and quality of proposals received.

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

(c) the allocation of funds/utilisations under this project, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government proposes to take up some project for the year 2005-06 regarding the said programme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) There is no programme called Environmental Education Awareness Programme (EEAP) conducted by the Ministry. However, the National Environment Awareness Campaign (NEAC) conducted by the Ministry through Non-Governmental Organisations every year aims at creating environment awareness. This programme has been gaining momentum every year as is obvious from the increase in number of participating organizations from 115 in 1986 to 7588 in 2004.

Statement

*State-wise Details of Assistance Provided under
National Environment Awareness Campaign (NEAC)
2004-05*

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	Assistance Provided (Rs.)
1	2	3
1.	Delhi	4,61,000
2.	Uttar Pradesh	42,91,000
3.	Uttaranchal	3,49,000
4.	Jammu & Kashmir	7,69,000
5.	Himachal Pradesh	6,77,000
6.	Haryana	10,86,000
7.	Madhya Pradesh	39,03,000

1	2	3
8.	Punjab	6,02,000
9.	Bihar	24,26,000
10.	Jharkhand	10,41,000
11.	West Bengal	12,80,000
12.	Andhra Pradesh	35,58,500
13.	Orissa	30,21,400
14.	Assam	20,22,000
15.	Tripura	9,49,000
16.	Manipur	28,40,000
17.	Karnataka	20,01,000
18.	Tamil Nadu	32,49,000
19.	Pondicherry	1,50,000
20.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	38,000
21.	Kerala	6,14,000
22.	Maharashtra	35,04,000
23.	Goa	16,500
24.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	13,000
25.	Gujarat	12,76,000
26.	Daman and Diu	17,000
27.	Rajasthan	13,21,500
28.	Chhattisgarh	6,49,000

[*Translation*]

Killing of Peacocks

2116. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI:

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

(a) whether peacocks are being killed in several parts of the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government is contemplating to take any step to save them;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Sporadic reports of killing of peacocks have come to the notice of the Government.

(b) and (c) The steps taken by the Government to save peacocks are as follows:

(i) Peacock is included in the Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, thereby giving it highest protection. Hunting of peacock is prohibited under the provisions of the Act.

(ii) Provisions have been made in the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 for establishing Community and Conservation Reserves outside the National Parks and Sanctuaries to provide protection to birds including peacock that inhabit natural habitats outside the Protected Areas.

(iii) The penalty for poaching of peacock and illegal trade of its parts and products has been enhanced from minimum of one year to three years and maximum of six years to seven years. Provision has also been made for forfeiture of property of the habitual offenders.

(iv) The Central Bureau of Investigation has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders.

(v) Central Government has adopted the integrated pest management approach to minimize indiscriminate and injudicious use of chemical pesticides to prevent inadvertent damage to peacocks and other foraging birds.

(vi) Awareness is being generated amongst the farmers to adopt organic farming methods and use bio-pesticides to save their crops from the ravages of pests and diseases.

(d) Does not arise.

*[English]***Technology Mission for Coconut Industry**

2117. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched Technology Mission for coconut industry;

(b) if so, the details of the projects taken up there-under;

(c) the measures being taken up under this mission for promotion of the coconut industry;

(d) the Government measures being taken to increase the consumption of coconut oil;

(e) whether the Government is encouraging sale of tender coconut water under pouch packing; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government has launched the Technology Mission on Coconut during the year 2001-02. The Mission programmes are being implemented through Coconut Development Board under this Ministry. The main objectives of the mission is to address the critical gaps in development and adoption of technologies for management of insect pests and diseases, product diversification & by product utilization and market promotion through following mission components namely, (1) Development and adoption of technologies for management of insect pests and disease affected coconut gardens, (2) Development, Acquisition & training and adoption of technologies for processing and product diversification in coconut and (3) Market research and promotion of coconut products.

Under these programmes, so far, an amount of Rs. 20.955 crores was released for taking up 104 projects.

(d) Coconut Development Board has taken up various awareness programmes for disseminating information on the nutritional and health benefits of coconut oil including conduct of number of National and State level seminars with the participation of eminent Doctors. In addition, the

two research projects sponsored by the Board namely (1) "study the effect of consumption of coconut kernal and oil on lipid serum profile and thrombosis" and (2) "Coconut oil and incidence of coronary artery disease in Kerala" did not demonstrate that coconut oil is hypercholesterolemic. It was also found that coconut oil may be beneficial for normalizing triglycerides and HDL metabolism.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The Coconut Development Board through Defence Food Laboratory, Mysore has developed a technology for preservation and packing of tender coconut water in pouches and aluminium cans. The Board has transferred the technology to 8 entrepreneurs for setting up the units. So far, 4 Tender Coconut Preserving and Packing Units with a capacity to process 10 Million nuts per year have been established with the financial support under Technology Mission on Coconut in the States of Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Gujarat. One more unit is also being established at West Bengal.

*[Translation]***Benefits of ESI to Employees of Doordarshan Kendra, Hisar**

2118. SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some employees of Doordarshan Kendra, Hisar have been deprived of the benefits of E.S.I. despite making regular monthly contributions;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the benefits of E.S.I. are given to all the employees of Doordarshan Kendra, Hisar?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) to (c) Doordarshan Kendra, Hisar employees are governed by the Central Government Rules, as such, they are not coverable under provisions of the ESI Act, 1948.

*[English]***Utilisation of Funds for Promotion of Horticulture**

2119. SHRI RANEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps taken for utilization of funds provided to States for promotion of horticulture during the last three years;

(b) whether there is any underutilization in this regard; 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 (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro

Management in Agriculture-Supplementation/Complementation of State efforts through Work Plans, under which horticulture forms a component, funds are released to the State Governments. The performance of the State Governments are reviewed during meetings and further releases are made on receipt of Progress Reports and Utilization Certificates. While releasing the funds to the State Governments, they are directed to follow the General Financial Rules of Government of India.

(b) and (c) The State-wise details of funds released under the Scheme, expenditure incurred and unspent balances during 2002-03 to 2004-05 is given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

Allocations, Releases and Expenditure During 2002-03 to 2004-05 Under Macro Management Scheme

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	States	Unspent Balance as on 1.4.2002	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		Unspent Balance as on 1.4.2005#
			Releases	Expenditure	Releases	Expenditure	Releases	Expenditure#	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	814.53	1900.00	2648.15	3800.00	3279.20	4702.31	3712.18	1577.31
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	17.57	463.20	298.05	317.28	466.12	1214.15	716.00	532.03
3.	Assam	558.13	350.00	512.97	350.00	490.00	1661.93	695.00	1222.09
4.	Bihar	1620.50	1250.00	1879.16	900.00	1573.84	1786.51	1295.80	808.21
5.	Jharkhand	786.00	600.00	1146.00	1200.00	561.28	2458.75	1116.19	1342.56
6.	Goa	84.75	162.20	137.99	131.04	231.44	280.53	258.16	37.37
7.	Gujarat	2284.70	1600.00	926.61	1150.00	2864.77	5305.61	4254.13	2294.80
8.	Haryana	146.83	1600.00	1742.47	1662.00	1608.67	1813.68	1703.69	167.68
9.	Himachal Pradesh	208.32	1600.00	1473.47	1585.15	1894.10	1600.00	1466.46	159.44
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	267.69	1932.00	1674.64	1680.00	1442.36	2285.38	2215.93	832.14
11.	Karnataka	1118.52	5338.00	6336.40	5580.00	5681.23	11872.44	6471.47	5519.86
12.	Kerala	Nil	2762.00	2231.15	2348.00	2018.02	4583.19	3506.98	1531.84
13.	Madhya Pradesh	1336.09	4350.00	5686.09	4400.00	4054.78	7224.76	4077.49	3492.49
14.	Chhattisgarh	546.77	1138.23	1483.90	1600.00	1579.00	5359.23	2521.04	3080.29

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
15.	Maharashtra	2108.98	7612.00	9720.98	8400.00	8384.85	17225.59	16148.75	1091.99
16.	Manipur	407.10*	300.00	290.00	300.00	515.92	1146.16	995.70	171.16
17.	Mizoram	3.12	810.00	784.62	820.00	828.50	1821.64	1563.00	278.64
18.	Meghalaya	120.59	700.66	648.50	427.25	584.05	1223.18	575.95	663.18
19.	Nagaland	Nil	660.00	500.00	880.00	1040.00	1768.00	1412.50	355.50
20.	Orissa	1702.80	1250.00	2160.11	1967.31	2152.00	4036.54	4466.72	177.82
21.	Punjab	2063.34	850.00	392.36	—	114.05	996.54	25.20	3378.27
22.	Rajasthan	640.98	6700.00	5397.17	6571.19	7025.5	11995.00	9251.40	3889.04
23.	Sikkim	13.01	330.00	343.01	500.00	499.47	861.80	833.28	29.05
24.	Tamilnadu	611.75	3380.00	3971.75	4275.00	4077.19	5137.01	4291.63	1043.20
25.	Tripura	8.97	900.00	644.31	715.34	784.66	1699.91	793.91	1101.34
26.	Uttar Pradesh	1229.35	6885.00	7663.52	7375.00	6717.24	8888.67	8212.66	1784.60
27.	Uttaranchal	61.42	1290.00	1305.30	1600.00	1420.53	2361.06	2416.02	170.63
28.	West Bengal	645.66	1427.47	1733.06	1920.00	2041.95	3152.65	2575.89	794.88
29.	Delhi	60.08	80.00	71.77	50.00	6.97	0.00	15.82	95.52
30.	Pondicherry	106.98	100.00	138.98	Nil	65.80	80.00	82.05	0.16
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	—	100.00	79.10	100.00	65.58	—	—	—
32.	Chandigarh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
33.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	—	100.00	4.87	10.00	9.11	—	—	—
34.	Daman and Diu	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35.	Lakshadweep	—	100.00	16.24	50.00	47.70	—	—	—
Total		19230.94	58600.76	63942.70	62664.56	64125.88	114542.22	87671.00	37603.09

#Provisional.

Contract Labour System

2120. SHRI PRASANTA PRADHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the proliferation of Contract labour system in the country in order to evade the obligatory provision of maintaining employment register;

(b) if so, whether the dismantling of inspection mechanism in most of the States and reliance on the self certification by the employers in respect of compliance of labour laws has led to the violation of the rights of the labourer;

(c) if so, whether the Government has consulted the other stake holder in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) The Government is aware that there is prevalence of Contract Labour System in the country but may not necessarily be to evade maintenance of employment register. Even under the provisions of the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 the contractor has to maintain a register of contract labour engaged by him besides providing basic welfare amenities and timely payment of wages.

(b) to (d) The introduction of self-certification by employers in respect of compliance of labour laws by certain States like Gujarat, does not amount to dismantling of the inspection mechanism. The appropriate Governments are expected to consult the stakeholders from time to time, wherever required.

[*Translation*]

Multi-Purpose Projects

2121. SHRI MANOJ KUMAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of multi-purpose projects being run in States including Bihar and Jharkhand alongwith their present status;

(b) the area of land in hectare likely to be irrigated through the construction of Auranga reservoir scheme, Kanhar reservoir scheme, Kadhwan reservoir scheme, Kutku Uttri Koel reservoir scheme in Jharkhand and the areas likely to be submerged; and

(c) the estimated cost and the revised cost likely to be incurred on project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The status of ongoing multi-purpose projects with irrigation component as on 1.4.2004 is given in the statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) The particulars of the projects are as under:

Name of State	Name of project	Ultimate irrigation potential (Thousand hectare)	Original cost (Rs. crore)	Latest estimated cost (Rs. crore)	Area likely to be submerged (Thousand hectare)
Jharkhand	1. Auranga	55.42	125.40	914.24	4.536
	2. Kanhar	57.67	(Unapproved)	1350.00	6.416
	3. Kadhwan	664.00	(Unapproved)	1111.14	24.33
	4. Kutku Uttri Koel	105.90	(Unapproved)	836.11	7.12

Statement

(Rs. crore/Th. ha)

Sl.No.	Name of State/Project	Latest Estimated Cost	Likely Expenditure upto Mar. 2004	Ultimate Potential	Likely Pot. Created upto March, 2004
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh					
1.	Nagarjunasagar	1184.00	1130.86	895.00	809.44
2.	Singur	180.00	167.63	16.19	0.00
3.	Srisaillam LBC	1260.00	622.10	109.25	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
Biher					
4.	North Koel Res Project	1118.00	585.41	105.9	52.00
5.	Gandak Phase II	578.27	116.05	236.00	0.00
Jharkhand					
6.	Subemarekha	2869.76	985.67	236.85	0.61
Gujarat					
7.	Sardar Sarovar (IS)	30823.00	16659.28	1792.00	251.11
Karnataka					
8.	Tungabhadra HLC(IS)	111.80	76.26	74.47	72.44
9.	Varahi	275.00	32.80	15.70	0.00
Kerala					
10.	Kallada	760.80	668.81	92.10	53.61
11.	Idamalayar	412.00	145.78	29.04	0.00
Madhya Pradesh					
12.	Bansagar Dam (MP Share)	880.72	815.86	—	0.00
13.	Indira Sagar (NVDA)	5150.00	1802.93	169.00	0.00
14.	Bargi Diversion (NVDA)	2604.50	177.23	245.00	0.00
15.	Pench Diversion	549.65	10.97	78.50	0.00
Chhattisgarh					
16.	Hasdeo Bango PH. III	1043.88	972.45	392.00	320.67
Maharashtra					
17.	Warna	1150.98	365.17	148.96	2.05
18.	Dudhganga (IS)	1173.26	343.72	74.17	71.50
19.	Surya	276.15	249.83	27.19	22.55
20.	Tillari (IS)	293.80	542.15	23.65	1.20
21.	Koyna Krishna LIS	1892.29	887.78	208.27	152.35
Orissa					
22.	Potteru	198.07	201.72	109.88	64.59
23.	Upper Kolab	337.96	374.27	88.70	53.69

1	2	3	4	5	6
24.	Upper Indravati	480.96	674.24	102.52	96.76
26.	Rengali Irrigation	2621.16	1050.83	214.30	10.56
Punjab					
26.	Shahpur Kandi Project	1324.18	128.09	—	0.00
Rajasthan					
27.	Mahi Bajaj Sagar (IS)	834.88	744.89	71.20	66.65
28.	Bisalpur Irr. cum W.S. Project.	657.91	542.56	49.90	41.50
Uttar Pradesh					
29.	Rajghat Dam	150.00	133.08	0.00	0.00
30.	Bansagar Canal (UP)	761.85	339.08	150.13	0.00
Uttaranchal					
31.	Tehri Dam (Irrigation share)	1114.74	1014.93	270.00	0.00
32.	Lakhwar Vyasi	1446.00	219.11	40.00	—
33.	Kishau Dam	3455.11	8.10	211.00	—
West Bengal					
34.	Teesta Barrage St I Ph I	2068.00	958.21	533.52	130.96

Agro-Forestry Projects in the Country

2122. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the places in the country where agro-forestry projects are being undertaken for the last three years;

(b) the funds allocated for these projects by the Government during the said period, State-wise; and

(c) the benefits likely to accrue therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Ministry of Environment and Forests is not implementing any agro-forestry project in the country.

However, agro-forestry is one of the permitted components in the programmes of Soil Conservation for Enhancing Productivity of Degraded Lands in the Catchments of River Valley Project and Flood Prone Rivers (RVP & FPR) and National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPR) of the Ministry of Agriculture. Similarly, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) undertakes research through its 34 centres on agro-forestry in various parts of the country.

(b) State-wise financial progress of RVP & FPR programme is given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) Agro-forestry is a source of generation of additional income and improvement in the livelihood of the farmers, and also plays an important role in rehabilitation of degraded lands.

Statement

State-wise funds released under River Valley Projects and Flood Prone Rivers (RVP & FPR) for the period from 2002-03 to 2004-05

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of State	Amount Released
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	2134.25
Arunachal Pradesh	5.67
Assam	148.27
Bihar	0
Chhattisgarh	400.74
Gujarat	2182.7
Haryana	496.18
Himachal Pradesh	1840.32
Jharkhand	0
Jammu & Kashmir*	2522.26
Karnataka	333.58
Kerala	634.85
Madhya Pradesh	2858.03
Maharashtra	3433.64
Manipur	0
Meghalaya	6
Mizoram	299.85
Nagaland	174
Orissa	239.74
Punjab	0
Rajasthan	4998.33
Sikkim	78.2
Tamil Nadu	1710.55

1	2
Tripura	122.28
Uttar Pradesh	5351.1
Uttaranchal	739.74
West Bengal	483.81
Chandigarh	0
Delhi	0
Total	34194.09

*:-Includes PM Package.

*[English]***Eco-Tourism Policy**

2123. SHRI A.K. MOORTHY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to draft eco-tourism policy; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) The National Eco-Tourism Policy and Guidelines have already been laid down by Ministry of Tourism. They aim to preserve, retain and enrich natural resources and to ensure regulated growth of Eco-Tourism with its positive impacts on environmental protection and community development. The operational guidelines have also been laid down for the Government, developers, operators and providers of eco-tourism, the visitors, the host population, non-governmental organization etc.

Conventional Method to Raise Ground Water Level

2124. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps to launch a nation-wide campaign to raise ground water level, by way of conventional methods of creating and restoring tanks, ponds, lakes, wells and baolis and rain water harvesting;

(b) if so, whether any comprehensive plan has been prepared or is being worked out for the purpose;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the central aid sought and given to States for augmenting water bodies during 2004-2005 and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) 'Water' being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of concerned State Governments to execute schemes to improve ground water levels. However, the following steps have been taken by the Union Government in this regard:

- (i) Circulation of Manual/Guidelines on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water to the State/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend of ground water levels.
- (ii) Central Ministries/Departments of Railways, Defence, Posts, Telecommunications, Central Public Works Department and National Highways Authority of India have been requested to provide roof top rain water harvesting structures in the buildings under their control.
- (iii) States/UTs have been requested to provide water harvesting structures in buildings under their administrative control.
- (iv) All the States/Union Territories have been requested for advising the local bodies in their respective States/Union Territories to allow rebate in property tax to persons, who adopt roof top rainwater harvesting in their premises.
- (v) CGWB has provided technical guidance on rain water harvesting to around 2000 agencies, including State Government agencies, educational institutions, private entrepreneurs and individuals.
- (vi) Launching of a website on Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting (www.cgwb.net) to make aware and

educate the public about various techniques of harvesting rainwater and store it for future use.

- (vii) Organisation of mass awareness programmes and training courses on rainwater harvesting and artificial recharge of ground water.
- (viii) Rain Water Harvesting campaign has been launched keeping in view the various target groups like youth and children, women farmers and villagers, policy and opinion makers. Publicity through print media, telecasting of spots on the television, broadcasting messages on radio, holding of seminars, workshops, conferences etc., have been undertaken for the purpose.
- (ix) The Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation, Government of India have amended Building Bye-laws, 1983, making provision for water harvesting through storing of water run-off including rain water in all new buildings on plots of 100 square meters and above in Delhi mandatory. Similarly, State Governments of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Rajasthan and Kerala have made roof top rain water harvesting mandatory in specified cases.
- (x) A pilot scheme of "National project for repair, renovation and restoration of water bodies directly linked to agriculture" has been approved by the Union Government in January, 2005 with a total outlay of Rs. 300 crores for the remaining period of X Five Year Plan. The aims and objectives of the project are to restore and augment the storage capacity of water bodies and to recover and extend their lost irrigation potential. The scheme envisages taking up pilot projects by the States in one or two districts. The renovation work of these water bodies will also help to recharge ground water in adjoining areas. Funding pattern is in the ratio of 75:25 (Centre: State). Ministry of Water Resources has approved 16 district projects of 9 States at an estimated cost of Rs. 168.298 crores in 2004-05. Details of Central share released to various States in 2004-05 & 2005-06 till date is given in Statement enclosed.

Statement

Details of Central Share Released to Various States in 2004-05 & 2005-06 Under Pilot Scheme of "National Project for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies Directly Linked to Agriculture"

Total outlay — Rs. 300 crores for the remaining period of X Five Year Plan.

Central share — Rs. 225 crores

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No.	Name of State	Name of District	Estimated cost	Central share	Central share released in 2004-05	Central share released in 2005-06
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Mahabub Nagar	32.84	24.63	2.44	
		Anantpur	13.77	10.33		
2.	Karnataka	Gulbarga	31.64	23.73	4.42	
		Bangalore Rural	11.01	8.25	1.00	
3.	Jharkhand	Saralkela	2.854	2.14	0.33	
		Palamu	10.06	7.55	1.17	
4.	Chhattiegarh	Kabir Dham	2.24	1.68		0.75
5.	Orissa	Ganjam	12.82	9.62	1.14	
		Gajapati	6.01	4.51	0.55	
6.	Rajasthan	Ajmer	4.489	3.37		
		Pali	2.45	1.84		
7.	West Bengal	Uttar Dinajpur	4.934	3.70	0.74	
		South-24 Paraganas	18.664	14.00	0.21	
8.	Tamil Nadu	Sivagangai	1.222	0.92		
		Villupuram	9.372	7.03		
9.	Madhya Pradesh	Tikamgarh	3.923	2.94		
Total:	9	16	168.298	126.24	12.00	0.75

Environment of Vrindavan

2125. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ No. 3551 dated 18.04.05 and state:

(a) whether there has been no improvement in the Vrindavan environment and the pilgrims continue to face the misery of dirtiness, poor condition of roads, congestion and poor uncovered parking facilities even after lapse of nearly four months of the date of answering the question; and

(b) the details of the action taken to make Vrindavan neat and clean and the time by which measures would be implemented to improve the ecological atmosphere of Vrindavan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Pursuant to the preparation of environment development programme for Vrindavan, following areas have been identified for improvement:

- Parikrama Path from Kaliyadaha Ghat to Keshi Ghat;
- Banke Bihari Temple area;
- Roads/Areas between Nagar Palika Office and Ranganathji Temple; and
- Gandhi Park and Gyan Gudri Park

The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has provided financial assistance of Rs. 43.0 lakhs to Uttar Pradesh State Pollution Control Board for execution of eco-city programme at Vrindavan on a cost sharing basis with Vrindavan Municipality. Recently a public awareness programme and a cleaning drive were organized in the area.

Base Depots of FCI

2126. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of the number of Base Depots with Food Corporation of India (FCI) for the distribution of the food under the Targeted Public Distribution System;

(b) whether the said depots are sufficient for meeting the needs of the States particularly Maharashtra;

(c) if so, the names of the districts without base depots in the country; and

(d) the action being taken by the Government for opening the base depots in these districts?

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 of number of Base Depots with Food Corporation of India (FCI) for the distribution of food under the Targeted Public Distribution System are given in the Statement-I enclosed.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The names of the districts without base depots in the country is given in the Statement-II enclosed.

(d) The number of Base Depots available with the FCI are sufficient to meet the requirements of Targeted Public Distribution System in the country.

Statement I

State-wise details of number of Base Depots with Food Corporation of India (FCI) for the distribution of food under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS)

Name of the State/UT	Number of Revenue Districts with Base Depots
1	2
Delhi	8
Haryana***	18
Himachal Pradesh#	11
Jammu & Kashmir	10
Punjab and Chandigarh	18
Rajasthan	30
Uttar Pradesh@#	53
Uttaranchal@#	8
Andhra Pradesh	23
Andaman and Nicobar Islands#	1
Karnataka	23
Kerala	13

1	2
Tamil Nadu	17
Pondicherry	2
Bihar	28
Jharkhand	12
Orissa	27
West Bengal@	17
Sikkim#	2
Assam#	22
Arunachal Pradesh#	4
Manipur	2
Nagaland	4
Meghalaya#	5
Mizoram#	2
Tripura#	2
Goa	1
Maharashtra	25
Gujarat	11
Madhya Pradesh@	36
Chhattisgarh@%	16
Grand Total	235

Note:

(#)—In addition to base depots, the Government has declared Principal Distribution Centres in the States/UTs to cater to the need of TPDS for which Hill Transport Subsidy/Road Transportation Charges is reimbursed.

(@)—State Government distributing foodgrains from their own godowns under decentralized procurement scheme.

(**)—Stocks are being issued from all the FCI owned/hired godowns.

(\$\$)—Stocks are being issued by State Government of Punjab from its owned godowns through State Agency (Punsub).

(%)—Chhattisgarh also indicated 6 centres for BPL issue only.

Statement II

The details of the districts without base depots of FCI in the country

Region/State/UT	No. of Revenue Districts Without Base Depots
1	2
Delhi	1—East Delhi
Haryana	1—Punchkula
Himachal Pradesh	1—Lahul Spiti (construction of 2500 MT godown at Keylong in Lahul Spiti approved)
Jammu & Kashmir	4—Udhampur, Kupwara, Badgam & Phulwama
Funjab & Chandigarh	Nil
Rajasthan	2—Rajsamand, Karauli
Uttar Pradesh	17—Gautambudh Nagar, Ambedkar Nagar, Balrampur, Shravasti, Maharajganj, Sidarth Nagar, Sant Kabir Nagar, Bhadoi, Sonbhadra, Kanoj, Auraiya, Chitrakut, Hamirpur, Jalaun, Kausambhi, JP Nagar & Bijnore.
Uttaranchal	5—Almora, Bageshwar, Tehri (Garhwal), Uttarkashi, Rudrapryag.
Andhra Pradesh	Nil
Andaman & Nicobar	Nil
Islands	
Karnataka	4—Chikkamangalur, Koppal, Bagalkot, Chamraj Nagar.
Kerala	1—Pathanamthitta
Lakshadweep	Sugar stocks are being handed over to Lakshadweep Administration from Cochin and wheat and rice stocks ex. Mangalore.

1	2
Tamil Nadu	13—Thiruvallur, Nagapattinam, Thiruvarur, Karur, Perambalur, Namakkal, Sivagangai, Theni, Erode, TV Malai, Nilgiris, Krishnagiri & Pudukottai.
Pondicherry	Nil
Bihar	10—Jahanabad, Aurangabad, Bhabhua (Kaimur), Arwal, Banka, Shekhpura, Khagaria, Sheohar, Siwan & Gopalganj.
Jharkhand	10—West Singhbhum, Saraikela, Simdega, Latehar, Chatra, Bokaro, Dumka, Jamtara, Godda, Pakur,
Orissa	3—Kendrapara, Boudh & Deogarh.
West Bengal	2—East Midnapore & Darjeeling
Sikkim	2—West Sikkim & North Sikkim
Assam	1—Marigaon
Arunachal Pradesh	12—West Kamang, Tawang, Lower Subansiri, Upper Subansiri, West Siang, Upper Siang, Dibang Valley, Tirap Lohit, Lower Dibang Valley, Kurung, Kumey & Anjaw.
Manipur	7—Bishanpur, Chandel, Senapai, Imphal East, Thaubal, Churchandpur & Tamenglong.
Nagaland	4—Kohima, Phek, Wokha & Zunhebata
Meghalaya	2—West Khasi Hills & South Garo Hills.
Mizoram	6—Chhimituipui, Lungthlai, Champhai, Serchip, Mamih & Lunglei.

1	2
Tripura	2—South Tripura and Dhalai District
Goa	1—North Goa
Maharashtra	7—Latur, Hingoli, Sindhudurg, Washim, Gadchiroli, Bhandara & Yeotmal.
Gujarat	14—Amareli, Sabarkantha, Patan, Dahod, Narmada, Navsari, Dangs, Porbandar, Kheda, Anand, Bharuch, Surat, Junagarh & Gandhinagar.
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Stocks are being issued from nearest FCI Depots (Owned/hired) in Gujarat Region
Daman and Diu	
Madhya Pradesh	12—Bhind, Barwani, Burhanpur, Neemuch, Mandsaur, Sehore, Rajgarh, Harda, Raisen, Panna, Umaria & Anoopur.
Chhattisgarh	Nil

[Translation]

Inclusion of Flower Valley of Uttaranchal in World Heritage List

2127. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (MOHANLAL GANJ):
SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL:
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the news-items captioned "Vishwa Virasat Suchi Ke Liye Bharat Ke Do Dawey" published in a Delhi based daily of July 12;

(b) if so, whether the Government has staked claims to include Nilgiri Mountain Railway, ferrying to Ooty in South India and world famous 'Valley of Flowers' in Uttaranchal in the world heritage list;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government are striving to get any place other than these two included in the world heritage list; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) and (c) The Nilgiri Mountain Railway has been inscribed on the World Heritage list as an extension to the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway and Valley of Flowers National Park in Uttaranchal as an extension to the Nanda Devi National Park during the 29th session of the World Heritage Committee held in Durban, South Africa between 10-17th July.

(d) and (e) The Government has proposed Majuli Island, Assam for inclusion in the World Heritage List during 2006 under cultural category. The nomination dossier for Red Fort, Delhi was earlier submitted to the World Heritage Centre, it may have to be resubmitted in the new format.

Farmers Benefited Under NAIS in Rajasthan

2128. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: 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 Rajasthan, till date;

(b) the criteria followed to decide the rate of premium under the scheme, crop-wise;

(c) the total amount of premium collected from the farmers for the said scheme in the State during each of the last three years; and

(d) the payment made against the insurance claims during the said period and thereafter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Rajasthan is implementing the National Agricultural

Insurance Scheme (NAIS) since Kharif 2003 season. The major crops covered in the State are paddy, maize, jowar, bajra, moong, moth, urd, gaur, arhar, cowpea, sesamum, soyabean (yellow), castor, wheat, gram, mustard, groundnut etc. From Kharif 2003 to Kharif 2004 season, 1559038 farmers are covered over an area of 40.68 lakh hectares.

(b) There are two categories of chargeable premium rates under NAIS. Flat rates of premium charged for insuring food and oilseeds crops. They are fixed keeping in view the risk involved and the paying capacity of farmers. Other category is the actuarial rates of premium charged for insuring annual commercial and horticultural crops. These rates are calculated on the basis of variability in the yield.

(c) and (d) Total amount of premium collected and total claims paid/payable during last three years are given below:

(Rs. in lakhs)		
Year	Premium collected	Total Claims
2003-04	121.02	14.19
2004-05	5520.64	11107.23*
2005-06	Kharif 2005 season is in progress	

*Claims for Kharif 2004 season only. Out of the total claims of Kharif 2004, claims amounting to Rs. 1544 lakh are pending.

Establishment of Fodder Bank In U.P.

2129. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has sent any request to the Union Government to provide funds in regard to establishment of Fodder Bank which is 75% financed by the Union Government;

(b) if so, by when the funds are likely to be made available to the State; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government of Uttar Pradesh submitted a proposal seeking Central grant of Rs. 41.25 lakhs during 2005-06 for Establishment of a Fodder Bank which was a component of the old Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "Assistance to states for Feed and Fodder Development". The old scheme continued up to March, 2005. The new Centrally Sponsored Fodder Development Scheme which is implemented from April, 2005 does not include the component of Establishment of Fodder Bank. Therefore, it is not possible to provide funds for Establishment of Fodder Bank as requested by the U.P. Government under the present Scheme.

[English]

Ghats on Yamuna River

2130. KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received some representations for construction of Ghats on River Yamuna in Mathura district of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government proposes to provide financial assistance for the purpose to meet the long pending demand of the people;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (e) No representation has been received for construction of ghats on river Yamuna in Mathura. However, the matter regarding allocating adequate funds for cleaning river Yamuna and constructing ghats along the river in Mathura and Vrindaban was raised on 16.3.2005 in the Lok Sabha under Rule 377, reply to which has already been sent. It is to further mention in this connection that under the 1st Phase of Yamuna Action Plan, a scheme of river front development has been implemented in Mathura at a cost of Rs. 16.32 lakhs. Under this scheme, repair and renovation of 4 bathing ghats in Mathura, namely, Bangali Ghat, Sath Hath Bhain ki Baithak Ghat, Ballabh Ghat and Basudev

Ghat have been taken up. It is also envisaged under the ongoing Yamuna Action Plan Phase-II to prepare firmed-up proposals/detailed project reports for balance river pollution abatement works, including bathing ghat development works wherever required, in various towns of U.P., Haryana and Delhi.

Chamatkar Cotton in Karnataka

2131. SHRI MANJUNATH KUNNUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the farmers have grown Chamatkar Cotton in 30,000 Acres of land in Karnataka State using the seeds supplied by Mahyco Seeds Company, Ranebennur in Haveri District;

(b) if so, whether the crop has failed due to supply of inferior quality of seeds;

(c) whether the Deputy Commissioner, Haveri has recommended to the Government for payment of compensation to the farmers to the tune of Rs. 2500/-per Acre;

(d) if so, the amount given to the farmers; and

(e) further action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) According to information provided by the Government of Karnataka the Chamatkar cotton was grown in an area of 12500 acres in Raebennur Taluka. About 20698 acres of Chamatkar cotton was grown in Haveri District during 2004-05. However, it has been estimated that total area covered under Chamatkar Cotton was approximately 3000 acres in the State.

(b) As per the findings of the experts committees, Chamatkar seeds may have been suitable for sowing in May, June months. But, Mahyco Company had misguided the farmers by advising that the seed could be sown in any of the three seasons and this resulted in failure of the crop. The failure has been investigated subsequently by a committee headed by Dy. Commissioner of Haveri District in which a representative of the Company was also a member and inspection has been done by

Commissioner of Agriculture, the Director of Agriculture and once again by the Joint Directors in the affected districts. The findings of the committee are as follows:

- (i) This variety has not been officially notified and it is an Arborium variety which has not been officially recommended for the area in which it was sold.
 - (ii) Adequate field trials were not conducted by Mahyco Company to verify its suitability for different climatic and seasonal conditions.
 - (iii) The Mahyco Company has not shown in its literature details of the yield in different seasons and under rainfall and irrigated conditions.
 - (iv) The Company has misguided the farmers by not disclosing the appropriate time and season for sowing.
- (c) Several meetings with the company representatives have been held at the level of Dy. Commissioner, the Minister for Agriculture and the Commissioner for Agriculture. The Company during discussion has admitted its failure by agreeing to pay compensation. The Committee headed by the Dy. Commissioner has recommended the payment of compensation atleast Rs. 4500/-per acre on the basis of the difference between the yields promised and the actual yield which is in the range of only 50 kgs to 200 kgs per acre.

During the meeting held under the chairmanship of hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, the company has been advised to pay the compensation of Rs. 2500/-per acre for the farmers who have suffered complete loss of yields. Other farmers who have got certain quantity of yields the quantum of compensation could be decided on prorate basis. Further, the company has been entrusted the responsibility of furnishing the details of yields obtained by farmers in order to decide the quantum of compensation.

However, the company representatives have failed to provide the details of yields obtained by various farmers. In the event of non furnishing the details by the company as agreed earlier, now the committee members and the representatives of the farmers are demanding the compensation at Rs. 2500/-acre to all the farmers who have lost the crop irrespective of the quantity of yield obtained by the farmers. But, the company is declining

to pay compensation at Rs. 2500/-acres, instead proposing the compensation of Rs. 1200/-acre to the farmers of Haveri district. However, the committee members and farmers representatives have disagreed for the proposal suggested by the company.

(d) No compensations has been given to the farmers as on today. However, an amount of Rs. 2 (two) crores has been deposited with Dy. Commissioner, Haveri by Mahyco.

(e) The Company has been kept out of the purview of subsidy programme in the Department. Also, negotiations are being held continuously in order to provide the compensations to the farmers by the company. It is also stated that there is no provision under the Seed Act for the State to pay compensation to the farmers. However, the State Government proposed to assist in every possible way to recover the losses sustained by them from the company perusing the opportunity given to them under the protection of consumers Right Act.

In case, the company failed to provide suitable compensation to the farmers, following action is proposed to be taken by the State Government:

- (i) Institution of criminal proceedings against the said company in all the districts concerned.
- (ii) Assist the farmers in filing complaints before the Consumer Redressal Forum.
- (iii) Black list the company.
- (iv) Take suitable actions under the relevant acts and rules to prohibit the company for selling its cotton seeds in the State of Karnataka.

Prices of Tractors

2132. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has proposed to lower the prices of Tractors by removal of excise duty; and

(b) if so, the time by which the above proposal is likely to be cleared?

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

MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) All tractors (except road tractors for semi-trailers of engine capacity more than 1800 cc and tractors of the type used on railway station platforms which attract excise duty @ 16%) are already exempt from excise duty.

Declining Number of Migratory Birds in Orissa

2133. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the decline in the arrival of migratory birds into Chilka lake in Orissa during the last three years;

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

(c) the reasons for the decline in their arrival to that lake; and

(d) the remedial steps taken thereon and to stop the poaching of migratory birds in Chilka lake?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) As reported by State Government of Orissa, there is no evidence of any decline in the arrival of migratory birds to Chilka lake.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) The measures being taken by the State Government to stop poaching of migratory birds in Chilka lake are as follows:

1. Assistance of local Fishermen Co-operatives is being taken for prevention of poaching, poisoning and trapping of birds.
2. 22 Bird Protection Committees have been formed in the villages surrounding the lake.
3. 33 vulnerable points have been identified where poaching/trapping of birds had been earlier reported and a control room set up.
4. Regular patrolling by forest officials is being carried out and is further reinforced during the congregation season.

Development of Botanical and Bio-Fertilizer Units

2134. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken steps to develop botanical and bio-fertilizer units in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the capacity during the last three years;

(c) whether such botanical and bio-fertilizers are being used by the farmers equal to the chemical-fertilizers in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the steps taken by the Government to make awareness among the farmers for utilizing the botanical and bio-fertilizers in their farming?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (e) Under the Central Sector Scheme "National Project on development and Use of Bio-fertilizers", financial assistance of Rs. 20.00 lakhs per unit was provided for setting up bio-fertilizer production units during IX Plan. The scheme has been subsumed under a new central sector scheme "National Project on Organic Farming" from October, 2004. Under the new scheme, financial assistance for setting up bio-fertilizer production units @ 25% of the project cost up to a maximum of Rs. 20.00 lakhs is being provided as credit linked back ended subsidy through NABARD. A statement indicating State-wise Bio-fertilizer production facilities created by Government of India (GOI) and others is enclosed.

Bio-fertilizers are used in small quantities per unit area. The production of bio-fertilizers is demand driven, and the production/use of bio-fertilizers was 9.01, 10.37 and 11.65 thousand tones during 2001-02, 2002-03 & 2003-04 respectively. In order to create awareness among the farmers, trainings and field demonstrations on Organic inputs including bio-fertilizers are being organized under the "National Project on Organic Farming".

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)
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
Punjab	—	—	1	40
Uttar Pradesh	4	225	4	540
Tamil Nadu	7	600	10	1320
West Bengal	3	225	8	855
Total	71	8025	80	10175

Total Biofertilizer production capacity of GOI & Other Units-8025+10175=18200 Tonnes.

Total estimated Biofertilizer production by GOI & Other Units-10000 Tonnes.

Micro Irrigation

2135. SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:
SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD ALIAS SADHU
YADAV:
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has initiated any scheme for micro irrigation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the sharing of expenditure for the purpose between the Union and the State Governments; and

(d) the land in hectares covered so far and the areas proposed to be covered under micro-irrigation, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No Sir. However, Ministry of Agriculture has formulated a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Micro Irrigation for implementation during 10th Plan.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Price Policy for MFL

2136. PROF. M. RAMADASS: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria laid down for fixation of prices of fertilizer in public sector enterprises;

(b) whether the Bureau of Industrial Restructuring has recommended a price policy for Madras Fertilizer Limited (MFL);

(c) if so, whether the Government has given its approval; and

(d) if not, by when it is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Subsidy disbursements to indigenous urea manufacturing units are made under the provisions of the New Pricing Scheme for urea units introduced w.e.f.

1.4.2003 applicable to urea units in all the sectors i.e. public, private and cooperative.

The concession on decontrolled phosphatic and potassic (P&K) fertilizers is worked out as per the methodology recommended by Tariff Commission. In case of complex fertilizers, the manufacturers have been divided into two groups based on usage of ammonia by them for sourcing 'nitrogen' content. M/s Fertilizers & Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT), Madras Fertilizers Limited (MFL) and Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilizers & Chemicals Limited (GNVFC) are placed in Group-II while other manufacturers are placed in Group-I. The concession rates are determined by adjusting their normative assessed price quarterly, based on the prices of imported ammonia, phosphoric acid, urea and Muriate of Potash (MOP) for Group-I and price of imported ammonia, naphtha, phosphoric acid and MOP for Group-II.

(b) to (d) The Government has so far not taken a decision on the recommendations of the Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises on the financial restructuring of MFL.

Audit of Credit Cooperatives

2137. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any suggestion for an appropriate regulatory framework for ensuring the right to autonomous management and independent professional audit of the credit cooperatives; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There have been suggestions for evolving an appropriate policy and regulatory framework to ensure democratic, autonomous functioning and professional audit of Cooperatives including Credit Cooperatives and to create environment conducive for development of these institutions.

[*Translation*]

Construction of Road

2138. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have provided an amount of Rs. 1 crore 37 lakhs for the construction of road from the excavation site of ancient Vikram Shila University to Vishnu Pur Chowk;

(b) if so, whether the construction of this road is extremely substandard; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ensure the proper construction of the said road?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

Dues of FCI

2139. SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY:
SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPAN:

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

(a) whether the Ministry owe about Rs. 18,000 crore to the Food Corporation of India on account of foodgrains lifted for various welfare programmes;

(b) if so, whether the Standing Committee on Food and Public Distribution had expressed its concern over the mounting dues and had called for a fixed time-frame for clearing these dues;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to collect the dues alongwith the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No, Sir. The Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution releases admissible advance subsidy on a quarterly basis to the Food Corporation of India (FCI). However, on account of foodgrains distributed by the FCI under Sampooma Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) of the Ministry of Rural Development and the

Mid-day-Meal (MDM) scheme of the Ministry of Human Resource Development, there are outstanding dues of the FCI of about Rs. 20,600 crore as on 30th June 2005 against these Ministries.

(b) to (d) The Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution has expressed concern over the huge outstanding dues of the FCI against these Ministries and has recommended that this Ministry should take up the matter at the highest level with the concerned Ministries.

The matter has been taken up at the highest level for expeditious liquidation of the outstanding dues of the FCI.

Technical Training and Financial Assistance to Craftmen

2140. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

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

(a) whether any system exists in the Government for giving technical training and financial assistance to the craftsmen belonging to the weaker sections of the society to upgrade their skill for meeting the global standards of excellence;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps proposed by the Government to promote the interests of the craftsmen belonging to the weaker sections of the society in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) DGE&T under the Ministry of Labour & Employment provides vocational training in 98 trades under the Craftmen Training Scheme through 5114 Industrial Training Institutes/Centres (ITIs/ITCs) spread all over the country. These institutes are under the administrative and financial control of respective State Governments. The courses offered at these institutes provide necessary skills to school leavers including those belonging to weaker section of the society to make them employable. Seats are reserved for the candidates belonging to SC/ST in proportion to their population in the State and for OBCs at par with the reservation policy for employment in

respective States. 25% seats are also reserved for Women candidates in these ITIs. There is a provision for paying stipend of Rs. 100 per month per trainee to all the trainees of Govt. run ITIs.

(c) Does not arise.

Destination Development Scheme

2141. SHRI K. VIRUPAKSHAPPA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals of State Governments including Karnataka pending under Destination Development Scheme; and

(b) the reasons for delay in sanctioning the proposals and by when the same are likely to be given approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) The Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance to the State Governments under its scheme of "Product/Infrastructure Development of Destinations and Circuits" based on the receipt of the proposals complete in all respects and inter-se-priority and availability of funds. These projects are finalized after consultations with the State Governments. The Destinations which have been prioritised for State of Karnataka for the year 2005-06 are as under:

1. Destination Development of Jog Falls.
2. Destination Development of Mysore.

(b) Project proposals are prioritised every year based on discussions/consultations and thereafter sanctioned on the basis of receipt of complete proposals from the State Governments and subject to availability of funds.

[Translation]

Study on Soyabean Production in Jabalpur

2142. SHRI RAKESH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Agro-meteorological expert committee has conducted any study regarding the growth, development and production of soyabean crop at Jabalpur; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) No Sir. However, an Agro Advisory Committee was constituted by Jawahar Lal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur for issuing weather based agro advisories to the soyabean farmers in the Jabalpur area.

(b) Details of studies conducted under Agro Advisory Committee by All India Coordinated Research Project on Agro Meteorology, Jawahar Lal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur on various aspects of growth, development and productivity of soyabean crop are as under:

- Soyabean is very sensitive to abiotic stresses and its growth, development and production is affected by aberrant weather conditions and sub optimal soil moisture (i.e. excess and deficit moisture) and photothermal conditions.
- Analysis of field experiments conducted revealed that reduction in growth due to delayed planting, especially beyond 15th July, is mainly caused due to early onset of flowering and gravity of all other component phases. This reduction in pre and post flowering duration is caused due to acute sensitivity of soyabean genotypes to photothermal conditions. Under delayed planting conditions, different growth phases coincide with progressively shorter photo periods which enhances rate of development and thus reduces the duration of component phases. There is a reduction of about 30% in growth and yield due to late planting in July.
- When sowing is delayed, the risk of moisture stress during reproductive phase also increases if withdrawal of south west monsoon is on normal time which is 10th September at Jabalpur, then there is yield reduction upto 50% or even more due to misture stress.
- Jabalpur is under high rainfall zone and soyabean is grown in vertisole (soil) which are known for poor drainage. Thus, because of inherent problems associated with those soils and high rainfall during south west monsoon season at Jabalpur, soyabean suffers from

excess oil moisture. Continuous and heavy rains at the time of onset of south west monsoon at Jabalpur which also marks the beginning of the soyabean crop season, often causes delayed planting and sub optimal plant population. This is one of the perpetual causes of the lower yield levels at Jabalpur.

[English]

Cotton Prices

2143. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a bumper harvest of Bt. cotton has pushed cotton prices to record lowest;

(b) if so, whether a drop in local cotton prices alongwith the lower international prices is certain to increase these fibre's hare in the country textile this year which is about 60%; and

(c) if so, the efforts being made to improve the Bt. cotton production in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) No, Sir, The harvesting of bumper *Bacillus thuringiensis* Cotton (Bt. Cotton) alone has not pushed the cotton prices to the lowest. During the current cotton season 2004-05, the prevailing kapas prices have been lower as compared to previous year. The reasons for the lower prices can be attributed to (i) increase in area under cotton both domestically and internationally, (ii) sluggish demand for yarn and made-ups and (iii) increasing impact of international cotton prices on domestic cotton prices, reflecting growing integration of domestic cotton economy with the global economy.

The lower cotton prices domestically and internationally are likely to result in higher cotton consumption in the total fibre consumption in the country in view of profitability to the mills due to lower raw material cost of cotton vis-à-vis man-made fibres. Although the exact details of share of cotton in the total fibre consumption for the current year are not available so far, the total cotton consumption in the country during 2004-05 is estimated to increase by 14% and the Cotton

Advisory Board (CAB) has estimated the same at 198 lakh bales of 170 kg. each as against 173.96 lakh bales in 2003-04. With a view to increasing production and productivity of cotton, thrust is being given to supply of quality seeds including Bt. Cotton to cotton farmers in the country.

Productivity and Quality of Cotton

2144. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is taking any steps to improve productivity and quality of cotton;

(b) if so, the funds earmarked for these purposes during Tenth Plan;

(c) the amount actually spent thereon so far;

(d) whether the cotton growers are provided with any assistance to increase the production of cotton in Tenth Plan; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, 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 (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir. In order to increase production, productivity and improve quality of cotton. Technology Mission on Cotton (TNC) 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. Technology Mission on Cotton has four Mini Missions. The Mini Mission-I deals with the research and development of 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. It is implemented by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation. The Mini Mission-III deals with the development of market yards, and Mini Mission-IV for the upgradation and modernization of ginning and pressing factories and are implemented by the Ministry of Textiles.

(b) and (c) The funds earmarked for Technology Mission on Cotton as Central Share during Tenth Plan are Rs. 475.70 crores, while the amount spent under Mission during Tenth Plan till 2004-05 is Rs. 178.13 crores.

(d) and (e) Under Mini Mission-II of Technology Mission on Cotton, assistance is provided for production and protection technologies through demonstration at farmer's field, training of farmers & extension workers as well as supply of inputs such as certified seeds of varieties/hybrids not older than 15 years, sprayers,

pheromone traps, bio-agents and water saving devices like sprinklers and drip irrigation systems to cotton growers.

Year-wise and State-wise allocation made under Mini Mission-II of Technology Mission on Cotton during the first four years of Tenth Plan is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Year-wise and State-wise allocation under Mini Mission-II of Technology Mission on cotton during Tenth Plan

(Rupees in Lakhs) Central Share

States	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Andhra Pradesh	174.00	385.00	623.62	440.00
Gujarat	244.00	425.00	750.00	750.00
Haryana	117.00	225.00	225.00	280.00
Karnataka	166.00	385.00	486.03	500.00
Madhya Pradesh	170.00	325.00	607.59	400.00
Maharashtra	410.00	645.00	784.79	786.00
Orissa	64.00	145.00	80.00	78.00
Punjab	10.00	5.00	1.00	1.00
Rajasthan	163.00	275.00	719.21	500.00
Tamil Nadu	138.00	225.00	339.41	350.00
Tripura	13.00	15.00	25.00	50.00
Uttar Pradesh	16.00	130.00	80.00	65.00
West Bengal	15.00	45.00	50.00	75.00

Conservation of Water

2145. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to formulate a scheme to conserve water in villages; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when it is proposed to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Several measures for development of water resources including major, medium and minor schemes to conserve water have been undertaken by the State Governments. State Governments are also executing various schemes to harvest rain water. The Government of India is implementing a pilot scheme "National Project for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies directly linked to Agriculture" with a total outlay of Rs. 300 crore during the remaining period of Tenth Five Year Plan.

Export Subsidy for Potato

2146. SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH:
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the subsidy on potato export provided by the Government is less as compared to subsidy provided by the foreign countries for potato export;

(b) if so, whether the Government has any proposal to compete with other countries in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in that direction so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Government does not provide export subsidy on potato.

(b) and (c) The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) provides financial assistance for export of certain agricultural products including potato under the following schemes:

- Scheme for Infrastructure Development
- Scheme for Market Development
- Scheme for Quality Development
- Scheme for Research & Development
- Scheme for Transport Assistance.

[Translation]

Funds for Development of Freshwater Aquaculture

2147. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an amount of Rs. 224.24 lakh has been demanded from the Union Government under the centrally sponsored scheme Development of Freshwater Aquaculture through Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDAs);

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

(c) by when the proposed amount is likely to be sanctioned and 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 KANTILAL BHURIA): (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 utilisation of released amount as well as the progress report from the State.

[English]

Repairing of Roads/Highways Around Sanctuaries

2148. SHRI M. APPADURAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Environment and Forests has withheld permission to the village panchayats to carry out repairing of roads and highways which are in the vicinity of wild life sanctuaries/parks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken to repair such roads/highways?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Activity of repairs of roads/highways attract the provisions of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 only if such roads/highways passed through the National Parks/Wildlife Sanctuaries or any other notified forest lands.

Takeover of FACT Ltd., Cochin

2149. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN:
SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN:

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

(a) whether the Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) has recommended takeover of the Fertilizer and Chemicals Travancore (FACT) Limited, Cochin by the Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited (RCF) as a part of the new revival plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) The Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) in its meeting held on 17.3.2005 has suggested to explore the possibility of Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd. entering into a management contract with FACT to manage the company.

(c) Revised proposals have been submitted for consideration of BRPSE.

Allocation in Tourism Sector

2150. SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Tourism has sought higher budgetary allocation for projects such as convention centres, hotels and other tourism relating activities; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) The Ministry of Tourism had sought higher budgetary allocation for upgrading the tourist infrastructure, funding of Large Revenue Generating projects like Convention Centres, Assistance for creation of hotel Accommodation and other activities relating to Publicity, Overseas Marketing, Human Resource Development, etc.

(b) The Union Government has granted a higher allocation under the Plan Head of the Ministry of Tourism for the year 2005-06. The budget allocated is Rs. 786 crore as compared to Rs. 500 crore during the year 2004-05.

Agricultural Land in Maharashtra

2151. SHRIMATI NJVEDITA MANE:
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the area of agricultural land in hectare in the country, particularly in Maharashtra and the area out of these actually cultivated, State-wise;

(b) the contribution of agriculture sector in the State Gross Domestic Product (GDP) as compared to National GDP;

(c) the number of persons engaged under agriculture sector presently in the country, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for the promotion of agriculture in the country, 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 (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) According to the Land Use Statistics compiled by the Ministry of Agriculture, the area of agricultural land in the State of Maharashtra is 21.20 million hectares, out of which the area under cultivation is 18.83 million hectares. State-wise agricultural land and area under cultivation is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) The contribution of agriculture sector in the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) of Maharashtra as compared to share of India's agriculture in total Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2003-04 is given in the following Table:

Share of Agriculture in GDP for the year 2003-04

(Rs. Crore)

State/ National	GDP at Current Prices			GDP at Constant (1993-94) prices		
	Agriculture	Total	Share of Agriculture in total GDP	Agriculture	Total	Share of agriculture in total GDP
Maharashtra	34874	333145	10.5%	21667	190151	11.4%
All India	521538	2519785	20.7%	283323	1430548	19.8%

(c) As per the Population Census 2001, the number of persons (both cultivators and agricultural labourers) employed in the agriculture sector in the State of Maharashtra was 22.63 million while for the country as a whole it was 234.1 million. The State-wise figures of number of persons engaged in agriculture based on 2001 Population Census are given in Statement-II enclosed.

(d) Keeping in view the importance of Agriculture in the economy, the Union Budget 2005-06 has provided for substantial increase in the budgetary outlay for agriculture and allied sectors in 2005-06 compared to 2004-05. The Budget has provided Rs. 4800 crore for the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme for 2005-06 compared with Rs. 2800 crore in 2004-05. With a view to improving water use efficiency in Indian agriculture, the Budget has provided for Rs. 400 crore for promoting micro irrigation in 2005-06. Since the flow of credit is important in accelerating the pace of investment in agriculture, the disbursement of agricultural credit is proposed to be stepped up by 30% in 2005-06 over the disbursement of Rs. 1,15,243/-crores in 2004-05. These programmes/schemes would also cover the State of Maharashtra. Besides, in the State of Maharashtra the Oilseed Development Programme, Accelerated Maize Development Programme, Pulses Development Programme and Intensive Cotton Development Programme (Mini Mission-II of Technology Mission on Cotton) are being implemented.

*Statement I**State-wise Agricultural Land and Cultivated Area*

(In thousand Hectares)

State	Agricultural Land Cultivated Area	
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	15778	13121
Arunachal Pradesh	314	195

1	2	3
Assam	3225	2873
Chhattisgarh	5600	5027
Goa	197	141
Gujarat	12357	10354
Haryana	3735	3691
Himachal Pradesh	801	606
Jammu & Kashmir	1050	824
Jharkhand	4184	3013
Karnataka	12908	11669
Kerala	2381	2259
Madhya Pradesh	17373	15514
Maharashtra	21196	18834
Manipur	164	140
Meghalaya	1053	295
Mizoram	426	195
Nagaland	669	411
Orissa	7473	6165
Punjab	4312	4290
Rajasthan	25633	17495
Sikkim	114	99

1	2	3
Tamil Nadu	8251	6093
Tripura	310	281
Uttaranchal	1416	861
Uttar Pradesh	19315	17844
West Bengal	5854	5735
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	70	39
Chandigarh	2	2
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	24	24
Daman and Diu	7	4
Delhi	58	40
Lakshadweep	3	3
Pondicherry	32	25
All India	182927	154388

Statement II*State-wise Number of Persons Employed in Agriculture*

(In Million)

State/UTs	Persons employed in Agriculture
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	21.7
Arunachal Pradesh	0.3
Assam	5.0
Bihar	21.6
Goa	0.1
Gujarat	11.0
Haryana	4.3
Himachal Pradesh	2.0
Jammu & Kashmir	1.8

1	2
Karnataka	13.1
Kerala	2.3
Madhya Pradesh	18.4
Maharashtra	22.6
Manipur	0.5
Meghalaya	0.6
Mizoram	0.3
Nagaland	0.6
Orissa	9.2
Punjab	3.6
Rajasthan	15.7
Sikkim	0.1
Tamil Nadu	13.8
Tripura	0.6
Uttar Pradesh	35.6
West Bengal	13.0
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.0
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.1
Daman and Diu	0.0
Delhi	0.1
Lakshadweep	0.0
Pondicherry	0.1
Uttaranchal	1.8
Chhattisgarh	7.4
Jharkhand	6.7
All India	234.1

Source: Population Census, 2001.

*[Translation]***Scheme for Protection of Endangered Species**

2152. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:
SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA:

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

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to formulate a scheme for the protection of endangered species of animals in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds spent by the Government on the schemes formulated for the protection of endangered species of animals during the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) the amount sanctioned by the Government for the protection of endangered species of animals under the existing schemes and that formulated during the current year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Ministry already has Centrally Sponsored Schemes for protection and conservation of endangered species. No new dedicated scheme for the protection of endangered species of animals is contemplated.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Details of funds sanctioned and amount utilised by the State Governments during the last three years under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes are enclosed in statement-I to III.

Statement I***Details of Funds Released and Utilised under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries"***

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the State/UTs	Released 2001-02	Utilised	Released 2002-03	Utilised	Released 2003-04	Utilised	Released 2004-05	Utilised (Received till 5.8.2005)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	25.59	18.442	20.75	—	—	—	69.40	Nil
2.	Andhra Pradesh	88.595	77.56	82.725	83.2404	88.30856	70.535	71.70	73.321
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	160.465	108.801	105.035	61.009	151.046	107.611	111.088	104.008
4.	Assam	70.55	168.91	162.135	48.25	93.68	227.89	213.45	—
5.	Bihar	4.52	—	00	—	24.65	—	—	—
6.	Chandigarh	18.40	18.20	14.00	14.00	—	—	—	Nil
7.	Chhattisgarh	36.94	28.70	92.025	91.16877	295.93469	255.984	227.29	268.10
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	6.01	1.59	15.25	8.69	—	—	20.00	Nil
9.	Goa	89.98	—	Nil	—	36.45607	9.681	37.50	35.89
10.	Gujarat	127.20	18.95	90.365	29.04	52.14	222.81	223.93	211.29
11.	Haryana	15.64	31.71	18.75	29.14	24.84	38.49	45.10	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
12.	Himachal Pradesh	111.235	95.423	93.853	74.6715	168.9605	182.885	343.52	349.085
13.	Jammu & Kashmir	26.00	29.91	99.90	62.09651	138.82492	76.914	63.20	—
14.	Jharkhand	Nil	—	29.89	29.89	54.6228	21.50	77.59	110.71
15.	Karnataka	388.26	119.204	599.017	225.7889	693.9609	719.64	546.24	—
16.	Kerala	81.50	71.444	198.978	240.595	188.371	220.655	238.78879	233.353
17.	Madhya Pradesh	99.38	74.843	196.332	195.719	344.35594	273.579	288.4755	
18.	Maharashtra	153.368	129.936	168.20	169.51457	165.24596	129.79134	108.05	221.86
19.	Manipur	26.81	58.594	64.50	64.5	57.80	49.50	110.588	118.888
20.	Meghalaya	27.95	26.08	40.25	57.64	93.07	96.25	84.82	
21.	Mizoram	128.55	105.67	235.60	201.42	231.836	214.891	315.0412	275.3662
22.	Nagaland	43.13	48.13	107.84	78.00	42.70	39.63	32.32	—
23.	Orissa	70.265	128.37	82.57	92.255	187.25	115.91	370.27	367.93
24.	Punjab	29.60	—	Nil	—	—	—	—	—
25.	Rajasthan	73.00	87.759	366.273	208.761	214.819	328.4587	246.62	240.445
26.	Sikkim	30.45	61.10	132.76	119.16	108.92	102.30	74.40	86.80
27.	Tamil Nadu	75.23	49.54	136.11	118.41	139.76	143.925	158.75	—
28.	Tripura	46.41	45.387	101.88	71.275	245.26484	54.065	49.125	—
29.	Uttar Pradesh	79.815	74.345	137.36	118.28	164.37	177.12	287.53	292.51
30.	Uttaranchal	38.13	36.23	77.985	61.21	96.39	63.34	68.20	56.20
31.	West Bengal	180.945	103.889	223.67	235.287	214.165	231.824	317.24	298.10186
	Total	2353.918	1818.717	3694.00	2787.012	4318.74218	4175.199904	4780.22449	3343.856

Statement II*Details of Fund Released and Utilized under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Project Elephant"*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	State	2001-2002		2002-2003		2003-2004		2004-05	
		Released	Utilized	Released	Utilized	Released	Utilized	Released	Utilized
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	31	31	50.00	45.00	55.00	47.271	48.00	46.694
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	58	14.288	52.00	60.722	61.00	61.497	59.00	74.588

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
3.	Assam	94.5	65	116.00	69.10	134.100	130.35	130.00	110.5
4.	Jharkhand	22.688	22.688	45.00	43.62	93.00	92.38	105.96	132.532
5.	Karnataka	81	47.75	93.00	117.34	149.660	157.5	186.22	179.19
6.	Kerala	82	58.61	111.88	118.394	188.280	167.105	167.40	156.403
7.	Meghalaya	30	26	41.00	45.00	64.00	59.64	70.00	0
8.	Nagaland	72.13	72.13	49.00	35.00	42.00	56.00	29.00	29.00
9.	Orissa	102.03	97.442	108.39	114.048	116.100	76.17	137.96	150.46
10.	Tamil Nadu	40	31.54	71.26	57.62	117.00	107.30	84.00	104.36
11.	Uttaranchal	125.14	119.855	107.00	101.55	129.00	109.74	138.90	17.00
12.	West Bengal	95	66.545	86.47	103.975	119.950	107.43	148.54	142.02
13.	Manipur	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.00	0
14.	Tripura	1.00	1.00	3.00	3.00	16.00	0	17.00	0
15.	Mizoram	—	—	5.00	0.00	—	0	0.00	0
16.	Uttar Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	12.00	11.5
	Total	632.49	653.848	939.00	914.369	1285.09	1172.38	1333.98	1154.25

*Including unspent amount from the previous year.

Statement III

Details of Funds Released and Utilised under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Project Tiger"

(Rs. in Lakhs)

SI.No.	Name of the State/UTs	Released 2002-03	Utilised	Released 2003-04	Utilised	Released 2004-05	Utilized
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	21.10	9.993	22.89	22.85	15.00	37.864
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	35.875	28.773	68.75	66.29	35.00	55.801
3.	Assam	65.70	29.70	79.95	—	—	107.85
4.	Bihar	25.00	24.98	50.00	66.40	85.00	42.7079
5.	Chhattisgarh	32.48	40.91	80.25	91.524	27.75	8.42611
6.	Karnataka	289.56	184.89	269.32	192.235	486.292	435.521
7.	Kerala	63.75	59.25	120.68	80.18	105.75	97.01

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8.	Jharkhand	18.00	77.0015	35.9915	33.8435	72.5005	70.809
9.	Madhya Pradesh	786.44	658.67	1103.414	579.114	609.93	674.399
10.	Maharashtra	621.79	221.213	228.45	187.39	255.953	89.405
11.	Mizoram	98.32	105.435	67.56	70.94	94.34	110.86
12.	Orissa	32.88	99.41	151.91	65.50	116.4395	149.949
13.	Rajasthan	294.92	179.605	158.330	236.472	79.00	163.799
14.	Tamil Nadu	125.00	102.530	35.00	63.40	80.00	96.81
15.	Uttaranchal	168.00	157.52	200.91	188.29	200.12	214.99
16.	Uttar Pradesh	32.75	30.00	173.585	162.735	175.215	NR
17.	West Bengal	168.33	180.12	225.17	217.50	325.49	47.736
Total		2879.895	2190.0005	3067.2105	2404.6135	2763.78	2403.937

Child Labour

2153. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:
SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:
SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:
DR. M. JAGANNATH:

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

(a) whether the number of child labourers is continuously increasing in the country;

(b) if so, the number of child labourers in the country in the year 1991 and 2001 respectively;

(c) the details of funds allocated by the Government for the child labour welfare and rehabilitation scheme during the last three years, State-wise;

(d) whether the said funds are being fully utilized by the States;

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check the increasing number of child labourers; and

(f) the programmes being undertaken by the Government for the rehabilitation of the child labourers

rescued from various factories and the extent to which the said programmes are gaining success?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) As per Census 2001 figures, the number of working children in the country has registered slight increase over that of 1991 in absolute terms. However, the percentage of working children to that of child population has come down. The number of working children in the country as per the last two Census is given below:

Year	1991	2001
Population of working children (in crores)	1.12	1.26

(c) The statement is enclosed.

(d) Funds are not released to the State Governments, but are directly allocated to the various districts under the NCLP Scheme and are utilized by them.

(e) To check further increase in the number of child labour in the country, Government has focused on converging various welfare schemes of different departments of the Governments in order to make multi-pronged efforts to eliminate child labour from this country.

(f) With a view to rehabilitate children withdrawn from hazardous occupations and processes, Government is implementing National Child Labour Project Scheme in 250 districts spread over 21 States of the country. Under the Scheme, special schools are set up for the child labour to provide bridging education before they are mainstreamed into the regular school education system. In addition, 21 districts of the country are also covered

under a similar INDO-US (INDUS) Scheme for rehabilitation of working children, launched recently. These programmes are being implemented in convergence with Sarva Siksha Abhiyan of the Government aimed to rehabilitate working children by putting them in school. The progress of these special schools is monitored through regular inspections and returns and the results of these efforts are found quite successful.

Statement

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Funds released in 2002-03	Funds released in 2003-04	Funds released in 2004-05
1.	Andhra Pradesh	173,099,447	169,316,387	232,220,831
2.	Assam	—	—	686,500
3.	Bihar	15,038,454	20,535,724	28,205,834
4.	Chhattisgarh	18,705,009	16,847,344	23,080,814
5.	Gujarat	—	—	2,153,500
6.	Goa	—	—	592,000
7.	Jharkhand	16,478,418	18,286,506	19,285,773
8.	Karnataka	29,634,864	32,056,910	33,101,388
9.	Madhya Pradesh	15,040,004	13,498,563	44,521,226
10.	Maharashtra	13,426,232	10,223,618	16,848,418
11.	Orissa	92,931,983	113,266,981	131,264,355
12.	Rajasthan	33,710,290	35,207,381	44,303,713
13.	Tamil Nadu	74,914,668	74,657,543	72,462,692
14.	Uttar Pradesh	84,173,823	75,912,162	75,414,744
15.	West Bengal	50,076,934	45,620,576	74,236,099
16.	Punjab	18,754,380	23,937,440	18,404,902
17.	Haryana	—	—	458,500
18.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	458,500
Total		635,984,506	649,367,135	817,699,789

*[English]***Depletion of Ground Water Level**

2154. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the level of ground water is being depleted alarmingly due to its irrational use;

(b) if so, the details of such depletion recorded during each of the last three years and current year;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to prevent such depletion;

(d) whether the Government has any plan to link the policy of subsidizing micro-irrigation to ground water status where the ground water depletion is most serious; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), under the Ministry of Water Resources, monitors ground water levels through a nation-wide network of observation wells. An analysis of data collected through these observation wells indicates that there has been significant decline (more than 20 cm/year) in ground water levels during pre-monsoon period during last three years and current year in certain parts of 362 districts of 23 States/Union Territories viz. Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, West Bengal, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Pondicherry. The main reasons for decline in ground water level are rapid pace of urbanization, increasing demand for agricultural, industrial and domestic purposes, change in cropping pattern, excessive withdrawals of ground water, poor rainfall etc.

(c) 'Water' being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to formulate plans for augmenting water resources. The CGWB has prepared a report entitled "Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water", which envisages recharge of 36453 Million Cubic Metre volume of surplus monsoon runoff, through construction of 39.25 lakhs

artificial recharge and roof top rain water harvesting structures. The CGWB has implemented a Central Sector Scheme for Study of Recharge to Ground Water in the country during the VIII & IX Five Year Plans. The following steps have also been taken by the Union Government in this regard:

- (i) Circulation of a Model Bill in the year 1970 which was re-circulated in 1992 and again in 1996 to all the States/Union Territories to enable them to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development. A revised Model Bill, 2005 to regulate and control the development and management of ground water has been again circulated to all the States/Union Territories.
- (ii) Circulation of Manual/Guidelines on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend of ground water levels.
- (iii) Central Ministries/Departments of Railways, Defence, Posts, Telecommunications, Central Public Works Department and National Highways Authority of India have been requested to provide roof top rain water harvesting structures in the buildings under their control.
- (iv) States/UTs have been requested to provide water harvesting structures in buildings under their administrative control.
- (v) All the States/Union Territories have been requested for advising the local bodies in their respective States/Union Territories to allow rebate in property tax to persons, who adopted roof top rainwater harvesting in their premises.
- (vi) CGWB has provided technical guidance on rain water harvesting to around 2000 agencies, including State Government agencies, educational institutions, private entrepreneurs and individuals.
- (vii) The Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) constituted under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 has notified 11 critical areas on consideration of over-exploitation of ground water resources and 32 over-exploited areas for registration of ground water structures.

- (viii) Launching of a website on Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting (www.cgwb.net) to make aware and educate the public about various techniques of harvesting rainwater and store it for future use.
- (ix) Organisation of mass awareness programmes and training courses on rainwater harvesting and artificial recharge of ground water.
- (x) Rain Water Harvesting campaign has been launched keeping in view the various target groups like youth and children, women, farmers and villagers, policy and opinion makers. Publicity through print media, telecasting of spots on the television, broadcasting messages on radio, holding of seminars, workshops, conferences etc., have been undertaken for the purpose.
- (xi) The Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation, Government of India have amended Building Bye-laws, 1983, making provision for water harvesting through storing of water run-off including rain water in all new buildings on plots of 100 square meters and above in Delhi mandatory. Similarly, State Governments of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Rajasthan and Kerala have made roof top rain water harvesting mandatory in specified cases.

(d) No Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Investment in Agriculture Sector

2155. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:
SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR:
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:
SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of investment made in the agriculture sector during the last three years through various schemes and projects;

(b) whether the investments in the agriculture sector has been declining continuously;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to increase the investment in agriculture sector; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to increase the investments in the agriculture sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Investment in agriculture including forestry, logging and fishing measured in terms of the statistics of Gross Capital Formation (GCF) at 1993-94 prices during the last three years is given below:

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Public	Private	Total
2001-02	5488	14872	20360
2002-03	4760	16740	21500
2003-04	5699	18487	24186

(b) and (c) Successive Five Year Plans have witnessed a steady decline in public investment in real terms in agriculture including allied sectors of forestry, logging and fishing. Analysis of trends in public investment in agriculture revealed that it declined in real terms (at 1993-94 prices) from Rs. 35640 crore during the Sixth Plan (1980-85) to Rs. 28793 crore during the Seventh Plan (1985-90) to Rs. 25298 crore during the Ninth Plan (1997-2002). The decline in gross capital formation referred to above is almost entirely on account of public investment in agriculture, which is essentially investment in irrigation.

(d) and (e) With a view to raising the level of investment in agriculture sector, the total Plan Outlay of the Ministry of Agriculture (Crop and Animal Husbandry & Dairying) has been raised by 44 per cent from Rs. 41.50 crores in 2004-05 (Budget Estimate) to Rs. 5998 crore in 2005-06 (Budget Estimate). A number of schemes, including new schemes like dryland farming with focus on rainwater harvesting and efficient use of water as life saving irrigation in rainfed areas, National Horticulture Mission aimed at doubling production of horticultural crops and improving the economic conditions of farmers by sustaining the golden revolution and promoting exports, seek to improve productive capacity in agriculture through significant step up in investment, which largely benefits rural areas by raising employment and income. The Union Budget for 2005-06 has provided Rs. 4800 crore for the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme for 2005-06 compared with Rs. 2800 crore

in 2004-05. With a view to improving water use efficiency in Indian agriculture, the Budget has provided for Rs. 400 crore for promoting micro irrigation in 2005-06. Since the flow of credit is important in accelerating the pace of investment in agriculture, the disbursement of agricultural credit is proposed to be stepped up by 30 per cent in 2005-06 over the credit disbursement of Rs. 1,15,243/-crore in 2004-05.

The plan outlay for research and education including extension has been raised by 15% from Rs. 1000 crore in 2004-05 to Rs. 1150 crore in 2005-06. Cumulatively the measures sustained on a progressive basis are expected to lead to a reversal of deceleration in agricultural growth. Simultaneously since agriculture is a State subject, States will have to increase their budgetary outlays on agriculture.

[English]

Tourism Schemes of Assam

2156. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state the execution status of Revenue Generating Projects, Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits and Destination Development Schemes with total outlay, target fixed, annual allocation, utilization and progress made against each scheme in Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): Development of tourism is the responsibility of the State Governments/U.Ts. Ministry of Tourism, Government of India provides financial assistance for Integrated Development of Tourism Circuits and Destination Development under the schemes formulated for this purpose. No project under the Scheme-Revenue Generating Projects has been received from the State of Assam.

10 per cent of the total Budget outlay of the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India is earmarked for North East Region and there is no State-wise target. Allocation of funds to the North East States is also not made on State-wise basis but funds are sanctioned on receipt of the tourism-related projects proposals identified in consultation with the State Governments, which are complete in all respect.

The Ministry has sanctioned financial assistance for development of tourism circuits and tourist destinations

to the State of Assam during last 3 years, as under:

Year	Amount Sanctioned
2002-03	Rs. 721.30 lakhs
2003-04	Rs. 313.46 lakhs
2004-05	Rs. 821.75 lakhs

There are separate time schedules for execution of projects which are monitored at the level of the State Government. Funds are released in instalments on the basis of utilization of CFA in each project and on receipt of necessary documents such as Completion Certificate and Management of Assets undertaking.

[Translation]

Task Force on Tiger Reserves

2157. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI:
SHRI SURESH CHANDEL:
SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY:
SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:
DR. M. JAGANNATH:
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN:
SHRI JUAL ORAM:
SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:
SHRIMATI RUPATAI D. PATIL:

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

(a) whether the Task Force constituted to review the country's dwindling tiger population has submitted its report to the Government;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the Task Force;

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay;

(d) by when the report is likely to be submitted;

(e) whether experts have voiced their disquiet over the proposal of Government to set up a National Wildlife Bureau to check poaching; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) The report of the Task Force has been finalised and will be presented to the Prime Minister shortly.

(e) and (f) The concerns/suggestions received in this regard have been duly considered.

Harvesting of Rain Water

2158. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that only 5 to 10 percentage of rainwater is being used for agricultural purposes in tribal areas of Kotada, Jhadol, Goguda, Khekhadar, Salumbar, Sarara, Aaspur of South Rajasthan and 90 to 95 percent goes waste into sea;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to harvest remaining 90 to 95 per cent of rain water to provide it to the framers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir. The Government of Rajasthan has reported that it is not true that 90 to 95 percent of water of southern Rajasthan is going waste into sea.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

New Irrigation Schemes

2159. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU:
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to implement new irrigation schemes for the benefit of small and marginal farmers;

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

(c) the total amount allocated/released by the Union Government to the State Governments for the purpose during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Irrigation being a State subject the irrigation projects are planned, formulated and executed by the State Governments out of their own resources as per their priorities. The Central Government has not proposed new irrigation schemes for the benefit of small & marginal farmers. However, a pilot scheme "National project for repair, renovation and restoration of water bodies directly linked to Agriculture" has been approved by the Union Government in January, 2005 with a total outlay of Rs. 300 crore for the remaining period of Tenth Five Year Plan. The aims and objectives of the project are to restore and augment the storage capacity of water bodies and to recover and extend their lost irrigation potential. The scheme envisages taking up pilot projects by the States in one or two districts. Ministry of Water Resources has approved 16 district projects of 9 States. Statement-I showing details of Central share released under the scheme to various States in 2004-05 and in 2005-06 till date is enclosed. As large number of major and medium irrigation projects in the country are languishing due to various reasons, the most important of them being financial constraints of the State Governments, the Central Government during 1996-97 launched the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) to provide Central Loan Assistance (CLA) to approved ongoing major/medium irrigation projects with the objective to accelerate implementation of these projects which are beyond the resource capability of the States or are in an advanced stage of completion. The criteria for inclusion of projects under AIBP have been relaxed to include minor irrigation schemes of Non-Special Category States with potential more than 100 hectare with preference to Tribal Areas and drought prone Areas which wholly benefit dalits and adivasis. The State-wise details of CLA/grant released under AIBP for the last three years are given in the enclosed Statement-II. No CLA/grant under AIBP has been released to the States during 2005-06.

Statement-I*Details of District Projects approved in Phase-I during 2004-05*

(Rs. crore)

Sl.No.	Name of State	Name of District	Estimated cost	Central share	Central share released in 2004-05	Central share released in 2005-06
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Mahabub Nabar	32.840	24.63	2.44	
		Anantpur	13.770	10.33	0.00	
2.	Karnataka	Gulbarga	31.640	23.73	4.42	
		Bangalore Rural	11.010	8.25	1.00	
3.	Jharkhand	Saralkela	2.854	2.14	0.33	
		Palamu	10.060	7.55	1.17	
4.	Chhattisgarh	Kabir Dham	2.240	1.68	0.00	0.75
5.	Orissa	Ganjam	12.820	9.62	1.14	
		Gajapati	6.010	4.51	0.55	
6.	Rajasthan	Ajmer	4.489	3.37	0.00	
		Pali	2.450	1.84	0.00	
7.	West Bengal	Uttar Dinajpur	4.934	3.70	0.74	
		South-24	18.664	14.00	0.21	
		Paraganas				
8.	Tamil Nadu	Sivagangai	1.222	0.92	0.00	
		Villupuram	9.372	7.03	0.00	
9.	Madhya Pradesh	Tikamgarh	3.923	2.94	0.00	
Total			168.298	126.24	12.00	0.75

Statement II*Status of CLA/Grant Released Under AIBP for the Years 2002-03 to 2004-05*

(Rs. Crore)

Sl.No.	State	2002-03 Amount Released	2003-04 Amount Released	2004-05 Amount Released
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	33.186	205.530	87.547
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.500	20.00	10.000

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Assam	16.274	19.202	16.930
4.	Bihar	14.481	74.644	37.215
5.	Chhattisgarh	104.000	74.630	2.925
6.	Goa	0.00	2.000	0.650
7.	Gujarat	1000.330	650.359	530.500
8.	Haryana	18.000	7.735	11.135
9.	Himachal Pradesh	8.150	14.692	3.690
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	34.999	21.545	12.745
11.	Jharkhand	9.670	1.833	21.285
12.	Karnataka	620.850	266.478	396.295
13.	Kerala	5.665	31.000	49.440
14.	Madhya Pradesh	220.000	568.440	516.701
15.	Maharashtra	133.134	164.395	529.286
16.	Manipur	19.500	15.500	13.000
17.	Meghalaya	1.500	1.088	1.744
18.	Mizoram	0.750	9.300	5.000
19.	Nagaland	2.659	8.000	4.000
20.	Orissa	179.570	154.685	24.223
21.	Punjab	36.660	0.000	0.000
22.	Rajasthan	174.385	499.837	352.904
23.	Sikkim	0.750	0.750	0.750
24.	Tamil Nadu	0.000	0.000	0.000
25.	Tripura	13.395	13.377	11.000
26.	Uttar Pradesh	359.000	274.785	175.920
27.	Uttaranchal	25.163	25.553	38.992
28.	West Bengal	28.133	3.144	13.461
Total		3061.703	3128.501	2667.336

Assistance for Herbal and Medicinal Plants

2160. MOHD. MUKEEM:
SHRI GANESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of production of medicinal plants and herbs recorded in the country particularly Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal at present, State-wise; and

(b) the assistance provided to encourage medicinal and herbal plants cultivation to each State during the last three years and thereafter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The estimated production of medicinal and herbal plants in the State of Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal are 850 tonnes and 669 tonnes respectively.

(b) The assistance provided to the farmers for growing medicinal and herbal plants in Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal during the last three years are as under:

Year	(Rs. in lakh)	
	Uttar Pradesh	Uttaranchal
2002-03	3.94	3.00
2003-04	2.25	33.49
2004-05	21.98	61.88

[English]

Welfare of Tailoring Workers

2161. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any representation from the tailoring workers with regard to their various demands;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to bring a legislation with regard to the welfare fund and other amenities of the tailoring workers;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any State Government has made Welfare Fund Act for the tailoring workers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) Some State Governments like Kerala and Tamil Nadu have constituted Welfare Funds/schemes for the tailoring workers. Kerala has constituted 'the Kerala Tailoring Workers Welfare Fund Board' under which the benefits of disability pension, retirement pension, marriage relief, maternity benefit, scholarship, cash awards, etc. are provided. Tamil Nadu Tailoring Workers Social Security & Welfare Scheme-2001 has provision for coverage under accident & natural death, assistance in case of marriage, education & funeral.

Condition of Fair Price Shops

2162. DR. K. DHANARAJU: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the Fair Price Shops (FPS) in different parts of the country are set up either in the houses or dilapidated rented buildings;

(b) if so, whether the foodgrains, sugar etc. are kept in an unhygienic condition in such shops;

(c) if so, whether the Government proposes to issue guidelines to States/Union Territories for construction of pucca structures for FPS to ensure safety of the commodities to be distributed through these FPS;

(d) if so, whether the Government proposes to give special funds to States for the said purpose;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) in 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 (f) The Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State Governments wherein the Central Government is responsible for procurement of foodgrains,

storage and their transportation upto the Principal Distribution Centres of FCI. The responsibility of opening of Fair Price Shops (FPS) and their administration rests with the respective State Governments. However no such instances of functioning of FPSs in dilapidated buildings and keeping the foodgrains in an unhygienic condition have come to the notice of the Government in the recent past.

[Translation]

Encroachment of Forest Land

2163. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:
SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:
SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:
SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA:

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

- (a) whether there has been an alarming increase in the cases of encroachment on forest land in the country;
- (b) if so, the State-wise details of area/percentage of encroached forest land and the steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether certain laws permit the usage of forest land for other purposes;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the existing laws are required to be amended to check the encroachment; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) As per information received from various States/Union Territories (UTs) as on 31-3-2004, about 13.43 lakh hectare of forest land in the country is under encroachments. The State-wise details are given in the Statement enclosed. Encroachment on forest land is an offence under Section 26 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 and, therefore, it is required to be evicted. However, in September 1990, Central Government issued guidelines under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 which enabled Central Government and the State/UT Governments to regularize pre-1980 eligible encroachments as a one time dispensation with the condition that all post-1980 encroaches will be evicted. Even with the dispensation for regularization of pre-1980 eligible encroachments, Central Government observed that the encroachments on forest lands were on the increase. Therefore, in pursuance of Supreme Court's Order, Central Government on 3rd May 2002, directed all the State/UT Governments to evict the in-eligible encroachers from forest lands in a time bound manner. As per reports received from various States/UTs, encroachments have been cleared from about 1.52 lakh hectare of forest land.

(c) and (d) Regulated use of forest land for non-forestry purposes is permitted under the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for development projects like power generation (hydro-power, thermal, gas, and wind), irrigation, construction of roads, railway lines, transmission lines, drinking water supply projects, village electricity, schools, hospitals etc. To mitigate the ill effects arising out of such diversion, compensatory afforestation and other necessary measures are undertaken at the project cost.

(e) and (f) No Sir. The existing provisions under Indian Forest Act, 1927, and the State Forest Acts for the time being in force, are adequate to deal with the problems of encroachment on forest lands.

Statement

State-wise Encroachment on Forest Lands and their Eviction Since May, 2002

(As on 31.3.2004)

Sl.No.	Name of State	Encroachment on forest lands till May, 2002 (in hectare)	Encroachment evicted from forest lands since May, 2002 (in hectare)	Existing encroachment on forest lands as on 31-3-2004 (in hectare)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	295383.000	0.000	295383.000
2.	Assam	371450.000	71740.000	299710.000
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	4038.000	150.190	3887.710

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	4637.890	2580.400	2057.490
5.	Bihar	854.181	602.313	251.869
6.	Chandigarh	0.000	0.000	0.000
7.	Chhattisgarh	150495.000	0.000	150495.000
8.	Delhi	0.000	0.000	0.000
9.	Daman and Diu	87.960	0.000	87.960
10.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	614.350	0.000	614.350
11.	Gujarat	36556.400	14416.860	22139.540
12.	Goa	1012.000	0.000	1012.000
13.	Haryana	2147.900	873.840	1274.060
14.	Himachal Pradesh	2925.999	84.124	2841.875
15.	Jammu & Kashmir	11090.000	1806.000	9284.000
16.	Jharkhand	50177.800	1739.390	48438.410
17.	Karnataka	87658.000	19948.000	67710.000
18.	Kerala	9473.000	2183.000	7290.000
19.	Lakshadweep	0.000	0.000	0.000
20.	Maharashtra	93199.390	13557.660	79461.730
21.	Manipur	535.990	2.750	533.240
22.	Meghalaya	6584.490	0.000	6584.490
23.	Madhya Pradesh	146182.225	8071.640	138110.585
24.	Mizoram	18759.616	0.000	18759.616
25.	Nagaland	0.000	0.000	0.000
26.	Orissa	45068.964	2483.434	42605.530
27.	Punjab	7233.573	420.767	6812.806
28.	Pondicherry	0.000	0.000	0.000
29.	Rajasthan	15073.154	8360.412	6712.742
30.	Sikkim	3550.090	50.450	3499.640
31.	Tamilnadu	19253.848	1698.284	17555.564
32.	Tripura	59336.150	0.000	59336.150

1	2	3	4	5
33.	Uttaranchal	9948.800	280.800	9668.000
34.	Uttar Pradesh	27576.530	361.900	27214.630
35.	West Bengal	14842.432	1007.896	13834.536
	Total	1495746.732	152400.110	1343346.822

*[Translation]**Statement*

Assistance from CIDA for Environmental Development

2164. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

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

(a) whether the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) has extended grant to promote environment friendly development in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the environmental project assisted by CIDA during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the details of the assistance received by the Government for such projects;

(d) the terms and conditions of such assistance; and

(e) the details of the debts outstanding as on date and time by when such assistance will be repaid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) has extended a commodity grant of Rs. 135.12 crores during 1994-98 to India Canada Environment Facility (ICEF) to promote environment friendly development in the country. No assistance has been received by the government thereafter during the last 3 years.

(d) The original Memorandum of Understanding between Governments of India and Canada containing details of broad terms and conditions of the India Canada Environment Facility project is enclosed as statement.

(e) Does not arise.

*Memorandum of Understanding
Between
The Government of India
and
The Government of Canada*

The Government of India (hereinafter called "INDIA") and the Government of Canada (hereinafter called "CANADA") desiring to record an understanding concerning a Canadian development assistance project which will establish a mechanism to support selected Indian organizations to assume increasing responsibility for management and implementation of development projects which respond to Indian and Canadian priorities relating to the environment, referred to as the India/Canada Environment Facility Project (hereinafter called the "Project"), have agreed as follows:

Article 1

Nature of the Memorandum of Understanding

Section 1.01

The Memorandum of Understanding does not constitute an international treaty. It is a subsidiary arrangement made pursuant to the General Agreement on Development Cooperation between Canada and India dated the 13th day of February 1989 and is intended to set out the responsibilities of the two governments in relation to the Project.

Section 1.02

For the purposes of this Project, all the provisions of the General Agreement on Development Cooperation shall apply, unless specifically excluded under the terms of this Memorandum of Understanding.

*Article II**Responsible Authorities***Section 2.01**

CANADA designates the Canadian International Development Agency (hereinafter called "CIDA") as the agency responsible for the implementation of its obligations under this Memorandum of Understanding.

Section 2.02

INDIA designates the Department of Economic Affairs, Government of India, (hereinafter called "DEA") as the agency responsible for the implementation of its obligations under this Memorandum of Understanding.

*Article III**The Project***Section 3.01**

INDIA and CANADA shall participate in a Project to provide financial resources necessary to support implementation of development subprojects by eligible Indian organizations, by means of a counterpart fund generated through the monetization of Canadian commodities under this and subsequent government-to-government agreements. The proceeds of monetization of the commodities shall be made available for developmental subprojects consistent with India's and Canada's environmental priorities.

Section 3.02

Indian organizations will be responsible for subproject development and implementation.

Section 3.03

The procurement of commodities for the Project will be performed by CANADA, according to criteria agreed jointly by INDIA and CANADA, and in accordance with the procedures set out in the Project Management Plan.

Section 3.04

Commodity selection and procurement and the volume and timing of commodity shipments, shall neither disrupt, displace nor reduce the normal commercial trade between India and Canada.

*Article IV**Project Management Plan***Section 4.01**

For implementation of the Project: INDIA and CANADA will develop a Project Management Plan which will constitute an operational document. It will contain, inter alia, the following:

- (a) a detailed description of the Project;
- (b) a schedule for the implementation of the Project activities;
- (c) the reporting requirements for the Project;
- (d) the nature, timing and responsibilities for the Project evaluations and the means by which they shall be made;
- (e) the resources required for the Project; and
- (f) a statement of obligations, duties and responsibilities of Project participants.

The Management Plan may be amended from time to time by the Joint Project Steering Committee.

*Article V**Contribution of Canada***Section 5.01**

The contribution of CANADA shall consist of the provision of commodities, participation in the Joint Project Steering Committee, selection of a Canadian cooperant to act as Project Director, and the services of Canadian agencies for procurement, technical assistance and evaluation. The total value of CANADA's contribution shall not exceed seventy-two million Canadian dollars (C\$ 72,000,000).

CANADA's annual contribution shall be subject to allocation of necessary development assistance funds by the Canadian Parliament.

Section 5.02

The proceeds of the contribution shall not be used by India to pay any taxes, fees, customs duties or any

other levies or charges imposed directly or indirectly by India on any goods, materials, equipment, vehicles or services purchased or acquired for, or released to, the execution of the Project.

Article VI

Contribution of India

Section 6.01

The contribution of INDIA shall consist of timely identification and specification of commodities to be purchased, participation in the Joint Project Steering Committee, selection of a Project Co-Director, and the services of Indian agencies for commodity handling and monetization, and for development, planning and implementation of subprojects, all as more particularly set forth in the Project Management Plan.

Section 6.02

INDIA accepts full responsibility on behalf of the importing organizations of their obligations under this agreement. In particular, but without limitation, INDIA shall act as Guarantor for timely deposit in full of all payments to be made by importing organizations of the proceeds of monetization of commodities and of despatch fees to the Project account.

Section 6.03

INDIA shall ensure that commodities are safely handled and are not used in any manner which could be detrimental to the environment.

Article VII

Information

Section 7.01

INDIA and CANADA shall ensure that this Memorandum of Understanding is carried out with due diligence and efficiency and each shall furnish to the other all such information relating to the Project as shall reasonably be requested.

Article VIII

Communications

Section 8.01

Any communications or documents given, made or sent by either INDIA or CANADA pursuant to this

Memorandum of Understanding, shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been duly given, made or sent to the party to which it is addressed at the time of its delivery by hand, mail, telegram, cable, telex or facsimile at its respective address, namely:

For India:

Mail Address: The Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Economic Affairs
New Delhi-110 001, India

Cable Address: ECOFAIRS, New Delhi

Telex: 3166185 FIN

Facsimile: (0011) 301 4420

For CANADA:

Mail Address: President
Canadian International Development
Agency
200, Promenade du Portage
Hull, Quebec K1A 0G4
Canada

Cable Address: CIDA/HULL

Telex: 053-4140

Facsimile: (819) 997-4759

Section 8.02

Anyone of the parties hereto may, by written notice to the other party hereto, change the address to which any notice or request shall be addressed.

Section 8.03

All communications and documents submitted to CANADA shall be in either the English or the French language, and those submitted to INDIA shall be in the English language.

Article IX

Interpretation

Section 9.01

Differences which may arise in the application of the provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be settled by means of negotiations between INDIA and CANADA or by any other manner mutually agreed upon by their respective Governments.

*Article X**Entire Understanding***Section 10.01**

This Memorandum of Understanding together with Annexes "A" and "B" which form integral parts hereof, constitute the entire understanding between the Parties with respect to the Project.

*Article XI**Consultation***Section 11.01**

INDIA and CANADA shall consult each other in respect of any matter that may from time to time arise in connection with this Memorandum of Understanding.

*Article XII**Amendment***Section 12.01**

The provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding may be amended from time to time as agreed by both the Parties. Such amendment shall be undertaken through an exchange of letters between the responsible authorities of INDIA and CANADA.

*Article XIII**Period of Validity***Section 13.01**

This Memorandum of Understanding shall come into force and effect on the date of signature and shall expire on 31 December 2001.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have signed this Memorandum of Understanding in duplicate in _____ on _____ day of _____, 1992.

ON BEHALF OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

ON BEHALF OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF
CANADA

SD/-
(Name) B.P. VERMA
(Title) Additional Secretary
Ministry of Finance
Government of India.

SD/-
(Name) JOHN L PAYNTER
(Title) High Commissioner
for Canada.

*[Translation]***Production of Iron Ore**

2165. SHRI AJIT JOGI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has assessed the present production of Iron Ore;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the percentage of total production exported;

(d) the impact of exports on the domestic market; and

(e) the details of the policy in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) In a liberalized and deregulated environment, planning for production of iron ore is determined by the individual mining companies/steel plants operating captive mines, keeping in view the market demand and other related factors. In view of this, assessment of iron ore production is undertaken with the help of agencies like Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), Federation of Indian Mineral Industries (FIMI) etc. The estimated production of iron ore for the year 2004-05 is 145 million tonnes.

(c) The percentage of total production exported is as follows:

Year	(Qty. in Lakh tonnes)		
	Production	Export	%production exported
2002-03	990.7	480.2	48.47
2003-04	1208.0	626.5	51.94
2004-05 (E)	1450	781.5	53.89

(d) Approximately 90% of the total exports of iron ore from India is in the form of fines and concentrates. This is because, whereas, fines and concentrates constitute 65% of iron ore production in India, domestic demand for fines is low due to inadequate capacity of sintering in steel plants and for pelletisation. This leads

to large surpluses of fines making their export inevitable. As a large proportion of exports is in the form of fines, for which market in India does not exist, exports have not had any marked effect on availability of iron ore for domestic producers of iron and steel. Besides, almost all the integrated/large steel plants either have captive iron ore mines or have long term agreements for assured supply of iron ore and are thus not impacted by the exports of iron ore.

(e) The export policy for iron-ore is governed by the provisions of the Foreign Trade Policy, which is formulated and notified by the Director General of Foreign Trade. The present policy is valid from 1.4.2004 to 31.3.2009. The broad features are:

1. Export of iron ore with Fe content above 64% is canalized through MMTC. However exports of this grade of ore is allowed, on a case to case basis, against licenses.
2. Export of iron-ore of Goa origin, to certain specified countries, is freely allowed irrespective of Fe content. Like wise export of iron ore of Redi origin to all destinations is feely allowed irrespective of Fe content.
3. Export of iron ore with Fe content upto 64% is allowed freely.
4. Quantitative ceilings are specified for export of high grade ore from Bailadila.

Impact of Change In Steel Policy

2166. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) the impact on the market following the change in the steel policy last year;
- (b) whether any change in the steel policy is contemplated; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) In keeping with the Government's policy to rationalize the duty structure the customs duty on steel as well as steel making inputs have been gradually decreased including in the last union budget. The

reduction in duty put a downward pressure on price of steel in the domestic market through higher degree of competition and increased supply.

(b) No, Sir.

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

[English]

Ban on Commercial Activities Near Mangrove Forest Areas

2167. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:
SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH:

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

- (a) whether mangrove forests protect the coastal areas and the river side areas from erosion and also protect the flora and fauna;
- (b) if so, whether during the recent past mangroves have been degraded and dwindled;
- (c) if so, the total area of mangroves and the percentage of decrease therein; and
- (d) the steps proposed to be taken to protect mangroves?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Mangroves do provide protection to coastal areas and their flora & fauna against erosion, cyclones and tidal waves but the extent of protection is variable & is a function of several factors. Mangroves are not found along fresh water rivers as mangroves require an appropriate mixture of saline & freshwater, and soft substrate like mudflats to be able to grow and perpetuate.

(b) It is true that the mangroves have been under increasing biotic and abiotic stresses during the recent past.

(c) As per the State of Forest Report 2003, brought out by the Forest Survey of India, the total mangrove area in the country is 4,461 km². The mangrove cover has shown a marginal net decrease of 21 km². The decrease is notional and is more of a correction resulting

from an improved resolution of the satellite imagery and consequential more accurate interpretation.

(d) At present, the mangroves are protected through a range of regulatory measures like Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991; Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) studies under the EIA Notification, 1994 for specialized industries; monitoring of compliance, of conditions imposed while according Environmental Clearance, by Regional Offices of the Ministry and State Pollution Control Boards; enforcement of emission and effluent standards by industries and other entities, and recourse to legal action against the defaulters. Mangroves located within the notified forest areas are also covered under the Indian Forest Act, 1927 and Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Net Cultivable Area

2168. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the net cultivable area in the country has not increased despite the fact that the technology for the reclamation of salt-affected soils, ravines and water logged soil has been adopted to reclaim such area;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the incentives/grants provided to the State Governments during the last three years in this regard and 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 KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The land use classification data indicates that net sown area has increased from 140.27 million ha. in 1970-71 to 141.15 million ha. in 2001-02. During the same period the area under non-agricultural uses has increased from 16.48 million ha. to 23.97 million ha. It indicates that the net sown area has increased by 0.88 million ha., whereas area under non-agricultural uses has increased by 7.49 million ha. It implies, therefore, that even if some agricultural land has been diverted to non-agricultural uses, a large area has been brought under cultivation through reclamation of wastelands and other degraded lands thereby increasing the net sown areas.

(c) Centrally Sponsored Programmes, namely, (i) National Watershed Development Project in Rainfed Areas

(NWDPPRA) (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 Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA) (iv) Reclamation of Alkali Soil (RAS) (v) Desert Development Programme (DDP) (vi) Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) and (vii) Integrated Watershed Development Project (IWDP) are being implemented by the Government of India. In the last three years (2002-05), Rs. 3287.35 crore has been spent and 62.126 lakh ha. area has been treated.

[Translation]

Steel Plants in the Country

2169. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of small, medium and major steel plants set up in the country particularly in Uttar Pradesh indicating their location;

(b) the number of applications for licence received for setting up steel plants and number of licences issued during the last three years;

(c) the number of applications pending for approval; and

(d) the time by which decision is likely to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Constitution of Specialists Team to Help Botanical Gardens

2170. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Central team of specialists has been constituted to extend help to the botanical gardens in each State;

(b) if so, whether each State has identified the locality available plants and their rare species and sent such proposals to the Indian botanical gardens for further consideration;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the concrete steps taken by the Government to promote botanical gardens and to conserve the rare species of the plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The Ministry has constituted an Expert Group for consideration of proposals for assisting Botanical Gardens to promote ex-situ conservation of rare and endemic plants.

(b) and (c) The Botanical Survey of India maintains an inventory of both rare and endemic species of plants for a given phyto-geographic region. The applicants are expected to undertake ex-situ conservation of such species in the Botanical Gardens.

(d) Under the scheme on 'Assistance to Botanical Gardens and Centres of Ex-situ Conservation', over 200 Botanical Gardens have been assisted so far. There is a provision of Rs. 15 crores for this scheme during the current plan period. The allocation for current year is Rs. 02 crores.

[English]

Forest Commission

2171. SHRI GANESH PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI RABINDRA KUMAR RANA:

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

(a) whether a Forest Commission set up by the Government;

(b) if so, the details of its aims and objectives;

(c) whether the Commission has made any recommendations so far;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether it is proposed to revamp the Indian Forest Service in view of the present forest scenario; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir. Government has constituted the National Forest Commission on 7.02.2003 to review the working of Forest and wildlife Sector.

(b) The Terms of Reference of the National Forest Commission is as under:

(i) Review and assess the existing policy and legal framework and their impact in a holistic manner from the ecological, economic, social and cultural viewpoint.

(ii) Examine the current status of forest administration and the forestry institutions both at all India and State level to meet the emerging needs of the civil society.

(iii) Make recommendations indicating specific policy options for achieving sustainable forest and wildlife management and ecological security.

(iv) Suggest ways and means to make forest administration more effective with a view to help to achieve the above policy options.

(v) Establish meaningful partnership and interface between forestry management and local communities including tribal.

(c) No, sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Development of Chamundi Hills in Mysore

2172. SHRI C.H. VIJAYASHANKAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal of Government of Karnataka to create facilities like information centre, accommodation, restaurant, trekking and other infrastructure under Revenue Generating Scheme at Chamundi Hills in Mysore is pending with the Union Government for clearance; and

(b) if so, by when the proposal is likely to be given clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) The Government of Karnataka had submitted the project proposal for establishment of Passenger Ropeway at Chamundi Hills in Karnataka at a total cost of Rs. 1012.50 lakh under Large Revenue Generating scheme. The project proposal was not complete as per guidelines. Hence it was not considered for grant of central financial assistance during 2004-05.

(b) No such proposal has been received for grant of central financial assistance during 2005-06.

Ratio of Women in Forest Services

2173. SHRI LONAPPAN NAMBADAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number and ratio of women in the Central and State Forest Services both at officer and ranger level;

(b) whether there is a request to set up a Gender and Forestry Task Force; and

(c) if so, the details of the proposal along with the measures taken by the Government to set up such body?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The number of women in the Indian Forest Service, is 114 against a total strength of 2763 and, therefore, their ratio is 1:23. The information regarding number of women and their ratio in the State Forest Service at ranger level is being collected from the States and Union Territories and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The question does not arise.

Production of Paddy

2174. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has directed to Food Corporation of India (FCI) for procurement of paddy from certain State Governments;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the FCI together with Civil Supplies Corporation of these States for the procurement of paddy?

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) Paddy procurement as part of Minimum Support Price operation is mostly undertaken by State Governments and their Agencies who have during the Kharif Marketing Season, 2004-05, procured 160 lakh tonnes of paddy (upto 2.8.05). In addition, the FCI has also procured 14.4 lakh tonnes of paddy in some States in the same period.

National Horticulture Board

2175. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNAN:
SHRI M. SHIVANNA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Horticulture Board (NHB) has introduced a Commercial Horticulture Development Scheme to commercialise traditional horticultural farms;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the aims of the said scheme;

(c) the details of the projects sanctioned in each State under the scheme alongwith the subsidy provided therefor;

(d) whether NHB will be assisting the farmers from the pre-processing stage of marketing; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The National Horticulture Board (NHB) is implementing a scheme namely, "Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production and Post Harvest Management" since May, 2000. Under the scheme, back ended capital investment subsidy @ not

exceeding 20% of the total project cost with a maximum limit of Rs. 25.00 lakh per project for general areas and Rs. 30.00 lakh per project is provided for North Eastern/Tribal/Hilly Areas to develop new hi-tech horticultural farms by adopting latest technologies, creating post harvest infrastructure facilities, its marketing and primary processing of horticultural produce. The aims of the scheme are as under:

- To develop high quality horticultural farms in identified belts and make such areas vibrant with horticultural activity which in turn will act as hubs for developing commercial horticulture by adopting high-tech horticulture techniques;
- To develop post-harvest management infrastructure;
- To improve linkages between horticulture producers and markets;
- To create integrated network for marketing of horticulture produce;
- To increase producer's share in consumer price;

(c) The State-wise details of the project sanctioned along with the subsidy provided is given in Statement enclosed.

(d) and (e) The Board is assisting the farmers from the pre-processing stage of marketing by providing subsidy under the above said scheme.

Statement

State-wise break-up of projects sanctioned under the Scheme—Development of Commercial Horticulture through "Production and Post-Harvest Management" during the period 2000-01 to 2005-06 (as on 30.6.05)

Sl.No.	Name of the State/UT	Total project sanctioned 2000-2005	
		No. of Projects	Subsidy sanctioned (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	402	11.58
2.	Assam	21	0.47
3.	Bihar	10	0.29
4.	Chhattisgarh	76	1.95

1	2	3	4
5.	Delhi	5	0.39
6.	Gujarat	307	13.63
7.	Haryana	43	1.86
8.	Himachal Pradesh	39	2.02
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	7	0.50
10.	Jharkhand	4	0.03
11.	Kerala	55	1.22
12.	Karnataka	447	15.34
13.	Sikkim	8	0.15
14.	Madhya Pradesh	241	2.41
15.	Maharashtra	1074	31.02
16.	Nagaland	59	1.58
17.	Orissa	29	1.42
18.	Punjab	23	2.45
19.	Rajasthan	53	1.31
20.	Tamil Nadu	175	8.92
21.	Uttaranchal	59	0.79
22.	Uttar Pradesh	27	1.21
23.	West Bengal	24	0.55
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	0.30
25.	Mizoram	3	0.25
26.	Manipur	12	0.63
Total		3205	102.28

[Translation]

Special Funds for Loans to Farmers

2176. SHRI PARAS NATH YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up special funds to provide loans to small and marginal farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) whether a part of this loan is taken away by brokers in lieu of making the loan available; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to make available full amount of loan to the farmers?

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

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Welfare Scheme for Agricultural Labourers

2177. SHRI HITEN BARMAN:
SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:
SHRI SUBRATA BOSE:

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

(a) the details of welfare schemes being formulated and implemented by the Government for agriculture labourers in different parts of the country during the last three years and current year;

(b) the extent to which the agricultural labourers have been benefited by these schemes; and

(c) the details of amount earmarked for the purpose during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO): (a) to (c) There is no specific scheme formulated by the Ministry of Labour & Employment for the welfare of agricultural workers in the country. However, Government has launched several poverty alleviation/employment generation schemes like Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana, Sampooma Gramin Rojgar Yojana, Pradhanmantri Gram Sadak Yojana, etc. for the poor workers including agricultural labourers. Further, Janshree Bima Yojana providing for insurance cover to the people living below or marginally above the poverty line is also available for the workers in the unorganised sector including agricultural labourers.

Increasing Minimum Support Price for Wheat and Paddy

2178. SHRIMATI MANORAMA MADHAVRAJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the minimum support prices for wheat and paddy noticed steady increase during 1995-96 to 2003-2004;

(b) if so, whether the Minimum Support Prices being higher than those recommended by CACP, procurement has been high and off-take low;

(c) whether the resultant build-up in stocks blocks the food subsidy bill to a large extent; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) There has been a steady increase in the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of wheat and paddy since 1995-96.

(b) to (d) Though between 1995-96 and 2001-2002 the Government had improved upon the MSPs recommended by Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) in the case of both wheat and paddy, in subsequent years upto 2004-05 the Government had accepted the CACP's recommendations with regard to the MSPs of wheat and paddy. The rising trend of procurement of wheat and rice, resulting in rising stocks, is indicative of increasing production coupled with availability of marketable surplus. The MSPs fixed by the Government are meant to enable the producers to pursue their efforts with the assurance that the price of their produce would not be allowed to fall below the level fixed by the Government and in the event of prices falling below the MSP level fixed by the Government, the designated central nodal agencies are required to intervene in the market for undertaking price support operations by way of procurement. A declining trend was witnessed in the offtake under PDS upto 1999-2000 but thereafter it has been rising steadily and in 2003-04 the offtake of foodgrains was 241.93 lakh tonnes. The food security system in the country, with the dual objective of providing minimum nutritional support to the poor and ensuring price stability, involves subsidy. Food subsidy

increased from Rs. 5377 crore in 1995-96 to Rs. 25800 crore in 2003-04.

Consumption of Fertilizers in Orissa

2179. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPAHTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the per hectare consumption of Nitrogen, Potash and Phosphate in Orissa; and

(b) the quantity of urea and other fertilizers supplied to State during each the last three years and till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The per hectare consumption of Nitrogen, Potash & Phosphate in Orissa is estimated at 29.57 kg., 7.09 kg. and 10.64 kg. respectively during 2004-05.

(b) The quantity of Urea and other major Fertilisers like DAP & MOP supplied to Orissa State during each of the last three years and till date is given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Availability/Supply of Urea, DAP and MOP to Orissa during last three years and till date

(In 000' tonnes)

Name of Fertilizer	Quantity available/Supplied			
	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06 (Est.) 01.04.2005 to 31.07.2005
UREA	388.54	418.76	392.01	109.52
DAP	85.59	74.71	83.06	36.95
MOP	59.71	66.68	93.43	45.48

Macro Management Plan in Agriculture

2180. DR. K.S. MANOJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the States in which the Macro Management Work Plan has been implemented, State-wise;

(b) the objectives of Macro Management in agriculture;

(c) whether the proposal submitted by the State Governments particularly Government of Kerala is sanctioned by the Union Government;

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

(e) if not, the hurdles to be cleared in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme—Macro Management of Agriculture is being implemented in all the States.

(b) The scheme was launched from the year 2000-01 with the following objectives:

(i) Reflection of local needs/priorities in planning for agricultural development.

(ii) Optimum utilization of scarce financial resources.

(iii) Maximization of returns and

(iv) Removal of regional imbalances.

(c) to (e) The proposals for the year 2005-06, under the Macro Management of Agriculture Scheme, have been received from all the States, including Kerala. The proposals are under consideration of the Government. In the meantime, the first installment of Central assistance under the scheme has been released to 19 States including Kerala.

Pharma Industry

2181. SHRI G.V. HARSHA KUMAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has examined the various representations received from pharma associations;

(b) if so, the details and the present status thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps the Government proposes to take to give a boost to pharma industry in the country?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Various Departments/Ministries such as Department of Health, Department of Biotechnology, Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Finance etc. receive representations from pharma associations from time to time which are examined and considered on merits.

(c) In view of reply to (a) and (b) above, do not arise.

(d) In February, 2002, Government announced the 'Pharmaceutical Policy-2002'. The main objectives of this policy are:

- (i) Ensuring abundant availability at reasonable prices within the country of good quality essential pharmaceuticals of mass consumption.
- (ii) Strengthening the indigenous capability for cost effective quality production and exports of pharmaceuticals by reducing barriers to trade in the pharmaceutical sector.
- (iii) Strengthening the system of quality control over drug and pharmaceutical production and distribution to make quality an essential attribute of the Indian pharmaceutical industry and promoting rational use of pharmaceuticals.
- (iv) Encouraging R&D in the pharmaceutical sector in a manner compatible with the country's needs and with particular focus on diseases endemic or relevant to India by creating an environment conducive to channelling a higher level of investment into R&D in pharmaceuticals in India.
- (v) Creating an incentive frame work for the pharmaceutical industry, which promotes new investment into pharmaceutical industry and encourages the introduction of new technologies and new drugs.

Various Departments/Ministries have taken various steps to give a boost to pharma industry in the country.

Sowing of Coarse Cereals

2182. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sowing of coarse cereals so far has been 5.7 lakh hectares compared to 12.54 lakh hectares during the corresponding period last year;

(b) if so, whether the area under oilseeds so far is 1.99 lakh hectares compared to 4.12 lakh hectares at the same time last year;

(c) if so, whether the Government had suggested any alternate strategy for sowing; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE :MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) As per the reports discussed in the meeting held on 01.08.2005 of Crop Weather Watch Group under Ministry of Agriculture, in the kharif season of 2005 till 01.08.2005, the total area coverage under coarse cereals is 174.51 lakh hectares as compared to 155.63 lakh hectares during the same period last year.

(b) The area sown under various oilseed crops till 29th July 2005 is 137.56 lakh hectares as compared to 141.02 lakh hectares during the same period last year.

(c) and (d) The behaviour of monsoon was erratic in the month of June 2005 and at the All India level the cumulative rainfall from 1st June to 29th June was 20% less than the normal. However the monsoon revived subsequently and the cumulative rainfall from 1st June to 31st July 2005 at the All India level was 2% more than the normal. With improved rainfall conditions the sowing operations have accelerated and it is expected that the area under crops will further improve in the coming weeks. In view of the comfortable sowing position of coarse cereals and oilseeds, necessity for formulation of any alternate sowing strategy does not arise.

[Translation]

Housing Scheme for Beedi Workers

2183. SHRI CHANDRABHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether an amount of approximately Rs. 67.50 lac is pending for the construction of 100 houses under Integrated Housing Scheme for beedi workers at the Hata in Damoh district of Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the time by which this construction scheme is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) An administrative approval was granted on 15th March, 2005 for construction of 100 houses for beedi workers at Hatta, Damoh district in Madhya Pradesh by the State Government of Madhya Pradesh under the Integrated Housing Scheme involving a Central subsidy of Rs. 33.60 lakh to the State Government. As per the provision of the scheme this amount is to be released to the State Government after construction of the houses reaches upto roof level. The progress of construction of these houses have not yet been reported by the State Government of Madhya Pradesh. There is a provision in the scheme that construction of houses shall normally be completed within a period of 18 months from the date of administrative approval.

[English]

Performance of Bt Cotton

2184. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether apart from civil society organization in the country, the performance of Bt. Cotton during 2004 has come under severe criticism from some scientists;

(b) if so, whether farmers in South India have suffered heavy losses on account of cultivation of Bt. Cotton;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government therefor;

(d) whether apart from approved varieties of the cotton unapproved varieties all over genetically modified crops are being sold to farmers;

(e) whether there are also reports of terminator seeds being sold to farmers; and

(f) if so, whether the Government proposes to set up the seed testing laboratory and is also considering the amendment of seeds act?

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

(b) and (c) As per the report received from Government of Andhra Pradesh, there were large scale complaints that Bt. Cotton hybrid—MECH-12 Bt. of M/s. Mahyco Monsanto had not performed in the Warangal District and in some pockets of the other Districts in Kharif-2004 causing losses to the Bt. Cotton growers. Consequently the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) in the Ministry of Environment & Forests did not renew the permission of M/s. Mahyco during Kharif-2005 of commercial cultivation of their three Bt. Cotton hybrids in Andhra Pradesh.

(d) There have been some reports of production and supply of spurious Bt. Cotton seeds in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Tamilnadu.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) To assist the State Governments in controlling the release of spurious Bt. Cotton seeds, the Central Institute for Cotton Research (CICR), Nagpur has been notified as the referral laboratory for detecting the presence/absence of the Bt. Genes. The revised Seeds Bill, 2004 which has been introduced in the Rajya Sabha in December, 2004 also covers transgenic crops. The Bill has now been referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture for examination.

Growth in Agriculture Sector

2185. SHRI UDAY SINGH:
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has urged the State Governments to help in achieving the growth in the agriculture sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry is not receiving sufficient budgetary support;

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

(e) the details of agriculture growth in the country?

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

MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Union Government has requested Chief Ministers of all States to provide higher allocations in their respective plans thereby ensuring higher growth in agriculture sector. States have also been asked to draw special action plans backed by adequate plan, allocations to complete the ongoing irrigation programmes in a time bound manner and to undertake new projects with a view to reducing dependence on the monsoon. Chief Ministers of various States have been asked to personally review the matter and ensure that adequate allocation for facilitating 4 percent annual growth in agriculture, as envisaged in the Tenth Plan.

(c) and (d) The total plan outlay for the Agriculture Sector (Crop and Animal Husbandry & Dairying) was raised from Rs. 14876 crore in Ninth Plan to Rs. 21068 crore in Tenth Plan. The Plan Outlay of the Ministry of Agriculture has been raised from Rs. 3242 crores in the year 2002-03 to Rs. 4150 crores in the year 2004-05. This has been further raised to Rs. 5998 crores in the year 2005-06.

(e) The growth rate in agriculture, including allied sectors of forestry & logging and fishing, computed in real terms (at 1993-94 prices) during the Eighth Plan, Ninth Plan and the first three years of the Tenth Plan (2004-05) is given below:

Plan Period	Average Annual Growth (%) in Agriculture and Allied Sector
Eighth Plan (1992-97)	4.7
Ninth Plan (1997-2002)	2.1
Tenth Plan (first three years) (2002-05)	1.2

Coverage of PDS

2186. SHRIMATI S.C. SUJATHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ration card holders under the Above Poverty Line (APL) and Below Poverty Line (BPL) categories separately, State-wise;

(b) whether the Targeted Public Distribution System (PDS) deny major section of the APL card holders access

to PDS due to the higher prices of foodgrains for this category;

(c) if so, whether the Government is considering to introduce the Universal Public Distribution System in place of the present Targeted Public Distribution System;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The number of ration card holders of Above Poverty Line (APL) and Below Poverty Line (BPL) under the Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS), State-wise in enclosed as Statement.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The Targetted PDS was introduced in June, 1997 with a view to target the unprivileged sections of society, as the earlier Universal PDS did not adequately focus on the hungry and had urban bias. The introduction of universal PDS may result in the PDS losing its focus on meeting the needs of the poor.

Statement

(As on 01.08.2005)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	No. of Ration Cards issued (in lakhs)	
		APL	BPL (Including AAY)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	58.72	138.47
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2.68	0.99
3.	Assam	34.63	18.91
4.	Bihar	52.20	71.64
5.	Chhattisgarh	25.94	19.17

1	2	3	4
6.	Delhi	36.01	4.47
7.	Goa	3.10	0.28
8.	Gujarat	78.68	36.41
9.	Haryana	36.88	8.12
10.	Himachal Pradesh	10.61	2.91
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	10.94	7.36
12.	Jharkhand	5.15	23.95
13.	Karnataka	42.66	70.04
14.	Kerala	45.69	20.43
15.	Madhya Pradesh	82.27	52.05
16.	Maharashtra	148.34	72.99
17.	Manipur	2.41	1.66
18.	Meghalaya	2.66	1.83
19.	Mizoram	1.66	0.89
20.	Nagaland	1.83	1.24
21.	Orissa	30.61	48.95
22.	Punjab	48.01	7.14
23.	Rajasthan	105.23	23.14
24.	Sikkim	0.89	0.43
25.	Tamil Nadu	—	168.30*
26.	Tripura	4.30	2.95
27.	Uttaranchal	16.99	4.98
28.	Uttar Pradesh	274.00	106.79
29.	West Bengal	113.58	47.29
30.	A&N Islands	0.74	0.16
31.	Chandigarh	2.19	0.08
32.	D&N Haveli	0.29	0.16
33.	Daman and Diu	0.25	0.05

1	2	3	4
34.	Lakshadweep	0.13	0.01
35.	Pondicherry	1.83	0.98
Total		1435.63	811.49

*In Tamil Nadu there is no categorization of APL and BPL. There are 168.30 lakh Ration Cards including 14.77 lakh AAY cards.

Production and Consumption of Pepper

2187. SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY:
SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the pepper prices continued to slide due to the flooding of domestic markets with imports from Sri Lanka and other countries;

(b) if so, the details of total imports during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the total indigenous production and consumption of pepper during each of the last three years;

(d) the manner in which the Government plan to check the declining trend in prices and absorb the surplus stocks of pepper;

(e) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted any proposal/project and sought financial assistance for rejuvenation of pepper cultivation and for procurement of pepper to help farmers to realize a reasonable price;

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

(g) whether the Union Government proposes to formulate a special project for the development and sustenance of pepper cultivation, its marketing and export, procurement and value addition in the present crisis situation jointly with the Ministry of Commerce; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

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

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of total import of pepper for last three years is given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) The total indigenous production and consumption of pepper during last three years is as under:

(In tonnes)		
Year	Production	Consumption
2002-03	71,568	52,000
2003-04	73,315	58,000
2004-05	72,662	59,000

(d) Government has discontinued issuance of advance licence for duty free import of pepper towards reexport. Besides, Government of Kerala have arranged for procurement of Pepper from the farmers through Kerala

State Co-operative Marketing Federation during January to April, 2005.

(e) and (f) Government of Kerala had sought assistance for rehabilitation of cashew and pepper garden during 2004-05 under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "Macro-management in Agriculture—Supplementation/Complementation of States' Effort through Work Plan". The Government have provided an assistance of Rs. 10.00 crore under the above mentioned Scheme. Further an assistance of Rs. 1.45 crore was provided to the Government of Kerala for rejuvenation of old and disease pepper garden under the same scheme.

(g) and (h) Union Government have launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "National Horticulture Mission" for the overall development of Horticulture including pepper. The Scheme envisages an end to end approach covering production, post-harvest management and marketing. There is however no proposal of Government to formulate any special project jointly with the Ministry of Commerce for the development of Pepper.

Statement

Country-wise Import of Pepper Into India

Country	Year					
	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05 (E)	
	Qty (MT)	Value (Rs. Lks)	Qty (MT)	Value (Rs. Lks)	Qty (MT)	Value (Rs. Lks)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Vietnam	7013.9	4889.4	5535.0	3641.1	10101.9	5807.8
Sri Lanka	6099.0	5705.4	4915.8	3525.7	4885.1	4045.6
Indonesia	1529.7	1218.9	3384.3	2407.1	2123.4	1356.8
Ecuador	—	—	56.0	37.1	280.0	183.0
Singapore	45.0	44.0	90.3	87.3	83.0	65.5
Thailand	124.6	59.0	99.1	50.1	130.6	56.4
Brazil	—	—	75.0	52.6	50.0	33.3
Netherlands	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	40.1	28.5
Malaysia	55.6	35.8	123.2	68.6	35.0	15.3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Madagascar	—	—	—	—	16.4	11.7
Others	524.0	385.0	55.4	53.3	Neg.	Neg.
Items Total	15391.8	12337.5	14334.1	9923.3	17725.3	11603.9

(E) Estimate

Source: Spices Board

Soyabean Yield

2188. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's soyabean yield is one of the poorest in the world;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the names of the regions where soyabean is yielded; and

(d) the steps Government proposes to achieve the target of soyabean to make India rich?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) As reported in the FAO Production Year Book 2003, the yield of soyabean in India in the year 2003 was 1054 kgs/hectare which is far below the world average of 2261 kgs./hectare. However, it is not the lowest in the world.

(b) The average maturity duration of soyabean crop in India is 96 days. It is much longer *i.e.* 120-160 days in other major soyabean growing countries. Thus, considering the productivity per unit time involved in production of soyabean crop in India vis-a-vis other countries, the yield levels achieved in India are not poor. The potential yield of soyabean varieties in India is to the level of 2000 kg. per hectare and use of improved varieties together with improved production technology leading to this yield level has been demonstrated to farmers under the Front Line Demonstrations.

(c) Madhya Pradesh is the largest producer of soyabean followed by Maharashtra and Rajasthan. These three states taken together account for more than 95% of the soyabean production in the country.

(d) According to the Fourth Advance Estimates, production of soyabean oilseeds in 2004-05 was 75.10 lakhs tonnes compared with the target of 77.03 lakh tonnes. In order to bridge the gap between target and achievement, the thrust is on efforts aimed at raising yield levels. The priority areas in soyabean research for higher productivity and improved quality are:

- Genetic enhancement for resistance against various biotic stresses, such as rust and Rhizoctonia rot, abiotic stresses, and food grade characters.
- Biotechnological applications for crop improvement with activities like developing mapping population, locating useful genes on the genetic/molecular map, marker assisted selection and breeding of varieties.
- Development of varieties with short duration, higher oil content, seed longevity and resistance to mechanical damage.
- Integrated management of biotic stresses like insect-pests, diseases and weeds. This includes identification, multiplication, testing and use of effective bio-control agents for major diseases and insects.
- Integrated nutrient management, and development, testing and use of efficient tools, implements and equipment used for soyabean cultivation and post harvest technology.

Modernisation of IISCO

2189. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken steps for modernization of Indian Iron and Steel Co., Bumpur just after the merger of IISCO with SAIL;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount involved therein; and

(c) the purposes it is likely to fulfill?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Modernisation of IISCO is a part of Corporate Plan 2011-12 wherein the crude steel production capacity will be increased from 0.35 million tonne (MT) in 2004-05 to 2.00 MT in 2011-12 with an investment of Rs. 8000 crores. This also includes development of mines of IISCO.

(c) The increased production is aimed at increasing profitability of IISCO.

Import of Edible Oil

2190. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the import of edible oils like plan oil and soyabean oil has done considerable damage to coconut oil and other domestically produced vegetable oils;

(b) if so, whether the Government has received any request from Kerala Government for enhancing the import duty on edible oils;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to curb the import of edible oils in order to protect the domestic 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) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) No request from Kerala Government for enhancing the import duty on edible oils has been received, recently.

(d) Steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard include:-

(i) The import duty structure of edible oils is reviewed from time to time.

(ii) With effect from 15.2.2005, import duty on Crude Plan Oil/Crude Palmolein has been raised from 65% to 80% and import duty on refined Palm Oil/RBD Palmolein has been raised from 75% to 90%.

(iii) Tariff Value is fixed from time to time for palm oil and its products and soyabean oil.

(iv) The use of indigenous oils in the manufacture of vanaspati to at least 12% of the production has been made mandatory.

Study on Ground Water Resources

2191. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments including the Government of Kerala has submitted any proposal to the Union Government for financial assistance for water harvesting projects; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Presently, there is no approved scheme in the Ministry of Water Resources under which financial assistance can be sanctioned to State Governments for water harvesting projects.

Wastage of River Water

2192. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than 70 percent of water in rivers flows to the ocean as waste;

(b) if so, whether any survey has been conducted in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN

YADAV): (a) to (c) The average annual water availability in the country is assessed as 1869 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM). Utilisation of water for diverse purposes is made through various schemes including major, medium & minor projects, both surface & ground water. It has been estimated that owing to topographic, hydrological and other constraints, the utilisable water is assessed as 1122 BCM. Rest of the water could be considered to be flowing down to sea, part of which is necessary from ecological and other considerations.

[Translation]

Rainfall

2193. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the average annual rainfall during the last five years has been 1,170 m.m.;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether 90 per cent of the rain water flows down the drain; and

(d) if not, the quantum of rain water being harvested at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The average annual rainfall during the last five years as estimated by the Indian Meteorological Department is 1,117 millimetre (mm). However, the long term annual average rainfall is 1,170 mm.

(c) and (d) The average annual water availability in the country is assessed as 1869 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM). Owing to topographic, hydrological and other constraints, the utilisable water is assessed as 1122 BCM. Rest of the water could be considered to be flowing down to sea. For harvesting rain water, creation of storages through major, medium & minor schemes has been taken up by the respective State Governments. As a result, storage capacity of 213 BCM has been created so far. The schemes for rain water harvesting have also been taken up by the State Governments. The

Government of India has also taken up schemes for restoration of water bodies, rain water harvesting and artificial recharge to ground water.

Project for Improved Seeds by I.C.A.R.

2194. DR. CHINTA MOHAN:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council for Agriculture Research (ICAR) has decided to launch a project to provide improved seeds to the farmers in the country;

(b) if so, the outline of the said project and the total amount proposed to be spend on construction of first phase of the said project;

(c) the target of total annual average seed product under the said project; and

(d) the time by which seed production under the said project is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) has formulated a project to supplement the availability of quality seed, including fish seed and planting material, in the country.

(b) The project will supplement the production of breeder seed, foundation seed and truthfully levelled seed of different field crops and planting material of horticultural crops along with fisheries seed. Total fund proposed under the project is Rs. 199.899 crores for the remaining two years (2005-06 to 2006-07) of X Plan period. The fund will be provided to different centres of ICAR Institutes, State Agricultural Universities and Central Agricultural University and others.

(c) A target of approximately 7.66 lakh quintal of quality seed, 795 lakh planting material and 472 million fisheries seed has been proposed to achieve.

(d) Subject to final approval, the project shall start in the current financial year.

**Bhedaghat and Kanha National Park in
International Tourist Map**

2195. SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to include Bhedaghat and Kanha National Park in International tourist map; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when the same is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Tourist information on Bhedaghat and Kanha National Park, in addition to the other tourist centres in Madhya Pradesh is hosted in the website of Ministry of Tourism and Madhya Pradesh Tourism for worldwide publicity.

Assistance to NGO

2196. DR. COL. (RETD.) DHANI RAM SHANDIL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) provided with the financial assistance for plantation under afforestation scheme in Himachal Pradesh during the last three years, district-wise;

(b) whether the Principal Chief Forest Conservator has any role regarding supervision of these NGOs/funds etc.; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Nine Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) of 3 districts in Himachal Pradesh have been provided with the financial assistance of Rs. 28.08 lakh for plantation under Grants-in-Aid scheme of the Ministry of Environment and Forests during the last three years. The details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c) As per Operational Guidelines of Grants-in-Aid for Greening India Scheme of National Afforestation and Eco-development Board (NAEB), of this Ministry, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) has been assigned the nodal role for implementation of the scheme. The proposals of voluntary agencies including NGOs for

financial assistance under this scheme are received by NAEB duly scrutinized and prioritized through the PCCF of the State. Subsequent instalments in respect of ongoing projects under the scheme are released on the recommendation of the PCCF based on field evaluation carried out by the State Forests Department authorities.

Statement

District	Number of NGOs assisted	Amount released (Rs. in lakh)
2002-03		
Nil	Nil	Nil
2003-04		
Shimla	2	7.97
Solan	1	3.99
Sirmaur	3	10.86
2004-05		
Shimla	2	2.10
Sirmaur	1	3.14
Total	9	28.06

[English]

Chemical Industries

2197. SHRI PRADEEP GANDHI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps to ensure adherence to adequate safeguards as laid down by the Ministry of Environment and Forests regarding manufacturing, storage and use of hazardous chemicals by the industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether after the liberalization and delicensing of chemical industry, production of hazardous chemicals has increased;

(d) if so, the number of checks carried out during the last three years, State-wise;

(e) whether there is any mechanism to keep watch on such industries;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the action taken by the Government against the chemical industries/manufacturers and units found violating environment safety norms?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (g) Chemical Industry has been delicensed except for a few hazardous chemicals. Government permits manufacture of hazardous chemicals after satisfying itself about various aspects like safety, environmental angle, etc. Further, it is mandatory for all chemical units to observe and adhere to the environmental standards as prescribed under the Environment Protection Act, 1986. This is enforced by the State Pollution Control Boards under the control of the State Governments.

Schedule 5 of the Manufacture, Storage and Import Hazardous Chemicals (MSIHC) Rules 1989 as amended in 1994 & 2000 identifies the concerned authorities responsible for enforcement of MSIHC Rules. Directorate of Industrial Safety/Chief Inspectorate of Factories in the states appointed under the Factories Act, 1948 are the authorities responsible for enforcement of the MSIHC Rules in respect of Industrial Installations and Isolated storages covered under the Factories Act, 1948.

In addition, following complementary activities have been initiated by the Ministry of Environment & Forests to enable adherence to adequate safeguards:

- Hazards Analysis of selected industrial districts/pockets including Safety Audits of Maximum Accidents Hazard (MAH) units.
- Preparation of Off-site Emergency Plan of selected districts.
- Establishment of Emergency Response Centers and Poison Information Centers.
- Training and Awareness.
- Capacity Building.
- Research and Development Projects.

The concerned authorities are required to submit a yearly report of the status of implementation of the Rules.

The Government reviews the status of compliance of the Manufacture Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemicals (MSIHC) Rules 1989.

[Translation]

Winding up of Flood Control Programme

2198. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:
SHRI MUNSHI RAM:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is formulating any scheme to wind up flood control programmes for the States;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether irregularities have been found in flood relief programmes started by some States;

(d) if so, whether the Government has conducted inquiry into this;

(e) if so, the States which have not spent the amount allocated under 10th Five Year Plan on targeted projects;

(f) whether the projects sanctioned by Ganga Flood Control Commission has completed; and

(g) if not, by when the projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Several flood control schemes are under implementation by Ministry of Water Resources. Support is being provided to the State Government for taking up various activities through such schemes. Discontinuation of specific schemes and taking up of new schemes as per the requirements is a continuous process.

(c) to (e) An instance of irregularity in flood relief operation in Bihar in 2004 has come to notice. The State Government has informed that a vigilance enquiry has been ordered in the matter and the Vigilance Investigation Bureau have conducted enquiry and have registered a case.

(f) and (g) Flood Control being within the purview of State Government, the schemes are planned, funded and executed by the State Governments. The assistance rendered by Central Government is technical, catalytical

and promotional in nature. The State-wise details of the Schemes under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely, "Critical Anti Erosion Works in Ganga Basin States" are as below:

State	No. of schemes	No. of schemes completed	No. of schemes on going	No. of schemes to be taken up
Bihar	27	9	10	8
Uttar Pradesh	15	8	4	3
West Bengal	38	3	6	29
Himachal Pradesh	1	—	—	1
Uttaranchal	2	1	1	—
Jharkhand	1	—	—	1

Under the Scheme, "Maintenance of flood protection works of Kosi and Gandak Project" expenditure incurred by State Governments is reimbursed. Under the Scheme, "Extension of embankments on Lalbakeya, Bagmati, Kamla and Khando rivers", the works on Lalbakeya embankment are in advanced stage of completion and the works on the critical reaches of Bagmati (Estimated cost Rs. 4.58 crore) and that of Kamla (Estimated cost Rs. 7.00 crore) have been taken up by the Government of Bihar.

Monitoring of Food Parks

2199. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA:
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:
SHRI MUNSHI RAM:
MOHD. SAHID:

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

(a) whether all the food parks set up by the Government are functioning properly;

(b) if not, the details of funds invested so far the setting up of these food parks;

(c) whether the Government has monitored/proposes to monitor the progress of these food parks;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the number of food parks which have been closed so far and estimated losses suffered thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (e) Ministry of Food Processing Industries, under its Plan Schemes provides financial assistance in the form of grant in aid for provision of common facilities in Food Parks. The Ministry does not set up Food Parks on its own.

The Ministry has so far approved 50 Food Parks for assistance and has released a total assistance of Rs. 105.22 crores for implementation of the Food Parks. The Ministry has been monitoring the progress of the Food Parks approved for assistance. Food Parks being infrastructure projects have a longer gestation period and have attained different levels of progress. However, over 800 units have been allotted plots or are using common infrastructure facilities.

(English)

Declaration as Parks

2200. SHRI D. NARBULA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had declared Sighalila Range at Darjeeling and Neora Forest at Kalimpong as National Parks recently;

(b) if so, whether action is yet to be taken to improve these two National Parks even after being declared as National Parks;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action the Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir. As per reports received from the State Government, Singhalila National Park and Neora Valley National Park have been notified in 1992.

(b) Yes, Sir. Development and conservation works are being undertaken under Centrally Sponsored Schemes, State Plan and Non Plan budgets as per the Management Plans prepared for them.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Development works in the Singhalila National Park and Neora Valley National Park include improvement of habitat for conservation of wildlife, release of captive bred Red Panda, strengthening of infrastructure, consolidation works, etc. Eco development works are being implemented to associate the local communities in conservation works.

Oil Packaging

2201. DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to strictly enforce the Edible Oils Packaging (Regulation) Order, 1998;

(b) whether a large number of cases related to distribution of adulterated oils have been reported recently; and

(c) if so, the number of such cases reported during the last three years, State-wise and year-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) Some of the State Governments/UT Administrations which have not implemented the Edible Oils Packaging (Regulation) Order, 1998 or have granted exemptions/extensions for varying period of time deferring the implementation of the Order have been reiterated the need to implement the Order in letter and spirit.

(b) and (c) No specific complaints on the distribution of adulterated oils have been received.

[Translation]

Export of Wheat/Rice

2202. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT:
SHRI HITEN BARMAN:

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

(a) the quantum and value of wheat and rice exported from the country during the last three year, Year-wise;

(b) whether the export of the said commodities was able to meet the targets fixed for the said period; and

(c) the foreign exchange earned from the said exports 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 (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The quantum of rice and wheat exported from the country during the last three years is given below:

Qty: MTs Value: Rs. Lakhs

	2002-2003		2003-2004		2004-2005*	
	Qty.	Val.	Qty.	Val.	Qty.	Val.
Rice Basmati	710292	206259	770764	199092	1126125	274194
Non-Basmati	4076347	363408	2601471	214216	3645873	389973
Wheat	3570890	170018	4093081	239115	1995997	144803

*Provisional.

(b) No targets for export are fixed.

(c) Details of foreign exchanges earned from the export of rice and wheat during the last three years are given below:

	US \$ (million)		
	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005
Basmati Rice	426	442	612
Non-Basmati	751	476	870
Wheat	351	522	323

[*English*]

Impact of Tsunami on FPI

2203. SHRI MANORANJAN BHATKA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the dilapidated condition of Food Processing Industries in marine products after Tsunami devastation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) No reports have been received from processing plant owners regarding damages caused to the equipment and machinery of seafood processing

units due to Tsunami on 26.12.2004. However there have been reports of loss/damage to fishing craft and gear. In order to mitigate the problems of the Tsunami affected people including fishing community. Government announced Rajiv Gandhi Rehabilitation Package.

[*Translation*]

Pension Cases of FCI Employees

2204. SHRI NIHAL CHAND: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pension related cases of the employees/officers of the Food Corporation of India of the western Uttar Pradesh who opted for the voluntary retirement scheme last year are still pending;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to provide the pension benefits to the said employees/officers at the earliest?

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

(b) As at Statement-I and II respectively.

(c) The concerned District Managers of the Food Corporation of India (FCI) have been instructed to look into the matter personally for settling all the pension cases and approach the retired officers/officials for early submission of their requisite pension papers.

Statement I

Details of the Pending Pension Cases of the Employees/Officers of the FCI of the Western Uttar Pradesh, who opted for the Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) in the year 2004.

(i)	Total No. of Staff retired under VRS	305
(ii)	No. of officials not covered under pension benefit	18
(iii)	No. of cases sent to FCI Zonal Office (North), Noida	36
(iv)	No. of officials who have not submitted their pension form, which is a pre-requisite for payment of pension benefit.	235
(v)	No. of cases returned by Zonal Office (North), Noida to the concerned District Offices	16

Statement II

District-wise details of the Pending Pension Cases of Employees/Officers of the FCI of the Western Uttar Pradesh, who opted for the Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) in the year 2004

Sl.No.	FCI District	Total No. of officers/officials retired under VRS	No. of officials not covered under pension scheme	No. of cases sent to ZO	No. of officials not submitted pension papers	No. of cases returned by ZO to D.O.
1.	Agra	74	—	16	58	—
2.	Bareilly	24	—	01	23	—
3.	Moradabad	33	—	—	33	—
4.	Aligarh	30	01	—	29	—
5.	Saharanpur	24	04	—	04	16
6.	Shahjahanpur	08	02	01	05	—
7.	Bulandshahar	42	04	14	24	—
8.	Hapur	70	07	04	59	—
Total		305	18	36	235	16

[English]

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Unremitted and Unclaimed Amount of EPF

2205. SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN:
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:

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

(a) the total amount deposited in Employees Provident Fund (EPF) as on date;

(b) the amount of contribution collected from labourers under EPF that remains unremitted to the Government account;

(c) whether the Government proposed to recover this unremitted amount;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has any plan to use the unclaimed EPF amount for different welfare schemes in the country; and

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO): (a) The total corpus in Employees' Provident Fund as on 31.03.2005 was Rs. 79,764.48 crore.

(b) No separate record is maintained by Employees' Provident Fund Organization in respect of default in employees' share by the employer. However, as on 31.03.2005 the amount outstanding from defaulting establishments was Rs. 2115.27 crore, which includes employers' share as well as employees' share.

(c) and (d) Recovery of outstanding dues is effected in accordance with the provisions of the Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952. This includes attachment and sale of properties, arrest and detention of defaulters, appointment of receiver to manage the defaulters' properties.

(e) and (f) No, Sir. The Employees' Provident Fund Scheme, 1952 does not provide for utilization of amount lying in the Unclaimed Deposit Account for any other purpose.

Methods for Estimation of Forest Cover

2206. SHRI K.C. SINGH "BABA": Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise and overall percentage of covered and open forests in the country and the accuracy of the methodology for estimating the forest cover;

(b) factors taken into account under the existing methodology;

(c) whether a large area of dense forest having trees of medicinal utility and possessing great biodiversity has been lost during the last few years;

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

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to increase the area under dense forest in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The State-wise and overall percentage of dense and open forests in the country is given in enclosed Statement. The accuracy assessment of methodology for estimating the forest cover was done during 2001 assessment and was found to be 95.9%.

(b) The methodology for the assessment of forest cover is based on digital interpretation of satellite data. The factors taken into account under the existing methodology are (i) period of data, (ii) cloud coverage, and (iii) quality of data.

(c) and (d) No Sir. As per the State of Forest Report, (SFR, 2003), a biennial report published by Forest Survey of India, the real decrease in dense forest cover is assessed to be 4,605 Sq. km. only, whereas the decrease to the extent of 21,640 Sq. km. is to interpretational corrections mostly in 1 to 25 ha. patches outside the recorded forests such as crops like cotton, sugarcane etc. which give reflectance similar to that of forest cover. But, at the same time, the open forest cover has increased by 29,040 Sq. km. over the previous assessment of SFR, 2001. However, no survey on medicinal values of trees or biodiversity has been done this context.

(e) The measures undertaken to increase the area under dense forest in the country are:

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

(ii) Management measures like working of forests according to approved Working Plans, Forest Development Agencies and Joint Forest Management.

(iii) Financial measures like providing assistance to the States/Union Territories under centrally sponsored schemes and externally aided projects.

(iv) Afforestation programmes undertaken by the State Governments/UT Administrations from their own resources as well as with financial assistance from Government of India.

(v) A network of protected areas has been established.

Statement

State/UT	Dense Forest Cover (Percentage of Geographic area)	Open Forest Cover (Percentage of Geographic area)
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	8.9	7.3
Arunachal Pradesh	63.9	17.3
Assam	16.6	18.9
Chhattisgarh	28.8	12.6
Delhi	3.5	8.0
Goa	33.9	24.3
Gujarat	3.3	4.4
Haryana	1.2	2.2
Himachal Pradesh	16.1	9.7
Jammu and Kashmir	4.7	4.9

1	2	3
Jharkhand	14.7	13.8
Karnataka	11.7	7.3
Kerala	24.8	15.3
Madhya Pradesh	13.6	11.2
Maharashtra	9.2	6.0
Manipur	29.3	47.8
Meghalaya	29.0	46.1
Mizoram	35.5	51.9
Nagaland	34.4	47.7
Orissa	18.1	13.0
Punjab	1.5	1.7
Rajasthan	1.3	3.3
Sikkim	33.3	12.7
Tamil Nadu	9.2	8.2
Tripura	48.2	29.0
Uttar Pradesh	2.5	3.4
Uttaranchal	34.5	11.3
West Bengal	6.8	7.1
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	76.2	8.2
Chandigarh	7.9	5.3
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	29.5	16.3
Daman and Diu	1.9	5.5
Lakshwadeep	37.5	34.4
Pondicherry	3.5	4.8
Total	11.88	8.76

[Translation]

Leasing out of Land

2207. SHRI KAILASH BAITHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to lease out the land for excavation as the outskirt of sanctuary area under the Manguraha forest in the western Champaran district of Bihar;

(b) whether the Government is aware that the stones have been accumulated in the Pandai river of Dhori to the extent of a major threat;

(c) if so, whether the Government is considering to take action on this issue; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Supreme Court wide its order dated 28.10.2003 in I.A. No. 836 under Writ Petition (Civil) No. 202/1995 has stopped all mining activities inside Valmiki wildlife sanctuary and in the proposed safety zone on the fringe of the sanctuary. There is no proposal to lease out any land within or on the fringe of the sanctuary for any kind of mining.

(b) to (d) As per the information provided by the State Government, stones have accumulated in Padnari river as a result of stoppage of mining. This has improved the floral diversity in the area and has also re-established the corridor for the movement of wildlife. Therefore, there is no threat to the habitat. In view of this, no action is required to be taken.

Funds for Rehabilitation Programmes of Gas Victims

2208. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE:
DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH:
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:

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

(a) whether Union Government has received any proposal from the Government of Madhya Pradesh seeking creation of funds of Rs. 4.00 crore approximately to continue the various rehabilitation programmes started by the said State Government under the First Work Plan; and

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) The Central Government had approved a five year Action Plan for the Medical, Social, Economic and Environmental Rehabilitation of Bhopal Gas Victims with a total outlay of Rs. 163.10 crore which was subsequently increased in stages to an outlay of Rs. 258 crore. This outlays was to be shared between the Government of India and the State Government of Madhya Pradesh in the ratio of 75:25. The Central Government has already released its entire share of Rs. 193.50 crore and the Action Plan has been completed in the year 1999-2000. The State Government was asked to approach the Planning Commission for making available funds for continuing the various rehabilitation programmes started by them.

[English]

Development of Sunderbans

2209. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is under the consideration of the Government to develop Sundarbans in West Bengal as a tourist spot; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the assistance proposed to be provided to the State Government for the said purpose during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Tinned Food Items

2210. SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:
MOHD. SHAHID:
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:
SHRI MUNSHI RAM:
SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA:

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

(a) whether the Government is contemplating any scheme to make available tinned food items in the market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether action is being taken to provide financial assistance for the said scheme and to accord legal sanction to food policy;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the total percentage of foreign investment proposed to be allowed in the said market; and

(f) the total expenditure proposed to be incurred therein alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (f) The Government does not set up food processing units on its own for production or sale of processed food items. However, in order to promote food processing industries, Plan schemes have already been formulated to provide financial assistance for establishment and modernization of food processing units, creation of infrastructure, support for Research & Development, human resource development besides other promotional measures to encourage development of food processing industries in the country. Processed food is normally retailed in packaged form including in can form. The rate of assistance for establishment/modernization of food processing units is 25% of the project cost of plant & machinery and technical civil works subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakh in general areas and 33.33% of the project cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 75 lakh in difficult areas. An amount of Rs. 180 crore has been allocated in BE 2005-06 for expenditure under various schemes including the scheme for technology upgradation/establishment/expansion of food processing industries. Hundred percent FDI is already permitted in food processing sector except in food retailing, plantation and alcoholic beverages.

[English]

Bhopal Gas Tragedy

2211. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether survivors of Bhopal Gas Tragedy has demonstrated and demanding an enquiry into the alleged

serious irregularities in Bhopal Memorial Hospital Trust and Ministry's role in running the Trust;

(b) if so, whether they have also drawn attention of the Government to non-implementation of the Supreme Court order of May, 2004 regarding supply of clean water to the communities affected by ground water contamination;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (d) A group of Bhopal Gas victims had demonstrated in New Delhi on 8th July, 2005 and later submitted a representation to the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals alleging certain irregularities in the functioning of the Bhopal Memorial Hospital Trust and had also drawn attention to the inadequate supply of clean drinking water by the Government of Madhya Pradesh to the communities affected by ground water contamination. The Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers is not represented amongst the Trustees of the Bhopal Memorial Hospital Trust. However, the Ministry has requested the Government of Madhya Pradesh to look into these matters and take appropriate action.

Autonomy for Forward Market Commission

2212. SHRI SITA RAM YADAV:
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to amend the Forward Contract (Regulation) Act, 1952 to strengthen and provide autonomy to Forward Market Commission;

(b) if so, the salient features and objectives thereof;

(c) the extent to which these amendments are likely to help standardisation, gradation and warehousing in the country with respect to food sector; and

(d) by when the amending bill in this regard is proposed to be introduced?

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) The salient features of the proposed amendments are (i) up-dation of existing definitions and insertion of some new definitions; (ii) changes in provisions relating to composition and functioning of Forward Markets Commission (FMC) on the lines of Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI); (iii) enhancement of the powers of the FMC; (iv) corporatisation and demutualisation of the existing exchanges and setting up of a separate Clearing Corporation; (v) registration of intermediaries; (vi) enhancement of penal provision in the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952 [FC(R) Act] (vii) establishment of Forward Markets Appellate Tribunal on the line of Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT) and (viii) permitting trading in options in goods. The objective of these amendments is to strengthen and provide autonomy to Forward Markets Commission.

(c) Proposed amendments do not have provisions relating to standardization, gradation and warehousing. Which do not fall within the purview of FC (R) Act, 1952.

(d) It is proposed to introduce the Bill in the Parliament soon after the Cabinet approves the proposal.

Conservation of Lakes and Ponds

2213. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes which provide for conservation and protection of old lakes and wells in the country with help of world bank funds;

(b) the details of funds provided to States under these schemes during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has issued any guidelines to States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The Ministry is implementing a scheme of National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP) for conservation

and management of polluted lakes in the country. The NLCP was initiated in June, 2001. Till date, projects for conservation of 35 lakes have been approved at an estimated cost of about Rs. 164 crore. An amount of about Rs. 67 crore has been released for these projects till March, 2005. The works in respect of 8 lakes have been completed, resulting in water quality improvements. No assistance from World Bank has been received for NLCP.

(b) The details of funds provided to States during the last three years are as under:—

(Rs. in crore)				
Sl.No.	State	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.80
2.	Maharashtra	1.00	0.70	0.50
3.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	0.50	0.21
4.	Karnataka	1.79	5.08	7.41
5.	Uttaranchal	0.40	7.71	13.00
6.	Rajasthan	6.00	6.00	0.00
7.	West Bengal	3.00	0.00	1.00
8.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.50
Total		12.19	20.00	23.42

(c) and (d) The Ministry had carried out a study for identification of lakes for conservation under National Lake Conservation Plan. The list drawn through this study along with guidelines has been sent to all States for prioritization of lakes in their State. Lists of prioritized lakes have not been received from all States. The Action Plan drawn for the programme presently includes monitoring & implementation of ongoing lakes besides consideration of new proposals on the basis of their prioritization and availability of resources under the Plan.

[*Translation*]

Assistance for Setting up of FPI

2214. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria fixed for providing funds to set up food processing industries in different States of the country;

(b) the details of percentage of loan and the grant or other financial assistance in the said funds exclusively meant for setting up of food processing units; and

(c) the amount of funds provided to States including Rajasthan for setting up of food processing units during the last three years and the percentage of loan and grant separately in the said funds, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) Under the scheme for technology upgradation/establishment/expansion of food processing industries assistance in the form of grant-in-aid is provided for establishment/modernization of food processing units @ 25% of the project cost of plant & machinery and technical civil works subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakh in general areas and 33.33% of the project cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 75 lakh in difficult area. An amount of Rs. 49 crore has been allocated for expenditure under the scheme in BE 2005-06. No loan is provided by this Ministry in this regard.

(c) The scheme is project specific not state/area specific. Accordingly assistance is provided to the agencies implementing the projects. A statement showing financial assistance released for the FPI projects in the different states is enclosed.

Statement

(Rs. in Lakh)			
State/UT	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	124.74	465.57	797.67
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

1	2	3	4
Himachal Pradesh	111.36	99.18	75.51
Jammu and 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
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
Uttar Pradesh	119.14	263.19	591.76
Uttaranchal	—	5.37	87.88
West Bengal	163.54	132.96	325.74
N.E. States*	774.20	644.86	494.18

*Includes all major schemes

[English]

Promotion of Steel Industry

2215. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is thinking regarding the increase of per capita consumption of steel in the country in comparison to world average;

(b) if so, the strategies proposed to be adopted therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to modernise Alloy Steel Plant, Durgapur?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) In a liberalized and deregulated environment, the Government primarily plays the role of a facilitator and provides an enabling environment through

policy initiatives to foster growth of the steel industry. Further, an essential feature in the draft National Steel Policy is to institute measures for promoting domestic demand of steel.

(c) The Steel Authority of India Limited has prepared a Corporate Plan for special steel plants, including Alloy Steel Plant (ASP). The plan for ASP envisages utilization of existing assets to the maximum potential by revamping and de-bottlenecking. The new facilities that would be added are—Argon Oxygen Decarburising, bloom-cum-round caster & ultra high power transformer with new furnace shell. Further, most of the facilities would be modernized such as Electric Arc Furnaces, Blooming cum billet mill, forge shop, heat treatment and finishing and conditioning shop.

Import of Coconut Oil

2216. SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether import of coconut oil has increased during the last one year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is aware that the domestic oil industry has been affected due to the import of coconut oil; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to protect coconut growers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The import of coconut oil for the last three years is as below:

	Qty. in Mts.		
	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05 (Apr.-Feb.)
	30415.93	13755.96	12490.49

Source: DGC&S

(c) As may be seen from the figures of import provided above, the import of coconut oil has declined during the last two years.

(d) The Coconut Development Board (CDB) implements programmes for the Integrated Development of Coconut Industry and Technology Mission on Coconut. The major thrust areas include production and distribution of quality planting material, expansion of area under coconut especially in potential and non-traditional areas, improving productivity of coconut in major coconut producing States, developing of post harvest processing technology, marketing activities and integrated pest and disease control.

ESIC I.D. Card

2217. SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received complaints from industrial/textile workers about non issuance of ESIC I.D. card by their employers which deprive them of many benefits under ESIC scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO): (a) No specific complaints about non-issuance of ESIC I.D. cards by the employers to their employees were received.

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

Delhi Milk Scheme

2218. SHRI BHAL CHANDRA YADAV:
DR. K. DHANARAJU:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS) has incurred a loss of more than Rs. 20 crores including stock receipts and borrowing during 2004-2005;

(b) if so, the factors attributed thereto alongwith the details of receipts from stocks value realisation and borrowings; 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 (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Joint Venture Projects in Fertilizer Sector

2219. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to set up New Joint Venture project in fertilizer sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) No Sir. No such proposal has so far been approved by Government.

[Translation]

Outstanding Dues of EPF and ESI in Pvt. Sector

2220. SHRI BHUBANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is huge anomaly in the pay scales of the contractual labourers and other employees in the organised and unorganised sectors and the labourer of the public sector undertakings all over the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government has formulated any policy to remove this anomaly in the pay-scales of the said employees;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the amount of Employees Provident Fund and ESI outstanding against the private companies as on March, 31 2005;

(e) the number of private companies against which action has been taken to recover the outstanding EPF and ESI amount during the last three years State-wise; and

(f) the number of companies found guilty of committing irregularity in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO): (a) to (c) The wages payable to contract labour, whether in organized or unorganized sector, as laid down in the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Central Rules, 1971, shall not be less than rates prescribed under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 for such employment where applicable and where the rates have been fixed by agreement, statement or award no less than rates so fixed. However, in cases where the work performed by the contract labour is same or similar to that performed by the regular workmen of an establishment, it shall be the same as applicable to the regular workmen of the establishment.

(d) to (f) As on 31.03.2005, the number of defaulting establishments (including private sector and public sector companies) was 96,978 involving a sum of Rs. 2115.27 crore as default towards provident fund.

The amount of ESI outstanding against the private companies as on March 31, 2005 was Rs. 805.56 crore.

The number of private companies against which action has been taken to recover the outstanding ESI amount during the last three years is as follows:

2002-03	93,067
2003-04	1,02,227
2004-05	1,16,367

The State-wise details in respect of above, is given in the enclosed Statement.

The number of companies found guilty of committing irregularities in respect of ESI dues:-

2002-03	1,43,248
2003-04	1,47,352
2004-05	1,43,613

Statement

Statement indicating number of private companies against which action has been taken to recover the outstanding ESI amount during the last three years

Sl.No.	Region	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7417	5217	5810
2.	Assam	925	921	878
3.	Bihar	515	521	543
4.	Jharkhand	597	639	748
5.	Mumbai	4123	5173	6626
6.	Marol	2196	3308	4483
7.	Thane	2761	2786	3611
8.	Pune	6084	6624	7411
9.	Nagpur	651	758	1040
10.	Delhi	5602	3073	3989
11.	Gujarat	2804	2883	2685
12.	Haryana	3406	4183	5098

1	2	3	4	5
13.	Kerala	4128	4481	4913
14.	Karnataka	5585	6924	6131
15.	Hubli	932	928	1045
16.	Madhya Pradesh	2539	4430	4782
17.	Chennai	10096	10535	16322
18.	Pondicherry	404	383	333
19.	Orissa	1425	1564	1678
20.	Madurai	2827	2792	3142
21.	Coimbatore	3354	3317	3165
22.	Punjab	5895	7114	7785
23.	Jammu and Kashmir	1288	1288	1233
24.	Himachal Pradesh	514	522	478
25.	Rajasthan	3329	3571	3879
26.	Uttar Pradesh	5603	6225	6579
27.	Surat	241	290	303
28.	Uttaranchal	0	361	307
29.	West Bengal	6298	7592	7725
30.	Goa	915	797	878
31.	Vijayawada	0	2266	2125
32.	Baroda	613	649	613
33.	Chhattisgarh	—	28	29
Total		93067	102227	116367

Norms for Declaring Tourist Centres

2221. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the norms for declaring any place a tourist centre;

(b) whether the Government has any plan to declare some places of the country as tourists centers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM* (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) Identification of tourist spots/centres is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. The Ministry of Tourism has been assisting the State Governments in identifying, developing and promoting such tourist centres in the country. This is a continuous and on-going process.

*[English]***Basic Infrastructure for Agricultural Research and Education**

2222. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of basic infrastructure provided to Karnataka for agricultural research and education;

(b) whether the basic infrastructure provided to the State is sufficient; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken by the Government to enhance the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The details are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

Details of Basic Infrastructure provided to ICAR Projects in Karnataka with their allocation

	(Rs. in Lakh)	
	2004-05 RE	2005-06 BE
AICRP on Small Millet, Bangalore	243.00	193.75
Project Directorate of Biological Control, Bangalore	190.00	161.00
AICRP on Biological Control, Bangalore	144.00	156.63
Network on Agricultural Acarology, Bangalore	150.00	76.83
Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Bangalore	450.00	500.00
AICRP Tropical Fruits, Bangalore	260.00	250.00
NRC Cashew, Puttur	100.00	140.00
AICRP Cashew, Puttur	90.00	90.00
National Institute of Animal Nutrition and Physiology, Bangalore	300.00	500.00
AICRP-Improvement of Feed Sources & Nutrient Utilisation	255.00	335.00
PD an Animal Disease Monitoring and Surveillance, Bangalore	390.00	390.00
Total	2572.00	2793.21

Profit/Loss of Steel PSU

2223. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:
SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:
SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of profit/loss made by the public sector steel companies in the country during the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government to merge the Vizag Steel Plant with SAIL;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to make the steel companies in the country profitable?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS

PASWAN): (a) Profit/Loss position of public sector steel companies in the country during the last three years and

the current year is given as under:

Plant	(Rs. in crores)			
	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06 (1st quarter)
Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL)	(-)304	2512	6817	1124
Indian Iron & Steel Company Ltd. (IISCO)	(-)182	27.09	46.59	2.64
Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP)	521	1547	2006	321 (prov.)

(b) There is no formal proposal at present for merger of Vizag Steel Plant (VSP) with SAIL.

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

(d) In a deregulated and liberalized environment, the Government primarily plays the role of a facilitator and provides an enabling environment through policy initiatives to foster growth of the steel industry. The Government has taken several steps to increase the production of steel such as modernization and expansion of public sector steel plants and adoption of various policy measures to encourage creation of additional steel production capacity in the private sector.

Ban on Monsoon Trawling

2224. SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the name of the State Governments which have enforced a ban on monsoon trawling;

(b) its likely impact on the industry;

(c) whether the marine landing has been improved significantly in the States which have enforced a ban; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Financial Assistance to Dependents of Beedi Workers for Major Surgeries

2225. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to provide financial assistance to the dependents of the beedi workers for major surgeries such as kidney transplantation, heart surgery, cancer and tuberculosis;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has also decided to enhance the maternity benefits for women beedi workers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, dependents of beedi workers are provided financial assistance for:

(i) Kidney transplantation upto Rs. 2,00,000/-

(ii) Heart diseases upto Rs. 1,30,000/-

(iii) Cancer, full cost of treatment without any ceiling; and

(iv) Beds are reserved in hospitals for beedi workers and their dependents suffering from TB and Rs. 20,000/- is paid for each bed per annum;

(c) and (d) Maternity benefit to women beedi workers has already been raised from Rs. 500/- to Rs. 1,000/- in

December, 2003. The benefit is available for first two deliveries.

Destruction of Trees on Eastern Express Highway

2226. SHRI SURESH GANAPATRAO WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to refer to the answer given to Unstarred Question No. 3644 on August 23, 2004 and state:

- (a) whether the information has since been collected;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons for delay;
- (d) whether 49 trees have also been removed, destroyed afterwards by the contractor in first week of July, 2005;
- (e) if so, the complaints/representations received from MPs in this regard; and
- (f) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The Parliament assurance given on 23.8.2004 in respect of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3644 has been fulfilled vide Ministry's O.M. No. 6-7/2004-FPD dated 15.10.2004. A copy of the implementation report furnished to Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs as well as Lok Sabha Sectt., in fulfillment of the assurance is given in the enclosed statement.

Details of complaints lodged with Police Station.

Sl.No.	Location	Complaint Lodged under No.
1.	Sr. Inspector of Police, Vikhroli Police Station, Karunamwar Nagar, Vikhroli (East) Mumbai-400083	CAN/486/Gen/MN, dated 7.8.2004
2.	Sr. Inspector of Police, Vikhroli Police Station, Karunamwar Nagar, Vikhroli (East) Mumbai-400083	ACS/OD/1311/AEMS, dated 25.7.2004
3.	Sr. Inspector of Police, Navghar Police Station, Mulund (East), Mumbai	AEMT/399/Gen, dated 27.7.2004

(d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(e) and (f) No complaints or representations from MPs have been received so far in this Ministry regarding removal of 49 trees by the Contractor in the first week of July, 2005, along the Eastern Express Highway.

Statement

Implementation Report

Reply to Part (a) & (b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3644 answered on 23.08.2004.

The stretch of highway between Mulund and Sion is popularly known as Eastern Express Highway. The widening work of this highway to make it 14 lane highway is in progress. Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) is the coordinating agency for the work. The widening work has been started on Mulund-Ghatkopar stretch only. During the widening work some trees appear to have been cut/damaged. As per the provisions of the Maharashtra (Urban area) Protection and preservation of Tree Act, 1975 permission of competent authority is required to fell trees. The Contractor/MMRDA did not seek the permission of the competent authority to fell/remove trees coming in way. No agency is in a position to provide the exact number of trees cut/damaged on the Highway. However based on the media report and complaints by Shri Kirit Somaiya, Ex MP the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai has lodged complaint with respective Police Station as per following details:-

MMRDA contractors have apologised for their mistake to start the work without prior permission of the competent

authority to fell the trees. The contractors have agreed to plant trees in lieu of the trees inadvertently cut by them.

*[Translation]***Death of Birds due to Hot Winds**

2227. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI:

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

(a) whether a large number of birds died in Andhra Pradesh and other parts of the country due to hot winds;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to take any steps to protect these birds in future;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No, Sir. No such reports have been received by the Government.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

*[English]***Poultry Development Programme**

2228. SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Country's Poultry Development Programme has been concentrated on only one of the species *i.e.* chicken so far;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for diversification of the Poultry Development Programme by including other species in the Programme *i.e.* Duck, Turkey, Japanese Quail, Guinea Fowl etc. and for its suitably strengthening?

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

(b) and (c) Does not arise. However, the Government has taken steps to diversify poultry farming since 1998 by undertaking the following activities at the four Central Poultry Development Organizations under the Government of India as follows:

- (i) Duck and Turkey farming at Central Poultry Development Organizations (Southern Region), Hessarghatta, Bangalore
- (ii) Japanese Quail farming Central Poultry Development Organizations (Western Region- Mumbai and Northern Region-Chandigarh).
- (iii) Guinea Fowl farming at Central Poultry Development Organization (Eastern Region, Bhubaneswar).

Further under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme, "Assistance to State Poultry Farms", provision has been made to strengthen farms of State Governments in respect of poultry including other species like Duck, Japanese Quail, Turkey and Guinea Fowl etc.

Commercial Plant Tissue Culture Laboratories Training Facility

2229. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details and location of commercial plant tissue culture laboratories functioning in the country at present State-wise;

(b) whether the laboratories are finding it difficult to get qualified candidates on continuous basis;

(c) if so, whether any proposal to set up commercial training centers to provide basic skills to the prospective job seekers in this sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India which is the nodal Government Department has informed that there are 120 plant tissue culture companies as per recent survey

conducted by the Biotechnology Consortium India Limited. Out of 120 laboratories, 57 are functioning. The details of plant tissue culture companies are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. However, a number of institutes of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, State Agricultural Universities, Central Universities, National Seed Corporation and plant tissue culture laboratories are providing training on tissue culture techniques.

Statement

List of Functional Tissue Cultural Laboratories

Sl.No.	Zone	Name of the Company	Location	State
1	2	3	4	5
1.	E	Shrishrimal Plantation Ltd.	Raipur	Chhattisgarh
2.	E	Kalinga Plant Resource Centre P. Ltd.	Bhubaneswar	Orissa
3.	E	B.K. Biotech	Hooghly	West Bengal
4.	N	Phulwari Biotech Ltd.	Chandigarh	Chandigarh
5.	N	Sheel Biotech Ltd.	Haryana	Haryana
6.	N	Kesar Enterprise Ltd.	Bareilly	Uttar Pradesh
7.	N	Plantiss Agrotech (P) Ltd.	Nainital	Uttaranchal
8.	N	Chambal Agritech	Solan	Himachal Pradesh
9.	S	S&S Agro Biotech P. Ltd.	Secunderabad	Andhra Pradesh
10.	S	AG Biotech Laboratories (I) Ltd.	Outbblipur	Andhra Pradesh
11.	S	Turlapati Agrotech Ltd.	Secunderabad	Andhra Pradesh
12.	S	Godrej Plant Biotech Ltd.	Medchal	Andhra Pradesh
13.	S	Labland Biotech Pvt. Ltd.	Mysore	Karnataka
14.	S	Greeneearth Biotechnologies Ltd.	Bangalore	Karnataka
15.	S	Whitefield Agrotech Pvt. Ltd.	Bangalore	Karnataka
16.	S	EID Parry (I) Ltd.	Bangalore	Karnataka
17.	S	Shri Ramco Biotech	Bangalore	Karnataka
18.	S	Indo-American Hybrid Seeds (I) P. Ltd.	Bangalore	Karnataka
19.	S	Invitro International	Bangalore	Karnataka
20.	S	MSR Biotech Pvt. Ltd.	Bangalore	Karnataka
21.	S	Suvarnamukhi Bio-Tech	Bangalore	Karnataka
22.	S	Rajshree Biotech	Bangalore	Karnataka

1	2	3	4	5
23.	S	H.U. Gugle Biotech (P.) Ltd.	Bangalore	Karnataka
24.	S	Global Greens	Bangalore	Karnataka
25.	S	Ankur Biotech	Bangalore	Karnataka
26.	S	Riddhi Biotech P. Ltd.	Dharwad	Karnataka
27.	S	Palm Grove Nurseries (Khoday Biotech)	Bangalore	Karnataka
28.	S	The Sheveroy Estates Ltd. (A.V. Thomas Group)	Ernakulam	Kerala
29.	C	Phytoclone Laboratories	Kottayam	Kerala
30.	S	Mitraniketan Krishi Vigyan Kendra	Trivandrum	Kerala
31.	S	Hafi Orchard	Kochi	Kerala
32.	S	Hi-Brid Bio Tech	Trivandrum	Kerala
33.	S	Bioplant	Palakkad	Kerala
34.	S	Harrisons Malayalam Ltd.	Hosur	Tamil Nadu
35.	S	Southern Petrochemical Ind. Corp. Ltd.	Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
36.	S	Growmore Biotech P. Ltd.	Hosur	Tamil Nadu
37.	S	Blossom Tissue Culture Nurseries	Hosur	Tamil Nadu
38.	W	Shree Khedut Sahakari Khand Udyog Mandli Ltd.	Bardoli	Gujarat
39.	W	Sun Agrigenetics P. Ltd.	Vadodara	Gujarat
40.	W	Cadila Pharmaceuticals	Ahmedabad	Gujarat
41.	W	Gujarat State Fertilisers & Chemicals Ltd.	Ahmedabad	Gujarat
42.	W	Shaily Polymers	Ahmedabad	Gujarat
43.	W	Gujarat Agri Processing Ltd.	Dakor	Gujarat
44.	W	Hybritech P. Ltd.	Gandevi	Gujarat
45.	W	Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilizers Company Limited	Bharuch	Gujarat
46.	W	Reliance Life science	Jamnagar	Gujarat
47.	W	Jain Irrigation Ltd.	Jaigaon	Maharashtra
48.	W	Vasant Dada Sugarcane Institute	Manjari	Maharashtra
49.	W	Nath Biotechnologies Ltd.	Aurangabad	Maharashtra

1	2	3	4	5
50.	W	Gargi Biotech Pvt. Ltd.	Mangalwar Peth, Pune	Maharashtra
51.	W	EPC Irrigation Ltd.	Nasik	Maharashtra
52.	W	Nimreeti Biotech	Pune	Maharashtra
53.	W	Indrayani Biotech	Pune	Maharashtra
54.	W	Pudumjee Plant Laboratories	Pune	Maharashtra
55.	W	Kumar Florist Gerbera's P. Ltd.	Pune	Maharashtra
56.	W	Saubhagya Kalpataru Pvt. Ltd.	Hinganghat	Maharashtra
57.	W	Gufic Bioscience Ltd.	Andheri, Mumbai	Maharashtra

Incomplete Irrigation Projects

2230. SHRI RANEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of irrigation projects in various States on which the works are going alongwith estimated cost thereof; State-wise/Project-wise; and

(b) by when the construction work of these projects is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) There are 169 major and 219 medium ongoing irrigation projects as on 1.4.2004 which have spilled over from Ninth Five Year Plan. Based upon the information provided by the State Governments to Central Water Commission, the State-wise/project-wise details of these projects including the scheduled year of completion are given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

Incomplete Irrigation Projects

(Rs. Crore)

Sl.No.	Name of the State/Project	Latest estimated cost	Anticipated year of completion
1	2	3	4
I.	ANDHRA PRADESH		
	Major Projects		
1.	Nagarjunasagar	1184.00	X Plan
2.	Sriram Sagar	2663.39	X Plan
3.	Puivendula Br Canal	93.87	X Plan
4.	Vamsadhara Stage I	109.00	X Plan

1	2	3	4
5.	Singur	180.00	X Plan
6.	Somasila	500.00	X Plan
7.	Vamsadhara Stage II Ph I	123.94	Beyond X Plan
8.	Jurala	545.82	X Plan
9.	Srisailam LBC	1260.00	X Plan
10.	Srisailam RBC	1979.00	Beyond X Plan
11.	Telugu Ganga	3100.00	X Plan
12.	Yeleru Water Supply Scheme	484.54	X Plan
13.	Vamsadhara Stage II Ph II	739.49	X Plan
14.	Changanadu LIS	70.70	X Plan
15.	Galeru Nagari Ph I	4560.00	X Plan
	Medium Projects		
1.	Kanupur	32.50	Beyond X Plan
2.	Gundalavagu	15.85	X Plan
3.	Jhanjhavati	103.62	X Plan
4.	Madigedda	10.90	X Plan
5.	Madduvalasa	115.23	X Plan
6.	Yerrakalva	81.20	X Plan
7.	Maddileru	50.28	X Plan
8.	Palemvagu	33.29	X Plan
9.	Pedderu	38.41	X Plan
11.	ASSAM		
	Major Projects		
1.	Dhansiri	355.00	X Plan
2.	Bordikaral	49.94	Beyond X Plan
3.	Integrated Kollong	113.93	Beyond X Plan
4.	Champamati	128.67	X Plan
5.	Pagladiya	1030.00	Beyond X Plan
	Medium Projects		
1.	Kallonga	5.54	X Plan
2.	Burdehing	27.39	Beyond X Plan

1	2	3	4
3.	Pahumara	46.16	X Plan
4.	Boroia	69.32	X Plan
5.	Hawaipur Lift	14.93	Beyond X Plan
III.	BIHAR		
	Major Projects		
1.	Western Kosi Canal	904.01	X Plan
2.	Bateshwarsthan Pump Canal Ph I	180.00	X Plan
3.	Durgawati Res Scheme	379.04	X Plan
4.	North Koel Res Project	1118.00	X Plan
5.	Tilaiya Dhadhar Diversion	398.81	X Plan
6.	Upper Kiul Res Project	159.16	X Plan
7.	Barnar	308.00	Beyond X Plan
8.	Eastern Kosi Canal Ph II	156.32	X Plan
9.	Gandak Phase II	578.27	Beyond X Plan
10.	Bansagar Dam	263.00	X Plan
	Medium Projects		
1.	Batane	57.00	X Plan
2.	Orni Reservoir Project	74.89	Beyond X Plan
3.	Sindwami	48.32	Beyond X Plan
IV.	JHARKHAND		
	Major Projects		
1.	Ajoy Barrage	351.85	Beyond X Plan
2.	Auranga	914.24	Beyond X Plan
3.	Konar	348.38	Beyond X Plan
4.	Subernarekha	2869.76	Beyond X Plan
5.	Punasi	185.82	Beyond X Plan
	Medium Projects		
1.	Gumani	125.00	X Plan
2.	Jharjhara	49.87	X Plan
3.	Kansjore	52.97	X Plan

1	2	3	4
4.	Torai (Deferred)	62.57	X Plan
5.	Kans (Deferred)	44.18	Beyond X Plan
6.	Sonua	79.24	X Plan
7.	Suru	36.00	X Plan
8.	Upper Sankh	105.44	X Plan
9.	Katri	51.08	X Plan
10.	Keso (RE Stage)	48.61	Beyond X Plan
11.	Natki	35.16	Beyond X Plan
12.	Panch Khero	54.73	X Plan
13.	Ram Rekha	53.87	Beyond X Plan
14.	Surangi	57.42	X Plan
15.	Dhansingoli	29.52	X Plan
16.	Bhairawa Reservoir	67.27	Beyond X Plan
17.	Salaiya (RE Stage)	36.56	Beyond X Plan
18.	Basuki (Reconsidered)	55.00	X Plan
19.	Satpotka	33.45	X Plan
V.	GOA		
	Major Projects		
1.	Salauli Irrg. Project	160.00	X Plan
	-Tillari (IS) (Goa Share)	806.56	X Plan
VI.	GUJARAT		
	Major Projects		
1.	Sardar Sarovar (IS)	30823.00	Beyond X Plan
2.	Zankhari	90.00	Beyond X Plan
3.	Sidumber	205.35	Beyond X Plan
	Medium Projects		
1.	Mukteshwar	46.00	X Plan
2.	Und-II	64.00	X Plan
3.	Goma	47.59	Beyond X Plan
4.	Kollyari	26.00	Beyond X Plan

1	2	3	4
5.	Ozat II	86.20	X Plan
6.	Vartu II	57.15	X Plan
7.	Limbdi Bhogavo II	41.41	Beyond X Plan
8.	Aji IV	111.77	X Plan
9.	Bakrol	23.86	Beyond X Plan
10.	Bhadar II	119.30	Beyond X Plan
11.	Demi III	36.00	Beyond X Plan
12.	Gunda (Utavali)	37.00	Beyond X Plan
13.	Men	8.72	Beyond X Plan
14.	Singar	20.00	Beyond X Plan
15.	Varanasi	19.60	X Plan
16.	Kuntali	43.99	Beyond X Plan
17.	Brahmani II	41.50	X Plan
18.	Chinchai LIS	13.35	Beyond X Plan
VII.	HARYANA		
	Major Projects		
1.	Rewari Lift Stage II	39.60	X Plan
2.	Loharu Lift	75.53	X Plan
3.	JLN Lift Irrigation	245.75	X Plan
4.	SYL Project (Punjab portion)	601.25	Beyond X Plan
VIII.	HIMACHAL PRADESH		
	Major Project		
1.	Shahnahar Irrigation Project	203.84	X Plan
	Medium Projects		
1.	Sidhata Project	42.49	X Plan
2.	Changer Lift Irri. Project	42.24	X Plan
IX.	JAMMU AND KASHMIR		
	Medium Projects		
1.	Lethpora Lift	10.04	X Plan
2.	Marwal Lift	25.16	X Plan

1	2	3	4
3.	Niv-Karewa	4.50	Project Deferred
4.	Rajpora Lift	31.64	X Plan
5.	Tral Lift	70.33	X Plan
6.	Rafiabad High Lift	35.60	X Plan
7.	Igo-Phey Irrg. Project	49.03	X Plan
X.	KARNATAKA		
	Major Projects		
1.	Kabini	1233.00	X Plan
2.	Tungabatra HLC (IS)	111.80	X Plan
3.	Malaprabha	816.00	X Plan
4.	Harangi	400.00	X Plan
5.	Hemavathy	3710.00	X Plan
6.	Karanja	415.00	X Plan
7.	UKP Stage I	5613.83	X Plan
8.	UKP Stage II	2954.58	Beyond X Plan
9.	Hipparagi	901.00	X Plan
10.	Bennithora	267.24	X Plan
11.	Varahi	275.00	X Plan
12.	Yagachi	302.50	X Plan
13.	Upper Tunga	1052.33	X Plan
	-Dudh Ganga (IS)	124.00	X Plan
14.	Singatalur	595.00	X Plan
15.	Bhima Lift	194.47	X Plan
16.	Markendaya	209.85	X Plan
	Medium Projects		
1.	Manchanabele	74.65	X Plan
2.	Amarja	109.43	X Plan
3.	Arkavathi	110.00	X Plan
4.	Lower Mullamari	134.06	X Plan

1	2	3	4
5.	Chulkinala	70.00	X Plan
6.	Votehole	52.50	X Plan
7.	Hirehalla	175.00	X Plan
8.	Uduthorehalla	156.10	X Plan
9.	Iggalur	69.65	X Plan
10.	Kamasamdura	28.75	X Plan
11.	Hodirayanahalla	9.20	X Plan
12.	Hutchanakoplu	27.50	X Plan
13.	Gandorinala	132.95	X Plan
14.	Basapur Lift	19.50	X Plan
15.	Itagi-Sasalwad	18.50	X Plan
16.	Kanchanahalli	88.30	X Plan
17.	Harinala	55.56	X Plan
18.	Nanjapura	31.60	X Plan
XI.	KERALA		
	Major Projects		
1.	Kallada	760.80	X Plan
2.	Muvattupuzha	515.00	X Plan
3.	Idamalayar	412.00	X Plan
4.	Kariarkutty	197.00	X Plan
	Medium Projects		
1.	Attapady	161.00	X Plan
2.	Karapuzha	253.00	X Plan
3.	Bansurasagar	50.00	X Plan
4.	Vamanapuram	260.00	X Plan
XII.	MADHYA PRADESH		
	Major Projects		
1.	Kolar	195.60	X Plan
2.	Sindh Phase I	74.00	Beyond X Plan
3.	Bansagar Dam (MP Share)	880.72	X Plan
4.	Bansagar Canal	742.50	Beyond X Plan

1	2	3	4
5.	Bariarpur LBC	191.34	Beyond X Plan
	Rajghat Dam	150.00	X Plan
6.	Rajghat Canal	645.86	Beyond X Plan
7.	Rani Avanti Bai Sagar (NVDA)	1478.64	Beyond X Plan
	-Bawanthandi (IS)	194.99	X Plan
8.	Mahan	155.10	Beyond X Plan
9.	Indira Sagar (NVDA)	5150.00	Beyond X Plan
10.	Jobat (NVDA)	117.45	X Plan
11.	Mahi	266.00	Beyond X Plan
12.	Man (NVDA)	167.41	Beyond X Plan
13.	Sindh Phase II	1079.90	Beyond X Plan
14.	Bargi Diversion (NVDA)	2604.50	Beyond X Plan
15.	Omkareshwar. (NVDA)	3134.37	Beyond X Plan
16.	Pench Diversion	49.65	Beyond X Plan
	Medium Projects		
1.	Kaliasote	69.52	Beyond X Plan
2.	Kunwari Lift	5.31	Beyond X Plan
3.	Mahuar	57.68	Beyond X Plan
4.	Sagar	31.99	Beyond X Plan
5.	Bah	54.30	Beyond X Plan
XIII.	CHHATTISGARH		
	Major Projects		
1.	Mahanadi Reservoir Project	644.77	X Plan
2.	Jonk Diversion	53.51	X Plan
3.	Hasdeo Bango Ph III	1043.88	Beyond X Plan
	Medium Projects		
1.	Barnai	29.46	X Plan
2.	Koserteda	60.84	X Plan
3.	Sutiapat	46.95	Beyond X Plan
4.	Upper Jonk	9.10	X Plan
5.	Kharkhara Modhipat Canal	43.82	Beyond X Plan
XIV.	MAHARASHTRA		
	Major Projects		
1.	Bhima	1405.67	X Plan

1	2	3	4
2.	Krishna	559.01	X Plan
3.	Kukadi	1430.78	X Plan
4.	Khadakwasla	343.87	X Plan
5.	Upper Tapi	230.78	X Plan
6.	Warna	1150.98	Beyond X Plan
7.	Upper Godavari	189.99	X Plan
8.	Dudhganga (IS)	1173.26	X Plan
9.	Chaskaman	388.13	X Plan
10.	Bhatsa	358.25	X Plan
11.	Jayakwadi St II	792.20	X Plan
12.	Nandur Madhemshwar	606.00	Beyond X Plan
13.	Upper Penganga	867.46	X Plan
14.	Upper Parvara	721.39	X Plan
15.	Upper Wardha	754.26	X Plan
16.	Waghur	189.32	X Plan
17.	Bawanthandi (IS)	188.70	Beyond X Plan
18.	Surya	276.15	X Plan
19.	Tillari (IS)	293.80	X Plan
20.	Vishnupuri (Lower Godavari)	252.77	X Plan
21.	Arunavati	224.16	X Plan
22.	Gosikhurd	3544.53	Beyond X Plan
23.	Human	523.48	Beyond X Plan
24.	Kadwa	76.07	X Plan
25.	Koyna Krishna LIS	1892.29	Beyond X Plan
26.	Lendi (IS)	225.99	Beyond X Plan
27.	Lower Tirna (Flow & Lift)	327.29	X Plan
28.	Lower Wardha	540.14	Beyond X Plan
29.	Lower Wunna	287.46	X Plan
30.	Punad	115.81	X Plan
31.	Talamba	388.19	Beyond X Plan
32.	Tultuli	169.40	Beyond X Plan

1	2	3	4
33.	Wan	228.40	X Plan
34.	Urmodi	867.78	Beyond X Plan
35.	Lower Dudhna	474.06	Beyond X Plan
36.	Lower Penganga (IS)	1696.94	Beyond X Plan
37.	Nira Deoghar	910.91	Beyond X Plan
38.	Bembla	622.48	Beyond X Plan
39.	Bhama Askheda	458.20	Beyond X Plan
40.	Janai Shirsal	144.24	Beyond X Plan
41.	Gunjawani	316.60	Beyond X Plan
42.	Khadakpurna	368.88	Beyond X Plan
43.	Sina Kolegaon	317.77	Beyond X Plan
44.	Sina Madha LIS	197.70	Beyond X Plan
45.	Temgarh	323.53	X Plan
	Additional Projects		
46.	Dhom Balkawadi	475.29	Beyond X Plan
47.	Tarli	685.93	Beyond X Plan
48.	Ashti LIS	67.87	Beyond X Plan
49.	Barshi LIS	230.40	Beyond X Plan
50.	Bhima Sina Joint Canal	315.76	Beyond X Plan
51.	Dhaigaon LIS	130.32	Beyond X Plan
52.	Purandar LIS	386.70	Beyond X Plan
53.	Shirapur LIS	153.69	Beyond X Plan
54.	Tembhu LIS	2107.28	Beyond X Plan
55.	Lower Tapi	273.08	Beyond X Plan
56.	Warangaon Talwel LIS	302.26	Beyond X Plan
	Medium Projects		
1.	Anjanapalsi (Palsi)	50.81	X Plan
2.	Aran (Pimpari)	71.28	X Plan
3.	Bahula	44.04	X Plan
4.	Chenna Nadi	17.40	X Plan
5.	Chikotra	137.94	X Plan

1	2	3	4
6.	Erdha	31.90	X Plan
7.	Hivra	16.29	X Plan
8.	Jangamhatti	32.00	X Plan
9.	Jawalgaon	26.75	X Plan
10.	Kadvi	69.74	X Plan
11.	Kasari	28.95	X Plan
12.	Kumbhi	48.63	X Plan
13.	Mangrul	24.20	X Plan
14.	Mor	401.5	X Plan
15.	Pendhari Nalla	11.70	X Plan
16.	Purna Neopur	16.61	X Plan
17.	Wadiwale	31.03	X Plan
18.	Amravati	48.34	X Plan
19.	Bordahegaon	28.70	X Plan
20.	Bori (S)	72.83	Beyond X Plan
21.	Dhapewada St I	78.05	X Plan
22.	Dehli	39.68	X Plan
23.	Deogad	174.98	Beyond X Plan
24.	Dongergaon (c)	41.16	X Plan
25.	Hetawane	208.54	X Plan
26.	Jam	66.70	X Plan
27.	Karwappa Nalla	26.54	X Plan
28.	Kasar Sai	33.15	X Plan
29.	Mun	60.85	X Plan
30.	Patgaon	82.20	X Plan
31.	Shivna Talkli	123.12	X Plan
32.	Sonwad	31.37	X Plan
33.	Tajnapur Lift Irrg.	25.86	X Plan
34.	Upper Manar	145.28	X Plan
35.	Andhali	19.29	X Plan
36.	Madan Tank	50.56	Beyond X Plan

1	2	3	4
37.	Navargaon	46.48	X Plan
38.	Gautami Godavari (Godavari Nadi)	64.90	X Plan
39.	Akkalpada	131.40	X Plan
40.	Dara	37.38	X Plan
41.	Gadnadi	112.80	Beyond X Plan
42.	Kajala (Wagholl)	17.68	X Plan
43.	Kar	126.40	X Plan
44.	Kashyapi	49.33	X Plan
45.	Koradinalla	21.25	X Plan
46.	Morna Gureghar	117.38	X Plan
47.	Nagan	59.94	X Plan
48.	Narangi Sarangi	23.00	X Plan
49.	Pen Takli	173.55	X Plan
50.	Sayaki	22.20	X Plan
51.	Torna	14.94	X Plan
52.	Uppar Manjra (Dokkewadi)	61.40	X Plan
53.	Anjani	79.97	X Plan
54.	Jambre	66.03	X Plan
55.	Katangi	31.00	X Plan
56.	Lower Chulband	60.82	Beyond X Plan
57.	Mohamadawadi (Nardave)	189.90	Beyond X Plan
58.	Sondyatola LIS	60.33	X Plan
59.	Utawali	55.23	X Plan
60.	Chandra Bhagha	177.64	X Plan
61.	Chtri	79.94	X Plan
62.	Gul	55.94	X Plan
63.	Jamkhedi	26.94	X Plan
64.	Kalpathari	27.44	X Plan
65.	Karajkhed LIS	39.46	X Plan
66.	Lal Nalla	59.17	X Plan

1	2	3	4
67.	Nagewadi	51.47	X Plan
68.	Prakash Bandhara	155.58	X Plan
69.	Purna	143.46	X Plan
70.	Renapur	68.00	Beyond X Plan
71.	Sonapur Tomta	32.18	X Plan
72.	Sulwada Bandhara	149.51	X Plan
73.	Virchek (Shivan)	28.89	X Plan
74.	Wadi Shewadi	98.44	X Plan
75.	Wagholl Buti	42.33	X Plan
76.	Wakod	30.94	X Plan
77.	Andhrakhore	96.00	X Plan
78.	Ghatprabha (Phatakwadi)	84.26	X Plan
79.	Haran Ghatt(LIS)	49.21	X Plan
80.	Kirmiri Durur	27.89	X Plan
81.	Pimpalgaon (Dhale)	62.69	X Plan
82.	Uttarmand	102.38	X Plan
83.	Wang	209.11	X Plan
84.	Zashinagar	43.14	X Plan
	Additional Projects		
85.	Chilhewadi	145.84	Beyond X Plan
86.	Dhamni	226.11	Beyond X Plan
87.	Krishna Stage II (Kundall)	397.96	Beyond X Plan
88.	Sina (Bhose Khind)	118.84	Beyond X Plan
89.	Kamani Tanda	42.22	Beyond X Plan
90.	Manikpunj	28.77	Beyond X Plan
91.	Morna (Shirala)	22.80	Beyond X Plan
92.	Muktai Nagar LIS	34.45	Beyond X Plan
93.	Sarangkheda Barrage	175.93	Beyond X Plan
94.	Shelgaon Barrage	198.06	Beyond X Plan
95.	Sapan	139.27	Beyond X Plan

1	2	3	4
XV.	MANIPUR		
	Major Projects		
1.	Thoubal	390.00	X Plan
2.	Khuga Multipurpose Project	249.22	X Plan
	Medium Project		
1.	Dolaithabi Barrage	63.10	X Plan
XVI.	MEGHALAYA		
	Medium Project		
1.	Rongai Valley Project	57.07	Beyond X Plan
XVII.	ORISSA		
	Major Projects		
1.	Potteru	198.07	X Plan
2.	Upper Kolab	337.96	Beyond X Plan
3.	Upper Indravati	480.96	Beyond X Plan
4.	Subamarekha	1755.39	Beyond X Plan
5.	Kanupur	428.32	Beyond X Plan
6.	Lower Indra	211.70	Beyond X Plan
7.	Lower Suktel	217.13	Beyond X Plan
8.	Bagh Barrage	74.60	X Plan
9.	Rengali Irrigation	2821.16	Beyond X Plan
10.	Mahanadi Chitrotpola	178.83	X Plan
	Medium Projects		
1.	Titlagarh Stage II	33.68	X Plan
2.	Rukara	52.92	X Plan
3.	Rajua	14.85	X Plan
4.	Deo	59.00	X Plan
5.	Hariharjore	83.22	X Plan
6.	Manjore	89.78	X Plan
7.	Upper Jonk	91.45	X Plan
8.	Baghalati	84.62	X Plan

1	2	3	4
9.	Badanalla	105.88	X Plan
10.	Sapua Badjore	59.00	X Plan
XVIII.	PUNJAB		
	Major Projects		
1.*	Shahpur Kandi Project	1324.18	Beyond X Plan
	SYL Canal Project		Beyond X Plan
XIX.	RAJASTHAN		
	Major Projects		
	—Gurgaon Canal	35.40	Beyond X Plan
1.	Mahi Bajaj Sagar (IS)	834.88	X Plan
2.	IGNP II	3522.00	Beyond X Plan
3.	Narmada Canal	1447.00	Beyond X Plan
4.	Bisalpur Irr. cum W.S. Project	657.91	X Plan
	Medium Projects		
1.	Panchana	125.00	X Plan
2.	Chhapi	100.00	X Plan
3.	Bethali	46.21	X Plan
4.	Chauli	95.55	Beyond X Plan
XX.	TAMIL NADU		
	Medium Projects		
1.	Irukankudi Project	68.00	X Plan
2.	Nanganjar Project	37.36	X Plan
XXI.	TRIPURA		
	Medium Projects		
1.	Gumti	47.00	X Plan
2.	Khowai	72.00	X Plan
3.	Manu	59.00	X Plan
XXII.	UTTAR PRADESH		
	Major Projects		
1.	Eastern Ganga	579.00	Beyond X Plan

1	2	3	4
2.	Kanhar Irrigation	475.19	X Plan
3.	Rajghat Dam	150.00	X Plan
4.	Rajghat Canal (UP)	457.13	X Plan
5.	Saryu Nahar	3453.00	Beyond X Plan
6.	Providing Kharif Channel in Hindon Krishni Doab	136.99	X Plan
7.	Tehri Dam (Irrg. Share)	1180.96	Beyond X Plan
8.	Jarauli Pump Canal	52.35	X Plan
9.	Bansagar Canal (UP)	761.85	Beyond X Plan
	—Bansagar Dam (UP Share)	287.85	X Plan
XXIII.	UTTARANCHAL		
	Major Projects		
1.	Jamrani Dam	433.00	Beyond X Plan
2.	Lakhwar Vyasi	1446.00	Beyond X Plan
3.	Kishau Dam	3455.11	Beyond X Plan
XXIV.	WEST BENGAL		
	Major Projects		
1.	Teesta Barrage St I Ph I	2068.00	Beyond X Plan
2.	Subernarekha Barrage (IS)	595.34	Beyond X Plan
	Medium Projects		
1.	Gulamarjore	3.92	X Plan
2.	Mouterjore	1.90	X Plan
3.	Beko	5.90	X Plan
4.	Patloi	10.80	X Plan
5.	Tatko	12.57	X Plan
6.	Futiary	17.04	X Plan
7.	Hanumata	8.80	X Plan
8.	Khairabhera	4.15	X Plan

*[Translation]***Setting up of Chemical Research Institute in Maharashtra**

2231. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to set up Chemical Research Institute in Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) There is no proposal with this Ministry to set up a new Research Institute for chemicals any where in India.

Centrally Sponsored Schemes to Augment Water Resources

2232. SHRI SITARAM SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any centrally sponsored scheme drawn up the behest of the Planning Commission for exploration and development of water resources in the Eastern States is lying pending with the Planning Commission for clearance;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the scheme is likely to be given approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No Centrally sponsored scheme for exploration and development of water resources in the Eastern States is pending with Planning Commission for clearance.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

*[English]***Grants to Agriculture University**

2233. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: WILL the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted by the Government to provide grants to the State Agriculture Universities;

(b) the names of such universities that are functioning in the country as on date; and

(c) the funds sanctioned/granted to the State Agriculture Universities during each of the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The State Agricultural Universities are functioning directly under the financial and administrative control of respective State Governments. However, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research/Department of Agricultural Research & Education extends limited financial assistance for strengthening and development of agricultural education to the State Agricultural Universities. The criteria for extending financial assistance is the number of students admitted, number and type of courses, number of State Agricultural Universities in a State, number of its colleges, number of faculty, commitment of the State and actual need. The research and extension grant given to the State Agricultural Universities is project based and given on the specific needs of the area.

(b) and (c) The information is given in the enclosed Statement I and II respectively.

Statement I***List of State Agricultural Universities functioning as on date*****Assam**

1. Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat-785013

Andhra Pradesh

2. Acharya NG Ranga Agricultural University, Hyderabad-500030

Bihar

3. Rajendra Agricultural University, Pusa-848125

Chhattisgarh

4. Indira Gandhi Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Raipur-492012

Gujarat

5. Anand Agricultural University, Anand-388110
6. Junagarh Agricultural University, Junagarh
7. Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari-396450
8. Sardar Krushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University, Dantiwada-385506

Haryana

9. Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar-125004

Himachal Pradesh

10. Ch. Sarwan Kumar Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Palampur-176062
11. Dr. Yashwant Singh Parmar University of Horticulture & Forestry, Solan-173230

Jammu and Kashmir

12. Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology, Jammu-180004
13. Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology, Srinagar-191121

Jharkhand

14. Birsa Agricultural University, Ranchi-834006

Karnataka

15. University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore-560065
16. University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad-580005
17. Karnataka Veterinary, Animal and Fisheries Sciences University, Bidar-585401

Kerala

18. Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur-680656

Madhya Pradesh

19. Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur-482004

Maharashtra

20. Dr. Balasaheb Sawant Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli-415712

21. Maharashtra Animal & Fisheries Sciences University, Nagpur-440006

22. Marathwada Agricultural University, Parabhani-431402

23. Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri-413722

24. Dr. Punjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Akola-444104

Orissa

25. Orissa University of Agriculture & Technology, Bhubaneswar-751003

Punjab

26. Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana-141004

Rajasthan

27. Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture & Technology, Udaipur-313001

28. Rajasthan Agricultural University, Bikaner-334002

Tamil Nadu

29. Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore-641003

30. Tamil Nadu Veterinary & Animal Sciences University, Chennai-600051

Uttar Pradesh

31. Chandra Shekhar Azad University of Agriculture & Technology, Kanpur-208002

32. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Veterinary & Animal Sciences University, Mathura-281001

33. Narendradeo University of Agriculture & Technology, Faizabad-224229

34. Sardar Ballabh Bhai Patel University of Agriculture & Technology, Meerut-250110

Uttaranchal

35. Govind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture & Technology, Pantnagar-263145

West Bengal

36. Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Mohanpur-741252

37. Uttar Bang Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Coochbehar-736165

38. West Bengal University of Animal & Fishery Sciences, Kolkata-700037

Statement II*Funds sanctioned/granted to the State Agricultural Universities during each of the last three year, State-wise*

Sl.No.	State/Year	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1.	Assam	1200.47	1278.34	1419.00
2.	Andhra Pradesh	2045.78	2207.11	2807.86
3.	Bihar	1128.19	1069.84	1393.21
4.	Chhattisgarh	892.29	827.38	907.10
5.	Gujarat	1590.73	1598.81	2460.25
6.	Haryana	1653.27	1664.88	2867.71
7.	Himachal Pradesh	1762.02	1833.47	1859.47
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	861.50	969.45	2424.88
9.	Jharkhand	458.91	597.42	802.66
10.	Karnataka	2578.84	2698.48	3084.53
11.	Kerala	934.55	997.34	2543.32
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1894.56	1802.12	2339.55
13.	Maharashtra	3335.72	3459.84	3241.94
14.	Orissa	1342.77	1405.27	1655.73
15.	Punjab	2358.84	2024.36	3517.73
16.	Rajasthan	2685.33	2635.16	2955.05
17.	Tamil Nadu	1934.26	2242.11	2407.84
18.	Uttar Pradesh	2520.15	2688.94	2836.43
19.	Uttaranchal	1206.83	1262.75	1451.55
20.	West Bengal	1066.59	1273.60	1235.15'
Total		33451.4	34536.67	43500.76

Cultivation of Pulses and Oilseeds

2234. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent floods in different States has hit sowing of pulses and oilseeds;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the cultivation has been taken up on 19.94 lakh hectares compared to 27.44 lakh during the corresponding period last year and oilseeds 43.26 to 74.85 hectares; and

(d) if so, the steps taken or being taken by the Government to meet the shortfall in pulses and oilseeds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) In the kharif season of 2005 the state of Maharashtra and Gujarat have faced flood situation. However, as shown in the enclosed statement the area sown under oilseeds and pulses at the all India level as well as in these two states were low in the beginning of July. With the revival of monsoon, area under both oilseeds and pulses are speedily catching up with the last year's level in these two states as well as at the all India level. As the sowing operations have been accelerated, it is expected that the area under crops will further improve in the coming weeks.

(c) As per the reports discussed in the meeting of Crop Weather Watch Group in Ministry of Agriculture held on 01.08.2005, on the kharif season of 2005 till 29.07.2005, the total area coverage under pulses is 72.18 lakh hectares as compared to 80.94 lakh hectares during the same period last year. Regarding oilseeds, the area sown under various oilseeds crops till 29th July 2005 is 137.56 lakh hectares as compared to 141.02 lakh hectares during the same period last year.

(d) To meet the shortfall in pulses and oilseeds the Government 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 oilseeds and pulses and make the country self sufficient in oilseeds and pulses production in 14 major pulses growing states (Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal) in the country. Under the scheme, the assistance is provided for purchase of breeder seed, production of foundation seed, production and distribution of certified seed, distribution of minikits, infrastructure development, block demonstration 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, farmers training, staff and contingencies, pipes for carrying water from water source to the field, officers training and publicity, etc. to encourage farmers to cultivate oilseeds and pulses are being conducted through Indian Council of Agricultural Research as a transfer of technology efforts among the farmers.

In addition to the above to meet the gap between the domestic demand and production of pulses and oilseeds, the Government imports pulses and oilseeds as and when required.

Statement

(Lakh Hectares)

State	Pulses				Oilseeds			
	08.07	15.07	22.07	29.07	08.07	15.07	22.07	29.07
Maharashtra								
2005	1.79	5.70	10.74	15.84	4.25	16.43	22.82	26.10
2004	10.87	17.85	17.83	20.04	14.91	19.56	23.10	24.68
Gujarat								
2005	0.40	1.68	3.51	4.22	9.83	17.48	21.01	22.15
2004	0.03	4.96	4.96	5.45	21.00	22.41	22.87	22.98
All India								
2005	11.95	32.59	57.15	72.18	43.26	84.30	119.54	137.56
2004	27.45	50.79	68.09	80.94	74.85	100.73	123.98	141.02

*[Translation]***Assistance to States for Irrigation Projects**

2235. SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state the amount sanctioned/released by the Union Government to the State Governments during the last three years and the current year for completion of irrigation projects; State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): Irrigation being a State subject, the irrigation projects are planned, formulated, executed and funded by the State Governments out of their own resources and as per their priorities. Central assistance is released

in the form of block loans and grants not tied to any sector of development or project. As large number of major and medium irrigation projects in the country are languishing due to various reasons, the most important of them being financial constraints of the State Governments, the Central Government during 1996-97 launched the Alliterated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) to provide Central Loan Assistance (CLA) to approved ongoing major/medium irrigation projects with the objective to accelerate implementation of these projects which are beyond the resource capability of the states or are in an advances stage of completion. The State-wise details of CLA/grant released under AIBP for the last three years are given in the statement enclosed. No CLA/grant under AIBP has been released to States during 2005-06.

Statement

Status of CLA/Grant Released under AIBP for the years 2002-03 to 2004-05

(Rs. Crore)

Sl.No.	State	2002-03 Amount Released	2003-04 Amount Released	2004-05 Amount Released
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	33.186	205.530	87.547
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.500	20.000	10.000
3.	Assam	16.274	19.202	16.930
4.	Bihar	14.481	74.644	37.215
5.	Chhattisgarh	104.000	74.630	2.925
6.	Goa	0.000	2.000	0.650
7.	Gujarat	1000.330	650.359	530.500
8.	Haryana	18.000	7.735	11.135
9.	Himachal Pradesh	8.150	14.692	3.690
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	34.999	21.545	12.745
11.	Jharkhand	9.670	1.833	21.285
12.	Karnataka	620.850	266.478	396.295
13.	Kerala	5.665	31.000	49.440
14.	Madhya Pradesh	220.000	568.440	516.701

1	2	3	4	5
15.	Maharashtra	133.134	164.395	529.286
16.	Manipur	19.500	15.500	13.000
17.	Meghalaya	1.500	1.088	1.744
18.	Mizoram	0.750	9.300	5.000
19.	Nagaland	2.659	8.000	4.000
20.	Orissa	179.570	154.685	24.223
21.	Punjab	36.660	0.000	0.000
22.	Rajasthan	174.385	499.837	352.904
23.	Sikkim	0.750	0.750	0.750
24.	Tamil Nadu	0.000	0.000	0.000
25.	Tripura	13.395	13.377	11.000
26.	Uttar Pradesh	359.000	274.785	175.920
27.	Uttaranchal	25.163	25.553	38.992
28.	West Bengal	28.133	3.144	13.461
	Total	3061.703	3128.501	2867.338

*[English]***New Project by NCDC**

2236. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Cooperative Development Corporation proposes to spend Rs. 280 crore in some new projects;

(b) if so, the details of new projects; and

(c) the States where those projects are proposed to be launched?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) An outlay of Rs. 850 crores has been earmarked by NCDC during the year 2005-06 for the development

of various cooperative activities in the country for spillover commitments and new projects. NCDC has earmarked this outlay for projects in the sectors of Marketing & Inputs, Processing, Sugar Projects, Spinning Mills including Powerlooms, Oilseed Projects, Storage and Consumer Cooperatives.

(c) These projects are proposed to be launched in the following States: Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, West Bengal and Union Territory of Pondicherry and A&N Islands.

Improvement in F.C.I.

2237. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

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

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Maharashtra has sent any proposal to the Union Government regarding procurement of foodgrains of FCI:

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) The State Government of Maharashtra has requested for enhancing the storage capacity of FCI in the districts of Dondaicha, Dhula, Jalgaon, Jalana, Parbhani, Latur, Khamgaon, Parali and Nanded and for opening of additional depot/FCI Base depots in each district to minimize the transport cost.

(c) to (e) The Government of Maharashtra have sent a proposal for early commencement of procurement, both for Kharif and Rabi seasons, from 1st September and 1st March respectively. This request has been agreed to.

Bogus Carriage Billing

2238. SHRI TAPIR GAO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of gross misappropriation of bogus carriage billing/settlement under PDS has been detected in Arunachal Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and thereafter till date;

(c) whether the Parliamentary Standing Committee on PDS has strongly recommended for CBI enquiry into the whole affairs; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government thereon?

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

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) A special audit, by a team from Food Corporation of India (FCI), of the reimbursements made to the Government of Arunachal Pradesh under the Hill Transport Subsidy Scheme has reported that during the years 2002-03 and 2003-04 an amount of Rs. 193.52 crores was paid by the FCI to the State Government in excess of the permissible payments under the Scheme.

(c) The Parliamentary Standing Committee attached to this Department had recommended that the matter may be investigated by the CBI or any higher investigating agency.

(d) This Department has requested the Central Vigilance Commission to get an enquiry conducted into the matter.

Synthetic Milk

2239. KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is aware of the large scale production of synthetic milk in Uttar Pradesh using urea and other caustic substances which are very harmful for human body;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has directed/propose to direct the State Government for taking urgent steps to check the production of synthetic milk; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Assistance for Setting up of Livestock Development Corporation in Maharashtra

2240. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has provided any financial assistance to Maharashtra to set up Livestock Development Corporation in the State;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to set up Livestock Research Centre in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the present status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However State has established Maharashtra Livestock Development Board for implementation of National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding in the State and an amount of Rs. 8.60 crores has been released to Maharashtra Livestock Development Board.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

Effect on Dams and Irrigation Projects due to Floods

2241. SHRI GANESH SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of dams and irrigation projects affected in various States including Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat due to recent floods; and

(b) the action being taken by the Government to deal with the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Government of Gujarat has informed that 9 nos. major dams; 95 nos. medium dams; 237 nos. minor irrigation schemes and 1672 nos. check dams have been affected due to recent floods. As regards Madhya Pradesh, the State Government has reported that 432 nos. dams (various categories); 15 nos. Lift Irrigation Schemes and 37 anicuts & barrages have been affected due to recent floods.

(b) Government of Gujarat has informed that they have started the works required for immediate restoration in order to prevent further damages, to maintain water

supply for domestic and irrigation purpose and to provide safety to dam works.

The Government of Madhya Pradesh has also reported taking up of restoration and repair works keeping in view the availability of funds.

Revival of Sick Units of FCI

2242. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of fertilizers units functioning under the Fertilizer Corporation of India (FCI) at present;

(b) the performance of each fertilizer units during the last three years;

(c) whether some fertilizer units under FCI have fallen sick;

(d) if so, since when and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the efforts made by the Government to revive the said units?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Gorakhpur (Uttar Pradesh), Ramagundam (Andhra Pradesh), Talcher (Orissa), Sindri (Jharkhand) and Korba (Chhattisgarh) are the units of Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCI). However, all these units are lying closed.

(b) None of the above units was in operation during the last three years.

(c) and (d) FCI was declared sick by Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction in November, 1992 under the provisions of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 as the company was incurring continuous losses due to technological, design and equipment deficiencies, frequent equipment breakdowns, increase in the cost of liquid petroleum products, power shortages, industrial relations problems, and surplus manpower and resource constraints.

(e) Keeping in view the National Common Minimum Programme of the UPA Government, Projects and Development India Ltd. was commissioned to prepare the revival report for the closed units of FCI. The revival of

the units of FCI will depend on the outcome of the examination of the report.

Land Erosion in Assam

2243. SHRI M.K. SUBBA:
PROF. M. RAMADASS:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of land in the country suffering from soil erosion and degradation, State-wise;

(b) the causes for the growing erosion and degradation;

(c) the central aid sought and given to State Government to prevent erosion and restore and damage caused;

(d) whether the Government proposes to introduce a legislation to curb this menace; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

State-wise extent of various types of degraded land is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) The main causes for erosion and degradation are: (i) water and wind; (ii) faulty agricultural practices; (iii) deforestation; (iv) jhum cultivation; (v) frequent floods; (vi) uncontrolled grazing; and (vii) mining operations etc.

(c) The Government of India is implementing various programmes namely (i) National Watershed Development Project for Rain-fed Area (NWDPRA), (ii) Soil Conservation Programme for Enhancing Productivity of Degraded Lands in the Catchments of River Valley Project and Flood Prone River (RVP & FPR), (iii) Watershed Development Projects in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA), (iv) Reclamation of Alkali Soils (RAS), (v) Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), (vi) Desert Development Programme (DDP) and (vii) Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP) for erosion control and development of degraded lands. During last three years (2002-05), 62.126 lakh ha. area have been developed at an expenditure of Rs. 3287.35 crores under the above programmes. In the State of Assam, during the same period under these programmes, 3.70 lakh ha. area has been developed at an expenditure of Rs. 78.59 crore.

(d) and (e) Land is State subject and therefore steps to introduce a legislation to curb this menace are to be taken by State Governments.

Statement

Extent of Various Types of Degraded Lands in the Country

(Area In Lakh Hectare)

Sl.No.	State/UT	Water erosion	Wind erosion	Ravines	Salt Affected	Water Logging	Shifting cultivation	Degraded forests	Special problems
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	103.54	—	—	2.40	3.39	1.50	11.48	—
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.58	—	—	—	—	2.10	22.86	—
3.	Assam	13.34	—	1.93	—	4.50	1.39	8.83	—
4.	Bihar	32.39	—	6.00	0.04	7.07	0.85	10.21	9.00
5.	Goa	1.35	—	—	—	—	—	0.65	—
6.	Gujarat	94.62	7.04	4.00	10.42	4.84	—	4.84	0.10

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
7.	Haryana	15.35	14.00	—	5.26	6.20	—	0.56	0.25
8.	Himachal Pradesh	10.75	—	—	—	—	—	8.39	—
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	6.73	—	—	—	0.10	—	2.10	—
10.	Karnataka	102.25	—	—	4.04	0.10	—	7.64	—
11.	Kerala	15.77	—	—	1.17	0.61	—	1.80	—
12.	Madhya Pradesh	155.10	—	6.83	2.42	0.57	1.25	41.00	—
13.	Maharashtra	175.89	—	0.20	5.34	1.11	—	15.92	—
14.	Manipur	2.94	—	—	—	—	3.60	0.80	—
15.	Meghalaya	5.48	—	—	—	—	2.65	2.89	—
16.	Mizoram	2.87	—	—	—	—	1.89	1.34	—
17.	Nagaland	2.77	—	—	—	—	6.33	1.28	—
18.	Orissa	27.71	—	1.13	4.04	0.60	26.48	18.07	2.95
19.	Punjab	9.14	—	1.20	7.18	10.90	—	0.93	—
20.	Rajasthan	188.41	156.92	4.52	10.00	3.48	—	10.61	—
21.	Sikkim	2.58	—	—	—	—	—	0.45	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	32.42	—	0.60	1.04	0.18	—	3.98	—
23.	Tripura	0.45	—	—	—	—	1.12	1.22	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	58.98	—	12.30	12.95	19.80	—	12.12	15.00
25.	West Bengal	7.64	—	1.04	9.86	21.80	—	2.69	—
26.	U.Ts.	1.21	—	—	—	0.01	—	2.28	—
Total: (a) lakh ha.		1071.26	177.96	39.75	76.16	85.26	49.16	194.94	27.30
(b) m.ha		107.2	17.8	3.97	7.6	8.5	4.92	19.5	2.73

Imposition of Tax

2244. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has imposed tax on the by-products of milk Powder manufactured in India vis-a-vis imported from abroad; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and its likely impact on the development of dairy industry and the milk producers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Sales Tax/VAT being a State subject under the Constitution, the States alone have the powers to decide the livability to tax any item and the rate under which it is to be taxed. However, the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers (EC) has placed "Milk food and milk products" under the category of 8% Uniform Floor

Rate of Sales Tax. Under the VAT regime, the EC has placed items like "Skimmed milk powder, Ultra High Temperature (UHT) Milk and Khoya/Khoa" under 4% VAT rate and other milk products under 12.5% VAT rate.

In the manufacture of milk powder, the by-products could be cream/butter/ghee/butter oil. However, the imposition of 12.5% VAT on by-products of milk powder in the States that have opted for VAT, may have impact on overall dairy industry and the milk producers.

Projects for Agricultural Research and Development

2245. SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether procedural and administrative formalities and untimely clearance and non approval of the projects have affected agricultural research and development in the country;

(b) if so, the number of projects awaiting clearance and the time since when those are pending;

(c) the measures taken to expedite the clearance of these projects; and

(d) the total money involved in those projects and the States where these projects are located?

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

(b) None of the Projects awaiting clearance, since all the projects have the clearance of the Competent authorities.

(c) The Ministry of Finance have issued Guidelines for expediting the clearance of the Plan projects.

Appraisal and Recommending Authority

- Schemes upto Rs. 5.00 crore at the level of Department
- Standing Finance Committees are having jurisdiction above Rs. 5 crore and less than Rs. 25 crore

- Expenditure Finance Committees are having jurisdiction for Rs. 25 crore and above for Scientific Department.

Approving Authority

- Less than Rs. 50 crore—Agriculture Minister
- Rs. 50 crore and above but less than Rs. 100 crore—Agriculture Minister and Finance Minister.
- Rs. 100 crore and above—Cabinet/CCEA

(d) The Planning Commission has approved Rs. 5368 crore for all the Plan Schemes of the Department and these are functioning in different States of the country.

Proposal for Setting up FPI by foreign Industrialists

2246. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some foreign industrialists have offered to set up their Food Processing Industries in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of units proposed to be set up under these offers; and

(c) the extent of foreign and domestic capital investments, targeted to be made in these units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) Food Processing Industries are both in the organized and unorganized sectors. Number of FPI units in the unorganized sector is very large and as such their details are not centrally maintained. 100% FDI is already permitted in food processing sector except in the food retailing, plantations and alcoholic beverages. During January 2002 to May 2005, one hundred and five financial approvals of Foreign Direct Investment have been accorded by the Government in food processing sector. Amount of Foreign Direct Investment approved in such cases is Rs. 643.47 crore.

For attracting domestic investment in FPI sector, Government has formulated and implemented several Plan Schemes. These schemes 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.

[Translation]

Production/Purchase of Jatropha

2247. SHRI TUKARAM GANPATRAO RENGE
PATIL:
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the provision made by the Government for production and purchase of Jatropha;

(b) the rate fixed for its purchase;

(c) the production and purchase of Jatropha recorded during the last three years and thereafter and the name of the agencies which purchased the same, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government has not purchased Jatropha; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (e) No specific provision has been made by the Central Government for production and purchase of Jatropha. No rate has been fixed for its purchase. Record of the production and purchase of Jatropha during the past three years is not available. No agency has been identified for purchase of Jatropha. Government of India has not purchased any Jatropha.

However, National Oilseeds and Vegetable Oils Development (NOVOD) Board, under the Ministry of Agriculture is promoting Tree Borne Oilseeds (TBOs) including Jatropha under the Scheme 'Integrated Development of Tree Borne Oilseeds. The Board has constituted a 'National Network on Jatropha' involving institutes of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Council of Scientific Industrial Research (CSIR), Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Indian Institute of Technology (I.I.T.). The Energy Resources institute (TERI) and State Agricultural

Universities for development of quality planting material of Jatropha and also to standardize the agro techniques for various agro climatic zones of the country. Plantations are being raised by the Board under irrigated as well as rainfed conditions in different agro-climatic conditions including saline/alkaline soils to study the variability of seed/oil yields. Data relating to production of Jatropha seed is not available as plantation is available only in scattered form as hedge plants.

Losses Incurred by National Steel Corporation

2248. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Steel Corporation is constantly running in losses;

(b) the reasons for the losses;

(c) whether the Government has recommended to write-off the entire accumulated losses;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons for not taking a decision so far?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) As per information available in this Ministry, there is no unit by the name of National Steel Corporation.

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

[English]

Depletion of Ground Water

2249. SHRI PRASANTA PRADHAN:
DR. RAMCHANDRA DOME:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state the rate of depletion of ground water due to extraction of ground water for agriculture purposes, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): The rate of depletion of ground water varies from place to place depending upon many parameters

like cropping pattern, rainfall intensity, other uses etc. and therefore, it could not be assigned to a single parameter like its use for agriculture.

Long-term analysis of ground water levels by the

Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), under the Ministry of Water Resources, indicated decline in ground water levels in some parts of 362 districts of 23 States/Union Territories in the country. State-wise details thereof are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Name of Districts showing fall of water level (in parts) in last 10 years (1995-2004) during Pre-Monsoon period

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	Districts showing declining trends (more than 10 cm per year)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Adilabad, Anantapur, Chittoor, Cuddapah, East Godavari Guntur, Hyderabad, Karimnagar, Khammam, Krishna, Kurnool, Mahbubnagar, Medak, Nalgonda, Nellore, Nizamabad, Prakasam, Ranga Reddy, Srikakulam, Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram, Warangal, West Godavari
2.	Assam	Jorhat, Nagaon, Sonitpur
3.	Bihar	Bhagalpur, East Champaran, Munger, Muzaffarpur, Navada, Saharsa, Saran
4.	Chhattisgarh	Bestar, Bilaspur, Dhamtari, Durg, Janjgir-champa, Kanker, Kawardah, Koriya, Mahasamund, Raigarh, Raipur, Rajnandgaon, Surguja
5.	Delhi	New Delhi, North West, South, South West
6.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad, Amreli, Banaskantha, Bharuch, Bhavnagar, Dangs, Gandhinagar, Jamnagar, Junagarh, Kheda, Kutch, Mehsana, Panchmahal, Rajkot, Sabarkantha, Surat, Surendranagar, Vadodara, Valsad
7.	Haryana	Ambala, Bhiwani, Faridabad, Fatehabad, Gurgaon, Hissar, Jhajjar, Jind, Kaithal, Karnal, Kurukshetra, Mahendragarh, Panipat, Rewari, Rohtak, Sirsa, Sonapat
8.	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra, Kullu, Mandi, Simur, Solan, Una
9.	Jharkhand	Dhanbad, Dumka, Hazaribagh, Lohardaga, Pacchim Singhbhum, Palamu, Purvi Singhbhum, Ranchi
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	Jammu, Kathura, Rajouri, Udhampur
11.	Karnataka	Bagalkot, Bangalore, Belgaum, Bellary, Bidar, Bijapur, Chamrajnagar, Chikmagalur, Chitradurga, Coorg, Dakshin Kannada, Dharwad, Gadag, Gulbarga, Hassan, Harveri, Kolar, Koppal, Mandya, Mysore, Raichur, Shimoga, Tumkur, Udupi, Uttar Kannada
12.	Kerala	Idduki, Kanoor, Kasargod, Kollam, Kottayam, Mallapuram, Palakkad, Thiruvananthapuram, Thrissur, Wayanad
13.	Madhya Pradesh	Barwani, Balaghat, Betul, Bind, Bhopal, Chhatarpur, Chhindwara, Damoh, Datia, Dewas, Dhar, Dindhori, Guna, Gwalior, Harda, Hoshangabad, Indore, Jabalpur, Jhabua, Katni, Khandwa, Mandsaur, Morena, Mandla, Narsinghpur, Neemuch, Panna, Raisen, Rajgarh, Ratlam, Rewa, Sagar, Satna, Sehore, Seoni, Shahdol, Shajapur, Sheopur, Shivpuri, Sidhi, Tikamgarh, Ujjain, Umaria, Vidisha, West Nimar
14.	Maharashtra	Ahmadnagar, Akola, Amravati, Aurangabad, Beed, Bhandara, Buldana, Chandrapur, Dhule, Gadchiroli, Gondia, Hingoli, Jalgaon, Jalna, Kolhapur, Latur, Mumbai, Nagpur, Nanded, Nandurbar, Nashik, Osmanabad, Parbhani, Pune, Raigad, Ratnagiri, Sangli, Satara, Sindhudurg, Solapur, Thane, Wardha, Washim, Yavatmal

1	2	3
15.	Orissa	Angul, Baleshwar, Bargarh, Cuttack, Dhenkanal, Ganjam, Jajpur, Jharsuguda, Kalahandi, Koraput, Kendujhaar, Mayurbhanj, Nawapara, Phulbani, Puri, Rayagada, Sambalpur, Sundargarh
16.	Punjab	Amritsar, Bhatinda, Faridkot, Fatehgarh, Ferozepur, Gurdaspur, Hoshiarpur, Jalandhar, Kapurthala, Ludhiana, Mansa, Monga, Nawashahar, Patiala, Ropar, Sangrur
17.	Rajasthan	Ajmer, Alwar, Banswara, Baran, Barmer, Bharatpur, Bhilwara, Bikaner, Bundi, Chittorgarh, Churu, Dausa, Dholpur, Dungarpur, Hanumangarh, Jaipur, Jaisalmer, Jalore, Jhalwar, Jhunjhunu, Jodhpur, Karauli, Kota, Nagaur, Pali, Rajsamand, Sawaimadhopur, Sikar, Sirohi, Tonk, Udaipur
18.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai, Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Dharmapuri, Dindigul, Erode, Kancheepuram, Kanyakumari, Karaikal, Karur, Madurai, Namakkal, Nilgiri, Perambalur, Ramanathapuram, Salem, Sivaganga, Thanjavur, Theni, Tiruchirappalli, Tirunelveli, Thiruvallur, Tiruvannamalai, Tuticorin, Vellore, Vellupuram, Virudhanagar
19.	Uttar Pradesh	Agra, Aligarh, Allahabad, Auriya, Azamgarh, Badaun, Baghpat, Ballia, Bijnor, Chandauli, Chitrakoot, Deoria, Etawah, Fatehpur, Gautam Budh Nagar, Ghaziabad, Gonda, Hamirpur, Hathras, Jalaun, Jhansi, Kanpur Dehat, Kanpur Nagar, Lakhimpur Kheri, Lalitpur, Lucknow, Mahoba, Mathura, Meerut, Mirzapur, Pratapgarh, Saharanpur, Sitapur, Sultanpur, Unnao
20.	Uttaranchal	Dehradun, Haridwar
21.	West Bengal	Bankura, Bardhaman, Birbhum, Haroa, Hugli, East Medinipur, Malda, Murshidabad, Puruliya, South-24 Parganas, West Medinipur
22.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Dadra & Nagar Haveli
23.	Pondicherry	Pondicherry

Protection of Environment

2250. SHRI M. SHIVANNA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any special steps have been taken by the Government on the World Environment Day, June 5, 2005 to protect and promote environment by completely checking the wanton destruction of our indigenous wild life; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The theme for the World Environment Day' 2005 was "Green Cities : Plan for the Planet", which promotes an integrated and cross sectoral approach for planning and managing urban environments. Several activities were organized on June 5, 2005 by the Government at National and State levels such as

Conference on Green Cities, Workshop on Electronic Waste Management, Children's Summit on Environment and Green Heritage Walk to create mass awareness about protection and promotion of the environment and checking destruction of indigenous fauna & flora.

Kisan Call Centres

2251. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kisan Call Centres providing agriculture related information have appointed unskilled persons;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have made any alternative arrangement for providing information relating to agriculture; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) No, Sir. Kisan Call Centre agents at Level-I are agricultural graduates and when the calls are escalated from Level-I to Level-II, they are attended by the experts of the State Agriculture University/ICAR Institute/State Departments of Agriculture.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Apart from Kisan Call Centres, the Ministry of Agriculture is providing information related to agriculture to the farmers through various means, such as Doordarshan, All India Radio, Print Media, Exhibitions and websites.

Organic Cotton

2252. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Dutch Company is working with Andhra Pradesh tribal farmers to grow Organic Cotton;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total areas under cultivation as on date and benefits accrued to tribal farmers therefrom; and

(d) the plans being worked out to expand such co-operations in other parts of the country?

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

(b) and (c) Solidaridad-ETC Consultants India Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad is working on production of organic cotton in 8 villages of Asifabad Mandal in Adilabad District of Andhra Pradesh covering an area of about 250 hectares.

The tribal farmers are receiving additional gains because of reduction in cost of production and better prices.

(d) The above Company is planning to expand their programme to tribal dominated Kalahandi District of Orissa and tribal districts of Chhattisgarh State.

Development of Horticulture and Agriculture Projects

2253. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Central funds allocated, released and utilized for the development of horticulture and agriculture projects in the country particularly Gujarat during each of the last two years and thereafter till date, State-wise; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to increase funds for the 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 KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The details of funds allocated, released and utilized under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of (i) Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA) Scheme; (ii) Technology Mission on Cotton; (iii) Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern States including Sikkim, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal; (iv) Integrated Scheme of Oilseed, Pulses, Oilpalm & Maize (ISOPOM); and (v) Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms during the period year reference, state-wise, for development of horticulture & agriculture in the country are given in the enclosed statement.

The Integrated Scheme of Oilseed, Pulses, Oilpalm & Maize (ISOPOM) became operational with effect from 1st April 2004 after merging four erstwhile Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP), National Pulses Development Project (NPDP), Oilpalm Development Programme (OPDP) and Accelerated Maize Development Programme (AMDP), the details for which have also been given for the year 2003-04 in the enclosed statement.

The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms has become operational in the current year.

In addition, the Government has recently approved a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "National Horticulture

Mission" with an outlay of Rs. 2300.00 crore for the remaining period of the Tenth Five Year Plan, which aims at doubling the horticulture production in the country by 2011-12.

(b) The Plan outlay for the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation was increased from Rs. 2167.00 crore (BE) in 2003-04 to Rs. 2650.00 crore (BE) in 2004-05 and to Rs. 4179.32 crore (BE) in 2005-06.

Statement

Macro Management of Agriculture Scheme

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Allocation 2003-04	Released 2003-04	Expenditure 2003-04	Allocation 2004-05	Released 2004-05	Expenditure 2004-05 (Prov.)	Allocation 2005-06	Released 2005-06 (30.6.2005)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3400.00	3800.00	3279.20	3600.00	4363.00	3712.18	3300.00	1200.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	400.00	317.28	466.12	500.00	730.00	716.33	1420.00	500.00
3.	Assam	700.00	350.00	490.00	800.00	695.00	695.00	1720.00	660.00
4.	Bihar	1800.00	900.00	1573.84	1800.00	1660.00	1295.80	1700.00	0.00
5.	Jharkhand	1200.00	1200.00	561.28	1400.00	1820.00	1116.19	1300.00	0.00
6.	Goa	200.00	131.04	231.44	200.00	279.00	258.16	200.00	75.00
7.	Gujarat	2300.00	1150.00	2864.77	2300.00	4508.00	4254.13	2200.00	900.00
8.	Haryana	1600.00	1662.00	1608.67	1600.00	1390.00	1703.69	1600.00	600.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1600.00	1585.15	1894.10	1600.00	1280.00	1466.46	1600.00	600.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1600.00	1680.00	1442.36	1600.00	1600.00	2215.93	3000.00	0.00
11.	Karnataka	5500.00	5580.00	5681.23	5700.00	10350.00	6471.47	4700.00	1900.00
12.	Kerala	2900.00	2348.00	2018.02	2900.00	4056.00	3536.98	2400.00	1000.00
13.	Madhya Pradesh	4400.00	4400.00	4054.78	4500.00	5776.00	4077.49	3900.00	1750.00
14.	Chhattisgarh	1400.00	1600.00	1579.00	1800.00	4442.00	2521.04	1800.00	700.00
15.	Maharashtra	8000.00	8400.00	8384.85	8200.00	14769.00	16563.74	6850.00	0.00
16.	Manipur	600.00	300.00	696.40	700.00	785.00	995.70	1600.00	600.00
17.	Mizoram	800.00	820.00	828.50	700.00	566.00	1563.00	1800.00	0.00
18.	Meghalaya	600.00	427.25	584.05	900.00	958.00	575.95	1600.00	600.00
19.	Nagaland	800.00	880.00	1040.00	900.00	884.00	1412.50	1800.00	700.00
20.	Orissa	2300.00	1967.31	2152.00	2300.00	3792.00	4466.72	2000.00	750.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
21.	Punjab	1500.00	0.00	114.05	1500.00	0.00	25.20	1100.00	0.00
22.	Rajasthan	6700.00	6571.19	7025.50	6800.00	8321.00	9251.40	5800.00	2250.00
23.	Sikkim	500.00	500.00	499.47	600.00	604.00	833.28	1422.00	511.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	4200.00	4275.00	4077.19	4300.00	4239.00	4291.63	3600.00	1400.00
25.	Tripura	800.00	715.34	784.66	800.00	640.00	793.91	1700.00	650.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	6800.00	7375.00	6717.24	7000.00	6680.00	8212.66	5800.00	2700.00
27.	Uttaranchal	1400.00	1600.00	1420.53	1600.00	1650.00	2416.02	1700.00	700.00
28.	West Bengal	2400.00	1920.00	2041.95	2400.00	2050.00	2575.89	2500.00	0.00
Total		66400.00	62454.56	64111.20	69000.00	88860.00	88018.45	70112.00	20746.00

Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC-MM-II)

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Allocation 2003-04	Released 2003-04	Expenditure 2003-04	Allocation 2004-05	Released 2004-05	Expenditure 2004-05	Allocation 2005-06	Released 2005-06 (30.6.2005)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	385.00	238.33	255.54	440.00	571.16	554.14	440.00	220.00
2.	Gujarat	425.00	491.28	448.03	750.00	773.04	800.18	750.00	375.00
3.	Haryana	225.00	159.61	95.97	280.00	112.50	186.96	280.00	140.00
4.	Karnataka	385.00	386.44	377.55	500.00	478.58	420.79	500.00	250.00
5.	Madhya Pradesh	325.00	213.67	138.64	400.00	483.28	406.42	400.00	200.00
6.	Maharashtra	645.00	779.03	641.38	786.00	771.44	775.81	786.00	390.00
7.	Orissa	145.00	93.80	54.17	78.00	40.00	100.94	78.00	40.00
8.	Punjab	5.00	0.00	19.45	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00
9.	Rajasthan	275.00	265.61	208.02	500.00	231.25	189.55	500.00	250.00
10.	Tamil Nadu	225.00	288.98	222.31	350.00	342.94	234.08	350.00	175.00
11.	Tripura	15.00	12.88	12.00	50.00	22.00	15.07	50.00	15.00
12.	Uttar Pradesh	130.00	92.92	57.26	65.00	40.00	58.15	65.00	35.00
13.	West Bengal	45.00	25.58	37.02	75.00	38.59	49.60	75.00	35.00
Total		3230.00	2976.13	2567.35	4275.00	3904.78	3791.69	4275.00	2125.00

Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North-Eastern States including Sikkim, Uttaranchal, H.P. & J&K (MM-II)

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Allocation 2003-04	Released 2003-04	Expenditure 2003-04	Allocation 2004-05	Released 2004-05	Expenditure 2004-05	Allocation 2005-06	Released 2005-06 (30.6.2005)
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	1220.00	1220.00	1220.00	1500.00	871.00	0.00	1300.00	250.00
2.	Assam	1400.00	1400.00	1400.00	1425.00	1645.55	1207.25	1300.00	0.00
3.	Manipur	638.00	638.00	638.00	1100.00	1286.25	1001.74	1500.00	500.00
4.	Mizoram	1089.00	1089.00	1089.00	1632.20	1801.10	1227.10	1500.00	500.00
5.	Meghalaya	937.00	937.00	937.00	1211.00	1395.99	955.00	1500.00	500.00
6.	Nagaland	1256.00	1256.00	1256.00	1875.00	1467.30	373.75	1700.00	357.00
7.	Sikkim	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	1150.00	1150.00	890.72	1500.00	500.00
8.	Tripura	900.00	900.00	900.00	1012.80	1111.30	1102.19	1500.00	0.00
9.	Uttaranchal	564.72	564.72	564.72	1300.00	975.00	974.05	1100.00	315.00
10.	Himachal Pradesh	650.00	650.00	650.00	1300.00	1300.00	1300.00	1100.00	550.00
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	650.00	650.00	—	1450.00	1233.00	296.00	1250.00	312.00
Total		10304.72	10304.72	9654.72	14956.00	14236.49	9327.80	15250.00	3784.00

.Oilseed Production Programme (OPP)

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Allocation 2003-04	Released 2003-04	Expenditure 2003-04
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1218.00	1218.00	2228.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	21.00	21.00	11.25
3.	Assam	104.00	104.00	0.00
4.	Bihar	27.00	28.00	0.00
5.	Jharkhand	9.00	9.00	0.00
6.	Goa	3.00	3.00	0.92
7.	Gujarat	732.00	732.00	348.74
8.	Haryana	178.00	178.00	147.64

1	2	3	4	5
9.	Himachal Pradesh	10.00	10.00	9.69
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	12.00	12.00	0.00
11.	Karnataka	522.00	522.00	238.42
12.	Kerala	9.00	9.00	0.00
13.	Madhya Pradesh	1060.00	1060.00	989.66
14.	Chhattisgarh	46.00	46.00	13.39
15.	Maharashtra	642.00	642.00	9.77
16.	Manipur	72.00	72.00	31.50
17.	Mizoram	79.00	79.00	49.49
18.	Meghalaya	24.00	24.00	0.00
19.	Nagaland	90.00	90.00	45.00
20.	Orissa	205.00	205.00	6.89
21.	Punjab	30.00	30.00	0.00
22.	Rajasthan	869.00	869.00	698.31
23.	Sikkim	50.00	50.00	50.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	347.00	347.00	218.38
25.	Tripura	60.00	60.00	23.20
26.	Uttar Pradesh	298.00	297.50	76.89
27.	Uttaranchal	18.00	18.00	31.31
28.	West Bengal	131.00	131.00	3.65
Total		6866.00	6866.00	5232.10

Oil Palm Development Programme (OPDP)

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Allocation 2003-04	Released 2003-04	Expenditure 2003-04
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	350.00	72.00	426.86
2.	Assam	2.00	2.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Goa	10.00	8.00	0.25
4.	Gujarat	50.00	50.00	19.20
5.	Karnataka	80.00	120.00	129.21
6.	Kerala	6.00	5.00	41.12
7.	Orissa	6.00	5.00	0.00
8.	Tamil Nadu	90.00	120.00	93.31
9.	Tripura	8.00	8.00	0.00
Total		602.00	390.00	709.95

National Pulses Development Project (NPDP)

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Allocation 2003-04	Released 2003-04	Expenditure 2003-04
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	69.00	69.00	100.38
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	15.00	15.00	29.93
3.	Assam	50.00	50.00	0.00
4.	Bihar	9.00	9.00	0.00
5.	Jharkhand	9.00	9.00	0.00
6.	Goa	1.00	1.00	0.31
7.	Gujarat	42.00	42.00	33.64
8.	Haryana	61.00	61.00	38.56
9.	Himachal Pradesh	4.00	4.00	27.16
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	4.00	4.00	0.00
11.	Karnataka	117.00	117.00	124.26
12.	Kerala	3.00	3.00	1.75
13.	Madhya Pradesh	336.00	336.00	281.61
14.	Chhattisgarh	42.00	42.00	41.32
15.	Maharashtra	212.00	212.00	170.87

1	2	3	4	5
16.	Manipur	20.00	20.00	49.99
17.	Mizoram	25.00	25.00	0.00
18.	Meghalaya	15.00	15.00	19.00
19.	Nagaland	35.00	35.00	17.50
20.	Orissa	33.00	33.00	52.11
21.	Punjab	9.00	9.00	2.60
22.	Rajasthan	269.00	269.00	238.44
23.	Sikkim	10.00	10.00	12.68
24.	Tamil Nadu	69.00	69.00	68.13
25.	Tripura	30.00	30.00	47.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	172.00	172.00	280.04
27.	Uttaranchal	13.00	13.00	12.20
28.	West Bengal	21.00	21.00	21.56
Total		1695.00	1695.00	1671.05

Accelerated Maize Development Programme (AMDP)

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Allocation 2003-04	Released 2003-04	Expenditure 2003-04
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5.00	5.00	13.23
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	15.95	15.95	10.18
3.	Assam	4.44	4.44	16.88
4.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.47
6.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Gujarat	2.00	2.00	3.76
8.	Haryana	0.00	0.00	2.28
9.	Himachal Pradesh	47.27	47.27	31.49

1	2	3	4	5
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	5.00	5.00	0.00
11.	Karnataka	4.00	4.00	16.24
12.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	0.00
13.	Madhya Pradesh	20.62	20.62	3.79
14.	Chhattisgarh	10.07	10.07	0.00
15.	Maharashtra	15.13	15.13	37.58
16.	Manipur	22.30	22.30	19.44
17.	Mizoram	29.89	29.89	50.28
18.	Meghalaya	4.30	4.30	0.00
19.	Nagaland	4.30	4.30	4.30
20.	Orissa	0.00	0.00	0.00
21.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00
22.	Rajasthan	50.31	50.31	47.83
23.	Sikkim	3.00	3.00	23.45
24.	Tamil Nadu	15.75	15.75	15.75
25.	Tripura	15.82	15.82	7.45
26.	Uttar Pradesh	51.20	51.20	21.69
27.	Uttaranchal	10.65	10.65	6.88
28.	West Bengal	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		337.00	337.00	332.97

Integrated scheme of Oilseeds Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM)

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Allocation 2004-05	Released 2004-05	Expenditure 2004-05	Allocation 2005-06	Released 2005-06 (30.6.2005)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1643.00	3559.97	3884.95	2650.00	1325.00
2.	Assam	8.00	4.00	0.00	15.00	3.00
3.	Bihar	290.00	145.00	421.65	490.00	245.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4.	Goa	20.00	10.00	7.75	33.00	16.50
5.	Gujarat	1083.00	1883.00	1337.20	1850.00	925.00
6.	Haryana	184.00	497.00	113.49	350.00	175.00
7.	Himachal Pradesh	40.00	40.00	55.08	67.00	33.50
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	170.00	85.00	29.30	285.00	142.50
9.	Karnataka	1080.00	2155.00	1560.97	1800.00	900.00
10.	Kerala	10.00	5.00	34.83	15.00	7.50
11.	Madhya Pradesh	1425.00	2925.00	2627.40	2400.00	1200.00
12.	Chhattisgarh	225.00	625.00	523.56	400.00	200.00
13.	Maharashtra	1040.00	1040.00	993.83	1750.00	875.00
14.	Mizoram	7.00	107.00	100.00	90.00	10.00
15.	Orissa	305.00	455.00	569.86	500.00	250.00
16.	Punjab	105.00	52.50	1.76	175.00	87.50
17.	Rajasthan	1400.00	2000.00	1613.21	2350.00	1175.00
18.	Tamil Nadu	740.00	990.00	742.00	1245.00	622.50
19.	Tripura	10.00	5.00	0.81	20.00	7.00
20.	Uttar Pradesh	635.00	785.00	761.43	1065.00	532.50
21.	West Bengal	260.00	260.00	228.97	450.00	225.00
Total		10680.00	17628.47	15588.05	18000.00	8957.50

*Support to State Extension Programmes for
Extension Reforms*

		(Rs. in Lakhs)	
Sl.No.	Name of the State	Allocation 2005-06	Released 2005-06 (30.6.2005)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh		58.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh		25.00
3.	Assam		41.00

1	2	3	4
4.	Bihar		88.00
5.	Jharkhand		46.00
6.	Goa		16.00
7.	Guajrat		58.00
8.	Haryana		46.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh		40.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir		52.00
11.	Karnataka		64.00

1	2	3	4
12.	Kerala		40.00
13.	M.P.		100.00
14.	Chhattisgarh		40.00
15.	Maharashtra		82.00
16.	Manipur		17.00
17.	Mizoram		17.00
18.	Meghalaya		14.00
19.	Nagaland		14.00
20.	Orisa		76.00
21.	Punjab		46.00
22.	Rajasthan		76.00
23.	Sikkim		11.00
24.	Tamil Nadu		64.00
25.	Tripura		11.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh		82.00
27.	Uttaranchal		28.00
28.	West Bengal		46.00
Total			1298.00

*The State-wise allocation has not been made under the scheme. Funds will be released on the basis of State Extension work plan (SEWP) prepared by the State Govt. However, first quarter for release has been made to the state facilitate the preparatory work for SEWP.

Purchase of Bt. Cotton Seeds by Farmers

2254. SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cotton farmers are required to pay a sum of Rupees 1700 for 450 grams of Bt. cotton seeds;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Monsanto seed company has established a joint venture company with Maharashtra hybrid seed company Ltd.;

(d) if so, whether the Monsanto seed has these patents right for this gene;

(e) if not, the reason for permitting the said company to charge a trait value for the cotton seeds gene which was neither developed specifically for India nor it is patentable under the Indian law; and

(f) the measures proposed to be taken to protect the interest of the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Rs. 1700 for 450 grams of Bt. Cotton seeds is an average price quoted by Private Seed Companies which have developed and are marketing Bt. Cotton hybrids seeds. There is no statutory control over the pricing of seeds and market determines the cost of the seeds. Seeds Companies generally fix the price of seeds based on their investments in Research and Development, cost of seed production, profit margin, marketing expenses etc.

(c) Yes, Sir. M/s. Monsanto, USA has established a Joint Venture Company in the name of M/s. Mahyco-Monsanto Bio-technology India Ltd., Mumbai.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. There are no patent rights conferred on M/s. Monsanto, USA on Cry 1 Ac gene by the Government of India. M/s Maharashtra Hybrid Seed Company Ltd., (Mahyco) Mumbai, got the technology from M/s Monsanto, USA. The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) of Ministry of Environment and Forests has granted permission to the Mahyco for commercial release of Bt. cotton hybrids in India. The price of Bt. Cotton seed per packet is fixed by different companies on the basis of the benefit they deliver to the farmers in terms of significant reduction of pesticides and the incremental yield due to prevention of losses caused by Bollworms. There are no directive from the Government of India to farmers to purchase Bt. cotton seeds only for cotton cultivation. The farmer has a choice to choose any cotton seed for cultivation.

(f) The Government have advised time to time the Bt. Cotton growing states to the necessary punitive action against the producers and vendors of illegal Bt. cotton seeds under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Seed (Control) Order, 1983. To assist the

State Governments in controlling the release of spurious seeds, the Central Institute for Cotton Research (CICR), Nagpur has been notified as the referral laboratory for detecting the presence/absence of the Bt. genes. The Institution have also developed a simple and cheap testing kit for quick verification of Bt. gene in Cotton. As on date 22 Bt. Cotton hybrids of four Seed Companies have been commercially released by the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) in the Ministry of Environment & Forests and are available to the farmers in the country.

[Translation]

**Procurement Centres in Place of
Agricultural Mandis**

2255. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:
SHRI HEMMAL MURMU:
MOHD. SHAHID:
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:
SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA:
SHRI MUNSHI RAM:
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has allowed the private sector to set up procurement centers by doing away with the agricultural mandis;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether all the States has given their consent to the said scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons advanced by them for the same;

(f) whether there is a possibility of price rise due to competition in the private and public sector agricultural mandis; and

(g) if so, the corrective measures taken in this regard?

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

and (b) This Ministry has, as a measure of reform in the agricultural marketing sector, advised the State Governments to promote development of competitive markets in private and cooperative sectors and to allow direct marketing and contract farming programmes by suitably amending the Act dealing with Agricultural Markets (APMC Act). The aim is to encourage a regulated marketing regime, where there is fair competition, so that the farmers can gain from the options available, and take their produce to the centers that offer the best prices and services.

(c) to (e) The Ministry of Agriculture also formulated a model law on agricultural marketing for the implementation of the reforms and circulated it to the States for adoption. The Model law has been discussed with the State Governments at the National Conference of State Agriculture Ministers on 7th January, 2004 and again on 19th November, 2004. The States in general agreed to bring suggested changes in the APMC Act. Several States have since brought amendment to the APMC Act and allowed the private sector to operate procurement centers near to farmers' field. These procurement centers are to function in addition to the regulated markets (mandies) set up by the State.

(f) and (g) Competitive procurement of agricultural commodities would enable farmers to avoid intermediaries and obtain a larger share in the final price of his produce and it would also result in lower price to the consumer. Fair competition will not in any manner result in price rise.

Procurement of Paddy In Uttar Pradesh

2256. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the Government of Uttar Pradesh has failed to procure paddy from the farmers;

(b) if so, whether the farmers have been compelled to sell their paddy at lower prices as a result thereof; and

(c) if so, the measures being taken by the Union Government to facilitate remunerative price of the paddy crop 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) No, Sir. The State Agencies of Uttar Pradesh have procured 7,75,830 tonnes of paddy in Kharif Marketing Season 2004-05 (upto 01.08.2005).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Break-up of Agricultural Growth Rate

2257. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the break-up of agricultural growth rate during each of the last three year;

(b) the agricultural growth rate estimated to be achieved this year;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to increase the agricultural growth rate; and

(d) the extent of success achieved by the Government 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 KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) According to data released by Central Statistical Organization (CSO), growth rate in agriculture, including allied sectors of forestry and logging, and fishing computed in real terms (at 1993-94 prices) in last three years is given below:

Year	Growth rate for agriculture including allied sectors of forestry & logging and fishing
2002-03	-7%
2003-04	9.6%
2004-05	1.1%

(b) The Mid-Term Appraisal of the Tenth Plan has indicated 4.0% growth rate in agriculture including allied sectors.

(c) and (d) The steps taken by the Government to enhance production and productivity of agricultural crops, including horticulture crops, include significant step up in investment in irrigation, special attention to dryland farming and the Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm & Maize (ISOPOM). Keeping in view the importance of Agriculture in the economy, the Union Budget 2005-06 has provided substantial outlays in the areas like horticulture and irrigation including micro irrigation. The budget has provided Rs. 630 crore in 2005-06 for National Horticulture Mission, which will ensure end-to-end approach having backward and forward linkages covering research, production, post harvest management, processing and marketing, under one umbrella, in an integrated manner. The budget has provided Rs. 4800 crore for Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme for 2005-06 compared with Rs. 2800 crore in 2004-05. With a view to improving water use efficiency in Indian agriculture, the Budget has provided Rs. 400 crore for promoting micro irrigation in 2005-06. Since the flow of credit is important in accelerating the pace of investment in agriculture, the disbursement of agricultural credit is proposed to be stepped up by 30% per cent in 2005-06 over the disbursement of Rs. 1,15,243/- crore in 2004-05, which exceeded the disbursement of Rs. 86,981 crore made in 2003-04 by 32 per cent. The measures are expected to lead to a reversal of the deceleration in agricultural growth.

[English]

Assam Gas Cracker Project

2258. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether commissioning of Assam Gas Cracker Project has been finalized;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of issues yet to be resolved and target set to complete all clearances towards implementation of Assam Gas Cracker Project alongwith progress made till date?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) Based on the Feasibility Report prepared by the Gas Authority of India Ltd. (GAIL), the Ministry of P&NG prepared a Public Investment Board

(PIB) Note, which was considered in the meeting of PIB. Clarification regarding clarity on the feedstock prices and the subsidy involved, IRR etc. were sought.

[Translation]

Relative Pollution Level in India

2259. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH
DEO:
SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL:

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

(a) the status of India in the world in respect of pollution;

(b) the reaction of Government in this regard;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check this problem; and

(d) the success achieved by the Government by taking such steps?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) A study conducted by a team of scientists at Yale and Columbia Universities on the 2005 Environmental Sustainability Index (ESI), which integrates various data sets including past and present pollution levels, environment management efforts etc., has rated India at 101 position out of 146 countries.

(b) and (c) The steps taken for prevention and control of pollution include:

- Notification of general and source specific environmental standards;
- Introduction of cleaner fuels and improved vehicular technologies;
- Implementation of the Charter on Corporate Responsibility for Environmental Protection for seventeen categories of polluting industries; and
- Regular monitoring for environmental compliance.

(d) Due to various abatement measures taken, the increasing trend in pollution, has been arrested with categorical improvement in environmental equality, as determined by competent scientific institutions.

Survey on Cleanliness

2260. MOHD. MUKEEM:
SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH:

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

(a) the number of studies/surveys conducted by various institutes so far on Bias, Satluj and Yamuna rivers and revival of Rivalsar Lake of district of Mandi alongwith the total number of proposals pending with the Union Government;

(b) the details of outcome of such studies/surveys thereon;

(c) the reasons for not allocating funds to the concerned institutes so far; and

(d) the time by which funds will be allocated for them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) Rivalsar lake in Mandi district of Himachal Pradesh is one of the 68 identified wetlands in the National Wetland Conservation Programme of the Ministry. The State Government had submitted a management action plan at a cost of Rs. 9.20 lakhs for a period of one year. The proposal was not found suitable and the Government of Himachal Pradesh has been asked to submit a comprehensive management action plan for the lake.

Studies on rivers Beas, Satluj and Yamuna are being regularly carried out by the Central Pollution Control Board through the State Pollution Control Boards for monitoring the water quality of these rivers. Under the ongoing National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) of the Ministry, water quality monitoring of rivers Satluj and Yamuna is also being carried out by Thapar Institute of Engineering & Technology, Patiala and Central Pollution Control Board. Based on these surveys, works for abating pollution along polluted stretches of rivers Satluj and Yamuna have been taken up under the NRCP in 6 towns of Punjab along river Satluj as well as 8 towns of Haryana, 8 towns of UP and Delhi along river Yamuna.

A proposal was received in the year 2000 from the Government of Himachal Pradesh for taking up pollution

abatement works in 11 towns along river Beas under the NRCP. The Government of Himachal Pradesh have been asked to prepare Detailed Project Reports with firm costs and following an integrated approach with 70:30 cost sharing between the Central and State Government. A proposal for inclusion of Paonta Sahib along river Yamuna was also received from the Government of Himachal Pradesh in the context of preparation of Plan by IIT, Roorkee for coverage of important water bodies in addition to the schemes already approved under NRCP. Due to acute shortage of funds in the X Plan under NRCP, it has not been possible to take them up for implementation.

[English]

**Setting up of Wild Life Crime Control
Bureau/Courts**

2261. SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY:
SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPAN:
SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:

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

(a) whether the Government has decided/proposes to set up Wild Life Crime Control Bureau/special courts for the protection of wild life;

(b) if so, by when it is likely to start functioning; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has decided to set up Wildlife Crime Control Bureau.

(b) No specific time frame has been laid down.

(c) Does not arise.

Expansion of Crop Coverage under NAIS

2262. DR. K. DHANARAJU:
SHRI P.C. THOMAS:
DR. K.S. MANOJ:
SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:
SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal from Government of Kerala to include more crops in National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS);

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to expand the NAIS coverage to include crops such as coconut, rubber, pepper, cashew, aeronaut, tea, coffee, vanilla etc.;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir. State Government of Kerala from time to time has requested for coverage of perennial/horticultural crops like coconut, rubber, aeronaut, tea etc. under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS).

(b) to (d) NAIS, at present is covering Food crops (cereals, millets & pulses), Oilseeds and Annual Commercial/Horticultural crops subject to the availability of past yield data. Perennial Horticultural crops are not yet covered under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS).

However, the Joint Group constituted to study the improvements required in the existing crop insurance schemes have considered various issues including coverage of perennial horticultural crops. The Group has submitted its report. The Government, at present, is in the process of consulting various stakeholders on the recommendations of the Group.

**Revamping of Area of Animal Genetics
and Breeding**

2263. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to allocate funds for revamping the area of animal genetics and breeding during Tenth Five Year Plan;

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

(c) whether the Government has also reviewed the progress achieved in such areas so far during the plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has initiated a major Programme viz. National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding (NPCBB) from October, 2000 for over a period

of ten years, in two phases each of five years. This Programme envisages genetic upgradation and development of indigenous breeds on priority basis.

(b) Twenty six States and two Union Territories are participating under the Project. The State-wise details of funds released under the scheme during the first three years of the Tenth Plan are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) and (d) The progress achieved under the scheme during the first three years of the Tenth Plan are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement I

State-wise funds released under National Project for Cattle & Buffalo Breeding

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl.No.	State	Funds released during		
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	934.57	718.18	858.36
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	151.30
3.	Assam	0.00	0.00	129.50
4.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	98.00	100.00
5.	Goa	0.00	58.71	97.29
6.	Gujarat	0.00	40.00	279.70
7.	Haryana	0.00	0.00	454.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	220.00	100.00	270.20
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	0.00	135.91
10.	Karnataka	0.00	465.00	394.29
11.	Kerala	230.00	220.00	801.95
12.	Madhya Pradesh	300.00	380.00	661.54
13.	Maharashtra	0.00	860.00	0.00
14.	Manipur	0.00	17.36	0.00
15.	Meghalaya	0.00	65.64	0.00

1	2	3	4	5
16.	Mizoram	17.97	40.00	71.00
17.	Nagaland	96.00	182.00	159.67
18.	Orissa	551.60	0.00	485.00
19.	Punjab	120.83	0.00	111.27
20.	Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	0.00
21.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	570.00	0.00	204.82
23.	Tripura	0.00	95.00	96.67
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1063.00	0.00	841.15
25.	Uttaranchal	0.00	275.00	84.80
26.	West Bengal	0.00	0.00	353.10
27.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	27.76
28.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	18.15
Total		4103.97	3594.89	6787.43

Statement II

Sl.No.	Activity Component	Unit	Achievement		
			2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1.	Conversion/setting up of Artificial Insemination centres to enable mobile practice	Nos.	6913	5457	6751
2.	Strengthening of semen stations/ acquisition of Artificial Insemination bulls	Nos.	10	5	15
3.	Strengthening/ establishment of semen banks	Nos.	28	31	47
4.	Establishment/ strengthening of training centres	Nos.	15	17	23

Agricultural Education

(Rs. in lakhs)

2264. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR:
SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:

2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	Total
5340.50	7038.54	9884.59	22263.63

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to reorient the agricultural education to make it relevant to the new challenges in the context of globalisation;

(b) if so, the details of concrete steps the Government propose to take in this direction;

(c) whether the inadequate knowledge on agriculture education is posing serious concern on various agricultural issues;

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to face the challenges in agricultural education;

(e) the amount spent by the Government for agricultural education in the country during last three years;

(f) whether the Government has proposed to enhance the allocation for agricultural education during the Tenth Plan Period;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) to (d) The Government is well equipped with the necessary dimensions of the knowledge of agriculture education and is addressing the issue of extending the frontiers of Education to sunrise areas of research and education which include issues of curricula, pedagogy, infrastructure, human resource development, extra mural teaching in core and frontier areas.

(e) The amount spent by Central Government on agricultural education in the country during the last three years is given below:—

(f) to (h) The allocation during the X Plan is Rs. 700.12 crore as against the allocation of Rs. 178.24 crore during the IX Five Year Plan.

[Translation]

Development of Heritage Hotels

2265. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any plan to develop heritage hotels in Rajasthan for attracting foreign tourists; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) The activity of construction of hotels including heritage hotels in the country is undertaken by the private sector.

Ministry of Tourism has already a scheme to approve and classify heritage hotels in the country including Rajasthan in the categories viz. Heritage Basic, Heritage Classic, Heritage Grand and Heritage Renaissance.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Removal of Encroachments from Bridge Areas

2266. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:
KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH:

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

(a) whether Delhi ridge area is shrinking rapidly;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the factors therefor;

(c) the steps taken to preserve Delhi's ridge area; and

(d) the number of samplings planted and that survived in Delhi during the last two years and money expended on their preservation?

(b) the percentage of work done in respect of each dam; and

(c) by when these dams are likely to be completed?

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Irrigation being a State subject the irrigation projects are planned formulated, executed and funded by the State Governments out of their own resources and as per their own resources and as per their priorities. Central assistance is released in the form of block loans and grants not tied to any sector of development or project. As on 1.4.2004 there are 169 major and 219 medium ongoing irrigation projects. As per the information provided by the State Governments, the expenditure incurred on these projects upto end of Ninth Five Year Plan, expenditure incurred during the years 2002-03 and 2003-04 and the scheduled year of completion are given in the enclosed Statement I. The summary indicating the percentage progress in respect of major & medium irrigation projects, State-wise is given in the enclosed Statement II.

[*Translation*]

Construction of Dams

2267. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:
SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the names and locations of dams under construction alongwith expenditure incurred by the Union Government and the State Governments during each of the last three years and thereafter, till date;

Statement I

Particulars of ongoing major and medium irrigation projects as on 1.4.2004

(Amount in Rs. Crore)

Sl.No.	Name of State/Project	Commulative Expenditure upto IX Plan	Expenditure during 2002-03	Likely Expenditure during 2003-04	Anticipated year of Completion
1	2	3	4	5	6
I.	ANDHRA PRADESH				
	Major Projects				
1.	Nagarjunasagar	1060.25	35.49	35.12	X Plan
2.	Sriram sagar	1971.98	259.83	265.94	X Plan
3.	Puivendula Br Canal	47.78	17.11	10.10	X Plan
4.	Vamsadhara Stage I	99.26	9.15	—	X Plan
5.	Singur	165.55	2.02	0.06	X Plan
6.	Somasila	378.80	24.23	85.35	X Plan
7.	Vamsadhara Stage II Ph I	27.00	10.13	10.84	Beyond X Plan

1	2	3	4	5	6
8.	Jurala	453.85	54.26	86.15	X Plan
9.	Srisaïlam LBC	359.67	67.73	194.70	X Plan
10.	Srisaïlam RBC	1003.33	94.99	109.52	Beyond X Plan
11.	Telugu Ganga	1467.56	84.00	206.80	X Plan
12.	Yeleru Water Supply Scheme	343.57	0.05	—	X Plan
13.	Vamsadhara Stage II Ph II	23.45	0.00	—	X Plan
14.	Changalanadu LIS	44.22	9.75	5.90	X Plan
15.	Galeru Nagari Ph I	18.81	2.46	2.50	X Plan
	Medium Projects				
1.	Kanupur	19.54	0.44	0.09	Beyond X Plan
2.	Gundalavagu	0.42	9.00	1.46	X Plan
3.	Jhanjhavati	24.66	1.05	5.00	X Plan
4.	Madigedda	3.75	0.97	2.87	X Plan
5.	Madduvalasa	88.49	9.67	24.18	X Plan
6.	Yerrakalva	41.71	10.08	16.87	X Plan
7.	Maddileru	46.70	1.10	1.50	X Plan
8.	Palemvagu	0.00	0.00	0.00	X Plan
9.	Pedderu	18.31	9.08	9.83	X Plan
II.	ASSAM				
	Major Projects				
1.	Dhansiri	167.37	7.96	4.09	X Plan
2.	Bordikarai	39.50	2.25	1.42	Beyond X Plan
3.	Integrated Kellong	52.23	3.56	2.11	Beyond X Plan
4.	Champamati	54.28	2.74	4.28	X Plan
5.	Pagladiya	42.00	3.76	5.87	Beyond X Plan
	Medium Projects				
1.	Kallonga	3.71	0.00	0.00	X Plan
2.	Buridehing	10.07	0.21	0.53	Beyond X Plan

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Pahumara	33.55	0.98	0.10	X Plan
4.	Borolia	40.46	2.48	1.41	X Plan
5.	Hawaipur Lift	6.95	1.26	1.00	Beyond X Plan
III.	BIHAR				
	Major Projects				
1.	Western Kosi Canal	487.86	42.18	62.56	X Plan
2.	Bateehwarsthan Pump Canal Ph I	41.51	5.03	6.09	X Plan
3.	Durgawati Res Scheme	184.01	37.61	24.94	X Plan
4.	North Koel Res Project	549.15	19.16	17.10	X Plan
5.	Tilaiya Dhadhar Diversion	59.25	5.12	14.00	X Plan
6.	Upper Kiul Res Project	126.22	4.67	12.56	X Plan
7.	Barnar	121.00	0.22	13.25	Beyond X Plan
8.	Eastern Kosi Canal Ph II	114.78	0.00	0.00	X Plan
9.	Gandak Phase II	116.05	0.00	0.00	Beyond X Plan
10.	Bansagar Dam	117.45	0.00	25.00	X Plan
	Medium Projects				
1.	Batane	40.46	0.73	2.53	X Plan
2.	Omi Reservoir Project	58.20	0.83	0.42	Beyond X Plan
3.	Sindwami	10.72	0.00	0.00	Beyond X Plan
IV.	JHARKHAND				
	Major Projects				
1.	Ajoy Barrage	173.52	15.80	14.12	Beyond X Plan
2.	Auranga	24.97	6.32	5.97	Beyond X Plan
3.	Konar	94.53	10.13	11.15	Beyond X Plan
4.	Subemarekha	855.59	42.30	87.78	Beyond X Plan
5.	Punasi	69.25	7.09	4.91	Beyond X Plan
	Medium Projects				
1.	Gumani	63.26	3.10	3.86	X Plan
2.	Jharjhara	1.96	0.00	0.00	X Plan
3.	Kansjore	35.87	1.24	1.00	X Plan

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Torai (Deferred)	24.60	0.00	0.00	X Plan
5.	Kans (Deferred)	18.79	0.00	0.00	Beyond X Plan
6.	Sonua	38.60	3.83	3.70	X Plan
7.	Suru	6.77	0.00	1.00	X Plan
8.	Upper Sankh	28.62	7.57	11.85	X Plan
9.	Katri	40.74	2.26	2.33	X Plan
10.	Keso (RE Stage)	8.54	0.00	0.00	Beyond X Plan
11.	Natki	13.92	0.00	0.01	Beyond X Plan
12.	Panch Khero	9.37	4.01	2.81	X Plan
13.	Ram Rekha	5.24	0.00	0.01	Beyond X Plan
14.	Surangi	25.81	2.25	1.54	X Plan
15.	Dhansingoli	22.84	1.02	0.50	X Plan
16.	Bhairawa Reservoir	16.51	0.00	5.03	Beyond X Plan
17.	Salaiya (RE Stage)	0.11	0.00	0.00	Beyond X Plan
18.	Basuki (Reconsidered)	0.16	0.00	0.00	X Plan
19.	Satpotka	0.15	0.00	0.60	X Plan
V.	GOA				
	Major Projects				
1.	Salauli Irrg. Project	146.56	5.40	5.22	X Plan
	—Tillari (IS) (Goa Share)	323.80	14.46	6.17	X Plan
VI.	GUJARAT				
	Major Projects				
1.	Sardar Sarovar (IS)	12663.76	1696.95	2298.57	Beyond X Plan
2.	Zankhari	5.07	0.00	0.00	Beyond X Plan
3.	Sidumber	0.26	0.05	0.05	Beyond X Plan
	Medium Projects				
1.	Mukteshwar	40.97	1.27	1.86	X Plan
2.	Und-II	59.07	1.52	1.73	X Plan
3.	Goma	12.66	0.05	0.16	Beyond X Plan

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Kollyari	15.60	1.65	2.13	Beyond X Plan
5.	Ozat II	68.73	3.03	2.43	X Plan
6.	Vartu II	52.45	1.88	1.73	X Plan
7.	Limbdi Bhogavo II	34.58	1.16	1.07	Beyond X Plan
8.	Aji IV	81.34	5.77	5.94	X Plan
9.	Bakrol	4.97	0.00	0.00	Beyond X Plan
10.	Bhadar II	67.62	5.13	5.94	Beyond X Plan
11.	Demi III	31.13	4.00	3.24	Beyond X Plan
12.	Gunda (Utavali)	29.03	1.72	0.38	Beyond X Plan
13.	Men	0.59	0.00	0.00	Beyond X Plan
14.	Singar	3.17	1.62	0.76	Beyond X Plan
15.	Varanasi	9.60	1.85	1.30	X Plan
16.	Kuntali	5.09	0.03	0.06	Beyond X Plan
17.	Brahmani II	4.53	0.77	0.44	X Plan
18.	Chinchai LIS	7.65	1.45	1.90	Beyond X Plan
VII.	HARYANA				
	Major Projects				
1.	Rewari Lift Stage II	33.53	7.22	2.50	X Plan
2.	Loharu Lift	43.77	1.08	0.73	X Plan
3.	JLN Lift Irrigation	182.17	4.28	3.82	X Plan
4.	SYL Project (Punjab portion)	487.93	3.66	0.13	Beyond X Plan
VIII.	HIMACHAL PRADESH				
	Major Project				
1.	Shahnahar Irrigation Project	59.26	9.50	13.53	X Plan
	Medium Projects				
1.	Sidhata Project	3.77	1.00	2.71	X Plan
2.	Changer Lift Irri. Project	1.50	0.75	1.00	X Plan
IX.	JAMMU AND KASHMIR				
	Medium Projects				
1.	Lethpora Lift	7.52	0.46	0.87	X Plan

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Marwal Lift	16.28	2.01	3.53	X Plan
3.	Niv-Karewa	3.12	0.00	0.00	Project Deferred
4.	Rajpora Lift	6.17	1.30	5.63	X Plan
5.	Tral Lift	10.44	1.75	11.29	X Plan
6.	Rafiaband High Lift	20.45	1.82	5.10	X Plan
7.	Igo-Phey Irrg. Project	37.52	3.66	4.15	X Plan
X.	KARNATAKA				
	Major Projects				
1.	Kabini	375.53	13.46	—	X Plan
2.	Tunabadra HLC (IS)	75.36	0.90	—	X Plan
3.	Malaprabha	632.53	48.36	46.99	X Plan
4.	Harangi	315.85	16.35	—	X Plan
5.	Hemavathy	1435.47	88.33	—	X Plan
6.	Karanja	284.77	57.51	24.62	X Plan
7.	UKP Stage I	4693.65	336.65	161.76	X Plan
8.	UKP Stage II	1645.00	405.59	331.86	Beyond X Plan
9.	Hipparagi	53.88	3.27	—	X Plan
10.	Bennithora	209.92	12.20	—	X Plan
11.	Varahi	30.78	2.02	—	X Plan
12.	Yagachi	141.54	8.29	—	X Plan
13.	Upper Tunga	233.87	0.00	—	X Plan
	—Dudh Ganga (IS)	56.34	0.07	—	X Plan
14.	Singatalpur	24.78	1.14	—	X Plan
15.	Bhima Lift	9.99	1.12	—	X Plan
16.	Markendaya	124.52	39.07	—	X Plan
	Medium Projects				
1.	Manchanabele	69.13	2.48	N.A.	X Plan
2.	Amarja	98.73	1.38	N.A.	X Plan
3.	Arkavathi	75.03	5.52	N.A.	X Plan

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Lower Mullamari	121.42	2.37	N.A.	X Plan
5.	Chulkinala	63.11	1.35	N.A.	X Plan
6.	Votehole	44.76	2.93	N.A.	X Plan
7.	Hirehalla	147.40	11.97	10.22	X Plan
8.	Uduthorehalla	128.51	8.25	N.A.	X Plan
9.	Iggalur	49.01	2.31	N.A.	X Plan
10.	Kamasamdura	20.24	1.26	N.A.	X Plan
11.	Hodirayanahalla	0.49	0.00	N.A.	X Plan
12.	Hutchanakoplu	12.97	1.85	N.A.	X Plan
13.	Gandorinala	56.25	34.58	10.91	X Plan
14.	Basapur Lift	1.39	0.16	N.A.	X Plan
15.	Itegi-Sasalwad	0.58	0.04	N.A.	X Plan
16.	Kanchanahalli	2.74	0.26	N.A.	X Plan
17.	Harinala	34.85	2.35	N.A.	X Plan
18.	Nanjapura	4.54	1.99	N.A.	X Plan
XI.	KERALA				
	Major Projects				
1.	Kallada	644.07	15.93	8.81	X Plan
2.	Muvattupuzha	375.13	24.13	51.81	X Plan
3.	Idamalayar	119.11	13.48	13.21	X Plan
4.	Kariarkutty	12.36	1.00	5.00	X Plan
	Medium Projects				
1.	Attapady	9.81	0.70	0.45	X Plan
2.	Karapuzha	180.37	10.78	11.09	X Plan
3.	Bansurasagar	6.72	3.10	3.06	X Plan
4.	Vamanapuram	10.13	0.00	0.03	X Plan
XII.	MADHYA PRADESH				
	Major Projects				
1.	Kolar	178.99	3.44	2.77	X Plan
2.	Sindh Phase I	58.86	6.81	7.30	Beyond X Plan

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Bansagar Dam (MP Share)	721.61	26.61	67.64	X Plan
4.	Bansagar Canal	180.83	31.99	56.30	Beyond X Plan
5.	Bariarpur LBC	71.63	20.74	26.49	Beyond X Plan
	Rajghat Dam	133.08	1.00	1.80	X Plan
6.	Rajghat Canal	445.66	71.64	50.74	Beyond X Plan
7.	Rani Avanti Bai Sagar (NVDA)	694.61	74.38	121.07	Beyond X Plan
	—Bawanthandi (IS)	125.65	22.75	20.66	X Plan
8.	Mahan	35.52	3.50	5.68	Beyond X Plan
9.	Indira Sagar (NVDA)	1492.80	158.91	151.22	Beyond X Plan
10.	Jobat (NVDA)	42.42	28.46	36.69	X Plan
11.	Mahi	65.77	35.56	34.93	Beyond X Plan
12.	Man (NVDA)	121.41	18.19	12.75	Beyond X Plan
13.	Sindh Phase II	134.00	111.34	107.41	Beyond X Plan
14.	Bargi Diversion (NVDA)	29.26	77.31	70.66	Beyond X Plan
15.	Omkareshwar (NVDA)	49.93	17.04	18.57	Beyond X Plan
16.	Pench Diversion	9.15	0.82	1.00	Beyond X Plan
	Medium Projects				
1.	Kaliasote	42.47	1.50	0.13	Beyond X Plan
2.	Kunwari Lift	0.28	0.09	0.03	Beyond X Plan
3.	Mahuar	4.39	0.05	0.05	Beyond X Plan
4.	Sagar	1.29	0.04	0.05	Beyond X Plan
5.	Bah	3.70	0.13	0.05	Beyond X Plan
XIII.	CHHATTISGARH				
	Major Projects				
1.	Mahanadi Reservoir Project	450.65	16.45	20.00	X Plan
2.	Jonk Diversion	35.29	5.50	5.25	X Plan
3.	Hasdeo Bango Ph III	715.76	149.45	107.24	Beyond X Plan
	Medium Projects				
1.	barnai	16.08	3.38	0.61	X Plan
2.	Koserteda	17.54	9.02	3.42	X Plan
3.	Sutipat	2.21	2.52	3.50	Beyond X Plan
4.	Upper Jonk	0.00	0.77	0.05	X Plan
5.	Kharkhara Modhipat Canal	6.98	6.18	4.00	Beyond X Plan

1	2	3	4	5	6
XIV.	MAHARASHTRA				
	Major Projects				
1.	Bhima	1091.34	17.48	6.57	X Plan
2.	Krishna	365.36	17.60	14.46	X Plan
3.	Kukadi	1003.57	25.73	68.45	X Plan
4.	Khadakwasla	224.12	4.85	54.63	X Plan
5.	Upper Tapi	131.08	8.71	0.69	X Plan
6.	Wama	324.20	32.25	8.72	Beyond X Plan
7.	Upper Godavari	155.72	2.74	1.53	X Plan
8.	Dudhganga (IS)	265.03	42.13	36.56	X Plan
9.	Chaskaman	214.21	2.84	7.37	X Plan
10.	Bhatsa	232.82	24.11	23.04	X Plan
11.	Jayakwadi St II	568.39	35.79	22.68	X Plan
12.	Nandur Madhemshwar	311.11	35.85	7.48	Beyond X Plan
13.	Upper Penganga	585.84	13.77	35.58	X Plan
14.	Upper Parvara	91.97	24.52	18.79	X Plan
15.	Upper Wardha	546.21	79.75	43.14	X Plan
16.	Waghur	101.28	16.33	24.97	X Plan
17.	Bawanthandi (IS)	92.26	6.31	2.96	Beyond X Plan
18.	Surya	203.40	21.68	24.75	X Plan
19.	Tillari (IS)	430.01	68.94	43.20	X Plan
20.	Vishnupuri (Lower Godavari)	153.80	2.19	5.01	X Plan
21.	Arunavati	175.58	7.39	6.01	X Plan
22.	Gosikhurd	755.57	47.61	84.42	Beyond X Plan
23.	Human	10.96	0.06	0.67	Beyond X Plan
24.	Kadwa	63.55	0.08	0.00	X Plan
25.	Koyna Krishna LIS	817.46	38.71	31.61	Beyond X Plan
26.	Lendi (IS)	26.45	0.99	16.27	Beyond X Plan
27.	Lower Tirna (Flow & Lift)	223.93	18.28	0.84	X Plan

1	2	3	4	5	6
28.	Lower Wardha	154.94	28.67	12.44	Beyond X Plan
29.	Lower Wunna	221.32	0.21	13.34	X Plan
30.	Punad	41.11	5.87	4.59	X Plan
31.	Talamba	15.64	15.39	2.09	Beyond X Plan
32.	Tultuli	6.60	0.00	0.00	Beyond X Plan
33.	Wan	191.27	6.26	11.02	X Plan
34.	Urmodi	290.50	7.11	21.48	Beyond X Plan
35.	Lower Dudhna	140.97	6.45	23.58	Beyond X Plan
36.	Lower Penganga (IS)	1.90	2.04	2.24	Beyond X Plan
37.	Nira Deoghar	259.00	10.07	19.66	Beyond X Plan
38.	Bembla	146.02	35.06	13.06	Beyond X Plan
39.	Bhama Askheda	125.86	2.50	4.04	Beyond X Plan
40.	Janai Shirsal	120.06	0.09	8.83	Beyond X Plan
41.	Gunjawani	104.97	12.23	22.91	Beyond X Plan
42.	Khadakpurna	62.06	6.74	8.12	Beyond X Plan
43.	Sina Kolegaon	101.02	11.72	19.26	Beyond X Plan
44.	Sina Madha LIS	88.76	3.39	6.40	Beyond X Plan
45.	Temgarh	247.18	9.93	15.30	X Plan
Additional Projects					
46.	Dhom Balkawadi	195.21	30.03	9.05	Beyond X Plan
47.	Tarli	282.84	7.66	56.35	Beyond X Plan
48.	Ashti LIS	14.18	10.25	4.37	Beyond X Plan
49.	Barshi LIS	34.41	25.26	6.73	Beyond X Plan
50.	Bhima Sina Joint Canal	196.34	4.60	10.96	Beyond X Plan
51.	Dhaigaon LIS	32.72	1.41	1.70	Beyond X Plan
52.	Purandar LIS	65.07	11.07	19.95	Beyond X Plan
53.	Shirapur LIS	26.42	13.02	5.36	Beyond X Plan
54.	Tembhu LIS	545.61	42.54	59.98	Beyond X Plan
55.	Lower Tapi	46.16	22.61	6.27	Beyond X Plan

1	2	3	4	5	6
56.	Warangaon Talwel LIS	21.20	5.15	4.15	Beyond X Plan
	Medium Projects				
1.	Anjanapalsi (Palsi)	42.50	1.34	0.11	X Plan
2.	Aran (Pimpari)	57.71	2.60	1.22	X Plan
3.	Bahula	25.34	2.09	2.12	X Plan
4.	Chenna Nadi	1.43	0.00	1.57	X Plan
5.	Chikotra	91.68	6.04	13.45	X Plan
6.	Erdha	0.97	0.00	0.00	X Plan
7.	Hivra	10.29	0.68	0.03	X Plan
8.	Jangamhatti	17.65	0.44	0.18	X Plan
9.	Jawalgaon	17.07	0.50	8.08	X Plan
10.	Kadvi	51.23	0.50	7.40	X Plan
11.	Kasari	23.37	0.65	1.36	X Plan
12.	Kumbhi	43.16	2.47	4.51	X Plan
13.	Mangrul	9.59	0.52	0.39	X Plan
14.	Mor	26.34	3.65	0.91	X Plan
15.	Pendhari Nalla	0.20	0.00	0.00	X Plan
16.	Purna Neopur	13.81	0.69	0.21	X Plan
17.	Wadiwale	24.00	0.67	0.08	X Plan
18.	Amaravati	27.85	1.56	1.87	X Plan
19.	Bordahegaon	24.68	0.20	0.08	X Plan
20.	Bori (S)	18.34	21.59	0.03	Beyond X Plan
21.	Dhapewada St I	38.82	2.54	7.76	X Plan
22.	Dehli	11.65	0.05	0.23	X Plan
23.	Deogad	90.29	9.44	11.77	Beyond X Plan
24.	Dongergaon (c)	23.22	2.24	2.37	X Plan
25.	Hetawane	162.89	13.91	20.79	X Plan
26.	Jam	53.79	3.18	5.43	X Plan
27.	Karwappa Nalla	3.00	0.00	0.00	X Plan

1	2	3	4	5	6
28.	Kasar Sai	26.93	1.00	1.81	X Plan
29.	Mun	49.69	0.35	0.69	X Plan
30.	Patgaon	59.24	0.20	0.32	X Plan
31.	Shivna Talkli	61.91	6.02	5.14	X Plan
32.	Sonwad	18.94	0.37	0.59	X Plan
33.	Tajnapur Lift Irrg.	11.18	7.34	0.15	X Plan
34.	Upper Manar	44.14	0.30	12.00	X Plan
35.	Andhali	11.50	0.67	2.61	X Plan
36.	Madan Tank	29.98	8.43	8.91	Beyond X Plan
37.	Navargaon	36.07	0.53	1.11	X Plan
38.	Gautami Godavari (Godavari Nadi)	18.75	2.28	4.36	X Plan
39.	Akkalpada	21.45	7.30	11.53	X Plan
40.	Dara	2.85	2.74	0.23	X Plan
41.	Gadnadi	51.01	23.04	0.87	Beyond X Plan
42.	Kajala (Wagholi)	9.50	0.27	0.12	X Plan
43.	Kar	45.46	3.36	4.98	X Plan
44.	Kashyapi	37.32	0.38	4.48	X Plan
45.	Koradinalla	0.00	0.00	0.00	X Plan
46.	Morna Gureghar	25.09	10.98	8.43	X Plan
47.	Nagan	18.21	2.05	0.94	X Plan
48.	Narangi Sarangi	18.77	0.57	0.56	X Plan
49.	Pen Takli	106.40	4.74	10.16	X Plan
50.	Sayaki	19.76	0.25	1.28	X Plan
51.	Torna	14.21	0.78	0.33	X Plan
52.	Uppar Manjra (Dokkewadi)	42.23	3.92	0.34	X Plan
53.	Anjani	38.22	8.28	0.69	X Plan
54.	Jambre	4.99	0.81	13.08	X Plan
55.	Katangi	18.27	1.21	1.70	X Plan

1	2	3	4	5	6
56.	Lower Chulband	1.46	0.35	0.07	Beyond X Plan
57.	Mohamadawadi (Nardave)	46.92	12.83	21.05	Beyond X Plan
58.	Sondyatola LIS	21.03	0.98	1.01	X Plan
59.	Utawali	16.47	2.85	5.58	X Plan
60.	Chandra Bhagha	89.29	12.41	14.41	X Plan
61.	Chitri	49.15	9.13	25.38	X Plan
62.	Gul	22.52	3.10	1.92	X Plan
63.	Jamkhedi	12.70	1.09	0.47	X Plan
64.	Kalpathari	17.98	0.19	0.28	X Plan
65.	Karajkhed LIS	18.38	0.74	1.24	X Plan
66.	Lal Nalla	39.60	6.73	7.09	X Plan
67.	Nagewadi	31.14	0.10	7.54	X Plan
68.	Prakash Bandhara	79.82	6.18	2.11	X Plan
69.	Purna	52.12	22.97	16.57	X Plan
70.	Renapur	52.14	0.32	1.56	Beyond X Plan
71.	Sonapur Tomta	19.03	1.35	0.97	X Plan
72.	Sulwada Bandhara	74.07	15.36	1.04	X Plan
73.	Virchek (Shivan)	8.08	7.65	3.22	X Plan
74.	Wadi Shewadi	18.25	4.23	0.42	X Plan
75.	Wagholl Buti	26.43	1.80	1.69	X Plan
76.	Wakod	19.18	0.47	0.15	X Plan
77.	Andhrakhore	40.53	21.91	1.08	X Plan
78.	Ghatprabha (Phatakwadi)	21.41	3.51	4.50	X Plan
79.	Haran Ghatt(LIS)	18.55	1.00	9.75	X Plan
80.	Kirmiri Durur	16.39	0.50	3.50	X Plan
81.	Pimpalgaon (Dhale)	18.50	16.00	0.04	X Plan
82.	Uttarmand	52.60	4.17	7.07	X Plan
83.	Wang	74.12	7.31	2.65	X Plan
84.	Zashinagar	0.56	0.03	0.31	X Plan

1	2	3	4	5	6
Additional Projects					
85.	Chilhewadi	92.24	8.27	6.30	Beyond X Plan
86.	Dhamni	19.62	10.80	23.67	Beyond X Plan
87.	Krishna Stage II (Kundali)	116.65	28.50	12.42	Beyond X Plan
88.	Sina (Bhose Khind)	7.00	12.40	5.33	Beyond X Plan
89.	Kamani Tanda	18.70	4.79	3.23	Beyond X Plan
90.	Manikpunj	5.56	2.35	0.42	Beyond X Plan
91.	Morna (Shirala)	12.29	0.01	0.00	Beyond X Plan
92.	Muktai Nagar LIS	25.04	0.23	0.00	Beyond X Plan
93.	Sarangkheda Barrage	71.26	11.78	1.03	Beyond X Plan
94.	Shelgaon Barrage	12.45	0.00	0.00	Beyond X Plan
95.	Sapan	16.39	12.38	22.41	Beyond X Plan
XV.	MANIPUR				
Major Projects					
1.	Thoubal	119.82	15.55	22.00	X Plan
2.	Khuga Multipurpose Project	141.02	8.97	21.30	X Plan
Medlum Project					
1.	Dolaithabi Barrage	19.35	2.23	4.50	X Plan
XVI.	MEGHALAYA				
Medlum Project					
1.	Rongai Valley Project	20.24	1.05	1.30	Beyond X Plan
XVII.	ORISSA				
Major Projects					
1.	Potteru	170.46	20.24	11.02	X Plan
2.	Upper Kolab	303.74	64.16	6.37	Beyond X Plan
3.	Upper Indravati	414.06	145.84	114.34	Beyond X Plan
4.	Subarnarekha	308.06	29.90	189.75	Beyond X Plan
5.	Kanupur	23.92	0.81	1.44	Beyond X Plan
6.	Lower Indra	44.28	55.92	34.51	Beyond X Plan

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Lower Suktel	17.17	4.54	7.26	Beyond X Plan
8.	Bagh Barrage	34.56	3.58	1.70	X Plan
9.	Rengali Irrigation	834.07	168.33	48.43	Beyond X Plan
10.	Mahanadi Chitrotpola	31.71	—	—	X Plan
	Medium Projects				
1.	Titlagarh Stage II	15.10	12.58	5.21	X Plan
2.	Rukara	2.68	1.42	2.56	X Plan
3.	Rajua	0.06	0.94	0.96	X Plan
4.	Deo	30.10	4.17	—	X Plan
5.	Hariharjore	79.23	1.99	2.00	X Plan
6.	Manjore	56.39	11.77	0.27	X Plan
7.	Upper Jonk	88.45	2.00	1.50	X Plan
8.	Baghalati	48.00	0.00	0.00	X Plan
9.	Badanalla	54.00	2.00	2.00	X Plan
10.	Sapua Badjore	38.35	—	—	X Plan
XVIII.	PUNJAB				
	Major Projects				
1.*	Shahpur Kandi Project	94.67	22.07	11.35	Beyond X Plan
	SYL Canal Project				Beyond X Plan
XIX.	RAJASTHAN				
	Major Projects				
	—Gurgaon Canal	27.10	0.00	0.00	Beyond X Plan
1.	Mahi Bajaj Sagar (IS)	695.04	21.60	28.25	X Plan
2.	IGNP II	1933.48	123.31	174.81	Beyond X Plan
3.	Narmada Canal	214.02	20.47	370.10	Beyond X Plan
4.	Bisalpur Irr. cum W.S. Project	454.81	40.73	47.02	X Plan
	Medium Projects				
1.	Panchana	96.51	12.00	11.28	X Plan

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Chhapi	76.41	9.99	10.00	X Plan
3.	Bethali	44.64	1.66	2.99	X Plan
4.	Chauli	53.42	13.89	13.70	Beyond X Plan
XX.	TAMIL NADU				
	Medium Projects				
1.	Irukankudi Project	19.76	9.08	20.00	X Plan
2.	Nanganjar Project	31.80	2.00	3.48	X Plan
XXI.	TRIPURA				
	Medium Projects				
1.	Gumti	40.74	0.78	1.87	X Plan
2.	Khowai	50.61	1.15	1.77	X Plan
3.	Manu	38.14	0.76	1.79	X Plan
XXII.	UTTAR PRADESH				
	Major Projects				
1.	Eastern Ganga	336.59	27.48	51.54	Beyond X Plan
2.	Kanhar Irrigation	57.57	5.71	1.25	X Plan
3.	Rajghat Dam	133.08	0.00	0.00	X Plan
4.	Rajghat Canal (UP)	269.64	53.72	33.64	X Plan
5.	Saryu Nahar	1151.09	194.75	183.32	Beyond X Plan
6.	Providing Kharif Channel in Hindon Krishni Doab	96.32	17.76	14.74	X Plan
7.	Tehri Dam (Irrg. Share)	748.29	135.00	131.64	Beyond X Plan
8.	Jarauli Pump Canal	31.49	5.64	4.72	X Plan
9.	Bansagar Canal (UP)	203.90	63.83	71.35	Beyond X Plan
	—Bansagar Dam (UP Share)	223.33	0.00	0.00	X Plan
XXIII.	UTTARANCHAL				
	Major Projects				
1.	Jamrani Dam	25.87	—	—	Beyond X Plan
2.	Lakhwar Vyasi	219.11	—	—	Beyond X Plan

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Kishau Dam	8.10	—	—	Beyond X Plan
XXIV. WEST BENGAL					
Major Projects					
1.	Teesta Barrage St I Ph I	903.33	26.92	27.96	Beyond X Plan
2.	Subernarekha Barrage (IS)	33.79	2.42	2.00	Beyond X Plan
Medium Projects					
1.	Gulamarjore	3.06	0.08	0.10	X Plan
2.	Mouterjore	0.64	0.02	0.03	X Plan
3.	Beko	4.19	0.14	0.08	X Plan
4.	Patloi	5.52	0.12	0.08	X Plan
5.	Tatko	7.78	0.15	0.13	X Plan
6.	Futiary	11.26	0.16	0.01	X Plan
7.	Hanumata	5.58	0.06	0.02	X Plan
8.	Khairabhera	3.19	0.12	0.03	X Plan

Statement II*Progress made in respect of ongoing major & medium projects*

(Number of Projects)

Sl.No.	Name of State	Progress in respect of creation of irrigation potential as percent of the target set in the project proposal					
		More than 90%		Between 50% to 90%		Less than 50%	
		Major	Medium	Major	Medium	Major	Medium
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5	1	2	2	8	6
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—
3.	Assam	1	1	1	1	3	3
4.	Bihar	—	1	1	1	8	1
5.	Chhattisgarh	—	—	3	1	—	4
6.	Goa	—	—	1	—	1	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7.	Gujarat	—	1	—	1	3	16
8.	Haryana	—	—	2	—	1	—
9.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	1	2
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	—	1	—	1	—	5
11.	Jharkhand	—	1	—	2	5	16
12.	Karnataka	2	2	5	4	9	12
13.	Kerala	—	—	2	—	2	4
14.	Madhya Pradesh	—	—	2	—	14	5
15.	Maharashtra	6	14	13	13	37	68
16.	Mnaipur	—	—	—	—	2	1
17.	Meghalaya	—	—	—	—	—	1
18.	Mizoram	—	—	—	—	—	—
19.	Nagaland	—	—	—	—	—	—
20.	Orissa	1	—	4	5	5	5
21.	Punjab	1	—	—	—	1	—
22.	Rajasthan	1	2	2	—	1	2
23.	Sikkim	—	—	—	—	—	—
24.	Tamil Nadu	—	—	—	—	—	2
25.	Tripura	—	—	—	—	—	3
26.	Uttaranchal	—	—	—	—	3	—
27.	Uttar Pradesh	—	—	3	—	6	—
28.	West Bengal	—	2	—	3	2	3
Total		16	26	41	34	112	159

Production of Meat

(b) if so, the details thereof?

2268. MODH. SHAHID: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to provide any package to meat producers to boost its production in the country; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) There is no proposal to provide any package to meat producers to boost meat production.

(b) Question does not arise.

*[English]***Cotton Growers**

2269. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether cotton growers in the Southern District to Tamil Nadu are agitated over the fall in the prices of summer cotton;

(b) if so, whether widespread complaints from the cotton farmers on the sharp drop in the prices offered at the trader-driven local market has also triggered speculation that the Cotton Corporation of India may go for market intervention by opening its purchase centers in the least two or three places, cotton trade places;

(c) whether the situation arisen in other States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra also;

(d) if so, the cotton prices have fallen below the Minimum Support Price in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra; and

(e) the steps have been taken by these States and Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[Translation]***Setting up of Plants by SAIL**

2270. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:
SHRI RANEN BARMAN:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up new steel plants in the country;

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

(c) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) is also contemplating to set up more plants to augment its production capacity; and

(d) if so, the details of locations proposed therefor?

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.

*[English]***Poaching of Musk Deer**

2271. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rare species of musk deer are facing extinction as they are being poached in large numbers;

(b) if so, their latest population indicating comparative figures pertaining to the three earlier census; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to protect the promote the breed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No report of poaching of musk deer in large numbers has been received. Also there are no reports of the species getting extinct.

(b) Census of the musk deer is not compiled and collated at the level of Union Government.

(c) The steps taken by the Government for protection of musk deer are as follows—

- i. Musk deer is included in the Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, thereby giving it highest degree of protection. Hunting of musk deer is prohibited under the provisions of the Act.
- ii. The Central Bureau of Investigation has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders.
- iii. The State Governments have been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to

reward any person who renders assistance in the detection of wildlife offence and apprehension of the offenders.

- iv. Necessary technical and financial assistance is being provided for conservation and development of habitats of musk deer under Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries".

National Horticulture Mission

2272. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRIMATI KALPANA RAMESH NARHIRE:
SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the criteria laid down to provide funds to the States under National Horticulture Mission (NHM); and
(b) the funds provided to each State under NHM?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "National Horticulture Mission" (NHM), funds are provided to the States on the basis of Annual Action Plans (AAP) submitted by States after its approval by the Executive Committee of the NHM.

(b) The Executive Committee has so far approved, in principle, the Annual Action Plans for 2005-06 in respect of four States as per the following details:

Sl.No.	State	Amount (Rs. in Crore)
1.	Chhattisgarh	50.29
2.	Maharashtra	161.28
3.	Orissa	74.99
4.	Uttar Pradesh	111.12

[Translation]

Promotion of Battery Operated Cars

2273. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any test drive of battery operated car has been carried out;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if so, whether his Ministry proposes to take up the work based on this scientific research on a large scale so as to get rid of the adverse impact of things like petrol and diesel on the environment;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) All vehicles are tested as per the procedure laid down under Central Motor Vehicles Rules (CMVR). For electric vehicles as well, standards have been formulated and procedure laid down under CMVR. The Automotive Research Association of India (ARAI), Pune has given type approval for a few electric vehicles.

(c) to (e) The Government has evolved a scheme for providing subsidies for battery operated vehicles and is providing financial assistance for Research and Development (R&D) in the areas of manufacturing of high power batteries to enhance the range of vehicles, hybrid vehicles and for component development of battery-operated vehicles.

[English]

Purchase of Standards of Weights and Measures

2274. SHRIMATI MANORAMA MADHAVRAJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments are bound to purchase the standard of weights and measures only from the Government of India mint at Mumbai;

(b) if so, whether the supplies from the said mint are subject to long delays forcing a number of offices of Inspectors of legal metrology to operate without proper standards;

(c) if so, whether the Weights and Measures (Enforcement) Act, 1985 provides for private manufacturers to make standards of weight and measures as per specified rules;

(d) If so, whether the Government proposes to permit the private manufacturers to produce the said standards; and

(e) if so, by when they are likely to be accorded the permission for producing the said standards?

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) No delay has been reported in the supply of standards to States and Union Territories by the mint at Mumbai.

(c) to (e) The proviso to section 13 of the said Act provides that in case the mint intimates the States Government in writing that it is unable to prepare any secondary standard or working standard, then the Government may cause such secondary standard or working standard to be prepared by such organization as the Central Government may, on a reference made to it by the State Government, by notification, specify in this behalf. However, the mint at Mumbai has enough capacity to manufacture quality weights and measures standards within the stipulated time frame.

Moreover, this being a statutory function related to Legal Metrology, which critically affects consumer's welfare and interest, there is no reason and advantage in sourcing standards from private parties.

IEM from Indian Pharmaceutical Sector

2275. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received Industrial Entrepreneurial Memorandum (IEM) from the Indian Pharmaceutical sector during 2004-05;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the approximate investment and employment indicated in these IEMs; and

(d) by when these are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (d) As per the information available with the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (Secretariat for Industrial Assistance), during the period 2004-05, the Government has received 185 Industrial Entrepreneurial Memorandum (IEM) from the Drugs and Pharmaceutical Sector. As per these IEMs the proposed investment is Rs. 2020 crores and the proposed employment is 19142.

National Fishermen Welfare Scheme

2276. DR. K.S. MANOJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments are not getting the Central share of many of the Fishermen Welfare Scheme;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of the amount released for Fishermen Housing Scheme during the last three years and thereafter, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government of Kerala is being denied of the Central share under the scheme;

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

(f) the objectives of Saving cum-Relief Scheme for fishermen;

(g) the criteria laid down to provide Central assistance to the States under the scheme; and

(h) the assistance provided to the States under the scheme during the said period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The Central assistance is extended to States/UTs under the National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen on receipt of proposals.

(c) State-wise details of Central assistance sanctioned during the last three years (2002-05) and 2005-06 till 05.08.2005 for construction of houses for the benefit of fishermen under the Welfare Scheme is annexed.

(d) and (e) On receipt of proposal/progress report, Central assistance of Rs. 365.86 lakh has been sanctioned under the various components of the welfare scheme to Government to Kerala during the current financial year till 05.08.2005.

(f) Saving-Cum-Relief component of the Welfare Scheme aims to provide at least to some extent minimum subsistence allowance to the fisher folk during the lean

months and induce them to inculcate the habit of saving during the fishing season.

(g) and (h) The Central assistance is extended to the States/UTs on receipt of proposals. The inland States, which impose a ban on fishing during the monsoon period are only eligible to take benefit of Saving-Cum-Relief component. State-wise Central assistance sanctioned under the saving-cum-relief during 2002-05 and current financial year till 05.08.2005 is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

State-wise Central assistance sanctioned during the last 3 years (2002-2005) and current financial year till 05.08.2005 under the component Development of Model Fishermen Villages for Housing and Saving-cum-Relief of Centrally Sponsored National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Development of Model Fishermen Villages		Saving-cum-Relief	
		2002-2005	2005-2006	2002-2005	2005-2006
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	355.50	43.75	7.50	0.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	32.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Assam	4.60	0.00	3.80	0.00
4.	Bihar	98.79	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	49.80	0.00	0.90
6.	Daman and Diu	0.00	15.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Gujarat	63.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	11.83	4.42
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	115.05	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Jharkhand	182.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
11.	Karnataka	486.52	200.00	136.01	40.00
12.	Kerala	250.00	200.00	150.00	150.00
13.	Maharashtra	32.54	0.00	0.00	0.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	44.75	0.00	11.25	0.00
15.	Manipur	12.52	0.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
16.	Nagaland	151.55	0.00	0.00	0.00
17.	Orissa	94.00	184.08	17.72	0.00
18.	Pondicherry	70.00	0.00	428.34	0.00
19.	Rajasthan	12.25	25.00	0.00	0.00
20.	Tamil Nadu	532.38	0.00	1622.35	84.04
21.	Tripura	56.72	6.00	0.00	0.00
22.	Uttar Pradesh	437.40	100.00	0.00	0.00
23.	Uttaranchal	6.45	0.00	0.00	0.00
24.	West Bengal	200.00	150.00	120.00	30.00
25.	Andman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	0.00	4.26	2.94
Total		3238.01	973.63	2513.05	312.30

Annual Valuation of EPF

2277. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Board of Trustee had considered the Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Annual Valuation of the employees pension fund from April, 2000 to March, 2003; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO): (a) The Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Annual Valuation Report were placed in the meetings of the Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund. The matter was not taken up for consideration and deferred.

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

[*Translation*]

Tourism Projects of Bihar

2278. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government had released any assistance for tourism projects to the Government of Bihar;

(b) if so, the names of Project;

(c) by when the said projects are likely to be completed; and

(d) the amount spent so far on these projects and by when remaining amount is likely to be made available to the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) The details of financial assistance sanctioned/released for tourism related projects to the Government of Bihar during the last three years of the Tenth Plan are as the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) Depending upon the size of the projects, a time limit is fixed in consultation with the Executing Agencies/State Government for completion of the projects. Implementation of the projects is the responsibility of the State Government. Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, monitors the progress of the projects from time to time. The balance fund for a project is released only on receipt of Completion/Utilization Certificate in respect of the instalment released earlier for it.

Statement*Projects/Schemes sanctioned to the State of Bihar during the last three years*

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	Name of projects/scheme	Amount sanctioned	Amount released
2002-03			
1.	Integrated Development of Vaishali-Nalanda-Rajgir-Bodhgaya-Varanasi Circuit	505.00	505.00
2.	Installation of HAARC System at Mahabodhi Temple, Bodhgaya	12.00	12.00
2003-04			
1.	Upgradation of roads connecting monasteries and construction of pavements/signages in Bodhgaya	5.89	5.89
2.	Development of Nepura Village (Distt. Nalanda) under Rural Tourism	50.00	40.00
3.	Development schemes for Bodhgaya (Phase II) in Bihar under scheme of destination development	462.00	370.00
4.	Development of Nava Nalanada Mahavihara as pilgrim destination as part of Bihar-Nalanda Tourist Circuit	352.00	352.00
5.	Development scheme for landscape development around Tomb of Milk Ibrahim Bayyu and Temple surroundings at Biharsharif, Nalanda	134.00	134.00
2004-05			
1.	Construction of new High School Building and shifting of existing High School from frontage Mayasarovar Lake, Bodhgaya	33.11	33.11
2.	Eco-Tourism Development at Bhimbandh (Munger)	370.00	296.00
3.	Development of Tourist Resort at Maner	407.20	325.76
4.	Eco-Tourism Development of Valmiki Nagar (West Champaran)	300.06	240.00
5.	Development of Vishnu Vihar at Gaya	271.06	216.84
6.	Construction of Tourist Complex at Maner Shairf, Patna under destination development	500.00	400.00
7.	GOI-UNDP Endogenous Tourism Project—Nepura in Distt. Nalanda	19.80	15.84

*[English]***Palace on Wheels**

2279. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the "Palace on Wheels" are attracting larger number of tourists, particularly foreign tourists;

(b) if so, the steps taken to introduce such trains in States;

(c) whether the Ministry of Tourism has negotiated with Railways in the matter; and

(d) if so, the response of Railway in this regard?

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

(b) The Ministry of Railways in collaboration with Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation (MTDC) has introduced 'The Deccan Odyssey' in January, 2004. It covers the States of Maharashtra and Goa. They have also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in December, 2002 with the Karnataka Tourism Development Corporation (KSTDC) to launch a luxury tourist train that will cover the States of Karnataka and Goa.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Payment of Insurance of Claims of Farmers of Karnataka

2280. SHRI MANJUNATH KUNNUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that Agricultural Insurance Company (AIC) has refused to pay compensation towards Crop Insurance to the farmers of Sunakal Bidari in Ranebennur Taluk and Shidenur in Byadagi Taluk of Haveri District in Karnataka due to the small errors committed by Malaprabha Grammena Bank and Syndicate Bank by wrongly mentioning the Hobli one during 2002-03;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) As per provision of the scheme insurance proposals of the farmers are collected by the banks and then passed on the Insurance Company within stipulated period. The Insurance Company accepts the insurance proposals, if they are complete in all respect. In Sunakal Bidari in Ranebennur taluka and Shidenur in Byadagi Taluk of Haveri district, the banks submitted first incomplete proposals which were returned by the Insurance Company. The banks submitted again the corrected proposals very late *i.e.* after the settlement of claims for the crop season. Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd. (AIC) rejected the insurance proposals, as they were time barred. However, keeping in view the interest of farmers, the banks have been asked to bear the financial liability, if any, on account of crop loss suffered by the farmers.

Agreement with SBI for Financial Seed Production

2281. SHRI UDAY SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Seeds Corporation Limited have entered into agreements with State Bank of India to finance farmers for seed production;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the farmers in the country are not getting good quality seeds resulting poor growth in agriculture sector; and

(d) if so, the extent to which the agreement of SBI with NSC is going to help farmers to make availability of qualitative seeds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir. National Seeds Corporation Limited (NSC) has entered into an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the State Bank of India to finance NSC's growers for seed production.

(b) The MoU entered into on 13th July, 2005 is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) No, Sir. During Kharif-2005, the quantity of certified/quality seed made available to the farmers in the country is 6741950 quintals against the requirement of 5129090 quintals as assessed and reported by the States.

(d) As a result of entering into of this MoU, it is expected that the financial needs of the farmers/growers would be suitably met and they would come forward for taking-up production programme of seed production under NSC's growers programme which will result in more availability of quality seeds.

Statement

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) made at New Delhi, on this 13th day of July 2005.

BETWEEN

State Bank of India, incorporated under the State Bank of India Act, 1955 having its Corporate Office at Madame Cama Road, Mumbai (hereinafter referred to as "the Bank" which express shall unless (repugnant to the context or meaning thereof shall include its successors and assigns) of the QNE PART.

AND

National Seeds Corporation Ltd., incorporated under Companies Act (a Government of India owned Public Sector Undertaking) with its Corporate/Registered office at Beej Bhawan, Pusa Complex, New Delhi-110012 (hereinafter referred to as "NSC" which expression shall unless repugnant to the context or meaning thereof shall include its successors and assigns) of the OTHER PART.

WHEREAS

1. NSC has been established to organize the development of a sound seed industry in India. The main objectives set before it, interalia, are:—

- (i) To carry on in India the production, processing, drying, storing, distribution and transportation of agricultural seeds.

- (ii) To enter into agreement with individuals, co-operative societies, corporations and government agencies in the growing, processing, storing, distribution, transporting and selling of agricultural seeds.
 - (iii) To undertake by inspection and other means, seed quality control measures in all facts of seed business carried on behalf of or in co-operation with the Corporation.
 - (iv) To store and stockpile reserve supply of any seed needed for improvement of agriculture in India.
2. The Bank is interested in financing agriculturists, processors and distributors/dealers involved in seed production/processing/distribution/selling.

3. NSC has any easy access to the agriculturists and wide network of distributors/dealers all over India and hence has represented to the Bank that they will identify the agriculturists, processors, distributors/dealers and assist the Bank in the lending process.

NOW THIS DEED WITNESSETH AS FOLLOWS

1. NSC shall assist the Bank for identification of the agriculturists for seed production by NSC.
2. That the Bank shall finance at its sole discretion, the genuine requirements of the agriculturists for the purpose of procurement of parent seed material and meeting the production expenses as worked out by mutual consultation between NSC and the Bank, hereinafter will be referred as scale of finance.
3. NSC will identify the agriculturists, select the agriculturists based on their credentials and past dealings of NSC with the agriculturists, help in identifying the production credit needs of each of the agriculturists. The basic eligibility criteria for any agriculturist for availing the loan from the Bank shall be as prescribed by the Bank from time to time.
4. The Bank shall inform NSC of the agriculturists among those identified by NSC who have been financed by the various branches of the Bank so that net payment to the Agriculturists can be

made entirely through the accounts maintained by the agriculturists in the Bank.

5. The Bank & NSC shall enter into written understanding with the growers for the purpose of routing the net sale proceeds after recovery of its own dues by NSC. Growers would execute a authority letter in favour of NSC to route net sale proceeds through the Bank account.
6. Based on written understanding, NSC undertakes that all payments due to such agriculturists shall be routed through the designated branches of the Bank for those agriculturists who have been financed by the Bank and about when NSC has been informed. Designated branches will be identified by the Bank in relation to the said purpose having regard to the location of the branch of the agriculturists.
7. The Bank shall enter into separate agreement with each grower identified by the NSC and financial assistance shall be granted to them at the discretion of the Bank keeping in view of the policies and the viability of recovery of loans.
8. NSC undertakes to keep the Bank informed of any information which has a direct bearing on the recovery of the loans viz failure of crops, rejection of seeds by NSC or non-supply of produce to NSC by the farmers.
9. The obligation of NSC is limited to identification of the agriculturists, providing them the necessary support as being done by NSC for seed cultivation and for routing of all payments to the agriculturists financed by the Bank (designated branches) as mentioned in para 5 & 6 above. Farmers of good credit worthiness would be covered under the scheme.
10. To facilitate process in distribution and sale of seeds through NSC's processors, distributors/dealers, the Bank shall finance them under existing scheme(s) and if required, shall devise suitable scheme(s) for financing to processors, distributors/dealers. NSC will provide a list of its distributors/dealers to the bank.
11. The operational modalities finalized for financing to the farmers for Seeds production under Contract Farming arrangements are detailed in the Annexure "A".

12. Both NSC and the Bank agree that they shall not use the logo, trade mark, copy rights or other proprietary rights of the other party in any advertisement or publicity material or any other written communication with any other party, without the prior written consent of such opposite party. The MOU shall be reviewed after one year from the date hereof; and may be renewed from time to time by mutual consent of the parties. In the normal course, this MOU shall not be terminated by either of the parties. If for any reason any party decides to terminate this MOU, then it will give three months notice to the other party, and within this period both parties shall continue to discharge their obligations. Termination of this MOU will not in any event release either of the parties from their obligations arising out of the loans already disbursed and shall cease only on satisfactory liquidation of all loans disbursed by the Bank to the agriculturists to the extent of net amount payable to the farmers by the NSC.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto have executed this MOU in duplicate as of the date set out hereunder.

For National Seeds Corporation Ltd. For State Bank of India

Sd/-
(B.B. Pattanaik)
Managing Director
(Authorised Signatory)

Sd/-
(Anup Banerji)
Chief General Manager
(Authorised Officer)

Annexure — "A"

Memorandum of Understanding

***Operational Modalities of MOU Signed between
State Bank of India and the National Seeds
Corporation Limited***

ROLE OF THE NATIONAL SEEDS CORPORATION LIMITED (NSC)

The Scheme of financing to farmers under contract farming would be implemented through 11 Regional Offices and 81 Area Offices as stated in the list enclosed (Annexure-B) of the NSC located at various places in the Country. The NSC would give preferred Banker's status to the Bank.

- (a) **SELECTION OF CROPS:** The NSC would identify crops/variety of seeds to be grown under Contract Farming for seed production.

- (b) **SELECTION OF FARMERS:** The NSC would select growers and enroll them as members for the purpose of seed production and provide the Bank a list of such selected growers.
- (c) After final selection of the growers, NSC's Regional Offices shall assist in arranging a joint meeting of financing branches of the Bank with the growers.
- (d) The NSC would arrange for provision of extension services, such as supply of quality planting material and appropriate technology for higher quality seed production to the growers.
- (e) The NSC would have set of extension workers who would constantly interact with the farmers during various stages of crops to ensure good quality seed production.
- (f) The NSC would make provision for pre and post harvest technology including testing of the quality of seeds produced by the growers.
- (g) The NSC would make necessary arrangement for buy back of seeds meeting NSC's prescribed standards. The NSC would decide the price of seeds so produced.
- (h) The NSC would remit net sale proceeds after recovery of its dues to the Bank for credit to the growers accounts with the concerned branches of the Bank.
- (i) In case of growers financed under Contract Farming arrangements, the termination of this understanding shall not in any event release the NSC from the obligation arising out of the loans already disbursed and shall cease only on satisfactory liquidation of all loans disbursed by the Bank to the growers who have already supplied their produce to the NSC after recovery by NSC of its own dues.

ROLE OF THE BANK:-

The Scheme of financing to the growers for seeds production programme would be implemented through various branches under the administrative control of different Regions/Zonal Offices/Local Head Offices of the Bank located at various places in the Country.

On final selection of Crops/Areas/Farmers, the Bank would initiate following steps:-

(a) SCALE OF FINANCE

Growers under Contract Farming would adopt improved package of practices and technology for production of selected crops/varieties as prescribed by the NSC. Input cost is expected to be higher than in normal crop production. To meet the genuine needs, the Bank would prepare special Scale of Finance to be adopted for arriving at the Kisan Credit Card limits to the growers covered under Contract Farming.

(b) SERVICE AREA APPROACH:

The Reserve Bank of India has relaxed Service Area Approach for financing to farmers. Since the NSC would prefer to operate on a large geographical area, the Bank in consultation with the NSC would select cluster of villages/growers to be covered under contract farming.

(c) NO DUES FROM THE OTHER BANKS:

To avoid multiple financing the branches of the Bank would take necessary steps as per the Bank's laid down instructions.

(d) SECURITY NORMS

As the crop loans to growers, would be covered under contract farming arrangements with the NSC collateral security would be waived up to the limit of Rs. 1.00 lac.

(e) BORROWING FROM OTHER AGENCIES:

Crop loans under contract farming arrangements would be sanctioned to growers even if they have availed Agricultural Term Loans from a Cooperative Society/Co-operative Land Development/Mortgage Bank, provided they are not defaulters to those agencies.

(f) TAKE OVER OF LOANS OF FARMERS FROM OTHER BANKS

Some of the growers selected for Contract Farming may have availed loans from the other banks for crop production, such crop loans of other banks may be taken over as per the Bank's laid down instructions.

(g) FINANCING FOR RECEIVABLES

The Bank may also consider financing the growers against their receivables from NSC for short duration, if required, suitable scheme for the same would be prepared for implementation through branches of the Bank.

Crop Diversification Project

2282. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:
SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has submitted a crop diversification project;
- (b) if so, the salient features of the project; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) An additional Work Plan Proposal for Crop Diversification Project for the State of Maharashtra was received under the Macro Management Scheme. Since it was not an approved component of the scheme, it could only be funded as a new intervention to the tune of 10% of the total work plan size for the year 2004-05. Since the State Government had already provided for new interventions to the tune of 10% of their total work plan size for the year 2004-05, this project could not be considered.

Establishment of AEZ for Karnataka

2283. SHRI K. VIRUPAKSHAPPA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 5595 dated May 2, 2005 and state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken a final decision on the proposal sent by the Government of Karnataka for establishment of Agri Export Zone (AEZ) for Aromatic, Medicinal, Dye Plants, Grapes, Mango, Lime, Pomegranate and Potato;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefore;
- (d) whether steering committee has given approval for sanction of funds for the purpose; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) An evaluation of the existing Agri-Export Zones (AEZs) is being undertaken by the Government. The proposal will not be considered by the Steering Committee till the evaluation is complete.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Oilseeds Technology Mission

2284. SHRIMATI KALPANA RAMESH NARHIRE:
SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has established Oilseeds technology Mission;
- (b) if so, the salient features thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to promote oilseeds during the last three years; and
- (d) the quantity of oilseeds produced in various States of the country including Rajasthan and Maharashtra during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The Government had set up a Technology Mission on Oilseeds in 1986 to increase the production and productivity of oilseeds and to reduce the import of edible oils. Under the technology Mission a Centrally Sponsored Oilseeds production Programme (OPP) was in implementation in 28 States for increasing the production of oilseeds in the country upto March, 2004. The Technology Mission on Oilseeds, Pulses and Maize has been discontinued from 1st April, 2004.

To provide flexibility to the states in implementation of the programmes based on regionally differentiated approach, to promote crop diversification and to provide focused approach to the programmes, the four schemes under TMOP&M namely, Oilseeds production Programme (OPP), National Pulses Development Project (NPDP), Accelerated Maize Development Programme (AMDP) and Oil Palm Development Programme (OPDP) have been modified and merged into one Centrally Sponsored Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm & maize (ISOPOM) which is being implemented from 1st April, 2004 in 14 major oilseed growing states in the country.

(c) Under the Centrally Sponsored Oilseeds production Programme which was in implementation upto the year 2003-04, assistance has been provided for various inputs such as purchase of breeder seed, production of foundation seed, production and distribution of certified seed, seed minikits, distribution of plant protection chemicals, plant protection equipments etc. to encourage farmers to undertake oilseeds cultivation on a large scale. Under ISOPOM

which is being implemented by Government of India in 14 major oilseeds growing States from 2004-05, assistance is provided for purchase of breeder seed, production of foundation seed, production and distribution of certified seed, distribution of seed minikits, distribution of plant protection chemicals, plant protection equipments, weedicides, supply of rhizobium culture/phosphate solubilising bacteria, distribution of gypsum/pyrite/liming/dolomite, distribution of sprinkler sets and water carrying pipes, publicity, etc. to encourage farmers to grow oilseeds.

In order to disseminate information on improved production technologies amongst the farmers, block demonstrations and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) demonstrations are organized through State Department of Agriculture and Front Line Demonstrations through ICAR.

(d) State-wise production of oilseeds in the country including Rajasthan and Maharashtra during the years 2001-02 to 2003-04 is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

State-wise Production of Oilseeds Crops from 2001-02 to 2003-04

State	Production (lakh tonnes)		
	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	16.14	12.56	16.15
Arunachal Pradesh	0.28	0.28	0.27
Assam	1.56	1.49	1.58
Bihar	1.20	1.04	1.25
Chhattisgarh	1.12	1.01	1.19
Goa	0.02	0.04	0.06
Gujarat	36.35	16.83	56.65
Haryana	8.07	7.12	9.90
Himachal Pradesh	0.10	0.08	0.09
Jammu and Kashmir	0.42	0.27	0.41
Jharkhand	0.28	0.08	0.08
Karnataka	10.20	10.74	10.39

1	2	3	4
Kerala	0.02	0.01	0.03
Madhya Pradesh	45.68	31.44	55.86
Maharashtra	22.26	23.56	29.53
Manipur	—	0.01	0.01
Meghalaya	0.06	0.06	0.06
Mizoram	0.05	0.05	0.05
Nagaland	0.53	0.74	0.50
Orissa	1.37	0.94	1.57
Punjab	0.83	0.91	1.02
Rajasthan	31.29	17.55	39.95
Sikkim	0.07	0.07	0.07
Tamil Nadu	13.13	7.60	10.00
Tripura	0.04	0.04	0.04
Uttar Pradesh	10.34	8.81	9.28
Uttaranchal	0.18	0.23	0.34
West Bengal	4.95	4.76	6.51
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.03	0.01	—
Delhi	0.03	0.02	0.02
Pondicherry	0.02	0.03	0.04
All India	206.62	148.38	252.90

*[English]***Use of Forest Land by Coal Mines**

2285. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY:
SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to formulate a policy on iron ore mining;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the area of forest land granted to Coal Mines/ other undertakings;

(d) whether the Government has ever reviewed Environmental impacts these activities have caused; and

(e) if so, the details of environmental damages and the reaction of Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) In so far as Ministry of Environment and Forests is concerned there is no proposal to formulate a policy on iron-ore mining.

(c) A total of 93,845.25 half forest land has been diverted, so far, for various mining projects in different States since 1980. Out of this, 36,674.91 ha of forest land has been diverted for coal mines.

(d) and (e) The mining activity causes loss of topsoil, soil erosion, adverse impacts on flora and micro habitat, air pollution and sometimes impact on underground water table. To mitigate the adverse effects of mining, while granting the forestry clearance for mining projects, the user agency is directed to take up Compensatory Afforestation and creation of safety zone plantation around mining area. In addition, the user agency is required to carry out stabilisation of over burden dumps through afforestation, as also reclamation of mined out areas by backfiring and plantation of suitable species. The user agency is also required to carry out Environment Impact Assessment and implementation of Environment Management Plan.

[Translation]

Deaths due to Pollution

2286. SHRI ANJAN KUMAR M. YADAV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the Centre of Science and Environment has in its recent studies disclosed about a large number of deaths in the major cities of the country caused by the environmental pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof showing the total annual increase in environmental pollution in terms of percentage vis-a-vis increase in the number of deaths during the last two years, State-wise;

(c) the strategy being chalked out by the Government to check the environmental degradation causing a large number of deaths every year; and

(d) the expenditure involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), a Non-Governmental Organisation, has not done any study recently disclosing on large numbers of deaths in the major cities of the country caused by environmental pollution. However, CSE undertook a study in 1997 on

the ill effects of air pollution on health and found increased incidence of mortality and morbidity.

According to the Central Pollution Control Board, no definite trend of increase in air pollution in residential areas of major cities was observed except in respect of Oxides of Nitrogen and Respirable Suspended Particulate Matters (RSPM) in few metro cities during the last two years.

(c) and (d) Strategies adopted for control of environmental pollution include comprehensive policy for abatement of pollution, supply of improved auto-fuel including CNG, tightening of vehicular and industrial emission norms, mandatory environmental clearance for specified industries, management of municipal & bio-medical wastes, promotion of cleaner technologies, setting up of net-work of air & water quality monitoring stations, rivers and lakes conservation programmes, assessment of pollution load & source apportionment studies, preparation and implementation of action plans for major cities and critically polluted areas. Budgetary allocation of about Rs. 487 crores provided to this Ministry during the current financial year include undertaking various plan schemes pertaining to monitoring and control of pollution, hazardous waste management, common effluent treatment plants, rivers and lakes conservation programme, environment impact assessment of development projects, clean technologies etc. Besides, the budgetary allocations of other concerned Ministries and Department at the Central and State levels also include schemes for conservation and improvement of environment.

[English]

Project Proposal for Eco-friendly Coir Retting

2287. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any project proposal received from the Government of Kerala on eco-friendly coir retting is pending with the Ministry for clearance; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Regional Research

Laboratory (RRL), Thiruvananthapuram submitted through the Kerala State Pollution Control Board, a proposal for establishing a demonstration project titled "Eco-friendly closed coir retting process for pollution free operation and occupational health hazards". The proposal is under examination by this Ministry.

Central State Agricultural Farms

2288. SHRI PRADEEP GANDHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Central State Agricultural Farms in the country, location-wise;

(b) the total income of Central State Agricultural Farms (CSAF) in the country, particularly in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years;

(c) the reasons for running in losses of these CSAF; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to increase the income?

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

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The State Farms Corporation of India manages 8 Central State Agricultural Farms situated at Suratgarh, Sardargarh, and Jetsar (Rajasthan), Hisar (Haryana), Bahraich (U.P.), Raichur (Karnataka), Chengam (Tamil Nadu), Raebareli (U.P.).

(b) Farm-wise income/expenditure/profit and loss is given in the enclosed Statement. However, the Corporation do not have any farm in Madhya Pradesh.

(c) The reasons for losses include, inter-alia, risks like drought, floods (vagaries of monsoon) inadequate irrigation facilities, growth in staff expenses, shortage of working capital, increase in the interest burden on loans and advance etc.

(d) The steps taken by the Government through States Farms Corporation of India are (i) implementation of Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS)/Voluntary Separation Scheme (VSS) to shed down the excess manpower; (ii) Extreme austerity measures in the expenditure; (iii) Increasing area under high value crops, adopting advanced scientific agricultural practices; (iv) bringing more area under waste land development to establish bio-fuel plantation and socio forestry; (v) Revival/Restructuring proposal submitted to Board for Restructuring of Public Sector Enterprises.

Statement

State Farms Corporation of India Limited

Farm-wise Profit & Loss for last three years

(Rupees in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the Farm	Income			Expenditure			Profit/Loss (+)/(-)		
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1.	Suratgarh	1542.32	1559.38	1136.09	1295.47	1473.77	1502.48	246.85	85.61	-366.39
2.	Sardargarh	1169.98	1142.94	921.30	956.64	1041.74	1020.00	213.34	101.20	-98.70
3.	Jetsar	642.31	940.28	873.64	801.96	784.28	889.06	-159.65	156.00	-15.42
4.	Hisar	1031.75	953.26	727.72	894.64	932.36	798.53	137.11	20.90	-70.81
5.	Bahraich	630.48	754.48	740.00	788.42	841.93	932.90	-157.94	-87.45	-192.90
6.	Raichur	170.98	121.88	195.73	286.51	311.68	380.51	-115.53	-189.80	-184.78
7.	Chengam	14.38	2.38	-5.39	143.19	111.38	27.71	-128.81	-109.00	-33.10
8.	Raebareli	-0.47	0.85	1.20	23.10	19.30	11.38	-23.57	-18.45	-10.18

Grant for Rain Water Harvesting Schemes

2289. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has any scheme for giving grant-in-aid for Rain Water Harvest Schemes being implemented by the State Governments; and

(b) if so, the details of grant-in-aid provided to each State, till date under the said schemes?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Bulk Drugs Manufacturing Units

2290. DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of major bulk drugs manufacturing units functioning in the country at present;

(b) the different fiscal and non-fiscal incentives/disincentives provided by the Central and States for setting up of manufacturing units in selected areas/regions; and

(c) the long run impact of these on production, quality and cost competitiveness?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) A large number of units manufacturing drugs and related items, both in the organized sector and in the small scale sector are operating in the country. Under the provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules there-under, the responsibility for regulating manufacture and sale of drugs is vested primarily with the State Governments.

(b) The Central as well as the State Governments are providing various fiscal and non fiscal incentives for setting up of manufacturing units in selected areas/regions. The rate of excise duty applicable to new units in States of Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal is zero vide Notification No. 49/2003-C.E. dated 10.6.2003 as last amended by Notification No. 27/2004-C.E. dated 9.7.2004. Similarly exemption to specified goods manufactured by units located in specified areas of North Eastern exempted from payment of excise duty.

(c) There has been a substantial impact on pharma sector in terms of production, quality and cost competitiveness due to the various fiscal and non fiscal measures/incentives adopted from time to time by the Government. This has resulted in the fresh investments for manufacture of bulk drugs and formulations, setting up of facilities for R&D, enhanced quality as per the global regulations and more importantly increased domestic production and exports to large number of destinations around the world in a cost competitive manner.

Development of Tourist Spots in A&N

2291. SHRI MANORANJAN BHATKA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from private sector to develop tourists spots in Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any rules have been framed by the Union Government to identify the location and develop then as tourist spots; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Effect of CNG on Environment

2292. SHRI C.H. VIJAYASHANKAR:
DR. K. DHANARAJU:
SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA:

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

(a) whether the Government has assessed the improvement in the environment of Delhi by usage of CNG in vehicles;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has any scheme to encourage the use of CNG instead of diesel in other big cities also; and

(d) if so, the thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Ambient air quality data for the years 2003 and 2004, the years after the introduction of CNG, at Delhi's busiest traffic intersection at ITO indicate reduction in the levels of pollutants like Suspended Particulate Matter (SPM), Respirable Suspended Particulate Matter (RSPM) and Carbon Monoxide (CO). However, the level of Oxides of Nitrogen (NOx) and Particulate Matter still exceed the ambient air quality standards. This could be attributed to the rise in vehicle population.

(c) and (d) Pursuant to the Hon'ble Court's directions, 16 most polluted cities of the country have prepared action plans to improve the ambient air quality. Change over to cleaner fuels like Compressed Natural Gas (CNG)/ Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) etc. is one of the measures contemplated in the action plans.

Impact of Non-Release of Water in Cauvery

2293. SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that a large number of agricultural labours and agriculturists in Cauvery river belt of Tamil Nadu have lost their livelihood due to non release of water from cauvery for the past four years;

(b) if so, whether the Government is considering any proposal to compensate the affected agricultural labours and agriculturists; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

Plan for Double Agricultural Output

2294. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA:
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an action plan is under the consideration of the Government to double the agricultural output to meet the current challenges in the agricultural sector;

(b) if so, the estimated agricultural output during the current year;

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to provide additional funds for agricultural sector to help the farmers to raise the output;

(d) whether such States have been identified; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Keeping in view the importance of agriculture, the tenth Five-Year Plan has laid stress on raising the productivity of land and water resources on sustainable basis. Towards attaining this objective, emphasis has been given to increased cropping intensity in agriculture. Since the horticulture sector has a significant role in raising farm employment and income, the focus is on doubling horticulture production by 2011-12. The Mid-term Appraisal of the Tenth Plan has also underscored the fact that agricultural diversification has to be a major element in the strategy for accelerating agricultural growth which calls for action on several fronts:—

- Diversification to be area/region oriented, implying focus on agro-climatic region.
- Shift of land from cereals to non-cereals (increasing both farm income and employment) coupled with increased productivity in cereals to ensure adequate per capita availability.
- Shift to horticulture crops to be supported by marketing arrangements including private sector involvement in marketing, encouragement of down stream food processing and research linked to market requirements.

(b) The Mid-Term Appraisal of the Tenth Plan has projected a growth of 4 per cent for agriculture including allied sectors of forestry, logging and fishing in the year 2005-06.

(c) to (e) Since the scope of expanding net sown area in the country is limited, the emphasis is being given to increase in the crop productivity through transfer of latest available technology besides increasing the coverage under crops through inter-cropping and multiple cropping. The following schemes in which the assistance is provided to agriculture sector/farmers are implemented to raise the agriculture output:

1. Intensive Cotton Development Programme (Mini-Mission-II) of technology Mission on Cotton—The scheme is being implemented in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, U.P., West Bengal and Tripura.
2. On Farm Water Management for Increasing Crop Production in Eastern India—The scheme is being implemented in Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Manipur, Mizoram, Orissa, West Bengal and Eastern Uttar Pradesh.
3. Macro Management on Agriculture—This includes Integrated Development Programme for Cereals, Sugarcane and Jute etc. The pattern of assistance under Macro Management is in the ratio 90:10 between the Centre and State respectively except in the North-Eastern States which are given 100% Central assistance.

The aforesaid programmes/schemes are aimed at enhancing production and productivity of the agriculture sector according to specific needs of the States.

Release of Central Share for Gas Victims Schemes

2295. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE:
DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH:
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:

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

(a) whether expenditure on schemes being launched for gas victims of Bhopal Gas Tragedy will be borne by

the Union Government and Government of Madhya Pradesh in ratio of 75 and 25 per cent respectively;

(b) if so, whether 75 per cent of total expenditure is yet to be paid by the Union Government; and

(c) if so, by when it is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) The Central Government had approved a five year Action Plan for the Medical, Social, Economic and Environmental Rehabilitation of Bhopal Gas Victims with a total outlay of Rs. 163.10 crore which was subsequently increased in stages to an outlay of Rs. 258 crore. This outlay was to be shared between the Government of India and the State Government of Madhya Pradesh in the ratio of 75:25. The Central Government has already released its entire share of Rs. 193.50 crore and the Action Plan has been completed in the year 1999-2000.

Decline in Water Table

2296. SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:
SHRI MUNSHI RAM:
SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United Nations and the World Watch Institute has expressed apprehensions in their report about shortage of drinking water in India due to decline in water table thereby posing a threat of serious water crisis in the country as appearing in 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated June 15, 2005;

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

(c) whether the Government has conducted any survey in the districts of such States facing water crisis; and

(d) if so, the number of the States identified and the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. A long-term analysis of ground water levels by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), under the Ministry of Water Resources, during

the years 1995-2004, indicates significant decline (more than 20 cm/year) in ground water levels in 362 districts of 23 States/Union Territories. Decline in ground water level is one of the reasons for shortage of drinking water.

'Water' being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to formulate plans for augmenting water resources. The CGWB has prepared a report entitled "Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water", which envisages recharge of 36453 Million Cubic Meter volume of surplus monsoon runoff, through construction of 39.25 lakhs artificial recharge and roof top rain water harvesting structures. The CGWB has implemented a Central Sector Scheme for Study of Recharge to Ground Water in the country during the VIII & IX Five Year Plans. The following steps have also been taken by the Union Government in this regard:—

- (i) Circulation of a Model Bill in the year 1970 which was re-circulated in 1992 and again in 1996 to all the States/Union Territories to enable them to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development. A revised Model Bill, 2005 to regulate and control the development and management of ground water has been again circulated to all the States/Union Territories.
- (ii) Circulation of Manual/Guidelines on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend of ground water levels.
- (iii) Central Ministries/Departments of Railways, Defence, Posts, Telecommunications, Central Public Works Department and National Highways Authority of India have been requested to provide roof top rain water harvesting structures in the building under their control.
- (iv) States/UTs have been requested to provide water harvesting structures in buildings under this administrative control.
- (v) All the States/Union Territories have been requested for advising the local bodies in their respective States/Union Territories to allow rebate in property tax to persons, who adopt roof top rainwater harvesting in their premises.
- (vi) CGWB has provided technical guidance on rain water harvesting to around 2000 agencies, including State Government agencies, educational institutions, private entrepreneurs and individuals.
- (vii) The Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) constituted under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 has notified 11 critical areas on consideration of over-exploitation of ground water resources and 32 over-exploited areas for registration of ground water structures.
- (viii) Launching of a website on Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting (www.cgwb.net) to make aware and educate the public about various techniques of harvesting rainwater and store it for future use.
- (ix) Organisation of mass awareness programmes and training courses on rainwater harvesting and artificial recharge of ground water.
- (x) Rain Water Harvesting campaign has been launched keeping in view the various target groups like youth and children, women, farmers and villagers, policy and opinion makers. Publicity through print media, telecasting of spots on the televisions, broadcasting messages on radio, holding of seminars, workshops, conferences etc., have been undertaken for the purpose.
- (xi) The Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation, Government of India have amended Building Bye-laws, 1983, making provision for water harvesting through storing of water run-off including rain water in all new buildings on plots of 100 square meters and above in Delhi mandatory. Similarly, State Governments of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Rajasthan and Kerala have made roof top rain water harvesting mandatory in specified cases.
- (xii) For conservation of ground water based drinking water sources, 5% of total funds under the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) being released to the States is earmarked for source sustainability which inter-alia includes rain water harvesting, water conservation and artificial recharge.

*[English]***Conference on Ground Water Pollution**

2297. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
 SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
 SHRI UDAY SINGH:
 SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a National Conference on ground water pollution was held recently in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the recommendations made in the said conference to combat ground water pollution;

(c) whether according to a study conducted by the school of Environmental Studies, it has been found that samples of water contains variety of metals and heavy metals;

(d) if so, whether the Central Pollution Control Board have taken any steps in this regard; and

(e) the measures taken by the Union Government to implement these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) A Two days Workshop-cum-Conference on "Emerging Technologies for Controlling Ground Water Pollution: Drinking Water Prospectives" was organized by the Department of Civil Engineering, IIT Delhi on May 19-20, 2005. Recommendations emerged from workshop have highlighted the use of scientific methods involving modeling techniques, improved understanding of relation between containment's soil/aquifer media and hydro-geology environment and evaluating viability of emerging low cost water treatment technologies.

(c) School of Environmental Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi has carried out a study on ground water quality in vicinity of Bhalsava landfill site in Delhi. As per the study ground water samples contains iron, manganese, copper, lead, nickel and zinc. The study has also indicated that the concentrations of metal increase as approached towards landfill.

(d) The Central Pollution Control Board has also carried out a study on heavy metal levels in ground water samples surrounding the Bhalsava landfill site. The studies have indicated presence of iron and zinc. However, samples collected have shown signs of non traceable concentration in respect of lead, chromium and cadmium.

(e) As per Municipal Solid Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000, Municipal Corporation of Delhi is required to operate landfill site. The existing landfill site will have to be closed and new sites to be identified for future operations.

Modernisation of Durgapur Steel Plant

2298. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:
 SHRIMATI KALPNA RAMESH NARHIRE:
 SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has chalked out any plan for modernization of Durgapur Steel Plant in its corporate plan 2011-12;

(b) if so, details of action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard alongwith the amount involved therein;

(c) whether the Government has also decided to invest Rs. 600 crore for Salem Steel Plant; and

(d) if so, details of areas where the funds are proposed to be utilized and action taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) A total investment of Rs. 2840 crore has been planned for Durgapur Steel Plant under Corporate Plan 2011-12. Installation of Ladle Furnace and Bloom Caster, two Medium Structural Mill, New Bar & Rod Mills, New Billet Caster, Upgradation of Blast Furnace No. 1, Rebuilding of Coke Oven Battery No. 4 and Augmentation of Raw Material Handling, are some of the projects identified under this Plan.

(c) and (d) An investment of Rs. 1266 Crore has been planned for Salem Steel Plant under Corporate Plan 2011-12. The major areas of investment include Steel Making Facilities and New Cold Rolling Mill (CRM) Complex depending on their techno-economic viability.

[*Translation*]

Progress regarding Humid Land

2299. SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD:
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:

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

(a) whether the Government is considering to declare National Humid Land as conserved land/area in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The Ministry does not have any scheme for nor any concept of National Humid Lands. However, the Ministry has a scheme on "Conservation and Management of Wetlands". There is no proposal to declare wetlands as conserved lands/areas at present.

[*English*]

Dairy Industry

2300. SHRI ANANT GUDHE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Dairy Industry is faced with quality constraints, poor data base, inadequate Research and Development facilities, insufficient product development programmes and lack of infrastructure;

(b) if so, the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the schemes proposed to be launched to improve present status of Dairy Industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Due to small herd size and large geographical spread of the Indian milk producers, combined with the high ambient temperature, lack of adequate infrastructure with the regard to roads, electricity, water supply etc. in the

villages, quality of raw milk received is not as good as that in the developed nations. However with the increasing awareness about quality, steady improvement in quality both at production level and processing stage has been witnessed. The data are available on milk production, but the data on products manufactured especially in unorganized sector of the dairy industry is relatively scanty. India has very good Research and Development (R&D) facilities to cater to the needs of the dairy industry. However, for fully realizing the R&D potential of the relevant institutions, the dairy industry is required to come forward to avail of these facilities by contributing financially to R&D endeavour. A number of new products that have been developed could find a place in the Indian market if the industry is willing to invest in the technology. There is a need to encourage manufacturers of machinery and equipment of collaborate with R&D organizations to manufacture equipment for traditional dairy products with full participation of the user industry.

(b) and (c) Government of India is taking various remedial measures and have launched the following schemes to improve the present status of Dairy Industry:

- (i) Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries in Ministry of Agriculture is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Plan Scheme entitled Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production for improving the quality of raw milk by imparting training and creating awareness among milk producers and also by providing chilling facilities for immediate chilling of raw milk.
- (ii) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare under the Capacity Building Project funded by the World Bank is providing support for organizing training of industry personnel including those from dairy Sector by providing training and manual and financial support with the objective of improving the quality.
- (iii) Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing a scheme for Technology upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing industries including dairy industry. Under this scheme financial assistance is provided mainly for establishment and modernization of food processing units, creation of infrastructure and support for R&D.

- (iv) National Dairy Research Institute, an institute of Indian Council of Agricultural Research is developing a scheme, namely Technology Business Incubator with the support of Department of Science and Technology (Government of India) for enabling technology transfer by providing appropriate support.

Production of Grapes

2301. SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY:
SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHANA:
SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has evolved a strategy to optimize cultivation and production of grapes and grape products;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to implement the same and protect the interests of the growers;

(c) the funds allocated for the purpose during 2005-06, state-wise; and

(d) the area under cultivation of grapes of different varieties in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and other States during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) (b) (c) Government has launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "National Horticulture Mission" with effect from 2005-06 to address the over all development of horticulture in the country. The scheme envisages development of fruits including grapes duly ensuring end to end approach covering production, post harvest management and marketing. An allocation of Rs. 630.00 crore has been provided under NHM for the year 2005-06. State-wise allocation has not been made.

(d) The State-wise available data on area under cultivation of grapes during the last three year is given in the enclosed Statement. The main variety of grapes being grown in three states are Thompson Seedless, Bangalore Blue and Anab-e-Shahi.

Statement

State-wise area of Grapes (000' HAC)

Name of State	Year		
	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
Maharashtra	29.8	32.5	35.2
Karnataka	8.2	10.0	9.7
Andhra Pradesh	1.6	1.6	1.7
Tamil Nadu	2.4	2.4	2.4
Punjab	1.4	1.4	1.3
Haryana	1.2	1.1	0.9
Madhya Pradesh	0.1	0.1	0.1
Mizoram	0.1	0.2	0.3
Jammu and Kashmir	0.2	0.2	0.2
Others	0.2	0.1	0.2
Total	45.2	49.6	52.0

Sources: National Horticulture Board

Opening of Farmers School

2302. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering the recommendations of National Agriculture Commission for opening farmers school all over the country for training and providing required agri based information to the farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which this process is likely to be completed; and

(c) the details of such schools to be opened in Karnataka, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Based on the recommendation of the National Commission on Agriculture, 1976, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has established a network

of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK) in the country. The KVK aims at technology assessment and refinement through on farm testing to identify the location specificity of technologies under various farming systems, frontline demonstrations to establish the production potential of improved agricultural technology on the farmers' fields, training of farmers to update their knowledge and skills and training of extension personnel to orient them in the frontier areas of technology development. The Government has approved establishment of KBKs in 578 rural districts of the country during X Plan. The ICAR has already sanctioned KVKs in 488 rural districts.

(c) 25 KVKs have been established in Karnataka. The districts covered with KVKs in Karnataka are: Belgaun, Bellary, Bidar, Chikmagalur, Gudag, Hassan, Haveri, Kogadu, Kolar, Mysore, Raichur, Bijapur, Chitradurga, Gulbarga, Mandya, Shimoga, Tumkur, Udupi, Uttara Kannada, Dharwad, Koppal, Chamarajnaragar, Davanagere, Dakshina Kannada and Bagalkot.

[*Translation*]

Living Conditions of Mine Workers

2303. SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted on the health of mine workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any survey has been recently conducted on the living and health conditions of these people living in areas near the mines; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO): (a) The Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) has conducted survey on health of mine workers.

(b) In the past, five surveys had been carried out by DGMS in the below ground coal and metalliferous mines. Their details are as below:—

Sl.No.	Type of Mines	Year	Nature of Survey	Suspected cases of Notified Diseases Detected
1.	Asbestos Mine (Cuddappah Area)	1990	Medical Examination including Chest X-ray, Lung Foundation Test, etc. for Asbestosis.	32
2.	Mechanized Coal Mines	1991-1993	Review of Chest Radiographs of Coal workers for Pneumoconiosis	197
3.	Gold	2001-2003	Review of Medical and other Records for Silicosis	313
4.	Uranium	2002	Review of Medical Records for Silicosis	09
5.	Zinc	2001-2004	Medical Examination including Chest X-ray, Lung Function Text, Audiometry etc. for Silicosis	131

(c) and (d) The DGMS only monitors implementation of the provisions of the Mines Act, 1952 and Rules & Regulations framed thereunder. These provisions provide

for the regulation of health conditions of miners only. The health condition of people living in areas near the mines does not fall within their jurisdictions.

Per-Capita Consumption of Foodgrains

2304. SHRI PONNU LAL MOHALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the per capita consumption of foodgrains for the people living Below Poverty Line (BPL) is less than the foodgrains made available to them through Public Distribution System (PDS);

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

(c) the per capita consumption of foodgrains among the people living Below Poverty Line and Above Poverty Line in the country separately;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to increase the availability of foodgrains for people living Below Poverty Line at par with people living Above Poverty Line;

(e) whether such a situation persists due rampant corruption in the foodgrains distribution among BPL families; and

(f) if so, the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Survey of Stray Animals in Delhi

2305. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that certain rare wildlife animals and birds stray in Delhi without getting any attention of the forest officials;

(b) if so, whether any survey has been conducted of such animals and birds; and

(c) the steps being taken to track such animals and birds and to rescue them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No, Sir. Necessary steps under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, are taken by the official of Forest Department of National Capital Territory of Delhi whenever such straying is reported.

(b) No, Sir. No such survey has been conducted by the Department as such cases are very few.

(c) Assistance of National Zoological Park, Non Governmental Organizations and Police is taken to track and rescue such animals and birds.

More Fair Price Shops

2306. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering any plan for opening more Fair Price Shops (FPS) in the country during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of FPS as on date, State-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the manner in which the Government proposes to overcome the problem of shortage of FPS 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) In the Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS), which is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State Governments, the responsibility of opening of Fair Price Shops (FPS) to provide easy access of foodgrains to the consumers rests with the respective State Governments.

The number of Fair Price Shops, State-wise given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

(As on 20.7.2005)

Sl.No.	State/UT	No. of FPSs
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	40814
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1444
3.	Assam	33229
4.	Bihar	41818
5.	Chhattisgarh	7869
6.	Delhi	3010
7.	Goa	522
8.	Gujarat	14131
9.	Haryana	7695
10.	Himachal Pradesh	4137
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	3927
12.	Jharkhand	14395
13.	Karnataka	20621
14.	Kerala	14147
15.	Madhya Pradesh	18688
16.	Maharashtra	50160
17.	Manipur	2551
18.	Meghalaya	4302
19.	Mizoram	1028
20.	Nagaland	401
21.	Orissa	25186
22.	Punjab	13874
23.	Rajasthan	20903
24.	Sikkim	1071
25.	Tamil Nadu	27995
26.	Tripura	1446

1	2	3
27.	Uttaranchal	7332
28.	Uttar Pradesh	74788
29.	West Bengal	20424
30.	Andman and Nicobar Islands	488
31.	Chandigarh	26
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	78
33.	Daman and Diu	51
34.	Lakshadweep	35
35.	Pondicherry	410
Total		478996

*[Translation]***National Fertilizers Limited**

2307. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Fertilizer Limited (NFL), Nangal is the largest urea producing company;

(b) whether NFL, Nangal also produces kisan fertilizer in addition to urea manure;

(c) if so, whether kisan fertilizer is being used by the farmers in huge quantity;

(d) if so, whether the Government has finalised the plan to shut down and breaking the said factory;

(e) if so, whether this decision is likely to increase unemployment and unavailability of fertilizers to the farmers causing them hardship; and

(f) if so, the steps 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) National Fertilizers Ltd. (NFL) is the second largest urea producing company in the country.

(b) The Nangal unit of FNL has facilities to produce Calcium Ammonium Nitrate (CAN) fertilizers under the

brand name of 'Kisan Khad'. However, the production of Kisan Khad has been stopped due to non-availability of ammonia and its economic unviability.

(c) NFL has produced/sold 13,819 MTs of Kisan Khad during 2004-05 which was 4.3% of the installed capacity.

(d) The company has decided to shut down 'Kisan Khad (CAN)' plant temporarily.

(e) and (f) The manpower of this unit will be utilized in other units of the Nangal plant by NFL. While the decision will reduce availability of CAN from Nangal to the extent of 13,819 MTs, this shortfall is expected to be made up by increased supplies from other sources as CAN is a deregulated and controlled fertilizer.

[English]

Appointment on Compassionate Grounds

2308. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has fixed quota for appointment on compassionate grounds for dependents of deceased employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of such appointments made in the Ministry during each of the last three years and the current year, year-wise;

(d) the number of appointments lying pending/under consideration/rejected during the said period; and

(e) the reasons for not considering all the cases of appointment on compassionate grounds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. According to the existing instructions of the Government, compassionate appointments can be made upto a maximum of 5% of vacancies falling under Direct Recruitment Quota in any Group 'C' or 'D' post.

(c) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Fishing Harbours in Maharashtra

2309. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of locations of fishing harbours operating in Maharashtra during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government proposes to set up some more fishing harbour in the State during 2005-06; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Three fishing harbours viz. Sassoon Dock and New Ferry Wharf (Bhaucha Dhakka) in Mumbai District and Ratnagiri (Mirkarwada) in Ratnagiri District are functioning in Maharashtra during last three years.

(b) and (c) The Government of Maharashtra have indicated their intention to set up six fishing harbours and to upgrade one existing fishing harbour as per the details given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Sl.No.	Place proposed for development of Fishing Harbours	Name of District	Status
1	2	3	4
1.	Deogad (Anandwadi)	Sindhudurg	The Government of Maharashtra is to submit techno-economically viable
2.	Ratnagiri (Mirkarwada) Stage-II	Ratnagiri	
3.	Sakharinate	Ratnagiri	

1	2	3	4
4.	Harnai	Ratnagiri	proposal together with confirmation on availability of land, environmental clearance and adequate budgetary provisions in the State Budget.
5.	Jeevana	Raigad	
6.	Karanja	Raigad	
7.	Arnala	Thane	

Slaughter House

2310. SHRI SITARAM SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of proposals from State regarding removing of slaughter houses are pending with the Union Government for a long time;

(b) if so, the details and present status thereof;

(c) the details of such slaughter houses whose displacement proposals have been approved; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to dispose of the pending proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The State Governments/local bodies being the licensing authority for establishing slaughter houses, they take the decision regarding removal of slaughter houses. This Ministry does not grant permission to States for removal of slaughter houses and hence, no such proposals are pending.

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

[English]

Proposal regarding Allocation of Funds

2311. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the State Government of Gujarat regarding allocation of funds for the development of National Parks, prevention of forest, security, forest development etc.;

(b) if so, the details of the same;

(c) whether the Union Government has considered these proposal of the State Government;

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Union Government in this regard; and

(e) the funds being released to the Gujarat Government for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposals received from the State Government of Gujarat during 2005-06 under the ongoing plan schemes of the Ministry of Environment & Forests are as follows:

Sl.No.	Name of the Scheme	No. of Proposals	Amount (Rs. in Lakhs)
1.	Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries	1	572.71
2.	National Afforestation Programme	1	143.67

(c) and (d) The proposals are under various stages of examination.

(e) A sum of Rs. 62 lakhs have been released under National Afforestation Scheme as on 31st July 2005.

Rising Steel Prices

2312. SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up a high level marketing group to monitor the impact of rising steel prices and suggest ways to reduce construction cost of projects;

(b) whether the Government has revised the rates of steel prevalent for Government contracts; and

(c) if so, the details/effects thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI) had constituted an Expert Working Group to develop a generic trigger mechanism to deal with the price rise of bulk construction materials and to evolve a contractual provision to reduce the incidence of time and cost overruns in construction projects. However, subsequently, the MOSPI with the approval of Committee of Secretaries has brought out a Contract Document for Domestic Bidding containing guidelines on Standard Contract Clauses and Standard General Contract Conditions. The 'Contract Document' inter-alia, provides in-built mechanism for price escalation in important items including cement and steel during the course of implementation of any project.

Incentives to Scientists in ICAR

2313. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is giving incentives to scientists working in Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR), such as ICAR for the research resulted products which have become commercially profitable; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Several incentives have already been initiated by giving awards for recognition of individual merit, institution development, outstanding research, application in dry land agriculture, diversified agriculture, outstanding agricultural research in tribal areas etc. There are also specific schemes for incentives to individual scientists and institution including young scientists, women agricultural scientists, farmers and excellence in journalism in agricultural research and development. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has instituted 89 Awards including 40 annual and 49 biennial, to recognize and reward the performance of its institutions, scientists and even farmers and a journalist.

Improvement of Environmental System

2314. SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Environmental System is vulnerable to natural disaster;

(b) whether the amount sanctioned under UNDP/GEF Budget is increasing continuously for the last several years;

(c) if so, the details of the funds received during the last three years and the current year; and

(d) the measures being taken by the Government to minimize the effect of natural disasters on the environment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The environment in general is vulnerable to natural disasters.

(b) The sanctioned budget of UNDP/GEF has been increasing since 2003.

(c) The amount sanctioned under UNDF/GEF budget for last three years including the current year (2003, 2004 and 2005) is as given below:

Year	Amount Sanctioned (In USD)
2003	21,98,696
2004	26,63,685
2005	57,57,632

(d) The important measures taken by the Government inter-alia are:—

- (i) Regulatory framework for ensuring environmental safeguards for minimizing loss to life and property.
- (ii) Shelter Belt Plantations.
- (iii) Afforestation Measures.
- (iv) Coral and Mangrove Conservation.
- (v) Early Warning System.
- (vi) Forest Protection.
- (vii) Land Use Planning.

Revival of Sick Units of FCI

2315. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the performance of each fertilizer units under Fertilizer Corporation of India (FCI) during the last three years;

(b) whether some of those fertilizer units have fallen sick;

(c) if so, since when and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the effort made to revive said units?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) None of the units of Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCI) located at Gorakhpur (Uttar Pradesh), Ramagundam (Andhra Pradesh), Talcher (Orissa), Sindri (Jharkhand) and Korba (Chhattisgarh) were in operation during the last three years.

(b) and (c) FCI was declared sick by Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction in November, 1992 under the provisions of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 as the company was incurring continuous losses due to technological, design and equipment deficiencies, frequent equipment breakdowns, increase in the cost of liquid petroleum products, power shortages, industrial relations problems, and surplus manpower and resource constraints.

(d) Keeping in view the National Common Minimum Programme of the UPA Government, Projects and Development India Ltd. was commissioned to prepare the revival report for the closed units of FCI. The revival of the units of FCI will depend on the outcome of the examination of the report.

[Translation]

Proposal for Food Parks

2316. SHRI GANESH SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government had received any proposal from the Madhya Pradesh Government for establishment of Food Processing Parks in Bina, Chainpura, Morena, Gwalior and Jabalpur in the year 2002;

(b) if so, whether the State Government has furnished the information required by the Union Government;

(c) if so, the reasons for not considering these proposals till now; and

(d) the time by which the Union Government is likely to clear the said proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d) Ministry of Food Processing Industries, under its Plan Schemes provides financial assistance in the form of grant in aid for provision of common facilities in Food Parks. The proposals for establishment of Food Parks at Bina, Chainpura, Morena, Gwalior and Jabalpur were received as per the IX Plan guidelines prevailing then. These proposals could not be considered for assistance due to incomplete details in the proposals.

During the Tenth Plan period, no proposals for setting up of Food Parks at the above locations have been received as per the revised extant guidelines. The Ministry has so far approved 6 Food Parks in Madhya Pradesh for providing assistance-at Jaggakhedi, District Mandsaur, Nimrani, District Khargone, Pipria & Babai District Hoshangabad, Borgaon, District Chhindwara, Maneri, District Mandla and Malanpur-Ghirongi, District Bhand. A total of 50 food parks have been sanctioned for the country as a whole.

Goods with Fake ISI Mark

2317. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether spurious goods carrying fake ISI mark are being freely circulated in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, whether the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has recently raised some shops/establishments involved in the sale of such spurious products;

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

(d) the action taken against the guilty; and

(e) the steps being taken to check such practice in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) to (c) BIS has constantly been making efforts to stop the sale of spurious ISI marked products by regularly conducting raids on shops/establishments including the premises of such manufacturers in the various parts of the country and the material is seized. In the financial year 2004-05, BIS conducted 217 raids throughout the country and seized the fake ISI marked material, wherever found. After collecting the requisite evidences, cases are filed in respective courts of law for prosecuting the offenders. During the current year, 57 raids have been conducted in various parts of the country up to 31 July 2005.

(d) Necessary legal action is initiated against the offenders under Section 11 and 12 of the BIS Act, 1986 by lodging prosecution proceedings in the appropriate Courts of Law.

(e) BIS conducts regular search and seizure operations on all India basis with the help of local police to curb sale of spurious ISI marked products. Various consumer awareness initiatives have also been launched through print and electronic media to educate the common consumers about the fake ISI mark/misuse of ISI mark by unscrupulous manufactures.

Scheme for Development of Aurangabad

2318. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the Government of Maharashtra for the development of Paithan City of Aurangabad from tourism point of view;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the planning commission has sought more proposals from State Governments for development of the cities for tourism;

(d) if so, the response of the State Government thereto;

(e) whether the Government of Maharashtra had proposed development of some roads of Aurangabad city and nearby through the ministry under the Ajanta Ellora Development Plan Phase II funded by JBIC; and

(f) 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) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) The Government of India entered into loan agreement on 9.1.1992 with JBIC for Ajanta Ellora Conservation and Tourism Development project (Phase I). The OECF loan assistance was to the tune of 3745 million Japanese Yen. The project was completed at a total cost of Rs. 127.50 crores in March, 2002. For Phase II, JBIC has agreed to provide the loan assistance of Rs. 299 crore (approximately Japanese Yen 7331 million). The places to be covered are Ajanta, Ellora, Aurangabad, Daulatabad, Patnadevi, Lonar, Nasik, Pune, Elephanta caves, Bhaja and Bedsa, Shivneri, Malshej and Kolvan in Maharashtra.

[English]

Contribution of Agriculture Sector In Growth Rate

2319. SHRI M. SHIVANNA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government continues to deregulate the industrial and services sector, pushing the growth rates to more stable and sustainable levels and has completely neglected agricultural sector which supports 58% of the work force;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the corrective measures being contemplated by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The Government has taken a number of measures to achieve higher growth rate in all sectors of the economy including that of agriculture. These, inter-alia, include emphasis on enhanced public investment diversifying agriculture, promotion of public/private partnership for infrastructure development, liberalization of foreign direct investment (FDI) and facilitating growth in industries and services sector through enabling policy environment. The Mid Term Appraisal of the Tenth Five-Year Plan deliberated upon by the National Development Council has proposed broad based agenda covering all facets of the economy including agriculture, irrigation, rural development, infrastructure and industry. The various measures are expected to have a favourable impact in the economy.

(c) Keeping in view the importance of agriculture, the Tenth Five Year Plan has laid stress on raising the productivity of land and water resources on a sustainable basis. Towards attaining this objective, emphasis has been given to increased cropping intensity in agriculture. Thrust areas which have been identified for focused and priority attention include micro irrigation technology comprising drip and sprinkler irrigation, agriculture credit, horticulture with focus on backward and forward linkages, development/strengthening of agriculture marketing infrastructure, grading and standardization, and agriculture research. Besides, to ensure the remunerative prices for major agricultural commodities, all efforts are made by the Government to announce Minimum Support Prices well before the commencement of the sowing season.

Clearance to National Waterways

2320. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain national waterways of the country have been given environmental clearance recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith proposals for the other waterways pending for environmental clearance; and

(c) the reasons for delay in clearing them and the time by which the pending proposals for new National Waterways would be cleared?

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

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Programme of Integrated Pest Management

2321. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the environment-friendly pest control measures adopted in India under the massive programme of Integrated Pest Management;

(b) the role of the Government in this regard;

(c) the outcome of this programme and its limitations; and

(d) the steps being taken to improve this programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) Government of India has adopted Integrated Pest Management (IPM), encompassing cultural, mechanical and biological methods and need based use of chemical pesticides, as the cardinal principle and main plank of plant protection in the country. The main measures adopted under the IPM programme are as under:-

(1) Popularizing IPM approach among the farming community.

(2) Conducting regular pest surveillance and monitoring to assess pest/disease situation.

(3) Rearing biological control agents for their field use and conservation of naturally occurring bio-agents.

(4) Promotion of bio-pesticides and neem based pesticides as alternative to chemical pesticides.

(5) Inclusion of bio-pesticides in the Schedule to the Insecticides Act, 1968 with a view to ensure their quality.

(6) To play a catalytic role in spread of innovative IMP skills to extension workers and farmers.

- (7) Human Resource Development in IPM by imparting training to master trainers, extension workers and farmers through Farmers/Field Schools (FFSs).
- (8) Organisation of FFSs through Krishi Vigyan Kendras/Non Governmental Organizations/State Agricultural Universities/Indian Council of Agricultural Research.
- (9) Organisation of short duration course for pesticides dealers/NGOs/Graduates/Post-graduates/Private Entrepreneurs and progressive farmers.
- (10) Season Long Training (SLT) programmes on major agricultural/horticultural crops have also been earmarked for extension workers of the State Government.
- (11) The Central Integrated Pest Management Centres under the Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine & Storage are involved in carrying out the above activities.
- (12) Release of grants-in-aid to State for establishment of State Bio-control Laboratories.
- (13) Release of grants-in-aid to Non-Governmental Organizations for establishment of Bio-control laboratories.

A total of 9,111 Farmers' Schools (FFSs) have been conducted by the Central Integrated Pest Management Centres under the Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine & Storage from 1994-95 to 2004-05 wherein 37,281 Agricultural Extension Officers and 2,75,056 farmers have been trained in IPM. Similar trainings have also been provided under various crop production programmes of the Government of India and the State Governments.

The limitations of this programme are as under:—

- (1) Techniques of mass rearing of several bio-control agents are still not well developed.
- (2) The production of bio pesticides and bio control agents in the country is insufficient.
- (3) The life span of bio control agents is limited. Their conservation for longer periods of time is not possible.

- (4) The availability of facilities for production of bio control agents and bio pesticides is limited.
- (5) The impact of bio control agents and bio pesticides is slow.

Working Conditions of Fishing Sector

2322. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the whether the conference of International Labour Organization held in 2004 established new international legal instruments revising the existing ILO conventions and recommendations for improvement and safety and working conditions of fishing sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the above subject had been discussed in the ILO Conference;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) whether further improvement in the working conditions of fishing sector have been approved at the said conference;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the extent to which these recommendations are likely to improve the working conditions of fishermen in the country?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO): (a) to (g) The International Labour Conference of the ILO held in 2004 discussed the various ILO instruments which were necessary for being established to improve the safety and working conditions of persons working in the fishing sector. These discussions were held in the Conference of 2004 as a first discussion to identify the areas where suitable measures for improving safety and working conditions in the fishing sector could be specifically drawn up. The Conference then decided to discuss various instruments in the International Labour Conference of 2005. These instruments after their adoption and after suitable amendments in the national laws in the fishing sector is expected to help to improve the conditions at work for the fisher folk.

Setting up of Subsidiaries under NDDB

2323. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA:
SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the subsidiaries proposed to be set up under the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) as on date;

(b) whether the Government is aware that Ministries differ on the issue to form subsidiaries by NDDB as reported in the Hindi—Businessline dated July 07, 2005;

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

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to expand the activities of NDDB?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) NDDB does not propose to set up any subsidiary as on date.

(b) to (d) The issue is whether prior approval of the Government of India is required in case of a subsidiary of NDDB floating another subsidiary company. According to Ministry of Company Affairs, the subsidiary of NDDB, namely, Mother Dairy Fruits and Vegetables Ltd. (MDFVL) can form further subsidiary companies without prior approval of the Government of India, as its Memorandum of Association (MOA) and Articles of Association do not prohibit floating of further subsidiaries. Ministry of Law & Justice, is of the opinion that under Section 43 of NDDB Act, the Central Government's approval shall be required every time the NDDB desires to form one or more companies either by itself or in conjunction with any of its subsidiaries. The Ministry of Law & Justice has not addressed the issue of a subsidiary of NDDB floating another subsidiary company. Hence, the Ministry of Law & Justice has been requested to furnish their considered opinion in the matter.

(e) The activities in NDDB are carried out as per provisions of NDDB Act, 1987.

[Translation]

Krishi Vigyan Kendras

2324. SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI:
SHRIMATI SUSHEELA BANGRAU LAXMAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) presently in Rajasthan;

(b) whether the State Government has requested to set up two KVKs in two districts of the State namely Karoli and Sriganganagar;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to set up additional KVKs without disturbing the existing Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in Rajasthan; and

(d) if so, by when the said KVKs are 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 KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has sanctioned 32 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), covering all the rural districts of Rajasthan.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The Government's policy is to set up one Krishi Vigyan Kendra in every rural district as, per India as in 2002, subject to the availability of funds.

[English]

Setting up of Aqua Farmers Development Board

2325. SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up National Aqua Farmers Development Board to protect and promote the interests of aqua farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether there is any proposal to give agriculture status to aquaculture; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) There is no proposal for setting up National Aqua Farmers' Development Board. However, an Act has recently been passed by the Parliament for the establishment of a Coastal Aquaculture Authority for regulating the activities connected with coastal aquaculture in the coastal areas and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

(d) and (e) Fisheries and Aquaculture is a State Subject and as such, no proposal is with the Government for giving agriculture status to aquaculture.

Procurement of Cotton

2326. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the essential quantity of cotton that would be procured by Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) and other Government agencies during the next one year;

(b) whether the Government has any proposal to revise the import duty on cotton; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) It is too early to assess the essential quantity of cotton that would be procured by Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) and other Government agencies during the next one year *i.e.* the marketing year 2005-06 (October-September) because the price that may prevail *vis-a-vis* Minimum Support Price (MSP) next year depends on world cotton scenario *vis-a-vis* domestic cotton scenario.

(b) and (c) The current rate of import duty on cotton is 10 per cent. The import duty on cotton is decided on the basis of the need to protect domestic producers and also to make available raw material to users at reasonable prices.

12.01 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 3 of the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952:

- (1) Report of Justice Nanavati Commission of Inquiry set up to inquire into certain matters connected with riots which took place in the National Capital Territory of Delhi and other parts of the country on and after 31st October, 1984 in the wake of assassination of Smt. Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister of India.
- (2) Memorandum of Action Taken on the above Report.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 2449/05]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri George Fernandes, I have received your notice. The rules do not permit that. But, I will request you to give another notice so that a proper discussion can take place.

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Brahmaputra Board, Guwahati, for the year 2003-2004, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Brahmaputra Board, Guwahati, for the year 2003-2004.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 2450/05]

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHARY): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between India Tourism Development Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Tourism for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 2451/05]

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) Review by the Government of the working of the India Tourism Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004.

(ii) Annual Report of the India Tourism Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 2452/05]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Maharashtra Agro-Industries Development Corporation Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2001-2002.

(ii) Annual Report of the Maharashtra Agro-Industries Development Corporation Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2001-2002, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 2453/05]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Kerala Agro-Industries Corporation Limited, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 1999-2000.

(ii) Annual Report of the Kerala Agro-Industries Corporation Limited, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 1999-2000, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (2) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 2454/05]

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Item No. 6. Shri Taslimuddin to lay the paper.

Dr. Akhilesh Prasad Singh, you have not taken my permission. It will not be allowed. I will take strong view of this.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Pollution Control Board, Delhi, for the year 2003-2004, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 2455/05]

- (3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 26 of the Environment (Protection) Act 1986:-

(i) The Environment (Protection) Amendment Rules, 2005 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 272 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th May, 2005.

(ii) The Environment (Protection) Second Amendment Rules, 2005 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 315 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th May, 2005.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 2456/05]

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): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Bureau of Indian Standards (Recruitment to Administration, Finance and Other Posts) Amendment Regulations, 2005 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 275 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th May, 2005 under section 39 of the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 2457/05]

12.03 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

(i) Status of Implementation of Recommendations Contained in the Second Report of Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution

[English]

*THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): Sir, I am making this statement on the status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Second Report of Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution, Department of Consumer Affairs in pursuance of direction 73A of the hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha issued vide Lok Sabha Bulletin-Part-II, dated September, 01 2004.

A Statement indicating the action taken/status of all the recommendations contained in the Second Report of the Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution, Department of Consumer Affairs is annexed. It may be noted that the report contains 13 recommendations. These recommendations of the Committee have been examined carefully by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Department of Consumer Affairs. As many as 12 recommendations have been accepted fully and action taken thereon has been indicated. Only one recommendation was accepted partially for reasons mentioned against this recommendation in the attached annexure. (Sl.No. 4)

**(Also Placed in Library, See No. LT 2458/05).*

The action taken replies have been sent to the Committee on 25.11.2004. This was presented by the Chairman of the Standing Committee to the Lok Sabha on 27.4.2005 and laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha on the same day.

12.04 hrs.

(ii) Status of Implementation of Recommendations Contained in the Third Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture

*THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): Sir, I am making this statement on the status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Third Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries) in pursuance of the direction 73A of the hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha vide Lok Sabha Bulletin-Part II dated September 01, 2004.

The Third Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (14th Lok Sabha) was presented to Lok Sabha on 17th August, 2004. The report relates to the examination of Demands for Grants of Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries) for the year 2004-05.

Action Taken Statement on the recommendations/ observations contained in the report of the Committee had been sent to the Standing Committee on Agriculture on 22.11.2004

There are 21 recommendations made by the Committee in the said report where action is called for on the part of the Government. These recommendations mainly pertain to issues like augmentation of budgetary resources, functioning of central cattle breeding farms, enhanced allocation for poultry schemes, implementation of piggery scheme, Integrated Dairy Development Project, Delhi Milk Scheme, separate Ministry of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, setting up of ICVR etc.

The present status of implementation of the various recommendations made by the Committee is indicated in the Annexure to my Statement, which is laid on the Table of the House. I would request that this might be considered as read.

**(Also placed in Library, See No. LT 2459/05).*

MR. SPEAKER: Well, I am thankful to the hon. Minister.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Sir, we are only asking that the Report has been tabled but the same is not available from the publication counter.

MR. SPEAKER: It should be available. Just now, it has been tabled. I have been assured that it will be available at the publication counter.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: By what time?

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot answer you that.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Sir, they cannot answer even after tabling the Nanavati Commission Report!

MR. SPEAKER: In the presence of all the hon. Members, I am instructing my office to see that, as soon as possible, the copies of report are available at the publication counter.

Now, I wish to compliment the Ministry of Agriculture and the other Ministry, which Mr. Shard Pawar is heading, because regularly he is submitting the Reports. And, I wish to give a little notice to all other hon. Ministers that I am scrutinising their performance. If there is remissness, they will have to face an angry Speaker!

12.06

(iii) Status of Implementation of Recommendations Contained in the First and Third Reports of Standing Committee on Labour

[English]

*THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): Sir, I am making this statement on the status of implementation of recommendations contained in the First and Third Reports

of the Standing Committee on Labour, as per Direction dated 1st September, 2004, issued by the hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha in pursuance of Rule 389 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha on 1st September, 2004.

The First and Third Reports of the Committee concern the Ministry of Labour and Employment, which were presented to the House on 19th August, 2004 and 22nd March, 2005 respectively. I would like to mention that the Ministry had submitted, to the Committee, the Action Taken Report on the First Report, on 15th December, 2004, which has been taken note of by the Committee in their Third Report. Our Action Taken Report on the Third Report has also been submitted to the Committee on 10th June 2005.

The status of implementation of the recommendations of the Committee, contained in the First and Third Reports, is indicated in the Annexure to my statement, circulated among hon. Members. I would not like to take the valuable time of the House to read out all the contents of this Annexure. I would request that this might be considered as read.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you.

12.07 hrs.

(iv) Statement Correcting reply to Unstarred Question No. 6573 dated 09.05.2005 Re: Indira Sagar Gosikhurd Irrigation Project of Maharashtra

[Translation]

*THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): Sir, I beg to lay a statement on the Table correcting the reply given on May 09, 2005 to Unstarred Question No. 6573 by Shri Hansraj G. Ahir, M.P. regarding Indira Sagar Gosikhurd Irrigation Project of Maharashtra.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, we will take up Calling Attention—Shri P. Karunakaran.

...(Interruptions)

* (Also placed in Library, See No. LT 2460/05).

*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT 2461/05.

12.08 hrs.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): Sir, I have given a privilege motion.

MR. SPEAKER: We will come to it after the Calling Attention.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: It will be a long time.

MR. SPEAKER: Long wait; I cannot help you.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (Kasargod): Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Labour and Employment to the following matter of urgent public importance...

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Mollah, if you want to raise that motion, I have admitted the motion.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): What about our motion of privilege? ...(Interruptions)

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Sir, give me one minute please. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have admitted it.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: At least, let me mention that our former Secretary-General of Lok Sabha, Mr. Subhash C. Kashyap had made very, very unfortunate and derogatory comments against the Chair and imputed motives, on 4th evening of August, 2005 on *Star News Channel*. I have collected all the material.

MR. SPEAKER: Okay; all right.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Sir, I think, it is a serious breach of privilege and it should be taken care of.

MR. SPEAKER: It is being examined.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: It should be sent to the Privilege Committee. Thank you Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Calling Attention—Shri Karunakaran.

12.11 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Situation arising out of problems being faced by the Beedi workers in the country, particularly in Kerala and steps taken by the Government in regard thereto

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (Kasargod): Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Labour and Employment to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The Situation prevailing in the Beedi Industry and problems being faced by the Beedi workers in the country, particularly in Kerala and steps taken by the Government in regard thereto."

*THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Beedi Industry in primarily a rural based labour intensive industry, which provides employment to about 4.9 million workers mainly in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. The Beedi Workers Welfare Fund Act, 1976 has been enacted to provide for financing of measures to promote the welfare of beedi workers. Several welfare schemes have been formulated to extend health, housing, educational, social security, maternity benefits etc., to beedi workers and their family members. As reported, the beedi industry has been undergoing a situation of crisis for quite sometimes. In some places, beedi workers are not getting work for sufficient days in a month. Since these workers comprise mainly weaker sections, the SCs/STs, minorities etc., which are from the most vulnerable sections of the society, are unable to sustain this situation.

The beedi workers are generally deprived of any institutionalised form of social security as these workers earn bare minimum to make the two ends meet. Due to their poor living conditions and hazardous nature of work, they are exposed to various kinds of occupational diseases in addition to diseases generally found amongst population of similar socio-economic background.

There are certain legislations, which take care of the interest of these workers. The Minimum Wages Act, 1948 provides for payment of minimum wages as notified by the respective State Governments. Whenever any complaint regarding non-payment by the minimum wages etc., is received by the Government, the same is referred to the respective State Governments for corrective action. The Director General, Labour Welfare and his officers during their tours in the beedi worker concentrated areas, meet and take first hand information about payment of minimum wages and implementation of various welfare schemes being run for them, and give suitable directions to the field staff. Otherwise also, we have been requesting the State Governments from time to time to effectively enforce the provisions of legislations applicable to beedi workers.

Regarding coverage under provident fund, there is a large gap between the identified beedi workers and those covered under provident fund. We have been conducting special drives for covering more beedi workers under the ambit of PF coverage. 1.2 lakh beedi workers have been covered under provident fund during such a driven conducted between January to March, 2005.

Under the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund Act, 1976, several initiatives have been taken to increase the coverage of various welfare schemes and liberalized the schemes. There is a Central Advisory Committee comprising representatives of beedi workers, employers and Government for considering the problems coming in the way of effective implementation of welfare schemes as well as beedi industry as a whole, and to suitably advise the Government. There has been a steady increase in the expenditure on welfare of beedi workers which has risen from the level of around Rs. 50 crore in 2000-01 to Rs. 88.88 crore in 2004-05. To meet the additional requirement of funds for financing this, the rate of cess levied on manufactured beedis has been enhanced from Rs. 2/-per thousand to Rs. 4/-per thousand with effect from 01.04.2005. With this enhancement, we would be able to garner an additional Rs. 7—7.5 crore per annum towards the welfare cess.

Health care is provided to the beedi workers and their dependents through four hospitals and 206 dispensaries all over the country. Three more hospitals, at Mukkudal in Tamil Nadu, Sagar in Madhya Pradesh

and Bihar Sharif in Bihar, are nearing completion. In addition, liberal reimbursement for medical expenditure on treatment of serious diseases like heart ailment, kidney transplantation and cancer etc., incurred in recognized hospitals are available. The maximum limit of reimbursement is Rs. 1.30 lakh for heart ailment; Rs. 2 lakh for kidney transplantation, and for cancer the full cost of treatment is reimbursed. Women beedi workers are entitled to maternity benefit amounting to Rs. 1000/ up to two deliveries. An amount of Rs. 5,000 is granted to widow of beedi worker for conducting marriage of daughter. Group Insurance Scheme is being run for beedi workers wherein benefit of Rs. 10,000 for natural death and Rs. 25,000 for accidental death is payable. The beedi worker is not required to pay any premium towards this scheme. An amount of Rs. 33.59 crore has been spent towards health and medical care during 2004-05. The Government has also started a new scheme for providing a one-time grant of Rs. 2 crore to the State Governments or any other institutions towards expanding existing hospital facility exclusively for beedi workers.

Scholarships are provided to children of beedi workers studying in class V and above, in recognized institutions ranging from Rs. 500 for class V to Rs. 8,000 for professional degree courses per child per annum. Children of beedi workers studying in classes I to IV are eligible to receive Rs. 250 per annum for school uniforms and text books. Earlier, region-wise ceiling on number of children of beedi workers studying in classes I to IV for grant of stipend has been removed and every child is now eligible for this stipend. Around four lakh children of beedi workers were provided scholarships and an amount of Rs. 40.52 crore was spent on it during 2004-05.

The Government has also been implementing a housing scheme for construction of a house by the beedi worker. The subsidy available for construction of a house was Rs. 20,000 which was increased to Rs. 40,000 in August, 2004. To avail a subsidy of Rs. 40,000, a beedi worker was required to contribute an amount of Rs. 40,000 towards construction of his house as his matching contribution. I wish to inform the august House that this Scheme has been further liberalised and a 'Revised Integrated Housing Scheme 2005' has been introduced from 25.05.2005 wherein a uniform central subsidy of Rs. 40,000 is provided to a worker having his own land against a contribution by him of Rs. 5,000 only.

[Shri K. Chandra Shekhar Rao]

In Kerala, beedi manufacture is mainly done in factories run by the co-operative societies of beedi workers. In Kerala, during the year 2004-05, scholarships to the children of beedi workers amounting to Rs. 1.55 crore have been granted. Similarly, 706 houses were sanctioned in Kerala during this period and a subsidy amounting to Rs. 1.2 crore was disbursed. There are eight medical dispensaries to provide basic health care to beedi workers and their families. Besides, more than seven lakh rupees were reimbursed to beedi workers in Kerala under various reimbursement schemes like cancer, heart ailments and maternity benefits, etc.

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not do this.

SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO: The Government of Kerala has been implementing the Kerala Beedi and Cigar Workers' Welfare Fund Scheme, under which 35,670 workers were registered. This Scheme provides monthly pension and other welfare measures to the workmen. In Kerala, beedi industry has been included as a Scheduled employment under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 and total wages for rolling 1000 beedis comes to Rs. 84.20. The Government of Kerala has informed that mainly because of unfair competition from units exempted from payment of Excise duty and cess as well as due to the enforcement of anti-smoking legislation, the consumption and production of beedi in Kerala has come down considerably and workers are not getting sufficient work. The Government of Kerala has set up a Committee under the Chairmanship of State Director of Industries and Commerce to go into the problems being faced by the beedi industry and to suggest remedial measures. The Committee is reported to have visited the affected districts and would be submitting their report to the State Government.

MR. SPEAKER: I would once again like to remind the hon. Members that, except the hon. Ministers, nobody is permitted to approach the officers sitting in the Official Gallery.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Sir, hon. Minister has given a lengthy statement. I am thankful to him for that. But many of the issues have remained unanswered.

Sir, the total number of beedi workers comes to about 60 lakhs. Though the Government has passed a legislation at an early date, most of the States have not implemented this Act in full sense. In the Statement, so many benefits and claims are narrated. But most of the

workers, due to lack of implementation of the Act, are not going to benefit because of this Statement and all that.

Sir, as far as this excise duty is concerned, it is now levied on the total number of beedis produced. But you see the co-operative societies, especially in the State of Kerala—Kerala Dinesh Beedi—and also the Government establishments are promptly paying the excise duties. But, at the same time, private traders are avoiding payment of excise duty. As a result of this, the co-operative societies are unable to bear the very huge amount.

Sir, as far as this welfare fund is concerned, the Government has made some changes. It is good. But it is now transferred to the State Governments. The worker has to pay five thousand rupees as the advance for the construction of the house. Not only that, if the worker has to get Rs. 40,000, the total cost of the house, including the land value, should be only Rs. 1 lakh.

The land value differs from place to place depending on whether it is in rural area or urban area. So, the land value has to be excluded from the total cost. Irrespective of the cost of the house, Rs. 40,000 should be given to the workers for this purpose. In light of these issues, I would like to get some clarifications from the hon. Minister.

Will the Government take immediate steps to implement Beedi Cigarette Act in those States where Beedi is dominant? Beedi is an unorganised sector and 90-92 per cent of women are being engaged in this sector. They are being exploited due to non-implementation of the Act.

Will the Government consider levying excise duty on tobacco instead of levying duty on total production of tobacco? As a result, the revenue of the Government will also increase and all the persons who are producing tobacco are liable to give excise duty. This way the cooperative societies and Government establishments can be saved.

Will the Government consider retaining the housing scheme of the Beedi workers under the Central control? Now, Beedi workers have to give their applications to the collector. The application first goes to the Government and then to the Central Government. So, it will take at least three or four days. That has to be retained with the new scheme.

Will the Government consider enhancing the amount given under the Housing Scheme? At present it is Rs 40,000. It is not possible to construct any house with this Rs. 40,000. So, the suggestion of the workers is to enhance this amount to at least Rs. 60,000.

The Government may also consider starting hospitals for Beedi workers. It is clear in the statement that the Government is going to construct three more hospitals. Kerala is the first State where it is being implemented fully. There are no hospitals. Will the Government consider constructing hospitals, especially in Koonoor which is more dominated by Beedi workers than any other place?

Considering the unorganised character of the Beedi sector and also majority of the workers are women, will the Government take special insurance scheme covering all the workers, not the workers working either in the cooperative societies or the Government workers alone? They should be given premium either by the Government or by the Panchayats.

In the earlier days the workers were given Rs. 30,000-35,000 as loan. It has now been converted to grant. The workers who have taken the loan have to pay the same. I had myself raised this in the House. I would request the Government to take note of these issues.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, you are all aware that Members should give notices in advance. I will now allow some further clarifications by Members. I wish to inform the hon. Members that I have got six names. Even now I see that some hands are being raised, which is totally impermissible. Out of six, four hon. Members have given notice at 10 o'clock. One hon. Member, who is now raising his hands, has given notice at 1051 hours and another hon. Member has given notice at 1215 hours. I am rejecting these two notices. I request the other four Members to please put only one question so that we can proceed with the business of the House. Do not give prefaces; put question only.

DR. C. KRISHNAN (Pollachi): Sir, beedi is injurious to health. At the same time, liquor drinking is also injurious. However, they have notified that smoking only is prohibited in cinemas as well as in public places.

MR. SPEAKER: It is also prohibited in Parliament.

DR. C. KRISHNAN: In some way, it is harmful for the employees.

MR. SPEAKER: What is your clarification?

DR. C. KRISHNAN: I wish to bring to the notice of the Government the grievances of the beedi workers.

MR. SPEAKER: This is not your job. You ask a clarification.

DR. C. KRISHNAN: The wages of the beedi workers should be increased according to the Consumer Price Index. The house loan which is, at present, Rs. 40,000 should be increased to Rs. 60,000.

As regards educational assistance, there are about ten lakh beedi workers in Tamil Nadu and only Rs. 11 crore have been granted. That should be increased to Rs. 15 crore.

MR. SPEAKER: Will the hon. Minister do all those things?

DR. C. KRISHNAN: The education assistance should be given in the beginning of the year, namely, during the month of June itself. It should not be delayed. When the children go for studies, they have to go by train or by bus. So, the educational assistance should be increased by the Government according to their higher studies.

The tobacco and leaves should be made available sufficiently so that they get work for six days a week.

MR. SPEAKER: Everything has already been said. Please do not repeat.

DR. C. KRISHNAN: Regarding the date of birth certificate, three things can be taken into account, namely election identity card, ration card or educational certificates.

MR. SPEAKER: You are giving certain demands. This is not the job of Calling Attention. You can ask some clarification.

DR. C. KRISHNAN: The date of birth is causing concern when the pension is calculated.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I would not allow this to be done. We have to have some expertise. You have mentioned many points. Now Shri Varkala Radhkrishnan would speak and please ask only clarification.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): As regards beedi production, the vital issue lies in the excise duty that is collected. The excise duty is calculated for

[Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan]

the beedis that are produced by the workers. Now excise duty can be levied on tobacco. The difficulty is that the private beedi workers do not keep any accounts. They do not have any clear accounts. But the societies are engaging 90 per cent women as workers. They keep very correct accounts and they submit the accounts to the income tax authorities and the excise authorities as per rules. But in the case of others, they do not give any account. So, they could sell beedi at a lower price whereas the societies are not in a position to sell at the price at which the private beedi workers are able to sell it.

So, I would like to know from the Government whether it would be pleased to levy tax on products, that is, tobacco and exempt beedi fully from the excise duty. Then only the industry can be saved.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Karunakaran has already made this point. Now, Shri Basu Deb Acharia to speak. Please seek a clarification only.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, there are 42 lakh beedi workers all over the country. Previously, there was a health scheme for the beedi workers. The Government of India has set up four hospitals. In my district of Jhalda, a hospital for the beedi workers was sanctioned four years back. But now the Government of India has announced a new scheme and only Rs. 2 crore will be provided for the construction of the hospital.

The running of the hospital will be the responsibility of the State Government. A cess is levied, per thousand of *beedi*, for the welfare of the *beedi* workers. A substantial percentage of *beedi* workers suffer from Tuberculosis. It is because of this reason that this hospital at Jhalda, in the district of Purulia, West Bengal was sanctioned four years back. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government would consider construction of this hospital under the earlier scheme, that is, prior to sanction of Rs. Two crore as non-recurring expenditure for the construction of the hospital or not.

Sir, as per the statement of the hon. Minister, only 1.2 lakhs beedi workers are covered under the Provident Fund scheme today. I would like to know whether the Government would consider bringing all the 42 lakh beedi workers under the umbrella of the Provident Fund scheme or not.

Sir, there is a problem being faced by the Co-operative societies meant for the *beedi* workers. I had discussed this issue with the hon. Minister and he is well aware of this problem. In my constituency there is one such co-operative society of the *beedi* workers where they are being asked to clear their outstanding dues. If the society is asked to pay around Rs. 50 to Rs. 60 lakh as dues, then the only course left to them is winding up the society once for all.

MR. SPEAKER: You please first get the assurance from the hon. Minister about the construction of the hospital meant for the *beedi* workers.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, I would like to know whether the Government would consider exempting the co-operative society from payment of their outstanding dues.

MR. SPEAKER: That is not the purpose of this Calling Attention.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): Hon. Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank Shri Karunakaranji. So far all the hon. Members who have raised their issues, have agreed that it is a very big problem. There are twenty five thousand beedi workers including women and children in my parliamentary constituency Chail, Uttar Pradesh, and they are being exploited by contractors. They are paid Re. One as wage when they make one thousand Beedis. Most of the children and women out of them are suffering from T.B. or asthma, I would like to ask Mr. Minister, through you, whether steps would be taken to curb exploitation of Beedi workers by contractors and to increase their wages?

Besides, I would like to inform you, as Shri Basu Deb Acharia has just said, my father was Union Minister of Labour during the year 1983-84. A 30 bed hospital in my constituency was sanctioned. I don't know how, just after the demise of my father in the year 1984, the location of hospital was shifted to South, to the constituency of another Minister of Labour, I would like to ask, through you, that the number of Beedi workers in my constituency has crossed twenty five thousand and the Government is sanctioning new hospitals under new scheme. whether sanction would be granted for setting up of a thirty bed hospital in my constituency?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I am sure, as a worthy son of a worthy father you would also look after the interest of the *beedi* workers.

SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO: Sir, as committed by the Government in its Common Minimum Programme we are giving priority to the welfare of the *beedi* workers. With a view to achieving that end, the Government has increased the welfare cess from Rs. 2/- to Rs. 4/- to get more funds so that more welfare activities could be extended to the poor *beedi* workers.

The new housing scheme has just been taken up. Previously the scheme did not take off as expected. We have now made it very simple and the district collectors have been given the responsibility for the implementation of the scheme. This scheme would be implemented on the lines of the IAY.

The amount of Rs. 40,000 which is provided is full grant. There is no loan component. The beneficiary contribution is expected to fulfil two things. They should possess a house site either of their own or provided by the respective State Government and they should also deposit a share of Rs. 5000 from their side. Let us see how this scheme of the total amount of Rs. 45,000 takes up and if there are any changes in future, the Government is ready to take it up. Let us experience and see how it works.

Another aspect is the health care of the *beedi* workers. Wherever the ailment is very serious like if it is a heart disease or cancer or a disease pertaining to kidney transplantation, we refer such cases to the super special hospital. If it is cancer, then the Government makes full reimbursement of the treatment charges. If it is heart related ailment, then the maximum limit is Rs. 1,30,000 and if it is the case of kidney transplantation, then the limit is Rs. 2 lakhs. It is working well. We cannot manage to have super special hospitals. There are super special hospitals and other good hospitals in the private sector. With the aim of helping these workers, we refer them to these super special hospitals which are there in the private sector and we reimburse the money.

There is another problem which the *beedi* industry is facing. The companies which produce less than 20 lakh *beedis* per annum are exempted by the Government from paying central excise. They are the ones which are creating a problem to the genuine *beedi* companies. They

evade tax. There are some cases where they make 40 lakh *beedis* but they never say that they are making 40 lakh *beedis*. In the pretext of enjoying the exemption, they are creating problems to the genuine *beedi* companies. We have taken up the matter with the Ministry of Finance and the Prime Minister to bring them under the coverage net so that genuine companies are saved and these workers do not suffer.

Shri Karunakaran was demanding a hospital at Kannur. This is not a new scheme. Shri Basudeb Acharia was also demanding a hospital at Jhalda. The scheme was designed by the earlier Government. Now the system in the Government is, we will sanction a one-time grant of Rs. 2 crore if the State Government comes forward.
...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: But that hospital was sanctioned four years back.

SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO: I am trying to explain the general policy of the Government. The Government gives Rs. 2 crore as a one-time grant to the State Government, if the State Government comes forward with a proposal, and we also provide Rs. 10 lakhs each year for providing medical facilities to the *beedi* workers. This is the present scheme. Most of the State Governments are not coming forward with proposals. We are reviewing this matter within the Department. I assure Shri Acharia that the hospital which he has been repeatedly demanding will be taken up under the old scheme and not under the new scheme. That will be done because he has been requesting for it for quite sometime. The Government will take care of that.

Shri Radhakrishnan was demanding for total exemption of *beedi* industry from central excise and levy tax only on tobacco. That part was not examined by the Government earlier. I cannot give any assurance. But we will look into this matter as to how it works out. Let me examine it.

MR. SPEAKER: Very good!

SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO: Shri Acharia was mentioning that only 1.2 lakh *beedi* workers are covered under the provident fund scheme. That is not the total figure. The number of *beedi* workers which are covered by the Provident Fund Department is above 20 lakhs. This was part of the special drive from January, 2005 to March 2005. At that particular point of time, this figure was given by the PF Department. We have also conducted a special raid in the State Government of West

[Shri K. Chandra Shekhar Rao]

Bengal and got 70,000 beedi workers enrolled under it at one stretch. We are going to apply the same system all over the country wherever there are beedi workers. They are also trying to conduct a special raid on those who are evading social security provident fund subscription.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Bettiah): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I urge upon Mr. Minister through you, that he should keep Bihar also in mind. Beedi workers are in large number in Bihar. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You keep it in mind but do not reply to him.

SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO: We have formulated a flying squad in the Provident Fund Department. West Bengal was a good example and we had a good experience. We are going to repeat it all over the country and I am definitely expecting some good results.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Bikram Keshari Deo, you are a senior Member by this time. Please sit down. These are certain matters on which let us follow some rules. You have never bothered to even show concern by giving a notice. It will not be answered. Nor will it be recorded. Shri Deo, I was trying to say and indicate my greatest appreciation for we have not lost a minute. I want to thank all sections of the House for their kind cooperation. We are doing more work; we are taking up more questions and supplementaries; and we are taking up more matters. I need your kind cooperation. I am obliged to all the hon. Members. Probably, the House and the country will know that we have not wasted a minute's time. Therefore, please cooperate. I shall always try to cooperate.

Regarding the second Calling Attention Motion, I have got a request from the hon. Member, in whose name it has come up, that due to some inconvenience it may be postponed. I am postponing it to some other date. I will talk to all concerned and find out a date. See we can do so many things.

Now, let us take up Matters of Urgent Public Importance. Shri Ramji Lal Suman.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, terrorist activities are continuously increasing in our country. Recently we had discussion in this House about the terrorist incidents occurred in Ayodhya and other parts of the country. Now-a-days tension is prevailing in Punjab also. ULFA militants have increased their destructive activities rapidly in Assam and have plotted a blast in which four persons were killed. Apart from that they have destroyed two ONGC pipelines in Shivasagar and Dibrugarh district and they have also destroyed the pipeline of Oil India in Tinsukiyā. Police spokesman has informed that the bomb which was blasted there was made in China. This is a very serious matter. We talk about the pipeline from Iran, but when our Gas pipeline is not protected an environment of disbelief ushers in. A situation of disturbance is prevailing in almost all those peaceful States. These activities are increasing rapidly in our country and I think Government should ponder over it seriously.

Sir, through you, I would like to request the Government that an effective action should be taken by the Government where destructive elements are indulged in militant activities. The Government must inform us about its effective plans to tackle the tense situation prevailing in the different States?

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): Mr. Speaker Sir, through you I want to draw the attention of the Government that the history is changing. Till yesterday it was being taught in the history books that Prithviraj Chauhan was a great patriot and a brave warrior. Today we are discussing about that Prithviraj Chauhan who had killed Mohammad Gouri who was looting India with an arrow on just a friend's poem. ...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): What poem you are reciting, please express yourself clearly.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Prabhunath Singh, you do not answer him.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: He want to listen poem. I recite poem for him with your permission. Poet friend of

Prithviraj Chauhan had recited:

'Char bans, chaubis gaja, angul asth praman,
tahi par sultan hai, mat chooko chouhan.'

This was a piece of poetry on the ground of which Md. Gouri was killed by the hands of Chauhan. But today what is being taught to the students of class 11th, what has been written therein about Prithviraj Chauhan has been published in the Newspaper *Hindustan* dated 13.07.2005 of Patna edition. Here, I would like to read out the same.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Is that a State Government publication?

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: I am reading out the excerpts published in the Newspaper, *Hindustan*.

MR. SPEAKER: Whether this publication is about State Governments?

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Yes Sir, it reads that children will read history afresh in the new books of NCERT. The children have been listening to the story of bravery of Prithviraj Chauhan so far, but the new books of NCERT tell us that Prithviraj Chauhan ran on his feet to save his life from Md. Gouri's army in the second battle of Terrain and was made a prisoner. Whereas according to the present legend and tradition the quisling king Jai Chand from Kannauj had given a tough challenge to the army of Md. Gouri, though he lost his life while fighting in the end. The editor of Medieval Indian history books of NCERT for class 11th is Mr. Satish Chandra, who is considered to be a leftist historian. Some amendments have also been made in this book by Neelandre Committee. There is a mention in the end that Kind of Kannauj, Jai Chand has been included in the list of traitors while keeping in view his doings. There are differences over the death of king Jai Chand in the history. Who has written the history of Rajputs says that the army of Shahabuddin attacked the kingdom of quisling king Jai Chand of Kannauj and Jai Chand ran away from Kannauj by getting nervous and at that time he was boating across the Ganges river but unfortunately his boat sank in the Ganges and Jai Chand lost his life there.

Mr. Speaker Sir, Mr. Arjun Singh is not present here. He is ill. I wish that he may get well very soon. I also want that the Government should intervene in the matter. At this time no competent Minister is present here who can respond in place of the concerned Minister. But UPA Chairperson Mrs. Sonia Gandhi is very much here. I want to make a submission, through you, that no body has right to change the history. Whom the country has given respect and who has been considered to be a great warrior is being taught to the students of class 11th by calling him as a traitor in the history. It is very unfortunate for the nation. So, I want that it should be examined and action against the people using such wording for such a great warrior should be taken. Whatever sense of respect we have towards Prithviraj Chauhan should be sustained so that a wrong signal should not go to the future generation. This is the submission which I want to make to the Government through you. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ROOPCHAND PAL (Hoogly): Mr. Satish Chandra is a world famous historian. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA (Rampur): Sir, I would like to. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I think, everybody knows her.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded except Shrimati Jayaprada's speech.

...*(Interruptions)**

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nobody can speak.

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: We are all aware of the situation that has arisen due to the heavy rains in Maharashtra, particularly in the area of Konkan and western Maharashtra. Sir, it has heavily affected. We have already brought the situation to notice and had a discussion in the House also. After seeing the situation, nothing has really helped the people who are all living basically in the slum areas. There is the problem of water logging and water stagnating in the slum areas, which is still troubling them. Due to this water stagnation, so many

*Not recorded.

[Shrimati Jayaprada]

alarming diseases like malaria, dengue, diarrhoea are spreading. These diseases have already affected them. The people are rushing to the hospitals but there is lack of assistance—medical assistance—that they needed. This assistance is not sufficient. I feel very sorry about it that the people are standing in queues for hours together but they are not getting the medicines. The para-medical staff has been provided but that is not sufficient. It is a very, very dangerous situation. Every, there is the problem of drainage system. During the rains so many people have got stuck into the drainage and have died. Nobody knows how many people are stuck inside. Therefore, I am requesting to the House that the Government has to take serious steps to protect the people, who are struggling, from this situation.

Sir, I would like to mention one thing here that the people, who have lost their houses due to landslide, have lost their ration cards. It is up to the State Government but what I personally say is that this is our duty to intervene so as to protect their security and see how they are going to get houses and food. This is a very, very important and serious situation that has arisen.

Sir, I plead with the House to take an immediate action and get the doctors who can have a check-up of the affected people living in the slum areas. The people are all getting affected in the slum areas. Thank you.

*SHRI P. MOHAN (Madurai): I would like to draw the attention of this august House to the plight of unfortunate Indian labourers. About 50 of them hailing from Perambalur district of Tamil Nadu are languishing in Malaysia now. They were lured by certain recruitment agents with the promise of well paying jobs for a consideration. After paying huge sums gathered with great efforts selling even landholdings, they were taken overseas and they have not been given promised jobs as yet. These men from Senthurai and Jayamkondam of Perambalur district are facing life and death problem. Their passports have been taken away from these hapless job seekers by the agents. Without valid travel documents and other basic needs they have been put to great hardship away on the foreign shores. These agents have illegally confined them and are even torturing them putting them in their private custody. Some among them put in lesser jobs but were under-employed and underpaid who

managed to escape from unscrupulous employers were also captured and ill treated. Hence I urge upon the Union Government to take up their issue with either the immigration authorities of Malaysia or appropriate authorities there though our High Commission there and make arrangements to help our Indian labourers get justice and have a safe passage as their visas may expire soon. Criminal action against the brokers may also be initiated.

SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPAPARAI (Sivakasi): Sir, I associate with this.

[Translation]

SHRI SURESH CHANDEL (Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh): Mr. Speaker Sir, through you, I want to draw the attention of the Union Government towards Himachal Pradesh. As per the directions of the Union Government and the Judgement of Supreme Court, many saw mills have been closed there. And because of that the farmers there are facing so many difficulties. A great crisis of livelihood has developed before the people engaged in those industries and before the unemployed youth who were engaged in these saw mills.

Of late in my constituency about 350 saw mills have been closed down as a result of which more than 650 people are on the verge of starvation in Hamirpur district also. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is a State matter.

[Translation]

SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: They have expressed their miseries openly. I have also seen their miserable condition. The condition has worsen to such an extent that their children are unable to go to school.

Sir, through you, I would like to request to the Government of India to intervene in the matter and take appropriate steps in order to save them from starvation, to provide proper education to their children and to ensure their livelihood. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: If you co-operate, you will get time, otherwise your turn will come after 6.00 o'clock.

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

[English]

SHRI ABDULLAKUTTY (Cannanore): Thank you, Sir, with your permission, I would like to raise a very important issue in this august House. ...(*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA (Mirzapur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Panchayat elections are being held in Uttar Pradesh. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I will not call you later on also. You please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is being recorded. Have you given any notice?

...(*Interruptions*)*

[Translation]

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA: I have given a notice. ...(*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Just now I was saying that all the hon. Members are following the rules and procedure. But you just stand up and speak without my permission. You are not helping your cause. I take a serious view of this.

...(*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You are speaking without giving any notice.

...(*Interruptions*)

[English]

SHRI ABDULLAKUTTY: Yesterday, as per Press reports, the Mc Kinsey and Company has recommended reduction of workforce in the FCI by outsourcing all the operations done by its regular staff including head-loaders. If it is so, I would strongly oppose the anti-labour policy

*Not recorded.

of the Government in the name of saving the operational costs in FCI.

Sir, the Food Corporation of India has been mandated to function as the lifeline of public distribution system which serves the poor and the deprived sections of the country. This is doing a very important public distribution system. It is disturbing to note that the Government is silently examining the report of Mc Kinsey and Company, the multinational consultancy firm on revamping of the FCI structure.

Any measure to achieve fiscal prudence should not overlook the humanitarian aspect of rendering thousands of workers jobless. I urge the Government to abandon this anti-labour move at the behest of a report of a multinational consultant whose interest is to bring in MNCs like Cargyll and other grain dealers to Indian market place. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please listen.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Sir, I associate with this.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, he is associating. Please listen. You never bother to give notice in time. You very well know about the time. Notice has to be given by 9.30 a.m. You do not choose to do that and you are disturbing the proceedings.

Very well, now make your submission.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD (Salampur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your kind permission I would like to raise a matter of public importance in this House. On various occasions, I have written letters to the then Hon'ble Minister of Communication and have raised the matter in the House regarding issuing a commemorative stamp in the memory of freedom fighter, guiding pillar of socialist movement, vanguard of democracy and former Union Minister Shri Raj Narayan. But due to the Union Government's policy of discrimination and ignorance and its double standard. ...(*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The Government has nothing to do with it.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD: I am saying this because I raised this matter with previous Government and in your presence, I raised this matter with your permission in previous session that stamp should be issued ...*(Interruptions)* in the name of person like late Shri Raj Narayan. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The Government has nothing to do with it.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD: But, Minister of Communication has informed me that this matter pertaining to the issuance of commemorative stamp in the memory of Shri Raj Narayanji does not come under the purview. I would give that letter to you. If Shri Raj Narayan Ji does not come under the preview, then who will? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You may sit down please.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: All must sit down.

[Translation]

You may also sit down. When I am on my legs, you will have to follow some procedure. I have given him an opportunity to speak,

[English]

to raise an important issue, although only stamp matter is with the Government. Everybody is cooperating and everybody respects Shri Raj Narain Ji. I had the privilege of being in the same House with him. Therefore, we respect him very much. I will take one observation but you please finish and you do not have to stand.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir. Now, all the socialist associates of Shri Raj Narayan Ji during his struggle, are staging a dharna at Jantar-Mantar. They

have given you a Memorandum in which they have requested that a commemorative stamp should be issued in the memory of Shri Raj Narayan Ji. Socialists had broken the statue of British administrator Lord Irwin situated at second roundabout in Parliament Street during a demonstration. We request you that statue of Shri Raj Narayan Ji should be put there and the park should be named as Shri Raj Narayan Park. I would also like to request that his portrait should be put in the Central Hall of the Parliament. Late Shri Raj Narayan Ji had set a new political trend on the basis of court's judgement which changed the mindset of the people. I would like that his portrait should be put in the Parliament in your tenure as Speaker here. ...*(Interruptions)* Minister of Communication in the previous Government had written that Shri Raj Narayan Ji does not fulfil this criteria. When the present Minister of Communication gave the same reply then I wrote a letter to the Prime Minister but he has not given any reply to that. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Rewati Raman Singh will associate. Those hon. Members.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I am trying to help you. I will not allow this. Shri Ramji Lal Suman. I am taking a very strong view of this. If you will disturb, nothing will be recorded. Kindly give me an opportunity. I should not have given you a certificate little earlier than I should have.

[Translation]

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV (Sambhal): We are only associating to it. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Mr. Speaker Sir, please take some decision on this matter. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Let me conduct the House.

[Translation]

You may sit down. I will strike out your name.

...*(Interruptions)*

13.00 hrs.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Those hon'ble Members, who wish to associate themselves with him, may send a slip.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is the problem. After all you are seniors members.

...(Interruptions)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Only Shri Rewati Raman Singh has given a notice. Although all other hon. Members have not given any notice, yet you all can associate. Keeping in view the sensitivity of the matter and all respect to late Raj Narain Ji, they will be allowed to associate without even bothering to give a notice.

[*Translation*]

You may associate. It is alright. Names of Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav, Shri Raghunath Jha, Shri Ram Kripal Yadav, Shri Sita Ram Singh, Shri Ganesh Prasad Singh, Shri Vijoy Krishna, Shri Ramlal Suman, Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav, Prof. S.P. Singh Baghel, Shri Rewati Raman Singh, Shri Chandra Bhushan Singh, Shri Ravi Prakash Verma, Srimati Jayaprada, Shri Chandra Pal Yadav, Shri Raj Narayan Budholia, Shri Virchandra Paswan, Shri Chandra Mani Tripathi, Kunwar Sarv Raj Singh and Shri Sankh Lal Majhi is also associated.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH (Allahabad): Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to submit that you should direct the Government that. ...(*Interruptions*) In this battle you also. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Do you think that the Speaker is the super Prime Minister?

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: We consider you as a guardian of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: I have already told you that I will make some observation regarding matters which come within the jurisdiction of the Speaker and the Committee.

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Thank you sir.

MR. SPEAKER: I have already referred the matter to the Committee for its consideration. So far as the releasing of stamp by the Government is concerned, I am sure due attention will be given to it. It is so easy if everything can be done in an organised manner.

13.01 hrs.

SUBMISSION BY MEMBER

Re: High Volatility in Mumbai Stock Market

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Panskura): While I was a Member of the other House in 1991-92, I raised this matter on the floor of the House when Dr. Manmohan Singh was the Finance Minister of India. Today, I am raising this issue again when Dr. Manmohan Singh is the Prime Minister of India. The House will join me. This is regarding the super hyper volatility in the Bombay Stock Market. Nowadays, it has reached 7,797 points. In one day—in one single day—the Bombay Stock Market has registered an increase of 537 points. Why I am raising this issue again is because this 'Bull Drive' or 'Bull Run' may ultimately lead to bursting of the bubble and crores of small investors may be the losers. That is the reason why I am raising it. When Bombay was in flood, the Bombay Stock Market was in an upbeat mood. While the Bombay High—the biggest platform of oil—was in flame, the similar was the condition of the Bombay Stock Market. Earlier whenever there was a disaster. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Member please listen. I will not allow that you should walk between the Chair and the Member-speaking. These are matters which should be taken note of.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Whenever there was a natural disaster, impact was there on the stock market. Even during Tsunami, on the day after Tsunami, the Market had opened, there was an increase by more than 100 points in the Bombay Stock Market. Therefore, the question is, Sir, why this senseless Sensex has gone made in the country. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know whether it is bad or good.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: My point is this. This Sensex has nothing to do with the economic fundamentals. The senseless Sensex has nothing to do with the economic performance. It is going on. Even the Prime Minister on the other day has made a statement that the agriculture has declined to 1.5 per cent. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: All right.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Even the Planning Commission says that the growth rate—the anticipated growth rate—may not be reached. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It has nothing to do with it.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Due to this unsatisfactory performance of the economy, there is a 'Bull Run'. Why is it so? I have the answer. The reason is that the SEBI has not introduced or enforced the delivery-based transactions which means speculators are being allowed to build up their positions in derivatives. The 'Bull Run' may prove to be disastrous for the country. The financial ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know that you have so much updated with the stock market! It is good.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: I am having a little lesson from you. ...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, the important point is—just see the situation in the country—for five days in August, there was an inflow of FII, that is, hot money to the extent of half a billion.

MR. SPEAKER: That shows our country's strength.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: In one day the inflow was Rs. 520 million. Just compare it with the Foreign Direct Investment, which is needed for the country. In one year. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: What impression have you got?

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: We are always for Foreign Direct Investment. ...

MR. SPEAKER: Without strings.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: ... if it is for productive sector and not for the retail trade, for which my hon. friend may be making a case in this House later on.

Therefore, while Foreign Direct Investment in one year has increased by Rs. 1,782 crore, in five days, there has been an increase in hot money which can just go away within half a minute. The hot money has increased within five days to half a billion. Therefore,

why is it being allowed? SEBI is not enforcing the rules and the Government of India is sleeping because they are earning revenue. There is a transaction tax—very small it is. It is sleeping over the dangerous development in the stock market of India because the Government is earning revenue, maybe to the extent of Rs. 2,000 crore.

MR. SPEAKER: You have got the benefit of the hon. Finance Minister on this issue.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Secondly, this is being deliberately allowed by the Government to give a false impression about the performance of India so that we are able to mobilise more funds for the foreign reserve. I call upon the Government to ask SEBI to immediately introduce and enforce delivery-based transaction in the stock market in this country. I would request the Finance Ministry to take stock of the situation, otherwise, the bubble may burst and crores of Indian small investors may be the losers and the speculators and bulls may gain. The Government of India should take a serious note of the situation in the Bombay Stock Market.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Sir, with great respect to my learned friend, I do not accept these alarmist predictions. Today, the Indian stock market is one of the best regulated markets. That does not mean that there is no scope for improvement.

I have had a long talk with the Chairman, SEBI only this morning. Both SEBI and the Government are carefully watching the stock market. It is one of the best regulated markets. Of course, opinions can differ about FDI or FII or the nature of the investment. But I reject the argument that a bubble is building or that SEBI is not doing its duty or that the Government is sleeping. I reject those arguments, even while I respect my learned friend's right to express his views. But I reject the argument that the Government is sleeping or that the SEBI is not doing its duty. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: And about his knowledge of Stock Exchange!

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, the Sensex is reaching the 8000 mark. Is the hon. Minister concerned about the super hyper volatility or not?

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. This is not a Question-Answer session.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No please, nothing more.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, I totally refuse to accept the statement of complacency of the Minister of Finance of this country.

MR. SPEAKER: Very well, you go on rejecting each other.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: It is absolute complacency. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: He has denied that.

[Translation]

...(Interruptions)

SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN (Jalgaon): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to bring a very important question to the notice of the House. ISM and Ayurvedic doctors in Maharashtra went on strike and agitated and dispensaries were also closed for the people on 1 August. People living in rural area suffered because of this. They told that the Health Minister while answering a question had said that the Govt. of India would bring a Anti-Quackery Bill in the Parliament.

Sir, Ayurveda is a traditional system of treatment and health services in the rural areas are provided by these doctors. But the Govt. want to refrain them from giving allopathic injections. I would like to tell you that today no MBBS doctor goes to villages to dispense health services to the people and only these BAMS doctors and Ayurvedic doctors dispense health services to the people in rural areas and they are also taught how to give injections and dispense allopathic medicines to the people during the course of their studies. Thousands of patients in villages will have to face difficulties if they are banned. So, this bill should be brought only after the definition of Anti-Quackery.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Afterwards, the remaining matters, of which notices have been given, will be taken up at 6 p.m. After the luncheon recess, we shall start with the Demands for Grants.

The House now stands adjourned to meet again at 2.10 p.m. Once again, I thank you—all the hon. Members—for your kind cooperation.

13.10 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till ten minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

14.11 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at eleven minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL (Faridkot): Sir, thousands of Sikhs were murdered in Delhi and the Action Taken Report on the Nanavati Report submitted by the Government is a complete cover up to save the Congress leadership. ...(Interruptions) Everyone from a child to a grown up including the old people were murdered. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have allowed Shri Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa. It is not going on record. I have allowed Shri Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Not to be recorded.

...(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): Sir, it should be taken out from the records. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have already said that it is not to be recorded.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You first give the notice. You have not given any notice.

...(Interruptions)

14.15 hrs.

(At this stage Shri Sukhbir Singh Badal and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table)

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please go to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please go to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 3 p.m.

*Not recorded.

14.16 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till
Fifteen of the Clock.*

15.01 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at one minute past
Fifteen of the Clock.*

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: First we will take up item No. 14—Matters under Rule 377. I think they should be laid on the Table of the House. It will be treated as part of the Proceedings.

- (I) **Need to release additional funds to the Government of Himachal Pradesh for providing relief to the people affected by floods**

[*Translation*]

DR. COL. (RETD.) DHANI RAM SHANDIL (Shimla): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Prime Minister towards the loss of Rs. 700 crore to roads, bridges, private and govt. buildings in 350 Kilometre area in the district of Samdho to Govind Sagar and Bhakra dam, Kinnaur, Kullu, Mandi and Bilaspur due to devastating floods in Sutlej river in Himachal Pradesh because of developing of a crack in an artificial lake in the Parichu river in Tibet, China on 26 June, 2005.

Chairperson of United Progressive Alliance, Home Minister, Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh and Director General of Indo Tibet Border Police visited the affected areas, relief measures were immediately started. Closed national highways were opened and 800 stranded tourists were taken to safe places. The Assessment Team of the centre also visited the affected areas on 30.6.2005. The Government of Himachal Pradesh have requested the Ministry of Home Affairs to release immediately Rs. 150 crore from the National Calamity Contingency Fund to compensate the loss caused to Himachal Pradesh due

*Treated as laid on the Table.

to these devastating floods in addition to the present share of the State. I request that the release of funds be made without delay.

- (II) **Need to upkeep and maintain Singalila National Park in Darjeeling**

[*English*]

SHRI D. NARBULA (Darjeeling): I would like to invite your attention towards the Singalila National Park of Darjeeling. In spite of being declared a National Park 15 years ago, this park has been totally neglected. The total area of this park is 108.77 sq. Km., the biggest national park in West Bengal, covered with dense forests and various species of plants and trees. It is a veritable paradise for nature lovers and this place offers a panoramic view of a range of mountains including the Mount Everest. No doubt this park has become a famous tourist attraction, but the local people are facing a lot of difficulties, loss and inconvenience as wild animals of park have become a great nuisance to them. The authority of wild life division has taken no measure to stop this and safeguard the local people. Regarding the area of the park the demarcation of the fringe zone, buffer zone and core zone as well as the construction of footpath, bridle path, artificial pond, inspection tower and so on have not been done.

Hence I request the Government to look into the matter and pay adequate attention towards the park.

- (III) **Need to devise a mechanism to check adulteration of petrol and diesel sold through retail outlets in Himachal Pradesh and other parts of the country**

PROF. CHANDER KUMAR (Kangra): I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the problem of adulteration in petrol and diesel in the country. Petrol and diesel are supplied to public through retail outlets owned by the Government and Private Sectors. For every consumer products, there is a provision for quality check. But in the case of petroleum products, there is no provision of any quality check particularly in rural areas. Few years back, the crises of fuel adulteration had been highlighted by the Centre for Science and Environment, CSE was shocked by the magnitude of adulteration. Anything, like cheap imported kerosene or waste oil are mixed into transport fuels. The CSE had tracked this crime but still it continues. There is a rampant adulteration

of Petroleum products throughout the country and especially in Himachal Pradesh. A complaint against IBP outlet at Jawali Kangra, H.P. has come in the notice regarding adulteration. Sir, since adulterated petrol and diesel is being used, the engines, of the vehicles are damaged earlier than their life term. Further, this is a concern for health also.

Sir, I urge upon the Government to introduce a mechanism to check the quality of petrol and diesel supplied to the public through retail outlets. I suggest that a meter should be installed at every retail outlet, whether owned by Government or private owner and if there is complaint regarding adulteration, the samples should be checked by the independent authority.

(iv) Need to streamline mobile telephone network of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited at Mathura, Uttar Pradesh

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH (Mathura): There is an urgent need to streamline the mobile service provided by the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited in Mathura District of Uttar Pradesh. It is very difficult to connect to BSNL cellular phones particularly from Delhi to Mathura or Mathura to Delhi as a result the people are facing a lot of difficulties. Therefore, I request the Government to direct the concerned authorities to take urgent action to alleviate this problem being faced by the people of Mathura as well as a large number of pilgrims who visit Mathura.

(v) Need to set up 6th Pay Commission for revision of pay scales and emoluments of Central Government employees

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK (Raichur): Most of the Central Government Employees Association have started nation-wide agitations demanding the Government of India to set up the Sixth Pay Commission to revise the pay scales and emoluments to the Central Government employees. Employees of Government of Karnataka are also making the same demand for the last three years. The Fifth Pay Commission was set up 15 years ago and its recommendations came into effect from 1.1.1996. The prices of all commodities have gone up to a very large extent. Government employees are finding it difficult to make both ends meet. There is sharp increase in the inflation rates. Tax burden along with VAT is squeezing life of middle class and Government employees. If this genuine demand is not agreed to by the Government of India it may lead to violent demonstrations which may

obstruct the working in various offices and organisations all over the country. It is true that some recommendations like Second Assured Career Progression (2nd ACP) has not been implemented by most of the Ministries except Home Ministry till today. But, demand for setting up 6th Pay Commission is valid and I urge upon the Hon'ble Minister of Finance to set up 6th Pay Commission immediately.

(vi) Need to provide financial assistance to the Government of Madhya Pradesh for providing relief to the people affected by heavy rains in the State

[Translation]

SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA (Seoni): Mr. Speaker Sir, there has been a heavy damage in the villages and towns of Sagar, Damoh, Chhatarpur, Panna, Katni districts and Majhauri and in Patan in Jabalpur district in Madhya Pradesh during the last few days due to recent incessant rain and floods. Some people have also lost their lives in this. Besides this, hundreds of animals have also lost their lives. Houses, belongings, foodgrains of poor people and the shops of shop keepers were destroyed due to flood. Foodgrains (especially wheat) of thousands of farmers were damaged due to inundation. Besides the above said the crop of Soyabain was also destroyed. Condition of the farmers is so worse that their fields are empty, their pockets are empty and nothing is their in their hands.

The Govt. of Madhya Pradesh have made all efforts to compensate the loss of life and property. Union Government should also provide help to the flood victims by giving special package to the Govt. of Madhya Pradesh so that financial assistance can be provided to the flood victims.

(vii) Need to take steps for implementing drip irrigation system in Karnataka with hundred per cent subsidy

[English]

SHRI S. MALLIKARJUNIAH (Tumkur): I would like to draw the attention of this House that, since last few years in the State of Karnataka particularly in Tumkur District, the farmers have been working on Drip Irrigation to use available ground water.

[Shri S. Mallikarjuniah]

The farmers have already experienced about more than 10 years on working with these two foreign emitting systems (i.e. USA & Israel) (1) Dripper Emitting system and (2) Laminar Emitting System under Central and State subsidy schemes. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has recently introduced another foreign technology as Inline Emitting System in their pilot projects with 50% farmers share and 50% by Government subsidy scheme. All the three emitting systems are to be allowed to compete with each other in quality and cost of the system. While implementing the drip irrigation scheme. The farmers must have a chance to select any one of the three existing emitting systems depending upon the suitability of water, crop and soil condition in all the southern States. Further, Sales Tax/VAT upto 12.5% on Drip Irrigation Equipments is against to Government subsidy scheme. Hence 0% VAT/Sale Tax is essential to implement the subsidy scheme in South India.

I therefore, urge upon the Government to take immediate step to implement the drip irrigation system in the State of Karnataka through 100% subsidy scheme in next Central Five Year Plan and form the State pilot projects and reduce the VAT/Sales Tax to 0% on drip irrigation equipments to the welfare of the agriculturists.

(viii) Need to provide financial assistance to the Government of Rajasthan with a view to solve drinking water problem in the State

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHEELA BANGARU LAXMAN (Jalore): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the State of Rajasthan of which most parts are sandy and dry and where there is very low rainfall has been facing the potable water crisis for the last several years. The ground water level of the State facing incessant draught, has gone down. That has aggravated the problem. The quantity of salinity, Fluoride and Nitrate etc. has been found in an adequate way in my Parliamentary Constituency, Jalore due to which the problem of potable water that is the water crisis problem has become more intensified. Union Government ensures the availability of potable water in the States under Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission. It has become necessary to promote water harvesting in order to replenish the ground water level. Besides the above said, it has also become necessary to promote the tanks, water pools, wells and other traditional resources along with provision of water harvesting in front of every house or

at every home in the State. We will have to set up the laboratories and treatment plants at major level in order to make the contaminated water potable as the financial condition of Rajasthan is weak. So, I request the Union Government that central assistance be provided to the State in full so that the drinking water and contaminated water problems could be solved and provision of such thing be made in every financial year. Only then the problem of drinking water could be solved in this bordering desert State.

(ix) Need to ban fake advertisements in newspapers inviting applications for employment, with a view to safeguard the interest of unemployed persons

SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA (Janjgir): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is already much unemployment in the Country. Unemployed youths are already a harassed lot due to the ongoing cheating taking place to provide them employment. Unemployed youths are being duped by a lame excuse of providing jobs through the advertisements published in the newspapers in the name of fake private companies. Some companies are even duping the people by imposing themselves as Government Undertakings. Unemployed Youths get their applications and bank drafts deposited against the advertisements. Then, they give thousands and lakhs of rupees to the touts for the jobs. After some days, they come to know that there is no such company or touts disappear overnight. So, the Government must check such fake advertisements. Advertisements should be scrutinised first prior to publishing them and Government sanction should be a must to them so that unemployed youths could averted from being duped as the incidents of such duping have been taking place for many years and such fake advertisements should be checked.

(x) Need to open a Kendriya Vidyalaya in Patan District, Gujarat

SHRI MAHESH KANODIA (Patan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the standard of education in the country is deteriorating day by day. There has been no equality in education of students even after so many years since independence due to different syllabus in various States. The Government has not been able to implement uniform syllabus in the country. Kendriya Vidyalayas which have been set up in various States, but its branches could not have been set up in every district, till date. As far as I know, the previous Government had decided to open Kendriya Vidyalaya in every district, but the Government

has put that too in cold storage. In my view, if Kendriya Vidyalayas are set up in every districts it will be in the interest of so many students because on one hand students will get a chance to study uniform syllabus on the other hand those parents who get transferred in mid session, their wards will not face problems in studies, besides they will get a chance to study without any break.

I, therefore, urge upon the hon. Minister of Human Resource Development to open a Kendriya Vidyalaya in Patan district of Gujarat on high priority basis so that the problems of students of the said area could be overcome.

(xi) Need to enact Scheduled Tribes Traditional Land Rights Bill, 2005 with a view to protect the interests of tribal forest dwellers in Andhra Pradesh

[English]

DR. BABU RAO MEDIYAM (Bhadrachalam): There is about 8% of tribal population in our country, 1/3rd of them live on shifting cultivation only. Forest Act, 1980 and other circulars defined them as 'encroachers' but Dhebar Commission, 1960 and Bhuria Commission, 2002 recommended traditional land rights to forest dwellers (tribals).

There was no regularisation of the cultivable forest land in AP thereby the tribals are deprived of land use rights. They are harassed by local forest authorities.

I urge for the immediate enactment of Scheduled Tribes Traditional Land Rights Bill, 2005.

(xii) Need to ensure social security measures for workers engaged in cashew, coir, plantation, fisheries and other unorganized sectors in Kerala and other parts of the country

SHRI P. RAJENDRAN (Quilon): The after effect of globalisation is at its worst as it has put the workers in the cashew, coir, plantation, fisheries and various unorganized sectors in dire straits. The social security measures envisaged in the directive principles of the Indian Constitution such as right to work, minimum wages, security in work place etc. has been blatantly violated in these sectors. A contemptuous ridicule of Minimum Wages Act, 1948 and Payment of Wages Act is happening much to the distress of the workers. Statutory rights were being denied to the workers in private sector by the employers

in the quest for blind profiteering. Workers have been denied benefits like bonus, DA, PF, ESI, holiday wages and the employer's contribution towards the welfare fund board in private enterprises. Workers in these sector have resorted to an agitational patch in Kerala and it would certainly transform into stronger struggle in the coming days. We have all seen the Gurgaon struggle of the Honda workers and its violent turn caused due the undemocratic attitude of Honda managed coupled with an unhelpful Government stand. It may happen in Kerala or elsewhere in the country. Hence, I request the Central Government to understand the gravity of the matter and impress upon the State Government to discuss all the issue with the trade unions for improving working conditions, providing decent wages and basic lifeline social security for workers by enacting proper legislation.

(xiii) Need to take steps for proper up keep and maintenance of Babu Rajendra Prasad's 'Samadhi' at Patna

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Samadhi of First President of India, an outstanding personality Dr. Rajendra Prasad, situated adjacent to historical Bangshat at Patna has become a hub of drug-addicts and gamblers. The then Chief Minister of Bihar Shri Bindeshwari Dube had made efforts and inaugurated Dr. Rajendra Udyan on 3rd December, 1985 and stated that this Samadhi will be a source of inspiration for coming generation to take a leaf out of Dr. Rajendra Prasad's struggle and hard work. The fact is that the areas adjacent to Samadhi of Dr. Rajendra Prasad are crowded with stray animals, rickshaw pullers and cartpullers, as the dusk approaches, gamblers, drug addicts and opium addicts assemble there. I would like to draw the attention of the Government and expect from the Government to take steps to do away immediately with such assembling of anti-social elements and make proper arrangements for its upkeep and maintenance.

(xiv) Need to grant mini-AIIMS status to Sarojini Naidu Medical College, Agra, Uttar Pradesh

PROF. S.P. SINGH BAGHEL (Jalesar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government of India has taken a decision to accord status of mini AIIMS to state medical colleges in 8 States. In this regard the Government of Uttar Pradesh has made a written recommendation to the Union Government to accord status of mini AIIMS to the S.N. Medical College, Agra. Sir, Agra is strategically located for Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. The

[Shri S.P. Singh Baghel]

patients from districts of Agra, Etah, Firozabad, Hathras, Mathura, Aligarh, Etawah, Jhansi, Banda, Lalitpur etc. and Bhind, Muraina, Gwalior, Shivpuri, Datia of Madhya Pradesh and districts of Bharatpur, Dholpur etc. of Rajasthan will come to this mini AIIMS for treatment. The S.N. Medical College of Agra is a renowned Medical College. The tourists from around the world come to see Taj Mahal. Therefore, modern and world class medical facility should be available there.

I, therefore, urge upon the Union Government to kindly accord the status of mini AIIMS to S.N. Medical College (Sarojini Naidu Medical College), Agra.

(xv) Need for four-laning of National Highway No. 2 between Gaya and Patna in Bihar

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR MANJHI (Gaya): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the road passing through my parliamentary constituency Gaya merge with N.H.2 which is a part of P.M. quadrilateral Scheme and this road connects Patna, the Capital of State with N.H.2 therefore this road is of great importance. There is an urgent need to declare it as a four lane road and start construction works as soon as possible. Gaya is a tourist place of international importance and an international pilgrimage of Buddhists and Hindus. The journey time between Gaya to Patna will be of two to quarter to two hours after four laning of this road which will prove to be a corner stone for tourists since right now there is no direct flight for Gaya from Delhi. It is only upto Patna and it takes three and half hours to four hours to reach Gaya from Patna by road which is a big let down for tourists.

I, therefore, urge upon the Union Government, through you, to declare this road as four lane road and start the works on this road as soon as possible.

(xvi) Need for reconstruction of National Highway No. 2 on Kanpur-Lucknow and Kanpur-Etawah routes

SHRI RAJARAM PAL (Bilhaur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Road Transport and National Highways towards N.H. No. 2 which has been constructed from Kanpur to Etawah and Kanpur to Lucknow. This road was constructed a few months ago with a cost of crores of rupees whereas this road is not fit for traffic as on date.

I, therefore, urge upon the hon. Minister to reconstruct the Kanpur-Lucknow and Kanpur-Etawah section of N.H.

No. 2 which was constructed just a few months back so that it could be used for traffic.

(xvii) Need to ensure compliance of labour laws by MNCs functioning in India

[English]

SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI (Madras North) Sir, there is a growing tendency among the management of multinational corporations to undermine the well established principles and practices of labour and they appear to give scant respect for the labour laws in India. The principle of collective bargaining is given a go by, by the management by giving pre-emptive hike in salary to a select few in the organisation, disregarding the registered the affiliated trade unions and creating a wedge among different categories of workers. The provisions of Trade Unions Act are given least regard thereby belittling the trade union movement as a whole. Our DMK Party leader, Dr. Kalaignar was the first leader who said that the labour laws should not be as per the wishes of the management of foreign companies but those laws should be in favour of the workers engaged in those companies and the amendments thereof should be brought forward by the Government to safeguard the interests of the workers.

It is, therefore, urged upon the Union Labour Minister to kindly see that minimum social security is provided to workers employed in the MNCs and to create a Special Cell as a watch dog, and to go into all the anti-labour policies of various multinational companies in India, including the State of Tamil Nadu. I also urge upon the Hon'ble Minister to issue instructions to the Labour Commissioners to strictly implement the provisions of labour laws.

(xviii) Need to allocate adequate funds for the proper upkeep and maintenance of National Highways on Khurda-Bolangir and Gopalpur-Raipur sections in Orissa

SHRI SUGRIB SINGH (Phulbani): Sir, the National Highways in my Parliamentary Constituency Phulbani which is one of the most backward areas in the country, are in a very bad condition. Last year Union Government has included Khurda-Bolangir section as National Highway and before the Gopalpur-Raipur was declared as National Highway. It is surprising that after including these roads as National Highway there is no authority to look after and maintain these roads. There is no improvement in the condition of these sections. Sir, we will not be able

to improve the living condition of tribals of our country until and unless Union Government changes its approach and give full financial support for the development of most backward tribal area of the country. Due to such approach the citizens of rural and backward areas and compel to migrate in urban towns to the country.

Sir, we should bring the Tribal and backward population in the mainstream of the nation and for that we should be liberal in giving Central Funds so that schemes in backward and tribal area don't suffer. I hope the Ministry for Road Transport and Highways will give kind attention and release funds liberally for improvement of the condition and development of National Highways at Khurda-Bolangir and Gopalpur-Raipur section in the current year.

(xix) Need to provide stoppage to important trains and computerized reservation facility at Nagina, Bijnore district, Uttar Pradesh

[Translation]

SHRI MUNSHI RAM (Bijnore): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Nagina railway station is located near the Tehsil headquarters of Bijnore district of Uttar Pradesh. It is on Jammu Tawi-Howrah main rail line. It does not have computerized reservation centre and train stoppage facility of important trains like 5210-Down/UP express trains which is very essential for the villagers of that area. Nagina area is a centre for import-export of Handicrafts and cottage industries goods but it suffers a lot due to non-stoppage of trains. A large number of people of sikh community reside in rural areas in and around this area but there is no stoppage of Punjab bound trains for these rural people. The situation is so grave that in 18 hours only two express trains stop here due to which the passengers of the districts and nearby rural areas have to reach the station by covering a distance of 25 km by road. The another problem is about computerized reservation. There is reservation centre in Moradabad division after Nazibabad. The distance between these two areas is approx. more than 95 kms.

Therefore, I urge the Union Government to take immediate action to provide stoppage of important trains and computerized reservation facility for the rural areas of the district.

(xx) Need to take suitable measures to boost border trade with Myanmar and Bangladesh

[English]

SHRI VANLAL ZAWMA (Mizoram): The small North-Eastern State of Mizoram share a 404 kms. long

international border with Myanmar and 318 kms. with Bangladesh. Before 1947, Mizoram, then called the Lushai Hills had a self-sufficient economy. Goods used to come from Bangladesh and Myanmar into Mizoram by road and by boat at several entry point and vice-versa. With the closure of all traditional routes of trade after independence, the Aizawal-Silchar highway on its northern border with Assam has been the only road linkage with the rest of the country. As such, the economy of Mizoram is severely constrained by poor communication, lack of infrastructural facilities and non-availability of market to see its agricultural and horticultural product.

In order to develop Mizoram's economy, it is imperative that border trade with its neighbouring countries should be given a fillip. To raise the border trade to a significant level for Mizoram, impetus has to be given for the development of trade centre at Tlabung on the Western Border of Mizoram with Bangladesh and Zokhawthar on the Eastern Border with Myanmar by establishing new and improved existing infrastructural facilities like buildings, road, river linkages and upgrading existing facilities.

I, therefore, appeal to the concerned Ministries to hasten all necessary steps to bolster border trade with Myanmar and Bangladesh in the interest of Mizoram in particular and the nation as a whole.

(xxi) Need to bring a suitable legislation to check piracy of films in the country

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA (Rampur): Film Industry has been suffering heavy losses on account of the piracy of films and Govt. are also loosing lot of revenue which could have been earned after the release of film in the Cinema Halls. If fact C.D. of all the films are prepared by the unscrupulous people and sold in the market much before the release of the films with the result public do not visit the cinema Halls as these film are shown on T.V. at their residence with the result a large number of Cinema Halls in the country have been closed down and a number of people have been rendered unemployed.

I would, therefore, request the Govt. to bring forward suitable legislation to protect the film industry. Deterrent punishment should be provided in the legislation for the persons who are engaged in piracy.

15.02 hrs.

**DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY
GRANTS—(GENERAL) 2005-06
AND
DEMANDS FOR EXCESS GRANTS—
(GENERAL) 2002-03**

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Item Nos. 15 and 16 will be taken up together. Hon. Finance Minister.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Sir, I come before this House with Supplementary Demands for Grants, 2005-06 as well as for Demands for Excess Grants for the year 2002-03. So far as the Supplementary Demands for the current fiscal year are concerned, I seek an authorization for gross additional expenditure of Rs. 14,661.36 crore of which the cash outgo will only be Rs. 6,818.56 crore and remainder will be technical Supplementaries.

So, of the cash outgo, I wish to highlight the following important heads of expenditure. Firstly, Rs. 5,222.48 crore is by way of additional transfers to State and Union Territory Governments by way of grant as well as loans. This includes Rs. 632.48 crore for Jammu and Kashmir,

Rs. 672 crore under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) and Rs. 542 crore under the Accelerated Power Development Programme. Rs. 916.67 crore will be given for Rural Telephony, Rs. 500 crore is being given for Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Limited, Rs. 100 crore for continuing with 1562 Fast Track Courts and Rs. 73.33 crore for payment of compensation to Indian Airlines on account of old liabilities of Vayudoot Limited.

I believe these expenditures are unavoidable. They are justified. Eighty-three per cent of the additional cash outgo is under Plan, and, therefore, I would request this august House to kindly vote the Supplementary Grants.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motions moved:

"That the respect supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President, 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, I respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 1, 3, 9, 12, 13, 15, 19, 30, 32, 34, 36, 39, 42, 47 to 50, 52, 53, 55 to 57, 59, 61, 63, 65, 70, 71, 73, 79, 83, 85 to 88, 92, 99, 100 and 105."

List of Supplementary Demands for Grants—First Batch (General) for 2005-2006 to be submitted to the Vote of Lok Sabha

No. & Title of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant to be submitted to the Vote of the House	
	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1	2	3
1 Department of Agriculture and Cooperation	2,00,000	1,00,000
3 Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying	2,00,000	—
9 Ministry of Civil Aviation	73,33,00,000	—
12 Department of Commerce	24,03,00,000	1,00,000
13 Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion	1,00,000	—
15 Department of Telecommunications	1216,67,00,000	—

	1	2	3
19	Department of Food and Public Distribution	2,00,000	—
30	Ministry of Environment and Forests	3,00,000	8,01,00,000
32	Department of Economic Affairs	2,00,000	—
34	Payments to Financial Institutions	2,00,000	500,00,00,000
36	Transfers to State and Union Territory Governments	1846,49,00,000	—
39	Department of Expenditure	1,00,000	—
42	Department of Revenue	1,00,000	—
47	Department of Health	1,00,000	25,00,00,000
48	Department of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH)	1,00,000	—
49	Department of Family Welfare	1,00,000	—
50	Department of Heavy Industry	69,02,00,000	1,00,000
52	Ministry of Home Affairs	1,00,000	1,00,000
53	Cabinet	1,00,000	—
55	Other Expenditure of the Ministry of Home Affairs	1,00,000	—
56	Transfers to Union Territory Governments	2,16,00,000	—
57	Department of Elementary Education and Literacy	1,00,000	—
59	Department of Women and Child Development	3,00,000	—
61	Ministry of Labour and Employment	50,01,00,000	—
63	Law and Justice	100,01,00,000	—
65	Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources	3,00,000	—
70	Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions	1,00,000	—
71	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	5762,85,00,000	—
73	Ministry of Power	1100,00,00,000	—
79	Department of Rural Development	2,00,000	—
83	Department of Scientific and Industrial Research	1,00,000	—
85	Department of Shipping	1,00,000	—
86	Department of Road Transport and Highways	1,00,000	—

	1	2	3
87	Ministry of Small Scale Industries	3,20,00,000	—
88	Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment	1,00,000	—
92	Ministry of Textiles	2,00,000	—
99	Lakshadweep	1,27,00,000	—
100.	Department of Urban Development	—	500,00,00,000
105.	Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports	1,00,000	—
Grand Total		10249,43,00,000	1033,05,00,000

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motions moved:

"That the respective excess sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President, out of the

Consolidated Fund of India, to make good the excess on the respective grants during the year ended the 31st day of March, 2003 in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 13, 30 and 80."

LOK SABHA

List of Demands for Excess Grants (General) for 2002-2003 to be submitted to the Vote of Lok Sabha

No. & Name of Demand	Amount of Demand to be submitted to the Vote of the House	
	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
13 Department of Telecommunications	—	158892479
30 Transfers to State and Union Territory Governments	3608987	—
80 Department of Culture	526977626	—
Total	530586613	158892479

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now Shri Kailash Joshi.

[Translation]

SHRI KAILASH JOSHI (Bhopal): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the supplementary demands for grants have to be presented by the Government. They are presented due to two reasons. Firstly, they are introduced to meet the inadequate amount meant for the work of which provision was made in the annual budget. Secondly, they are produced when a new work comes to the light after the commencement of financial year and when there is paucity

of funds in that head. Demands for grants presented here by the hon. Finance Minister do not stand the test. Out of these, there are such many items about which either a provision could have been made in the annual budget or there was no need of presenting them here. I oppose those demands that have been brought here by the Finance Minister.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, though there are certain demands about which it has been stated that the funds will be allocated for them from the savings and only partial grants are required. I would like to know from the

Finance Minister that only four months have elapsed since the presentation of the annual budget and today saving seems to be there in them where they were kept under a provision during these four months. Hence, for which heads a provision of these demands for grants was made either they were not utilized or they were included in the budget without any consideration. I would like to know from the Finance Minister as to why such expenditure were included in the budget.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are some demands for which only cash amount has been sought. I admit sometimes such situation crops up but according to me there are certain demands which should not be included in the supplementary demands. This shows that while formulating the annual budget, these demands were not considered seriously or these provisions were made without any consideration and funds for them were being sought now. This is the reason that such a situation has arisen. I think that hon. Finance Minister will clarify this. I also know that some amount is kept for natural calamity or other public interest works. I do not oppose it but I oppose the provision of funds meant for other items.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it seems that the officers have handed over all the details regarding supplementary demands for grants to the hon. Finance Minister and the same has been presented here. A number of demands are not of such urgent nature to be included in the supplementary demands for grants. During these four months, many such problems might have cropped up which would have deserved immediate attention. For this, there is a provision to produce supplementary demands for grants. No such immediate urgency is visible in these supplementary demands.

During this intervening period, a number of incidents have taken place—many States have suffered devastating floods, many States suffered severe drought situation and in some States including Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh thousands kms. of roads were submerged and big bridges were washed away and cracked. It matters the most if a provision for this amount is made in supplementary grants for such works. You have provided some interim relief to these States but the provisions required to be made according to the devastation suffered by the States are not reflected in these supplementary demands for grants. Therefore, I have said that I oppose these demands.

You have asked for cash amount for Civil Aviation sector. This amount is being sought to make up the

losses of Vayudoot. This matter has been lingering for a very long time. Vayudoot has not been working properly and has become a sick unit. The Finance Minister should clarify the need for making provisions to make up this loss.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, look at page 5, some demands are okay which I do not like to mention. The development loan given to the Coffee Board is being waived off alongwith interest. I would like to know as to why such a situation has arisen. According to its present condition the Coffee Board do not require this waiver. I would like to know from the Finance Minister as to why such a situation to waive off the entire loan amount alongwith its interest regarding Coffee Board has arisen?

Similar is the case of Department of Telecommunication. Department of Telecommunication have sought funds to make telephones available in its rural areas. The process of making available telephone in rural area has been running for the last many years. But it has come to our notice that the said facility was not made available whereas the department said that it would be made available by March, 2005 in particular areas of the particular State. Had you demanded anything in this regard we would have considered that the department was not able to pull on. Therefore, you are doing something. But you have stated that funds are required to pay for the compensation. Will you be pleased to state as to what the compensation is meant for? It is compensation on land, it must be clear that it is meant for that specific purpose. After all what is meant for? Please clarify the position in this regard in the House so that we may come to know about the need for such a huge amount of compensation, which is being paid.

Deputy Speaker, Sir, similarly, on page 10 it has been mentioned that funds are required for the construction of godowns in North-East and Jammu and Kashmir. We also admit that it should be given. But as I mentioned at the very outset of my speech as to why this kind of demand could not be included in the annual general budget and as to why all of a sudden this kind of situation was created because inclusion of such funds therein under the procedure prescribed for supplementary budget, it was not considered to be right thing whereas thing should have been included in the annual budget and that is why it was produced at this point of time. I fail to understand as to what the need was to produce the same at this time. Whether the Prime Minister visiting

[Shri Kailash Joshi]

that place lately and he was told there about it and that is why it was being included therein now.

It would have been appropriate if it had been included in the annual budget. Please also clarify this as to what the need was to include the amount in the supplementary demands.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on page 11, funds have been sought under the Head forest and it has also been sought under the same Head to make national annual assessment of tigers and other wildlife and this thing is being treated as a right thing. This kind of assessment have been made quite earlier. There has been a discussion in the Parliament over the said issue for the last three years and the same thing is the talk of the town all over the country that the number of tigers is decreasing continuously whereas every time it was stated by the forest department that it was not so. But now truth has begun to come to our knowledge that there have been deaths of tigers in every tigers' sanctuary on large scale and they have not met their end on account of any disease or some other reason but they have met their end due to poaching. The Government should have examined into it some time earlier. This time you have earmarked the amount is a good thing but at the same time I request your goodself that this job should be completed within a specified time frame. It was also noticed in the past that a provision of such kind of funds was made in the budget but despite that the works were not completed in the specified time frame. Today, the situation of tigers' death has become so explosive that we expect you that this work should be completed in the specified time frame. Hon'ble Minister may please ask his department to submit the report in the specified period of time and the funds meant for this purpose should be utilized for this very purpose for the work progress.

The next point I would like to say about the page 27 wherein funds have been sought for basic education and literacy. We have been hearing for the years together that the Union Government and its departments are working promptly to propagate literacy, but it has been noticed that they yield no desired results in true sense. Where there the targets have been prescribed, they have not been met so far. It should be a part of duty of department to ensure that there should be desired results what money we have spent. Hence, some instructions may please be given to the Ministry of Human Resource Development in this regard that its results may also be

brought to the notice of the House and to the notice of the public of the country and it may also be brought to the notice that the huge amount we are spending on a particular purpose is being met or not and as to how long will it run. When the population increases we will have to make additional arrangements for the same but the literacy percentage is not increasing and its position is getting reverse in some States whereas it is also the duty of the department to look after it. Hence, what the amount you have sought is appropriate. The funds should be made available for this work, but it should be taken care that it yields desired results so that it is felt that literacy percentage is increasing in the States where there it is low. Only then it will be presumed that the money approved by the House is being used appropriately.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards the Department of Labour. Under the labour department funds have been sought for the construction of houses for beedi workers. The issue was raised earlier in this connection but the required number of houses could not be constructed. There are lakhs of beedi workers in some States of the country. Hence, after sanction of the said amount it should be ensured that it has been implemented properly or not. It is also necessary to see that number of houses have been constructed or not in the States as per the prescribed quota for that State. In this regard I would like to draw the attention of Finance Minister that the condition of beedi workers in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and adjoining parts of Orissa and other States is going from bad to worse continuously.

Sir, due to competition in the industry and use of cigarette, the use of beedi have decreased. These all points should be taken care of that those who are beedi smokers and those who are interested in smoking beedis, beedis should be made for them on time, there should be a good arrangement of living for them and their business should flourish if we want to retain their interest for beedis.

15.20 hrs.

[SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV *in the Chair*]

From this point of view of the condition of the beedi workers needs to be considered by the department of labour. So, I would like to say that such efforts should be made in this direction so that the sanctioned amount for beedi industry is utilized in prescribed time period. Beedi workers should definitely get the benefit of the

said amount in time. It has also come to the notice that the funds allocated for beedi workers are not spent on them. It should also be taken care of that the funds, which was given for the construction of houses for them was not spent for them.

With these words, the Finance Minister has presented the demands of supplementary grants and where there we have agreed with them, we have not opposed them but where there we have disagreed we have opposed and I expect that Finance Minister will solve our all problems at the time of giving reply.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri K.S. Rao, Not present.

[English]

SHRI K.S. RAO (Eluru): Sir, with your permission, I would like to speak from this seat.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right.

SHRI K.S. RAO: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I heard with rapt attention some of the opinions expressed by our hon. colleague, Shri Kailash Joshi who is a very experienced and respected politician in the country, more particularly by virtue of his experience as former Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh. My only feeling is that it has become a practice for us that when we sit in the ruling benches, we will say that everything is good and excellent, and when we sit in the opposition benches, we will say that everything is bad. But luckily, by virtue of his seniority and by virtue of his gentleness, at least he would agree on certain points.

There are a few points on which I could feel that there must be some difference. His very first point is that such supplementary demands should not come in a span of four months and the Finance Ministers must be able to visualise what kind of expenditure will come and that they must incorporate that in the Budget when they present it. I agree to an extent. But he must have been able to tell the same thing when they were in power. I have gone through the discussions on this point which went on for so many years. Whenever they are in power, every time they are supporting it outrightly as if it is right. So, my point is that bringing of supplementary demands is not wrong. There can always be some variation. As he said, he can always ask what for these particular sanctions are there—they should be or they should not be, and all that.

Similarly, I was surprised to hear what he was telling on the question of provision in the supplementary demands for writing off interest due to the Coffee Board. We all know that these days, unfortunately, the growers of food grains, coffee, rubber, tea etc. are in a bad shape. On many occasions, all these people are in such a bad shape that they are committing suicides also. So, naturally, it is the duty of the Government, depending upon the situation, to come to their rescue. If the prices were not to be remunerative, the Government has to come to their rescue. Otherwise, they will stop growing all these things and ultimately, we will have to import everything, which is not good for the nation.

About rural telephony, everybody wants to have telephone in the city and no company would like to go to the rural areas where it may be very unremunerative for them to go. Naturally, the Government has to come to the rescue of rural areas. The Government company only has taken up that job. It is a case like that of the Railways. Railways have to run the trains, even if the route were to be unremunerative, in the interest of the community and in the interest of the poor. On these two points, I would just request him to reconsider.

We appreciate his supporting the provisions relating to natural calamities, wildlife, bidi workers and all that. Anyway, if it were to be Shri Swain, his attitude and criticism would have been more aggressive and he would not have accepted even one point.

Sir, though I am in the ruling party. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Mr. Swain has changed now.

SHRI K.S. RAO: Sir, though I am in the ruling party, yet I would like to mention some of the points here as I do not blindly support everything. I also do not expect you to praise the good things that have been done by the Government or the hon. Finance Minister. You can always criticise, but as a Member, with a view to motivating the Finance Ministers in the future also—be it your Finance Minister or our Finance Minister—certain good things done by them must be appreciated. This would motivate them all to follow the same.

In spite of all this, it is found that the revenue deficit has decreased from 3.6 per cent to 2.6 per cent. The debt-GDP ratio has also reduced from 67.9 per cent to 67 per cent, and the tax-GDP ratio has increased from

[Shri K.S. Rao]

9.2 per cent to 9.8 per cent. We all know that the confidence of the investors has gone up to such an extent today that there is a boom in the stock market. Thousands of crores of rupees straightaway come as contributions when the corporate sector goes to the public. The contributions so made are so many times more. Obviously, it is good for the nation as it motivates the economy, and it is in the interest of the entire country. Similarly, inflation is also under control. There is no inflation in spite of all these things. I do not want you to admire this fact also, but the facts must be taken into account.

I have gone through the expenditure that has been provided in the Supplementary Budget in detail. For example, the Accelerated Power Development Programme in Andhra Pradesh was mentioned in it. If we analyse the power losses in Electricity Boards of the various States, it is a very awful situation. Approximately, 50 per cent of the losses are there, both commercial and technical. Therefore, with a view to regulate such power losses and to motivate the State Electricity Boards, the Government of India has come with a noble scheme to encourage the Electricity Boards. The scheme states that if the Electricity Boards were able to reduce the power losses, then the Government would give them incentives. They have provided this scheme, and it is not expenditure. Actually, it is a saving.

Similarly, I having seen that several projects of irrigation were pending for the last 15 years to 20 years. They were not giving any results, and it was a loss to the nation as a whole. In order to see that they were completed early and the public enjoys its benefits, the Government is giving funds to motivate the State Governments. It is also a good step, and it is not an extra expenditure. It is actually a saving as the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme is giving early benefits to the people.

Similarly, the loans are provided for continuing the external-aided projects. Instead of allowing certain projects that have crossed their expenditure to remain like that only, the Government is giving loans in order to ensure that they are completed and their benefits reach the public early. There is nothing to find fault in these steps taken by the Government.

But I would like to make a request to the hon. Finance Minister while admiring his control on the finances. In a way, he is telling that the officers do all these calculations and he just passed on all the proposals

of the officials to the House as he happens to be the Finance Minister. Our hon. Minister has got a great reputation. He is not a politician, but is more like a bureaucrat. He himself is a bureaucrat. As it is so, therefore, when we put some proposals to him, he always cuts them and regulates them. All these measures are done to control the revenue deficit, and to control the fiscal deficit. He says no wherever the expenditure is high in his opinion, and he never yields to any of our requests. On many occasions we approached him for some favour or the other for the people of our constituencies, but he simply said no to it.

I would like to make a humble request to the hon. Minister in this context. Mr. Chidambaram, you are making provisions in good amount for rural development, agriculture, employment generation, drinking water, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, etc. We would humbly request you across the party lines—I happen to be from the Congress Party and in the ruling party—to take care of the health insurance of the poor people who are living below the poverty line in this country. The poor people are not being treated properly when they go to the Government hospitals.

They cannot afford private nursing homes or go to hospitals run by the corporate sector. The poor people in our constituencies, who have worked for 50 years, when they become blind, when they have no choice, or when their children are not in a position to take care of them, are living like orphans. When you are bringing out a Pension Scheme and when we are providing pension to those officers who have worked for 20 years, 25 years or 30 years, to ensure their better living till their death, can we not look after these people who are neglected in the rural areas and who have worked for a longer period than the officers? When we ourselves are asking for pension, are they not eligible? Is it not rational? Can you not think in terms of providing free healthcare to all those families who are below the poverty line? If the Government were to provide Rs. 25,000 annually, the insurance companies will come forward and take care of these families. Surprisingly, I have seen the other day that the total cost of free health insurance for taking care of those families who are below the poverty line in the whole country is not more than Rs. 300 crore.

Just the other day, the Chief Minister of Assam has insured 30 million people. The ICICI has come forward to do it and the premium amount is only Rs. 25 crore—the limit being Rs. 25,000 every year for healthcare and

Rs. 50,000 for accident. Can you not extend it to the entire country? Is it not our duty to do so? I wish the hon. Minister would incorporate this in the Supplementary Demands for Grants next time. It may be an extra expenditure, but it is a genuine expenditure.

The second thing is to provide social security to these people. When we go to our constituencies, the poor and the old people come to us with folded hands seeking our help in getting the monthly pension of Rs. 75. Please take care of them. The statistics reveal that the people who are in the age group of 60 and beyond is only seven per cent of the total population. It means, their number is about 70 million to 80 million. Out of that, assuming 40 per cent is below the poverty line, only 30 million people are above 60 years of age. As they are below the poverty line, they need our attention and they need social security. Instead of providing Rs. 75 per month, I would request you to provide them a pension of Rs. 200 per month. Let the State Governments take care of 50 per cent of the entire expenditure. It does not cost more than Rs. 3,000 crore. Is the sum of Rs. 3,000 crore really a big amount for the Government of India, when we are trying to take care of the poor families aged above 60? Hon. Minister, do not be like a bureaucrat; please be liberal; please understand the difficulties of the poor people living in the rural areas and provide for these things in your next Supplementary Demands for Grants.

Sir, the system of education in this country is not suitable to the needs of this country. Every time, when the Government changes or the party changes, they talk about a new educational policy. I have seen this happening many a time, sitting as a member of the ruling front, except during the tenure of the late Shri Rajiv Gandhi. By changing the name of the Ministry of Education to Ministry of Human Resource Development, he has understood the need for improving the human resources. We have understood the value of human resources and we have got them in abundance. Unless this wealth of human resources is improved by increasing their skills, the country will not prosper. Qualifications like M.A., B.A., M.Sc., B.Sc., Engineering and others are only boosting the ego of the people and making them think that they are big people, that they do not have to toil, and they think that they are there to place orders or dictate somebody to do the work. However, our country does not need them in large numbers. What our country needs is skilled and confident people.

By the time he comes out of the institute, he must have the courage, conviction and self confidence that he will live on his own; that since he has got a skill in hand, he does not need to bother his parents; that he is not a liability to the society; that he need not go to an MP or an MLA seeking employment in some Government job. The Government has to support him only with a loan at either a low or zero per cent rate of interest and he can live on his own.

Today if South Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, China and some other countries have come up like this, it is because of the skills of their citizens. Those people are delivering more goods. Their production capacity is more. Their turn out is more. That is why they are able to sell their products at a very cheap rate, compared to us. That is how they are able to compete in the international market. If a capitalist country like the USA cares for China, it is because of this reason. So, I request the hon. Minister to provide enough funds to impart skills to the citizens of the country, more particularly the poorer sections. This does not cost much either. A lot of non-governmental organisations are there to provide skills in the local areas where they are required. For example, in my area, some knowledge on dairying needs to be imparted, some information on poultry needs to be given, some training in repairing motors which are burning every time needs to be given and the skill has to be improved. All are ordinary things and small things.

So, I request the hon. Minister to provide reasonably good amount of funds. It all need not happen in one year. At least in the coming five to six years if we are to impart the skills to all the citizens of the country, we will excel in the whole world in growth. The GDP, which is struggling to increase from 7 to 10 per cent, can increase tremendously in no time if the skills of human resources of this country were to be developed.

The last point which I wanted to put to the hon. Minister, which all the political parties in the country have neglected, is the linking of rivers. We have provided Rs. 20,000 crore for providing employment in the rural areas. But, if you were to put the same thing here, there are a lot of private parties, corporate sector entities which are prepared to come forward and then take up this project.

Though it appears to be costing about Rs. 2 lakh crore, the Government does not need to invest all the money on its own. There are people who are prepared

[Shri K.S. Rao]

to invest money. By this, about 35 million hectares of land will come under cultivation, about 35,000 MW of power could be generated. And then, the water table will come up. There will be agriculture in the entire country. So many other benefits like navigation, reduction in transport costs, etc., will be there. So, such enormous benefits are there. Earlier, when this file was put up, even the former Prime Minister, I understand, had put it off after having seen the figure of Rs. 6 lakh crore. We do not look at the figures. In this globalised world when funds are available at low rates of interest, this would be the most viable project. No other industry can give as much benefit as this project of linking of river. This provides employment too. We can also avoid losses due to droughts and floods. In fact, we will be benefited; we will get more profit, we will get more tax revenue. All these benefits will accrue to the citizens if that money is invested in this.

Shri Chidambaram is one of the most intelligent Ministers in the Cabinet. I do not want him to close his mind. Let him have an open mind, let him go deep into the matter, and then see how best this can be done without much investment from the Government's side.

With these points, I support the Supplementary Demands for Grants totally, not just because I am a Congressman but on merits. I want the hon. Minister of Finance to take note of the few points that I have mentioned.

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh): Sir, it is good to know that the hon. Member who spoke from the main Opposition party, my esteemed senior colleague Shri Joshi, did not object to the proposed Supplementary Demands for Grants. As far as the part of Demands which he objected to is concerned, I think he could not understand the logic behind it.

I will be little provoked to say that it reflects the position that the BJP party is taking now a days. It is rather a rudderless party; without any direction they are moving. Now, the country is facing massive natural calamities, unprecedented in nature. The Government has to bear the responsibilities. While the Finance Minister is managing the finance of the country and the economy of the country, the financial capital of the country itself is in a very shabby position. So, a lot of attention has to be paid, especially in the metro cities like Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai, to the draining system. One of the main reasons for the shabby position is not only the

unprecedented rainfall but also lack of drainage system so that the financial capital of the country should be restored to its position, so that it can advance to provide necessary finance to the Finance Minister to manage the economy of the country.

This year, we find erratic rainfall taking place. Monsoon is erratic. At present, erratic monsoon has been combined with the high oil prices. Oil prices are skyrocketing in the international market. Hon. Finance Minister, this is a red signal. In this position to manage the economy, attaining the targeted growth rate is very difficult. Your Ministry has targeted a growth rate of seven per cent but I am afraid, if all the Departments of the Government of India and if all the might of the Finance Ministry is not put behind all the Departments, the projected target is very difficult to achieve.

Now, we have to concentrate on every sector of the economy—from revenue collection to the industrial growth, growth in the service sector, growth in the transport sector and the most important one is the agriculture sector.

Hon. Finance Minister, I want to draw your kind attention to the fact that the purchasing power of rupee has declined. If you take 1984 as the base year, the purchasing power of rupee was 19.84 in April, 2004; it has now come down to 18.98. So, whatever is generated in the economy, due to decline in the purchasing power of the rupee, the expected growth in the market is not taking place.

Hon. Prime Minister himself in the National Development Council meeting has said that lack of growth in agriculture has had a dampening effect on the GDP performance. Hon. Prime Minister has stated: "We need to focus attention and increase investment in the entire chain of activities related to agriculture, the supply of imports and credit, diversification of crop, better production practices, and improved post-harvest management."

Now this year, the crop production has been projected to decline to 3.4 per cent, if I am correct. In other areas of revenue earning, in April-May 2005, income-tax revenue earning is down by 15 per cent, corporate tax collection declined by Rs. 1,070 crore compared to April-May, 2004. Excise Duty, though up by 2.5 per cent, yet it is still significantly lower than 16.4 per cent increase in the same period of 2004. In the field of non-tax revenue, the increase is by three per cent. It is still less than 20.4 per cent compared to April-May, 2004. A lot of attention has

to be paid. I have no lack of confidence in the Finance Minister regarding his capability to see all the areas from where revenue is collected. A substantial increase is there so that required funding is not an obstacle in the process of development.

One area is of loan realization. Last year, there was a scheme by which the accumulated loans of the State Governments could be adjusted through some soft programme. This year, such a type of programme is not there. The realization from banks through collection of NPA assets has also come down. There is a huge amount of NPA there. It was declared that necessary attention would be given so that the big creditors who have not paid for a long time without any reason, the Ministry would take effective steps to see that the loan is realised from those creditors. Unfortunately, that action is still not seen.

In the agriculture sector, though much has been said by all the authorities concerned, yet I am constrained to say that it is only a lip service.

Sir, most of the technology in the rural areas which is under-utilized at present, is borrowed from the Western countries. As you know, in the Western countries, the farm size is very large. Farms ranges are there, spreading into thousands and thousands hectares of land. The technology which is utilised in those large farms ranges, is not suitable for our country. But even after 57 years of our Independence, we could not develop our own low cost quality and affordable technology in the rural areas. Whatever technology is available, that has been borrowed from the Western countries, and that is not suitable for our farmers. Our farm size is not so large.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you would be surprised to know that the tractor producing companies like Mahindra & Mahindra and Escorts have stopped producing tractors now and they have switched over to the production of motor cars and other types of vehicles. The tractors which are available at present, cost not less than Rs. 3 lakh each. So, if a poor farmer wants to purchase a tractor, he has to pay this money by mortgaging his land, because the cost is so high. To boost up the economy in the rural areas, a tractor can be utilised in the farms. Similarly, a tractor can be used as a transport vehicle when the farming activity is not there. But its cost has been finalised in such a way that it is very, very difficult for a farmer to repay the loan amount. In Punjab and Haryana, there are hundreds of examples where farmers

could not repay the loan amount and they had to lose their land for making payments.

Why this type of price is there in the case of tractor? In the case of a motor car, the price is gradually coming down. If you go to purchase a motor car, there will be dozens of bankers to provide you finance. But if you go to purchase a tractor, you will not find anyone. Only the companies which have entered into the Memorandum of Understanding with the concerned banks will be there to give you finance. When the cost is Rs. 3 lakh or Rs. 3.5 lakh, there is underhand deal from *patwaris* to managers. This way, Rs. 1 lakh is consumed there and the whole burden with interest is put solely on the poor farmer.

So, there is no proper study on how we can develop low cost, cost effective and quality technology in the rural areas.

Sir, if a farmer sets up his own mini deep well or bore well and if he wants to put a generator there to draw water to irrigate his land, he cannot do so, because of the very strict environment emission norms. The environment emission norm has been fixed by the Department of Environment in such a manner that a farmer will not be able to get a cheap generator. Even such an emission norm has not been fixed there in the European Union.

It is because the farmer should not be able to get a cheap generator. In the name of emission norms, lives and livelihood of thousands and thousands of manufacturers in the tiny and small-scale industry in Agra and its surrounding areas would be at peril. You have to put a generator to draw water to irrigate your land. In that emission norm, such a restriction has been imposed. Why? The reality is that only one corporate house in this country manufacturers the type of generators, which meet the same emission norm.

Sir, have you ever heard it anywhere that the emission norms for 1,000 kilowatts and 2,000 kilowatts are same? How is it? How would it be possible for the farmer to get a low-cost technology in the countryside? Has it ever been thought of?

Now, you take the area of credit. It is really difficult for me to understand that the credit is actually reaching the farmer. Is it a fact? I am told that the public-sector banks achieved only 17 per cent of the target last year. Is it a fact? If it is not a fact, I would be very happy.

[Shri Anil Basu]

The cost of all the inputs—fertilizers, insecticides, electricity, diesel, etc.—has increased manifolds. But, as regards the price of the crops, only the fluctuation is going on in the countryside and the most affected one is the cash crop. This is so from south to north and from east to west. What would be the development in the agricultural sector if you do not increase public investment, if you do not provide inputs and low-cost quality technology in the rural areas? How would you expect that the agriculture sector would improve? It is the agriculture sector which is dampening the whole work.

So, I would urge the hon. Finance Minister to take a very serious note of it. The Planning Commission may be asked to go into the details of this. I wrote a letter to the *Mantriji*. He replied that my letter was very interesting. If it was interesting, then I would request him to go into the details and find out as to what the problem is in rural areas, how the credit is reaching the farmers, how, in the name of the sale of tractors, lakhs of rupees are changing hands and how only two or three corporate bodies are monopolising everything. Whatever small and tiny sector was there, that is going to perish. So, if we want to make the desired progress, a lot of attention has to be paid to it.

Sir, while concluding my speech, I would ask the hon. Finance Minister, would you be kind enough to explain the 'Bharat Nirman Yojana', which was mainly targeted to develop the infrastructure in the rural areas?

16.00 hrs.

The other area, which our hon. Finance Minister did mention in the Budget speech, is providing irrigation to millions of hectares of land for creating jobs in the rural India. How is he going to achieve this? Besides the rural employment programme, these are the two important programmes which can help us to achieve the seven per cent target even after so many calamities and sky rocketing of the oil price. I request that all might of the Government and the Finance Minister be put together in a planned manner so that the desired goal can be achieved.

Another area, though it is my personal request yet I think is also a national problem, is the treatment of cancer patients. We have Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute at Kolkata. I had a very painful experience there. There was a very poor man. He was the only earning member of the family and was engaged as a Manager in a very

small Latex factory. He was earning Rs. 2000 per month. He was suffering from cancer. I tried my best to get him admitted in that institute but I was told that though he was poor he cannot be provided treatment free of cost. Let there be some instrument of the Government in the Health Ministry, at least in areas like cancer, which should look after all such things. Is it possible to arrange free of cost treatment to all such poor people? These institutes, though are in the names of great freedom fighters, are in a very bad shape. A lot of attention has to be paid on them. The national institutes have been created but they should also fulfil the national aspirations. If you visit these institutes you will see that instruments are lying idle and patients are not getting proper care. This is the most unfortunate thing. I have referred to the Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute. I would request the hon. Finance Minister to take up this issue with his colleague, hon. Health Minister, so that at least some improvement is seen in the near future.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA (Kheri): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the matter of Supplementary Demands for Grants. Many serious things emerged when the main Budget was placed. Now, India's economic rating is being compared with that of China. On that occasion apprehension was expressed whether we will be able to achieve the projected growth-rate or not and several Members from both sides had raised their voice seriously in the regard.

Performance in the agrarian sector is declining due to our dependence on weather, which is very volatile in nature as some parts of the country are flooded and some are facing drought. Besides, many other apprehensions are also being expressed that we will not be able to achieve the projected GDP growth rate of 8 per cent.

Demands for Grants of Rs. 6818.56 thousand crore have been placed. The major components in Demands for Grants are to support the State Governments. Especially, foreign aided projects have been approved. Funds have been provided under Rajiv Gandhi Electrification Scheme for electricity generation, for telecom sector and we are having some remaining fund.

The greatest moot-point nowadays is that gradually, we are moving towards open market system. We have

to devise the method to make our economic organs more competitive so that they become self-reliant. Previous year, there was an increase of about 648 billion dollar in the GDP of India and contribution of agriculture in it was about 60 per cent. We will have to keep this fact into the mind while appraising it that the investments have been made in the agricultural sector. In this regard, hon'ble Minister of Finance had said that we would be able to provide double or a little more financial assistance. But we feel that apart from nationalized banks, condition of RRBs and District Co-operative Banks which are the backbone of endomic farming, has not improved. They have not achieved their targets regarding funding the farmers. Special attention has to be paid towards these banks. Especially, there is a need to reorganise co-operative Banks and RRBs for pending financial assistance properly to oagnarian sector. I want to congratulate this government for taking good efforts through Rajiv Gandhi Electricity Mission.

Recently, the hon'ble Prime Minister had gone to USA and there an agreement has been signed that our nuclear power generation plants would get reproceased fuel. Hon'ble Prime Minister has said that we would be able to increase our electricity generation capacity by 40 thousand megawatt with the help of it. Infact, this is a wise steps. On the other hand, agriculture is being affected directly by the ill-effects arising from the increasing price of diesel and crude oil in international market. Price of diesel is increasing every month and I have apprehensions that price of crude oil would not be less then 100 dollar per barell in the international market. We can understand the major challenges being faced by farming sector in India. The agriculture on the ground of that India began to make progress and is dreaming of going ahead as to how many difficulties are being faced by it. I would like to request the hon. Finance Minister to ensure energy security keeping in view the peasants and small industries so that we would be able to meet the challenges.

To meet the present challenges, attention should be paid towards important sectors like power, road, telecom, education, health and employment in thrust areas.

Sir, the most important question is related to the matter of governance. I have gone through the report of Transparency International, which says that India is among the top most corrupt nations. Another assessment is that people of India have to pay about Rs. 39,000 crore as a graft and preliminary services. In my opinion, this is a

matter of grave concern. We cannot achieve the target of development unless we address the issue of proper government and eradication of corruption by bringing them under a focussed agenda.

Sir, I do not want to go into the details. In the supplementary Grants huge funds have been earmarked for state grants. The Government of Uttar Pradesh has been demanding a package of Rs. 18,230 crore for the last two years, which was denied, whereas Jammu and Kashmir has been provided the package approved by the Government of India. It is amazing because Uttar Pradesh is a big State, where 18 per cent of India's population lives and it has a great share in India's growth. India's prosperity is directly linked to the prosperity of Uttar Pradesh. During last two years, steps have been taken to make the Uttar Pradesh advancing in every field, be it a farming sector or industry sector or employment sector. But it is matter of regret that when there was dearth of electricity in U.P., the State Government had demanded from the Government of India to ensure supply of electricity which was denied. It affected the progress there. I would like to draw the attention of the Government of India through you that we are concerned to the fact that India has to secure its position in the world and developing countries, which are looking towards India with hope. In this scenario, we just cannot ignore Uttar Pradesh and other backward State.

I would like to underline the fact that Uttar Pradesh is an important State where steps have been taken on large scale for economic development. In the last ten years economy has been ruined there in such a way that after making mammoth efforts, Uttar Pradesh is back on track and striving to move ahead. You have had two to three meetings with the hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Mulayam Singh Yadavji recently and you must have noticed that investment is on increase in Uttar Pradesh and it is showing development indications. I would like to request you to sanction the package of Rs. 18,230 crore for Uttar Pradesh and dispense this money to Uttar Pradesh at the earliest.

Sir, the Government of Uttar Pradesh has urged to the Government of India for the purpose of electricity and to supply surplus electricity to the State to enable Uttar Pradesh to move on the path of progress.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am very thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to participate in this important debate.

[Shri Ram Kripal Yadav]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Bill which hon'ble Finance Minister has brought to authorize payment of sums and their appropriation out of Consolidated Fund of India for various services for the year 2005-06. Hon'ble Finance Minister is very efficient and experienced and he has been engaging in strengthening financial position of India for last one and half year through his perennial efforts. He is making efforts assiduously for not only the development of villages but also of cities of India. UPA Government is committed for the development of each and every class and area. He is following the approach of hon'ble Prime Minister. I am sure that India will move forward under his able leadership. Price rise will be controlled by this and people will get relief and poverty and unemployment will be eliminated.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of Hon'ble Finance Minister towards this fact that first of all he will have to pay special attention to the development of agriculture and rural India in order to strengthen the country's economy. I think results are not coming up as per his efforts. Untill and unless the position of villages is strengthened the country will not get prosperity. Most of the population of the country lived in the villages. Farms and barns are the biggest source of income of the country. Unfortunately, the farming community today is a distraught and perplexed. The farmer is not getting back his investment. The cost of farming inputs like fertilizers, diesel, petrol and seeds are sky rocketing. The farmers are not getting remunerative prices for their produce. They are definitely facing lot of problems due to this very reason. Hon'ble Finance Minister is a financial expert and has got well experience in this field. Therefore, he will have to take some concrete steps as to how the prices of petrol and diesel are to be reduced and how to increase production scientifically. The Government will have to ponder on this point. If farmers are given adequate help, we cannot only become self-reliant but also have enough capacity to feed other countries because our land is very much fertile but unfortunately it is not happening. Therefore, I would like to request through you, hon'ble Finance Minister for taking some concrete steps to ameliorate the financial position of the country and do something for the people working in farms and barns which will ultimately strengthen the economic condition of the country.

This Bill seeks a provision for a specific sum for natural calamities such as flood and drought. Today, every nook and corner of the country is affected by natural

calamities. Unfortunately, we can't do anything for it because this is the fury of the nature. I come from Bihar and would like to draw your attention towards my State.

Bihar is a very backward State. You also know this fact. After the partition of Bihar and the creation of Jharkhand, the economy of the State has deteriorated further. Hon'ble Finance Minister, you spend thousands of crores of rupees on flood and drought as short term measures whereas your attention should be focused on long term solution for that. Bihar experiences floods every year emanating by rivers flowing from Nepal, thus submerging thousands of hectares of agricultural land resulting in huge losses of thousands of hectares of agricultural land resulting in huge losses of thousands of crores of rupees. All roads, bridges, culverts, houses and electricity infrastructure are damaged. Every year, you try again to make them self-reliant. The farmers have to face a lot of problems due to rivers flowing from Nepal towards Eastern Bihar. Every year assistance is given by the Government of India but goes waste.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to request hon'ble Finance Minister that an agreement should be entered into in this regard with Nepal. Although you have made efforts by providing some amount on this account and are thinking in this direction but time is passing very swiftly. You will have to find out any concrete and effective measure in this regard. You will have to enter into an agreement with Government of Nepal so as to dams are constructed over those rivers which will help in power generation. There is paucity of power in entire country including State of Bihar. Cities such as Delhi and Mumbai are also facing shortage of power. So concrete steps should be taken so as to greater part of Bihar where huge property is ruined, condition of Bihar is improved. There should be sufficient investment in the State of Bihar after independence. Bihar was ignored in the first five year plan in terms of allotment of funds. Previous NDA Government assured that Jharkhand would be created bifurcating the State of Bihar and a special package would be provided for remaining Bihar. But no such package has since been provided. After creation of Jharkhand, the State of Bihar has been deprived of its factories and power generating units. There are 18 drought and flood prone districts. If you will not make it self-reliant, how it can be able to get prosperity. The State of Bihar has second position among the States of the country. It has also suffered a loss on account of huge royalty which used to get due to mines. Thus, the people of Bihar are now totally dependent on farming activities. Sir, as I told

earlier North Bihar and Central Bihar is affected due to flood and drought respectively. Therefore, the financial condition of the farmer is very dismal due to disbanding of factories. Hence, until something is done for making it self-reliant and special package is given, it will not get prosperity. I would like to express my gratitude and thank to you for allotting some amount in this regard but this amount is very meagre. If you are really serious about Bihar, kindly establish factories and set right infrastructure there alongwith other arrangements.

I am sorry to say that the amount which has been allotted is very meagre for various programmes and projects to be undertaken in Bihar whether it is National Highways or electrification programme of project to be carried out under the Ministry of Rural Development such as arrangement of potable water and linking of village having a population of 500-1000 people by roads. As per my knowledge, his excellency President of India and hon'ble Prime Minister dreamt of creating a sampurna Bharat and making India a developed country. The amount which has been allotted for these projects is inadequate at the national level, why to talk of Bihar only. You have provided very meagre amount to Rural Development Ministry at national level. What is the method you want to adopt for implementing various schemes for the upliftment of poor? Ministry of Rural Development had demanded Rs. 96000 crore from you, But you have given only Rs. 24000 crore. So, How can we expect the development of villages?

India is a country of villages. Our 75 percent population lives in villages. But, you are working for reduction in the budget meant for them. You must pay attention to that. It is quite a big department. You are saying that electrification of villages is your dream and you are wishing for electrification of 25000 villages. 2.3 crores homes are to be provided with electricity, but you are showing misery in a providing funds in the said head.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, please conclude.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: I am going to conclude. I have just started speaking.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are not taking into account the time while speaking.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: I am the first member of my party, who is speaking.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You conclude. You party's time is running out.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Mr. Chairman, Sir, you are very generous, you are very accommodating. Please give some more time to me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I reminded you in time. Your party's time is over now. You now conclude.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was saying that until the infrastructure is strengthened our country can not develop. When you have not given funds for villages, so how you will be able to give funds to Bihar? No work related to National Highways has started. The Hon. Minister on his visit there announced that funds are being allocated, but it is sad that work has not started as yet. There has been monitoring through the Ministry of Rural Development, Union Government's agencies are working. Be it National Highways or Electricity. Yet the construction of National Highways is nowhere in sight. There is no rural electrification in sight. Pace of road construction work under the Prime Minister Gramin Rozgar Yojana in the aegis of the Ministry of Rural Development is also slow and the work that has started is also stopped. There has been no work going underway through the Power Grid for power supply in villages and you are also not providing sufficient funds.

I would like to request you to give attention to all these things, only then you will be able to do something. Otherwise, the hon. Prime Minister's ambitious Rs. 1,74,000 crore project, which has to be completed till 2009, and to which you are committed, I think the way you are allocating the funds, and there are some important and basic things like electricity, water under the Ministry of Rural Development. Until you will not provide funds generously through your ministry for the same, nothing will happen.

Your should do something about rising prices. Today, our economy is not in a very good shape. There has been no satisfactory results despite several efforts. You may provide any amount, rising prices can not be controlled. Common people will not get any relief. What will happen to the population living below the poverty line? Poor people are shelterless to large scale. Funds are being allocated under the Indira Awas Yojana. But several people, poor people of Bihar are deprived of this scheme. Hon. Mr. Chairman, the area you represent is also affected by poverty. Target has been fixed for

[Shri Ram Kripal Yadav]

allocating houses to 60 lakh poor people there. Work must be started for achieving this target. Our country is country of poor people, poor farmers, labourers working in fields, barns. Until sufficient funds are provided for their development, their upliftment is not possible and country can not move ahead.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You conclude your speech soon.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: I am standing in your support, but besides this, I would like to mention that there is need to pay attention to Bihar and other backward States in the future, in addition to Bihar, Rajasthan, Orissa etc. States are also backward. Special funds should be provided to them. You should pay attention particularly to villages, fields and barns in Bihar. There should have been a policy or scheme for the prosperity of villages, and prosperity of poor people. Only then, you can boast about the prosperity of India. If price-rise continues, then country can not, move forward.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please, take your seat.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Definitely, the backward States like Bihar should be provided special package. With this I conclude my speech by supporting the supplementary demands for Grants.

SHRI ILYAS AZMI (Shahabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, on behalf of Bahujan Samaj Party, I rise to support the Supplementary Budget. It is a fact that our hon. Finance Minister has earned a huge revenue by devising novel ways of collection of taxes and that has been allocated to States in the name of development. Food for work scheme has been started by this Government. The constituency I represent, consist of two districts, which came under Food of work scheme. I got to know this and I am very happy about the fact that, when both the districts will develop with the help of such large amount so, my constituency will also develop. Government of India's weakness lies in the fact that after granting funds to the States, it takes it granted that development has taken place. It doesn't bother about the fact that the money send by them, the money given for particular work, the funds granted for the purpose are being utilised fully or not. The Government of India has no agency and team to monitor whether these funds are properly utilised or not. Govt. of India has only money recovery team, that only knows, how much amount to be recovered from the people, the Government is very efficient in this. But

there is no team to monitor that how the money can be used at proper place or the funds are being utilized properly or not. I don't know about whole country, but I am very sure about my State that people are not getting the full benefit of funds you have provided under the food for work scheme. Firstly, this scheme is faulty in the manner that out of the total wages half portion is to be given as cash and as other half portion wages are to be given as food grains.

Sir, the salaries and allowances we got should also be given half in the shape of food grains. Half of what you got should also be in the shape of food grains the half salaries of our secretaries should also be in the form of food grains. But, it doesn't happen. Then, why only poor are given half wages as food grains and half wages as cash.

Sir, whole food grains are lifted from the godowns of FCI, and it is sent again to godowns of FCI. If any official honestly wishes to give half wages as food grains and half wages as cash. He is unable to do so because it is unpracticable and unpracticable thing can never become successful. Today 50 percent amount of scheme is being misutilised in the shape of corruption. The people who are getting the money because the scheme is new. So, the officials also want to show for some days that people are working. Work would be got done through the agencies and photographs of labourers while on work, would be taken. It was done at so many places. Photographs were taken of them while on work and labourers are removed from the work. After that machines were inducted and contractors completed the work by the help of machines. Therefore I can claim that 50 percent of the money of this scheme is going haywire by way of corruption.

Sir, once it was stated that democracy is by the people for the people, but today the situation is just upside down. Today, a lot of money in the form of taxes is being recovered from the people and this amount is so big that human being can not take care of the amount alone only computer can. Human being can not keep the record of that. Today our slogan about the democracy, has changed in reverse manner. Now the democracy is by the bureaucrats. Everything is going on for the bureaucrats. Money is being wasted carelessly, but that money is going into houses of bureaucrats. Pooors are not getting it. Just have a look from Delhi to Lucknow, thousands of colonies have mushroomed up. There are thousands of houses in each colony and each of the

house costs in lakhs. Just conduct a survey about the ownership of those houses. After survey you will find out that most of the houses belong to the bureaucrats. Money of the people which should be used for people but they are not getting it and it is being usurped by the bureaucrats.

Sir, there is 100 percent consumption in the literacy Mission. The money is just allocated with a view to transfer it into the hands of officials only. In this Parliament, for seven to eight years, since I am here, I am regularly raising my voice that 100 percent money of this scheme is being misutilised in the shape of corruption. One officer suggests a scheme, and it gets started, that scheme keeps on going whether its money is going haywire by way of corruption, it should not be done. I would like to request the Finance Minister that he would conduct a survey in country for this. If the average of literacy comes to even one person for rupees one crore granted under the scheme then I am ready to bear the punishment whatever he would like to give me. If he will ask me to apologize to the House, I am ready to do so.

Sir, we had a Food Minister. At that time too Mr. Chidambaram was the Finance Minister when the scheme to provide foodgrains at reasonable prices to the poors was started. Different persons were of different opinions on this scheme. Mr. Finance Minister was of the opinion that it is not proper to spent 8 thousand crore rupees to provide foodgrains at reasonable prices to the poors. Even I was not in the favour of that although it is my mission by birth to raise the voice of the poors. At that time Mr. Food Minister told me that whenever there will be a discussion on this matter I should be present in the House so that there may not be any confusion. Today poors are getting only 25 per cent money of the total money of this scheme and rest of the money is going in the pockets of the officers, employees and mediators—poor are not getting more than 25 percent of the money.

Sir, just before some time Mr. Ravi Prakash Verma of Kheri District of our State was saying that in his constituency foodgrains are not at all distributed for the last five years. But full quantity of foodgrains is lifted from the goodowns. All the officers and staff usurped that.

Although they got suspended also. ...(*Interruption*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon'ble members raise their voice in Parliament. Raise your voice outside the Parliament also.

SHRI ILYAS AZMI: I raise my voice outside the Parliament also. At least I can say about myself that I raise my voice outside the Parliament also. I have praised in this House about the Pradhmantri Gram Sadak Yojana that this is a very good scheme, on which a lot of money is not wasted in corruption but you have framed its procedure in such a manner that in my direct on the scheme of the year 2003-2004 work have started just now. You made road network thrice in 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 but when our officers chalk out the schemes in their air-conditioned rooms. They leave half of the villages out of the scheme. Again we raise our voice that such and such village is having more population than one thousand, no road is there and again they add it in the scheme. At this time, scheme of 2005-2006 is no where. Work on the scheme for the year 2003-2004 has started now. Therefore procedure should not be so cumbersome. Although you are spending 22 lakhs per kilometre, but first of all, you have the scheme for three years, see through the microscope as to how the scheme has chalked out and is there any disorder in it. You provide 22 lakhs per kilometre if that is sanctioned in three years, it is useless. If you can not reduce the money then it is useless. So the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana is a good scheme. Poors of the villages has been provided with some good roads and there is possibility in the future also that they are going to get good roads, procedure also needs to be corrected.

Another thing I would like to say to the Government of India is that the way in which our Rural Development Minister was saying some days before claiming that they will do this, on the problem of water, he said that they will make the Parliamentarian to believe that water crisis has been resolved. He said in this House only after paying money just thinking that the work has been done, after paying the money just to think that we are paying 27 thousand crore rupees for providing foodgrains at reasonable rates for the poors and poors are getting foodgrains at reasonable rates worth 27 thousand crore rupees, I think this is the policy of an ostrich. Whenever there is a storm in desert an ostrich hides it's eyes under its wings. It thinks that if it is not able to see the world, then the world might also not be able to see it, this policy is not a good one. You spend money then also monitor it properly and see that whether the poors are getting benefit of 100 crore rupees spent by you or not. Just thinking by paying 100 crore rupees that one thousand roads have been constructed under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana or a lot work has been carried

[Shri Ilyas Azmi]

out in the food for work scheme just assuming it is not fair whether you are getting money from rich persons but in real, that money comes out from the packets of poors only, therefore that should be spent on poors also.
...(Interruption)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now conclude.

SHRI ILYAS AZMI: Please provide time to me in proportion with others. ...(Interruption)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have got more time than the numerical strength of your party therefore, now you conclude. Time is provided to all according to the numerical strength of the party.

SHRI ILYAS AZMI: I am concluding. Rural electrification is a very good scheme which you have started. I would like to heartily thank to the UPA Government that you have started a very good scheme but progress is very slow. You have provided money but I can explain to you about my area, my two districts that under this scheme not even a single village got electrified. You please increase its pace and talk to UP Government. The way in which the electrification is about to complete in Bihar through Central Agencies, in the same way please appoint the central agencies in Uttar Pradesh also. It is a fact that there is so much corruption at the lower level, corruption is prevalent at the higher levels also, but the amount is comparatively low. If you assign the work to the Central Agencies for UP also then work will be completed in lesser time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI ILYAS AZMI: Without saying much and with due respect to the Chair I am concluding my speech and once again I am requesting hon. Chidambaramji not to impose any further tax on the poor people of this country in the garb of development. Taxes already imposed are too much. I also request him to abrogate all those schemes whose 50 per cent funds are going haywire by way of corruption and such schemes should have been evolved where corruption can not take place. Then we will assume that you have farsight for developing the country. Finance Minister is all in all in running the country.

Once again I request you to think a while before allocating the funds whether it is being utilized or not.
...(Interruption). It should be monitored thoroughly and

then allocation should be made. With these words I conclude.

[English]

SHRIMATI M.S.K. BHAVANI RAJENTHIRAN (Ramanathapuram): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir.

"Kadanarindu kalam karuthi idanarindu enni urraipan thalai" these words are from great poem 'Thirukkural' written by Thiruvalluwar. It means the most suitable ambassador is the one, who has his eye on the right time and place, and performs his duty weighing his words.

As an ambassador from my constituency to this august House, I feel I have come on the right time and place to perform two duties, firstly, to appreciate the well-prepared Budget of our UPA Government, and secondly to utter some words on the most essential needs of my constituency.

Sir, I deem it a great privilege and honour conferred on me to be called upon to speak on the Supplementary Demands presented to the Parliament by the hon. Finance Minister. I thank you profusely for the opportunity.

At the outset, I should record my feelings of immeasurable happiness and elation about a great event of historical importance that took place in Tamil Nadu a few weeks ago. The Sethusamudram Project, a 150 years dream of the nation, has been realised that day. We consider that it is a momentous achievement for the UPA Government. This distinguished milestone event has been brought about by our revered Leader Dr. Kalaignar, who in partnership with the most respected leader of the Congress Party Madam Sonia, the astute Prime Minister of the country Dr. Manmohan Singh, have architected this great victory for the people of Tamil Nadu.

I, on behalf of the people, would like to record our sense of gratitude to all those leaders, and gratitude and appreciation to hon. Minister for Shipping, Road Transport and Highways Thiru T.R. Baalu who with his characteristic agility and dynamism had organised a memorable function to launch the Sethusamudram, the ancient project.

The people of Tamil Nadu fervently hope that this project will act as the harbinger to industrial promotion and all round economic development of Tamil Nadu and the nation. So, more funds have to be allocated by the Government of India.

While speaking on the finance agenda before us today, I take this opportunity to record the warm feelings of appreciation for the most outstanding stewardship of hon. Finance Minister Thiru P. Chidambaram for guiding the economic destiny of India in its irreversible march towards the status of economic super power amidst the comity of nations.

Sir, the chapter of economic reforms in India was opened by the hon. Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh when he was the Minister of Finance a few years ago. That light of reforms is being successfully carried forward by the present Finance Minister hon. Thiru P. Chidambaram with great vigour, leading to continued success in the economic development of the nation. This is evident from the fact that we witness today a great momentum of growth in industrial and service sectors. The Indian corporate sector continues to maintain the picture of profitability and is in a mode of aggressive expansion.

The foreign exchange earnings continue to register significant growth. The stock markets of the country, the barometer of India's economic health, exhibit extraordinary buoyancy. Foreign capital and technology are arriving at the shores of India in increasing flow, and are strengthening the economic fundamentals of our nation. At the same time, it should be carefully monitored that it should not destroy the life of local manufacturers.

Therefore, we congratulate the hon. Finance Minister for his sterling performance and fervently hope that this momentum of achievement would get accelerated in the months to come.

I am also happy to convey our happiness on the new deal promised and ushered in for rural India. The Bharat Nirman Programme announced by the Government of India at a cost of Rs. 1,74,000 crore would act as a mighty level to lift up the pace of growth in the rural areas of the nation.

It is an excellent strategy to achieve the twin objectives of generating employment opportunities on a massive scale and promotion of rural infrastructure consisting of roads, power, drinking water, rejuvenation of water bodies, schools and health centres. Here I like to recall with pleasure that when our beloved leader Dr. Kalaignar was the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu as well as the Finance Minister, he unfolded a number of schemes with the aim of faster development of rural areas

in order to achieve self-sufficiency in villages. This bunch of schemes was popularly known as *Anna Grama Maru Malarchithittam* i.e. *Anna Gram Renaissance Scheme*. This scheme not only aimed at building rural infrastructure to meet the basic needs in villages but also aimed at empowering women by taking special care of their education, health and family needs.

However, it is disappointing to note that these good schemes evolved by our respected leader Dr. Kalaignar with great far sight and concern for the welfare of ordinary and poor people have been neglected by the present State Government in Tamil Nadu. Therefore, I request the hon. Finance Minister to make special allocation of funds to restore and reinstate the purposeful rural development programme which were implemented by the former DMK Government under the able leadership of Dr. Kalaignar as the Chief Minister. I also like to suggest that this programme can be ushered in as a Centrally-sponsored plan for the above scheme for integrated rural development.

People all over the country have great expectations about the implementation of Bharat Nirman Programme. I suggest that there is a need to spread greater awareness of the programme among the rural people and that the Government should install appropriate institutional efforts in securing people's participation for the successful implementation of the Bharat Nirman Programme.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRIMATI M.S.K. BHAVANI RAJENTHIRAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, our Party has got 20 minutes. Please allow me some more time.

I also like to indicate that there is a need to install effective control mechanism to ensure timely implementation and quality construction, through this massive rural infrastructure investment programme earlier as early as possible.

We should also think in terms of organising efficient and independent technical audit and also envisage an effective and acceptable programme of social audit.

There is no disagreement that the economic reforms should reflect in the overall rural prosperity of the country which will still form the backbone of the economy. In fact, steady agricultural growth and the resultant rural

[Shrimati M.S.K. bhavani Rajenthiran]

wealth formation is the acid test of all economic reforms. Rural India should be nourished agriculture and agro-based industry should be accorded priority. Water should be efficiently managed to support agriculture. The concerns of the small farmers should be addressed and co-operatives should be strengthened. I also like to state that the Vaidyanathan Committee recommendations recently presented to the Government of India should be implemented with vigour with a view to rejuvenate the co-operative sector all over the country.

At this stage, I feel proud to record in this august House that my most beloved leader Dr. Kalaignar is the man of the masses. While he was thinking in terms of improving the lot of the farmers, he was equally concerned about the need to ensure fair price for the consumers. He, therefore, evolved the great imagination and pragmatism in a scheme while establishing a chain of farmer's market *i.e. Uzhavar Chanthai* all over Tamil Nadu.

The scheme was specifically designed to connect the small farmers in rural areas producing vegetables and fruits and the consumer in urban centres.

In this scheme, there was an arrangement for free transport facilities to help the small farmers personally bring their produce in buses in the early morning.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

SHRIMATI M.S.K. BHAVANI RAJENTHIRAN: Sir, I have got some points to make.

This arrangement brought a large number of small farmers with their produce to the farmer's market.

In these centres, the urban consumers thronged in good number every morning and could purchase good quality vegetables and fruits. Since there were no intermediaries, that is, blacklegs, the farmers were able to secure remunerative price for them. At the same time, the urban consumers could purchase farm fresh vegetables and fruits at a fair price.

This unique and practical idea and strategy of linking small rural peasants on one side and the large urban consumers on the other side is the 'brain child' of Dr. Kalaignar.

However, it is distressing to note that such a good scheme has been either neglected or diluted by the

present State Government in Tamil Nadu making the people unhappy. I would like to make a fervent plea to the hon. Prime Minister, the hon. Finance Minister and also the hon. Minister of Agriculture to kindly appreciate the great economic value of this scheme relating to small farmers' market, that is, Kisan Shandle, ushering in this scheme at a national level, including Tamil Nadu and open Uzhavar Chanthais, that is, Kisan Shandies all over the country to help the farmers and the consumers as well. Such a scheme would not only give a better deal to the farmers but also would act as a price control measure. I would request the hon. Finance Minister to make suitable allocation of funds to launch the scheme of Uzhavar Chanthais on a national scale.

Specially coming to my constituency, its needs and requirements, I wish to make a plea that the Vagai river, flowing through a number of districts in south Tamil Nadu, namely Theni, Dindigul, Madurai, Sivaganga and Ramanathapuram districts, should be harnessed with great care with a view to save every drop of water that may go as waste into the sea at the exit point. Ramanathapuram constituency lies at the tail end of the river system and acts as the exit point for the river. I would request the hon. Finance Minister to allocate special fund to construct a cement channel from Vaigai dam to Ramanathapuram big tank.

It is well known that Ramanathapuram and Sivaganga districts are some of the driest parts in Tamil Nadu. This region is economically backward with very little industrialisation. Therefore, it becomes necessary to conserve water through tanks and channels dug up all over the region by the erstwhile kings centuries before. After the kings, only our respected leader Dr. Kalaignar had organised massive desilting works, and now all these works are not followed by the present State Government.

I, therefore, propose that the three major tanks near Ramanathapuram town—Ramanathapuram big tank, Sakkarai-kottai tank and Kulari tank—should be elevated as a big reservoir for increasing the capacity of these tanks.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. I am calling the next speaker.

SHRIMATI M.S.K. BHAVANI RAJENTHIRAN: I will conclude, Sir.

This project could be executed at a cost of nearly Rs. 100 crore. This project would prevent surplus water from running away into the sea.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

17.00 hrs.

SHRIMATI M.S.K. BHAVANI RAJENTHIRAN: Sir, will conclude in a few minutes.

[*English*]

No one will disagree with me in saying that a great revolution has been made by our young and energetic Minister of Communications and Information Technology, hon. Dayanidhi Maran by installing telephone facilities in each and every corner of India.

I earnestly request the hon. Minister to allocate special fund to the backward areas like Ramanathapuram to install more towers for sufficient coverage of telephone service.

With its long seacoast, fishing provides livelihood to a lakh of people in my constituency. This is the most important point. Along with the launching of the Sethu Samudram Project, the UPA Government, particularly our leader Dr. Kalaignar and the hon. Minister, Shri T.R. Baalu have evinced great and genuine interest in addressing the concerns of fishermen.

We should think in terms of short and long-term plans to revitalise the fishing industry. I would like to suggest that an exclusive industrial estate with state-of-the-art facilities for processing, packaging and marketing of fish and fish products, should be established at Mandapam and Valinokkam as a Central sector programme. This is most important. I would request the hon. Finance Minister to provide special allocation of funds for this programme.

Similarly, I would also request that special industrial estates should be set up with state-of-the-art facilities for agro-processing. These estates could be contemplated in places like Thiruppuvanam, Muthukulathur, Paramakkudi and Aruppukkottai under Central sector programme for accelerated industrialisation of economically backward regions such as Ramanathapuram and Sivaganga parliamentary constituencies.

Sir, usually a mother will give more care to the weaker child and I conclude my speech with the following earnest request that our mother, that is, the Government of India should kindly give more care to the weaker and backward areas, that is, my constituency Ramanathapuram.

[*Translation*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon'ble lady member, please remember that in future reading of speech aloud will not be allowed.

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY (Dhenkanal): Sir, it is highly unfortunate on my part that I am unable to quote any relevant lines on the great poet-philosopher Shri Tiruvalluvar. Today, when people go to Tamil Nadu, they probably think that the great poet-philosopher was a bus driver or a bus owner. ...(*Interruption*)

[*Translation*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please mind the time. You will be given five minutes to speak.

[*English*]

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: I am the only speaker from my Party. ...(*Interruption*)

[*Translation*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: This time is prescribed for your party only.

[*English*]

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: But, with great respect for such a man, I am sure, Shri Tiruvalluvar must have had some lines in his innumerable philosophical poetry where he must have prompted the people from his land that:

"Yes, the sons of this soil, when you govern this nation, please also think of States that have been left behind in the process of development of this country whether due to freight, subsidies or in later times, the way our mineral resources are being misutilised."

Allegations fly back and forth in this House but let me be very clear that this country is not governed by the stock market alone. We forget that beyond the stock market, beyond the sensex, beyond the figures of 5,000 or 6,000 or 7,000, there is the great people's market. There are people of this nation who matter the most. But when all of us get together, whether in the State Legislatures or in this august House, we forget all that and we focus our energies and financial resources on a select few. Eventually, what do we see? One good monsoon or one bad monsoon can send all stock markets

[Shri Tathagata Satpathy]

or sensex figures into a tizzy. Nothing can withstand that. This shows that the concentration of all resources for the development of a select few does not pay. We see that in the villages, we are unable to do anything. After half a century when the rest of the world took a quantum leap forward, we, in India, have been unable to give basic infrastructure to our farmers. We have not been able to give them power, roads, water, pesticides, fertilisers, seeds, etc. We have failed on all these fronts. We do not think of the farmers. We think of Dalal Street, BSE and NSE. We are unable to realise about them; no matter which party is in power. I am not standing up for any of these so-called major parties. Today, some friends were claiming that they belong to the ruling party. I am sad to say that nobody has the right to claim itself to be a part of the ruling party. Even probably the hon. Finance Minister does not belong to the party which claims to be the ruling party.

So, we see that it is the ruling clique, whether it is the previous Government or the present Government. The ruling clique operates in a fashion where at a certain level, all their interests come together. Whom do we damage thereby? We damage the man, the common Indian citizen, who is at the lowest level of this nation.

We do not ever think of that person. The Prime Minister may change but what is the government that we reckon? We think of the political persona; this Finance Minister; this Prime Minister; that Finance Minister; or that Prime Minister; We go by that but in reality who governs the State? Who actually sits and drafts the Budget? Who collects the figures? Who does the surveys? who decides how much money would be spent for which project? It is the bureaucracy and that unfortunately is the continuity of government in India, not the political people.

When we talk about infrastructure, we talk about infrastructure only for industrialists, only for the exporters and importers and such like people but not for the real Indians. In a State like Orissa, where natural resources are supposedly a plenty, we find that natural resources are depleted left, right and centre. For instance, Orissa produces chromite, which is very good quality chromite, comparable to some of the best mines in South Africa; and very few nations on earth have chromite deposits. When the price of chromite in the market is Rs. 8,000 per metric tonne, when the seller gets Rs. 8,000 per

metric tonne, the State gets Rs. 80 per metric tonne. At the same time, when you think of the exploitation of that mine, the cost calculated from exploiting the mine, transporting of the ore up to the sea front and up to loading in the ship, is Rs. 200 per tonne. So, an exporter of chromite spends Rs. 200 for exploitation and Rs. 80 is the royalty paid to the State Government. For spending Rs. 280 per tonne, he gets Rs. 8,000 per tonne. That is why, in the English language, a very funny word, "exploitation" is used in the case of natural resources.

I would like to give another example from Orissa. Our coal royalty has not been revised for many years. The Government of India plans many taxes but does not pay us on time. It says that if we take a grant under AIBP Scheme but do not complete the project within a certain time, that grant would change and become a loan. I am not standing up to give an excuse for inefficiency. If our State Government is inefficient, of course, it should be penalised. There should be no mercy on that count. On the other hand, if you look into the details, if there is a major irrigation project, we need many clearances like forest clearance and other kinds of clearances. So, by the time we get the clearances and are able to invest the money, the two-year period is exhausted and a State like Orissa is burdened with more and more loans.

Similarly, in the field of coal, Orissa has a comparative advantage in the location of thermal power plants but the funny thing is that if you are buying power from Orissa, from a Central Government undertaking like the NTPC or some such organisation, the State of Orissa does not get any benefit. It does not get the electricity duty. Who gets the electricity duty? It is the State where it is used. Suppose, one NTPC plant in Orissa sends 100 megawatt of power to Karnataka. The duty collected from electricity charges go to the State Government of Karnataka and to the coffers of Karnataka. What does Orissa. Which is giving you land get? You are polluting the waters of Orissa and you are using the coal of Orissa or Bihar for the matter. Why only Bihar, it is so in any of the Eastern Indian States. We are giving up our natural resources. We are sacrificing our environment. The power is enjoyed in some other State, the duty goes to that State and in return what we get is polluted rivers and polluted air. So, our natural resources are depleted and the only gain we get is probably a thousand tonnes of ash. This is a benefit that a State like Orissa or Bihar gets when you have the skewed up planning system as is happening now. I am not criticising any particular

Government. I am just talking about the short-sightedness of the Government of India, whosoever may be in power.

Orissa has the highest debt-GSDP rate of 62.93 per cent as on 31.3.2003 compared to all other states. The outstanding market borrowing as on 1.4.2005 is of the order of Rs. 9,598 crore and the interest on such loans varies from 5.6 per cent to 14 per cent. So, the Government of India does not allow a poor State like Orissa to develop. I would not like to admit that Orissa is poor. I would say that we are a vibrant State. The Oriya people today are dominating your IT field in Bangalore, in Mumbai, in Delhi, everywhere. So, we have the brilliance and we have the intelligence. But we are curtailed from making up because the Government of India, the Ministry of Finance gets into the micro-expenses of the State Government also. It does not allow us to prepay the loans that we have availed. It does not allow us the benefit of lower rates of interest. In today's competitive market, we have to pay higher rates of interest whereas other State Governments, who avail of loans now can possibly avail of lower rates of interest.

I would request the hon. Minister of Finance one thing. He is a young person in the Cabinet. He has a vision and I hope that he will make an attempt during his tenure to go beyond the bureaucratic mindset, to go beyond the thought processes of the officers and think of ways and means by which States like Orissa can be made capable of standing on their own feet.

Sir, I will conclude in one minute. This reminds me of something that Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the former Prime Minister of India, had once said and it means a lot today in the beginning of the 21st Century. She said that both the Bureaucracy and the Judiciary in this country must be politically committed. That means whichever Government comes and rules this nation, they must be able to implement their policies as they have promised in their election manifesto. But today we find those political parties change but the mindset does not change. If you see the Budgets and the Supplementary Budgets for the last five years, which I had the opportunity to scan through in the few days that passed, you will notice that there is no qualitative change in any of the Budgets.

They take funds out of some project, put it into another; take funds out of another project and put it into something else. But qualitatively there is no change.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity.

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN (Trichur): Sir, we are discussing these Supplementary Grants in the background of the mid-term appraisal of the Tenth Plan which was published and also the great calamity that hit Mumbai in the wake of unprecedented rains. The mid-term appraisal points out some alarming figures. A GDP growth rate of 8.1 per cent was our target. In the first three years we could achieve 6.5 per cent. Now it is conceded that we may go below 7 per cent growth of GDP when the Plan is completed. About this, probably, the best statement was made by our hon. Prime Minister. I am quoting the hon. Prime Minister from his speech made at the Agriculture Summit, 2005. He said:

"What is alarming, however, is that there seems to have been a neglect of agriculture in the past decade. I am not sure whether we can say that there is an agricultural crisis, at least in some regions of the country, but no one can deny the fact that Indian agriculture has been performing much below its potential in recent years. There is, to begin with, the sheer tyranny of numbers. If we want to step up the rate of growth of the economy to 7 to 8 per cent, we have to accelerate the rate of growth in agriculture. Unfortunately, there has, in fact, been a deceleration in the past decade. While the Tenth Plan assumed that agricultural production would grow at the rate of 4 per cent, the reality is that in the first three years of the Plan we have not been able to ensure even 1.5 per cent rate of growth."

This is what the hon. Prime Minister had to say about it. He said that the task is to reverse. Here, there are certain aspects which I want to mention. But due to constraint of time one cannot go into details. Firstly, you take employment generation. What we wanted to achieve is creation of 50 million employment. But what is happening is that there is a sliding down in terms of employment generation in the organised sector. If you take the details, in 2001, 277.89 lakh employment was generated; in the next year it became 272.06 lakh and again it came down to 270 lakh in 2003. So, the employment generation in the organised sector. If you take the details, in 2001, 277.89 lakh employment was generated; in the next year it became 272.06 lakh and again it came down to 270 lakh in 2003. So, the employment generation in the organised sector is sliding down. It is an admitted fact that in the agrarian sector, in the unorganised sector, in the informal sector and in

[Shri C.K. Chandrappan]

all these sectors unemployment is assuming a serious problem.

The hon. Prime Minister pointed that we are going to give a big thrust to *Bharat Nirman*. I need not explain about *Bharat Nirman*. This is a programme for time-bound investment in rural housing, rural roads, rural water supply, rural electricity and rural connectivity. I want the hon. Minister of Finance to explain one thing. In these Grants he had not asked for any additional allotment to *Bharat Nirman*. I want to know from the hon. Minister of Finance whether the proposed *Bharat Nirman* project is going smoothly, successfully and to what extent money has been allotted to that scheme. If the hon. Minister of Finance would explain this, it would be something the country will be happy to know about in the context of what is happening in terms of what we heard of the mid-term appraisal of the Plan.

Sir, another dangerous aspect I would like to point out is that all the States in the country are in a debt trap. Their debts are accumulating and growing at an alarming rate. I would like to know whether there is any scheme for the Centre to take these States out of the debt trap. There is no mention in this about it. Of course, he may say that it will be all mentioned in the Budget, but there can be some indication about whether some such projects are there.

17.21 hrs.

[SHRI ARJUN SETHI *in the Chair*]

I would like to point out some of the important schemes that have to be taken up. If this country has to grow the way that we want it to grow, we have to generate resources. One such possibility is there, if Vizinjam Port in Kerala is developed. It is a port which is the nearest point to international shipping line and the draught of this port is such which can receive mother ships. There is no other port in the country even today which can receive mother ships. If mother ships are to be received, it can only be done in Dubai, Singapore or Colombo. If we can receive mother ships at Vizinjam Port, it will enhance our income not only in terms of the money generated by shipping, but also in terms of tourism and many other things. So, development of Vizinjam Port should find a place in it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am sorry to point out that you have already consumed your time. So, please conclude.

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN: Please allow me to conclude by saying a few things.

There is a big demand in Trivandrum for setting up of a High Court bench there. Some money should be provided for setting up of a High Court bench in Trivandrum. There is another important thing that Kerala wants and that is the full development of the national waterways. If the national waterway is developed from Kanyakumari to Kasargod, it will be a great project that will develop the economy of those regions. So, I would like the Centre to take some steps so that this is done.

When I am concluding, I would also like to say that so many Indian fishermen languishing are there in Pakistani jails. Yesterday I got a letter from one of the Malayali fishermen who has been put in prison there, which says that 400 prisoners are there only in one jail in Karachi. The Minister of External Affairs should be something about it.

If some of these things are done and some of these basic approaches are re-oriented, I think, these Supplementary Demands for Grant can be supported and we support it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Kharabela Swain.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): Sir, I am not in my seat. If you permit, I may speak from this seat.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Thank you, Sir.

Sir, I stand to oppose the Supplementary Demands for Grants. Already a very senior leader from our party, hon. Shri Kallash Joshi has gone into details of the funds sought for various items. I will not repeat it. Rather, it gives me an opportunity to go, to delve into the economic policies of the Government. The Budget or the Supplementary Demands for Grants show the direction in which the Government leads the country.

In which way is the Government leading this country?

During the presentation of the first interim Budget in July, 2004 and the full Budget in February, 2005, we had told the hon. Finance Minister that we will wait for one year to observe the achievements of this Government. I would now like to know this from the UPA Government,

can they show a single tangible achievement after the completion of one year? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha): There are a lot of them, and not just one.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Can the UPA Government show a single tangible achievement like the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, which was introduced by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee's Government or the construction of the four-lane Golden Quadrilateral? ...*(Interruptions)* Has this Government even come-up with any innovative idea like the linking of rivers?

The hon. Member Shri K.S. Rao was mentioning about the Sensex. Yes, the Government can boast that the Sensex has gone up to the 7,500 mark. But my point here is this. The Sensex has not reached this peak because of this Government, but it has reached this peak in spite of this Government. Even if any Government does nothing, still it is a resurgent, indomitable India, which has been unshackled and let loose by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee's 'Conquer the World' expedition. This is the reason for the Sensex rising, and not because of any achievement of this Government. I will just like to put a question to the hon. Finance Minister. ...*(Interruptions)* It is a very interesting smile. It will be very good. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Swain, please continue with your speech. I am saying this because you do not have much time at your disposal. Therefore, please be precise.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, I am the second speaker from our Party. I shall be allowed to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Swain, at 1730 hours we are to take-up a Half-an-Hour Discussion. Therefore, before 1730 hours you have to conclude your speech, and this is all that I am trying to tell you.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, our Party was given one hour, and only one person has spoken from our Party. If you say that I am not to speak and if they are not interested in listening to the criticism, then I will sit down.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I have got to make an announcement in the House. We have, as I have already mentioned, a list of nine speakers who wish to speak. Therefore, if the House agree, the Half-an-Hour

Discussion might be postponed by one hour. The hon. Finance Minister will reply at 1815 hours. The hon. Members are requested to confine to the time limit, so that we can finish the discussion before 1815 hours.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, I agree with it, but we should be allowed to speak for the time that has been allotted to our Party. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Swain, please try to conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Bettah): Sir, let us first finish the discussion, after that we may take up half an hour discussion.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is what I have said, the time have been extended for this only. First, reply will be given and then we will have half an hour discussion.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: I would like to ask one point to this Government. Who takes the decision in this Government? Is it the Party which rules or is it the Party which supports it from outside and which has less number and more clout? This is exactly the point that I would like to make. ...*(Interruptions)* The ruling Parties of the present dispensation, who were in the Opposition in the 12th and 13th Lok Sabha and found a very favourite whipping boy in the process of disinvestment. It was for them the selling of the family silver, and the auctioning of the nation. But I would like to know this from the hon. Finance Minister, what is the policy of disinvestment of this Government.

Do they want to disinvest the minority share or do they want to strategic sale? That is what I would just like to know from him. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: We did not do like what you did with Centaur.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: What is their idea of disinvestment and how is it different from what the NDA Government did? Even their own Comrades, the Leftists, say that there is no difference between the disinvestment policy of the NDA Government and the UPA Government. On an earlier occasion Shri Gurudas Dasgupta was just

[Shri Kharabela Swain]

telling the same thing to the hon. Finance Minister. Even if they want to take a sizeable amount of money out of these *Navratnas* when the stock market is booming, are they being allowed to do so? Is the Left allowing them to take any independent decision? Were they allowed to go ahead with the BHEL disinvestment or even sell the residual stake in Maruti Udyog? Were they allowed? The Left Parties did not allow them to sell even five per cent shares of BHEL. That is the situation in which this Government is placed.

The Left says that the Government is going for privatisation in sly. The Left says that it is a 'creeping' privatisation. That is what the Leftists are accusing of this Government. Does this Government cherish any sense of shame? I am asking this Government, especially the Congress Party, that if they are incapable of taking any independent decision, why do they grab the Prime Minister's post? They should leave it to the CPI(M). One of their ex-comrades, one ex-Chief Minister, is still working for that post. The ex-Chief Minister of West Bengal was very much dissatisfied that his very own Party members did not allow him to become the Prime Minister at that time. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY (Basirhat): Please speak on the Supplementary Demands for Grants.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: You cannot cow me down. I will speak. I listened to you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do not listen to them. Please address the Chair.

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID (Periyakulam): You address the Chair.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: I am addressing the Chair and you should also address the Chair because the same thing is applicable to you also.

When the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Government was there, it took its own decisions. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except the speech of Mr. Swain.

...*(Interruptions)**

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, even if they oppose me like this, I will carry on with my speech and I will not sit. I will complete my speech. The Atal Bihari Vajpayee Government was never pressured by any outside agency; it took its own decision. Even though we were defeated in the elections, still we held our head high. We never cowed down before anybody. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please address the Chair.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: I am not addressing them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please look at the Chair.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: You take this example. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please keep silence.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: You take the example of creation of world-class infrastructure. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: It is a question of creation of world-class infrastructure. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please keep silence. Nothing will go on record except the speech of Mr. Swain. Please address the Chair, Mr. Swain.

...*(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Swain, you have a limited time as I have said earlier. You please address the Chair. Do not get distracted by the comments.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, probably they have found that whenever they create problems, you would say this is a disturbing element and so he should not speak. I shall sit down, Sir, if you want me to.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, you continue.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, take the example of the Golden Quadrilateral national highway project. In the last Session, I brought a Privilege Motion against the

hon. Finance Minister for saying that more than 1000 kilometres of Golden Quadrilateral was constructed between October, 2004 and November, 2004. He then agreed that it was a mistake and expressed regrets for that.

You take into notice what the newspapers say. This is what the *Indian Express* of June 30, says, "National highway project is down to a crawl". It further says, "Work on NDA's show piece Golden Quadrilateral highway project is reduced to a crawl with road building down to a monthly addition of barely 125 kilometres". I am not going through the entire article. But it is written in the details that the work has almost stopped.

In my constituency, construction has almost stopped on the Bhadrak-Baleshwar stretch of NH-5. You know about it, Mr. Chairman, because it goes through your constituency too. The work has already stopped there. Work on NH-60 is going at a very slow pace.

You take the example of Bills to be brought. Two Bills were sent to the Standing Committee—one to the Standing Committee of Finance and one to the Standing Committee of Rural Development. One is the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority Bill and the other is the National Employment Assurance Bill. The Chairman of the Committee on R.D. Shri Kalyan Singh is sitting here. All the time it was accused in the House that the Chairman of the Committees belonging to the BJP party were just stalling the Bills and not clearing them. So, the Committee on Finance and the Committee on Rural Development worked day in and day out and cleared both these Bills in time.

The Government is now going to pilot the National Employment Assurance Bill because the Left wants it. The Government is not going to bring the other Bill, the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority Bill, because the Left does not want it. Will the hon. Finance Minister say why? Several messages were sent to the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Finance asking him to clear the Bill before the beginning of the Monsoon Session to Parliament because they wanted to pilot this Bill in this Session. However, they have not even listed it. Why? Then what was the necessity of ...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUÉ): It is coming.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: If it is going to be brought, it is very good. But you go through Bulletin Part II which you have published, Mr. Parliamentary Affairs Minister. Is it there? It is not there.

SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUÉ: It is coming.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: That is why, Sir, I would say that this Government is incapable of taking its own decisions. The heart, mind, body, hopes and aspirations of this Government are all fixed in only one thing, one deliverer, and that is the National Employment Assurance Bill. They feel that if it is passed, it will be a panacea, it will be for the benefit of the *sam sadmi*, it will be for the proletariat, it will be for the common man, it is based on humanitarian grounds, it will boost demand in the rural sector.

However, what does Mr. John Dreaze, their own Advisor in the Planning Commission, say? He says that there is another employment guarantee scheme already in existence, the same type of thing. He said that it is full of corruption everywhere. I tell you today, this National Employment Assurance Bill is going to meet the fate of that loan *meal* which was held during Rajiv Gandhi's time.

There is large scale corruption. It is stated in today's *The Indian Express*. It has been copied from the experiment they had in Maharashtra. Maharashtra had the similar type of Bill and it says that there is a *ghotala* of Rs. 9 crore. The same floodgate of corruption is going to open because this has to be implemented by the State Governments. Nobody knows what the State Government would do.

It is stated in *The Times of India* that the Group of Ministers has given a go-by to the fiscal prudence in pursuing an expensive and potentially highly wasteful nation-wide programme. It said that it will lead to financial ruin. Cost will be prohibitive. Their own people are saying like this. I am not saying it. They know it pretty well that *The Times of India* neither supports the NDA nor the BJP. Then, I would just come to the Education Cess. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: This will be the last question of yours.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Please give me two more minutes, Sir.

Now, there is a question of Education Cess. I would like to ask the hon. Finance Minister this. It appeared in the newspaper. He wanted that the Education Cess should be utilised elsewhere. But it is the Left and other parties who prevailed over them as they wanted that it should only be spent for that. I would like to know from the hon. Finance Minister as to whether it is true. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Let him not make wrong statements based on speculative newspaper reports. Shri Swain, what you have said is totally wrong, completely wrong. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: I am happy that the Minister has said so. I have not said those things. I had quoted from the newspapers reports. Hon. Minister has clarified it. If I cannot ask the Minister in Parliament, where can I ask? I am happy that the Minister has clarified it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Swain, the hon. Minister has already refuted your allegation. So, please do not enter into any controversy. Please conclude.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: I had thanked him for clarifying it. I am not entering into any argument. I am happy that he has clarified. ...*(Interruptions)* It was said that the CBI should investigate into the Centaur Hotel. I am asking the hon. Finance Minister had the CBI not returned the file saying that on the basis of the C&AG's recommendations, no investigation could be taken up? Is it not true? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Again, the hon. Member is totally wrong. ...*(Interruptions)* I am clarifying it. ...*(Interruptions)* He is misleading the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has refuted the charge that the file has not yet returned.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: When I have not yielded, how can the Chair allow the Minister to clarify? ...*(Interruptions)* Secondly, it is not true. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your demand? Whenever any hon. Minister stands up for replying to any question, whoever be the hon. Member, he has to sit down. What is your difficulty?

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, is it not true that when the C&AG sent the questionnaire to the same Government in January last, it stated that Centaur Hotel sale was above board? It is in the file. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)**

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Lastly, I would like to speak about the rise in petroleum and diesel prices. The report of the Standing Committee on Petroleum & Natural Gas states as to why the rate is so high. It says that 57 per cent of the petroleum price is tax and 35 per cent of the diesel price is tax. ...*(Interruptions)* Have you called Shri Balasaheb Vikhe Patil?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Thank you, Sir.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL (Kopergaon): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am here to support the Supplementary Demands for Grants. I congratulate the Finance Minister for the way he is trying to give Rs. 14,000 and odd crore to the various Central and State projects without imposing any burden on the common man. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. CHINTA MOHAN (Tirupati): What happened to the Half-an-Hour Discussion?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have already announced that the time has been extended for this debate by one hour.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: Last time also, it was postponed. This time also you are postponing it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Chinta Mohan, you are a senior Member.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: I know that. That is why, I am asking you. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have already announced that the time has been extended for this debate.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: If you do not have a timetable, why should you fix the business? Once it is fixed, it is fixed. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Chinta Mohan, I am very sorry to say that this is the decision of the House. This is not my decision. I have taken the sense of the House.

Shri Patil to continue this speech.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: At the same time, inflation is very much under control. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have five minutes to speak.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: In that case, I do not speak. You do not allow me to speak. ...(*Interruptions*)
We are a major party.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please continue your speech.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: The point is that recoveries are good in income-tax and in other departments. At the same time, growth rate and deficit in the Revenue and Capital Account are very much under control. There is a declining trend. It is a happy sign that our financial management is in the right direction.

My learned friend gave a political speech. I do not enter into politics. The Mover of the debate from the BJP spoke reasonably well. The reasonableness also counts.

My second point is, as everybody knows, Mumbai has been under heavy floods for the last 15 days. Thousands of lives have been lost. More than 18 districts of Maharashtra are facing floods. I am thankful to the Government and particularly the hon. Prime Minister and the Chairperson of UPA Shrimati Sonia Gandhi for immediately releasing Rs. 1,000 crore as a relief measure. They have also provided food, medicine and so on. I earnestly request the Finance Minister to release Rs. 5,000 crore immediately for managing the floods in the State. There are eight districts in the State which are under drought. I request the hon. Finance Minister to kindly consider giving relief to the drought affected districts of Maharashtra.

As far as VAT is concerned, there is a misconception. This is a State subject. VAT has become a multiple tax like the Sales Tax. This issue must be clarified once and for all. If it is a universal thing throughout the country

like the Sales Tax, then the States must enjoy some discretion in that. If there is discrimination, then the imbalance will continue as it is.

I must say that agriculture must be given top priority. Higher growth in agriculture requires higher investment for better use of resources. Investment in agriculture is declining very badly. There are a number of schemes in the Budget under Bharat Nirman and so on. There is no Budget provision for that. I agree that some announcement is required to be made in the Annual Budget. There may be some provision for agriculture. There are a number of loan schemes in NABARD without any budgetary provision. There is a need for budgetary support. Only loan schemes will not work budgetary support.

Let us take the Ministry of Water Resources. In this, only 0.35 per cent is the State funding means Budget. There is no budgetary provision only in terms of loans to the State. You know the conditions of the State. States are very badly managed and they are becoming bankrupt. My suggestion is that some irrigation projects may be taken up as the National Irrigation Projects. This is my request and appeal to you. The Planning Commission has also recommended this. The Ministry of Water Resources has also accepted some big irrigation projects to be taken up as the National Irrigation Projects. In the irrigation field itself, there is an important project like linking of rivers. There is a River Linkage Project within the State. The Government of India should see that the River Linkage Projects within the State should be encouraged. The Budget should be provided from the Centre for this project. This requirement of the States should be completed first.

The water should be used first within the State, and then the surplus water, if any, may be transported anywhere. Therefore, within the State, the River Launch Project should be taken up.

As far as Maharashtra is concerned, they have planned the Inter River Link project for which Rs. 60,000 crore is required. I appeal to the Government that the required money may be provided to Maharashtra and the other States in the Supplementary Budget, so that water resources can be used within the States.

As regards agriculture and marketing, we badly need the agriculture insurance scheme. We require risk management. We require risk insurance. In the last Budget, it was announced about the agriculture insurance.

[Shri Balasaheb Vikhe Patil]

The Report of the Joint Committee of the Ministry of Agriculture has already been received. So, I am appealing to the hon. Finance Minister that the Agriculture Integrated Insurance Scheme may be accepted at the earliest. The risk management should also be there, and the market fluctuation must be given weightage in Insurance.

Due to heavy rainfall and pesticides etc., some damage would be there. Bad debts would be there. In the heavy floods and droughts, what happens to the farmers? We are only restructuring the loans and adding the interest in the principal amount. Therefore, I am strongly appealing to the hon. Minister that some new mechanisms should be found out and this problem may be solved once and for all and at any cost this restructuring should be stopped.

We are looking at the corporate sector. Economically and commercially, the unit should be viable. As per the rule banks give some waiver to the poor farmers who are the small holders. The same funding system is required. Their units are not commercially viable and feasible. So, steps should be taken to see as to how waiver system is given to make the farmers units more viable. Co-operative Banks are able to give waiver because the farmers are financially weak. For this, Budgetary Support must be given.

Take the case of sugar industry. In this Budget Speech, the hon. Finance Minister announced a package that these units should be commercially viable. So, for this, some waiver is required. All private sugar industries enjoy waivers as per the norms of the waiver system. But the co-operative banks do not have the capacity to absorb because the design is such that they cannot give waiver. So, I am appealing to the hon. Finance Minister to have some budgetary provision and budgetary support in the Supplementary Demands so that they can pay to the farmers and the farmers can plant more sugarcane.

Sir, 40 to 50 per cent sugar is produced only from the co-operatives. But they are in a very bad shape. They do not borrow from abroad globally. So, NCDC should become financially viable. It is my humble submission to please give some budgetary support with a shareholding amount of Rs. 300 crore to the NCDC. Then, naturally, they will sustain and they will finance to the co-operative sector as a whole. It may be not only for the sugar but also for the dairy and so on. So, some new models and mechanisms are required to be found out.

Again, I am coming to the credit system. Take, for example, NABARD. For Knowledge Village Centres, loans for clinics; all loan schemes are non starter. We are talking about *Bharat Nirman*. But how can it be only by way of loan? Who will take the risk? Take the case of Agriculture Export Zone. What is its status? It is a non-starter. About the Agriculture Export Zone, no private entrepreneur comes forward because it is not commercially viable. No State Government is funding it because they do not have money. The Centre also does not finance because there is no sharing from the State Governments. Then, who will finance? But without strengthening Agriculture Export Zone, how can we compete globally? WTO would be there; imports would be there. Then, our Harvesting technology is also old. But we need to increase the productivity. Without commercialisation of all these activities in the Agriculture Export Zone, credit system would not improve.

I am repeating it again. Do not restructure a loan. Now, with the recent floods, all the soil is washed away. You would restructure the loan. For the last 30 years, we are restructuring the loan. What will happen? Naturally, the medium-term size is increasing. The farmers are committing suicide. No Government is an exception to that.

Therefore, I am humbly appealing to the hon. Minister that all these kinds of things must be considered seriously. A large number of other issues are there but due to paucity of time, I am not going into them.

There is an airy hard talk in the country that Mumbai should be separated from Maharashtra. But Mumbai is an integral part of Maharashtra. I appeal to the Government to clear the position once and for all, and this discussion should be stopped. Tomorrow, somebody would say that Chennai should be separated from Tamil Nadu. Why should it be? The Capitals of the States should not be separated from their respective States.

It is now Sensex at 8000 points. My humble submission to you, Sir, is that a number of fake companies are working in the stock exchanges. Kindly look into this also. You must appoint some expert committee to see as to why this is so. Otherwise, the small investor will lose confidence. This is a very high time, this is a very unprecedented rise in the stock market. This should be taken into consideration. Otherwise some fraud will take place, some 'Parekh' or some 'Mehta' will come again and we will unnecessarily get a bad name and they never punish.

Now, I come to revitalisation of co-operatives. For the last six Budgets, I am hearing about revitalisation of co-operatives. No Budget provision is there. Again there is a Task Force for the long-term credit for co-operatives. That means short term is over. Without the revitalisation of the co-operatives, agricultural societies, district co-operative banks, how will the agricultural credit sustain? So, for the co-operative revitalisation, kindly just announce some Budgetary support without any loss of time. That may be a starting point of the credit to the farmers. Only those farmers, who are not defaulters and are good farmers, get the loan and all the small and marginal farmers, particularly of drought and desert areas, are the victims and sufferers. So, kindly look into this.

PROF. M. RAMADASS (Pondicherry): Respected Chairman, Sir, on behalf of Pattali Makkal Katchi, I rise to support the first batch of Supplementary Grants for 2005-06.

The speaker from the BJP bench, without understanding the rationale and the purpose of a Supplementary Grant, dragged himself into a number of controversial issues. There can be political considerations in commenting on the supplementary budgets. There should be good economics as well as good politics. But, Mr. Swain, unnecessarily has spoken about both bad politics and bad economics. He was asking about the question as to who was taking the decisions in the Government. The decisions are being taken by the House, by the majority principle, taking into account the aspirations of the Government and the people of this country. We have given a Common Minimum Programme. We are trying to translate this Common Minimum Programme into action. Whatever monetary targets have been fixed, are being achieved. Here is the first Finance Minister in the country who has given a six-monthly evaluation report of the Budget commitments that he had made. I would only urge Mr. Swain to look into the performance report given by the Government to know what this Government has done.

Through a Supplementary Grant the Finance Minister comes before the House to seek the approval of the House for a quantum of expenditure to be incurred as an additional expenditure not envisaged in the original Budget. It has got a very limited purpose. The House will have to debate on whether this expenditure is justified or not. If it is not justified, one can suggest as how it can be made more productive and more efficient. This can be the only argument that a member can make. But,

unnecessarily a lot of issues have been raised wasting the time of the House and wasting his own efforts and energy. I would only request him to look into the rationale of whatever he speaks. With this preliminary comment, I would like to support the Supplementary Grants because of various reasons:

The Finance Minister has asked for approval of the House for an amount of expenditure of Rs. 14,661.36 crore. Out of this, the net cash flow is only Rs. 6,818.60 crore and the remaining 7,842.80 crore will be matched by the savings, receipts and recoveries of the respective Departments. Now, when we look into the merit of this Supplementary Grant, I would first state that the Supplementary Grant of Rs. 14,661.36 crore constitutes only three per cent of the total expenditure of the Budget of 2005-06.

18.00 hrs.

All those who have seen the Budget of 2005-06 will know that the total budgetary expenditure was Rs. 5,14,343 crore out of which the additional expenditure that is now sought is only Rs. 14,000 crore and odd which constitutes only three per cent. This means that the additional expenditure even after six months of presentation of Budget is less than five per cent, which is within the purview and ambit of the Fiscal Responsibility Act that we have enunciated. Therefore, the Supplementary Demands that the Minister is seeking shows the efficiency and productiveness of the Budget making process of the Government.

The second important feature of the Supplementary Grants is, the Minister has taken out of this Rs. 14,600 crore, 47 per cent for plan expenditure, which means that the productive forces, and the productive assets in the economy will be increased which would help us to promote eight per cent growth rate which we have envisaged for the future. When we consider the outflow of cash Rs. 6,818 crore, we can see how much of plan expenditure is there. It is about Rs. 5,722 crore, which means 84 per cent of the total cash outflow will be for productive assets and only 16 per cent is on non-plan account. What is the implication of this? The implication is that the plan outlay would promote output, employment and income, which is the need of the hour. Will it have an inflationary impact on the economy? Not at all, because only 16 per cent of the non-plan account goes for non-plan expenditure, which means the money supply will be at a lower level when compared to the increase

[Prof. M. Ramadass]

in the aggregate supply. That aggregate supply will take into account the inflationary effect of 16 per cent. Therefore, Supplementary Budget will not create any kind of inflationary forces in the country.

When we look into the capital outlay, which he has given, we may note that all the four items of expenditure go for infrastructure development on which we are finding inadequacy today. The Hon. Prime Minister the other day was explaining to us that this Government is trying to create a world class infrastructure and in this Supplementary Budget, all the Rs. 6,800 crore goes for the development of infrastructure. For example, assistance for external-aided projects will be Rs. 3,376 crore, which means 50 per cent of the total Supplementary Budget and the grants-in-aid for water development, power development and irrigation development will be about Rs. 1,846 crore, which means 27 per cent goes for this infrastructure in the rural development. Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Limited will get Rs. 500 crore, which will augment railway services and railway infrastructure. Rural Electrification Scheme takes Rs. 1,100 crore. This is a very important milestone activity in the Supplementary Budget because the Rural Electrification Scheme, which we have envisaged in the recent past, has not delivered the goods because according to the Mid Term Review of the Tenth Five Year Plan, this scheme has utterly failed in some of the States like Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa, UP and Northeastern States. The percentage of households electrified in Bihar is just 10.30. In my Union Territory of Pondicherry hundred per cent of household is electrified whereas in Bihar this figure is only 10.30. For Jharkhand it is only 24.3 per cent; Orissa, 26.9 per cent; UP 3.19 per cent, Northeastern region 33.20 per cent and West Bengal is 37.50 per cent. That means many of the front ranking States have not provided household electrification.

Therefore, this assumes a very great significance and it is in the fitness of things that the Finance Minister has given Rs. 1,100 crore for this scheme. What is important is that the present scheme of giving 40 per cent capital subsidy to electrification schemes does not seem to be successful and the Finance Minister will have to change it to 90 per cent capital subsidy scheme as suggested by the Ministry of Power. If that is done, perhaps we will be able to do more.

While supporting this Bill, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Finance Minister to one or two important aspects.

We would like to know the implications of Rs. 14860 crore on the total volume of fiscal deficit of the Government; its implication on the revenue deficit; and whether it would be possible for us to make more economies in expenditure rather than incurring more on non-Plan expenditure. There are several areas where expenditure reduction is possible and thereby we will be able to tide over the crisis.

The Tenth Five Year Plan Mid-Term Appraisal has warned the Government that the agricultural growth is hovering around only 1.2 per cent in spite of all our best efforts. Even the compound growth rate for 20 years is only 1.9 per cent and this declaration in agriculture has to be taken into account. All said and done, social indicators are having values, which are lesser than the East Asian countries. We will have to improve on them. The oil prices will have to be taken care of so that the cascading effect on the economy can be removed.

I wish to add that the Supplementary Demands for Grants cannot be expected to provide magic solution to all the long-term issues of the Government. It can only indicate the direction of the Government. In this respect, what the Finance Minister has done is that these Demands receive commendable support of this House. Therefore, our Party wholeheartedly supports the passage of the Supplementary Demands of the Government.

DR. M. JAGANNATH (Nagar Kurnool): Sir, I rise to oppose the Supplementary Demands for Grants because what they said in the CMP, what the allocations have been made and what are their activities, they are not matching. The achievements are very miserable. What they had promised to the country in their CMP has not been achieved. Not even one remarkable thing has been achieved. I think it does not deserve any more funds for their performance.

As regards employment sector, our hon. Minister had said in his Budget Speech that crores of people will be given employment, namely, in IT sector, 70 lakh people would be provided jobs, and in textile industry 1.2 crore people would be provided jobs in five years. Then one crore jobs will be generated in agricultural sector. What is the actual achievement? The Minister has said that 1.2 crore jobs will be created in the textile industry but the weavers are dying of hunger and are suffering due to lack of work. Is it their achievement for which they have come with Supplementary Grants? In IT sector, in many places India was fore running. But after the UPA

Government came to power, whatever good name we had previously, it no longer exists.

Coming to rural National Employment Guarantee Scheme, it is a good scheme. The National Food for Work Programme was announced for 150 districts. It was said that it would be converted as a National Employment Guarantee Scheme. Though one year and three months have passed, it has not even taken any shape. They have announced the National Food for Work Programme for 150 districts only, though in the entire country people are not having any employment. Some of the States are facing calamities like floods. Andhra Pradesh was under the grip of drought for four successive years. But what happened is that only eight districts of Andhra Pradesh were selected for National Food for Work Programme. For a population of more than seven to eight crore people—of which 80 per cent people stay in rural areas and depend on agricultural farming activities—how these districts are going to cater to the needs of the remaining 16 or 17 districts. The same is the case in Maharashtra, Orissa, and other districts. They have failed miserably to provide employment in rural areas. All the promises of the UPA Government are on the paper but practically they have not achieved anything.

Coming to agricultural sector, the Finance Minister presented a very rosy Budget. We all applauded him and we thought that something remarkable would take place and the farming community will come out of their miseries and will have a good time.

The hon. Finance Minister instructed the bank authorities to disburse loan up to Rs. 50,000 without any security and, particularly these loans should be disbursed quickly to those farmers who have been affected by natural calamities. Are the banks following this instruction? No bank is following this instruction. The farmers are not getting the loans, particularly in the State of Andhra Pradesh. After the Congress Party took over the reins in the State of Andhra Pradesh, around 3,000 farmers have committed suicide. They are all suffering. *...(Interruptions)* Did they die during the TDP regime? *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please address the Chair.

DR. M. JAGANNATH: This is happening now only because of mismanagement and mal-administration of this Government. The hon. Prime Minister came down all the way to the State of Andhra Pradesh and met the kith and kins of those farmers who committed suicide and

announced a relief of Rs. 50,000 over and above what has been announced by the State Government. *...(Interruptions)* You can contradict me later on. I am only giving the figures. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing, except the speech of Dr. Jagannath, will go on record.

*...(Interruptions)**

DR. M. JAGANNATH: I would like to ask the hon. Finance Minister as to how many families of the farmers, out of the 3,000 have been compensated. Is this a pro-farmer or an anti-farmer Government? This is an anti-farmer Government. The farmers are not getting the loans and they are committing suicide. The weavers are committing suicide and people of all these communities have virtually come on the roads. Is it a testimony to a remarkable achievement by this Government? The State Government is not able to even spend the money that has been given to them for coming to the rescue of the farmers.

Sir, on the health sector, I would like to submit that health is a State subject. Thousands of people have died in our State owing to Malaria and other vector borne disease. The subject was discussed in this House. In the two districts of Visakhapatnam and Vijaynagaram, nearly 900 people died because of Malaria and other vector borne diseases. The report of the Human Rights Commission says. *...(Interruptions)* they are suppressing the figures? They may ask the Human Rights Commission about these figures. Even the employees Association of the Revenue Department that works under the Revenue Minister has said that the Department has issued 550 death certificates for people who died because of Malaria and another 450 death certificates for people who died because of other vector borne diseases. Are the figures of the National Human Rights Commission wrong? The hon. Health Minister agreed, in the Rajya Sabha, to the fact that there were deaths reported owing to Malaria and other vector borne diseases. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have already taken ten minutes. You may please conclude now.

DR. M. JAGANNATH: Sir, I would conclude within a minute.

Sir, in regard to the irrigation projects it was mentioned in the CMP that the existing irrigation projects

*Not recorded.

[Dr. M. Jagannath]

would be completed. Where would the money come from for completion of the existing irrigation projects? Is the Central Government going to give the whole amount to all the States? The budget amount for the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme is Rs. 4800 crore. This time, the hon. Minister has increased the amount from Rs. 2800 crore to Rs. 4800 crore. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has put forward a proposal to the Central Water Resources Ministry asking for Rs. 10,000 crore out of the total budget for the AIBP. ...*(Interruptions)* When the projects itself is estimated to cost Rs. 66,000 crores, when the entire annual budget for the AIBP for the whole country is only Rs. 4800 crore, how is the demand of the Government of Andhra Pradesh justified to have Rs. 10,000 crore? They have planned the total cost of the project as Rs. 66,000 crore. For Austrian help, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh has approached the Government but the Government of India has rejected their appeal. ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, the Government of Andhra Pradesh is keeping the people in the dark.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. M. JAGANNATH: Sir, I am only giving you the facts here.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava may speak now.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except the speech of Shri Bhargava. Dr. Jagannath, please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not being recorded. Please sit down. You are not going on record, Dr. Jagannath.

...*(Interruptions)**

DR. M. JAGANNATH: Sir, please allow me to speak for only one minute.

MR. CHAIRMAN: How many 'one minutes' are you asking for? I have already called Shri Bhargava to speak. Please co-operate and sit down.

DR. M. JAGANNATH: Sir, exactly within one minute, I will conclude.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have already told that your speech is not being recorded. Please sit down. Please co-operate.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. M. JAGANNATH: I will complete in one minute after saying only relevant points.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your speech is not being recorded. Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)**

DR. M. JAGANNATH: Sir, it is not my fault that I have not completed my speech within time. It is because they have been interrupting me. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Bhargava, please go ahead.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. M. JAGANNATH: Sir, within one minute, I would conclude.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. You have already spoken and I have already said that your speech is not being recorded. Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)**

DR. M. JAGANNATH: I will mention only relevant points. It is not my fault that I could not complete. It is because of their interruptions that I could not conclude my speech within time. I may be given only one minute. ...*(Interruptions)*

His Excellency, the President of India has got a very good vision—the Bharat Nirman—and our Finance Minister has put it very well. About one crore hectares of land are to be brought under irrigation. How will they complete the work within Rs. 4800 crore when the States are under constraint of funds? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is it good on your part to disrespect the Chair?

DR. M. JAGANNATH: No, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Then why are you continuing your speech in spite of my repeated requests to sit down?

DR. M. JAGANNATH: I will complete my speech in one minute. Sir, under the Pradhan Mantri Sadak Yojana, where is the work going on? And you are allotting Rs. 8 crore for one district. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am really sorry.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. M. JAGANNATH: This is my last point. They talk of 60 lakh additional houses. Where are the houses? Have they completed construction of 60 lakh houses? Give us the statistics. They are only on paper. ...*(Interruptions)* Coming to providing drinking water to 74,000 remaining villages and habitations uncovered. Sir, in my constituency, there are a number of villages where you do not have a glass of water to drink.

There is acute shortage of water. ...*(Interruptions)*
That is the situation. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your one minute is already over.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Jagannath, I am sorry. Why are you defying the Chair? Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Jagannath, I have already announced that your speech is not being recorded.

...*(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your Party was allotted only three minutes. But you have already spoken for fifteen minutes. Still you are defying the Chair.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do not record.

...*(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN: If hon. Members do not cooperate with the Chair, then how can the Chair conduct the House?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Jagannath, I am really sorry. Your Party has been allotted only three minutes. But you have spoken for more than fifteen minutes. How can the Chair conduct the House?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Jagannath, please sit down.

Now Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will not take much time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please speak, you are the best member.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Sir, you have given me an opportunity to speak on budget, I would like to make use of it in a few minutes and will not speak of any controversy. I would like to say that new government have been formed. It is democracy, some government comes into power and some goes off the power. The new government is known as UPA or"....

MR. CHAIRMAN: It will not be recorded.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: It is your wish, but I am saying correct. This is not unparliamentary thing. If you want to expunge it you may do so, you may expunge my speech in full, I have got no problem.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please speak correctly whatever you want to speak. What are you speaking? You are a very good member. Please conclude within five minutes.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Sir, I would like to ask that hon. Finance Minister, you are an able minister, a good advocate, you have good fame but did you curb the price rise? You have not said anything about price rise in your budget, you have not told any measure to bring down the oil prices, whether it is diesel or petrol. After all what will you say to the public that UPA Government have come into power, people are heading towards betterment. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee could not continue in power and now you are an able man? What will you say to the public?

Similarly, there is a problem of unemployment.
...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please address the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: I have been a member since 1979. Please listen to me. ...*(Interruptions)* What are the measures adopted for unemployment? Whether any measure has been enumerated in this budget? Today farmers are unhappy in your regime. They are not getting the price of their yield, they are not getting manure. Today, traders are also unhappy and I will ask for raising the issue of textiles industry in zero hour. You are asking them to file the return from 1974.

After all traders are unhappy, students are unhappy, it means that there is none who is happy and everybody says that the government have come in power today and will go off tomorrow. Left parties are supporting the government but are also playing the role of opposition. In fact, we are the opposition, but they are doing our work. Because of this it seems that the government is not going to run for a long.

Bank interest rates have declined sharply. Common man is not depositing their money in the banks. Therefore you must see it. Now-a-days advertisements are given by the banks for lending loans of Rs. one crores or Rs. two crores. But it is mere advertisement because nobody is getting loan. What efforts you are putting in this regard?

Disputes are taking place everywhere for water. Rajasthan is not getting water. May be that there is water in ample quantity in Uttar Pradesh but disputes are taking place in many states including Bihar. You have presented a supplementary budget, you might have got time to ponder over this matter. So may you please tell us how will the government deal with water disputes?

Rajasthan is facing the scarcity of water. Gadgil formula was prepared in this regard. There it was decided to give more water to the hilly areas, in desert, densely populated areas, areas of least rainfall. But Rajasthan is getting only one per cent of total water of the country. Therefore, it should be taken into consideration that the funds should be made available to Rajasthan under Gadgil formula so that problem of scarcity of water may be solved out. All people are suffering and you are enjoying. Therefore what I have termed UPA earlier seems to be correct because you are administering in the same way.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me time.

[English]

*SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPIPARAI (Sivakasi):

"Anjaami Eegai Arivu Ookkam

Yenjama Vendharkku Iyalbu"—said Thiruvalluvar

about an able administration. Courage, compassion, ebullience, enlightenment and stoic spirit are but the qualities of rulers. The 15 month old Union Government led by the UPA can be well defined to have these administrative capabilities described by the ancient Tamil poet Thiruvalluvar in his Thirukkural. On behalf of my party Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kalagam and our leader Vaiko and on my own behalf I welcome and support the Supplementary Demands for Grants for the General Budget moved by this above Government of the United Progressive Alliance.

This is Supplementary Demands for a 14,661 crore of rupees. But still the demand is for the basic infrastructure need of this country in the sectors like telecommunication, irrigation, strengthening of power distribution in the States. This bill seeks to allocate more for these vital sectors. Right from Sub-Courts to Supreme Court crores of cases are pending for long. In order to put those cases before the Courts of Law in the Fast Track Court mode, funds have been earmarked. I welcome the same. Only through Fast Track Courts thousands of those stagnant cases could be taken off the shelves and can be settled. Bearing this in mind Rs. 100 crore have been set apart for this justifiable need. Through this Supplementary Demands our Finance Minister has given a new lease of life to these Fast Track Courts all over the country. What we find today is the flooding situation in all the rivers in the South Like Krishna, Kaveri, Mullai Periyar. Almost every 4 years these floods do occur in those rivers. We need to ensure that not a single drop of this water flows wastefully into the sea. In the same way as we accomplished the 150 year dream of all the Tamils in the form of Sethu Samudram project we must go in for linking southern rivers. Sethu project has been taken up ignoring the stiff opposition from some countries. Similarly this Government that handles 5 lakh crores of rupees must come forward to take up the inter linking of southern rivers project. Just

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

5% of this turnover for the next 10 years could yield better results triggering irrigation and augmenting cultivation increasing production. At a time when our population reaches the level of 126 crores in the next 10 years, through the inter linking of rivers we would have increased the food production by 3% per annum. So, the only lasting solution could be linking of southern rivers. Our leader Vaiko introduced a Private Member's Resolution about inter linking of southern rivers in this august forum which was discussed for 51 days.

In my constituency in Sattur area alone about 1½ lakh farmers cultivate chillies every year. This year the price had fallen much beyond the expectations and crashed to Rs. 1000 per quintal. Crores of rupees have been lost by all these chilly cultivating farmers. Those vexed farmers must have a lasting solution for this problem of insurmountable loss. In Andhra Pradesh and in Sathur area of Tamil Nadu we find chilly cultivation as an important agricultural-cum-economic activity. Those farmers have been shattered now. Setting up of a food processing unit there to meet the global demands meeting the international quality standards could be a viable measure to ensure remunerative price of their produce. Centre must come forward to allot funds entirely to set up FPI units there. This could wipe out the tears and fears of the farmers once and for all.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Ravichandran.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPIPARAI: Only two minutes, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just hear me. You will continue your speech after Half-an-Hour Discussion is over.

Now, we will take up Half-an-Hour Discussion.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPIPARAI: Sir, I would conclude within one minute.

Srivilliputhur, the temple town in the south of Tamil Nadu is an important shrine as part of Hindu culture and heritage. Hence this town be declared as a heritage town.

Next only to Tirupur, about 2½ lakhs of workers got job opportunities in Sivakasi the industrial town of the

deep south. Match industries, crackers manufacturing units and offset printing units provide jobs to thousands. The manufactured goods from Sivakasi help the industrial town to emerge as an export centre with international standards. Crores of rupees in foreign exchange is earned for the country through the best of efforts of thousands of workers in those matches and crackers units. It has become a recurrent feature now to witness fire accidents often now. Huge loss to lives and property has occurred. A state-of-the-art hospital with Burns Ward must be set up there as it is the need of the hour. Flourishing crackers industries must be helped from being cracking down and falling apart due to heavy excise duty burden on them. They must be eased and streamlined. Opportunities must be created to enable them compete in the global market. Bidi workers, mine workers, film industry workers are getting social security schemes. Educational loans and housing schemes are extended to them. Urging upon the Union Government to extend all possible social security schemes to the workers in the matches and crackers industry, I conclude my speech extending my support to this Supplementary Demands for Budget General 2005-06.

18.32 hrs.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

Eradication of Vector Borne Diseases

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we will take up Item No. 23, Half-an-Hour Discussion.

Dr. Chinta Mohan.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN (Tirupati): Sir, I thank the Speaker and the Chairman for allowing this Half-an-hour Discussion today. In this Half-an-hour Discussion, we are going to discuss about the Malaria. Malaria is a worldwide phenomenon. Sir, 40 per cent of the people of the world are prone to Malaria. This is just not noticed today. It was noticed first in 1880. Today, in every thirty seconds, one child is dying of Malaria in the world. Every thirty seconds one small child is dying of Malaria today. Every year, on an average, 50 lakh people are dying in the world. In our country about 10 lakh people are dying due to Malaria and other fevers. Some are noticed and some

[Dr. Chinta Mohan]

are unnoticed. It is a very unfortunate situation. After 57 years of Independence, we are discussing about a disease—Malaria. Today, cosmonauts are sitting in the space station. Astronauts are going round the orbit but we are discussing about a small and little disease Malaria. What is the reason for this Malaria? It is a poor mosquito, a small and little mosquito. We are noticing them nowadays in Lok Sabha also. Not only in Paderu or in Bihar or in Delhi, we are noticing them nowadays in Lok Sabha also. This Malaria issue was discussed on 1st July, 1952 in the same Lok Sabha where first Health Minister Rajkumari Amrit Kaur replied for the debate and Dr. Jaisooriya from Andhra Pradesh, who was a Member of Lok Sabha at the time, raised this issue of Malaria. In 1953, Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru brought a programme—National Malaria Control Programme on 1st of April, 1953.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It must be National Malaria Eradication Programme.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: No, it is not eradication, Sir. That was a little later. On 1st April, 1958 the Programme was changed to National Malaria Eradication Programme. First it was National Malaria Control Programme and then later it became National Malaria Eradication Programme on 1st April, 1958. By 1st of April, 1958 this Malaria was totally controlled under the leadership of Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru and the first Health Minister of this country, Rajkumari Amrit Kaur. At that time, there was an agreement like our Nuclear Agreement today, the Prime Minister went for an Agreement to US.

There was an agreement between India and the USA for the eradication of malaria. DDT was brought into India, the tablets were also imported and malaria was eradicated completely. It was the first achievement of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. In 1958, there was a big programme.

On 1 April, 1958, Panditji said in this House that we have totally eradicated malaria. Slowly, by 1976, when Shrimati Indira Gandhi was the Prime Minister, there was no malaria. A little later, there was a spurt in Malaria. By 1991, malaria was totally under control. Afterwards, the deaths caused due to malaria have gone up.

18.36 hrs.

[SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHAE PATIL *in the Chair*]

Now, the present UPA Government is trying to do its best to control this malaria. I am very happy and I

praise the Ministry and the Minister sitting here that they are doing a very good work to control this one. How is this malaria coming? For the benefit of the House, my friend from Parvathipuram asked me: "what is this vector?" The word 'vector'—born disease is nothing but malaria, and diseases caused by small houseflies, lice, mosquitoes, etc. There are several types of mosquitoes. There is one mosquito—'anopheles' by name. There are male and female mosquitoes. The male mosquito takes the vector of a flower. The female mosquito takes the blood of a human being or an animal. The anopheles mosquitoes are not of four varieties; there are 40 varieties of mosquitoes. Forty varieties of female anopheles mosquitoes are there. Out of that, 9 species are very dangerous. They are causing malaria. In the entire world, today every 30 seconds, one child is dying, and everyday, 3000 people are dying of malaria. In our own country, thousand people—noticed or unnoticed—are dying of malaria. I am not specifically saying whether it is in Bihar or Orissa or some other parts of the country but it is happening today.

As I said, in 1953, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru brought a programme which eradicated malaria. Why is it now happening? In spite of 57 years of Independence—and we are entering into the 58th year—why is happening? I have gone specifically into this problem. The problem is of the 'budget'. Last year, they have given Rs. 1800 for health. The road from Delhi to Gurgaon costs Rs. 1800 crore but for the entire country for health, they have given Rs. 1800 crore. What can the hon. Health Minister do with this Rs. 1800 crore? What amount of infrastructure can he produce with this? What new infrastructure can he bring in? I am perplexed with this. 'Budget' is the problem. But the main problem is of 'planning.'

I would like to say a little about this 'planning' and the 'Planning Commission'. When the Planning Commission was first formed in 1952, there were stalwarts in the Planning Commission like Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Shri Gulzari Lal Nanda, Shri Chintamani Deshmukh and Shri Krishnamachari. These kinds of people were there as Members in the Planning Commission. They used to plan for the whole country; they used to allocate funds; they used to eradicate many things; they used to stop the diseases; and they developed infrastructure. Today, unfortunately for fortunately, we have the members whose names we do not know. Many members are there. Many of them do not have any substance. Today, the Planning Commission has become a Planning Commission for rehabilitating people—people who have not been able to

get elected to this House. They get some rehabilitation, go and sit there and get some status and chair. They are the people sitting in the Planning Commission and they are trying to plan for this country.

Now, I would like to say a word about these officers and advisors of the Planning Commission. They are the advisors who are not able to get the Secretary ship in the Government of India. Out of frustration, they go and sit there in the Planning Commission. There is a clash of interest between the Planning Commission and the Ministry.

The clash is there because he could not become Secretary, Health and he always fights with the Secretary. If the Secretary sends some proposals, the Advisor or the Principal Advisor, sitting in the Planning Commission, says 'no'. I know because I have personal acquaintance with the Planning Commission. I have seen them working with my eyes. They delay the whole thing and the entire planning process is going to futz. Our budget allocations are not coming properly. What can the Health Ministry do with this sum of Rs. 1800 crore? How can they control diseases?

Coming to the temples of health, AIIMS like hospitals are called "Temples of Health." The previous Government brought in this programme to upgrade seven hospitals to the level of All India Institute of Medical Sciences and seven new hospitals to start at places like Patna, Ranchi. These are very important places where these hospitals are going to be started. The Planning Commission has approved it, later on the EFC approved it and the Ministry of Health also approved it. Then it went to the Cabinet Committee. I would request the hon. Health Minister to put serious efforts to see that this programme is immediately approved by the competent authorities because people above poverty line, who are in the middle class, are those who get this disease. They are becoming sick and when they are becoming sick they are slipping below poverty line. I would request the hon. Minister to take full interest to see that this is cleared, at least, within another 15-20 days' time.

Coming to the rural health, we have six lakh villages in this country. We have 23,000 primary health centers. The primary health centres do not have doctors. What is the reason for this? Why the doctors do not sit in the primary health centres? I have seriously gone into it. To my mind, it appears that the entire blame goes to the Medical Council of India. The Medical Council of India was also discussed on 1st July, 1952. The view that I

am giving about it today was the same view that was delivered in 1952.

The Medical Council of India has become a non-democratic organisation. Though this is an elected body, it has become an undemocratic organisation. With all humility, I call the Medical Council of India as the Mafia Council of India! The other day, I saw the hon. Minister of Health standing here and all the Members sitting here were attacking him with questions. The poor hon. Health Minister was not able to reply. I understood his plight. The reason is that there is a big Mafia working. For the benefit of this august House, I wanted to say a few words about the Medical Council of India. This has never been discussed in the Parliament.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly come to the point. The hon. Finance Minister is also here and we have to take other business also. There are other Members who wish to speak.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: Sir, this is Half-an-Hour Discussion and I am raising very important points.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I agree, but please put specific questions. The MCI and other Central organisation are not the issues.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: Sir, there are seven members in the Medical Council of India. They are the people who have become more or less undemocratic people and they are looting this country. The hon. Finance Minister has gone out, he should have been here. He is all the time trying to reach poor and small people to pay the tax. These are the people having thousands of crores of rupees. Each person of this Council has got crores of rupees and they are misusing the authority.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All the hon. Health Minister are very competent to control them. So, you kindly conclude because if you expand the area, it will take more than an hour.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: Sir, now the Medical Council of India is trying to control the Ministry of Health now. The Ministry is not controlling the Medical Council of India.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is their internal matter. You please come to the specific point.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: The Medical Council of India is controlling the medical colleges. There are 125 private medical colleges in this country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now you conclude Malaria please.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: Unfortunately, with all agony, I would like to mention that this Medical Council of India is permitting the private medical colleges to collect more of tuition fee. The other day there was a discussion on a Starred Question in this House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Mohan, please come to the point and kindly conclude. Please cooperate with the Chair. The captivation fee, etc. is not the subject. You can give another notice for to discuss all these things, I do not mind.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: Medical students, mainly the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students, who study in the Private Medical Colleges, pay one thousand rupees per day as tuition fees to these Colleges. This is a very unfortunate things. This is all being encouraged by the Medical Council of India. The hon. Minister said that he will bring an Act next year. We are not going to wait for next year.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister is not at fault because the Judiciary has taken that job. He cannot do anything.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: I would request the hon. Minister to kindly send a Circular to all the Private Medical Colleges which are about 125 in number to at least see that the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students are protected from exploitation. I would like to request the hon. Minister—I have already written a letter to Shri Hota—to see that they should send a circular. I would request him that the exploitation of these poor children should be stopped immediately.

Now, I come to the National Health Policy. He has said in the National Health policy Document, 2002 that they will control polio—everyday I see their advertisements—by 2005; they will eradicate AIDS by 2007; and they will control malaria by 2010.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Chinta Mohan, the discussion is on eradication of vector-borne diseases. You can give your views on that.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what infrastructure they have to control these diseases by 2005, 2007 and 2010. What new infrastructure they want to have for this eradication programme? How much budgetary allocation they want? What efforts are being made by them to get more budgetary allocation? How malaria can be eradicated at least by another five years?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would earnestly like to request the hon. Members to ask questions only.

DR. K.S. MANOJ (Alleppey): The vector-borne diseases like malaria, dengue fever, Japanese encephalitis, filariasis etc. are spread by mosquitoes. I come from Kerala where there are endemic areas of malaria, filariasis and other diseases. Also, every year there are breakouts of dengue fever as well as Japanese encephalitis. Last year also, there were deaths due to Japanese encephalitis and dengue fever. One of the reasons for these deaths is delay in diagnosis of the disease. In Kerala and in many of the other States, there are not adequate facilities for the early diagnosis of dengue fever and Japanese encephalitis. In Kerala, we have to send blood to Pune Virology Institute to get the diagnosis of the disease.

So, my humble request to the hon. Minister is that at least in every State, there should be adequate facilities for the diagnosis of these diseases. Also, in Kerala, formerly there were Vector Control Research Centres under ICMR, but most of them were closed down after completion of their tenure period of five years. Still in Kerala, filariasis is rampant.

So, my question to the hon. Minister is this. I would like to know whether necessary steps to retain the Vector Control Research centers—which undertake research as well as control the vectors—have been taken so that we can prevent the vector-borne diseases.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he has taken adequate steps to provide adequate facilities. We had a specific request for a Viral Institute in my constituency, but we did not get any financial assistance from the Central Ministry. These are my two pointed questions.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak in the Half-an-Hour Discussion. I

would like to ask some question from the Hon'ble Health Minister through you. As it has been mentioned in the subject, there are so many diseases of which people die. We have three seasons in our country—winter, summer and monsoon. The Government should make arrangements to check the diseases according to the season. It is said that there is also an outbreak of polio, Dengue etc. We claim that these diseases have been wiped out. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly put your questions.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, if I am not able to tell, how can I ask questions?

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly put your questions. Then, the hon. Minister will reply.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: How arrangement will be made in rural areas. When we go to our constituencies, we find the outbreak of diseases there. Secondly, for prevention of these disease, it is necessary to control population. Sanitation facilities should be there; clean environment should be there. People belonging to SC communities live in slums, where these diseases spread much faster. I am also of the opinion that we organize Health Mela in every constituency by spending Rs. 8 lacs out of MP fund. But still medicines and other facilities are not available. There are problems for all the Health workers. Every now and then they resort to protests and agitations. They are fighting for their petty demands. I believe that we can control the disease caused by vectors. The UP Government has opened 813 Primary Health Centres for poor people but they cannot reach to them due to non-availability of vehicles. A sum of Rs. 27.80 crores has been demanded from Government of India. I request the Hon'ble Minister that funds should be released for them on priority basis so that these deadly diseases can be controlled.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I request the hon. Minister to take up the relevant questions only and do not unnecessarily expand the area.

Now, Dr. M. Jagannath.

DR. M. JAGANNATH (Nagar Kumool): Sir, I do not want to go into the details, which my friend, Dr. Chinta Mohan has dealt with. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID (Periyakulam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, you kindly allow other Members also. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am saying this is accordance with the rules decided by the Hon'ble Speaker. But Hon'ble Member has started delivering speech.

[*English*]

If they do like this, then it will not be half-an-hour discussion but will become one and a half hour discussion.

Dr. M. Jagannath, kindly put questions only.

DR. M. JAGANNATH: Sir, I am putting questions only.

In India, there are nearly 44 million tribal population and they reside in Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Bihar, Jharkhand, Rajasthan, Orissa and North-Eastern States. They account for 50 per cent of the cases of malaria.

In the recent census of 2001, it was reported that 0.98 million cases were found and out of which, 431 people died. It is a perennial problem. My friend, Dr. Chinta Mohan said that malaria had been eradicated. I do not agree with him. It cannot be eradicated. So long as mosquitoes are there, it will exist and it can only be controlled. We know very well that when the monsoon onsets, malaria will come. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly put questions. Please do not give information. The Minister is aware of that.

DR. M. JAGANNATH: Sir, I am putting questions only.

The measures like DDT spraying, detection and treatment of the cases will control Malaria. We also know every well that due to lack of medical facilities in the

[Dr. M. Jagannath]

tribal areas, most of the deaths are taking place there. This issue is being discussed every year in the Consultative Committee meeting also. Death mainly occurs because of cerebral malaria, anemia and malnutrition.

What happens is that because of malaria, the individuals who are affected by malaria are prone to severe anemia and mal-nutrition. Ultimately it causes respiratory disease, death of the brain and death.

In Visakhapatnam and Vizianagar districts of Andhra Pradesh—whether the Minister agree or not, but the statistics will tell you—it seems nearly 1000 people have died. What are the measures the Minister proposes to take in future to control the increasing number of cases? We know it is a perennial problem. In Visakhapatnam and Vizianagar districts, it was told that 35,000 people were positive.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, you put the question.

DR. M. JAGANNATH: My question to the hon. Minister is this. It is a perennial problem. What are the steps the Government proposes to take to control this?

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (Kalahandi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am not a doctor. I do mostly social service. As the answer to this Question was inconclusive during the Question Hour, the Speaker wanted a Half-an-Hour Discussion and he advised us to give notice and we gave it. But after hearing and feeling the sense of the House, I feel that a discussion under rule 193 should be allowed. Then only we could have a detailed discussion on this matter and the UPA Government's failure in stemming it will come out. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly put the question. If you politicalise the question, then you will miss the bus.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: All right, I will not miss the bus.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly put the question. We are not screening the Government. You just ask the question.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: All right, I am asking the question.

I come from the State of Orissa which has got the highest number of malaria cases and they are in the tribal areas. It is a known fact. My clarification is this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do not ask clarification. You put your question.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: I am asking a clarification.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do not seek a clarification. You ask the question.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: My question is that the system of treatment, which you are giving for malaria now, is an outdated system. Well, you are using DDT for eradication of malaria whereas DDT has been banned in certain countries because of its negative effects on the environment, wildlife and flora and fauna. So, what are the measures the Government is taking to eradicate malaria? That day the Minister replied. But you see, Sir, they are launching the Rural Health Mission now. Is it a very good thing without doctors? We do not have doctors in the States. Hospitals, PHCs, subsidiary health centres are without doctors. So, how do you expect to achieve the Rural Health Mission? ...*(Interruptions)* Today, in the KBK districts of Orissa and in my district, there are no doctors. There are 78 posts vacant for doctors.

For admission in medical colleges, there is a Joint Entrance Examination. Fifty per cent of the seats are reserved for the children of the State.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, you come to malaria.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: I am coming to the point.

Fifty per cent of the seats are reserved for children outside the State.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do not go for the medical colleges now.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: But after they complete their MBBS, they tend to leave the State and go out of the State. So, can the Government formulate a new scheme or a new policy that after doing the MBBS in that particular State, he gives a compulsory service of three years in that State so that the shortage of doctors does not take place? I know health is a State subject. We know it is a State subject.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I know you were the Minister.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: But the States are in a bad condition, and malaria is a dreaded disease which we have not been able to control till now. Please tell me what are the other alternative ways to control this? It is because the breeding centres of mosquitoes are the ponds and the stagnated water.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Everybody knows the reason.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: Thank you.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, can I just put one question?

MR. CHAIRMAN: As per the rules, we allowed the Members. There are 10 requests. We have allowed five Members as per the rule of the House. I will humbly submit and request you to kindly co-operate.

Mr. Minister, you do not expand the area.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly co-operate. Otherwise we will have no option.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Excuse me, we cannot allow any question. As per the rules, the Speaker has decided to allow five Members. We have already called five Members. Kindly co-operate.

...(Interruptions)

19.00 hrs.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, hon. Minister will reply.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): I would like to thank the hon. Member, Dr. Chinta Mohan for bringing up this issue and his concerns about the malaria in the country for the last 57-58 years. As he has rightly said, during the 1960s, there was a drastic fall in malaria cases. At one point of time, in 60s there were only 50,000 cases of malaria. It was because DDT was newly introduced. It was very effective on malaria. But with the passage of time, there was a lot of resistance to DDT and other issues. Then, there was a lapse in the programme in the midway. Earlier, it was an eradication programme.

Today, we have a comprehensive National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme where about five diseases including malaria, filariasis, Japanese Encephalitis, Dengue and *Kala Azar* have been brought under this programme.

Then there was the issue of budgetary allocation. The hon. Members have said that much has not been done. I would like to state that this year in the health sector, we had an increase of 32 per cent to 33 per cent. It was unprecedented. Our Prime Minister is very much concerned about health, and he has asked the hon. Finance Minister to give a lot more allocations. We are going to increase public health spending from the current 0.9 per cent to a minimum 2 per cent in the next four years. That is our commitment in the National Common Minimum Programme, and we are going according to that.

Then coming to the budget for malaria, in fact last year, namely, 2004-05, we have spent Rs. 216 crore in total for National Vector Borne Diseases Control we have an increase for the spending on malaria and other vector borne diseases.

In respect of institutions like AIIMS, we are going to take it up on a big scale. They are much needed in States like Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. The programmes at the primary level will be supplemented by these institutions only at the tertiary level This has to go on, and we are taking steps The CCEA has been considering these six AIIMS institutions.

For rural health also, we have launched a Rural Health Mission this year with the help of our Prime Minister. We have covered about 18 States which have low parameters in the health sector.

Of course, coming to Medical Education, the hon. Member said that this is a Mafia Council of India. It was according to him. Yes, we have been having some issues of Medical Council of India. Rather than taking up these issues here, we could take up these issues elsewhere on some other forum also. In fact, we are trying to bring in an amendment to the Medical Council Act which the Cabinet has already recently passed. We will be introducing it soon in the august House.

Then there was the issue of fee structure, and private medical colleges. The day when this issue was raised,

[Dr. Ambumani Ramadoss]

some hon. Members were a little agitated about the fee structure, and about the captivation fee being collected. I am also on their side on this issue. I want to eradicate this captivation fee. Today, nobody is allowed to take captivation fee. Like elsewhere, these are being done clandestinely, secretly. We are not having any proof of this captivation fee. If hon. Members have any proof or if any one from public could bring it to our notice or to any other authority, definitely, we will take action. In fact, we have taken action against some college in Gujarat last year where the owner of the college was arrested for taking captivation fees. Today, the fees are prescribed only by respective committees in the States.

Some hon. Members approached me after the Question Hour that some colleges are taking fees together for five years. Supposing the fee has been prescribed Rs. 3 lakh in the first year is illegal. Nobody is allowed to take fee for more than one prescribed year. If anybody is taking that, it is illegal.

Then there was the issue of new infrastructure. Yes, we are trying to provide two to three per cent infrastructure in the next four years. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are no doctors in the primary health centres.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: There is a National Rural Health Mission. Through you, Sir, we could even have a discussion on only the National Rural Health Mission where we could discuss a lot of wider issues, namely, what is the availability of doctors there, the problems at the rural level, primary level, whether the para-medical staff have medicines or not, etc. We have decided to take up all that, and have a discussion on that. That will be helpful for enlightening all the hon. Members about this programme which is the biggest programme in the last 50 years in the health sector—the National Rural Health Mission.

The hon. Prime Minister is concerned about the rural people also.

Dr. K.S. Manoj had also asked some questions. Today is a day of doctors and I am also a doctor. All my doctor colleagues have been asking questions on malaria. They are concerned about the outbreak of dengue and Japanese encephalitis in Kerala. Kerala has a peculiar situation where they grow coconuts. Coconut plantations is put up everywhere and water collects in

the coconut shells in the rainy season. If water is left unabsorbed, it becomes a breeding ground for malaria and dengue causing mosquitoes but awareness has been created in Kerala. Kerala is one of the highly literate States in the country and there has been no difficulty in creating awareness. Malaria test is a very simple test under the microscope. So, on all these issues, the Government of India is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments. The State Governments have to take steps. We are supplementing them in surveillance, in prevention, in IEC. We are participating in providing infrastructure like mosquito nets and all that.

We are going to go in for an integrated surveillance where after three years the whole country would be covered. All the 600 districts are going to be covered by this programme. If any case is reported, we would take immediate action. This would be done not only for malaria but also for typhoid, cholera and other diseases.

Regarding ICMR units, we have a lot of units doing research. There are literally ten units all over the country. For malaria, we have surveillance units. They would be there for five years. When malaria comes down, they would shift to another endemic area. Whenever there is any problem in a particular State, we could talk to that State and take action on the basis of necessity of the disease. Some of these diseases are seasonal diseases. After monsoon, we might have a spurt and then there could be a decrease till the next monsoon season.

Shri Shailendra Kumar asked about control of population. In fact, that is the base of all the problems in the country today; not only of health problems but also infrastructure problems, economic problems, agricultural problems, and all kinds of problems. So, control of population is one of the country's main programmes. We are here to stabilise and control population. That is one of the priorities for us. In fact, we are concentrating on urban slums also through the Urban Renewal Mission.

The hon. Member said that the Health Melas are not being properly organised. I would like to deny that. There have been Health Melas which have been very successful. In some of the Health Melas about 50,000 people from a whole district have participated and got their screening done. So, these Health Melas are much needed. The first step the Government of India is going to take is to take up the National Rural Health Mission in 18 States where we are going to hold *melas* not only for creating

awareness but also for screening the people for diseases like diabetes, cataract, etc. These *melas* also include gynecological screening.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you think that it is a very big number for people attending a Health Mela?

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, according to his influence and commitment, the hon. Member organises the event. The other doctors, IMA and all others private parties, including philanthropists participate in it. If it is a massive *mela*, it is very effective and we initiate that. The Government today is at the point of giving Rs. 8 lakh, which we feel is not that much, but again we have 18 States and we have to cover a lot of ground. There are other hon. Members from other States asking for this. The first step is to take this up in 18 States.

Coming to Dr. Manda Jagannath, my good friend, he is also concerned about the spread of these diseases in tribal areas. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is the only friend you have here!

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: As you are aware, for the control of malaria in tribal areas, we have a lot of on-going programmes specifically designed for the tribal areas. We have the Enhanced Malaria Control Programme in which about 100 districts in eight States are covered. All the 100 districts are tribal districts and we are covering them.

The World Bank is supporting it. Literally about 1,045 Primary Health Centres (PHCs) are covering this. We have another intensified malaria control programme in ten States including North-East, Orissa, Jharkhand and West Bengal. We are giving 100 per cent cash assistance for all the North-Eastern States. So, we are concentrating on tribal areas.

In fact, there were some issues raised earlier to discuss about the issues where the hon. Member says about thousand people died in Visakhapatnam area and Paderu area. I want to give some little details about what has been happening in Visakhapatnam area. In that district, during 2004, about 9,894 cases were reported against 17,124 during 2001, showing a reduction of literally 42 per cent in three years' time.

As regards the steps taken, there were a lot of steps being taken by the State Government in the recent past

whereby in 2,500 villages spray operation has been done. As far as malaria is concerned, I would like to say that a number of steps were taken. One is to control malaria and then when it happens, to treat it. So, to control malaria, we have been doing a lot from earlier times like spraying insecticides. The hon. Member says that DDT is banned in some of the countries. Yes, it is true. But we are using this very discreetly and very rationally. Every year, as far as DDT is concerned, there is a Committee under the Secretary (Health) which decides the quantities. For malaria we are using about 7,000 metric tonnes and for *kala azar* it is about 2,500 metric tonnes. But we are using it very rationally and very selectively. There are other chemicals also like synthetic pyrethroids, Malthion, Fenthion. We are using all these things. Fenthion is a larvicidal drug, a chemical. In fact, we are using gambujia fish or gappies. You leave them in a pond and they eat all the larvae of the malaria. Maharashtra State is the best in the country and there it is very effective. We are propagating this to a lot of other States, especially in North-East where they have small ponds. We just leave this fish. It is a small fish and they eat all the larvae. It is very effective in controlling malaria and other vector-borne diseases. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him complete. Dr. Jagannath, please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: In the Paderu area we have taken a lot of steps. We have supplied 30,000 impregnated mosquito nets to 430 villages in that Paderu agency area. Initially, about 195 medical camps were conducted and rapid fever screening was being carried out and 55 medical teams have been postponed in 55 school complexes. Two hundred and seventy nine medical and paramedical staff has been deployed there. Fifty-five vehicles have been provided in 11 mandals and specialist doctors have been posted there. Food also has been provided to the tribal areas. Adequate essential drugs, like chloroquine, primaquine and other essential drugs, which are reducing malaria, have been provided. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Infrastructure is there, but it should be under use. That is the only issue.

...(*Interruptions*)

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: It is there. Besides, rapid diagnostic kits are also there.

[Dr. Anbumani Ramadoss]

That day some hon. Members had raised the issue that about 900 to 1,000 people have died and they gave me a list of the persons who have died, in which village and in which area. They asked me to verify it by sending my officials there, which I kindly obliged and I asked my officials to go there personally and verify these so-called deaths in that village. In fact, I sent my Director of the National Vector-Borne Disease Control Programme. He is Dr. P.L. Joshi. He inspected one village. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: This you have already replied in the Starred Question.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: No, Sir. This is one village called 'Champaguda' where there is a Konda Dorra tribe. In that list given by the hon. Member that day, this village with a population of approximately 350-360 had about 44 so-called deaths. This is according to the list given and my person went there. He verified and found out that of the 44 so-called deaths, 42 were alive.

MR. CHAIRMAN: My God! This is accurate information.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: All of them went for work somewhere else in the State. There was only one death in the village. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. M. JAGANNATH: Sir, you said you have got them verified. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are not going to get privilege issue. Kindly sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. M. JAGANNATH: Sir, the MRO has certified 550 deaths. What about it? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is not charging you. Why worry? Let the hon. Minister complete the reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will be recorded except the speech of hon. Minister.

...*(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. Hon. Minister, do not respond to him.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Out of 44, 42 are still alive. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Minister, please reply to the point of Shri Bikram Keshari Deo about hilly tracks etc. He was the last speaker on this.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, I am coming to that.

I respect Dr. Jagannath and the concern of all the hon. Members. If there is even one death, we are going to act. Irrespective of whether there is one death or a thousand deaths, we are going to take all the steps and in consultation with the State Government and in cooperation with them, we are taking all the steps for agency areas. A lot of things have been done after that also.

Coming to Orissa, in fact, Orissa is the State where there was highest prevalence of deaths in the country because of malaria. In fact, we have launched a National Rural Health Mission in Orissa. I was personally there. The hon. Chief Minister launched this programme. We have been discussing it.

Hon. Member says that the treatment is outdated. We have a lot of new, modern drugs. Earlier there was treatment with chloroquine, primaquine, etc. Now there was some resistance shown and we have gone into more recent drugs like artemisine sulfate, artier injection, etc. which have been given. It is very expensive. We are procuring and supplying them to the State Governments. So, treatment-wise saying that it is outdated, we definitely will not accept it. We are having some of the best treatments which are available today in the country. They are being given free of cost to these malaria-affected people.

I have mentioned about DDT. We are using it very sparingly. This is the only chemical which is very effective for *kala azar* and sandfly etc. The DDT is very effective. We have to use that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: On the point whether the doctors can be put in the States, it is in the States' purview and he can request the hon. Chief Minister of the State to take some decision whereby the doctors have been asked to stay there, some bonding could be there. Overall, we are trying to have these doctors posted in the rural areas. We had a discussion with actually some 15 medical professional bodies in the country last month. Most of them like the Indian Medical Association and the FGOSI and the associations for gynecology, anaesthesia had come and they had suggested for compulsory rural posting. After the doctor finishes his house surgeoncy, he is to be posted for one year or two years, they are trying to decide the period and he is to compulsorily work in a rural place after which he will be given his graduation certificate. After that only he could even apply for his post-graduation. We are taking these steps.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It should be compulsory. In Maharashtra we are doing that one.

We will now take up item no. 8-A, presentation of BAC Report, and then continue with the discussion on Supplementary Budget.

19.17 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Fourteenth Report

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): Sir, I beg to present the Fourteenth Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

19.18 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS—(GENERAL) 2005-06 AND DEMANDS FOR EXCESS GRANTS— (GENERAL) 2002-03—*contd.*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: We will continue with the discussion on the Supplementary Grants. Shri Lakshman Seth to speak now.

SHRI K.S. RAO (Eluru): Sir, how much time will it take?

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are one or two speakers more and then the hon. Minister will reply. Shri Lakshman Seth, please be very precise. Thank you.

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH (Tamluk): Sir, in the backdrop of the mid-term appraisal of the Tenth Plan, the hon. Minister of Finance has submitted the Supplementary Demands for Grants for approval of the Parliament. In the mid-term appraisal report, we have seen that during the NDA regime the economic condition of the country became dismal. However, to some extent, the economic condition is going to be revived now. But, in spite of that, in the meeting held in May, 2005 of the hon. Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council, it considered two growth forecasts of 6.7 per cent in the base and 7.2 per cent under the approved situation for 2005-2006. The Economic Advisory Council's base case assumed a sectoral growth rate of 1.8 per cent for agriculture and allied sectors and 7 per cent for manufacturing.

So, it can be stated that the spectacular achievement in economic field has not yet been made. That is why I would request the hon. Minister of Finance to take steps so that really our country can have some spectacular achievement in the economic sectors.

Sir, practically, without mobilisation of resources, I think, the commitment of the UPA Government will not be fulfilled. Since there is a huge resource crunch, huge revenue deficit and fiscal deficit that we find in our Budget, I think, the Government has less interest in mobilising resources. There are huge tax arrears amounting to about Rs. 70,000 crore. It may exceed this amount also. Not only that, there are NPAs of the banks which also amount to about Rs. 75,000 crore. There is huge black money also. There is not attempt to unearth that black money. There is an evasion of taxes by corporate houses and business houses. In our country, there are three crore assessees and 70 or 80 per cent of those assessees are salaried people. So, it can be easily proved that there is taking place a huge evasion of taxes by the corporate houses, which is causing accumulation of more and more black money. Without taking proper steps to stop evasion of taxes and unearthing the black money, I think, the commitment in the National Common Minimum Programme cannot be achieved. It cannot be possible.

[Shri Lakshman Seth]

I have also seen in many reports that in the case of returns filed by the corporate houses, there is no system to check up them. Only two per cent of those returns are checked up on the plea that the Government does not have sufficient machinery. How will you collect taxes and mobilise resources? These are important issues which I would like to emphasise upon.

Since time is short, I want to put forward some important issues relating to Eastern India. Practically, because of the negligence on the part of the Government of India for years together, Eastern India, that is, Orissa, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal has been suffering a lot and an economic imbalance has been created. You know that earlier the Eastern India had sacrificed following freight equalisation. Also because of the discriminatory attitude of the financial institutions, I think, Eastern India has suffered a lot. That is why, I would request and urge upon the Finance Minister to look into the matter.

I would like to say one more thing that CDR, Credit Deposit Ratio in Eastern India is far behind. That is why, the Government should take steps so that the CDR can be balanced for improvement of the Eastern India.

I would also like to bring to the notice of the hon. Finance Minister that the West Bengal Government is suffering a lot because the Government of India has not been paying the coal royalty on the plea that West Bengal has imposed cess on the coal, but the Supreme Court has upheld this logic and also upheld the stand taken by the West Bengal Government regarding imposition of cess on coal. Hon. Finance Minister has promised our Chief Minister that he will look into the matter so that the Government of West Bengal can get the coal royalty. On account of it, every year, the West Bengal Government is losing more than Rs. 2,000 crore. For 15 years, the State Government has not been getting coal royalty. These aspects should be looked into.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Bettiah): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for supplementary Grants presented by the Hon'ble Finance Minister. I hope that the Hon'ble Minister will succeed in making the scheme of nation building a success, which was announced by the Hon'ble Prime Minister. Mr. Finance Minister is an able economist and the country would develop in his leadership. The Finance Minister needs to be more vigilant so that this does not remain a mere slogan. The Finance

Minister should monitor the schemes pertaining to eradication of unemployment, rural development and industrial development in various states of the country.

We all know that our state of Bihar is a backward and poor state. After division of Bihar all the industry, mineral resources, all of earnings have been wiped out, the revenue, which we use to get is not coming to us now and Bihar has become only an agriculture based state.

We opposed the Bill that was introduced during NDA Government in connection with the reconstitution of Bihar. At that time the Hon'ble Prime Minister has said that we will not let Bihar become a poor State, it will not happen that one state becomes rich while the other becomes poor. So the losses being suffered by Bihar would be compensated. I am sorry to say that the commitment made by the Prime Minister of the country was not fulfilled and Bihar did not get its due share. We want to congratulate Dr. Manmohan Singh and his UPA Government that they accepted the promise in their Common Minimum Programme and said that they would compensate losses suffered by Bihar. Hon'ble Finance Minister is sitting here. This Government is now fifteen months old but Bihar still has got nothing in this connection. We were saying that we no longer have any industry, technical education in our state. Today, Bihar has not even a single IIT. We demand that IIT may be established there. Bihar had 34 sugar factories after independence of the country but today only half a dozen sugar factories are running in the state. All other sugar factories have been closed. The Central Government has established sugar factories in other parts of the country in which your state also held in important position, whether it is in cooperative sector, private sector or public sector, sugar factories has been established but Bihar has been ignored.

Bihar is being destroyed every year by flood. We suffer losses not from the rivers of this country but we suffer losses from rivers coming from Nepal. All our infrastructure gets destroyed, our roads are damaged, buildings get collapsed. The houses of nine lakhs poor people were destroyed by flood last year in Bihar. The Prime Minister has provided assistance to construct two lakh houses; we could not construct the remaining seven lakh houses. We suffered loss to the tune of Rs. Three Thousand Crores but the assistance, which was supposed to be given by Central Government, was not provided. We would like to request the Hon'ble Finance Minister to

talk effectively with Nepal Government. We suffer damage every year due to rivers coming from Nepal. ...(*Interruptions*) You are ringing bell. You are facing these problems this time only, we face this problem every year, we face destruction and every year we suffer losses. Bihar is affected by flood as well as drought. We have Ten Lakh hectares of land in water logging. Several villages are submerged in Ganga every year from Farkka to Buxar, thousand acres of land is lost. We have no means to save it.

We have another difficulty also when banks were nationalized, commercial banking expanded manifold in our state also. You will see that whereas in 1990-91 the ratio of deposits was 40 per cent, it reduced to a mere 32.2 per cent in 2002-2003.

It means that our money goes somewhere else. We want to demand that 900 Kms. Stretch of national highway in North Bihar should be made of our lanes. They have put a condition on Bihar that 40 per cent of the funds would be provided by Central Government and 60 per cent by some investor. When people of Bihar have nothing to eat, then who will invest money? Bihar has no such capitalist, who will invest money in 900 Km area.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: I am concluding. If you keep on disturbing me, I will be confused. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You will confuse everybody.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: I am to submit that there is no such investor in 900 kms area in Bihar who could invest 60 percent among therein. Hence, you are requested to get the work done in connection with conversion of area in 900 kms into four lane and get it managed the same through this package which is being given to Bihar by Government of India. Similarly, we are having two-lane National Highway in 1700 kms. Out of it, about 100 kms road is in dilapidated condition. This road is in dilapidated condition due to rivers emanating from Nepal and flowing toward India but not because of our own reason. I am to submit that this road should be get

completed as per specification of NH by formulating a special plan.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am repeating your words. When Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi was the Prime Minister of the country had announced a special package for Bihar. Nothing has been done over the years but UPA Government has announced in its Common Minimum Programme that it will implement it. I want to say that it should not be confined to a mere declaration but it should be materialized. I am concluding within 2-3 minutes.

In power sector, it was decided that 500 MW capacity enhancement will be made for Mujaffarpur Thermal Power Station, Kanti-Barauni and a separate plant will also be established, but it is lying as it is due to paucity of funds. A thermal power station was to be set up at Barh in Patna district and at Nabi Nagar in Aurangabad district but it is lying as it is. My colleague Professor was saying that we have been able to complete our 10 percent electrification in Bihar. I request the Hon'ble Minister that a special management should make for this purpose. An amount to the tune of Rs. 294 crore was sanctioned for modernization of Gandak Project. Plan was finalized for this purpose but work has not started on it till date. All the embankments whether these are on Gandak, Bagmati or Adwara group of rivers, are in dilapidated condition. I want that a special attention should be paid it and sanctioned amount for the same should be released immediately.

Hon'ble Health Minister is not here. A state of confusion has been created due to his statement. The then government had announced in this House to open 7 new 'AIIMS'. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may demand whatever you want from Finance Minister except General Budget.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: I have demanded through you, Sir ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: What will Health Minister give you?

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Finance Minister gave a statement and lands were allotted. Vice-President laid the foundation. Health Minister decided to set up New AIIMS

[Shri Raghunath Jha]

by upgrading old hospitals. Union Government set up these hospitals in various states of the country but Bihar was left out which is the most backward state. I demand that out of Indira Gandhi Ayurveda Sanstha, Patna and Mujaffarpur or Darbhanga Sansthans, some one should be upgraded and be given the status of AIIMS. I am to submit that the population of Bihar is 8 crore. There is not a single Central University in Bihar. The oldest university, Patna should be given the status of Central University. Eight districts of Bihar have been affecting with militancy from the very beginning. Due to being open border and growing influence of Maoists of Nepal West Champaran, East Champaran, Shihar, Sitamaarhi, Madhubani, Darbhanga and Samastipur etc. in North Bihar have been affecting by militancy.

There is a not a single border road. Smuggling from Nepal is going on here, fake currency is coming from there and weapons are coming to Bihar from that side and militants's activities are taking place. My colleague hon'ble Member Shri Sita Ram Singhji is not present here now, his house was attacked, a bank was looted, block was also looted and a police station was looted and lately Shri Ramvilas Paswan's brother was attacked. All these incidents are taking place there and a border road of 500 km long is lying open and it is adjacent to Nepal. Anybody can carry anything; nobody is there to check him. I request the Hon'ble Minister that Union Government should provide assistance to those areas to combat militancy effectively and modernize the police and equip them with good weapons and arms. They should be equipped with 303 rifles, AK-47 and AK-46 rifles. Hon'ble Finance Minister when you were presenting budget last year you decided to develop 170 backward districts by providing them a grant of about Rs. 5000 crore. Out of them, there were 36 districts of Bihar but they have not been given a single farthing to them by now. So, I would like to say to the Hon'ble Finance Minister that have cooperatives, labour development scheme and Food for Work Scheme and you are giving 15 crore rupees to each district under labour development scheme and Rs. 15-20 crore under Food for Work Scheme, but there is no role of any police representatives in implementation of these scheme. So, that task should be done and I demand that a monetary package should be given to Bihar and effective measures and steps should be taken for permanent solution to the problem of flood and drought. All of Bihar should be associated with the total districts of the country and the remaining districts should be declared as backward districts. With these words I conclude.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Members for the wide-ranging discussion the Supplementary Demands. Let me begin with the questions raised by the first speaker, Mr. Kailash Joshi, on why I am coming forward with Supplementary Demands.

On each one of the heads for which there is a cash outgo, these are developments subsequent to the 28th of February, 2005. I am not usually generous in allowing more expenditure after the Budget is presented. Therefore, if I have been persuaded to agree to seek Supplementary Demands, hon. Members will kindly appreciate, it can only be because there is a very strong reason.

The additional loans to the Government is a pass through of the external assistance. The Twelfth Finance Commission had recommended disintermediation of all external assistance. When this report came to us the report had to be considered very carefully, and a decision had to be taken after taking into consideration the views of the State Governments. Once this decision was taken and the decision now is that EAP loans will be extended through the Budget and with limited disintermediation—it has become necessary now to provide another Rs. 3,376 crore.

As far as the additional grants to J&K and some programme are concerned, the J&K Reconstruction Plan was finalised only in April, 2005. The AIBP could be finalised only after schemes were submitted by the State Governments. Additional expenditure for the Accelerated Power Development could be finalised only after claims were made by the State Electricity Boards. Since all this happened after the 28th February, 2005, we could not have possibly included them in the main Budget.

As far as Rs. 916 crore for Rural Telephony is concerned, the request for additional funds for reimbursement to the operators was received after the finalisation of the Budget Estimates, in the third week of February, 2005. As far as Rs. 500 crore for DMRC is concerned—this is of course a pass through of Japanese assistance—funds are being provided in accordance with the pace of the implementation by the DMRC. Rs. 100 crore has been provided for the Fast Track Courts because after the recent Supreme Court order, the matter was taken to the Cabinet and a decision was taken that we will fund the countenance of the courts. As regards

the last item, that is, Rs. 73 crore for compensation to the Indian Airlines, this is an old claim when Vayudoot was taken over by the Indian Airlines. The claims were being quantified from time to time. Final quantification was made after the Budget was presented and after reconciling the accounts, we have now provided for Rs. 73 crore. Every one of these items is an item where there is a good reason why we have to come with the Supplementary Demands and why we could not have included it in the original Budget.

Now, I turn to some specific issues raised by the hon. Members. I will be very brief having regard to the hour at which we are sitting. Sometimes, I wonder which economy the BJP is talking about! Are they talking about the Indian economy in 2004-05 or the first quarter of 2005-06? Or are they talking about some mythical economy which they have in mind? The economy is doing well and let us not talk it down. Last year, despite 13 per cent deficiency in monsoon, the economy grew by 6.9 per cent and so far the growth in the first quarter, according to all the available indicators, is likely to be better than the annual growth rate of last year. Industrial growth in April and May was 9.6 per cent compared to eight per cent in the corresponding period of last year. Manufacturing registered double-digit growth of 10.5 per cent during the first two months of the current year, and June, I believe, was even better. In June, 2005, six infrastructure industries grew by 10.2 per cent as against a mere 2.4 per cent last June.

Inflation is now the lowest in two years at 4.07 per cent. Exports have grown by 19.5 per cent in April-June, 2005. The foreign exchange reserves by the end of July touched a historic high of US \$ 140 billion. All indicators are positive. The negativity is in our minds. I would urge the hon. Members to please shed this negative approach and let us compliment our farmers; let us compliment our industrial workers.

Let us compliment our service providers; let us compliment our entrepreneurs; and let us compliment the young men and women who are working in whatever walk of life in order to grow India's economy.

There were some comments about revenue collections. As of July, we have figures for income-tax, corporation tax and customs duties. We have got excise figures up to June. All of them are showing growth. In terms of grand total of all revenues, the growth at the end of June is 21.2 per cent over last year.

There was a question about Universal Health Insurance Scheme. The only subsidised universal health insurance scheme that is sponsored by the Central Government is the Universal Health Insurance Scheme (UHS). As hon. Members are aware, this Scheme has since been re-designed with an increase in subsidy of Rs. 200 for an individual, Rs. 300 for a family of five and Rs. 400 for a family of seven. The Scheme applies to BPL families. In 2004-05, 52,772 policies covering 65,718 families were issued. So far, in 2005-06, up to June 30, 30,664 policies covering 33,994 families have been issued. This year, having regard to the figures of the first quarter, we should do much better than last year.

There were some questions about tractors being over-priced. I have got the list of manufacturers of tractors and their prices. There are nine different manufacturers of tractors. I have got prices from 1999-2000 to 2003-04. What I find is that the prices have remained more or less constant; the variation is about two per cent plus or minus as compared to the price in 1999-2000. So, the tractor prices have been more or less constant over the last three years. I do not know where the hon. Member got the information that there is sudden spurt in tractor prices. If any particular case is brought to my notice, certainly, we will look into that.

A question was raised, how Bharat Nirman will be funded. I think, I had, on an earlier occasion, explained how the Bharat Nirman would be funded. Let me just talk about the funding for the current year and the next year. When we go into the Eleventh Plan, we will look at the funding in the Eleventh Plan when we have more time to discuss the matter. In the current year, the allocation for the six heads of the Bharat Nirman is Rs. 16,659 crore. It requires additional funding of Rs. 3,418 crore. To find Rs. 3,418 crore, is slightly difficult but not impossible. I have already promised the Prime Minister. I have promised the concerned Ministries that in addition to Rs. 16,659 crore already provided for the current year, I will find Rs. 3,418 crore.

So, *Bharat Nirman* this year, will be fully funded.

For the next year, if you start on the base of Rs. 16,659 crore, you will require an additional amount of Rs. 10,242 crore. But if I succeed in providing the additional Rs. 3,418 crore this year, then the base at which you will start is approximately Rs. 20,000 crore. On Rs. 20,000 crore allowing for the nominal growth in

[Shri P. Chidambaram]

the budgeted revenues and budgeted expenditure, I am confident that we will find the additional amount to fund *Bharat Nirman* fully in the next year also. As regards the 11th Plan, we will discuss it at a suitable opportunity.

Sir, a question was asked about the Chitranjan National Cancer Institute. It does not concern my Ministry directly, but I am happy to furnish the information. This is an Institute Funded by the Government of India and the Government of West Bengal in certain proportions. There is a National Illness Assistance Fund, and the Director of this Institute was given a revolving fund of Rs. 10 lakh in order to sanction the medical expenses of persons in the BPL category up to a sum of Rs. 50,000. It appears that the Director has exhausted his fund of Rs. 10 lakh. He has come to the Ministry for more funds, and more funds are being provided.

19.51 hrs.

[SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL *in the Chair*]

So, it is not correct to say that on BPL person can get free treatment. If he is a deserving person, the Director has the discretion to give him free treatment and use the monies out of this fund.

Sir, questions were, as expected, directed about Bihar and UP, and what money is being provided. I do not know why Bihar complains about money. As on August 1, 2005, Bihar's cash balance is Rs. 3,482 crore. There is money. I said that when I moved the Bihar Budget. Money is there. They must spend the money. In the first quarter, and this point was made by one or two hon. Members, the expenditure is only about five per cent. I said, I will advise the Bihar Administration to please quicken the pace of spending. There is enough money for Bihar to spend. The 12th Finance Commission has been generous to Bihar under various heads. A huge amount of money will be devolved upon Bihar as central taxes, non-plan revenue deficit for health sector, for education and under various heads. I do not think money is a constraint. The constraint really is the ability to spend upon programmes, which have been laid down either by the Central Government or the Bihar State Government. I would respectfully urge Bihar and certainly UP also, to spend the monies available to them under various heads. Bihar has enough money. Bihar has been treated, according to me, fairly by the 12th Finance Commission. It is one of the few States which have got special grants

over and above the normal assistance under health and education. So, Bihar should really take advantage of this opportunity that is opened for Bihar, and spend the money.

Sir, the last question was about the National Highway Development Programme. It is one thing to create a hype in the mind, it is another thing to believe the hype. My good friend, Mr. Swain believes much of the hype that is generated. I have said repeatedly that the Golden Quadrilateral is a good programme and this Government has no intention of scuttling it or slowing it down. In fact, we have said that we will quicken the pace of implementing the Golden Quadrilateral. But I do not think we should generate hype and believe the hype that we create. By May of 2004, when this Government came into office, only 48 per cent of the GQ had been completed, leaving 52 per cent incomplete.

That is a fact. It is not a criticism. It is a simple statement of fact and please take it as a statement of fact.

About the original target date, there was some confusion whether the original targeted date was December, 2003 or December, 2004. Be that as it may, the previous Government itself rightly extended the completion date to December, 2005. When this Government came into office, about 48 per cent of GQ, what is called the NHDP-I, had been completed. It was quite obvious that there was no way in which this programme could have been completed by December, 2005 or December, 2004. We therefore got the month-wise target set out. We will complete it according to this month-wise target. The Planning Commission, my Ministry and the Prime Minister's Office are monitoring the month-wise targets under NHDP-I. Between June 2005 and March, 2007, we will complete a certain targeted kilometre of road every month under NHDP-1.

I am happy that my learned friend Shri T.R. Baalu is now here. If I knew that he was coming, maybe I would not have taken this trouble. On NHDP-2, nothing had happened. The targets are now being set out under NHDP-2. Very little had happened under this. Again, we have got month-wise targets for NHDP-2. We have started NHDP-3 of 9576 kilometres. Again monthwise targets have been set out and the Ministry, the Planning Commission and the Prime Minister's Office will monitor completion of this every month. Therefore, let there be no fear or apprehension that we are scuttling or slowing down any programme. In fact, without getting into any acrimonious

debate, my information is that the average number of kilometres completed per day in the UPA Government is higher than the average number of kilometres per day completed in the previous Government after this programme started. But, I do not want to start an acrimonious debate at 8 o'clock in the evening. Sir, I think, I have answered most of the questions. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE (Idukki): Sir, the hon. Finance Minister has not said anything about the scheme PURA. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Tell me on what you want my reply—Bombay or coal royalty? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE: There has been no mention about PURA—Providing Urban Amenities in Rural Areas. Panchayats bordering municipalities were asked to prepare projects. But, in the Budget, there is a provision of only Rs. 10 crore. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): Sir, I would like to ask one question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right now hon'ble Minister is speaking. You please don't interrupt.

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, as far as Budget and the Supplementary Demands are concerned, we can only provide money when the projects are approved or cleared by the Cabinet or the CEA or the Planning Commission. The money is not provided for what is under preparation. Obviously the Government is a working Government. It works everyday. It prepares projects everyday. It is only when concrete projects are presented, we can provide money. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: No interruption please.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE: But it has already been sent. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: It will be considered by the appropriate Ministry and then it will have to go through the Planning Commission. It has to be approved. It is

not that when the project is sent, the money is provided immediately. It has to go through the approval process. Isn't it?

Sir, as far as coal royalty is concerned, this matter has been raised by several Governments. Royalties were reduced by the previous Government. For some States, there were some disputes in the Supreme Court. One of those disputes was resolved, if I recall rightly, by a judgment delivered in January, 2005. The matter is a part of a large policy paper, which is now under the consideration of the Government. When that policy paper is taken up, I am sure that the concerned Ministry will address the issue of coal royalty.

I am grateful to my good friend, my senior friend, Mr. Patil, for raising a point on co-operative credit. I have already said that the Vaidyanathan Committee Report on Short-term Credit has been circulated to all the Chief Ministers.

20.00 hrs.

The NDC decided that there will be a special meeting of the Chief Ministers on the Vaidyanathan Committee Report, which I call part one of the report. On the Long Term Credit, the matter has been referred once again to Prof. Vaidyanathan Committee. The report has not yet been received. On the Short Term Credit, I hope to convene a meeting of all the Chief Ministers, hopefully in the month of August or early September and the decision will be taken based on the Vaidyanathan Committee Report.

With regard to Mumbai, I do not see any reason why there should be any apprehension at all. In fact, there were some references. Nobody had suggested that Mumbai should be separated from Maharashtra. This is an absurd idea and nobody is so foolish as to float this idea. Please understand what has been said. We are thinking people. We should think. All that has been said by various people at different times—this is a free country and people must be allowed the freedom of expression. You cannot try to muzzle thinking. All that has been said is, please look at the havoc that has been brought in Mumbai. It is perhaps time to consider a different administrative set up for Mumbai where authority will be clearly deliberated, where administration will be more effective. Nobody is saying that Mumbai will be taken out of Maharashtra. With Mumbai as the Capital of Maharashtra, Mumbai as the financial Capital of India,

are we not agreeing at least to begin thinking how the administration of Mumbai can be made effective. What is wrong with that? Some people have suggested the London model. Some people have suggested the New York model. That does not mean that the New York City is taken out of New York State. That does not mean that London is taken out of the United Kingdom. Nobody is suggesting that Mumbai should be taken out of Maharashtra. We must begin to ask ourselves a question, do we have the right model or can we have an improved model. So, let us put an end to this sterile debate that Mumbai will be taken out of Maharashtra. You cannot take Mumbai out of Maharashtra nor can you take my friends out of Mumbai.

With regard to Mumbai floods, money will not be a constraint. As soon as the Government of Maharashtra comes up with proper relief and rehabilitation schemes, money will be provided. As far as our Government is concerned, we go to the aid of any part of India, which is affected by natural calamity or natural disaster. Money will not be a constraint. I hope I have answered all the questions. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Except Shri Shailendra Kumar nobody else will speak. Please put your question Shri Shailendra Kumar in two words.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your points have been covered by hon'ble Minister.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Swain, you are not on your seat. You will not be able to raise from here.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shailendra ji, speak in a nut shell.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Mr. Chairman, thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to ask a question. Our hon'ble member Shri Ravi Prakash Verma participated in this discussion.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Don't refer him while you put your thoughts.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Government of Uttar Pradesh and we have been demanding for about last two years that a special package of Rs. 18230 crore should be given so that all incomplete projects could be got completed. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: This point does not pertain to the supplementary demands. We have already had a discussion about it.

[English]

I shall now put the Supplementary Demands for Grants, General for 2005-06 to vote.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: I want to make a request to the Finance Minister, who is sitting here. Mumbai has suffered a loss of Rs. 15 thousand crore. Central Government gets 57 thousand crore rupee as revenue from Mumbai. How much money is the Central Government giving us? Central Government should provide 1200 crore rupees at the earliest as financial assistance. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall put the Demands to vote. You will have to cooperate.

...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): Sir, why is he unnecessarily shouting? The reply has already been given by the hon. Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Mr. Chairman, I am making a request to the Finance Minister. He should announce something for Mumbai. The condition of Mumbai is very bad. Mumbai has suffered a loss of Rs. 15 thousand crore and Maharashtra has suffered a loss of Rs. 25 thousand crore. Will he provide money for infrastructure at the earliest? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Mohan Rawale, you can say this in a few words also.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have had your point. It is on the record.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You cannot take it for granted. Nothing will go on record now. This will not serve our purpose. Nothing is going on record.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Mohan Rawale, I have listened to you. There has been a discussion about it for five and half hours to six hours.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Rawale, I make a request to you not to do this. A long discussion has been held about it. Mr. Swain, now you speak.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not going on record. Mr. Swain, please start; otherwise, I shall now put Supplementary Demands for Grants to the vote of the House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 2005-2006 to vote.

The question is:

"That the respective supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts of Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President, 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. 1, 3, 9, 12, 13, 15, 19, 30, 32, 34, 36, 39, 42, 47 to 50, 52, 53, 55 to 57, 59, 61, 63, 65, 70, 71, 73, 79, 83, 85 to 88, 92, 99, 100 and 105."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put the Demands for Excess Grants (General) for 2002-2003 to vote.

The question is:

"That the respective excess sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to make good the excess on the respective grants during the year ended the 31st day of March, 2003 in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 13, 30 and 80."

The motion was adopted.

20.07 hrs.

APPROPRIATION (NO. 3) BILL, 2005*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2005-2006.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums

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**Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

*Not recorded.

from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2005-2006."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I introduce** the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister may now move that the Bill be taken into consideration.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I beg to 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 2005-2006, be taken into consideration."

MR. CHAIRMAN: 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 2005-2006, 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 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 Long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

20.10 hrs.

APPROPRIATION (NO. 4) BILL, 2005*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House would now take up Item No. 19.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the authorization of appropriation of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund of India to meet the amounts spent on certain services during the financial year ended on the 31st day of March, 2003, in excess of the amounts granted for those services and for that year.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the authorization of appropriation of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund of India to meet the amounts spent on certain services during the financial year ended on the 31st day of March, 2003, in excess of the amounts granted for those services and for that year."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I introduce** the Bill.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for the authorization of appropriation of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund of India to meet the amounts spent on certain services during the financial year ended on the 31st day of March, 2003, in excess of the amounts granted for those services and for that year, be taken into consideration."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the authorization of appropriation of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund of India to meet the amounts spent on certain services during the financial year ended on the 31st day of March, 2003, in excess of the amounts granted for those services and for that year, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 08.08.2005.

**Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House would now take up clause by 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 Long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House would now take up Special Mentions.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJARAM PAL (Bilhaur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to say through you that all over the country competitive examinations are conducted every year for admission to Indian Institute of Technology (IITs). These examinations are conducted for the institutes located in Delhi, Mumbai, Kanpur, Kharagpur, Guwahati and Banaras. In all these institutes, 15 percent seats are reserved for Scheduled Castes and 5 percent for Scheduled Tribes. But the House will be surprised to know that the reserved seats for SCs and STs for the year 2004 have not been filled as yet. In the year 2004, 340 students from Scheduled Castes and 58 from Scheduled Tribes and 6 from handicapped category were given admission to 4521 seats from general category whereas the total number of seats is 4935 in these institutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please speak in brief.

SHRI RAJARAM PAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, for the students of general category there are 3676 seats whereas for the students of Scheduled Castes there are 741 seats and for the students of Scheduled Tribes there are 371 seats and for handicapped persons there are 149 seats. Similarly on 340 seats the students from Scheduled Castes have been given admission in place of 741 seats and on 58 seats the students from scheduled tribes have been given admission in place of 371 seats. The students from scheduled castes have been given 7 percent reservation as against a prescribed quota of 15%

and the students from scheduled tribes have been given 1.3% reservation as against a prescribed quota of 7.5%. It is a matter of exploitation of downtrodden and discrimination is being made in their admission process. If Government of India keeps on adopting such attitude, the down trodden community can never be uplifted. Parties want to hold the region of power in their hands by giving slogan for giving them benefits, but they do not want to give them their right.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Rajaram, do not read out but speak in brief.

SHRI RAJARAM PAL: I demand for a probe in this matter on behalf of my party *i.e.* Bahujan Samaj Party. Government of India should interfere in this matter and make a probe about not fulfilling the quota and having a discriminatory bent of mind in connection with admission to medical side for the scheduled caste and scheduled tribes in Indian Institute of Technology (IITs). Not only this quota for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes is not being filled up all over the country from class I to Post-Graduation level in all educational institutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

Shri Shailendra Kumar, Now you speak.

SHRI RAJARAM PAL: I demand through you to UPA Government that after the 57 years of the independence if there is a point like "not suitable, not available" it means the persons from scheduled castes and scheduled tribes will not be able to get the benefit of reservation and the provision which has been made in the Indian constitution is not being complied with. Hence, I make a request to the Government of India that reservation quota for SCs/STs should be filled up.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, please, conclude Mr. Rajaram. Do not go on saying after this nothing will go on record. You are repeating. Mr. Shailendra, now you start!

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is a limit to it. This is not to be recorded.

...(*Interruptions*)*

[*Translation*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Rajaram, your talk is on record. Before calling other Hon'ble Members I would like to say one thing to you that in Zero Hour matter is not be read out but one has to put his matter in brief.

SHRI RAJARAM PAL: It is a very important matter.
...(*Interruptions*)

*Not recorded.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Well, it is right.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): Mr. Speaker, Sir, you gave me an opportunity to speak in Zero Hour. I am grateful to you for this. My parliamentary constituency Kaushambi is newly created district. It is having a national highway. That is also having a main railway line from Mughalsarai to Delhi. Kasuhambi is very important place from religious and historical point of view. Bhagwan Lord Buddha had stayed here for nine years. Tourist from far-flung areas and from countries like China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea visit here. Here is a Alwara lake, having area of 400 hectare, where various types of migratory birds come. State Government has send a plan proposal to the Government of India in this regard. This plan involves Rs. 136 lakh. Capital city of King Udayn was also situated in Kaushambi and Shitla Maa Kada Temple is also here, which is of religious and historic importance. Sandeepan Ghat is situated here which is important due to having its link with Yogiraj Krishnaji and Kurai Ghat is also here, where Rigwerpur is situated. Here at this place Lord Ram has crossed the river with the help of Kewat.

I would like to put my demand to the Government through you that a Regional Tourism Centre should be opened here. Manuari, Bharwari, Sirathu and Khaga station is situated in this area. People from various countries visit here. But stoppage of express trains have not been provided at these stations. I would like to submit that stoppages of express trains should be provided at these stations so that domestic and foreign tourists would be able to visit these places.

At the end, I wish to say that Bamraull Airport is situated nearby this area. As Hon'ble Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is present here, therefore, I demand from the Government that this airport should be connected with the flights of Air India and Indian Airlines so that foreign tourists coming here may get the facility of air-connection. Last but not least, Kaushambi should be given the status of Central Tourist Centre and facilities should be provided to the tourists as soon as possible.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR DUBEY (Dhanbad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to submit few things in the House regarding the Coal India. There is no limit of corruption pervading in almost every ancillary units of Coal India.

The whole coal belt is suffering owing to that. I would like to tell you that out-sourcing is taking place at two-three points. The out sourcing taking place in every company, is leading to contract system. The dream with which our leader Indira Ji has done nationalisation is being smashed and contract system is being practiced in coal belt illegally. I have examples of many companies at present with me.

Hon. Chairman, Sir, I want to inform that today coal is being sold through e-auction system, which is infested with rampant corruption. 85 percent coal is supplied by

train for which payment is made at the rate of Rs. 11,000 per ton to the rack company whereas remaining 10-15 percent of coal is supplied by truck, for which payment is made at the rate of Rs. 3800 to Rs. 3900 per ton. In my area, especially in Jharkhand small industries are on the verge of closure. Not a single industry is in a condition to continue. Small industries are not getting coal due to e-auction system.

Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, recently officers of Coal Department had given 40 coal blocks to the large multinational companies of which 90 percent of them, who have got the coal blocks, have no industry or factory. They are engaged in illegal occupation by selling of the goods in the market. Factory owners are not getting coal and this is a case of grave corruption.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may conclude now. You have expressed your point.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR DUBEY: I want to say that 142 files related to extension of sponge iron and other industries are lying pending on the table of Coal Secretary. All the files are lying pending whether it is genuine or not. It means that Coal Department is treating the good and bad in a same manner. I demand for a CBI inquiry in this matter because nation is paying the price for it. Last but not least I demand through you that this case should be handed over to CBI for investigation.

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR (Sagar): Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, in our country Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan have great potential for tourism. In Madhya Pradesh, Khajuraho, Panchmarhi, Mandu, Bhimvedka, Bhimdi's Bhojpur temple are tourist places. Besides, there is Bedaghat fall, Kanha Kisli sanctuary, Chitrakut also, which are the places of tourist importance. Singhorgarh Fort is famous for Queen Avantibal. These courageous women have played an important role in the freedom movement of our country against the britishers with the strong will-power. Besides this, Rahat Garh, Madan Mahal and Rai Sen Fort are also there which are famous for their historic and archeological importance. In Maharashtra, Chatrapati Shivaji was born at Shivneri Fort and he was concerned at Raigarh Fort. Sindhu Garh Fort was built at sea-shore for providing protection to our country from foreign aggressions. Sir, through you, I would like to mention that these places are important from historical and archeological point of view. Besides, this Forts of Chittorgarh and Jaisalmer, Udaipur, Jaipur and Pushkar in Rajasthan are also very important from religious point of view. By developing these religious, historical and archaeological important places of our country, we can establish international identify in the field of tourism as Australia and Malaysia have achieved the recognition as tourist destination countries all over the world.

These places are situated in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan etc. of our country should be

developed and identity of these states should be established as tourist centres so that the entire world can come to know about ancient spirituality, culture, history and archaeology of our country.

SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA (Hoshiarpur): Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of Rural Development Ministry towards this fact that the Ministry has decided to carryout cent percent sanitation in all the districts of the country. There are many such villages in our country where dalits and landless people dwell. They have only livestock for their livelihood but no land to spare cowdung and other garbage. That's why they have to store all the filth in that very place and due to this very reason, this campaign of cent percent sanitation is still doubtful to be achieved until and unless land to throw garbage and cowdung is provided to these dalits and landless people. Therefore, through you, I hope that the land to throw cowdung and garbage is required to be provided to these dalits and landless people.

[English]

DR. K.S. MANOJ (Alleppey): Thank you, Chairman, Sir. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister for Road Transport and Highways. I am very lucky that he is here. There is a need to expedite the construction of Alappuzha bypass. The construction of Alappuzha bypass started very long back in 1990. Only the first stage of construction is completed till now. The work was moving at a very slow pace. Now, it is at a standstill. The reason being the non-availability of sand, as the mining of river sand and the usage of sea sand is prohibited in Kerala. So, the implementing agency has done the earthwork for the construction using red sand. This is not allowed by the National Highways Authority. The implementing agency maybe permitted to use red sand, since the expenditure on using red sand will be more. So, the estimate may be recast. The implementing agency may be allowed to recast estimate and the excess expenditure may be given to them.

Also, Sir, there are two Road-over-Bridges (ROBs) to be constructed along the bypass. Even the GAD has not been approved. If there is delay in getting GAD to be approved, this would create further delay in the completion of the construction of the bypass. Fifteen years have already elapsed. The Government has already spent nearly double the amount envisaged for the project. So, I request the hon. Minister to expedite the matter and take necessary steps for the early completion of the construction of the bypass.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGVA (Jaipur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, some of the exporters deal in ready made garments. They had to stage dharna outside the

Parliament for their genuine demand after a gap of 20-30 years. All incomes from exports were continued to be exempted from income tax upto the year 2004-05 under Sec. 80 HHC of Income Tax Act and all kinds of concessions related to export were continued to be considered as a part of income from export under Sec. 28 of Income Tax. There were refunds of custom duty and Cash export included in these concessions. A new scheme namely DEPB had been launched in the year 1997 under which custom duty used to be refunded. This has not been included in Income Tax Department (Ministry of Finance) 28, whereas considering it as refund of duty under 28 C Income Tax Department continued to calculate assessment of exporters from 1997-2003.

Today, all of sudden, files related to assessment for the year 2004-05 of those exporters, who have invested that money in their business are being opened and they are being asked for to pay tax right from year 1997.

Sir, due to this very factor, our export growth has touched a record of four lakh crores of rupees in the last seven years. If no prompt action under this Act is taken and continuance of this will not only decrease the quantum of export of the country but also reach it on the verge of closure. Our poor artisans and labourers have to bear the burnt of it and all people related to exports whose number has reached upto five crores will be affected. I am sure that Union Finance Minister will take care of it and will give due hearing to the affected people so that this business is not affected and five crores educated people can be saved from becoming unemployed.

Sir, if the Government is really interested in removing unemployment, my request is that it should put an end to this system of calculation being carried out from 1997 and tax demand being put therein. The unemployment in the country is already increasing and to check even increasing unemployment is the major problem to provide employment to the people before the UPA government. This major problem is to be curtailed. I have raised this question in the House for the benefit of the government. My request is that people who are engaged in occupation of textiles and ready made garments should continue to remain there and this system should not allow to destroy their business, their business must continue. I am thankful to you for providing me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House is now adjourned to meet tomorrow 9th August at 11.00 a.m.

20.31 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, August 9, 2005/Sravana 18, 1927 (Saka)

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