

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Eighth Session
(Fourteenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, August 23, 2006/Bhadra 1, 1928 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

...(Interruptions)

(At this stage, Shri A. Narendra and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.)

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please listen to me.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you to raise it at 12 noon, and I would like to request, through you, Shri K. Chandrashekhar Rao to break the fast.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you to raise it. Nothing is being recorded.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: If you speak on this at 12 O' clock everything will go on record.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: At 12 noon you will be the first member to be called to speak.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I am not minimising your issue. I understand your sentiments. I will allow you first after the Question Hour. I am not against your feeling. I will allow you at 12 noon.

...(Interruptions)

*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: Narendra ji, I will allow you.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please raise your point at 12 noon.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please go to your seats. Whatever you want to say, say from your seats.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: That will not help you.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I want to hear you.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You will be given an opportunity to speak.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you to speak. Just now, I will allow you. I am trying to help you. I want to hear you.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I also want to hear you.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Just now, I will give you an opportunity to speak.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am giving them an opportunity to speak. What more can I do?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry, I will have to go with the Question Hour. I am requesting all the hon. leaders of different parties to see that the House is conducted properly. I am going to hear you.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not record anything. Nothing is going on record.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Whatever you are speaking from here is not being recorded. Please go to your seats and speak from there.

...(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I want to hear you. I want to give full opportunity to you. What more can I do? Please go back to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please go to your seats and speak from there. If you speak from your seat then only your speech will be recorded.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please go to your seats. Do not give slogans. Whatever you want to speak, speak from your seats.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ram Kripal Yadav, please go to your seat.

...(Interruptions)

*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Narendra, I will allow you to speak. I will hear you. Please go back to your seats. Just now I will allow you.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Your point will not be recorded from here.

...(Interruptions)

11.07 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri A. Narendra and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: What is your matter, I want to hear you. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI (Udaipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to raise an important issue.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is very unfortunate. I am appealing to all the leaders. How can you speak now? Can you not wait for another 50 minutes?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will request the hon. Deputy Leader of BJP to control. Is this the way to raise it?

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Don't you have time to give notice? I will allow only those members to speak who have given notices.

1108 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri A. Narendra and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.)

...(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: What is the matter? I will give you an opportunity to speak.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I am requesting you to go back to your seats. You are not serving your cause.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please speak from your seats. The points made by you from your seats will be go in the record.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you to speak.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I can not hear you from here. Go to your seats and speak from there. I will allow you to speak right now.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Sir, two Ministers have resigned yesterday, and this has not been informed to the House. The House is in Session.
...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Tripathy, please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please go back to your seats. I want to hear you just now.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: This is very unfortunate. Nothing is going on record.

...(*Interruptions*)*

*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I will hear you, but first go back to your seats.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: It is very, very unfortunate.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record anything. Nothing should be recorded.

...(*Interruptions*)*

MR. SPEAKER: I want to hear you just now. Please go back to your seats.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: What is this? It is unfortunate.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): When a Minister resigns, he has the right to make a statement.

MR. SPEAKER: I have said that I would hear him just now, but not from the Well. Let him go to his seat, I will hear him.

[*Translation*]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: The Congress party has deceived. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You please leave aside the issue of deceiving. I am allowing him to speak.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I want to hear you even now. Go back to your places. Unless you go back to your seats, I would not allow you to speak like this.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I am appealing to all sections of the House. I am appealing to my friends here that I will listen to them just now although this is not the time. I want to hear them even now. Go to some place, I will allow you.

...(*Interruptions*)

*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: This disease has to stop.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I shall give you an opportunity still you are not convinced. I am inviting you to speak but you are not following my instruction. This is quite funny. I am giving you an opportunity to speak.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You want to hold the House to ransom.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I want to hear you. You may go and speak from there.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Though I want to hear you, even then you are disturbing the House.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please make him understand, what can I do?

...(Interruptions)

[English]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Sir, we want to know whether the two Ministers have resigned? Are they still the Ministers or not? ...(Interruptions) Is a Minister standing in the Well? The Prime Minister is sitting in the House and he must inform the House. Can a Minister come to the Well? ...(Interruptions)

*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: I have already expressed my view. I have already sent request him to withdraw. I have said that I will hear him. What more can I do?

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I want to hear you, you go there and make your point.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: How would the House run in this manner?

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam): Mr. Speaker, Sir. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No, I would not allow anybody to speak.

[Translation]

How will it work?

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Let the whole world see.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There is no minimum discipline in the House. I would not be a party to it. I would not succumb.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: So long as they are here, nothing will be recorded.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please go there. Although this is not the time, I will hear you just now. I understand your sentiments. Please go there.

*Not recorded.

[Translation]

You please go back to your seat, then speak.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I told you that I would allow you at 12 noon. I am now allowing you because of your sentiment.

[Translation]

Your views will go on record only if you go back to your seat and speak. Please go back to your seat and then speak. I shall hear you.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I know. I am requesting you to go there.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please go there.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Can you give me one minute?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have expressed it. I have already made a request to you and others that the hon. Member, who is unfortunately on a fast, should not continue. I said that I would allow you to speak. Whatever you want to say, I will hear you. I said that I would allow you at 12 noon. You agreed to speak at 12 noon. Now you have changed your mind. Even then, because of the intensity of your feeling, I will hear you now.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will hear you now. Please go there and speak.

[Translation]

You know that you can not speak from here.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I am repeatedly appealing to you to go there.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are not serving your cause.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will go to the Question Hour.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I request you again please go back to your seats and speak. I shall just call you. Your speech will go on record only when you speak from your chair.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will hear you.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is a very, very sorry state of affairs.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are concerned about your Constituency. You are not concerned about the issue. I am requesting you. This is very very unfortunate.

[Translation]

Please speak from your seat.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Can you hold the House to ransom?

[Translation]

It is then ok. Let it go on for whole day.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Do not get angry. Your anger has no effect on me.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Your outburst has no effect on me.

[Translation]

Let us see how much you are able to speak?

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I would request the leaders of different Parties to please intervene.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will not adjourn the House. You take it from me.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let all Parties decide whether the Question Hour can be disturbed like this. Important Questions are there. I want to know whether they should be allowed to be disturbed like this.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have given enough opportunities to you. I am again requesting you to go and speak from your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you. What are you doing?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What are you trying to do? Please tell me. You wait for the 'Zero Hour'.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Do you want to threaten the Chair? Is this the behaviour of responsible Members? By creating nuisance you cannot get anything. Please behave responsibly.

Let me go to Question Hour.

11.25 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Parsuram Majhi. Q. No. 386.

Repair of Bridges/Over Bridges on National Highways

*386. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has identified the old and dilapidated bridges/over bridges on National Highways in the country;

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

(c) the steps taken to repair and restore these bridges?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the old and dilapidated bridges/over bridges identified at present are given in the enclosed Annexure. It is not necessary that old bridges are dilapidated.

(c) Repair and rehabilitation of bridges/over bridges is a continuous process. To keep the traffic moving, temporary measures like repair of bridge, construction of diversion are taken up on immediate basis. In non-National Highway Development Project (NHDP) sections, long term measures such as rehabilitation/reconstruction are taken up under the Annual Plan depending on availability of funds. The NHDP packages include repair/rehabilitation/reconstruction of all dilapidated bridges in the stretch.

*Annexure**State-wise—NH wise details of old/and dilapidated bridges/over bridges*

| Sl.No. | State | NH No | Total |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 5 | 17 |
| | | 7 | 17 |
| | | 16 | 1 |
| | | Sub Total | 35 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 52 | 12 |
| | | 52A | 5 |
| | | Sub Total | 17 |
| 3. | Assam | 31 | 73 |
| | | 31B | 1 |
| | | 38 | 1 |
| | | 39 | 1 |
| | | 61 | 1 |
| | | 31C | 2 |
| | | 36 | 3 |
| | | 37 | 10 |
| | | 52 | 13 |
| | | 53 | 7 |
| | | 152 | 6 |
| | | 153 | 1 |
| | | 154 | 22 |
| | | 54 | 58 |
| Sub Total | 199 | | |
| 4. | Bihar | 19 | 4 |
| | | 2 | 8 |
| | | 28 | 35 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|----|--------------|------------------|------------|
| | | 57 | 127 |
| | | 31 | 24 |
| | | 28B | 14 |
| | | 30 | 4 |
| | | 30A | 6 |
| | | 31 | 3 |
| | | 77 | 18 |
| | | 80 | 42 |
| | | 81 | 4 |
| | | 82 | 11 |
| | | 83 | 14 |
| | | 84 | 1 |
| | | 85 | 6 |
| | | 98 | 22 |
| | | 99 | 2 |
| | | 101 | 10 |
| | | 102 | 14 |
| | | 103 | 33 |
| | | 104 | 92 |
| | | 105 | 21 |
| | | 106 | 12 |
| | | 107 | 12 |
| | | 110 | 22 |
| | | Sub Total | 561 |
| 5. | Chandigarh | 21 | 0 |
| | | Sub Total | 0 |
| 6. | Chhattisgarh | 6 | 7 |
| | | 43 | 13 |
| | | 16 | 53 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----|---------|------------------|------------|
| | | 200 | 24 |
| | | 216 | 5 |
| | | 217 | 3 |
| | | 78 | 65 |
| | | 12A | 21 |
| | | 221 | 17 |
| | | 202 | 11 |
| | | Sub Total | 219 |
| 7. | Delhi | 10 | 0 |
| | | 24 | 0 |
| | | Sub Total | 0 |
| 8. | Gujarat | 8A | 8 |
| | | 8B | 2 |
| | | 8D | 5 |
| | | 8E | 7 |
| | | 8E-Ext | 8 |
| | | 15 | 12 |
| | | 8A-Ext | 1 |
| | | 6 | 12 |
| | | Sub Total | 55 |
| 9. | Goa | 17 | 8 |
| | | 4A | 1 |
| | | 17A | 3 |
| | | 17B | 1 |
| | | Sub Total | 13 |
| 10. | Haryana | 21A | 0 |
| | | 22 | 4 |
| | | 71B | 1 |
| | | 71 | 6 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----|------------------|------------------|------------|
| | | 71A | 2 |
| | | 72 | 3 |
| | | 10 | 3 |
| | | 73 | 4 |
| | | 65 | 3 |
| | | Sub Total | 26 |
| 11. | Himachal Pradesh | 20 | 38 |
| | | 21 | 16 |
| | | 21A | 9 |
| | | 22 | 12 |
| | | 70 | 20 |
| | | 72 | 5 |
| | | 88 | 30 |
| | | Sub Total | 130 |
| 12. | Jammu & Kashmir | 1-A | 1 |
| | | 1-B | 14 |
| | | 1-C | 0 |
| | | 1-D | 4 |
| | | Sub Total | 19 |
| 13. | Jharkhand | 2 | 12 |
| | | 6 | 2 |
| | | 23 | 43 |
| | | 31 | 3 |
| | | 32 | 11 |
| | | 33 | 55 |
| | | 75 | 29 |
| | | 78 | 2 |
| | | 80 | 16 |
| | | 98 | 2 |
| | | 99 | 10 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----|----------------|------------------|------------|
| | | 100 | 22 |
| | | Sub Total | 207 |
| 14. | Karnataka | 4 | 42 |
| | | 4A | 1 |
| | | 9 | 1 |
| | | 13 | 20 |
| | | 17 | 29 |
| | | 48 | 5 |
| | | 63 | 23 |
| | | 67Ext | 12 |
| | | 206 | 6 |
| | | 207 | 1 |
| | | 209 | 7 |
| | | 212 | 10 |
| | | 218 | 4 |
| | | Sub Total | 161 |
| 15. | Kerala | 17 | 10 |
| | | 47 | 5 |
| | | 49 | 5 |
| | | 208 | 6 |
| | | 212 | 1 |
| | | 213 | 3 |
| | | 220 | 1 |
| | | Sub Total | 31 |
| 16. | Madhya Pradesh | 3 | 26 |
| | | 7 | 3 |
| | | 12 | 5 |
| | | 12A | 10 |
| | | 25 | 2 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----|-------------|------------------|------------|
| | | 26 | 37 |
| | | 75 | 2 |
| | | 59 | 2 |
| | | 59A | 1 |
| | | 69 | 3 |
| | | 75Ext | 1 |
| | | 78 | 14 |
| | | 86 | 10 |
| | | 86Ext | 3 |
| | | 92 | 1 |
| | | Sub Total | 120 |
| 17. | Maharashtra | 3 | 66 |
| | | 6 | 34 |
| | | 4 | 11 |
| | | 7 | 32 |
| | | 9 | 0 |
| | | 13 | 0 |
| | | 16 | 6 |
| | | 17 | 5 |
| | | 50 | 0 |
| | | 69 | 3 |
| | | 204 | 0 |
| | | 211 | 11 |
| | | 222 | 13 |
| | | Sub Total | 181 |
| 18. | Manipur | 53 | 26 |
| | | 39 | 7 |
| | | 150 | 2 |
| | | Sub Total | 35 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----|-------------|------------------|------------|
| 19. | Meghalaya | 62 | 6 |
| | | 40 | 6 |
| | | 44 | 4 |
| | | 51 | 36 |
| | | Sub Total | 52 |
| 20. | Mizoram | 54 | 3 |
| | | 54B | 4 |
| | | Sub Total | 7 |
| 21. | Nagaland | 150 | 9 |
| | | 61 | 1 |
| | | 39 | 16 |
| | | 155 | 7 |
| | | Sub Total | 33 |
| 22. | Orissa | 5 | 88 |
| | | 6 | 8 |
| | | 42 | 4 |
| | | 43 | 10 |
| | | 60 | 1 |
| | | 200 | 19 |
| | | 201 | 46 |
| | | 203 | 2 |
| | | 215 | 17 |
| | | 217 | 34 |
| | | 224 | 16 |
| | | Sub-Total | 245 |
| 23. | Pondicherry | 45A | 2 |
| | | Sub Total | 2 |
| 24. | Punjab | 1 | 15 |
| | | 1A | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----|------------|------------------|-----------|
| | | 10 | 1 |
| | | 15 | 8 |
| | | 20 | 1 |
| | | 21 | 8 |
| | | 22 | 8 |
| | | 64 | 5 |
| | | 64A | 0 |
| | | 70 | 5 |
| | | 71 | 7 |
| | | 95 | 8 |
| | | Sub Total | 67 |
| 25. | Rajasthan | 3 | 1 |
| | | 8 | 0 |
| | | 11 | 36 |
| | | 76 | 14 |
| | | 14 | 0 |
| | | 65 | 0 |
| | | 15 | 0 |
| | | Sub Total | 51 |
| 26. | Sikkim | 0 | 0 |
| | | Sub Total | 0 |
| 27. | Tamil Nadu | 4 | 14 |
| | | 7 | 14 |
| | | 45 | 12 |
| | | 45B | 38 |
| | | 46 | 47 |
| | | 45A | 12 |
| | | 47 | 1 |
| | | 47B | 7 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----|-------------|------------------|------------|
| | | 49 | 2 |
| | | 66 | 3 |
| | | 67 | 28 |
| | | 68 | 1 |
| | | 208 | 27 |
| | | 209 | 13 |
| | | 210 | 2 |
| | | 219 | 4 |
| | | 220 | 2 |
| | | Sub total | 227 |
| 28. | Tripura | I-B-C NH-44 | 1 |
| | | A-S NH-44 | 16 |
| | | Sub Total | 17 |
| 29. | Uttaranchal | 58 | 7 |
| | | 72 | 1 |
| | | 72A | 0 |
| | | 73 | 0 |
| | | 74 | 3 |
| | | 87 | 0 |
| | | 87Ext | 0 |
| | | 94 | 0 |
| | | 108 | 9 |
| | | 109 | 2 |
| | | 119 | 0 |
| | | 121 | 0 |
| | | 123 | 0 |
| | | 125 | 4 |
| | | Sub Total | 26 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----|---------------|--------|----|
| 30. | Uttar Pradesh | 2 | 2 |
| | | 28 | 78 |
| | | 25 & 2 | 1 |
| | | 25 | 11 |
| | | 26 | 11 |
| | | 7 | 1 |
| | | 11 | 0 |
| | | 19 | 0 |
| | | 24 | 14 |
| | | 27 | 0 |
| | | 29 | 4 |
| | | 56 | 3 |
| | | 58 | 5 |
| | | 58E | 1 |
| | | 73 | 1 |
| | | 74 | 9 |
| | | 75 | 2 |
| | | 76 | 40 |
| | | 86 | 0 |
| | | 87 | 1 |
| | | 91 | 11 |
| | | 92 | 2 |
| | | 93 | 4 |
| | | 96 | 1 |
| | | 97 | 1 |
| | | 28A | 0 |
| | | 72A | 4 |
| | | 91A | 1 |
| | | 76E | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----|---------------------------|---|-------------|
| | | 119 | 1 |
| | | 28B | 2 |
| | | Sub Total | 212 |
| 31. | West Bengal | 6 | 10 |
| | | 2 | 1 |
| | | 31 | 47 |
| | | 31C | 20 |
| | | 32 | 3 |
| | | 35 | 3 |
| | | 55 | 0 |
| | | 60 | 11 |
| | | 60A | 1 |
| | | 81 | 0 |
| | | 80 | 0 |
| | | 117 | 3 |
| | | Sub Total | 99 |
| 32. | Andaman & Nicobar Islands | National Highway not handed over to BRO | |
| 33. | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | No National Highway | |
| 34. | Daman & Diu | No National Highway | |
| 35. | Lakshadweep | No National Highway | |
| | | Grand Total | 3047 |

SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, it is revealed from the reply of the hon. Minister that a large number of bridges are in a dilapidated condition. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any time-bound programme has been drawn up to repair restore, and renovate these bridges and if so what are the details thereof.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, the Indian sub-continent has 33.14 lakh kilometres of road network. It is the second largest road network in the whole of the world. We have got 219 National Highways which form part of 66,590

kilometres of road network. ...*(Interruptions)* As far as the National Highways are concerned, in the whole of 66,590 kilometres of National Highways, we have got 14,969 bridges out of which 3,047 bridges are old and dilapidated. These bridges will have to be attended to as quickly as possible. ...*(Interruptions)*

As far as the maintenance of bridges by the PWD of States is concerned, 1,702 bridges are there and there are 202 bridges under the BRO. Under the National Highways Development Programme we are going to attend to 1,143 bridges. Altogether, 3,047 bridges will be attended to from 2007-2008 onwards. I have already advised the National Highways Authority of India to take up the matter quickly. As and when we get the DPRs we will take up the projects in a phased manner. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Sir, due to recent heavy rainfall, a large number of ridges and roads have been extensively damaged in Orissa and particularly in KBK districts. What steps are being taken to repair and renovate those roads and bridges at an early date and what is the fund provision made therefor? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I will hear you. I will hear you just now. What should I do, let me know.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, the hon. Member has asked about Orissa road network. As far as provision for the flood damage control is concerned, we have provided Rs. 50 crore and within those Rs. 50 crore, we are distributing to the States whatever is possible, for the repair work. As far as Orissa is concerned, if any specific road project is concerned, any road project is there where maintenance is to be taken up, definitely the State Government can forward a DPR. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I think, I can only express my agony. This is very strange. I want to hear the Members. They do not comply with the request.

[Translation]

I have requested them with folded hands still they do not listen to?

[English]

Can four hon. Members hold the House to ransom? I appeal to all sections of the House to decide whether the House will be running in this fashion, whether you can think that this is the country where we are fit for democracy or not. Let the people also decide.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Sending of Labourers Abroad

*387. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:
PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of registered recruitment agencies involved in the sending of skilled/semi-skilled labourers abroad;

(b) whether several complaints of alleged exploitations/discrimination of these labourers abroad particularly from Gulf countries have been received by the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof including the action taken against the erring agencies in this regard;

(d) whether several countries have expressed interest to invite Indian labourers for their works;

(e) if so, the present policy followed by the Government in this regard;

(f) whether the Government has taken steps to resolve various issues viz. safety, health benefits, timely bringing of bodies of the deceased, general welfare etc. of these labourers; and

(g) if so, the action plan formulated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (g) There are at present 1,515 recruiting agents with valid registration involved in recruiting skilled/semi-skilled/unskilled labourers for jobs abroad. State-wise break-up of these agents is given in the enclosed statement. Recruitment can also be made directly by the project exporters and foreign employers by obtaining a permit under the Emigration Act from the Protector General of Emigrants.

A number of complaints are received from time to time alleging cheating and exploitation of Indian workers by some registered/unregistered recruiting agents in India and by some foreign employers abroad. In the year 2006 (as on 01.08.2006), 65 complaints against Registered Recruiting Agents, 61 against unregistered agents and 03 against foreign employers have been received.

Such complaints broadly relate to the following:

- non-payment/reduced/delayed payment of salaries
- non deployment on promised jobs
- adverse working conditions
- denial of appropriate medical facilities
- poor living conditions, etc.

Although precise data is not available, overseas Indian workers are estimated about 4-5 million. During 2005, about 5.49 lakhs workers went abroad on emigration clearance. The number of complaints received is quite small in comparison to the number of Indians working abroad.

As and when a complaint is received against a registered Recruiting Agent, the concerned RA is directed to redress the grievance in a time bound manner. If he fails to do so, action is taken to suspend/cancel his Registration Certificate. In cases where the conduct of registered recruiting agent is required to be specifically watched in view of the nature of complaint, they are placed on an Internal Watch List.

On complaints against illegal/unregistered recruiting agents, penal action is taken against them for violation of provisions of the Emigration Act, 1983 by referring their cases to the Police authorities of the State Governments concerned.

The Foreign Employers, against whom complaints are received, are blacklisted by placing their names in the Prior Approval Category (PAC) List on the recommendation of the Indian Mission concerned, consequently debarring them to make further recruitment of workers from India.

In the year 2006 (upto 01.08.2006), 61 complaints were received against unregistered recruiting agents which have been referred to the State police authorities for necessary action. The police has registered FIR in 14 cases. In the year 2006 (upto 01.08.2006), show cause notices have been issued to 65 registered Recruiting Agents. Registration Certificates of 25 registered Recruiting Agents have been suspended and those of 11 cancelled.

Indian workers are appreciated abroad for their sincerity, hard work and non-interference. As a result

Indian workers are generally referred by foreign employers. The policy of the Government is to facilitate humane and orderly migration of Indian workers overseas.

With a view to curb the exploitation of Indian workers going abroad, it has been made mandatory w.e.f. 15.11.2003 for the Recruiting Agents to submit all the employment documents, *viz.*, demand letter, power of attorney and specimen employment contract in original for obtaining emigration clearance. Further, in respect of vulnerable categories of workers, *i.e.*, unskilled labour and housemaids/domestic workers, these employment documents are required to be attested by the concerned Indian mission(s).

In addition our missions have, with the help of Indian Community Welfare Associations and other community support groups, been providing legal assistance/counselling to protect the interest of Indian workers. A Joint Consultative Mechanism (JCM) consisting of local government authorities and officials of the Indian Missions also exists in some of the Gulf countries which have been addressing issues relating to the protection of Indian workers in those countries.

A revised and comprehensive insurance scheme, *viz.* Pravasi Bhartiya Bima Yojana, 2006 has been introduced w.e.f. 01.02.2006, which makes it mandatory for every emigrant worker to have the insurance cover under the Scheme. The Scheme, *inter-alia*, provides workers with life insurance, medical expenses and legal expenses cover.

Arrangements for bringing the mortal remains of deceased workers are made through the Indian Missions. Under the employment contract, the employer is bound to arrange transportation of mortal remains in case of death of the worker.

A skill up-gradation programme, in collaboration with State Governments and other industry bodies, to enable overseas Indian workers seek better employment opportunities and to help them move up the wage chain is also an important initiative being undertaken by the Ministry.

In addition, to ensure protection and welfare of Indian workers abroad, a proposal to comprehensively amend the Emigration Act, 1983 is already underway.

Statement

State-wise number of Registered Recruiting Agents having valid registration certificates

| Sl.No. | Name of State/U.T. | No. of Agents |
|--------|--------------------|---------------|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 65 |
| 2. | Chandigarh | 42 |
| 3. | Delhi | 271 |
| 4. | Goa | 19 |
| 5. | Gujarat | 17 |
| 6. | Haryana | 14 |
| 7. | Himachal Pradesh | 2 |
| 8. | Jammu & Kashmir | 3 |
| 9. | Karnataka | 27 |
| 10. | Kerala | 174 |
| 11. | Madhya Pradesh | 1 |
| 12. | Maharashtra | 567 |
| 13. | Mizoram | 2 |
| 14. | Orissa | 1 |
| 15. | Punjab | 87 |
| 16. | Rajasthan | 29 |
| 17. | Tamil Nadu | 174 |
| 18. | Uttar Pradesh | 9 |
| 19. | Uttaranchal | 1 |
| 20. | West Bengal | 10 |
| Total | | 1,515 |

[English]

Survey Regarding Subscriber Data Base

*388. SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted by the Department of Telecommunications on the subscriber data base of leading telephone operators;

(b) if so, the details of the findings thereof alongwith the verified share of pre-paid and post-paid subscribers; and

(c) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by the Department for ensuring that the subscriber data base claimed by the operators is not manipulated?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Department of Telecommunications (DoT) carried out checks in the cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Hyderabad and the State of Haryana regarding subscriber verification.

(b) and (c) It was observed that all the service providers in these places did not fully comply with the extant instructions on subscriber verification.

In the samples checked, it was observed that in pre-paid subscribers about 60% and in post-paid subscribers about 93% were fully meeting the requirement of subscriber verification.

Notices have been issued to concerned service providers in the above areas to disconnect such connections that have been provided without proper verification and also to explain why action should not be taken against them for not complying with the terms and conditions of the Licence Agreement.

Alleged Fraud in NRI Marriages

*389. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA:
SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of cases of alleged fraud in NRI marriages have been reported in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has formulated any action plan to tackle this issue;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to make the existing laws more stringent in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) and (b) A number of instances of hardships arising from NRI marriages as well as cases of alleged fraud have come to the notice of the Government from time to time. However, precise data is not available, as such cases are reported to different Ministries, institutions and to the State Governments etc.

(c) to (e) The problems relating to NRI marriages have engaged the attention of the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs since its formation in 2004. The problem was earlier examined by the High Level Committee on Indian Diaspora (HLCID). It had made a few recommendations. These recommendations have been referred to the State Governments for necessary action.

The National Commission for Women has also examined the problems relating to NRI marriages and has made some recommendations. The recommendations of NCW are being examined by Government.

A proposal that India join the Hague Conference on Private International Law as a member State is also being processed by Government.

The Ministry is also taking various measures to create awareness on this issue. The measures include publishing a guidance booklet on marriages to overseas Indians and publicity through print and electronic media. The Ministry also organized a National Consultation in Delhi in February, 2006. To increase awareness, MOIA in collaboration with the National Commission for Women organised a workshop in Chandigarh in June, 2006 to address the problems relating to marriages with overseas Indians. Another workshop is being organised in Kerala in September, 2006. Similar workshops are being proposed in other relevant States.

Combating Dementia

*390. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether persons suffering from various forms of Dementia are on the increase in the country;

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

(c) whether the Government has any specific programmes to help such persons;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether 2006 is the "Centenary year of Alzheimer's Disease";

(f) if so, whether the Government is undertaking any projects to mark this occasion;

(g) if so, whether the Government is considering to include Alzheimer's and Related Disorders Society of India in the National Council for Older Persons (NCOP); and

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

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (h) There has been increase in the life expectancy of people at birth from 59.70 years in 1991 to about 64 years at present on account of better quality of medical care. Consequently, there has been some increase in the old age problems including dementia due to increase in the proportion of elderly persons in the country.

Government has been taking active interest in the Senior Citizens' health care and has initiated steps to set up separate OPDs/Wards etc. for elderly in the Government Hospitals.

The management of dementia, at present, is addressed under the Mental Health Programme. National Mental Health Programme was started in the year 1987. Re-strategised National Mental Health Programme was launched in October, 2003, with District Mental Health Programme as one of its main components, whereby community mental health services are made available at the grass root level.

As Alzheimer disease was first described in 1906, 2006 is the Centenary Year of the disease. There is no proposal at present to mark the occasion.

There is no proposal, presently, under consideration of the Government to expand the National Council for Older Persons.

Voting Rights to NRIs

*392. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY:
SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to confer the right of franchise to the Non-resident Indians;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these Non-resident Indians would also be allowed to contest elections; and

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

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (d) With a view to enabling citizens of India who are absenting from their place of ordinary residence owing to their employment, education or otherwise outside India to get their names enrolled in the electoral rolls and cast their votes when they are in their constituency at the time of polls, the Government introduced the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 2006 in Rajya Sabha on 27.02.2006. The said Bill was referred to the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice for examination and report. The Committee presented its 16th Report on the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 2006 to Rajya Sabha/laid in Lok Sabha on the 4th August, 2006. The Report is being examined.

[Translation]

Amritsar-Lahore Bus Service

*393. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a Visa Centre in Amritsar to solve the problems of security clearance for Amritsar-Lahore Bus Service;

(b) if so, the time by which the said Visa Centre is likely to be set up;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government also proposes to increase the number of Buses on Amritsar-Lahore route;

(e) if so, the time by which this is likely to be increased;

(f) whether the bus service is economically viable; and

(g) if not, the loss incurred by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) There have been suggestions from some quarters in India for opening visa office of Pakistan in Amritsar. However, at present there is no such proposal.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Currently, both India and Pakistan are engaged in the opening of the respective Consulates-General in Karachi and Mumbai.

(d) There is no such proposal.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) and (g) The Amritsar-Lahore bus service which was inaugurated on 24 January 2006 has incurred a net loss of Rs. 4,40,653 (till 31 July 2006).

Toll Policy

*394. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the toll policy in relation to construction of National Highways;

(b) the stipulated distance in kilometres between each toll point; and

(c) the number of times toll tax is allowed to be levied on the entire stretch of one National Highway?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The National Highways Act, 1956 empowers the Central Government to levy User fee (Toll) for the use of National Highway Sections and Bridges. As per the present policy user fee is levied in perpetuity on:

(1) National Highways sections converted to 4-lanes or more.

(2) Bridges

(i) Each costing more than Rs. 25 lakh and upto Rs. 100 lakh and opened to traffic on or after 1st April, 1976 but before 1st May, 1992.

(ii) Each costing more than Rs. 100 lakh and upto Rs. 500 lakh completed and opened to traffic on or after 1st May, 1992 but before 4th December, 2001.

(iii) Each costing more than Rs. 500 lakh completed on or after 4th December, 2001.

(3) All National Highways improvement projects/bridges and bypasses taken up on Build, Operate, Transfer (BOT) basis as per the concession agreement.

(b) As per the National Highways (Fees for the use of National Highways Section and Permanent Bridge-Public Funded Projects) Rules 1997, toll collection shall be done only at one place within a distance of 80 km. Where this is not possible, the number of collection points shall be kept minimum. Accordingly, distance between toll collection points can also be less than 80 km.

(c) There is no limit on the number of times of user fee to be levied on the entire stretch of one National Highway.

[English]

Secretary Level Talks of SAARC Nations

*395. SHRI UDAY SINGH:
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Secretary level talks of SAARC nations were held at Dhaka recently;

(b) if so, the details of the discussions held and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether various pending issues were raised with member nations during the said talks;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) Yes, under the ambit of the 32nd Session of the Standing Committee of SAARC countries, Secretary level talks were held at Dhaka on July 31st-August 1st, 2006.

(b) to (e) A statement is enclosed.

Statement

Secretary Level Talks of the SAARC Nations

1. Under the ambit of the 32nd Session of the Standing Committee of SAARC countries, Secretary level talks were held at Dhaka on July 31st-August 1, 2006. The Standing Committee preceded the 27th Council of Ministries meeting on August 1-2, 2006 at Dhaka.
2. The meeting considered matters relating to regional economic cooperation and social development. It, *inter alia*, reviewed the procedure for better linkages and implementation of decisions of Ministerial Meetings, progress in the implementation of SAARC Regional Convention on Suppression of Terrorism and its Additional Protocol and the SAARC Convention on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances and cooperation with international and regional organisations. The Standing Committee also discussed regional cooperation in disaster management, information and media, activities of SAARC Apex/Recognised bodies and considered India's proposal for a SAARC Car Rally to be organized in the run-up to the 14th SAARC Summit. It considered the procedures and other formalities to be completed with regard to Afghanistan joining as the eighth member of SAARC.
3. While discussing the progress in regional economic cooperation, the Standing Committee discussed the implementation of the SAFTA Agreement.
4. A framework agreement on SAFTA was signed during the 12th Summit in Islamabad. SAFTA has come into effect retrospectively from January 1, 2006. SAFTA will be fully operationalised by 2016, through a phased Trade Liberalization Programme which covers all tariff lines except those kept in the sensitive (negative) list by each member country.
5. The Government of Pakistan in its Notification (SRO No 695 (I)/2006) on July 1, 2006, regarding tariff concessions for SARRC member countries under SAFTA, has limited SAFTA tariff concessions for India only to items on the existing bilateral "Positive List". We regard this action as negation of the Agreement and going against the very essence of SAFTA.
6. During the Standing Committee we forcefully raised our concerns regarding non-implementation of SAFTA by Pakistan. The issue was further discussed in the 27th Council of Ministers Meeting, where it was agreed that the SAFTA Ministerial Council would have to resolve this before the next session of the Council of Ministers "with a view to ensuring smooth implementation of the Agreement".
7. We also raised our concerns on terrorism and drew attention to the need for cooperation among all SAARC countries in facing the challenge of terrorism in the region. The Standing Committee urged Member States to enact additional enabling legislation, where necessary, to implement all the provisions of the SAARC Convention on Terrorism and Additional Protocol.
8. The SAARC Member countries accepted India's proposal for the SAARC Car Rally, as a curtain raiser to the 14th SAARC Summit to be held in New Delhi in April 2007. A meeting of the Organizing Committee of representatives from all SAARC Member countries is scheduled to take place shortly. India has offered to host the first meeting of the Organizing Committee in New Delhi.
9. The modalities for the SAARC Disaster Management Centre which is to be located in New Delhi were approved. The Centre will become operational after the first Governing Board meeting in October 2006. The Standing Committee observed that all SAARC activities relating to natural disaster management should be focused through the Centre to avoid duplication of effort and proliferation of forums; and that existing Regional Centres would continue to supplement the SAARC efforts in natural disaster management.

10. It was decided to establish an Inter-Governmental Group on Transport at the level of Secretaries to consider a SAARC Study on Regional Multimodal Transport. The Group's recommendations would be considered in the preparatory meetings preceding the 14th SAARC Summit.
11. The Standing Committee considered the procedure and other formalities to be completed with regard to Afghanistan joining the association. The SAARC leaders at the beginning of the 14th Summit would sign a Joint Declaration. An Inter-Governmental Group would be set up to finalize all relevant issues with the Government of Afghanistan by 31st December 2006.
12. The recommendations of the 32nd Session of the Standing Committee of SAARC were presented to the 27th Session of the Council of Ministers at Dhaka (August 1-2, 2006). India was represented by Shri E. Ahamed, Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs. The Council approved the Report of the 32nd Session of the Standing Committee of SAARC.

Satellites' Insurance

*396. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:
SHRIMATI MANORAMA MADHAVRAJ:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government insures every satellite that ISRO launches from foreign stations;
- (b) if so, whether such satellites launched from India are not insured;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the recent failure of INSAT-4C has cost the Government Rs. 246 crores due to non-insurance; and
- (e) if so, the future strategy adopted/proposed to be adopted by the Government to insure such Satellites launched from within the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Experimental Satellites, Aryabhata, Bhaskara I and

Bhaskara II and APPLE were launched during 1975-81 without any cost to ISRO and were not insured.

In addition, during 1988-95, three IRS satellites, IRS-1A, IRS-1B and IRS-1C, launched from USSR at concessional rates, were not insured.

All other satellites launched from abroad are being insured.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The cost of insurance is high and taking into account the relatively low failure rate of launchers, ISRO has taken a decision not to insure satellites launched from India.

(d) The cost of INSAT-4C satellite is Rs. 96 crores and the cost of launch is Rs. 150 crores making a total of Rs. 246 crores.

(e) The policy of non-insurance of satellites launched from India would continue and this policy would be reviewed if there is a major change in economics associated with insurance.

Supply of Low Enriched Uranium by Russia

*397. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:
SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Russia has lately agreed to supply low enriched uranium for the Tarapur Atomic Power Station (TAPS);
- (b) if so, the details of the agreement;
- (c) whether the US and other members of the Nuclear Club had objected to the deal;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor and the Government's response thereto;
- (e) whether the Tarapur Atomic Power Station was starving for want of fuel;
- (f) if so, the extent to which the production of power had gone down;

(g) whether Russian supplies have since been received; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) Low Enriched Uranium (LEU) for the Tarapur Atomic Power Station Units 1&2 has already been received from Russia.

(c) and (d) July 18, 2005 Joint statement issued during the visit of Prime Minister to Washington had recognized the need for expeditious supply of LEU to Tarapur units. All procedures have been followed.

(e) and (f) With the timely availability of fuel supplies from Russia, Tarapur Atomic Power Station (Units 1&2) will be able to sustain production.

(g) and (h) Yes, Sir as mentioned in (a) & (b) above.

Widening of NHs

*398. SHRI G.V. HARSHA KUMAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some National Highways are being converted into eight lanes;

(b) if so, the details thereof including those which are presently under construction; and

(c) the funds spent so far, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The details of eight laning works on the National Highways planned and under construction are given below:

| Sl.No. | State | Section | NH No. | Length (in km) | Project Cost (Rs. Crore) | Expenditure upto 31.07.2006 (Rs. Crore) |
|--------|---------------|---|--------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| 1. | Delhi/Haryana | Delhi-Gurgaon (Access controlled 8/6 lane) | 8 | 27.7 (8-laning 22.33 km) | 710.00 | 491.55 |
| 2. | Delhi | 8-laning of Haryana-Delhi Border to Mukarba Chowk | 1 | 12.9 | 98.22 | 36.26 |
| 3. | Delhi | Mukarba Chowk to Mall Road | 1 | 8.5 | 57.53 | 42 |
| 4. | Delhi | Km 3.4 to Km 5.7 | 24 | 2.3 | 12.11 | At tender stage. |
| 5. | Delhi | Km 5.7 to Km 7.7 | 24 | 2.0 | 12.39 | Included in the current year's Annual Plan Works. |

Sports Infrastructure In Tenth Plan

*399. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

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

(a) whether the objectives of the Tenth Five Year Plan to create adequate sports infrastructure in schools and colleges have been achieved;

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

(c) the details of the Central assistance provided to each State during the said plan period for the purpose, State-wise;

(d) the names of the States where the State Sports Academies have been set up;

(e) whether any long term perspective plan has been prepared by the Union Government to promote sports at village level;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) A Plan outlay of Rs. 312.61 Crores was made for Sports Infrastructure Schemes in Tenth Plan, which *inter-alia* aimed at creation of Sports Infrastructure in schools and colleges;

expenditure upto 2005-06 is Rs. 1147.47 Crores. These centrally sponsored schemes have been discontinued from 1.4.2005 and have been transferred to State sector. However, committed liabilities against sanctioned proposals will be met till 31.3.2007.

In addition, sports scholarship scheme has an outlay of Rs. 21.88 Crores for the Tenth Plan; the expenditure till 31.3.2006 is Rs. 21.28 crores; and Scheme of Promotion of Sports and Games in schools has an outlay of Rs. 14.10 Crores; the expenditure upto 31.3.2006 is Rs. 5.25 Crores.

(c) The State-wise details of central assistance provided during the first four years of the Tenth Plan under the schemes of "Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure", "Grants to Rural Schools for Purchase of Sports Equipment & Development of Playground" and "Grants for Promotion of Sports in Universities & Colleges" to various State Governments, Institutions, Schools and Colleges, as also year-wise details of the scheme of "Promotion of Sports and Games in Schools" and "Sports Scholarship Scheme" have been given in the enclosed Statements I and II.

(d) For want of viable proposal in accordance with the scheme from the States, no Sports Academy has thus far been set up under the State Sports Academy scheme.

(e) to (g) In recognition of the shortage of the sports infrastructure and facilities in rural areas, consideration is being given to the promotion of a Panchayat Yuva Khel Abhiyan in collaboration with various stake holders like the State governments, Panchayat Raj Institutions, Nehru Yuvak Kendras and Educational Institutions.

Statement I

State-wise details of Central assistance released under the Scheme of Grants for Creation of sports Infrastructure from 2002-2003 to 2005-2006

(Rs. in lakhs)

| Sl.No. | State/UT | 2002-2003 | | 2003-2004 | | 2004-2005 | | 2005-2006 (As on 31.3.2006) | |
|--------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| | | Amount released | No. of projects | Amount released | No. of projects | Amount released | No. of projects | Amount released | No. of projects |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 13.74 | 1 | 484.527 | 14 | 123.75 | 7 | 45.00 | 1 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 156.44 | 6 | 191.00 | 5 | 27.00 | 1 | 71.00 | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|-----|-----------------------------|--------|----|--------|----|--------|----|-------|----|
| 3. | Assam | 73.50 | 3 | 17 | 2 | 188.09 | 8 | 7.00 | 1 |
| 4. | Bihar | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 5. | Delhi | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 6. | Goa | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 7. | Gujarat | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 65.00 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| 8. | Haryana | 1.20 | 1 | 40.17 | 2 | 118.13 | 16 | 32.80 | 4 |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | 6.81 | 3 | 100.21 | 8 | 118.63 | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| 10. | Jammu & Kashmir | 5.02 | 5 | 26.82 | 18 | 22.50 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 11. | Karnataka | 82.20 | 14 | 58.7 | 8 | 101.3 | 9 | 0 | 0 |
| 12. | Kerala | 0.124 | 1 | 13.01 | 4 | 1.50 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 13. | Madhya Pradesh | 62.40 | 4 | 152.27 | 13 | 115.40 | 6 | 18.00 | 1 |
| 14. | Maharashtra | 165.00 | 7 | 238.43 | 13 | 169.04 | 9 | 45.08 | 2 |
| 15. | Manipur | 62.50 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 22.50 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| 16. | Meghalaya | 0.00 | 0 | 100.11 | 5 | 234.55 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| 17. | Mizoram | 57.75 | 11 | 136.32 | 21 | 30.00 | 1 | 59.59 | 1 |
| 18. | Nagaland | 194.00 | 8 | 982.46 | 21 | 115.98 | 12 | 45.00 | 1 |
| 19. | Orissa | 15.50 | 2 | 0.05 | 1 | 0.75 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 20. | Punjab | 10.00 | 1 | 45.00 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 21. | Rajasthan | 10.71 | 2 | 25.00 | 2 | 8.72 | 1 | 23.00 | 1 |
| 22. | Sikkim | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 23. | Tamil Nadu | 97.011 | 8 | 170.36 | 22 | 81.15 | 13 | 50.52 | 2 |
| 24. | Tripura | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 25. | Uttar Pradesh | 16.29 | 1 | 46.94 | 3 | 69.23 | 6 | 83.00 | 4 |
| 26. | West Bengal | 28.00 | 2 | 20.07 | 15 | 49.70 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| 27. | Chhattisgarh | 0 | 0 | 78.50 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 28. | Jharkhand | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 30.00 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 29. | Uttaranchal | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 94.80 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| 30. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 31. | Chandigarh | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|-------|------------------------|---------|----|---------|-----|---------|-----|--------|----|
| 32. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 33. | Daman and Diu | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 34. | Pondicherry | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 35. | Lakshadweep | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | | 1057.99 | 85 | 2906.98 | 182 | 1787.99 | 122 | 480.00 | 19 |

State-wise Details of Central Assistance Released under the Scheme of Grants to Rural Schools for Purchase of Sports Equipment and Development of Playground from 2002-2003 to 2005-2006

(Rs. in lakhs)

| Sl.No. | State/UT | 2002-2003 | | 2003-2004 | | 2004-2005 | | 2005-2006 | |
|--------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| | | Amount released | No. of schools | Amount released | No. of schools | Amount released | No. of schools | Amount released | No. of schools |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 1.12 | 1 | 0.37 | 1 | 2.76 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 0.00 | 0 | 4.35 | 4 | 7.74 | 7 | 0 | 0 |
| 3. | Assam | 8.67 | 14 | 30.88 | 41 | 22.18 | 38 | 0 | 0 |
| 4. | Bihar | 1.71 | 2 | 3.29 | 3 | 7.53 | 8 | 0 | 0 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 6.39 | 7 | 1.13 | 2 | 3.32 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| 6. | Delhi | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 7. | Goa | 0.85 | 3 | 0.00 | 0 | 1.08 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 8. | Gujarat | 1.54 | 3 | 2.98 | 4 | 1.42 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| 9. | Haryana | 12.64 | 24 | 43.36 | 59 | 24.17 | 41 | 0 | 0 |
| 10. | Himachal Pradesh | 9.97 | 12 | 5.72 | 15 | 10.21 | 14 | 0 | 0 |
| 11. | Jammu & Kashmir | 1.00 | 2 | 3.17 | 3 | 9.64 | 14 | 0 | 0 |
| 12. | Jharkhand | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 13. | Karnataka | 25.08 | 29 | 16.75 | 26 | 12.10 | 18 | 0 | 0 |
| 14. | Kerala | 2.26 | 4 | 0.00 | 0 | 15.48 | 17 | 0 | 0 |
| 15. | Madhya Pradesh | 14.12 | 24 | 22.95 | 29 | 13.67 | 20 | 0 | 0 |
| 16. | Maharashtra | 35.76 | 46 | 51.63 | 58 | 54.19 | 71 | 8.63 | 27 |
| 17. | Manipur | 6.30 | 6 | 3.26 | 5 | 1.48 | 2 | 0 | 0 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|-------|---------------------------------|--------|-----|--------|-----|--------|-----|-------|----|
| 18. | Meghalaya | 0.00 | 0 | 1.08 | 1 | 9.37 | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| 19. | Mizoram | 0.75 | 1 | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 20. | Nagaland | 5.12 | 17 | 0.00 | 0 | 3.80 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| 21. | Orissa | 27.53 | 39 | 44.21 | 55 | 61.99 | 80 | 8.60 | 28 |
| 22. | Punjab | 4.78 | 6 | 2.56 | 3 | 0.63 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| 23. | Rajasthan | 11.71 | 17 | 25.19 | 29 | 18.76 | 30 | 0 | 0 |
| 24. | Sikkim | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 25. | Tamil Nadu | 15.93 | 45 | 7.65 | 21 | 3.70 | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| 26. | Tripura | 0.73 | 2 | 0.37 | 1 | 0.40 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 27. | Uttar Pradesh | 21.05 | 29 | 39.60 | 47 | 51.11 | 75 | 0.89 | 3 |
| 28. | Uttaranchal | 8.33 | 8 | 11.04 | 12 | 18.44 | 26 | 1.87 | 6 |
| 29. | West Bengal | 88.55 | 102 | 77.98 | 106 | 127.15 | 167 | 0 | 0 |
| 30. | UTs-Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 31. | Chandigarh | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 32. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 33. | Lakshadweep | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 34. | Daman and Diu | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 35. | Pondicherry | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | | 310.99 | 443 | 399.63 | 525 | 482.45 | 662 | 19.99 | 64 |

State-wise Details of Central Assistance Released under the Scheme of Grants for Promotion of Sports in Universities and Colleges from 2002-2003 to 2005-2006

(Rs. in lakhs)

| Sl.No. | State | 2002-2003 | | 2003-2004 | | 2004-2005 | | 2005-2006 | |
|--------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| | | Amount released | No. of Colleges /Universities | Amount released | No. of Colleges /Universities | Amount released | No. of Colleges /Universities | Amount released | No. of Colleges /Universities |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 58.08 | 16 | 87.82 | 27 | 97.22 | 36 | 5.00 | 1 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|--------------|--------------------|---------------|------------|----------------|------------|----------------|------------|---------------|-----------|
| 3. | Assam | 3.45 | 2 | 26.81 | 10 | 126.31 | 48 | 0 | 0 |
| 4. | Bihar | 0.26 | 1 | 20.60 | 4 | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 20.70 | 9 | 0 | 0 |
| 6. | Goa | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 2.70 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 7. | Gujarat | 6.00 | 3 | 18.27 | 10 | 28.20 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 8. | Haryana | 3.02 | 3 | 10.31 | 9 | 26.86 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | 0.16 | 1 | 5.85 | 3 | 7.37 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| 10. | Jammu & Kashmir | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 11. | Jharkhand | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 2.70 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 12. | Karnataka | 50.94 | 22 | 39.35 | 35 | 149.87 | 63 | 12.00 | 1 |
| 13. | Kerala | 8.27 | 5 | 39.80 | 18 | 45.07 | 24 | 0 | 0 |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 1.65 | 3 | 10.80 | 4 | 26.10 | 7 | 0 | 0 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 186.81 | 79 | 197.53 | 98 | 244.15 | 115 | 20.85 | 2 |
| 16. | Manipur | 28.48 | 2 | 25.03 | 3 | 17.80 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| 17. | Mizoram | 0.00 | 0 | 10.72 | 4 | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 18. | Meghalaya | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 10.80 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| 19. | Nagaland | 20.40 | 3 | 22.50 | 11 | 19.20 | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| 20. | Orissa | 58.98 | 24 | 83.60 | 40 | 57.98 | 32 | 0 | 0 |
| 21. | Punjab | 28.48 | 11 | 52.68 | 13 | 29.45 | 11 | 10.00 | 1 |
| 22. | Rajasthan | 1.10 | 1 | 4.20 | 2 | 7.20 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| 23. | Tamilnadu | 75.66 | 17 | 164.81 | 27 | 169.80 | 29 | 17.12 | 1 |
| 24. | Tripura | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 25. | Uttar Pradesh | 60.24 | 14 | 101.56 | 41 | 158.65 | 62 | 45.00 | 3 |
| 26. | Uttaranchal | 5.40 | 2 | 24.60 | 10 | 16.80 | 8 | 0 | 0 |
| 27. | West Bengal | 44.09 | 19 | 79.86 | 42 | 141.28 | 63 | 0 | 0 |
| 28. | Delhi [⊙] | 22.50 | 1 | 53.50 | 2 | 62.64 | 1 | 40.03 | 1 |
| 29. | UTs-Chandigarh | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 1.00 | 1 | 0.00 | 0 |
| Total | | 665.98 | 229 | 1080.25 | 413 | 1472.00 | 555 | 150.00 | 10 |

Statement II**Year-wise Expenditure under Sports Scholarship Scheme**

(Rs. in lakhs)

| Year | Budget Provision | Actuals |
|---------|------------------|---------|
| 2002-03 | 344.00 | 394.00 |
| 2003-04 | 383.00 | 507.30 |
| 2004-05 | 450.00 | 640.97 |
| 2005-06 | 441.00 | 586.00 |

Year-wise Expenditure under Promotion of Sports & Games in Schools Scheme

(Rs. in lakhs)

| Year | Budget Provision | Actuals |
|---------|------------------|---------|
| 2002-03 | 203.00 | 55.50 |
| 2003-04 | 320.00 | 38.50 |
| 2004-05 | 150.00 | 131.00 |
| 2005-06 | 412.00 | 299.59 |

[Translation]**Incidents of fire/Subsidence in Coal Mines**

*400. SHRI FURKAN ANSARI:
SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether many incidents of fire, subsidence, gushing of water in various coal mines, have taken place during the last three years and the current year;

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

(c) the amount incurred by the Government during the last three years on safety norms in coal mines;

(d) whether the Government has conducted any inquiry to ascertain the causes of such incidents;

(e) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to prevent the recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI SHIBU SOREN):
(a) and (b) The following major incidents of fire, subsidence and gushing of water have taken place in various coal mines during the last three years and the current year (till July 2006) in the mines of Coal India Ltd. (CIL) & Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. (SCCL):

| Incident | Company | State/Location | Coal Mines | Year | |
|----------|---------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | |
| Fire | CIL | West Bengal | Bankola | 2005 | |
| | | | Khottadih | 2006 | |
| | | | Jharkhand | Religara | 2004 |
| | | Basdeopur | 2004 | | |
| | | Kusunda | 2004 | | |
| | | E. Bhuggatdih | 2006 | | |
| | Orissa | SCCL | Andhra Pradesh | Hingir Rampur | 2004 |
| | | | | Orient Mine No. 3 | 2005 |
| | | | | GDK. 1 Mine | 2003 |
| | | | | KK. 5 Mine | 2004 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|------|
| Subsidence | CIL | West Bengal | Parasea 6&7 Colliery | 2003 |
| | | | Kuardih Colliery | 2004 |
| | | | Mondalpara/Sanctoria Village | 2004 |
| | | | Pit No. 2 Madhujore Colliery | 2005 |
| | | | Khas Kajora Colliery | 2006 |
| | | | Begunia | 2004 |
| | | Jharkhand | Kumardubi Colliery | 2005 |
| | | | Kenduadih Colliery | 2003 |
| | | | Ena Colliery | 2004 |
| | | | Gopalichak Colliery | 2006 |
| | | | Katras Choitudih Colliery | 2006 |
| | | | Block-IV Colliery | 2006 |
| | | | Gushing of water/ inundation | CIL |
| Jamehari Colliery | 2006 | | | |
| Jharkhand | Central Saunda Colliery | 2005 | | |
| | Chhattisgarh | Kurasia UG | | |
| SCCL | Andhra Pradesh | Godavarikhani No. 7 LEP mine | | |

(c) The amount incurred by CIL/subsidiaries and SCCL towards Safety and Rescue in the last three years is given below:

| Company | (Figs in Rs. Lakhs) | | |
|-----------|---------------------|----------|----------|
| | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 |
| ECL | 9435.81 | 9241.56 | 10001.00 |
| BCCL | 15692.87 | 13417.69 | 15539.20 |
| CCL | 1703.96 | 2161.50 | 2461.00 |
| NCL | 769.00 | 4102.97 | 4113.00 |
| WCL | 6634.53 | 6798.67 | 7197.09 |
| SECL | 9938.93 | 10020.45 | 10799.45 |
| MCL | 4180.73 | 4695.65 | 4393.56 |
| NEC | 369.00 | 244.10 | 286.50 |
| CIL Total | 48724.83 | 50682.59 | 54792.80 |
| SCCL | 21305.00 | 25215.00 | 27853.00 |

Note: Figures for 2005-06 are provisional.

(d) to (f) Following the occurrence of any untoward incidents, an inquiry is conducted by the concerned coal Company. Apart from this, the Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS), under the Ministry of Labour & Employment is the statutory authority empowered to enquire into accidents in coal mines and incidences of fire, subsidence and inundation etc.

In respect of very serious accidents Ministry of Labour & Employment constitutes a court of enquiry. Based on the enquiry report remedial action is taken by the Coal Companies to prevent future recurrence of accidents. In addition following measures are also being taken:

- Promoting participation of workers in safety management.
- Promoting self regulation by management.
- Tri-partite and Bi-partite review of safety status at various levels.
- Observance of safety week and safety campaigns.
- Generating safety awareness and information dissemination.
- National Conference on Safety in Mines.
- Interactions at different forums with a view to promote safety, health and welfare of persons employed in mines.
- Introduction to the concept of Risk Assessment, preparation of Safety Management Plan and development of Emergency Response System.
- Conducting Safety Audits.
- Facilitating introduction of new technology in mining with low potential risk.

[English]

Indian Army Personnel In Afghanistan

*401. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian army personnel are assisting the Afghanistan Government in that country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the US has requested for deployment of more Indian troops in Afghanistan;

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

(e) whether Pakistan has taken up the matter regarding the presence of Indian Army Personnel in Afghanistan with the US; and

(f) if so, the reaction of the US Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) to (f) Do not arise.

Launching of Satellites for Atmospheric/ Space Sciences

*402. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ISRO proposes to launch small satellites for Atmospheric and Space Sciences;

(b) if so, the details of the said proposal; and

(c) the time by which these are likely to be launched?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In response to the need of the Indian science community for dedicated satellites for investigating some of the scientific problems pertaining to astronomy, astrophysics, atmospheric and near-earth space environment, ISRO announced an opportunity for small satellite missions. Based upon their scientific merits, these small satellites would be considered in future for being launched as co-passengers with main satellite missions.

(c) These proposals are only at the conceptual stage; no time frame has been fixed for the launch.

Speed Post Centres

*403. SHRI PRABODH PANDA:
SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is working with the Department of Posts to accept passport applications;

(b) if so, the number of speed post centres in the country at present where passport applications are accepted;

(c) whether the Government is planning to increase the number of such centres during the current year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. At present, there are 218 Speed Post Centres where passport applications are being accepted.

(c) and (d) In the current year, the Government is planning to increase the number of such centres and already there is a proposal to add 873 more Speed Post Centres throughout the country where passport applications can be accepted.

**Improving Infrastructure/Manpower
of Emigration Offices**

*404. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of Indian workers travelling abroad has increased tremendously over the years;

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

(c) whether the emigration offices in the country lack infrastructure and manpower to cater to the increase in labour outflow;

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(e) whether the Government has any proposals to introduce E-emigration to make the clearance process faster and easier; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) and (b) There has been a gradual increase in the number of Indian emigrants going abroad for employment. The number of such persons who had obtained emigration clearance for employment abroad during the last three years is as under:

| Year | No. of persons (in lakh) |
|------|-----------------------------|
| 2003 | 4.66 |
| 2004 | 4.75 |
| 2005 | 5.49 |

(c) to (f) Considering the increase in the number of emigrants going abroad for employment, proposals of upgradation and modernisation of the Offices of the Protectors of Emigrants, liberalising emigration norms and introducing e-governance in emigration are being pursued. Besides, to make the emigration process simple and transparent and to promote orderly and humane migration, the process for a comprehensive amendment of the Emigration Act, 1983 is underway.

Captive Coal Mining

*405. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Coal in tandem with the Energy Co-ordination Committee is working on a multi-pronged strategy to facilitate captive coal mining;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Rs. 1400 crores are likely to be spent on exploration of coal blocks under the Eleventh Plan;

(d) if so, the projected estimate of production of coal;

(e) whether there is a plan to involve private coal mining companies in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI SHIBU SOREN):

(a) to (f) The Government has so far allocated 56 coal blocks to private sector companies/permissible end-users for captive consumption. Recently 81 coal blocks having total geological reserves of about 20.02 billion tones have been identified for allocation to government companies/permissible end-users. Allocation of coal blocks is also being done for development of ultra mega power projects.

It is envisaged that about 22.5 lakh metres of detailed drilling and 7.5 lakh metres of promotional drilling will be undertaken in Coal & Lignite areas of the country during XI Plan period. It is estimated that detailed exploration (22.5 lakh m) will involve an expenditure of around Rs. 1400 crore whereas about Rs. 300 crore more will be required for promotional exploration.

As per the Annual Plan 2006-07 of the Ministry of Coal, projected production of coal will be 575.58 million tonnes in the terminal year of XI Plan *i.e.* 2011-12. As per the emergency production plan of CIL, there will be an additional production of 59.5 million tones in 2011-12. However, production plan for the XI Plan period is being assessed by the Working Group of Coal & Lignite set up by the Planning Commission.

Complaints Against Private Telecom Operators

3017. SHRI SUBRATA BOSE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the MTNL and BSNL filed complaints during the years 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 against certain private telecom operators for passing off incoming international calls from the USA or from other parts of the world as domestic traffic to evade access charges which would have been payable to the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) and the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in terms of licence and interconnect agreement;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the complaints and compensation claimed by the MTNL and BSNL from the private telecom operators;

(c) whether following investigations, DoT has confirmed the veracity of the complaints and endorsed the volume of compensation claimed by the MTNL/the BSNL;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government against the private telecom operators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) MTNL and BSNL filed complaint against M/s Reliance Infocomm Ltd. (RIL). MTNL and BSNL raised bills amounting to Rs. 341.27 crores and Rs. 319.04 crores respectively on M/s RIL which have been paid by M/s. RIL. The matter is subjudice.

(e) Department of Telecommunications has levied a penalty of Rs. 50 crores each against the Unified Access Services Licences of M/s RIL for Chennai, Mumbai and Kolkata service areas. M/s RIL appealed in the Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal, however, the appeal was dismissed. M/s. RIL paid the penalty of Rs. 150 crores in March, 2005. M/s. RIL has again filed a Petition in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India against the judgement of the TDSAT upholding the penalty of Rs. 150 crores and the matter is subjudice.

[Translation]

Report of National Knowledge Commission

3018. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Knowledge Commission has recommended in its report that there is a need to reform the Government modalities instead of bureaucracy by redesigning the Government process;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has accepted the said recommendations;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) In its recommendations on e-Governance submitted to the Prime Minister on 26th January, 2006, the National Knowledge Commission has proposed that Government process reengineering be undertaken before any computerization.

(b) At present the e-Governance efforts are primarily based on computerizing age-old processes left behind by British Raj and compounded by a plethora of new layers and silos by Indian bureaucracy, each working within departmental boundaries and pet-priorities. As a result we are computerizing cumbersome processes and hence not commensurately benefiting from it. Simply digitising the existing government processes merely adds an additional layer of expense, complexity, delay and confusion. It is essential that we first redesign the government processes keeping the citizen at the centre, providing hassle-free enablement of citizens, business, producers and consumers, replacing the old mistrust and control regime from the British Raj. This redesigning of government processes will drastically reduce the numbers and duration of successive steps required to obtain services. It will also provide traceable records; enable enforcement of individual performance, accountability, efficiency, productivity as well as transparency of policies and processes.

(c) to (e) These recommendations were considered by the Committee of Secretaries in the background of the Cabinet Note on Approach and Key Components of National e-Governance Plan (NeGP). Suggestions of the Committee of Secretaries were suitably incorporated in the revised Cabinet Note, which was considered and approved by the Union Cabinet in its meeting held on 18th May, 2006. The scope of the approval covers Vision, Approach, 27 Mission Mode Projects (MMPs) & 8 Support Components, Assigning of Roles & Responsibilities and Programme Management Structure required for the implementation of NeGP.

As per the approval, concerned line Ministries/ Departments/State Governments are expected to prepare detailed project documents for their respective Mission Mode Projects, including scope of the project in terms of Services and Service levels that would be made available; Government Process Reengineering, Legal amendments and Change Management that is necessary to achieve the desired service levels; and the Financial details for obtaining approval of the competent authority as per the existing provisions of General Financial Rules.

[English]

New Universal Safety Fund

3019. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to introduce a New Universal Safety Fund to finance safety schemes on National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which such a fund is likely to be utilised, scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) The Committee on Infrastructure (COI) has endorsed the proposal for setting up a dedicated Safety Fund into which one percent of the cess revenues allocated for National Highways would be paid. It is too early to give the details.

[Translation]

Diversion of N.H. 28-B

3020. SHRI KAILASH BAITHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for the diversion of National Highway No. 28-B connecting Chhapwa-Kushinagar *via* Betia in Bihar is lying pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard including the time by which the proposal is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Interconnect Services by BSNL

3021. DR. RAJESH MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has made it mandatory to provide interconnect services within six months;

(b) if so, the whether the BSNL is not providing interconnect services to private cellular operator within the mandatory stipulated time;

(c) if so, whether the interconnect applications are pending with the BSNL;

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

(e) the action taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) issued direction to all the Service Providers on 07.06.2005 directing them to provide interconnection on the request of interconnection seeker within 90 days of the applicable payments made by the interconnection seeker, which is subjudice. Hon'ble Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT) vide its interim order dated 19.07.2006 *inter-alia* directed BSNL to provide interconnection within 90 days of its receiving the necessary payment from the interconnection seeker and if for any reasons BSNL is not in a position to provide such interconnection within the stipulated period it shall intimate to TRAI and the concerned interconnection seeker the reasons for its failure to provide such interconnection.

(b) to (d) Interconnect provisioning is a continuous process involving a number of stages. Once a demand is received, technical feasibility is studied, demand note is issued for feasible number of links, payment is collected, advise note is issued, Point of Interconnection (Pol) is created and interconnect link is wired, tested and acceptance tested. As the mobile services are growing at an exponential rate, at any given point of time there would be large number of Pols pending at various stages of provisioning.

(e) The Government has asked BSNL and the private telecom operators to take various steps which *inter-alia* include holding of regular review meetings, streamlining of the procedure for provisioning of Pols in time bound manner, to provide forecast for demand of Pols in advance to enable BSNL to plan necessary equipment where feasible so as to reduce the technically non-feasible cases.

Steps to Check Violation of PCOs Rules

3022. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the BSNL is losing over Rs. 500 crores in commission every year due to PCOs being used for personal business;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the BSNL has any mechanism to prevent misuse of PCOs by its owners;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the BSNL to stop violation of PCOs rules?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Sir, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) does not bar using a PCO for personal business purposes, provided the PCO is also accessible to the public. So the commission amount on such PCOs are not reckoned as loss to BSNL.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir, the mechanism followed by BSNL to prevent misuse of PCOs by the franchisees are as below:

- (i) Only type approved charge indicators working on metering pulse from exchange are allowed to be used by the PCO franchisees.
- (ii) The PCO booth display board and the rate chart are required to be displayed prominently for public access and due information respectively.
- (iii) Periodic surprise checks are carried out by staff to check any kind of misuse including tampering with the charge indicators installed by the franchisees.

(e) Surprise checks of the PCO franchisees are carried out by the field staff and by Vigilance Cells of the circles to ensure that the guidelines of provision of PCOs are followed scrupulously by the PCO franchisee. Actions including closure of PCOs are taken against the PCO franchisee found to be violating the guidelines.

Jhanjra Project of ECL

3023. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Jhanjra Project under Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) is a profit making project;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to revive the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Jhanjra is not a profit making project.

(c) The main reasons for losses are as under:

- (i) Use of old Powered Support Longwall (PSLW) Sets, diverted from other projects which were not site specific. Since, these equipments have become obsolete they are producing coal at a much lower efficiency.
- (ii) Non-availability of spares reduced the availability of equipment which affected performance.
- (iii) The available equipment can only partially extract the coal seam due to its limited support resistance under the existing geo-mining condition.

The steps taken to revive Jhanjra project are given below:

- (i) A contract has been signed between Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) and M/s. Joy Mining Machinery Limited (UK) for introduction of Continuous Miner Technology on risk/gain sharing basis in Sector C, D and E of R-VI seam of Jhanjra underground mine of ECL, which will augment the production of the mine at the rate of 0.42 Million tonnes per year (MTY).
- (ii) A global tender has already been floated for introduction of Higher Capacity PSLW set at Jhanjra underground mine of ECL on risk/gain sharing basis which will further augment the production to the rate of 1.7 Mty. This proposal is in advance stage of consideration of Government.

Payment of Arrears of Wages to Coal Workers

3024. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the coal companies have to pay huge arrears of wages to their workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has cleared the payment of arrears of wages to the workers;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the time by which the arrears of wages are likely to be paid to the workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (b) Consequent upon of the National Coal Wage Agreement-VII (NCWA-VII) effective from 1.7.2001 which was signed on 15.07.2005, arrear of wages had accrued. As regards payment of arrear wages, it was stipulated in the agreement that arrear wages would be paid to all the separated employees immediately and for the existing employees the modalities would be jointly worked out by the trade unions and management, keeping in view the revival packages of Eastern Coalfields Limited and Bharat Coking Coal Limited. In pursuance of the said provisions, the arrear wages were paid to all the separated employees.

(c) and (d) As regards existing employees, the modality for payment of arrear wages as per NCWA-VII has already been worked out and an agreement has been reached with the Central Trade Unions. As per the said agreement, the wage arrears are to be paid in three installments; the first installment by 31st May, 2006, the second installment before Diwali festival and the last installment by 31st March, 2007. Accordingly, the first installment of arrears has been paid to the employees. The other two installments would be paid in due course as per the agreement.

(e) and (f) Do not arise in view of reply given above.

Investment by Chinese Firms

3025. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is contemplating to allow Chinese firms to invest in India's booming infrastructure sectors such as telecommunications;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Huawei Telecommunications are awaiting security clearance from the Government; and

(d) if so, the time by which clearance is likely to be given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in various sub-sectors of telecom from foreign companies including Chinese companies is allowed as per extant policy of the Government.

(c) and (d) The proposal of M/s. Huawei Telecommunication Co. Pvt. Ltd. is pending before the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) for want of certain information/clarifications from various Ministries/Departments. No time frame can thus be given for the clearance of the proposal.

[Translation]

Payment of Roaming Charges

3026. SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the mobile consumers of the BSNL in various villages of Haryana are compelled to pay roaming charges;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) Sir, there is possibility

that a BSNL's mobile subscriber of Haryana having roaming facility and while located close to boundary between Haryana and an adjacent Licenced Service Area (LSA) and with his mobile handset in automatic network selection mode, gets served by BSNL's or MTNL's Cellular Mobile Service of adjacent LSA. Charges for usage in visited network are levied as per applicable plant/tariff once the consumer logs on to the visited network and makes usage. However, whenever such a case is detected, action is taken to rectify the same to the extent possible.

Technical arrangements are made to limit the usability of GSM based Radio Frequency signals emitted by Cell sites within the LSA. However, 100% accuracy of the same cannot be assured in some areas due to zigzag nature of boundaries shared by an LSA with adjacent LSAs.

[English]

HIV Cases

3027. SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 65% of the prostitutes in Mumbai were found to be HIV positive in 1994 as mentioned in the NACO publication, "country-scenario 1994";

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of deaths among the infected prostitutes as on date, year-wise and also the number of prostitutes living with AIDS out 65%?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) A sample survey carried out in 1994 indicated that the prevalence rate was 52% in a group of brothel based female sex workers in Mumbai. Tracking of clients found HIV positive is not carried out and information on deaths across those found positive is not available.

HIV/AIDS Affected Children

3028. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to formulate a scheme to protect, care and support children affected by HIV/AIDS; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Under National AIDS Control Programme (Phase-III; 2006-II), it is proposed to implement a programme for prevention, care and treatment of children infected or affected by HIV/AIDS. Specific interventions include scaling up of prevention of HIV infection to newborns through Prevention of Parent to Child Transmission (PPTCT) and treatment of estimated 40,000 children with pediatric anti-retroviral drugs by 2011.

Extradition Treaty with Nepal

3029. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA": Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has entered into an extradition treaty with Nepal;

(b) if so, the details of the persons extradited from Nepal during the last one year; and

(c) if not, the mechanism which is followed at present to bring back criminals fleeing to Nepal after committing crimes in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No one was extradited from Nepal during the last one year.

(c) The bilateral extradition treaty, signed in 1953, can be used to seek extradition of Indian nationals who have absconded to Nepal after committing crimes in India.

Merger of Central Statistical Organisation

3030. SHRI G. NIZAMUDDIN: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has brought in certain changes by combining the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) with any other organisation;

(b) if so, the details of the merger including creation of a new organisation or authority in view of the above changes; and

(c) the members of the new venture alongwith the composition, structure and functions of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In a Resolution dated 1st June, 2005 the Government of India has decided that the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) and National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) will be merged into a single entity called the National Statistical Organisation (NSO).

(c) The National Statistical Organisation (NSO) would be headed by Chief Statistician of India with the rank of Secretary to the Government of India. The NSO will have two wings, namely (i) Central Statistical Office (CSO) and (ii) National Sample Survey Office (NSSO). The NSO will function as the executive wing of the Government of India in the field of Statistics.

[Translation]

Cable Works in SSA

3031. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Secondary Switching Area (SSA) in the country in which cable works have been undertaken during the year 2004-06 particularly in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the estimated cost thereof alongwith the process adopted for inviting tenders and making payment in this regard;

(c) whether the guidelines laid down by the Central Vigilance Commission (C.V.C.) have been violated in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Sir, information

about the number of SSAs in the country and in Uttar Pradesh in particular in which cable works have been done is given in the enclosed Statements-I, II and III.

The process adopted is that of open tendering *i.e.* publishing of NIT in leading newspapers for inviting tenders, opening of tenders by Tender Opening Committee (TOC), evaluation by Tender Evaluation Committee (TEC),

award of works to the successful bidders and execution of these works. Payments are made as per terms and conditions of tender.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise in view of (c) above.

Statement I

SSAs in the country in which cable work has been done during 2004-05 and 2005-06

| Sl.No. | Items | Throughout the country | | No. of SSAs particularly in UP (both UP (E) and UP (W))* | |
|--------|--|------------------------|-------------------|--|------------------|
| | | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 |
| 1. | No. of SSA situated in the country, particularly in UP, in which cable works have been done during 2004-05 and 2005-06 | 283 | 273 | | |
| 2. | The estimated costs along with the tenders and payments procedures in respect of these SSA | Rs. 537.17 crores | Rs. 460.47 crores | Rs. 43.2 crores | Rs. 32.52 crores |
| 3. | MTNL | 251.88 crores | 210.67 crores | NA | NA |

*Details of UP(E) & UP(W) are given in Statement II & III respectively.

Statement II

Estimated cost of cable works in UP (East)

| Sl.No. | Estimated cost (Rs. in Lac) of cable works | | | |
|--------|--|----------------|-------------|----------------|
| | 2004-05 | | 2005-06 | |
| | Name of SSA | Estimated cost | Name of SSA | Estimated cost |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Bahraich | 51.00 | Allahabad | 116.00 |
| 2. | Banda | 30.47 | Azamgarh | 200.00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|--------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| 3. | Deoria | 207.00 | Banda | 3.50 |
| 4. | Farrukhabad | 148.00 | Barabanki | 48.00 |
| 5. | Fatehpur | 90.00 | Basti | 30.00 |
| 6. | Ghazipur | 70.00 | Deoria | 60.00 |
| 7. | Gorakhpur | 82.08 | Faizabad | 50.00 |
| 8. | Hamirpur | 145.00 | Fatehpur | 10.00 |
| 9. | Hardoi | 70.00 | Ghazipur | 65.00 |
| 10. | Jaunpur | 170.00 | Gonda | 90.00 |
| 11. | Jhansi | 165.00 | Gorakhpur | 19.00 |
| 12. | Kanpur | 191.00 | Hardoi | 105.00 |
| 13. | Lucknow | 235.00 | Jaunpur | 184.00 |
| 14. | Mau | 210.00 | Jhansi | 165.00 |
| 15. | Mirzapur | 238.45 | Kanpur | 195.00 |
| 16. | Orai | 40.00 | Mau | 240.00 |
| 17. | Pratapgarh | 100.00 | Mirzapur | 170.80 |
| 18. | Raebareli | 119.00 | Orai | 100.00 |
| 19. | Sitapur | 252.90 | Pratapgarh | 45.00 |
| 20. | Sultanpur | 16.00 | Raebareli | 94.54 |
| 21. | Unnao | 132.72 | Shahjahanpur | 61.00 |
| 22. | Varanasi | 10.00 | Sitapur | 252.00 |
| 23. | | | Sultanpur | 98.00 |
| 24. | | | Unnao | 30.00 |
| 25. | | | Varanasi | 0.48 |
| Total | | 2773.62 | | 2432.82 |

Statement III*Estimated cost of cable works in UP (West) Circle*

| Sl.No. | Name of SSA | Estimated cost of Cable laying for the year (figure in thousands of Rs.) | |
|--------|-------------|---|---------|
| | | 2004-05 | 2005-06 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Agra | 1970 | 0 |
| 2. | Aligarh | 0 | 9256 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-------|---------------|--------|-------|
| 3. | Badaun | 4000 | 2500 |
| 4. | Bareilly | 0 | 1090 |
| 5. | Bijnore | 0 | 2075 |
| 6. | Bulandsahar | 29500 | 0 |
| 7. | Etah | 0 | 6500 |
| 8. | Ghaziabad | 38000 | 0 |
| 9. | Mathura | 19200 | 2100 |
| 10. | Meerut | 7500 | 10800 |
| 11. | Moradabad | 0 | 11525 |
| 12. | Muzaffarnagar | 0 | 15610 |
| 13. | Noida | 21000 | 11100 |
| 14. | Pilibhit | 20000 | 0 |
| 15. | Rampur | 3900 | 0 |
| 16. | Saharanpur | 9550 | 9328 |
| Total | | 154620 | 81884 |

[English]

Extending Term of Administrative Commission

3032. SHRI B. MAHTAB: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tenure of Administrative Reforms Commission has been extended by a year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of works taken up by the commission till date;

(d) whether the Commission has submitted any report; and

(e) if so, the details of the recommendations made therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Taking into consideration of the fact that the Terms of Reference given to the Commission are quite extensive and that sometime was lost in making the Commission fully functional, Government has extended the term of the Commission by one year *i.e.* till 31.8.2007.

(c) to (e) The Commission is working on the Terms of Reference given to it. The Commission has so far submitted two Reports to the Government namely, 'Right to Information—master key to Good Governance' and 'Unlocking Human Capital—entitlements and Governance—a case study'. The recommendations in the first Report deal with effective implementation of the Right to Information Act, 2005 while the second Report deals with the implementation of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005. Both the Report have been put on the website of Commission at <http://arc.gov.in>

Uranium Reserves

3033. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:
SHRI M.K. SUBBA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether large uranium reserves exist in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a huge uranium reserve has been found in Meghalaya;

(d) if so, the nature and the extent of this reserve;

(e) whether these uranium reserves are not being properly tapped; and

(f) if so, the action plan proposed to be prepared for proper exploitation of these reserves?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) Moderate resources of Uranium exist in various parts of the country. These resources are grouped in two categories based on the geological and economic considerations *viz.* Reasonably Assured Resources (RAR) and Estimated Additional Resources (EAR-I). The RAR category is estimated at 77,185 tonnes of U_3O_8 and EAR-I category is estimated at 23,525 tonnes of U_3O_8 (total resources of 1,00,710 tonnes of U_3O_8).

(c) and (d) Uranium deposits to the extent of 16,400 tonnes have been estimated in West Khasi Hills District of Meghalaya.

(e) and (f) Plans have been prepared for tapping these resources. The Uranium Corporation of India Limited (UCIL), a Public Sector Undertaking of this Department is planning to commence commercial exploitation of these deposits, after obtaining various statutory clearances. Pre-project activities are in progress.

Central Investment in Tamil Nadu

3034. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central investment in Tamil Nadu has been drastically reduced over the year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of Central investment made in the State during the last three years and the sectors in which investments were made; and

(d) the steps taken to further boost the Central investment in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Central assistance agreed to by Planning Commission for Annual Plans of Tamil Nadu during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 were Rs. 2109.56 crores, Rs. 2474.89 crores and Rs. 2662.43 crores respectively.

Launch of PSLV

3035. SHRIMATI ARCHANA NAYAK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the launch of Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) is likely to take place as planned;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the PSLV proposes to launch three satellites including that of Indonesia in orbit; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The next launch of Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C7) is planned during the last quarter of 2006. Towards this, the launch vehicle integration activities have already commenced in Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Shriharikota. Parallely, the satellites planned for launch on-board PSLV-C7 are undergoing various tests at the ISRO Satellite Centre, Bangalore.

(c) The next launch of PSLV-C7 would carry four satellites including one from Indonesia.

(d) Out of these, two form a part of our national space programme-(i) CARTOSAT-2 for cartography applications and (ii) Space capsule Recovery Experiment

(SRE) for microgravity experiments. In addition, PSLV-C7 would also carry two more satellites—a microsatellite LAPAN-TUBSAT of Indonesia for environmental monitoring applications and a micro satellite Nano-Pehuensat 1 of University of Argentina for amateur radio experiments.

[Translation]

Atomic Power Generation

3036. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (MOHANLAL GANJ): Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is taking steps to enhance nuclear energy capacity;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the stand of the Government regarding nuclear energy and the manner in which it is being viewed at international level; and

(d) the details of the assistance likely to be received in the future to enhance nuclear energy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The present nuclear power capacity of 3900 MWe will be progressively increased to 7280 MWe by the year 2011 by completion of projects under construction at Kaiga, Karnataka (440 MWe), Rawatbhata, Rajasthan (440 MWe), Kudankulam, Tamil Nadu (2000 MWe) and a Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor Project by Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Ltd. at Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu (500 MWe). More units are also planned to be taken up in the XI Plan and beyond so as to reach an installed capacity of about 20,000 MWe by the year 2020.

(c) The country's domestic three-stage nuclear power programme for utilisation of indigenous resources of thorium for electricity generation in the long-term is on course. The current initiatives for international co-operation in nuclear energy are aimed at accessing the international market for technologies and fuel, for setting up additionalities to the domestic programme, to enable larger capacity addition, to meet the electricity demand in the near-term.

(d) Import of large capacity nuclear power reactors and fuel are expected to be enabled as a result of the initiatives.

[English]

Lack of Nutritional Elements in Food

3037. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than 70 per cent of poor children, women and girls have been found anaemic due to lack of nutritional elements in food in rural areas;

(b) if so, whether any survey has been conducted by the Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) According to National Family Health Survey (NFHS-II, 1998-99), 53.9% rural women and 56.0% adolescent (15-19 years) girls were found to have anemia. Among the children age group 6 to 35 months the prevalence of anemia was 74.3%.

(d) Government of India has launched the National Rural Health Mission in order to improve the availability and access to health care in rural areas. The interventions include RCH II programme wherein iron and folic acid tablets are provided to all pregnant and lactating women and children up to 3 years.

Several measures have been taken by the Government to improve the nutritional status of the people including anemia. The important measures are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Measures to improve the Nutritional status including anemia of the people

- Improving agricultural and horticulture produce
- Improving the purchasing power of the people through various income generating schemes
- Availability of essential food items at subsidized cost through Public Distribution System

- Nutrition Education to increase the awareness and bring about desired changes in the dietary practices including the promotion of breast feeding and dietary diversification
 - A National Nutrition policy has been adopted in 1993 and a National Plan of Action for Nutrition (1995) is being implemented through various Departments of Government. The National Nutrition Mission has been set up.
 - Supplementary Feeding programmes.
- (i) Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (ICDS)
 - (ii) National Programme of Nutritional support to Primary Education (Mid-day Meal programme)
- Programmes for prevention of Specific Micronutrient Deficiency disorders
- (i) Anemia Control programme—Under the Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme implemented throughout the country, pregnant and lactating women and children (1-5 years) are provided with iron and folic acid tablets for prophylaxis and treatment of anemia.
 - (ii) Prophylaxis Programme to prevent Nutritional Blindness due to Vitamin A deficiency. This is also under the RCH programme.
 - (iii) National Iodine Deficiency Disease Control Programme (NIDDCP).
 - (iv) Pilot programme for control of micronutrient Deficiencies.

Land Port Authority of India

3038. SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPAPARAI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to set up Land Port Authority of India for increasing trade with neighbouring countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Ministry of Home Affairs is considering a proposal to set up a Land Port Authority of India for overseeing the construction, management and maintenance of Integrated Check Posts (ICPs) at entry points at the land borders of the country. These Integrated Check Posts would house all regulatory agencies like immigration, Customs, border security, etc. together with support facilities like parking, warehousing, banking, hotels, etc. in a single complex equipped with all modern amenities.

Increase in Toll Rates

3039. SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Toll rates have been doubled at Tasawade Toll collection centre on National Highway No. 4 in Satara District of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of the previous toll rate schedule and the revised toll rate schedule;

(d) whether the increase in the toll rates has been approved by the Union Government;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Union Government proposes to form a uniform Toll policy for National Highways which have been developed under the Golden Quadrilateral project; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Prior to 1.07.2006 the toll was being collected for 70 Km. length between Km. 639/00 to 725/00, but after completion of four laning of Satara-Kagal section, toll is now being collected for length of 132.76 Km. between Km. 592/240 to Km. 725/00.

(c) The details of old and new toll charges are as under:

| Sl.No. | Vehicle type | previous toll rates (in Rs.) | New toll rates (In Rs.) |
|--------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. | Motor Car, Passenger Van or Jeep | 42 | 82 |
| 2. | Light good vehicle | 72 | 143 |
| 3. | Truck/Bus | 144 | 287 |

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The increase in toll has been approved by Central Government vide Gazette Notification No. S.O. No. 647 (E) dated 05.05.2005.

(f) and (g) Yes, Sir. A Committee of Secretaries has been constituted to review and finalise the toll policy.

[Translation]

Post Offices in Rural Areas

3040. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:
SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post offices functioning at present in rural areas of Jammu and Kashmir and Karnataka, district-wise;

(b) the number of such villages where facility of post office is not available, district-wise;

(c) whether the Government has formulated any scheme for providing the said facility in those villages; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (d) The district-wise details of the number of post offices functioning in rural areas of Jammu and Kashmir and Karnataka, and the number of villages where facility of post office is not available are given in the enclosed Statement. However, all villages are provided postal facilities through post offices that are available at nearby locations where these are justified as per norms. In addition, the Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Scheme was formulated for providing facilities in those areas which cannot be provided a post office as per norms. At present 26 Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras (PSSKs) are functioning in Karnataka.

Statement

District-wise details of the number of post offices functioning at present in rural areas and number of villages where facility of post office is not available in Jammu and Kashmir and Karnataka

| Name of State | Name of District | Number of post offices functioning in rural areas | Number of villages without Post Offices |
|-------------------|------------------|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Jammu and Kashmir | Anantnag | 145 | 230 |
| | Baramulla | 174 | 464 |
| | Budgam | 64 | 406 |
| | Doda | 123 | 531 |
| | Jammu | 167 | 876 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----------|-----------------|------|------|
| | Kargil | 50 | 77 |
| | Kathua | 133 | 423 |
| | Kupwara | 76 | 286 |
| | Leh | 52 | 60 |
| | Pulwama | 97 | 441 |
| | Poonch | 62 | 110 |
| | Rajouri | 119 | 258 |
| | Srinagar | 37 | 131 |
| | Udhampur | 165 | 428 |
| | Total | 1464 | 4721 |
| Karnataka | Bangalore Urban | 79 | 301 |
| | Bangalore Rural | 334 | 1946 |
| | Bagaimkot | 294 | 299 |
| | Belgaum | 635 | 665 |
| | Bellary | 344 | 175 |
| | Bidar | 285 | 321 |
| | Bijapur | 392 | 314 |
| | Chamarajanagara | 301 | 258 |
| | Chickmagalur | 280 | 740 |
| | Chitradurga | 272 | 622 |
| | Davangere | 206 | 566 |
| | Dharwada | 154 | 193 |
| | Dakshinakannada | 460 | 58 |
| | Gadag | 145 | 174 |
| | Gulbarga | 581 | 739 |
| | Hassan | 382 | 1982 |
| | Haveri | 239 | 473 |
| | Kodagu | 204 | 84 |
| | Kolar | 369 | 2526 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| | Koppal | 204 | 349 |
| | Mandya | 329 | 1034 |
| | Mysore | 210 | 875 |
| | Raichur | 267 | 543 |
| | Shimoga | 424 | 1119 |
| | Tumkur | 531 | 2005 |
| | Udupi | 238 | 30 |
| | Uttarkannada | 439 | 914 |
| | Total | 8598 | 19305 |

*[English]***Medical College at Srinagar**

3041. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for opening of Medical College at Srinagar in Uttaranchal is pending for a very long time;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has instructed the MCI to finalize the proposal for according approval; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) A proposal was received in August, 2005 from the Government of Uttaranchal seeking permission of Central Government to open a new medical college at Srinagar, Pauri Garhwal. The proposal was sent to Medical Council of India (MCI) for evaluation. The MCI conducted inspection of the college and pointed out various infrastructural and other deficiencies. The deficiencies were brought to the notice of the State Government of Uttaranchal. Clearance of the proposal depends on fulfilling the requirements prescribed in the MCI Regulations, availability of facilities as per prescribed norms and the recommendations of MCI to the Central Government on the proposal.

*[Translation]***Coal Blocks to Private Sector**

3042. SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:
SHRI SHISHUPAL PATLE:
SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:
SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to increase the number of coal blocks to the private sector in order to meet the coal shortage;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether all the coal mines being operated by the public sector are producing coal in low quantity;

(d) if so, whether any assessment has been made about assigning the coal blocks of such mines to the private sector;

(e) if so, whether the private sector plans to surpass the target and demand of coal by the year 2011-12; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (b) 81

coal blocks having total geological reserves of about 20.02 billion tonnes have been identified for allocation to Government companies/private sector for permissible end-uses.

(c) No, Sir. Production of coal by Coal India Limited (CIL) for the last three years has been more than the targets fixed.

(d) Blocks earmarked for CIL were reviewed recently. 48 coal blocks, which were not included in the production plan of CIL for the XI Plan, were taken out from the CIL list.

(e) and (f) About 56 coal blocks have been allocated to private sector companies/permissible end users so far. They should be contributing significantly to raise the coal production by 2011-12.

[English]

Tarapur Atomic Plant

3043. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:
SHRI DHANUSKODI R. ATHITHAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tarapur's third atomic unit has become functional;

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

(c) the manner in which the nuclear power generated is distributed amongst the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Tarapur Atomic Power Project-3 (TAPP-3, 540 MWe) was synchronized to the grid on 15.6.2006.

(c) The power is allocated to the beneficiary States of Western Electricity Region. the distribution companies of the State distribute power from all sources, including nuclear, to the ultimate consumers.

[Translation]

Shipping Companies

3044. SHRIMATI RUPATAI D. PATIL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the location-wise number of Indian and Foreign Shipping Companies registered in the country;

(b) the types of ships in the above companies and the capacity thereof and the company-wise details of passenger and freight ships;

(c) whether shipping companies of the Government are continuously running in loss;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Sea going ships filled with mechanical means of propulsion and having size exceeding 15 tonnes net, owned by an Indian citizen, a company or a cooperative society are registered in India under the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958. foreign shipping companies ships are not registered in India.

As on 30.6.2006, there are 756 ships of 8.57 million Gross Tonnage (GT) registered by 190 organizations which include Indian companies, Central Government entities and State Government entities. Out of these, 43 are passenger ships. A statement showing entity wise details alongwith their location and ships owned by them is enclosed.

(c) to (e) The Shipping Corporation of India (under the Government of India) is not making any loss.

Statement*Indian Tonnage (Company wise) As on 30.06.2006*

| Sl.No. | Name of the Shipping company | Coastal | | | Overseas | | | Total | | |
|--------|--|---------|-------|-------|----------|-------|--------|-------|-------|--------|
| | | Ships | GT | DWT | Ships | GT | DWT | Ships | GT | DWT |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 1. | ABG Shipping Ltd., Mumbai | 2 | 3748 | 5259 | 3 | 76944 | 130836 | 5 | 80692 | 136095 |
| 2. | Administration of Lakshadweep, Lakshadweep | 11 | 13196 | 5491 | — | — | — | 11 | 13196 | 5491 |
| 3. | Adani Port Ltd., Gujarat | 1 | 355 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 355 | 0 |
| 4. | Akther Husain Merchant, Mumbai | — | — | — | 1 | 472 | 700 | 1 | 472 | 700 |
| 5. | Andaman Lakshadweep Administration, Andaman | 1 | 179 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 179 | 0 |
| 6. | ASM Shipping Ltd., Mumbai | — | — | — | 1 | 18101 | 30990 | 1 | 18101 | 30990 |
| 7. | Amic Technocons Ltd., Mumbai | 1 | 199 | 350 | — | — | — | 1 | 199 | 350 |
| 8. | Amit Ship Management, Mumbai | 2 | 707 | 0 | — | — | — | 2 | 707 | 0 |
| 9. | Amma Lines Limited, Mumbai | 1 | 11025 | 16500 | — | — | — | 1 | 11025 | 16500 |
| 10. | Andaman & Nicobar Island Admn., Andaman | 6 | 48309 | 17218 | 2 | 10808 | 9183 | 8 | 59117 | 26381 |
| 11. | Anjan Shipping Pvt., Mumbai | 1 | 382 | 112 | — | — | — | 1 | 382 | 112 |
| 12. | Arc Marine Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai | 2 | 320 | 173 | — | — | — | 2 | 320 | 173 |
| 13. | Arcadia Shipping, Mumbai | — | — | — | 1 | 23658 | 39338 | 1 | 23658 | 39338 |
| 14. | Ardeshir B. Cursetjee, Mumbai | 1 | 98 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 98 | 0 |
| 15. | Apeejay Charter Pvt. Ltd., Kolkata | 1 | 39 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 39 | 0 |
| 16. | Associated Maritime Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai | 1 | 1090 | 2052 | — | — | — | 1 | 1090 | 2052 |
| 17. | Atlantic Shipping Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai | 1 | 2814 | 3617 | — | — | — | 1 | 2814 | 3617 |
| 18. | Asian Shipping Services, Mumbai | — | — | — | 1 | 10848 | 8945 | 1 | 10848 | 8945 |
| 19. | Archean Granites Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai | — | — | — | 1 | 41671 | 84700 | 1 | 41671 | 84700 |
| 20. | Ballast Ham Dredging India Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai | 1 | 467 | 0 | 1 | 6814 | 0 | 2 | 7281 | 0 |
| 21. | Bhoir Sand & Allied Industries, Mumbai | 1 | 214 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 214 | 0 |
| 22. | Bizcare Services, Ahmedabad | 1 | 202 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 202 | 0 |
| 23. | Blue Ocean Sea Transport Ltd., Mumbai | 1 | 396 | 596 | — | — | — | 1 | 396 | 596 |
| 24. | Bombay Marine & Engineering, Mumbai | 1 | 499 | 700 | — | — | — | 1 | 499 | 700 |
| 25. | Bulkcarrier Shipping Ltd., Mumbai | — | — | — | 1 | 1594 | 2048 | 1 | 1594 | 2048 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
|-----|---|----|-------|-------|----|--------|--------|----|--------|--------|
| 26. | Canara Motor Launch Services, Mumbai | 1 | 70 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 70 | 0 |
| 27. | Castle Ships Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai | 1 | 1332 | 2127 | — | — | — | 1 | 1332 | 2127 |
| 28. | Chambal Fertilisers & Chemicals, Rajasthan | — | — | — | 1 | 37703 | 60725 | 1 | 37703 | 60725 |
| 29. | Chennai Port Trust, Chennai | 11 | 6989 | 0 | — | — | — | 11 | 6989 | 0 |
| 30. | Chettinad Cement Limited Chennai | — | — | — | 1 | 20014 | 43589 | 1 | 20014 | 43589 |
| 31. | Chowgule Steamship, Mumbai | 4 | 26961 | 42360 | 1 | 36269 | 71252 | 5 | 65230 | 113632 |
| 32. | Cochin Port Trust, Chennai | 5 | 3954 | 2308 | — | — | — | 5 | 3954 | 2308 |
| 33. | Council of Scientific Research, New Delhi | 1 | 2661 | 800 | — | — | — | 1 | 2661 | 800 |
| 34. | Crown Maritime Co. (I) Ltd., Mumbai | 1 | 264 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 264 | 0 |
| 35. | D.G. Lighthouse & Lightships, Mumbai | 3 | 5823 | 3063 | — | — | — | 3 | 5823 | 3063 |
| 36. | Damania Shipping Ltd., Mumbai | 1 | 481 | 45 | — | — | — | 1 | 481 | 45 |
| 37. | Damodar Marine Services, Mumbai | 1 | 487 | 737 | — | — | — | 1 | 487 | 737 |
| 38. | Department of Ocean Development, New Delhi | 3 | 4582 | 1605 | — | — | — | 3 | 4582 | 1605 |
| 39. | Dept. of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, New Delhi | 1 | 785 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 785 | 0 |
| 40. | Director of Shipping Services, A&N. | 2 | 870 | 0 | 1 | 449 | 500 | 3 | 1319 | 500 |
| 41. | Dolphin Offshore, Mumbai | 2 | 1371 | 763 | 1 | 1128 | 0 | 3 | 2499 | 763 |
| 42. | Dredging Corpn. of India Ltd., Vizag | 15 | 67848 | 12697 | — | — | — | 15 | 67848 | 12697 |
| 43. | Dredging International India P. Ltd., New Delhi | 1 | 92 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 92 | 0 |
| 44. | Elcome Survey, Mumbai | 2 | 667 | 759 | — | — | — | 2 | 667 | 759 |
| 45. | Elkon Hinengo Ltd., Carnicobar | 3 | 1201 | 2814 | 1 | 1557 | 2301 | 4 | 2758 | 5115 |
| 46. | Epsom Shipping (I) Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai | 1 | 456 | 268 | — | — | — | 1 | 456 | 268 |
| 47. | Essar Shipping Ltd., Mumbai | 22 | 23235 | 32895 | 10 | 520911 | 962304 | 32 | 544146 | 995199 |
| 48. | Everaun Sparkle, Hyderabad | 1 | 262 | 78 | — | — | — | 1 | 262 | 78 |
| 49. | Five Star Bulk Carriers Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai | — | — | — | 2 | 38327 | 63143 | 2 | 38327 | 63143 |
| 50. | Fugro Geonics P Ltd., Navi Mumbai | 1 | 456 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 456 | 0 |
| 51. | Gujarat Ambuja Cement, Mumbai | 3 | 5599 | 7500 | 2 | 6045 | 5287 | 5 | 11644 | 12787 |
| 52. | Gal Offshore, Mumbai | 1 | 640 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 640 | 0 |
| 53. | Good Earth Maritime Ltd., Chennai | 1 | 428 | 193 | 4 | 95833 | 162447 | 5 | 96261 | 162640 |
| 54. | Garuda Carriers & Shipping, Mumbai | 4 | 6429 | 10416 | — | — | — | 4 | 6429 | 10416 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
|-----|--|----|-------|-------|----|---------|---------|----|---------|---------|
| 55. | Garware Shipping, Mumbai | 4 | 3488 | 4240 | 1 | 1972 | 3096 | 5 | 5440 | 7336 |
| 56. | Gati Limited, Chennai | 1 | 3553 | 4811 | — | — | — | 1 | 3553 | 4811 |
| 57. | Gati Coast to Coast, Chennai | — | — | — | 2 | 10086 | 12763 | 2 | 10086 | 12763 |
| 58. | Gautam Freight Ltd., Gandhidham (Kutch) | 1 | 298 | 405 | — | — | — | 1 | 298 | 405 |
| 59. | Galleon Shipping Ltd., Mumbai | — | — | — | 2 | 3184 | 4352 | 2 | 3184 | 4352 |
| 60. | Geological Survey of India, New Delhi | 3 | 2942 | 2005 | — | — | — | 3 | 2942 | 2005 |
| 61. | Great Eastern Shipping Co Ltd., Mumbai | 24 | 19583 | 21277 | 47 | 1778393 | 3147500 | 71 | 1797956 | 3168777 |
| 62. | Gujarat Maritime Board, Gujarat | 15 | 1828 | 0 | — | — | — | 15 | 1828 | 0 |
| 63. | Gujarat Adani Port, Gujarat | 4 | 1143 | 35 | — | — | — | 4 | 1143 | 35 |
| 64. | Goa Shipyard Ltd., Goa | 1 | 121 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 121 | 0 |
| 65. | Hal Offshore Ltd., Mumbai | 1 | 1085 | 832 | — | — | — | 1 | 1085 | 832 |
| 66. | Hauers Lines Ltd., Chennai | 1 | 298 | 957 | — | — | — | 1 | 298 | 957 |
| 67. | Hede Ferrominas (P) Ltd., Mumbai | 2 | 1121 | 1622 | — | — | — | 2 | 1121 | 1622 |
| 68. | Hind Offshore, Mumbai | 4 | 1533 | 236 | 1 | 992 | 1142 | 5 | 2525 | 1376 |
| 69. | Hotel Leela Venture Ltd., Mumbai | 1 | 722 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 722 | 0 |
| 70. | I Marine Infratech (I) Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai | 1 | 108 | 98 | — | — | — | 1 | 108 | 98 |
| 71. | India Steamship Company Ltd., Kolkata | — | — | — | 2 | 110158 | 186127 | 2 | 110158 | 186127 |
| 72. | Indus Marine Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai | 2 | 248 | 0 | — | — | — | 2 | 248 | 0 |
| 73. | International Seaport Dredging P. Ltd., Mumbai | — | — | — | 1 | 7751 | 0 | 1 | 7751 | 0 |
| 74. | ITT Shipping Pvt. Ltd., Kolkata | 2 | 2552 | 3374 | — | — | — | 2 | 2552 | 3374 |
| 75. | JMD Shipping Services, Mumbai | 1 | 41 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 41 | 0 |
| 76. | Jaisu Shipping Kandla, Gujarat | 9 | 15304 | 8758 | — | — | — | 9 | 15304 | 8758 |
| 77. | Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust, Mumbai | 7 | 1114 | 0 | — | — | — | 7 | 1114 | 0 |
| 78. | Jeyesh Shipping P. Ltd., Mumbai | 3 | 1043 | 1103 | — | — | — | 3 | 1043 | 1103 |
| 79. | Jesia Mistry Agencies, Mumbai | 1 | 91 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 91 | 0 |
| 80. | Kandla Port Trust, Kandla | 5 | 1076 | 419 | — | — | — | 5 | 1076 | 419 |
| 81. | KEI-RSOS Maritime P. Ltd., Kakinada | 5 | 1017 | 32 | — | — | — | 5 | 1017 | 32 |
| 82. | Khaitar Marine Service, Mumbai | 1 | 109 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 109 | 0 |
| 83. | Kin-Ship Services (India) Pvt. Ltd., Cochin | — | — | — | 1 | 1593 | 2183 | 1 | 1593 | 2183 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
|------|---|----|-------|-------|----|--------|---------|----|--------|---------|
| 84. | Kolkata Port Trust, Kolkata | 12 | 16291 | 11954 | — | — | — | 12 | 16291 | 11954 |
| 85. | Kondo Syokai Leisure I Ltd., Cochin | 1 | 21 | 6 | — | — | — | 1 | 21 | 6 |
| 86. | Krishna Meritech, Mumbai | — | — | — | 1 | 3133 | 4354 | 1 | 3133 | 4354 |
| 87. | K.C. Maritime (I) Ltd., Cochin | — | — | — | 1 | 11843 | 5257 | 1 | 11843 | 5257 |
| 88. | Marine Traders Pvt. Ltd., Bhavnagar | 1 | 195 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 195 | 0 |
| 89. | Meecon Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai | 1 | 1441 | 2195 | — | — | — | 1 | 1441 | 2195 |
| 90. | Mercator Lines Limited, Mumbai | — | — | — | 15 | 772084 | 1384896 | 15 | 772084 | 1384896 |
| 91. | Mormugao Port Trust, Goa | 4 | 838 | 0 | — | — | — | 4 | 838 | 0 |
| 92. | Modest Offshore Services, Mumbai | 1 | 66 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 66 | 0 |
| 93. | Maju Marine Services, Mumbai | 3 | 766 | 500 | — | — | — | 3 | 766 | 500 |
| 94. | MAK Lines, Mumbai | 1 | 400 | 1229 | — | — | — | 1 | 400 | 1229 |
| 95. | MAK Logistics Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai | — | — | — | 1 | 1175 | 2099 | 1 | 1175 | 2099 |
| 96. | Mumbai Port Trust, Mumbai | 9 | 3388 | 0 | — | — | — | 9 | 3388 | 0 |
| 97. | M.M. Exports, Chennai | 1 | 193 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 193 | 0 |
| 98. | N.S. Guzder & Co., Mumbai | 1 | 498 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 498 | 0 |
| 99. | Natwar Parakh Industries, Mumbai | 7 | 2529 | 1386 | 1 | 229 | 0 | 8 | 2758 | 1386 |
| 100. | National Institute of Ocean Technology, New Delhi | 1 | 1085 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 1085 | 0 |
| 101. | New Era Shipping Ltd., Goa | 1 | 1593 | 2137 | — | — | — | 1 | 1593 | 2137 |
| 102. | New Mangalore Port Trust, Mangalore | 5 | 1878 | 746 | — | — | — | 5 | 1878 | 746 |
| 103. | Ocean Diving Centre, Mumbai | 1 | 225 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 225 | 0 |
| 104. | Ocean Sparkle Ltd., Hyderabad | 10 | 2503 | 496 | — | — | — | 10 | 2503 | 496 |
| 105. | Oil & Natural Gas Commission, Mumbai | 42 | 84491 | 71808 | — | — | — | 42 | 84491 | 71808 |
| 106. | Orient Express Ship Management Ltd., Mumbai | — | — | — | 1 | 6942 | 9944 | 1 | 6942 | 9944 |
| 107. | Pailorji Shipping Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai | — | — | — | 1 | 35050 | 60974 | 1 | 35050 | 60974 |
| 108. | Parakh Marine Agencies, Mumbai | 5 | 730 | 0 | — | — | — | 5 | 730 | 0 |
| 109. | Pearl Ships Ltd., Chennai | — | — | — | 1 | 23797 | 39316 | 1 | 23797 | 39316 |
| 110. | Petcon Enterprises, Mumbai | 1 | 249 | 184 | — | — | — | 1 | 249 | 184 |
| 111. | Polaris Marine Manag. Co. Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai | — | — | — | 1 | 11996 | 24558 | 1 | 11996 | 24558 |
| 112. | Polestar Maritime Ltd., Mumbai | — | — | — | 1 | 14836 | 25324 | 1 | 14836 | 25324 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
|------|---|----|-------|--------|---|--------|--------|----|--------|--------|
| 113. | Poompuhar Shipping Corpn., Chennai | 3 | 83984 | 119961 | — | — | — | 3 | 83984 | 119961 |
| 114. | Prantik Shipping & Services, Mumbai | 1 | 1874 | 2849 | — | — | — | 1 | 1874 | 2849 |
| 115. | Prabhat Marine Services Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai | 1 | 79 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 79 | 0 |
| 116. | Pratibha Shipping Limited, Mumbai | — | — | — | 4 | 95185 | 159171 | 4 | 95185 | 159171 |
| 117. | Prince Marine Transport Services, Mumbai | 3 | 710 | 0 | — | — | — | 3 | 710 | 0 |
| 118. | Procyon Offshore Services Pvt. Ltd, Mumbai | 7 | 1289 | 930 | — | — | — | 7 | 1289 | 930 |
| 119. | Prospects Shipping Pvt. Limited, Mumbai | — | — | — | 4 | 14441 | 17550 | 4 | 14441 | 17550 |
| 120. | Pdilate Ind. Ltd., Mumbai | — | — | — | 1 | 45 | 14 | 1 | 45 | 14 |
| 121. | Radiant Shipping, Mumbai | — | — | — | 5 | 106126 | 175798 | 5 | 106126 | 175798 |
| 122. | Raj Shipping Agencies Ltd., Mumbai | 5 | 2902 | 1870 | — | — | — | 5 | 2902 | 1870 |
| 123. | Ramesh Baba Suvama, Mumbai | 1 | 314 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 314 | 0 |
| 124. | Reacon Engineering (India) P. Ltd., Kolkata | 3 | 845 | 2290 | — | — | — | 3 | 845 | 2290 |
| 125. | Reliance Capital Limited, Mumbai | 2 | 930 | 504 | — | — | — | 2 | 930 | 504 |
| 126. | Reliance Industries Ltd., Mumbai | 19 | 27819 | 32086 | 1 | 290 | 0 | 20 | 28109 | 32086 |
| 127. | Rajmahendri Oil Field, Mumbai | 3 | 372 | 125 | — | — | — | 3 | 372 | 125 |
| 128. | Rashamsingh & Co. Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai | 1 | 144 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 144 | 0 |
| 129. | RSOS-R.K. KATADI, Kakinada | 2 | 172 | 31 | — | — | — | 2 | 172 | 31 |
| 130. | S.K.S. Ltd., Mumbai | 2 | 24 | 0 | — | — | — | 2 | 24 | 0 |
| 131. | Sadhana Tech. Works, Mumbai | 1 | 108 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 108 | 0 |
| 132. | Sahara Shipping Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai | 1 | 78 | 24 | — | — | — | 1 | 78 | 24 |
| 133. | Salgaocar Mining, Mumbai | — | — | — | 1 | 34920 | 58635 | 1 | 34920 | 58635 |
| 134. | Salgaocar Engineers Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai | 1 | 12219 | 17529 | — | — | — | 1 | 12219 | 17529 |
| 135. | Samrat Asia Maritime, Mumbai | 1 | 1874 | 2350 | — | — | — | 1 | 1874 | 2350 |
| 136. | Samson Maritime Limited, Mumbai | 13 | 6216 | 5005 | 1 | 1674 | 1477 | 14 | 7890 | 6482 |
| 137. | Sanmar Shipping Mumbai | — | — | — | 3 | 59867 | 106610 | 3 | 59867 | 106610 |
| 138. | Sapthagiri Shipping Co. Ltd., Andaman | 1 | 300 | 710 | — | — | — | 1 | 300 | 710 |
| 139. | Saurashtra Fuels Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai | 2 | 3672 | 5580 | — | — | — | 2 | 3672 | 5580 |
| 140. | Sea Sparkle Harbour Services Ltd., Hyderabad | 3 | 806 | 371 | — | — | — | 3 | 806 | 371 |
| 141. | Seakon Sparkle Maritime Services Ltd., Mumbai | 5 | 1330 | 394 | — | — | — | 5 | 1330 | 394 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
|------|---|----|-------|--------|----|---------|---------|----|---------|---------|
| 142. | Seabridge Maritime Agencies Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai | 2 | 246 | 0 | — | — | — | 2 | 246 | 0 |
| 143. | Sealandia Shipping & Export P. Ltd., Mumbai | 1 | 2233 | 3881 | — | — | — | 1 | 2233 | 3881 |
| 144. | Seaspan Shipping, Mumbai | 1 | 643 | 139 | — | — | — | 1 | 643 | 139 |
| 145. | Seatrans Shipping, Mumbai | 1 | 42 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 42 | 0 |
| 146. | Sesa Goa Ltd., Goa | 1 | 46178 | 80000 | — | — | — | 1 | 46178 | 80000 |
| 147. | Seafion Sparke Port & Terminal Services, Mumbai | 4 | 1168 | 762 | — | — | — | 4 | 1168 | 762 |
| 148. | Sesa Shipping (P) Ltd., Mumbai | 1 | 121 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 121 | 0 |
| 149. | Seven Islands Shipping, Mumbai | — | — | — | 3 | 12812 | 19522 | 3 | 12812 | 19522 |
| 150. | Shahi Shipping, Mumbai | 1 | 121 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 121 | 0 |
| 151. | Shanti Shipping Co. (P) Ltd., Mumbai | 1 | 760 | 830 | — | — | — | 1 | 760 | 830 |
| 152. | Shipping Corpn. of India Ltd., Mumbai | 14 | 75241 | 105692 | 69 | 2744374 | 4760625 | 83 | 2819615 | 4866217 |
| 153. | Shiva Marketing, Mumbai | 1 | 157 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 157 | 0 |
| 154. | Shiv Vani Oil & Gas Exploration, N. Delhi | 1 | 174 | 26 | — | — | — | 1 | 174 | 26 |
| 155. | Shreyas Shipping, Mumbai | — | — | — | 5 | 51342 | 64840 | 5 | 51342 | 64840 |
| 156. | Sical Coelcerici Logistics Ltd., Mumbai | 1 | 7594 | 10500 | — | — | — | 1 | 7594 | 10500 |
| 157. | SICAL Shipping Ltd., Mumbai | — | — | — | 1 | 11712 | 17465 | 1 | 11712 | 17465 |
| 158. | South East Asia Marine Engg. & Con. Mumbai | 3 | 11211 | 6135 | — | — | — | 3 | 11211 | 6135 |
| 159. | South India Corpn. (Agencies) Ltd., Chennai | 1 | 490 | 826 | — | — | — | 1 | 490 | 826 |
| 160. | South India Corpn. Ltd., Chennai | — | — | — | 2 | 45878 | 76914 | 2 | 45878 | 76914 |
| 161. | S. Surya Roa, Mumbai | 1 | 159 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 159 | 0 |
| 162. | Surendra Overseas Ltd., Kolkata | 1 | 35430 | 64110 | 4 | 114934 | 207559 | 5 | 150364 | 271669 |
| 163. | SVUL Project Limited, New Delhi | 3 | 339 | 0 | — | — | — | 3 | 339 | 0 |
| 164. | S.S. Trading & Co., Mumbai | 1 | 196 | 0 | — | — | — | 1 | 196 | 0 |
| 165. | Svitzer Wijsmuller Hazira Pvt. Ltd., Hazira | 4 | 1804 | 0 | — | — | — | 4 | 1804 | 0 |
| 166. | Tag Sealogistics Ltd., Mumbai | 4 | 4367 | 5179 | — | — | — | 4 | 4367 | 5179 |
| 167. | TCI Seaways Ltd., Chennai | 3 | 5954 | 8898 | 1 | 2854 | 3194 | 4 | 8898 | 12092 |
| 168. | Threowin Maritime (India), Mumbai | 2 | 2692 | 3761 | — | — | — | 2 | 2692 | 3761 |
| 169. | Tolani Shipping Ltd., Mumbai | — | — | — | 4 | 108618 | 186389 | 4 | 108618 | 186389 |
| 170. | Tranacoastal Cargo & Shipping Ltd., Chennai | 1 | 6182 | 7738 | — | — | — | 1 | 6182 | 7738 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
|------------------------|--|-----|--------|--------|-----|---------|----------|-----|---------|----------|
| 171. | Transport Corpn. of India, Mumbai | 1 | 300 | 710 | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 300 | 710 |
| 172. | Triton Overwater, Mumbai | 2 | 70 | 0 | -- | -- | -- | 2 | 70 | 0 |
| 173. | Tuticorin Port Trust, Tuticorin | 3 | 1179 | 0 | -- | -- | -- | 3 | 1179 | 0 |
| 174. | Tidewater (India) Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai | 3 | 1397 | 3250 | -- | -- | -- | 3 | 1397 | 3250 |
| 175. | Trans Asian Shipping Services (P) Ltd., Cochin | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 10848 | 8945 | 1 | 10848 | 8945 |
| 176. | Time Trader, Mumbai | 1 | 113 | 0 | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 113 | 0 |
| 177. | Timblo Pvt. Ltd., Goa | 1 | 7594 | 12207 | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 7594 | 12207 |
| 178. | Union of India | 1 | 1552 | 370 | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 1552 | 370 |
| 179. | United Shippers, Mumbai | 2 | 1228 | 1856 | -- | -- | -- | 2 | 1228 | 1856 |
| 180. | V.M. Salgaocar, Goa | 1 | 16368 | 16970 | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 16368 | 16970 |
| 181. | VM Salgaoncar Bros & Vs Dempo & Co., Goa | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 71194 | 123705 | 1 | 71194 | 123705 |
| 182. | V.S. Dempo & Co. (P) Ltd., Goa | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 12210 | 7476 | 1 | 12210 | 7476 |
| 183. | Varun Shipping Co. Ltd., Mumbai | 2 | 1978 | 2172 | 16 | 380085 | 568913 | 18 | 382063 | 571085 |
| 184. | Viking Lighterage & Cargo, Chennai | 1 | 306 | 415 | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 306 | 415 |
| 185. | Vikram Shipping, Mumbai | 6 | 7978 | 11590 | -- | -- | -- | 6 | 7978 | 11590 |
| 186. | Visakhapatnam Port Trust, Vizag | 12 | 5277 | 0 | -- | -- | -- | 12 | 5277 | 0 |
| 187. | VNS Offshore Services Co. Ltd., Mumbai | 1 | 132 | 192 | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 132 | 192 |
| 188. | Waterways Shipyard Pvt. Ltd., Goa | 1 | 1307 | 392 | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 1307 | 392 |
| 189. | West Asia Maritime Ltd., Chennai | -- | -- | -- | 4 | 116876 | 205227 | 4 | 116876 | 205227 |
| 190. | Yogi Seaways P. Ltd., Kolkata | 1 | 690 | 844 | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 690 | 844 |
| Grand Total (30.06.06) | | 510 | 827192 | 860115 | 246 | 7748725 | 13362182 | 756 | 8575917 | 14222297 |

Development Projects in Maharashtra

3045. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the development projects in Maharashtra for which allocated fund has been spent/being spent; and

(b) the details of the projects in respect of which the completion certificate has been obtained?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) and (b) Planning Commission approves the overall plan size and broad sectoral allocation of the State Plans. It does not sanction individual state sector projects. The approved outlay for the Annual Plan 2006-07 of Maharashtra is Rs. 14829.00 crore. The sectoral break-up of the approved outlay for Annual Plan 2006-07 is given below:

| Sl.No. | Major Heads | Annual Plan 2006-07 | |
|--------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | | Approved Outlay (Rs. in Lakh) | % age share in total Outlay |
| 1. | Agriculture & Allied Services | 61785.74 | 4.17 |
| 2. | Rural Development | 103591.13 | 6.99 |
| 3. | Special Area Programmes | 60395.00 | 4.07 |
| 4. | Irrigation & Flood Control | 274295.61 | 18.50 |
| 5. | Power Development | 140599.29 | 9.48 |
| 6. | Industry & Minerals | 18695.81 | 1.26 |
| 7. | Transport | 175711.12 | 11.85 |
| 8. | Communication | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 9. | Science, Technology & Environment | 1700.00 | 0.11 |
| 10. | General Economic Services | 48941.58 | 3.30 |
| 11. | Social & Community Services | 585064.72 | 39.45 |
| 12. | General Services | 12120.00 | 0.82 |
| | Grand Total | 1482900.00 | 100.00 |

*[English]***Introduction of MCC Amendment Bills**

3046. SHRI GANESH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 383 dated March 2, 2005 regarding Introduction of MCC Amendment Bills and state:

(a) whether the Government has finalized the proposal to amend the Indian Medical Central Council Act, 1970 and Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973; and

(b) if so, the time by which the said proposal is likely to be brought before Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The Bills regarding the Amendment of Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970 and Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973 have already been introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 23.3.2005.

*[Translation]***Practitioners of Yoga and Naturopathy**

3047. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO:
SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the practitioners of Yoga and Naturopathy can use the word 'Doctor' before their name;

(b) the name of the Government agency which issues licence for practice to the practitioners of Yoga and Naturopathy;

(c) the details of renewal procedure in this regard; and

(d) the stand of the Government regarding the system of Yoga and Naturopathy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) Yoga & Naturopathy are recognized systems of medicine and registered practitioners of these systems can use the word "Doctor" before their name. It has not been found feasible to regulate the teaching and practice of Yoga and Naturopathy at the Central level. Some States like Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Madhya Pradesh has enacted State Acts for registration of qualified practitioners of these systems.

[English]

Subsidizing Sports Goods

3048. SHRI RANEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has a plan for

subsidizing sports goods for training and practice of certain categories of sports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total amount of subsidy spent by Government during the last three years, category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports is implementing a Scheme for assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs) under which Central Assistance is provided for purchase of Sports Equipments/Sports Sciences Equipment for Training/Competitions to the extent of 75% of the cost, subject to the receipt of viable proposals from recognized NSFs. Central assistance provided to the recognized NSFs for the purpose during the last 3 years has been given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

(in Rs.)

| Sl.No. | Name of the Federations | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 |
|--------|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1. | Table Tennis Federation of India | — | — | 39,89,835/- |
| 2. | Yatching Federation of India | 38,66,552/- | 2,15,476/- | — |
| 3. | Squash Rackets Federation of India | 7,70,412/- | 87,36,280/- | — |
| 4. | Badminton Association of India | 59,76,390/- | 35,20,500/- | 11,73,500/- |
| 5. | Archery Association of India | 37,22,971/- | — | 41,415/- |
| 6. | Wrestling Federation of India | 4,19,194/- | 9,58,625/- | — |
| 7. | Rowing Federation of India | — | 71,28,217/- | — |
| 8. | Billiards & Snooker Federation of India | — | — | 2,75,987/- |
| 9. | India Weightlifting Federation | — | 36,38,671/- | — |

HIV Among Sex Workers

3049. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 55 per cent of the 80,000 sex workers in Mumbai are HIV-Positive, as announced by the Director-General, NACO (National Aids Control Organisation);

(b) if so, the details of the study that has been conducted in this regard;

(c) the name of the funding Agency; and

(d) the name of the Agency that conducted the study?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) As per the annual sentinel surveillance Report for the last five years, the HIV positivity among Sex Workers in Mumbai is as follows:

| 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 52.3 | 54.5 | 54.3 | 44.8 | 30.7 |

These results are obtained from annual sentinel surveillance conducted in the country by NACO. The funds for this activity are made available from the World Bank assisted National AIDS Control Programme.

Funds to NGOs for AIDS Control Programmes

3050. PROF. CHANDER KUMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of AIDS Patients in the country;

(b) the number of NGOs implementing AIDS control programmes in the country at present specially in the State of Himachal Pradesh;

(c) whether these NGOs are provided funds by the foreign agencies;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government to monitor utilization of funds by the NGOs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) As on 31st July 2006, cumulative 111608 AIDS cases have been reported by State AIDS Control Societies in the country since year 1986.

(b) 1040 NGOs are implementing 1088 Targeted Intervention Projects among High Risk Groups and 107 NGOs are running 122 Community Care Centres (CCCs) across the country under National AIDS Control Programme. In Himachal Pradesh, 22 NGOs are implementing HIV/AIDS intervention programmes under the National AIDS Control Programme.

(c) and (d) Under the National AIDS Control Programme, financial support of Rs. 103.99 crore was

provided to the NGOs during the financial year 2005-06. These funds are mobilized from World Bank, DFID and USAID as detailed below:

| Donor Agency | Amount (Rupees in Crore) |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| NACO (World Bank support) | 33.63 |
| DFID | 41.36 |
| USAID | 29.00 |
| Total | 103.99 |

**In addition, as per information available with NACO, the following amounts were released directly to NGOs by donor agencies:

| Donor Agency | Amount (Rs. in crore) |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation | 180.01 |
| *DFID | 10.32 |
| USAID | (approx.) 13.95 |
| CDC Atlanta | (approx.) 12.59 |

*In the original reply the figures pertaining to DFID was 126.18 crore.

The revised reply given above was made subsequently through a Correcting Statement on 25.08.2006, and is placed in Library under LT No. 4907/2006.

An amount of Rs. 111.55 lakh was released to NGOs in Himachal Pradesh during the Financial Year 2005-2006.

(e) The utilization of funds by the NGOs under National AIDS Control Programme is monitored by the AIDS Control Society of the respective State.

Condoms for Women

3051. SHRI TUKARAM GANGADHAR GADAKH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made regarding the introduction of condoms for women as part of targeted intervention strategy of NACO;

(b) whether any time bound programme has been chalked out;

(c) whether the funds have been allocated for this programme;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the decision regarding cost, subsidy, procurement and distribution network etc. has been taken; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) A study was conducted by M/s Hindustan Latex Family Planning Promotion Trust to find out acceptability of the Female Condom as an option to the Male Condoms to increase protection against STD and HIV infection. On the basis of favourable reports, it has been decided that the component of Condom Promotion under NACO shall be strengthened by introducing Female Condoms.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) UNFPA has placed an order for 500100 Female Condoms for NACO during 2005-2006 at a total cost of Rs. 1.75 Crore. A total provision of Rs. 200 Crore has been made in the budget allocations for procurement of Condoms (both male & female) during 2006-2007.

(e) Yes Sir.

(f) In the 7 high prevalence States (A.P., Karnataka, Tamilnadu, Maharashtra, Kerala, Gujarat and West Bengal), Female Condoms are being provided to the female sex workers at a subsidized rate of Rs. 5/-, although the purchase price of the Female condom is (approx) Rs. 45/-per piece.

Female Condom is being distributed through State AIDS Control Society in all the States, who select the Non-Governmental Organizations implementing Targeted Interventions amongst female sex workers.

Proposals for National Highways in Orissa

3052. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the proposals submitted by the Government of Orissa for approval of National Highways in the State;

(b) the number of proposals approved so far;

(c) the number of proposals still pending; and

(d) the funds provided by the Union Government for strengthening of existing National Highways during the last three years and the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) Since February 2004, 13 proposals of about 1585 km length of State roads have been received from the Government of Orissa for declaration as National Highways. At present, emphasis is on development of existing National Highways and declaration of new National Highways in the country including Orissa is not envisaged.

(d) Expenditure for development including strengthening of existing National Highway network in Orissa during the last three years and the current financial year is as under:

| | Amount in Rs. Crore | | | |
|-------------|---------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Year | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 |
| Expenditure | 389.28 | 369.15 | 429.67 | 100.04 |

Renewal of Manufacturing Licences

3053. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Schedule M. Drugs and Cosmetics Act was introduced to improve the quality of export of drugs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to renew the manufacturing licences of those units which are not exporting drugs;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the number of units whose licences has not been renewed till date, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The requirement of Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) under Schedule 'M' of Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 was introduced in 1988 and revised in 2001 in order to assure improvement in Quality Assurance in manufacturing of drugs. The requirements of Schedule 'M' are not restricted to drugs manufactured for export as these are mandatory requirements for manufacturing of drugs by every drug manufacturing unit in the country.

(c) and (d) The renewal of manufacturing licences is done as per norms prescribed under the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945. The renewable of licences is not linked with export of drugs.

(e) The renewal of manufacturing licenses is done by State Governments in accordance with existing norms. Data regarding number of licences renewed/not renewed by State Governments is not maintained centrally.

AIDS Affected Persons

3054. SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has hired the services of any foreign/external agency to determine the number of AIDS affected persons in the country announced by the Hon'ble Health Minister in reply to a Starred Question on August 18, 2004, followed by a PIB, released the same day;

(b) if so, the details/outcome thereof; and

(c) the names of the external and local agencies that participated in the exercise and also the name of the funding Agency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) No, Sir, the Government of India presently has not hired the services of any foreign/external agency to determine the number of AIDS affected persons in the country. However, Government has strengthened the HIV surveillance activities in the country by increasing the number of sentinel sites as well as ensuring the quality of data through central and regional monitoring mechanism. The National Institute of Health & Family Welfare, National Institute of Medical Statistics and five regional Institutes have been entrusted with the task of monitoring & supervision. A task force

committee under the chairmanship of Director General ICMR with representatives from Academic Institutions, WHO and UNAIDS Geneva has also been constituted to review the ongoing process of Surveillance.

As per sentinel surveillance report 2005, there are an estimated 5.2 million HIV infected person in the country. An additional 434 sites have also been added for conducting sentinel surveillance during the year 2006.

[Translation]

PCOs in Orissa

3055. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of P.C.Os in the Bolangir district of Orissa;

(b) the total number of applications that are pending for approval; and

(c) the time by which these are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Sir, as on 30.6.2006, there are 693 PCOs provided by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in Bolangir district of Orissa and no application is pending with BSNL for PCO in Bolangir district.

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

[English]

Facilities to Sportspersons

3056. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the facilities being provided to various sportspersons, especially the athletes preparing for major international events are not satisfactory;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Union Government to improve the facilities being provided to these sportspersons?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) The promotion of sports is, primarily, the responsibility of State Governments at the State level and of National Sports Federations at the national level. Accordingly, preparation of the sportspersons for international events is the responsibility of the National Sports Federations (NSFs) concerned. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the NSFs by providing assistance for training and participation of sportspersons/teams in international tournaments abroad, organization of national/international tournaments in India, coaching/training of the teams under Indian and foreign coaches, procurement of equipment and by providing requisite technical and scientific back-up. In addition, financial assistance is also provided to individual sportspersons for training abroad as a part of their preparations for participation in major international events under the scheme relating to "Talent Search & Training" and "National Sports Development Fund".

Besides, the Sports Authority of India (SAI) implements the following schemes for the promotion of sports for improving performance at Sub-Junior, Junior and Senior level:

1. National Sports Talent Contest Scheme (NSTC)
2. Army Boys Sports Company (ABSC)
3. Special Area Games (SAG)
4. SAI Training Centre (STC)
5. Centre of Excellence (COX)

The facilities being provided to sportspersons for international events are reviewed and improved from time to time.

AIDS Cases

3057. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether AIDS in India is the fourth highest cause of death in the people in the age groups between 15 to 29 years as announced by the Director, NACO;

(b) if so, the names of three other diseases which cause more deaths than AIDS in this age group, with

number of deaths caused by them, during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the number of AIDS deaths separately in the same age group during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) This refers to the review of data carried out by the Registrar General of India for Medical certification of cause of death in 1998 which indicated that 7.6% of total deaths have been contributed by the age group 15-24 years. As per the report, the predominant causes of death are Injury and poisoning (35.1%), Infection and parasitic diseases (19.1%), diseases of circulatory system (12.0%) and symptoms and signs of ill-defined condition as 11.5%. This ill defined condition could be attributed to HIV/AIDS. Further details State-wise are not available.

Progress of Golden Quadrilateral Project in Orissa

3058. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made regarding Golden Quadrilateral Project in Orissa;

(b) the deadline set for the completion of the project;

(c) the funds earmarked and spent till date on each of National Highways in the State;

(d) the new projects taken up under NHDP-III and NHDP-IV in the State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Out of 443 km length of National Highways in Orissa under the Golden Quadrilateral Project, a length of 318 km has already been completed and balance 125 km is under implementation. The likely date of overall completion is November 2008.

(c) No State wise allocation of funds is made. However, on Golden Quadrilateral Projects in Orissa,

expenditure incurred till July 2006, on NH-60 is Rs. 74.74 crore and on NH-5 is Rs. 1606.87 crore.

(d) and (e) Following stretches in the State of Orissa have been identified for 4-laning under NHDP phase-III:

- (i) Chandikhole—Duburi-Talcher section of NH-200, length 137 km.
- (ii) Bhubaneswar—Puri section of NH-203, length 59 km.
- (iii) Panikoili—Keonjhar—Roxy—Rajamunda section of NH-215, length 269 km.
- (iv) Sambalpur—Bargarh-Orissa/Chhattisgarh border section of NH-6, length 88 km.

Preparation of Detailed Project Reports for above mentioned stretches are in progress. The completion of 4-laning shall depend on the response of BOT (Build, Operate and Transfer) bidders. The NHDP Phase-IV is at planning stage.

National Highway from Dibrugarh to Nagaon

3059. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made regarding four laning of the National Highway from Dibrugarh to Nagaon;

(b) whether the work has been at a stand-still since 2001;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the estimated cost of the project, the precise nature of the dispute and the cost escalation suffered by this project so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Government has approved 4-laning of NH-37 from Dibrugarh to Nagaon under Special Accelerated Road Development Programme in North Eastern Region and steps have been taken to prepare Detailed Project Report (DPR).

(b) and (c) No, Sir. Government has approved the project on 22.9.2005.

(d) It is too early to indicate the estimated cost of the project. There is neither any dispute nor any cost escalation suffered, as project is at DPR preparation stage only.

[Translation]

Lay Out Plan of Proposed By-Pass

3060. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the disputes arising out of the lay out plan of the proposed by-pass in Jhalpura, Kota (Rajasthan) under the National Highway-76 (East-West Corridor Project) as reported in the Hindi Daily 'Dainik Bhaskar', Kota, Rajasthan dated May 29, 2006;

(b) if so, the facts reported therein;

(c) the details of land acquisition notifications published with reference to the above by-pass;

(d) whether any amendment has been made in these notifications; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The details are enclosed as Statement.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Amendments in 3(A) & 3(D) have been made vide notification no. SO 228(E), 335(E), 1732(E), 1665(E), 1664(E), 569(E) dated 16.02.2005, 18.03.2005, 09.12.2005, 22.11.2005, 22.11.2005 & 19.04.2006 for matching the co-ordinates of the proposed alignment with the ground situation, improving the road geometry and eliminating the 2 number of reverse curves within a short distance of 0.5 kilometer at Jhalpura by-pass.

Statement

With reference to the report published in the Hindi Daily, Dainik Bhaskar, Kota dated 29.05.2006, facts are put up as under:

3(A) notifications were published on 3.11.2004, 16.02.2005, 18.03.2005 & 09.12.2005 vide notification no. SO-1240(E), SO-228(E), 335(E) & 1732 (E), which were meant for informing the public regarding intention of the Government to acquire the land for public purpose. During subsequent transfer of this alignment from Revenue record/land details published in 3A notification to the ground, it was found that there were number of villages such as Kawarpura, Dhakhedi, Jhalipura, Borkhandi, Manadana, Dayara, Kaithodi, Tathede, Brajeshpura, Daslana, Nayanhara, Hathikheda & Hanvantkhera, where co-ordinates of the alignment as suggested by the DPR Consultant were not matching with the details of 3A notification as well as with the ground situations. Hence in order to transfer the concept of DPR alignment to the ground as well as to improve the geometry of the Road, 3A notification was revised as per the need of Jhalipura Bypass alignment. It has also been reported in the said newspaper that the Khasra no. 119, 122 & 123 have been intentionally saved. On perusal of revenue records submitted by the Competent Authority i.e. SDM, Kota, it is observed, that these khasra nos. are recorded in the name of Mr. Ahmed Iqbal and out of this, Khasra no. 123 belonging to Mr. Iqbal is already acquired and published in 3(D) notification as per requirement of bypass alignment.

List of 3A and 3D published

| Type of Notification | Notification No. | Date of Publication |
|----------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| 3A | S.O. 1240(E) | 03.11.2004 |
| | S.O. 228(E) | 16.02.2005 |
| | S.O. 335(E) | 18.03.2005 |
| | S.O. 1732(E) | 09.12.2005 |
| 3D | S.O. 340(E) | 17.03.2005 |
| | S.O. 1665(E) | 22.11.2005 |
| | S.O. 1664(E) | 22.11.2005 |
| | S.O. 569(E) | 19.04.2006 |

[English]

Merger of MTNL and BSNL

3061. SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to merge the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) and the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) to provide uniform and better telephone service throughout the country under a single telephone authority;

(b) if so, the present position in this regard and the time by which the merger is likely to be effected; and

(c) the extent to which the telecom services are likely to improve and become cheaper for the customers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) The Government has appointed a consortium of consultants led by M/s ICICI Securities to advise and aid the Government in restructuring of MTNL and BSNL so as to achieve higher synergies, improve the competitive position on both the PSUs and enhance the value for all the stakeholders. The report submitted by the consultants is under consideration of the Government.

Four Laning of National Highway No. 215

3062. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal for four laning of National Highway No. 215 from Panikolli to Rajamunda;

(b) if so, the fund to be sanctioned for the purpose; and

(c) the time by which the four laning work of the said National Highway is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Four laning of National Highway No. 215 from Panikolli to Rajamunda is envisaged under National Highway Development Project (NHDP)-III, to be implemented on Build, Operate and transfer (BOT) basis.

(b) Preparation of the Detailed Project Report (DPR) is already taken up by National Highways Authority of India and the BOT work is likely to be awarded by December 2006. Fund requirement would be known on completion of the DPR.

(c) The overall completion of the project is envisaged by December 2009.

[Translation]

Mobile T.V.

3063. SHRI RAKESH SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has explored the possibility of mobile T.V. in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the action plan prepared in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Doordarshan has undertaken a pilot project of Digital Video Broadcasting-Handheld (DVB-H) transmission utilizing the existing digital terrestrial transmitter at Delhi. This transmission will enable reception of TV (Television) signals on DVB-H enabled mobile phones/hand held devices.

Apart from this, a sub-group-IV has been constituted on expansion of transmission network and digitisation/mobile media under the Working Group on Information and Broadcasting sector set up by the Planning Commission for the 11th Five Year Plan. The sub-group has representatives from various stakeholders.

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

[English]

Production of Coal

3064. SHRI BANSAGOPAL CHOUDHURY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of coal is declining over the years;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The coal production in Coal India and Singareni Collieries Company Limited has increased over the years. Coal India Limited has taken the following steps to increase indigenous production:

(i) 73 coal projects, including expansion/extension projects, at an estimated investment of Rs. 9920.84 crores, with an ultimate capacity of 149.185 million tonnes per year, have been sanctioned during 10th Plan period and are being developed for increase in coal production.

(ii) improvement in equipment utilization.

(iii) timely implementation of projects.

(iv) mechanization/modernization of existing mines.

(v) all new mines being planned with mechanization.

(vi) increasing productivity in both underground and open cast mines.

(vii) emergency coal production has been planned for increasing production in existing mines/projects.

[Translation]

Status of Golden Quadrilateral Project

3065. SHRI KAILASH JOSHI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the year in which the North-South and East-West corridor and Golden Quadrilateral Project commenced;

(b) the target of road construction in kilometres fixed for the above projects for every year since commencement;

(c) the target achieved every year till March 31, 2006;

(d) whether the targets fixed have been achieved;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the total length of both the projects and the estimated cost to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase-I consisting of Golden Quadrilateral (GQ), some sections of North-South & East-West (NS&EW) Corridors, Road Connectivity to major ports and some other projects was approved by the Government in December, 2000. NHDP Phase-II consisting of East-West, North-South corridors and other stretches of National Highways was approved by the Government in December, 2003.

(b) and (c) The targets and achievement of GQ and NS & EW Corridor since 2002-03 is enclosed as Statement.

(d) and (e) There have been some delays in the completion of some contracts pertaining to NHDP Phase-I, due to problems associated with acquisition of land, shifting of utilities, difficulty in environment and forest clearances, poor performance of some contractors and termination of some contracts etc.

(f) The length and cost (excluding escalation and interest during construction) approved by the Government for NHDP Phase-I (mainly comprising GQ) and NHDP Phase-II (mainly comprising NS & EW corridor) are as under:

| NHDP Phase | Length (in km) | Estimated cost (Rs. in crore) |
|------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| Phase-I | 6359 | 30,300.00 (at 1999 prices) |
| Phase-II | 6702 | 34,339.00 (at 2002 prices) |

Statement

Status of Golden Quadrilateral Project

(Length in km.)

| Sl.No. | Name of Scheme | As per Action Plan | | | | | | | |
|--------|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------|---------|-------------|---------|-------------|---------|-------------|
| | | 2002-03 | | 2003-04 | | 2004-05 | | 2005-06 | |
| | | Target | Achievement | Target | Achievement | Target | Achievement | Target | Achievement |
| 1. | Golden Quadrilateral | 244.11 | 209.46 | 1789.5 | 709.73 | 2317.18 | 2082.7 | 782.09 | 582.82 |
| 2. | North-South & East-West | 200.2 | 91.5 | 347.47 | 53.6 | 331.92 | 119.17 | 194.45 | 113.23 |

[English]

Bringing Back Belongings of Sikh Guru

3066. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 'Kalgi' and some other belongings of Guru Gobind Singh Ji have been missing from a British Museum since 1976;

(b) if so, whether any requests have been received by the Government for assistance in locating these articles and bringing them back to India; and

(c) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) to (c) The Government of India has received requests for

assistance in locating the 'Kalgi' and some other belongings of Guru Gobind Singh Ji and bringing them back of India. The matter was taken up with the British authorities, who indicated that the articles could not be traced. They also indicated that in 1976, an extensive search had been conducted to locate the Kalgi by the Victoria and Albert Museum in the UK, where the Kalgi had previously been situated. The search was unsuccessful.

High Incidence of Malaria

3067. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has identified districts in various States having high incidence of Malaria during the last three years and the current year till date;

(b) if so, the names of districts identified, State-wise;

(c) whether the Union Government provides 100% Central assistance for such districts;

(d) if so, the details of assistance provided to such districts during the said period; and

(e) the steps taken including the technologies applied for checking the breeding of mosquitoes in such districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Union Government has identified the districts in various States with high incidence of malaria during the last three years. The List of districts identified is enclosed as Statement-I.

(c) and (d) The Government of India is implementing the National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP) for prevention and control of Malaria, Filariasis, Kala-azar, Dengue and Japanese Encephalitis in the country. The Government of India provides 100% commodity support like anti-malaria drugs, DDT (50% wdp) for Indoor Residual Spray to all States. In addition, the North Eastern States are being provided 100% cash assistance to meet the operational cost of programme implementation including wages of spray workers. The North Eastern States except Sikkim and few districts from three other States namely Jharkhand, Orissa and West Bengal are also being provided additional assistance under the Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) supported Intensified Malaria Control Project (IMCP). Under the World Bank assistance, 100 districts in 8 States namely Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa and Rajasthan are being provided additional cash and commodity support since year 1997. The State-wise support provided to States/UTs is enclosed at Statement-II.

(e) The Government of India has the following three-pronged strategies for control of malaria:

(i) Disease Management:

- Early case detection and complete treatment.
- Strengthening of referral services.
- Epidemic preparedness and rapid response.

(ii) Integrated Vector Management for reducing mosquitoes density:

- Indoor Residual Spraying in selected high risk areas.
- Use of Insecticide treated bednets.
- Use of larvivorous fishes.
- Anti larval measures in urban areas including biolarvicides.
- Minor environmental engineering.

(iii) Supporting Interventions:

- Behaviour Change Communication.
- Public Private Partnership & Inter-sectoral convergence.
- Human Resource Development through capacity building.
- Operational research including studies on drug resistance and insecticide susceptibility.
- Monitoring and evaluation through periodic review/field visits and web based Management Information System.

Statement I

List of States and districts with high malaria incidence

| Sl.No. | State | Districts |
|--------|-------------------|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 1. East Godavari 2. Visakhapatnam |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 1. Upper Siang 2. Tirap 3. Upper Subansiri 4. Changiang 5. Lohit |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|----|--------------|-----------------------|
| | | 6. East Kameng |
| | | 7. Dibang Valley |
| | | 8. Papum Pare |
| | | 9. West Siang |
| | | 10. East Siang |
| | | 11. West Kameng |
| 3. | Assam | |
| | | 1. Nagaon |
| | | 2. Lakhimpur |
| | | 3. Bongaigaon |
| | | 4. Goalpara |
| | | 5. Darrang |
| | | 6. Hallakandi |
| | | 7. Kokrajhar |
| | | 8. N.C. Hills |
| | | 9. K-Anglong |
| 4. | Chhattisgarh | |
| | | 1. Rajnandgaon |
| | | 2. Kawardha |
| | | 3. Korba |
| | | 4. Raigarh |
| | | 5. Korea |
| | | 6. Ambikapur |
| | | 7. Jashpur Nagar |
| | | 8. Bastar (Jagdalpur) |
| | | 9. Kanker |
| | | 10. Dantevada |
| 5. | Goa | |
| | | 1. North Goa |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|----|-----------|-------------------------|
| 6. | Gujarat | |
| | | 1. Gandhinagar |
| | | 2. Ahmedabad Com. |
| | | 3. Narmada |
| | | 4. Junagadh |
| | | 5. Vadodara |
| | | 6. Amreli |
| | | 7. Panchamahar (Godhra) |
| | | 8. Patan |
| | | 9. Kutchh (Bhuj) |
| | | 10. Surendranagar |
| | | 11. Kheda (Anand) |
| | | 12. Panchamahar (Dahod) |
| | | 13. Kheda (Nadiad) |
| 7. | Haryana | |
| | | 1. Rohtak |
| | | 2. Karnal |
| | | 3. Sonapat |
| | | 4. Panipat |
| 8. | Jharkhand | |
| | | 1. Bokaro |
| | | 2. Ranchi |
| | | 3. Sahibganj |
| | | 4. Hazaribagh |
| | | 5. Lohardaga |
| | | 6. Pakur |
| | | 7. Giridih |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|----------------|---------------------|
| | | 8. Ranchi |
| | | 9. Dumka |
| | | 10. Saraikela |
| | | 11. Godda |
| | | 12. Chatra |
| 9. | West Bengal | |
| | | 1. West Singhbhum |
| | | 2. Garhwa |
| | | 3. Simdega |
| | | 4. Latehar |
| | | 5. Palamau |
| 10. | Karnataka | |
| | | 1. Tumkur |
| | | 2. Mandya |
| | | 3. Bellary |
| | | 4. A.M.U. Kambhavi |
| | | 5. Bagalkot |
| | | 6. Koppal |
| | | 7. Raichur |
| | | 8. Dakshina Kannada |
| | | 9. U.K.P. Almatti |
| | | 10. U.K.P.N. Pura |
| 11. | Madhya Pradesh | |
| | | 1. Ratlam |
| | | 2. Sagar |
| | | 3. Sheopur |
| | | 4. Shivpuri |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|-------------|------------------|
| | | 5. Sidhi |
| | | 6. Mandla |
| | | 7. Satna |
| | | 8. Guna |
| | | 9. Dindori |
| | | 10. Jhabua |
| 12. | Maharashtra | |
| | | 1. Gadchiroli |
| 13. | Manipur | |
| | | 1. Tamenglong |
| 14. | Meghalaya | |
| | | 1. E. Garo Hills |
| | | 2. Jaintia Hills |
| | | 3. W. Garo Hills |
| 15. | Mizoram | |
| | | 1. Aizawal West |
| | | 2. Lawngtlai |
| | | 3. Serchhip |
| | | 4. Lunglei |
| | | 5. Saiha |
| | | 6. Mamit |
| | | 7. Kolasib |
| 16. | Nagaland | |
| | | 1. Kipheri |
| | | 2. Wokha |
| | | 3. Phek |
| | | 4. Mokokchung |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---|---|---|
|---|---|---|

17. Orissa

1. Jaipur
2. Bargarh
3. Jharsuguda
4. Ganjam
5. Nayagarh
6. Mayurbhanj
7. Boudh
8. Bolangir
9. Sonapur
10. Keonjhar
11. Koraput
12. Angul
13. Gajapati
14. Kalahandi
15. Deogarh
16. Sundergarh
17. Nuapada
18. Sambalpur
19. Nawarangpur
20. Malkangiri
21. Rayagada
22. Phulbani (Kandhamal)
23. Dhenkanal

18. Rajasthan

1. Udaipur
2. Bhillwara

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---|---|---|
|---|---|---|

3. Bundi

4. Jaisalmer

19. Tamilnadu

1. Chennai Corp.

2. Ramanathapuram

20. Tripura

1. North Tripura

2. Dhalai Tripura

3. South Tripura

21. Uttar Pradesh

1. Hamirpur

2. Sahuji Maharaj Nagar

3. Mirzapur

4. Allahabad

22. West Bengal

1. Purulia

2. Darjeeling

3. Kolkatta Municipal Corp.

4. Jalpaiguri

5. Kolkata Other Zone

6. Kolkata Urban

23. Andaman & Nicobar Islands

1. Andaman

2. Nicobar

24. Dadra & Nagar Haveli

1. Dadra & Nagar Haveli

*Statement II**State wise allocation/Expenditure for 2002-03 to 2005-2006 & allocation for 2006-07 Under NVBDCP*

(Rs. in lakhs)

| Sl.No. | States/UTs | 2003-04 | | 2004-05 | | 2005-06 | | 2006-07 |
|--------|-------------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| | | Allocation | Expenditure | Allocation | Expenditure | Allocation | Expenditure | Allocation |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 871.91 | 534.73 | 822.94 | 595.13 | 1983.58 | 1019.25 | 1910.55 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 331.44 | 112.63 | 464.71 | 499.38 | 405.44 | 484.66 | 625.30 |
| 3. | Assam | 2115.17 | 1364.15 | 2233.50 | 1988.29 | 1964.82 | 1380.06 | 3362.65 |
| 4. | Bihar | 3025.40 | 2789.16 | 4379.25 | 3501.96 | 4980.66 | 2883.42 | 2633.31 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 2035.47 | 1739.99 | 1848.70 | 1778.33 | 2842.45 | 2060.91 | 2161.79 |
| 6. | Goa | 11.75 | 18.55 | 16.15 | 9.65 | 26.85 | 38.64 | 56.86 |
| 7. | Gujarat | 771.41 | 380.99 | 655.72 | 708.33 | 1744.79 | 740.53 | 1351.55 |
| 8. | Haryana | 109.32 | 37.35 | 95.33 | 91.49 | 266.43 | 69.22 | 195.00 |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | 7.00 | 4.90 | 16.00 | 13.52 | 20.90 | 18.12 | 46.35 |
| 10. | Jammu & Kashmir | 45.63 | 72.30 | 70.23 | 27.63 | 45.13 | 17.51 | 46.91 |
| 11. | Jharkhand | 1691.84 | 1296.86 | 1846.74 | 1172.71 | 1681.15 | 1746.71 | 3352.46 |
| 12. | Karnataka | 297.75 | 264.87 | 453.96 | 316.77 | 372.25 | 520.73 | 583.56 |
| 13. | Kerala | 28.76 | 214.55 | 78.00 | 109.71 | 158.45 | 282.60 | 409.58 |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 1727.48 | 1333.71 | 1709.78 | 1063.81 | 2822.93 | 1432.67 | 2074.02 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 1207.98 | 463.30 | 1064.86 | 593.24 | 2018.58 | 815.11 | 1523.84 |
| 16. | Manipur | 126.44 | 69.71 | 190.06 | 73.39 | 176.77 | 269.66 | 488.61 |
| 17. | Meghalaya | 275.01 | 323.35 | 435.89 | 290.81 | 298.30 | 422.67 | 693.61 |
| 18. | Mizoram | 175.01 | 275.68 | 280.57 | 153.17 | 314.93 | 387.87 | 549.68 |
| 19. | Nagaland | 306.04 | 386.20 | 422.30 | 278.53 | 379.95 | 432.41 | 748.00 |
| 20. | Orissa | 2907.85 | 2512.78 | 2671.61 | 2295.32 | 4750.67 | 2804.47 | 4625.94 |
| 21. | Punjab | 89.89 | 37.87 | 63.16 | 45.85 | 104.79 | 60.41 | 114.87 |
| 22. | Rajasthan | 1484.83 | 1415.59 | 1201.40 | 1015.97 | 1589.94 | 917.04 | 1184.22 |
| 23. | Sikkim | 5.15 | 2.42 | 16.30 | 10.00 | 24.27 | 25.16 | 33.97 |
| 24. | Tamil Nadu | 320.03 | 279.06 | 270.23 | 310.20 | 355.81 | 347.31 | 596.71 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|-----|-----------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 25. | Tripura | 401.05 | 428.63 | 519.42 | 390.03 | 483.24 | 648.44 | 731.07 |
| 26. | Uttar Pradesh | 720.19 | 744.61 | 870.14 | 956.43 | 1173.53 | 2938.63 | 1937.34 |
| 27. | Uttaranchal | 7.60 | 39.17 | 48.20 | 31.06 | 53.01 | 66.82 | 53.01 |
| 28. | West Bengal | 790.36 | 616.94 | 858.65 | 607.85 | 747.59 | 1027.83 | 2138.17 |
| 29. | Delhi | 88.88 | 80.67 | 55.62 | 144.07 | 62.39 | 75.74 | 122.85 |
| 30. | Pondicherry | 23.12 | 11.12 | 31.38 | 19.70 | 34.88 | 39.60 | 51.46 |
| 31. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 237.75 | 203.33 | 225.71 | 224.11 | 228.35 | 297.61 | 247.39 |
| 32. | Chandigarh | 36.25 | 25.36 | 49.79 | 31.67 | 48.70 | 52.24 | 57.29 |
| 33. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 42.32 | 60.72 | 40.09 | 31.91 | 46.35 | 43.71 | 56.01 |
| 34. | Daman and Diu | 16.15 | 19.29 | 14.17 | 11.42 | 28.59 | 24.15 | 26.91 |
| 35. | Lakshadweep | 7.47 | 12.06 | 10.36 | 6.02 | 21.53 | 20.29 | 18.86 |
| | Total | 22339.70 | 18172.60 | 24050.91 | 19397.46 | 32258.00 | 24392.20 | 34829.70 |
| 36. | Cash for states other | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1078.78 |
| 37. | Commd. Misc. | 112.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1249.52 |
| 38. | Estt./Res./Pub. | 1898.46 | 1928.31 | 2374.00 | 2268.62 | 1847.00 | 1651.06 | 0.00 |
| 39. | Delhi Hqrs./Buffer | 0.00 | 0.00 | 339.85 | 0.00 | 740.00 | 0 | 0.00 |
| 40. | RITES (Fee) | 150.00 | 0.00 | 135.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| | Total | 2160.46 | 1928.31 | 2848.85 | 2268.62 | 2587.00 | 1651.06 | 2328.30 |
| | Grand Total | 24500.16 | 20100.91 | 26900.00 | 21666.08 | 34845.00 | 26043.26 | 37158.00 |

Study on Corruption

3068. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to a study conducted in Government Departments, a sum of Rs. 21,068 crores is paid as bribe;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the agency which conducted the study; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to eradicate corruption in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) A private study published by Transparency International India, in alliance with Centre for Media Studies, New Delhi under the title "India Corruption Study, 2005 to Improve Governance" has stated that the general public in India spend Rs. 21,068 crores as bribe for various public services.

(c) Several steps have been taken to remove corruption; and to improve administrative functioning. Important among them are: enactment of the Right to Information Act, 2005; Notification of the Whistle Blowers

Resolution 2004; the pro-active involvement of Ministry/ Department through Annual Action Plan on Vigilance; issue of comprehensive instructions on transparency in tendering and contracting processes by the CVC; enactment of CVC Act, 2003 and strengthening the CBI to discharge its anti-corruption work; increased use of Information and Communication Technology; introduction of Citizen Charters and simplifications of procedures and systems etc.

Leakage of UPSC Paper

3069. SHRI M. SHIVANNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was leakage of questions in the Public Administration paper in the recently conducted examination by the Union Public Service Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Commission has conducted re-examination for candidates opting Public Administration;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has fixed any responsibility in this regard;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to avoid recurrence of such leakages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) to (g) On 14.5.2006 (i.e.) the day of the Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination, 2006, it was brought to the notice of the Union Public Service Commission that there was a discrepancy in the tallying of the number of question papers at one of the Examination Centres for the optional subject Public Administration. A detailed

inquiry into the entire issue has been ordered. In order to ensure total confidence in the minds of the candidates in the integrity of the Examination, it was decided by the Union Public Service Commission to cancel the earlier Examination held on 14.05.2006 only for the subject Public Administration. The Union Public Service Commission subsequently held the examination for the optional subject Public Administration on 18.06.2006.

Data Protection

3070. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal for data protection; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the views of various Government Departments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Sections 43, 66 and 72 of the Information Technology Act, 2000 provide the legal framework for data protection. The concerned Departments/Ministries have, by and large, supported the proposal to strengthen the legislative framework to prevent wrongful disclosure of information.

Committee for Dispute Resolution Mechanism

3071. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to set up a committee to review dispute resolution mechanism for the National Highways Authority of India's development projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the committee is likely to be set up and submit its recommendations; and

(d) the extent to which setting up of committee is likely to help in removing the delays in implementing the national highway development projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (d) Department of Road Transport & Highways has constituted a Committee to examine Dispute Resolution Mechanism in the works under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase I, II and III. The Committee would review the existing procedure for Dispute Resolution and other issues leading to disputes based on the experiences in the implementation of NHDP Phase I, II and III. The Committee may also discuss other issues arising during the implementation of the projects so as to evolve an effective and acceptable mechanism for removal of bottlenecks.

Development of Computer Software

3072. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Informatics Centre is preparing a Computer Software for the Transport Department to keep a tab on vehicle owners;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to implement the same in other States of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the time by which it is likely to be implemented; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. National Informatics Centre (NIC) is providing assistance in getting the software developed, for the Government of NCT Delhi in the first instance as an extension of vehicle registration system.

The essential requirements of the software are:

- Generation of necessary data from the pollution under control (PUC) checks

- Transmission of the data to a central server in respect of the vehicles

- Amenability of the data to further analysis regarding emission

- Linkage to the vehicle registration data-base to establish compliance behaviour of vehicles and issue notice to defaulters.

(c) to (e) The decision to network the PUC centres through a computer software is to be taken by the respective State Governments themselves and Union Government has no direct role to play in this regard.

(f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Death of Patients In Safdarjung Hospital

3073. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of patients who died during the course of treatment at Safdarjung Hospital during the last three years as on date, month-wise;

(b) whether the number of deaths of patients in Safdarjung Hospital is comparatively more than that of other hospitals;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken and guidelines issued by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Information is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) to (d) It is not correct to say that number of deaths of patients is higher in Safdarjung Hospital when compared to other large size Government Hospitals like Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital. Upgradation of diagnostic and treatment facilities in Safdarjung Hospital is a continuous process.

Statement*Deaths during the course of treatment viz-a-viz admissions*

| Months | Year 2003 | | Year-2004 | | Year-2005 | | Year-2006 till July, 06 | |
|------------|-----------|-------|-----------|-------|-----------|-------|-------------------------|-------|
| | Admission | Death | Admission | Death | Admission | Death | Admission | Death |
| January | 8146 | 479 | 8830 | 493 | 8542 | 484 | 9693 | 615 |
| February | 7274 | 398 | 8234 | 451 | 7192 | 459 | 8979 | 552 |
| March | 7815 | 485 | 8808 | 515 | 9146 | 444 | 9497 | 573 |
| April | 7828 | 531 | 8652 | 503 | 8074 | 500 | 8725 | 546 |
| May | 8314 | 523 | 8827 | 545 | 9203 | 609 | 6224 | 497 |
| June | 8670 | 503 | 9526 | 564 | 9823 | 623 | 8780 | 547 |
| July | 9405 | 494 | 10536 | 550 | 10380 | 569 | 9973 | 632 |
| August | 10599 | 553 | 10729 | 556 | 10803 | 599 | — | — |
| September | 10512 | 506 | 10338 | 579 | 10567 | 595 | — | — |
| October | 10330 | 578 | 10114 | 524 | 10906 | 645 | — | — |
| November | 9114 | 520 | 9147 | 532 | 9592 | 593 | — | — |
| December | 8899 | 555 | 9038 | 512 | 9326 | 610 | — | — |
| Total | 106906 | 6125 | 112779 | 6324 | 113354 | 6730 | 61871 | 3962 |
| % of Death | | 5.73 | | 5.61 | | 5.94 | | 6.4 |

*[English]***Maritime Training Facilities**

3074. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the inadequate maritime training facilities available for sea farers in the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken to provide quality maritime training to the Indian sea farers;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to set up a National Maritime Authority; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) There

are 128 maritime training institutes both in public and private sector in the country. To prescribe and preserve the quality of marine training in respect of infrastructure, equipment, laboratories, faculty, curriculum, examinations etc., detailed guidelines have been laid down. A system of inspections, approvals and rating of training institutions already exists. A manual based on the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) Standards for Training, Certification and Watch Keeping (STCW) code & convention has been drawn up to guide the academic quality & transaction and ensure that maritime training meets global standards. It has also been decided to set up an Indian Maritime University with headquarter at Chennai and regional campuses at Mumbai, Kolkata and Vizag.

(c) and (d) Expenditure Reforms Commission (ERC) had recommended for establishment of a Maritime Authority of India. The recommendations were considered but have not been agreed to.

[Translation]

Scientific Improvement of Agriculture

3075. DR. CHINTA MOHAN:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has decided to take assistance from certain foreign citizens for scientific improvement in the agriculture sector of the country;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard and the foreign citizens invited for the same; and

(c) the amount and the manner by which remuneration is likely to be provided to the foreigners?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) to (c) Prof. D.P.S. Verma of the Ohio State University, Columbus, USA has made a presentation on Secondary Agriculture Revolution on 3rd February, 2006 to Planning Commission suggesting areas and opportunities for harnessing advanced technologies to give boost to agricultural growth and adding value to primary produce. Task Group on "Promoting Secondary Agriculture" was contemplated. However, the decision has been deferred until after the Approach Paper to XI Plan document is approved.

[English]

Upgradation of Ports

3076. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:
SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:
SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI:
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Government for upgradation of certain ports in Gujarat which are presently connected with the coastal highways particularly Bedi Port under the National Maritime Development Programme (NMDP);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the link roads of the ports viz. Mundra, Kandla, Porbander, Jamnagar, Vedibander, Rodiport, Bhavnagar and Pipavav of Gujarat are proposed to be connected with main coastal highways; and

(d) if so, the time bound programmes in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) Responsibility for development of Ports other than Major Ports, vests in the State Government concerned, which in this case is the Government of Gujarat. Further, Union Government is responsible for development and maintenance of only National Highways (NH) and providing NH connectivity to the Major Ports of the country. At present, there is only one Major Port in Gujarat, i.e., Kandla Port, which is well connected through National Highway NH-8A.

Strikes by Doctors

3077. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH:
ADV. SURESH KURUP:
DR. K. DHANARAJU:
SHRI PRABODH PANDA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a patient died at AIIMS during the strikes by doctors in AIIMS for want of required medical treatment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is a demand for taking action against those doctors who refused to provide medical care to the patient;

(d) if so, the action the Government proposes to take against such doctors;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the Government is considering to enquire into the matter;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (h) According to AIIMS one Shri Sarvesh Kumar who presented to AIIMS Emergency on 5.7.2006 was referred to other hospitals as soon as strike was called for and was later reported by the media to have died on 5.7.2006. The matter was enquired into by the AIIMS and report submitted. The same is under examination.

Supply of Low Potency Medicines

3078. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) is supplying low potency medicines in alleged connivance with medico companies;

(b) if so, whether any such cases have been detected so far;

(c) if so, the action taken in such cases;

(d) whether the Government has any action plan to prevent such malpractices; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (e) No such case has come to the notice of the Government. Medicines in bulk required by CGHS are procured through Medical Stores Organisation for CGHS dispensaries outside Delhi and through HSCC (I) Ltd., for CGHS dispensaries in Delhi. Medicines are cleared for dispatch to respective dispensaries by these procurement agencies after getting satisfactory report from two Government approved laboratories.

CVC Guidelines

3079. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per Central Vigilance Commission's (CVC) guidelines, it is mandatory for the organizations under the purview of CVC to publish every month the

summary of contracts/purchases made above a threshold value on their website;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the concerned organizations are not publishing every month the summary of contracts/purchases made above a threshold value on their website;

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the CVC in this regard; and

(e) the details of the threshold value of each organization?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) As per CVC guidelines, all organizations within the purview of the CVC are required to post a summary every month of all the contracts/purchases made above a certain threshold value to be decided by Chief Vigilance Officer in consultation with the Head of the Organization.

(c) and (d) The Commission has observed that some organizations are not following the above guidelines and has directed all CVOs to ensure their implementation and to send monthly compliance report to the CVC in this regard. Whenever the CVO reports non-implementation by any organization, the matter is suitably taken up with that organization for implementation of the instructions.

(e) Each organization has to determine its own threshold value, but as per the CVC guidelines it should cover more than 60% of the value of the transactions of an organization every month.

Daily Earning of People

3080. DR. K.S. MANOJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of millionaires in the country;

(b) the percentage increase/decrease in them during the last five years;

(c) the number of people in the country with daily earning less than one US dollar per day;

(d) the percentage of increase or decrease during the last five years;

(e) whether the gap between the rich and poor has widened as indicated by certain surveys conducted by NGOs in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) and (b) As per the data available with the Income Tax Department, the number of income tax assesses (individuals) with income of Rs. 10 lakh and above was 91,877 in 2004-05 as against 54,805 in 2000-01, representing an increase of 67.6%.

(c) and (d) According to the World Development Indicators, 2006 brought out by the World Bank, the proportion of population living in India on less than US dollar one a day was 34.7% in 1999-2000 as against 47.0% in 1994 as per earlier reports. However, as pointed out in the World Development Indicators 2006, poverty rates for the individual country given in World Development Indicators 2006 cannot be compared with earlier years.

(e) and (f) Planning Commission is not aware of any rigorous surveys or studies conducted by NGOs that point out that the gap between the rich and the poor has widened.

CVC Circular

3081. SHRI SITA RAM SINGH:
SHRI GANESH PRASAD SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Vigilance Commission has issued a circular No. 16/3/06 dated 28.3.2006 providing extra legal and additional protection to its officers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has taken up the matter with the CVC; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Union Government in this regard including withdrawal of the Circular of CVC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) to (d) To ensure that the required degree of protection is conferred on the vigilance officials supporting the Chief Vigilance Officer, the Central Vigilance Commission in exercise of its powers under section 8 (1)(h) of the Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003 has issued the circular relating to protection against victimization of vigilance officials in certain organizations.

The Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003 empowers the Commission to exercise superintendence over the vigilance administration of the various Central Government organizations.

Short Supply of ADSL-II Modems

3082. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for short supply of Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line (ADSL-II) Modems in Visakhapatnam district of Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) the number of subscribers opted for broadband in Visakhapatnam since its introduction, month-wise alongwith the number of waitlisted subscribers as on June 30, 2006?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Based on initial estimates of demand, Visakhapatnam Secondary Switching Area (SSA) was allotted 5004 number of Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line-2 plus (ADSL-2 Plus) Customer Premises Equipments (CPEs) by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL). However, it was observed that demand was more than this allotment. In order to meet this demand for new connections for Broadband services, 2000 are being delivered to Andhra Pradesh (AP) Circle by BSNL and proportionate allotment will be done to Visakhapatnam. Further, additional 12000 CPEs are being allotted to AP Circle by BSNL which will be delivered in phased manner upto October 2006 with proportionate allotment to Visakhapatnam.

(b) Broadband services by BSNL was started in Visakhapatnam. SSA in June, 2005. Month-wise broadband connections provided is as follows:

| Month | No. of connections given |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| June, 2005 | 52 |
| July, 2005 | 135 |
| August, 2005 | 348 |
| September, 2005 | 318 |
| October, 2005 | 730 |
| November, 2005 | 460 |
| December, 2005 | 540 |
| January, 2006 | 487 |
| February, 2006 | 450 |
| March, 2006 | 505 |
| April, 2006 | 515 |
| May, 2006 | 188 |
| June, 2006 | 153 |
| July, 2006 | 325 |
| August, 2006 | 239 |
| Total | 5445 |

There are 4628 broadband connections of BSNL working in Visakhapatnam Secondary Switching Area (SSA). The waitlist for Broadband connections in Visakhapatnam SSA is 789 (as on 30th June 2006).

[Translation]

Corrupt Government Servants

3083. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is considering to give compulsory retirement to those Central Government Officials who have been found involved in cases of corruption;

(b) if so, the criteria adopted for this purpose;

(c) the details of officers of All India Services found involved in cases of corruption and serious irregularities and dereliction of duty; and

(d) the details of action taken against these officers during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) At present, there is no specific proposal under consideration to give compulsory retirement to those Central Government officials found involved in cases of corruption. The disciplinary rules however provide for removal/dismissal from service in cases in which the imputation of corruption is established unless in any exceptional cases and for special reasons to be recorded in writing any other penalty is imposed.

(c) and (d) The process in these cases involve various investigation agencies and various State cadre authorities. The information in all these cases is not centrally maintained.

[English]

Rail-Road Linkage Projects

3084. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of rail-road linkage projects pertaining to the minor ports of Gujarat are pending/under execution;

(b) if so, the details of such projects;

(c) the progress made in respect of these projects during each of the last three years, year-wise and project-wise;

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard during the current year; and

(e) the details thereof, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (e) Union Government is responsible for development and maintenance of only National Highways (NH) and providing NH connectivity to the Major Ports of the country. At present, there is only one Major Port in Gujarat, i.e., Kandla Port which is well connected through National Highway NH-8A. However, projects for augmentation of

National Highways in Gujarat, that have been included in the National Highways Development Programme (NHDP) Phase-III, would also facilitate improved road linkage to some Minor Ports of Gujarat. These projects are Jetpur-Sornath Section of NH-8D, Kandla-Mundra Port Section of NH-8A and Surat-Hazira Port Section of NH-6.

For providing rail linkage to the Minor Ports in Gujarat, the Gujarat Maritime Board has initiated and completed Techno-Feasibility Studies for providing Broad Gauge Linkages to important Minor Ports of Gujarat. However, no formal proposal has been given to the Indian Railways by the Government of Gujarat. Meanwhile, Railways are executing following two projects for providing linkage to Minor Ports in Gujarat:

Dahej Port—The Bharuch-Dahej new line project has been sanctioned for execution. Final location survey for the project has already been completed.

Hazira Port—Project report for Surat-Hazira new line project, based on final location survey has been finalized.

Proof Regarding Dawood

3085. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether CBI has supplied enough proof regarding the presence of Dawood in Pakistan to Interpol;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Interpol so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) Yes, Sir. Interpol Secretariat General, Lyon has been informed by the CBI about the known addresses of Dawood in Pakistan and other relevant details.

(b) The information has been supplied in relation to the UN Security Council Interpol Notice issued on April 2005 declaring Dawood as a wanted criminal.

(c) In case of his arrest anywhere, Interpol would intimate the countries wherever he is wanted.

Subsidy for Pilgrimage Abroad

3086. DR. H.T. SANGLIANA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has been extending subsidy for pilgrimage of Indians abroad;

(b) if so, the total expenditure incurred during the last five years, community-wise; and

(c) the names of the approved pilgrimage centres for grant of such subsidies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) to (c) Government has been extending subsidy towards airfare for Haj pilgrims going through the Haj Committee of India. Total expenditure during the last five years on account of subsidy has been as follows:

| Year | *Subsidy (in crores) |
|------|----------------------|
| 2001 | 156.58 |
| 2002 | 173.63 |
| 2003 | 172.63 |
| 2004 | 160.70 |
| 2005 | 179.66 |

*Figures are provisional.

In addition, the government facilitates the pilgrimage to Kailash Mansarovar in China. The government pays Rs. 3250/- (Rupees three thousand two hundred and fifty only) for each pilgrim to Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam (KMVN) for arrangements made by them for this Yatra. In addition, during the course of the Yatra, facilities provided by the Government to the pilgrims include free medical assistance, security and escort cover by the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) till the Lipulekh Pass on the Indian side, provision of satellite phone and a Liaison Officer for each batch of pilgrims for use during emergency throughout the Yatra.

Expenditure incurred by the Government on account of payments for pilgrims to KMVN, logistical arrangements, communication links and publicity for the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra over the last five years are as follows:

| | |
|------|---------------|
| 2001 | Rs. 29,95,000 |
| 2002 | Rs. 33,64,000 |
| 2003 | Rs. 31,00,000 |
| 2004 | Rs. 37,94,748 |
| 2005 | Rs. 38,80,386 |

**Draft Regulations for Recognition of New
Homoeopathic Colleges**

3087. SHRI HITEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether draft regulations laying down the scheme of recognition of New Homoeopathic colleges, increase of seats and starting of new courses have been prepared and sent by the Central Council of Homoeopathy to the Government for approval;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has sanctioned the said draft regulations by grossly changing them;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government is authorized under Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973 to unilaterally change the draft regulations without consulting the expert body *i.e.* the Central Council of Homoeopathy;

(f) if so, the details of the differences that exist between the said Central Council and Government in the matter; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to resolve the said issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Draft regulations laying down the procedure for grant of permission to new Homoeopathic colleges, the starting of higher courses of study and the increase in admission capacity were drafted by the Central Council of Homoeopathy and were submitted to the Government for approval. After approval of the Department of AYUSH and vetting by the Ministry of Law and Justice these Draft Regulations were sent to the Central Council of Homoeopathy (CCH) for formal notification.

(c) and (d) The Draft Regulations submitted by the CCH were carefully examined in the Department of AYUSH and it was found that there were a number of provisions which required to be amended so as to bring them in line with the provisions of section 12(A) of the HCC Act. These amendments were required because in their absence the very purpose for which section 12 (A) had been introduced in the HCC Act *i.e.* the proper regulation of the opening of new Homoeopathic Medical Colleges, the starting of higher courses of study and the increase in admission capacity, would have been defeated.

(e) In terms of the provisions of section 20 and section 33 of the HCC Act any Regulation made under the HCC Act has to obtain the prior approval of the Central Government before it is notified.

(f) The Draft Regulations submitted by the CCH and the Draft Regulations which were approved by the Department of AYUSH differ with respect to the provisions regarding the area of a proposed Medical College; the necessity for a fully functional 50 bedded hospital; the application fee; the performance bank guarantee; the system for inspections; the academic year and the level at which cases were to be approved in the CCH.

(g) The CCH has violated the provisions of the HCC Act in not notifying the Draft Regulations which had been duly approved by the Department of AYUSH. The legal position has been brought to the notice of Central Council of Homoeopathy and they have been asked to notify the approved regulations.

Filling up of Vacancies

3088. SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY:
SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of posts in various categories are lying vacant in different departments of the Union Government due to the ban on filling up these vacancies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it has resulted in denying job opportunities to the educated and has also affected the efficiency of these departments;

(d) if so, whether the Government proposes to withdraw the restriction on fresh recruitment; and

(e) if so, the time by which it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) to (c) There is no ban on filling up of vacancies.

Generation of vacancies and their filling up is a continuous process for which respective Ministries/ Departments take action from time to time, within the framework of existing instructions/rules and also keeping in mind the functional requirements of the posts. The information regarding posts lying vacant in different departments of the Central Government is not centrally maintained.

(d) and (e) There is no proposal to withdraw restriction on fresh recruitment.

[Translation]

Negative Impact of IAS System

3089. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:
SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Administrative Service system is creating a feeling of inequality and making a negative impact on efficiency in administration;

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

(c) whether the Government has taken any steps to abolish this system and put in place a better system; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

CGHS Facilities for Retired Employees

3090. SHRI FRANCIS FANTHOME: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether CGHS facilities provided to the staff of the Sangeet Natak Akademi, New Delhi, fully funded by the Central Government has been withdrawn from superannuated employees;

(b) if so, whether a fixed medical allowance of Rs. 100/-per month is being given to superannuated employees in lieu of CGHS facilities for meeting medical expenses;

(c) whether the Government is considering to extending CGHS facilities to retired employees; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No, sir. Only serving employees of Sangeet Natak Akademi, which is an Autonomous Organisation, have been extended CGHS facilities on cost-to-cost basis and the same were never extended to the superannuated employees.

(b) Retired Central Government pensioners residing in non-CGHS areas are entitled for Rs. 100/-per month in lieu of CGHS facilities.

(c) and (d) All Central Government employees on their retirement are eligible to get CGHS facilities on payment of prescribed charges, provided they were availing CGHS facilities at the time of their retirement, and reside in an area covered by the CGHS. Central Government pensioners who are staying in non-CGHS areas have the option of registering themselves at CGHS dispensary in a city nearest to the place of the residence on payment the prescribed charges in lieu of fixed medical allowance.

Cochin Shipyard

3091. SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cochin Shipyard has received any order for ship building;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) Cochin Shipyard has 19 ships on order in shipbuilding from various overseas owners and Indian Navy. The details of ships on order are as follows:

| Sl.No. | Type of Ship | Nationality of owner | No. of | Delivered Ships |
|--------|-----------------------------|----------------------|--------|-----------------|
| 1. | 3000 DWT Bulk Carriers | Denmark | 6 | 1 |
| 2. | Platform Supply Vessels | Norway | 12 | Nil |
| 3. | Firefighting Tugs | Saudi Arabia | 9 | 8 |
| 4. | Indigenous Aircraft Carrier | India | 1 | Nil |

CSL has also got a spate of enquiries from renowned international owners for construction of a variety of small and medium sized ships, many of them as repeat orders. At present, their order book position is full and will last till mid 2009. Further, in order to encourage domestic shipbuilding and to make them internationally competitive, Govt. of India also gives 30% of the cost of vessel to the Indian shipbuilder as subsidy both for domestic and export orders subject to certain stipulated conditions.

Four Laning of National Highway No. 8A

3092. SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY:
SHRI HARIN PATHAK:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the time schedule fixed by the Government for starting and completing works of four laning of Gandhidham-Mundra section of NH-8A (Extn.);

(b) the time schedule fixed by the Government for acquisition of land for the purpose;

(c) whether there is any plan to develop this section on Public-Private Participation mode; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (d) Four laning of Gandhidham-Mundra Section of NH-8A (Extn.) of length 73 km in Gujarat has been approved under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase IIIA on Build Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis by the Government. Steps are being taken for award of consultancy services for feasibility study to consider the possibility of award of this section on Design Build Finance and Operate (DBFO) basis.

[*Translation*]

Setting up of Diagnostic Centres

3093. SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated or proposed to be allocated by the Union Government for setting up of diagnostic centres in Etawah, Auraiya and Kannauj districts of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether the allocated amount has been utilised for the said purpose; and

(c) if so, the criteria fixed for utilization of the allocated amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Health being a State subject, it is for the respective State Government to set up diagnostic centres at various places depending upon their priorities and availability of resources. Ministry of Health & Family Welfare do not have any scheme for grant of financial assistance for the purpose.

XI Finance Commission had recommended financial assistance of Rs. 3 crores each for setting up of diagnostic centres in States and as per this recommendation, the Govt. of Uttar Pradesh was entitled for total grant of Rs. 54 crores for setting up of diagnostic centres at 18 places which was to be utilized by 31.03.05. Etawah, Auraiya and Kannauj districts were not included in the 18 places short listed by the Government of Uttar Pradesh.

*[English]***Outstanding Dues of Hospitals**

3094. SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of outstanding dues by the end of this financial year of the Escorts Hospital, Mata Chanan Devi Hospital and other Hospitals in Delhi which are providing Medical facilities to CGHS beneficiaries;

(b) the time by which these dues are pending and the reason for delay in the payment of the same; and

(c) the time by which these dues are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The details of outstanding dues by the end of the financial year 2005-06, of Escorts Heart Institute and Research Centre, New Delhi, Mata Chanan Devi Hospital, New Delhi and other hospitals recognised under CGHS Delhi are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) Bills pertaining to December, 2005 and January, 2006 have already been cleared.

(c) The Ministry has started a pilot project of computerized processing of Bills through Third Party Administrators to expedite processing of hospital bills.

Statement*Status of pendency of bills in respect of private recognized hospitals w.e.f. December 2005 to March 2006*

| Sl.No. | Name of the CGHS recognized private hospitals | Pending Bills amount w.e.f. December 2005 to March 2006 as per the receipt date (in Rupees) | No. of pending Bills |
|--------|--|---|----------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital Marg, New Delhi-60 | 1810560 | 7 |
| 2. | Sunder Lal Jain Hospital, Ashok Vihar Phase-III, New Delhi | 1525430 | 8 |
| 3. | Tirath Ram Shah Hospital Near Tis Hazari, Bortary Lane, Delhi | 604050 | 4 |
| 4. | Sant Parmanand Hospital , 18 Sharn Nath Marg, Delhi | 1215615 | 8 |
| 5. | Jeevan Mala Hospital, 67/1, New Rohtak Road, New Delhi-5 | 3245014 | 4 |
| 6. | Mohan Eye Institute, 11-B, Ganga Ram Hospital Marg, New Delhi | 1615441 | 4 |
| 7. | Kesar Hospital, AH-11, Shalimar Bagh, Delhi | Nil | Nil |
| 8. | Maharaja Agarsain Hospital, Block-D, Ashok Vihar, Phase-I, Delhi-52 | 15400 | 1 |
| 9. | Jeewan Nursing Home & Hospital, 2-B, Pusa Road, New Delhi | 2815415 | 4 |
| 10. | Escorts Heart Institute & Research Centre, Okhla Road, New Delhi-25 | 36045615 | 16 |
| 11. | Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals, Sarita Vihar, Delhi-Mathura Road, New Delhi-44 | 36041723 | 15 |
| 12. | Batra Hospital & Medical Research Centre, 1, Tuglakabad Institutional Area, New Delhi-62 | 7247543 | 4 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----|---|----------|-----|
| 13. | Indian Spinal Injury Centre, 50-C, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi | 30536 | 1 |
| 14. | Pushpawati Singhanian Research Institute, Press Enclave Marg, Sheikh Sarai, New Delhi-17 | Nil | Nil |
| 15. | Malhotra Heart Institute & Medical Research Centre, 14, Ring Road, Lajpat Nagar-IV, New Delhi | 7015345 | 8 |
| 16. | Center for Sight, A-23, Green Park, Aurobindo Marg, New Delhi-16 | 3215315 | 4 |
| 17. | G.M. Modi Hospital & Research Centre for Medical Sciences, Mandir Marg Near Press Enclave, Saket, New Delhi | 1213827 | 6 |
| 18. | Orthonova Hospital, C-5/29, S.D.A. Opp. Main IIT Gate, New Delhi-16 | 6048500 | 4 |
| 19. | Venu Eye Institute & Research Centre, 1/31, Sheikh Sarai, Institutional Area, Phase-II, New Delhi | 1415116 | 4 |
| 20. | Precision Dental Care, C-159, Sarita Vihar, New Delhi | 40312 | 2 |
| 21. | Anand Hospital, 21 Community Centre, Preet Vihar, Delhi. | Nil | Nil |
| 22. | Dharamshila Cancer Hospital & Research Centre, Dharamshila Marg, Vasundhara Enclave, Delhi. | 2051312 | 4 |
| 23. | Mata Chanan Devi Hospital C-1, Janak Puri, New Delhi | 22070323 | 18 |
| 24. | Maharaja Agarsain Hospital Road No-35, West Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi | 28045115 | 16 |
| 25. | Rajiv Gandhi Cancer & Research Centre, Sector-5, Rohini, Delhi | 13013428 | 4 |
| 26. | Jaipur Golden Hospital, 23, Institutional Area, Rohini New Delhi | 7028724 | 4 |
| 27. | Brahm Shakti Hospital & Research Centre, U-1/78, Budh Vihar, Delhi. | 402312 | 4 |
| 28. | Kalyani Hospital (P) Ltd, 354/2, Mehrauli Road, Gurgaon | 2015415 | 4 |
| 29. | Dr. Taneja Hospital & Heart Centre, 113-A, New Colony, Gurgaon | 1413515 | 4 |
| 30. | Sheetla Hospital & Eye Institute Pvt. Ltd., Near D.S.D. College, New Railway Road, Gurgaon. | 2423322 | 4 |
| 31. | Umkal Hospital & M.P. Heart Research Institute, A-520, Shushant Lok-I, Gurgaon. | 605320 | 6 |
| 32. | Narendra Mohan Hospital, Mohan Nagar, Ghaziabad | 23540300 | 5 |
| 33. | Santosh Medical & Dental College Hospital, 1 Ambedkar Road, Ghaziabad. | 60415 | 2 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----|---|----------|-----|
| 34. | Yashoda Hospital & Research Centre, III-M, Nehru Nagar, Ghaziabad | 5012238 | 4 |
| 35. | Metro Hospital & Heart Institute, X-1, Sector-12, C-94, Sector-11, Noida | 16017318 | 16 |
| 36. | Kailash Hospital & Research Centre, H-33, Sector-27, Noida | 8836388 | 16 |
| 37. | Satya Medical Centre, A-98/A, Sector-34, Noida. | 806322 | 4 |
| 38. | Prakash Hospital, D-12, 21A, 12B, Sector-33, Noida | 2815313 | 4 |
| 39. | Escorts Hospital & Research Centre Ltd., Neelam Bata Road, Faridabad | 6015348 | 4 |
| 40. | Sri Ram Singh Hospital & Heart Institute B-25-26-26A, East Krishna Nagar, Delhi | Nil | Nil |
| 41. | R.B. Seth Jessa Ram & Bros. Charitable Hospital, W.E.A., Karol Bagh, New Delhi | Nil | Nil |
| 42. | Millennium Hospital, B-1/1, Pusa Road, New Delhi | Nil | Nil |
| 43. | R.G. Stone Urological Research Institute, F-7, East of Kailash, New Delhi. | Nil | Nil |
| 44. | Saroj Hospital, Madhuban Chowk, Rohini, Delhi-85 | Nil | Nil |
| 45. | Bapu Nature Cure Hospital | 1012600 | 6 |
| 46. | Krishna Dutt Health Centre | 348000 | 1 |
| 47. | AIIMS | | |
| 48. | Misc. Hospital | | |

Chiranjeevi Scheme and Janani Suraksha Yojana

3095. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has sought the details of the 'Chiranjeevi Scheme';

(b) if so, whether the Department of Health and Family Welfare has also sought the details of the said scheme;

(c) the details of the success achieved by the 'Janani Suraksha Yojana' in comparison with the 'Chiranjeevi Scheme'; and

(d) the assistance provided by the Government for the 'Chiranjeevi Scheme'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Chiranjeevi scheme which is a scheme of the Govt. of Gujarat, was started only in December, 2005 in five districts of Gujarat. It is therefore too early to assess the impact of the scheme and make comparison with the Janani Suraksha Yojana.

(d) The Govt. of Gujarat has proposed to implement the Chiranjeevi Yojana with a budgetary provision of Rs.

54.00 crores out of which Rs. 20 crores have been budgeted under Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme-II Programme Implementation Plan (PIP) for the year 2006-07 and remaining funds will be from the State budget.

The Government of India has, however, approved Rs. 81.41 Crores for the RCH-II PIP for Gujarat including Rs. 8.52 crores for JSY to be utilized for Chiranjeevi Scheme.

Condition of N.Hs in Maharashtra

3096. SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD:
SHRI TUKARAM GANGADHAR GADAKH:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to heavy rains in different parts of Maharashtra, the condition of National Highways has deteriorated over the years;

(b) whether any World Bank assistance has been sought to repair the National Highways;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to repair National Highways in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (d) The damages to National Highways occur every year during rainy season. Immediate restoration measures are undertaken to maintain traffic movement on National Highways. After assessment of damages, repairs are carried out under Flood Damage Repairs (FDR) as per available funds. Repair of National Highways is a continuous process for which funds are allocated under Maintenance and Repair (M&R). The National Highways in Maharashtra are being kept in traffic worthy condition within the available funds.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Increase in Nuclear Energy Capacity

3097. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Planning Commission has accepted a recommendation for increasing nuclear energy capacity to 100,000 MW in 25 years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) The Planning Commission had constituted an expert committee to formulate an integrated energy policy for the country. The expert committee in its draft report has suggested the possibility of reaching a nuclear power capacity of 48000 MWe in the next 25 years or so, by a mix of indigenous Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors, Fast Breeder Reactors and Light Water Reactors based on imports and is contingent on availability of fuel/reactors through international cooperation in nuclear field.

[*Translation*]

Listing of Sports in Different Categories

3098. SHRI K.C. SINGH "BABA" Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has listed sports in different categories;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the parameters/criteria adopted for listing of sports in different categories;

(e) whether Power Lifting has also been listed in sports category;

(f) if so, the parameter set for power lifting; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (d) The Government of India has listed various sports in three categories *viz.* 'Priority', 'General' and 'Others'. A set of dynamic criteria for the categorization of sports disciplines has been announced in July, 2005 which, *inter-alia*, is based on the performance of Indian teams/sportspersons in recognized international events like Olympic/Asian/Commonwealth Games/World Championships etc. The details of this are given below:

Priority: In this category, such disciplines are categorized where the following minimum performance is achieved:

- (i) First six in team events and first eight in individual events during the Olympic cycle;
- (ii) First four in team events and first six in individual events in the Asian Games/Commonwealth Games cycle; and
- (iii) First four in team events and first six in individual events in Government recognised World Cup etc. in Non-Olympic and Non-Asian/Commonwealth events.

General: This category includes disciplines where the following minimum performance is achieved:

- (i) Seventh to Tenth in team events and ninth to twelfth in individual events during Olympic cycle;
- (ii) Fifth to Eighth in team events and seventh to tenth in individual events in Asian/Commonwealth Cycle; and
- (iii) Fifth to eighth in team events and seventh to tenth in individual events in Government recognized World Cup etc. in Non-Olympic and Non-Asian/Commonwealth events.

Others: This category includes the remaining sports disciplines which do not meet the criteria for the 'Priority' and 'General' categories.

(e) to (g) As per the criteria for the categorization of sports disciplines mentioned above, Powerlifting is at present in the 'Others' category.

Communication Facilities in Tribal Areas

3099. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tribal areas are still far behind in terms of communication facilities;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has formulated any action plan for tribal areas of the country specially in Madhya Pradesh;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the action plan is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir. Tribal areas are to some extent lagging behind in terms of telecommunication facilities.

(b) Most of Tribal inhabitations are in remote, scattered and far flung areas. Hence, for techno-economic reasons, provision of telephone connections in these areas is difficult and slow.

(c) and (d) Under Bharat Nirman Programme, 66,822 remaining eligible unconnected villages of the country including villages in tribal areas are to be provided Village Public Telephones (VPTs) in a time bound manner. This excludes villages having less than 1000 population, lying in naxalite infested areas etc.

In Madhya Pradesh 11,894 eligible unconnected villages including villages in tribal areas are to be provided VPTs under Bharat Nirman Scheme. 8,293 such villages of Madhya Pradesh have been provided with VPTs as on 30.06.2006.

(e) Remaining eligible unconnected villages of the country including villages in tribal areas of Madhya Pradesh will be provided VPTs by November, 2007.

[English]

Supply of Non-Coking Coal to Thermal Power Stations/Steel Plants

3100. SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA:
SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY:
DR. K. DHANARAJU:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether high grade non-coking coal is supplied to the Thermal Power stations and Steel plants;

(b) if so, whether the generation of electricity and manufacturing of steel have been affected as a result of shortage of coal;

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

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) Old Power Stations and the plants falling under environmental regulations are presently supplied high grade non-coking coal. However, steel plants in the country generally do not use non-coking coal for steel making except sponge iron plants which prefer good quality non-coking coal. Indian coal, by virtue of drift origin, is having high ash content and reserve of low ash content coking coal and non-coking coal is very limited in the country.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The generation of power has generally not been affected due to coal shortage. As far as manufacturing of steel is concerned, the steel plants generally use coking coal. Due to limited availability of indigenous coking coal of requisite quality, steel plants are dependent on imported coal. Indigenous coking coal only supplements the total coal requirement of steel plants for steel making.

(d) Over the years, appropriate technology has been developed in the country to gainfully utilize high ash non-coking coal for power generation. In order to minimize the adverse environmental effect and reduce hauling of ash, Pithead power stations are being encouraged by the Government. However, distant power stations, situated more than 1000 Kms away from coalmines are being provided with coal of below 34% ash. Similarly, Power Stations situated within Urban areas or in critically polluted areas are also being supplied coal of below 34% ash content. Government has also been encouraging private sector participation to build coal washeries so as to facilitate beneficiation of high ash non-coking coal of the country.

Further, in order to facilitate steel plants procuring superior grades of metallurgical coal, Government has brought down import duty from a level of 35% in early nineties to NIL for coking coal containing ash upto 12% and 5% for coking coal containing ash above 12%. Government has also opened up import of coal under Open General License.

Policy on Critical Infrastructure Protection

3101. SHRI R. PRABHU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India does not have a policy on critical infrastructure protection and proper deployment of security systems as reported in 'The Hindustan Times' dated July 09, 2006;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) A policy on protection of critical infrastructure is in place. The policy is aimed at ensuring compliance by Government and critical sectors and verification through periodic risk assessments and annual audits by third party auditing organizations.

In support of the above security policy, Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) has created a panel of 55 IT security auditors to help the organizations to get their IT infrastructure and information systems audited from the point of view of Risk assessment, penetration of network and vulnerability assessment.

[*Translation*]

Purchasing Capacity of People

3102. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the Planning Commission, 40 crore people in the country are not in a position to purchase food items of daily need;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures being taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

*[English]***Special Package for Semi-Conductor Industry**

3103. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state The details of aspects likely to be included in promotion, incentives and special package for development of semi conductor industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): In the Finance Minister's Budget speech, it was stated that a policy would be announced with respect to the manufacture of Semiconductor and other high technology information Technology products, including Flat Liquid Crystal Display (LCD)/Organic Light Emitting Display (OLED)/Plasma Panel Displays and Storage Devices, to make India a preferred destination. A final view has yet to be taken regarding the package of incentives.

Unbundling of Local Loop

3104. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the private telecom operators have requested the Union Government for unbundling of local loop;

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

(c) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) & the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) Unions have strongly objected the decision and represented to the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (e) During the course of

discussions/meetings with the private telecom operators, they had raised various issues including Local Loop Unbundling. A number of representations have been received from the Unions opposing the unbundling of the local loop. As on date, there are no plans for unbundling of the local loop.

*[Translation]***Setting up of Regional Telecom District Office**

3105. SHRI SHISHUPAL PATLE:
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are problems in setting up of regional telecom district office in Godiya district of Maharashtra; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per existing Secondary Switching Area (SSA) concept, it is not permissible to bifurcate existing SSA for creation of new SSA (Telecom Distt.) due to operational, technical and administrative reasons. Due to these reasons, it is not feasible to create a Telecom. District at Godiya by bifurcating Bhandara Telecom. District.

*[English]***Quota for Haj Pilgrimage**

3106. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the details of State-wise quota for Haj pilgrimage during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): The details of State-wise quota for Haj pilgrimage during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise is enclosed as Statement as decided by the Haj Committee of India.

*Statement**The Year and State-wise Quota for Last Three Years*

| States | 2004 Original Quota | 2005 Original Quota | 2006 Original Quota |
|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Andaman Nicobar | 60 | 17 | 21 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 3906 | 4045 | 4955 |
| Assam | 4270 | 4871 | 5967 |
| Bihar | (#)8432 | 7944 | 9731 |
| Chandigarh | 60 | 21 | 25 |
| Chhattisgarh | — | 237 | 291 |
| Dadra and Nagar Havell | 40 | 4 | 5 |
| Daman and Diu | 40 | 7 | 9 |
| Delhi | 587 | 940 | 1151 |
| Goa | 60 | 53 | 65 |
| Gujarat | 2378 | 2659 | 3257 |
| Haryana | 504 | 708 | 867 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 50 | 69 | 85 |
| Jammu & Kashmir | 2718 | 3933 | 4818 |
| Jharkhand | — | 2160 | 2646 |
| Karnataka | 3451 | 3742 | 4584 |
| Kerala | 4476 | 4552 | 5577 |
| Lakshadweep | 121 | 33 | 41 |
| Madhya Pradesh | (*)2165 | 2224 | 2724 |
| Maharashtra | 5030 | 5946 | 7284 |
| Manipur | 88 | 111 | 135 |
| Orissa | 381 | 441 | 540 |
| Pondicherry | 60 | 34 | 42 |
| Punjab | 158 | 221 | 271 |
| Rajasthan | 2325 | 2772 | 3396 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| Tamil Nadu | 2013 | 2009 | 2461 |
| Tripura | 130 | 147 | 180 |
| Uttar Pradesh | (**)15897 | 17796 | 21800 |
| Uttaranchal | — | 586 | 718 |
| West Bengal | 10600 | 11718 | 14354 |
| Govt. Quota | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 |
| Total | 72000 | 82000 | 100000 |

(#)Including the quota of Jharkhand

(*)Including the quota of Chhattisgarh

(**)Including the quota of Uttaranchal.

Quality of WLL Service

3107. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey on quality of the Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) telephone service in rural and urban areas was conducted;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of service norms prescribed by the Telephone Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) for operating WLL; and

(d) the steps taken by the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) to ensure adherence to the quality of service norms fixed by the TRAI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) As per the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) Act, TRAI is mandated to monitor the Quality of Services (QoS). TRAI has not conducted separately any survey for the Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) services. TRAI has conducted survey on Customer Perception of Service for Cellular Mobile Services, which include WLL services. This survey was for the service area as a whole and not separately for rural and urban areas.

(c) The QoS norms for Basic Service (Wireless) and Cellular Mobile Telephone Service prescribed by TRAI is given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) The various steps taken by BSNL to ensure adherence to the QoS norms fixed by TRAI include upgradation of Customer end equipment with enhanced battery backup, upgradation of WLL exchange to CDMA 2000-1 X, increasing the number of WLL Base Transceive Stations (BTS), etc.

Statement

Basic Service (Wireless) and Cellular Mobile Telephone Service

| Sl.No. | Parameters | Benchmarks | Averaged over a period of |
|-----------|--|------------|---------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| A. | Network Performance | | |
| (i) | Accumulated down time of Community Isolation | < 24 hours | One quarter |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---|--|---|-------------|
| (ii) | Call set-up Success Rate (within licensees own network) | >95% | One quarter |
| (iii) | Service Access Delay | Between 9 to 20 seconds depending upon number of paging attempts (Average of 100 calls = < 15 sec.) | One quarter |
| (iv) | Blocked Call Rate | (i) SDCCH Congestion < 1% (ii) TCH Congestion < 2% | One month |
| (v) | Call Drop Rate | < 3% | One quarter |
| (vi) | Percentage of connections with good voice quality | > 95% | One quarter |
| (vii) | Service Coverage | In door > = - 75 dBm In-vehicle > = - 85 dBm Out door - in city > = - 95 dBm | |
| (viii) | POI Congestion | < 0.5% | One quarter |
| B. Customer Help Lines: | | | |
| (i) | Response time to the customer for assistance | (i) %age of calls answered (electronically): within 20 seconds = 80% within 40 seconds = 95% (ii) %age of calls answered by operator (voice to voice): within 60 seconds = 80% within 90 seconds = 95% | One month |
| C. Billing Complaints: | | | |
| (i) | Billing complaints per 100 bill issued | < 0.1% | One quarter |
| (ii) | % of billing complaints resolved within 4 weeks | 100% | One quarter |
| (iii) | Period of all refunds/payments due to customers from the date of resolution of complaints as in (ii) above | < 4 weeks | One quarter |
| D. Customer perception of service: | | | |
| (i) | % satisfied with the provision of service | > 95 | |
| (ii) | % satisfied with the billing performance | > 90 | |
| (iii) | % satisfied with help services | > 90 | |
| (iv) | % satisfied with network performance, reliability and availability | > 95 | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-------|---|------|---|
| (v) | % satisfied with maintainability | > 95 | |
| (vi) | Overall customer satisfaction | > 95 | |
| (vii) | Customer satisfaction with offered supplementary services % satisfied | > 95 | |

Terror on Internet*[Translation]*

3108. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:
SHRI DEEPENDER SINGH HOODA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps to check terror on the internet;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has identified such websites; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Information Technology Act, 2000 together with Indian Penal Code, 1860 provides legal framework for countering crimes committed through computer and check terror on the internet;

(c) Certain websites which are found to be hosted on Internet publish material to serve the interest of various groups. These websites are largely hosted outside India.

(d) Besides intercepting any information transmitted through any computer sources in relation to interests of the sovereignty or integrity of India, security of the State, Public order, etc., the Central Government can also issue instructions to Internet Service Providers for blocking of such websites in India.

Panchayat Elections in Jharkhand

3109. SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA:
Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Panchayat elections have been held in Jharkhand;

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

(c) whether Jharkhand has suffered a loss of crores of rupees for not holding the elections;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the amount of funds provided by the Union Government to Jharkhand?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Panchayat elections have not been held in Jharkhand so far on account of the Jharkhand High Court striking down the provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 and the provisions of the Jharkhand Panchayati Raj Act 2001 relating to reservations for SCs, STs and OBCs, as under:

(i) 2nd proviso to clause (g) of Section 4 of the provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 which stipulates that all seats of Chairpersons of Panchayats at all levels in Scheduled Areas shall be reserved for the Scheduled Tribes.

(ii) Section 21(B), Section 40(B) and Section 55 (B) of the Jharkhand Panchayat Raj Act, 2001 which seek to give effect to the 2nd proviso to clause (g) of Section 4 of the 1996 Act; and

- (iii) Sub-section 2 to Section 17(B), Sub-section 2 to Section 36(B) and sub-section 2 to Section 51(B) of the 2001 Act which seek to provide reservations of upto 80% for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward classes with not less than 50% reservation in favour of Scheduled Tribes. In view of the Order of the Hon'ble High Court of Jharkhand, the Government of Jharkhand has withdrawn the notification for the election of Panchayats in Jharkhand.

The Union of India has since filed an SLP in the Supreme Court of India (CC No. 12459/2005) seeking to quash the judgement of the Hon'ble High Court of Jharkhand. The Chief Secretary to the Government of Jharkhand, Secretary, Rural Development, Government of Jharkhand and the Election Commission, Government of Jharkhand are proforma Respondents in this matter. The Minister of Panchayati Raj has also written to the Chief Minister Jharkhand for holding elections in the State at the earliest as per the Constitutional provisions and the provisions of PESA. The Union of India has also requested Additional Solicitor General to make a special mention in the Supreme Court of India for an early hearing of the case. An Interim Application has also been filed before the Hon'ble Supreme Court for an early hearing.

(c) to (e) The money allocated to the Panchayats is through individual Centrally Sponsored Schemes administered by different Ministries of Government of India under their respective guidelines. The monitoring of these guidelines is the responsibility of the sponsoring Ministry concerned.

[English]

Report of Energy Policy Committee

3110. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Energy Policy Committee has submitted its Report;
- (b) if so, the salient features thereof;
- (c) whether the Committee had recommended for having a bio-diesel policy to meet the oil crisis in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) The Expert Committee on Integrated Energy Policy has not yet submitted its Report to the Government.

(b) to (d) In view of the above the Questions do not arise.

Super Computer for Research and Development

3111. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any action plan to ensure self sufficiency in indigenous production of super computers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of super computers available and institutions operating them for research and development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of India, through Department of Information Technology, set up Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) as a Scientific Society for Research and Development in the areas of Information and Communications Technology, including design, development and deployment of High Performance Computing.

C-DAC has delivered PARAM series of indigenous supercomputers through its three missions. So far, C-DAC has more than 50 installations of these supercomputers in India and abroad.

C-DAC is also working on the GARUDA grid computing initiative to give high-speed access to the Supercomputers to the participating institutions.

In addition, Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is also developing Supercomputers.

(c) A Number of Institutions are having supercomputers, of varying performance, in the country. These include C-DAC; DARDO labs, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mumbai; Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (IGIB), Delhi; Institute of Mathematical

Science, Chennai; National Aeronautics Laboratory, Bangalore; University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad; Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore; Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai; and National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting, Noida.

Rural Indebtedness

3112. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) has found that the 43.42 million of the estimated 89.35 million rural farmer households, that is 48.6 per cent, are indebted;

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

(c) whether the indebted rural farmer households spend more than 50 per cent of the measly Rs. 300 on food alone;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) The NSSO 59th Round survey revealed that out of 89.35% million farmer households 43.42 million (48.6%) were reported to be indebted i.e.

having a liability in cash or kind with value Rs. 300 or more at the time of transaction.

(b) The details are annexed (Statement). The common reasons for taking loan are (i) capital expenditure in farm business and non-farm business, (ii) consumption expenditure, (iii) marriages and ceremonies, (iv) education and (v) medical treatment.

(c) and (d) As per NSS report, for the rural farmer households, expenditure on food is more than 50 percent of their total expenditure. The main reasons for this is the priority for food items and low level of purchasing power of rural farmer households.

(e) The Government of India has accorded the highest priority to revitalization of rural economy including agriculture sector and bringing improvement in the conditions of farmers. For this purpose a number of schemes are undertaken in various states and farmers are given assistance under different components. Most of the schemes are being implemented through the State Governments. The policy decisions are (i) doubling of agricultural credit flow in next three years and provision of debt relief to the farmers affected by natural calamities, (ii) restructure the rate of interest in favour of farmers, (iii) revamping of cooperative credit structure, (iv) National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) & (v) special package of rehabilitation to mitigate the distress of farmers in the districts registering high incidence of farmers suicide in the identified States, namely, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala and effective implementation of poverty alleviation programmes in rural areas.

Statement

Estimated Number of Farmer & Indebted Farmer Households

| State | Estimated Number of farmer households (00) | Estimated Number of indebted farmer households (00) | percentage of indebted farmer households (00) |
|-------------------|--|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 60339 | 49493 | 82.0 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 1227 | 72 | 5.9 |
| Assam | 25040 | 4536 | 18.1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| Bihar | 70804 | 23383 | 33.0 |
| Chhattisgarh | 27598 | 11092 | 40.2 |
| Gujarat | 37845 | 19644 | 51.9 |
| Haryana | 19445 | 10330 | 53.1 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 9061 | 3030 | 33.4 |
| Jammu & Kashmir | 9432 | 3003 | 31.8 |
| Jharkhand | 28238 | 5893 | 20.9 |
| Karnataka | 40413 | 24897 | 61.6 |
| Kerala | 21946 | 14126 | 64.4 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 63206 | 32110 | 50.8 |
| Maharashtra | 65817 | 36098 | 54.8 |
| Manipur | 2146 | 533 | 24.8 |
| Meghalaya | 2543 | 103 | 4.1 |
| Mizoram | 780 | 184 | 23.6 |
| Nagaland | 805 | 294 | 36.5 |
| Orissa | 42341 | 20250 | 47.8 |
| Punjab | 18442 | 12069 | 65.4 |
| Rajasthan | 53080 | 27828 | 52.4 |
| Sikkim | 531 | 174 | 32.8 |
| Tamilnadu | 38880 | 28954 | 74.5 |
| Tripura | 2333 | 1148 | 49.2 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 171575 | 89199 | 40.3 |
| Uttaranchal | 8962 | 644 | 7.2 |
| West Bengal | 69226 | 34696 | 50.1 |
| Group of UT's | 732 | 372 | 50.8 |
| All India | 893504 | 434242 | 48.6 |

(separate figures for Delhi & Goa are not included in this table due to inadequate sample size.)

Special Package

3113. SHRI MANI CHARENAMEI:
SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any State from the North East and Southern States has requested the Union Government to provide Special Package for various schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the decision taken by the Union Government thereon; and

(d) the time by which the package is likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) to (d) No proposal for Special package for taking up various schemes has been received from North Eastern states or under consideration of the Government. However, Ministry of Agriculture is working out a rehabilitation package for mitigating distress of farmers in the identified districts of Kerala, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh on the lines of package that has been announced for the Vidarbha region of Maharashtra.

[Translation]

Pending Health Care Proposal

3114. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from Madhya Pradesh regarding providing basic health care facilities and upgradation of child and mother care hospitals in certain districts of the State with the assistance of Japan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) Yes Sir. A proposal titled "Upgradation of Mother and Child Hospital and Basic Health Services in Gwalior, Shivpuri and Guna districts of Madhya Pradesh," was posed to Government of Japan in August, 2004. The total project cost was US \$ 10,000,000. However, Government of Japan has not approved the proposal.

[English]

Availing LTC by Pvt. Airlines

3115. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether IAS, IPS and IFS officers can travel by private airlines while availing their LTC or attending to official work;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the changed provision would affect the earnings of the public sector airlines; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The DOPT in its letter No. 11022/3/2006-AIS-II dated 4.5.2006 has extended the provisions of DOPT's O.M. No. 31011/2/2006-Esst. (A) dated 24.4.2006 read with Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure's O.M. No. 19024/1/E.IV/2005 dated 24.3.2006 to the officers of the three All India Services (IAS, IPS & IFS). According to this provision these officers can now travel by private airlines while availing their LTC or attending to official work within the country subject to certain conditions given in Department of Expenditure's said O.M. which includes the basic criteria of better and more competitive prices.

(c) and (d) The changed provisions may not impact on the passenger volumes and revenue of the public sector airlines if these airlines are able to make themselves more effective and competitive.

*[Translation]***Investment for R&D in Health Sector**

3116. SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI:
SHRIMATI KALPNA RAMESH NARHIRE:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether enough investment has not been made in the area of research and development in the health sector;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there exists no national policy regarding priorities;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government has taken appropriate steps in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (e) The National Health Policy, 2002 indicates that expenditure on research is low. In order to give an impetus in medical and health research activities in the country, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has a proposal for creation of a new Department on Health Research.

A draft National Health Research Policy (NHRP) has been prepared by Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR). The Policy has been circulated to concerned scientific and medical institution for consideration.

*[English]***Setting up of Modern Telephone Exchanges in Karnataka**

3117. SHRI P.C. GADDIGUDAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of automatic and modern telephone exchanges set up in Karnataka during the last two years, location-wise; and

(b) the details of such exchanges proposed to be set up in Karnataka during the year 2006-07?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Sir, only automatic and modern telephone exchanges are set up in the country including at Karnataka. Location-wise exchanges set up by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) during 2004-05 and 2005-2006, is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) Details of exchanges proposed to be set up by BSNL during the year 2006-07 are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement I**(I) Automatic and modern telephone exchanges set up by BSNL in Karnataka during the year 2004-05.**

| | | | |
|----|-----------------------|---|------------|
| 1. | Kerady (ANRAX) | — | 152 Lines |
| 2. | Kadavanthi (ANRAX) | — | 152 Lines |
| 3. | Nagarabavi (AXE RSU) | — | 2500 Lines |
| 4. | RBI lay out (OCB RSU) | — | 2048 Lines |

(II) Automatic and modern telephone exchanges set up by BSNL in Karnataka during the year 2005-06.

| | | | |
|----|----------------------------------|---|-------------|
| 1. | Kalasipalyam (AXE RSU) | — | 20488 Lines |
| 2. | Shobha Apartments (CDOT RSU) | — | 3000 Lines |
| 3. | Astra Zeneca (company) (AXE RSU) | — | 1000 Lines |

| | | |
|----|----------------------------|------------|
| 4. | ABB (company) (AXE RSU) | 1000 Lines |
| 5. | Basavanagudi DTO (AXE RSU) | 2048 Lines |
| 6. | RMZ (company) (AXE RSU) | 1000 Lines |
| 7. | Gadag (OCB) | 2000 Lines |

Statement II*New exchanges in Karnataka during the year 2006-07***(I) Exchanges already installed and commissioned**

| | | | |
|----|-----------------------|------------|------------|
| 1. | Rajajinagar 6th Block | OCB RSU | 2048 Lines |
| 2. | Malleswaram DTO | OCB RSU | 2048 Lines |
| 3. | Thanisandra | OCB RSU | 2048 Lines |
| 4. | Sultanpet | OCB RSU | 1024 Lines |
| 5. | Tamaka | OCB RSU | 360 Lines |
| 6. | Devagiri | CDOT ANRAX | 368 Lines |

(II) Balance exchanges planned for the year 2006-07 (15 Nos.)

| Sl.No. | Location | Type | Capacity |
|--------|-----------------------------------|-------|----------|
| 1. | Best Country | 5 ESS | 2K |
| 2. | Chhannakeshvanagar | 5 ESS | 3K |
| 3. | Yelachanahalli | AXE | 2K |
| 4. | Thambuchettypalya | AXE | 2K |
| 5. | Viswappriyanagar | 5 ESS | 2K |
| 6. | Abbigere | AXE | 2K |
| 7. | UB City | OCB | 1K |
| 8. | Avalahalli | AXE | 2K |
| 9. | Benniganahalli | 5 ESS | 2K |
| 10. | ABB Infantry Road | OCB | 1K |
| 11. | Shivan Chetty Gardens | OCB | 4K |
| 12. | Marathahalli | OCB | 2K |
| 13. | Rajaji Nagar 3rd block | OCB | 2K |
| 14. | Prestige Ozone white field | OCB | 2K |
| 15. | Prestige Trekstar Outer Ring Road | 5 ESS | 1K |

Four Laning of National Highway No. 48

3118. SHRI D.V. SADANAND GOWDA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal pending with the Union Government regarding four laning of NH No. 48 from Hassan to Mangalore;

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

(c) the time by which the proposal is likely to be cleared by Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) The total length of National Highway-48 from Bangalore to Mangalore in Karnataka is 348 Km. The stretch from Bangalore to Neelamangala (Km. 0.00 to 28.00) is already four-laned and that from Neelamangala to Hassan (Km. 28.00 to 182.00) is included for four-laning under National Highway Development Project (NHDP) Phase III-A. The stretch from Km. 328.00 to 345.00 is being four laned under Port Connectivity. Though there was demand from State Government of Karnataka for four-laning of remaining stretches of this National Highway, no detailed proposal based on feasibility study and viability analysis has been received. Therefore, no such proposal is pending in the Ministry at present.

[*Translation*]

Tax System

3119. SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID:
DR. RAJESH MISHRA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under the consideration of Planning Commission to make tax and tax system internationally competitive during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) to (c) The Draft Approach Paper to the 11th Plan, which is yet to be approved by the Planning Commission, has suggested that taxes and duties should be non-distortionary and internationally competitive. The Government has been rationalizing taxes and duties since early 90s and the process is expected to continue. Ministry of Finance receives and processes all related suggestions from time to time.

Sale of Drugs at Grocery Shops

3120. SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:
SHRI MUNSHI RAM:
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:
SHRI SHISHUPAL PATLE:
SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has given permission to sell drugs at grocery shops as reported in the 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated July 28, 2006;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether the Government has contemplated to amend the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945;

(d) if so, whether a booklet containing guidelines to sell only quality drugs at grocery shops is proposed to be given to all such sellers;

(e) if so, whether suggestions have been invited from common people in this regard;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the further steps proposed to be taken to prevent the sale of spurious drugs at such shops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) The Government has proposed to amend Schedule K to the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 to grant exemption from the provisions of sale licences, in respect of certain commonly used drugs which are considered safe for use over long period of time, to permit their sale from non-pharmacy sale outlets.

(d) The conditions which are required to be observed by such sellers would be provided under the said rules along with exemption.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. Gazette notification containing the draft rules has been published in the Gazette of India for comments from the public for consideration before finalizing the amendment to the rules.

(g) The drugs covered under the exemption would be required to be purchased from licensed manufacturers or dealers and records of such purchases maintained. The drugs would be required to be stored separately and in original unopened containers or strips. The sale of spurious drugs is an offence and would be dealt according to the relevant provisions under the Drugs and Cosmetic Act.

[English]

Ratification of UN Convention against Corruption

3121. ADV. SURESH KURUP:
DR. R. SENTHIL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has signed and ratified the United Nations Convention against Corruption;

(b) if so, the features of the Convention alongwith the mechanism to incorporate the provisions in the domestic laws; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delaying the ratification?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) to (c) India has signed the United Nations Convention against Corruption on 9th December, 2005.

The Convention prescribes series of measures for preventing corruption and mandates the parties to consider criminalizing certain conducts in their domestic law such as bribery of national public officials, foreign public officials and officials of public international organizations; embezzlement etc. by a public official; abuse of functions

by public officials; bribery and embezzlement of property in the private sector; laundering of proceeds of crime; obstruction of justice; and participation in an offence established in accordance with the Convention etc. The Convention also mandates the parties to provide for sanctions against the commission of offences established under the Convention, appropriate prosecution and adjudication measures; confiscation of the proceeds of crime; measures in accordance with its domestic legal system for the protection of witnesses, experts, victims and reporting persons; measures for addressing the consequences of corruption, compensation for damage. The convention also required cooperation between national authorities and private sector in investigation and prosecution of offences; and mechanism to overcome obstacles of bank secrecy laws. The Convention also mandates the parties for prevention and detection of transfers of proceeds of crime, mechanism for recovery of property through international cooperation in confiscation, return and disposal of assets and establishing financial intelligence units to monitor suspicious financial transactions. The convention also provides for extensive international cooperation.

India is amongst many countries who have signed the United Nations Convention against Corruption but have not yet ratified the same. As no fixed time frame has been prescribed for ratification of the convention, there has not been any delay in this regard. However, various Ministries/Departments have been requested for taking necessary action for initiating the process of enacting requisite enabling legislations pertaining to respective Ministry/Department, as may be required. On the basis of comments received from various Ministries/Departments, an inter-ministerial Joint Working Group has been constituted so that all relevant issues for making our laws in conformity with the United Nations Convention against Corruption are addressed in a comprehensive manner.

Sanction for Signing Bilateral/Multilateral Treaties

3122. SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:
SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY:
SHRI P. MOHAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether signing of bilateral/multilateral treaties by Executive on matter of National Importance precede the formal sanction from the Legislature;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such practice is constitutionally in order and conforming to established practice;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the remedial measures likely to be adopted in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) and (b) The Union Government with the approval of the Cabinet concludes all treaties and agreements with foreign countries. Legislature's approval is required for any implementing legislation, wherever necessary.

(c) and (d) The present practice is constitutionally in order and conforming to established practice.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Plantation Scheme in Coal Extraction Areas

3123. SHRI TEK LAL MAHTO: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has undertaken plantation of fruit bearing trees under the plantation scheme by levelling large ditches and heaps of soil/waste material emanating from coal extraction in Jharkhand and adjacent hilly and barren land areas;

(b) if so, the details of the plantation work carried out during the last three years and the current year till date alongwith the expenditure incurred thereon, year-wise and location-wise;

(c) the details of the contribution made by the CCL and the BCCL therein;

(d) whether any standing orders have been issued by the Government in this regard;

(e) if so, whether these orders are being followed properly; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) Plantation activities are undertaken over backfilled, areas besides external over burden dumps, plains, roads, etc. by Coal India Limited. Percentage of fruit bearing trees generally vary between 10% and 15% of the total plantation. Backfilling on voids created by coal extraction, however, can not be taken up in many mines because of multi seam working. Hence plantation activities cannot be undertaken in such places, till coal reserves in all the seams are exhausted.

(b) The details of the plantation work carried out during last three years and current year till date, year-wise and district-wise along with expenditure, incurred thereon are given below:

| Districts | Nos. of trees planted/ expenditure in (Lakhs) | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | Total |
|------------|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| Hazaribagh | Nos. of trees planted | 487,500 | 173,750 | 178,975 | 232,650 | 1,072,875 |
| | Expenditure | 78.10 | 49.35 | 37.67 | 40.78 | 205.90 |
| Bokaro | Nos. of trees planted | 62,500 | 326,000 | 182,500 | 187,150 | 758,150 |
| | Expenditure | 10.01 | 92.58 | 38.40 | 32.81 | 173.00 |
| Chatra | Nos. of trees planted | 50,000 | 81,250 | 52,500 | 12,500 | 196,250 |
| | Expenditure | 8.00 | 23.07 | 11.05 | 2.19 | 44.31 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|---------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------|-----------|
| Girdih | Nos. of trees planted | — | — | — | 67,500 | 67,500 |
| | Expenditure | — | — | — | 11.83 | 11.83 |
| Ranchi | Nos. of trees planted | 22,500 | 22,000 | 62,500 | 32,500 | 139,500 |
| | Expenditure | 3.60 | 6.25 | 13.17 | 5.70 | 28.72 |
| Dhanbad | Nos. of trees planted | 6,000 | 13,000 | 16,000 | 200,000 | 235,000 |
| | Expenditure | Departmental work | Departmental work | Departmental work | 24.60 | 24.60 |
| Total | No. of trees planted | 628,500 | 616,000 | 492,475 | 732,300 | 2,469,276 |
| | Expenditure | 99.71 | 171.25 | 100.29 | 117.91 | 489.16 |

In Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL), plantations are taken up on receipt of funds, specific for the purpose under certain schemes, as under Jharia action plan in the current year. In the past when fund was not available, only small quantities were done in the form of departmental work for which the cost incurred was inconsequential.

(c) The complete plantation work of Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) is done from its own fund and the CCL have incurred an expenditure of Rs. 464.50 Lakh from the year 2003-04 till date in the current year. The expenditure of Rs. 24.60 lakhs in BCCL in the current year is out of the corpus made out of contribution from Government of India and Coal India Limited for implementation of Jharia Action Plan.

(d) to (f) The Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986 provides for the protection and improvement of environment. Besides, the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, and other related acts are also applicable to coal mines, the provisions of which are complied which Coal India Limited has also formulated guidelines in this regard for implementation by its coal producing companies and also for mitigating the adverse environmental impacts of mining activities. In compliance with such guidelines, massive plantation, in and around the work place and residential zones, in the command areas of the companies are undertaken as a significant mitigating measures.

[English]

Uniform Licence Fee for Telecom Services

3124. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN:
SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPAPARAI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up uniform licence fee for mobile and fixed phone services;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the target fixed for implementing the same; and

(c) the revenue losses likely to be incurred as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) Associations of Telecom Service Providers have given representations for reducing the licence fee to a uniform rate of 6% of Adjusted Gross Revenue. This proposal is under examination of the Government. This being a policy matter, no time limit can be fixed for implementing the same. The revenue implications will be clear only after the examination is completed.

Doha Round of WTO Meet

3125. SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPAN:
SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:
SHRI MOHAN SINGH:
SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the G-8 member countries have decided to end the impasse on Doha round of the WTO meet;

(b) if so, whether the G-8 countries agreed on/ formulated any action plan to curtail agricultural subsidy being provided by developed countries;

(c) if so, whether the inclusion of India as a permanent member of G-8 was also reiterated in the summit;

(d) if so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken on all these matters; and

(e) the main objectives and duties relating to the new doctrine of muscular multilateralism as highlighted in the said summit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) The G-8 Summit held in St. Petersburg from 15-17 July 2006 urged all parties to commit to the concerted leadership and action need to reach a successful conclusion of the Doha Round of WTO negotiations by the end of 2006.

(b) The G-8 countries reiterated their commitment to substantially reduce trade-distorting domestic support and to the parallel elimination of all forms of export subsidies in agriculture by the end of 2013.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) There was no reference to any new doctrine of muscular multilateralism in the outcome documents of the Summit.

Pending Demand of CSCS

3126. SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any demand of Central Secretariat Clerical Services forum is pending with the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to fulfil the demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS

AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) The demands made by the Central Secretariat Clerical Services Association relating to removal of stagnation in the grades of LDC & UDC of Central Secretariat Clerical Service (CSCS) were considered but it has not been found feasible to accept the same as they are not in accordance with the statutory rules in force and the decisions taken by the Government on Cadre Restructuring of Central Secretariat Service (CSS). However, to remove stagnation, Assured Career Progression (ACP) Scheme providing for two financial upgradation on completion of 12 & 24 years of regular service has already been introduced. As regards the demand for the issuance of Select Lists for Assistance of CSS and UDCs of CSCS in a time bound manner, it is a continuous process and efforts are made to complete it in a time bound manner.

Construction of National Highway in Gujarat

3127. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from Government of Gujarat for construction of new National Highway from Shamlalji to Vapi *via* Tribal Area in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. We have received a proposal for declaration of a State road namely, Shamlalji-Modasa-Godhara-Vapi State Highway No. 5 which passes through tribal area (Length-506 km) as new National Highway from State Government. At present, emphasis is being given for development of roads already declared as National Highways and accordingly the conversion of State roads as national Highways is not in the priority of the Government.

(c) As and when the Government decides to declare new National Highways, requirement of different States including that of Gujarat would be given due consideration subject to the availability of funds and *inter se* priority.

[Translation]

Scheme for Nurturing Future Olympians

3128. SHRI ANANT GUDHE: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has implemented any scheme to promote the deprived sportspersons to become future Olympians;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount spent on this scheme during the last three years, year-wise; and

(d) the outcome of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (d) The promotion of sports is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments and the National Sports Federations (NSFs). The Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments and NSFs through a number of schemes which are indicated in the Statement, including the National Sports Development Fund, Assistance to Promising Sportsmen under the Scheme for Talent Search and Training, Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations and the various schemes of Sports Authority of India are aimed at providing support in various forms to promising sportspersons, including "deprived sportspersons", to achieve excellence in international events.

Statement

The Government of India runs the following schemes to promote and provide incentives for sports activities and sportspersons in the country.

1. Scheme relating to Incentives for the Promotion of Sports Activities, which has the following components:

- (a) Sports Fund for Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons
- (b) Promotion of Sports and Games in Schools
- (c) Rural Sports Programme
- (d) Sports Scholarship Scheme
- (e) National Sports Development Fund

2. National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons
3. Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations
4. Assistance to Promising sportsmen under the Scheme for Talent Search and Training
5. National Sports Championship for Women
6. Scheme for State sports Academies.
7. The Government of India also gives awards under different schemes to individuals and institutions. These include the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Awards, Arjuna Awards, Dronacharya Awards, Dhyan Chand Award for Life Time Achievements in Sports and Games, Special Awards to Winners in International Sports Events and their Coaches and the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy for Universities.

In addition, the Sports Authority of India implements the following sports promotion schemes in the country:

1. National Sports Talent Context (NSTC)
2. Army Boys Sports Company (ABSC)
3. SAI Training Centre (STC)
4. Special Area Games (SAG) Scheme
5. Centre of Excellence (COX).

[English]

Plans for Women Sportspersons

3129. SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian women sportspersons are bringing laurels and glory to the country in international sports events;

(b) if so, the steps the Union Government proposes to take to attract more and more women to various discipline of sports;

(c) the plans/strategy adopted/to be taken by the Union Government for 2010 Commonwealth Games specially for women sportspersons;

(d) whether the Union Government has received complaints of exploitation of women sportspersons; and

(e) if so, the action taken against the guilty persons including the steps taken to stop such exploitation of women sportspersons?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Due consideration and attention is given under all Central and Centrally Sponsored schemes for attracting and promoting talented women sportspersons. In addition, the Government of India is implementing schemes for Special Sports Scholarships for Women and the National Sports Championships for Women. Besides, the Government of India is supplementing the efforts of State Governments and National Sports Federations (NSFs) through a variety of schemes aimed at talent search, training and provision of financial assistance to promising sportspersons, and assistance to the NSFs for the participation of sportspersons/teams in international tournaments, organization of national/international tournaments in India, coaching/training of teams under Indian and foreign coaches, procurement of equipment and provision of technical and scientific back-up and support.

(c) The Government is holding discussions with the Indian Olympic Association, the Organising Committee of the Commonwealth Games-2010, the Sports Authority of India and various National Sports Federations in respect of preparation of teams and enhancement of medal prospects with reference to the Commonwealth Games-2010. In this process, identification of promising sportspersons in the women and girls category is also being given due consideration with the aim of being able to provide the required assistance, and put in place other arrangements for their preparations.

(d) and (e) The Government of India and SAI have not received any recent complaint of exploitation of women sportspersons. However, SAI has constituted a committee for redressal of complaints of sexual harassment and protection of women from sexual harassment in work places.

Computerisation of Post Offices

3130. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA:
SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:
SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGÉ PATIL:
SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of computers installed in Post Offices of Assam, Jammu and Kashmir, Maharashtra and Punjab for the registration purpose during the last three years, location-wise;

(b) the places where computers are proposed to be installed in these States during the current financial year, location-wise;

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon;

(d) whether any problems are being faced in providing computer facility in Jammu and Kashmir;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) The number of computers installed in Post Offices of Assam, Jammu & Kashmir, Maharashtra and Punjab for the registration purpose during the last three years, location-wise, is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) The places where computers are proposed to be installed in the States of Assam, Jammu & Kashmir, Maharashtra and Punjab during the current financial year 2006-07, location-wise, are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(c) The expenditure likely to be incurred thereon is Rs. 8,80,61,021.

(d) to (f) Power cuts and low voltage are the main problems for providing computer facility uninterruptedly in the Post Offices in Jammu & Kashmir. Generators are being provided to overcome the problem of power shortage and Uninterrupted Power Supply (UPS) systems have been provided to deal with voltage fluctuations.

Statement I

Details of Post Offices alongwith number of computers installed for registration purpose during last three years

Assam

| Sl.No. | Name of Post Office | No. of computers |
|--------|---------------------|------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Abhayapuri | 1 |
| 2. | Arunachal | 1 |
| 3. | Assam Tribune | 1 |
| 4. | Assam Sachivalaya | 1 |
| 5. | Badarpur | 1 |
| 6. | Bamunimaldan | 1 |
| 7. | Barbarua | 1 |
| 8. | Barpeta HO | 1 |
| 9. | Barpeta Road | 1 |
| 10. | Baskandi | 1 |
| 11. | Bharallumukh | 1 |
| 12. | Bihupuria | 1 |
| 13. | Bijni | 1 |
| 14. | Bijoynagar | 1 |
| 15. | Bilasipara | 1 |
| 16. | Boko | 1 |
| 17. | Bongaigaon | 1 |
| 18. | CC College | 1 |
| 19. | Chabua | 1 |
| 20. | Chairali | 1 |
| 21. | Chandkhira | 1 |
| 22. | Chhaygaon | 1 |
| 23. | Demaji | 1 |
| 24. | Dergaon | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|-----------------------|---|
| 25. | Dewanjbazar | 1 |
| 26. | Dhakukhana | 1 |
| 27. | Dhekiajuli | 1 |
| 28. | Dhing | 1 |
| 29. | Dhubri HO | 1 |
| 30. | Dibrugarh | 1 |
| 31. | Dibrugarh HO | 1 |
| 32. | Digboi | 1 |
| 33. | Dikom | 1 |
| 34. | Diphu HO | 1 |
| 35. | Dispur | 1 |
| 36. | Doom Dooma | 1 |
| 37. | Duliajan | 1 |
| 38. | Fancybazar | 1 |
| 39. | Gauripur | 1 |
| 40. | Goalpara | 1 |
| 41. | Gohpur | 1 |
| 42. | Golaghat HO | 1 |
| 43. | Golokganj | 1 |
| 44. | Gossoigaon | 1 |
| 45. | Guwahati GPO | 1 |
| 46. | Guwhati University HO | 1 |
| 47. | Haflong | 1 |
| 48. | Hailakandi HO | 1 |
| 49. | Hairbargaon | 1 |
| 50. | Hajo | 1 |
| 51. | Hojai | 1 |
| 52. | Jakalabandha | 1 |
| 53. | Jogi Road | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|-----------------|---|
| 54. | Jorhat HO | 1 |
| 55. | K.P. Ghat | 1 |
| 56. | Kalaigaon | 1 |
| 57. | Kampur | 1 |
| 58. | Karimganjbazar | 1 |
| 59. | Karimganj HO | 1 |
| 60. | Khanapara | 1 |
| 61. | Kokrajhar HO | 1 |
| 62. | Lahoal | 1 |
| 63. | Lanka | 1 |
| 64. | Ledo | 1 |
| 65. | Lumding | 1 |
| 66. | Makum Jn | 1 |
| 67. | Maligaon | 1 |
| 68. | Mangaldoi HO | 1 |
| 69. | Margherita | 1 |
| 70. | Mariani | 1 |
| 71. | Mazbat | 1 |
| 72. | Mirza | 1 |
| 73. | Mohanbari | 1 |
| 74. | Morigaon | 1 |
| 75. | Nagaon HO | 1 |
| 76. | Nalbari HO | 1 |
| 77. | Nazira | 1 |
| 78. | Newbongaigaon | 1 |
| 79. | Nilam Bazar | 1 |
| 80. | Noonmati | 1 |
| 81. | North Lakhimpur | 1 |
| 82. | Paltanbazar | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|-------------------------|---|
| 83. | Panchgram | 1 |
| 84. | Pandu | 1 |
| 85. | Paniyola | 1 |
| 86. | Patharkandi | 1 |
| 87. | Pathsala | 1 |
| 88. | Ramkrishnanagar | 1 |
| 89. | Rangapara | 1 |
| 90. | Rangia | 1 |
| 91. | Rangirkhari | 1 |
| 92. | Rehabari | 1 |
| 93. | Roha | 1 |
| 94. | Sapatgram | 1 |
| 95. | Senairambazar | 1 |
| 96. | Sibsagar HO | 1 |
| 97. | Silapathar | 1 |
| 98. | Silchar Medical College | 1 |
| 99. | Silchar HO | 1 |
| 100. | Silpukhuri | 1 |
| 101. | Simalugouri | 1 |
| 102. | Sonaimukh | 1 |
| 103. | Sorbhog | 1 |
| 104. | Tangla | 1 |
| 105. | Tanmbulpur | 1 |
| 106. | Tarapur | 1 |
| 107. | Tezpur HO | 1 |
| 108. | Tihu | 1 |
| 109. | Tinsukia HO | 1 |
| 110. | Ulubari | 1 |

| <i>Jammu and Kashmir</i> | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Sl.No. | Name of Post Office | No. of computers |
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Akhnoor | 1 |
| 2. | Anantnag HO | 1 |
| 3. | Badgam | 1 |
| 4. | Bakshi Nagar | 1 |
| 5. | Bandipur | 1 |
| 6. | Banihal | 1 |
| 7. | Baramulla | 1 |
| 8. | Basohli | 1 |
| 9. | Batmaloo | 1 |
| 10. | Batote | 1 |
| 11. | Batwara | 1 |
| 12. | Bhaderwah | 1 |
| 13. | Bilwar | 1 |
| 14. | D. Mendhar | 1 |
| 15. | Doda | 1 |
| 16. | Dumana | 1 |
| 17. | Dyala Chack | 1 |
| 18. | Ganderbal | 1 |
| 19. | Gandhinagar HO | 1 |
| 20. | Gangyal | 1 |
| 21. | Garhi | 1 |
| 22. | Handwara | 1 |
| 23. | Hirarnagar | 1 |
| 24. | Jammu Cantt. | 1 |
| 25. | Jammu HO | 1 |
| 26. | Jammu Market | 1 |
| 27. | Janipur | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|-----------------------------|---|
| 28. | Jourian | 1 |
| 29. | Jawahar Nagar | 1 |
| 30. | Jyotipuram | 1 |
| 31. | Karan Nagar | 1 |
| 32. | Kargil | 1 |
| 33. | Kathua HO | 1 |
| 34. | Katra | 1 |
| 35. | Kupwara | 1 |
| 36. | Lal Chowk | 1 |
| 37. | Leh City | 1 |
| 38. | Leh HO | 1 |
| 39. | Mini Sectt. Kathua | 1 |
| 40. | Miransahib | 1 |
| 41. | Mukerji Road | 1 |
| 42. | New University Campus Jammu | 1 |
| 43. | Noushehra | 1 |
| 44. | Pampore | 1 |
| 45. | Pattan | 1 |
| 46. | Poonch | 1 |
| 47. | Pulwama | 1 |
| 48. | Qazigund | 1 |
| 49. | Railway Station | 1 |
| 50. | Rajouri | 1 |
| 51. | Ramban | 1 |
| 52. | Ramnagar | 1 |
| 53. | Reasi | 1 |
| 54. | Rehari | 1 |
| 55. | Roan | 1 |
| 56. | RS Pura | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|---------------|---|
| 57. | R.S. Ganj | 1 |
| 58. | Samba | 1 |
| 59. | Sanat Nagar | 1 |
| 60. | SK Air Port | 1 |
| 61. | Sopore | 1 |
| 62. | Srinagar GPO | 1 |
| 63. | Sunderbani | 1 |
| 64. | Trikuta Nagar | 1 |
| 65. | Udhampur HO | 1 |
| 66. | Vijapur | 1 |
| 67. | Vinaik Bazar | 1 |
| 68. | Zainakot | 1 |

Maharashtra

| Sl.No. | Name of Post Office | No. of Computers |
|--------|---------------------|------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | IND. Estate NSK | 1 |
| 2. | A M Colony | 1 |
| 3. | A S Nagar | 2 |
| 4. | Achalpur City | 2 |
| 5. | Achara | 2 |
| 6. | AD Project | 2 |
| 7. | Aheri | 2 |
| 8. | Ahmednagar Camp | 2 |
| 9. | Ahmednagar City | 2 |
| 10. | Ahmednagar HO | 2 |
| 11. | Ahmednagar R.S. | 2 |
| 12. | Ahmedpur | 2 |
| 13. | Airport | 2 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|------------------------------|---|
| 14. | Ajara | 2 |
| 15. | Ajni | 1 |
| 16. | Akalkot | 1 |
| 17. | Akhadaward Pandharkawad (ND) | 1 |
| 18. | Akuj | 1 |
| 19. | Akola Bazar | 1 |
| 20. | Akola City | 1 |
| 21. | Akola HO | 1 |
| 22. | Akole | 1 |
| 23. | Akot | 1 |
| 24. | Akurdi | 1 |
| 25. | Ala | 1 |
| 26. | Allbag HO | 1 |
| 27. | Alore | 1 |
| 28. | Amalner | 1 |
| 29. | Ambad | 1 |
| 30. | Ambad A.S. | 1 |
| 31. | Ambajogai | 1 |
| 32. | Ambemath | 1 |
| 33. | Ambewadi | 1 |
| 34. | Amgaon | 1 |
| 35. | Amn Factory | 1 |
| 36. | Amravati Camp | 1 |
| 37. | Amravati HO | 1 |
| 38. | Anandi Bazar | 1 |
| 39. | Andheri East | 1 |
| 40. | Andheri HPO | 1 |
| 41. | Andheri RS | 1 |
| 42. | Anjangaon | 1 |
| 43. | Antop Hill | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|---------------------|---|
| 44. | Apna Bazar | 1 |
| 45. | Arjuni Morgaon | 1 |
| 46. | Armament | 1 |
| 47. | Armori | 1 |
| 48. | Arni | 1 |
| 49. | Arvi | 1 |
| 50. | Ashok Chowk Solapur | 1 |
| 51. | Ashte | 1 |
| 52. | Ashti | 1 |
| 53. | Atpadi | 1 |
| 54. | Aundh | 1 |
| 55. | Aundh Camp | 1 |
| 56. | Aundha Nagnath | 1 |
| 57. | Aurangabad Cantt. | 1 |
| 58. | Aurangabad HO | 1 |
| 59. | Ausa | 1 |
| 60. | Awadhutwadi | 1 |
| 61. | Ayodhyanagar | 1 |
| 62. | Azad Nagar | 1 |
| 63. | B A R C | 1 |
| 64. | B N Bhavan | 1 |
| 65. | B P Lane | 1 |
| 66. | B P Mills | 1 |
| 67. | B S Road | 1 |
| 68. | Babhulgaon | 1 |
| 69. | Badnera | 1 |
| 70. | Bagadganj | 1 |
| 71. | Bajajnagar | 1 |
| 72. | Bajirao Road | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|-------------------|---|
| 73. | Balapur | 1 |
| 74. | Ballarpur | 1 |
| 75. | Bambavada | 1 |
| 76. | Banda | 1 |
| 77. | Bandra East | 1 |
| 78. | Bandra West | 1 |
| 79. | Bangurnagar | 1 |
| 80. | Baramati | 1 |
| 81. | Barshi | 1 |
| 82. | Barshi Taki | 1 |
| 83. | Basmatnagar | 1 |
| 84. | Bassien | 1 |
| 85. | Bassien Road | 1 |
| 86. | Bazargate | 1 |
| 87. | Beed HO | 1 |
| 88. | BEST Staff Colony | 1 |
| 89. | Bezonbagh | 1 |
| 90. | Bhadgaon | 1 |
| 91. | Bhadrawati | 1 |
| 92. | Bhagur | 1 |
| 93. | Bhandara HO | 1 |
| 94. | Bhandara OF | 1 |
| 95. | Bhandup East | 1 |
| 96. | Bhandup IC | 1 |
| 97. | Bhandup WC | 1 |
| 98. | Bhandup West | 1 |
| 99. | Bhavaninagar | 1 |
| 100. | Bhawani Shankar | 1 |
| 101. | Bhayender East | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|------------------|---|
| 102. | Bhendegalli Klp. | 1 |
| 103. | Bhiwandi | 1 |
| 104. | Bhiwapur | 1 |
| 105. | Bhokar | 1 |
| 106. | Bhokardhan | 1 |
| 107. | Bhoom | 1 |
| 108. | Bhor | 1 |
| 109. | Bhosari IE | 1 |
| 110. | Bhosari | 1 |
| 111. | Bhusawal HO | 1 |
| 112. | Bhusawal Kut | 1 |
| 113. | Bhusawal O.F. | 1 |
| 114. | Bicholim | 1 |
| 115. | Bidri | 1 |
| 116. | Biloli | 1 |
| 117. | Bodwad | 1 |
| 118. | Boisar | 1 |
| 119. | Borgaon Manju | 1 |
| 120. | Borivali East | 1 |
| 121. | Borivali HPO | 1 |
| 122. | Borivali West | 1 |
| 123. | Baramhapuri | 1 |
| 124. | Buldhana HO | 1 |
| 125. | C.C. Oras | 1 |
| 126. | C.I.A. | 1 |
| 127. | Calangute | 1 |
| 128. | Canacona | 1 |
| 129. | Cementnagar | 1 |
| 130. | Central Building | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|-----------------|---|
| 131. | Century Mill | 1 |
| 132. | Chalisgaon HO | 1 |
| 133. | Chaitanyawadi | 1 |
| 134. | Chakala MIDC | 1 |
| 135. | Chakan | 1 |
| 136. | Chanmar Baug | 1 |
| 137. | Chamorshi | 1 |
| 138. | Chandagad | 1 |
| 139. | Chandrapur City | 1 |
| 140. | Chandrapur HO | 1 |
| 141. | Chandrapur OF | 1 |
| 142. | Chandur | 1 |
| 143. | Chandur Bazar | 1 |
| 144. | Chandur Rly | 1 |
| 145. | Chandwad | 1 |
| 146. | Chaul | 1 |
| 147. | Chaupati | 1 |
| 148. | Chembur Extn. | 1 |
| 149. | Chembur HPO | 1 |
| 150. | Chhotigujari | 1 |
| 151. | Chikalthana | 1 |
| 152. | Chikhli | 1 |
| 153. | Chimur | 1 |
| 154. | Chinchani | 1 |
| 155. | Chinchinim | 1 |
| 156. | Chinchpokli | 1 |
| 157. | Chinchbunder HO | 1 |
| 158. | Chinchwad East | 1 |
| 159. | Chinchwadgaon | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|----------------------|---|
| 160. | Chiplun H.O. | 1 |
| 161. | Chopda | 1 |
| 162. | Chunbhatti | 1 |
| 163. | Churchgate | 1 |
| 164. | Cidco Colony | 1 |
| 165. | CME | 1 |
| 166. | Colaba Sough (South) | 1 |
| 167. | Congress Nagar | 1 |
| 168. | Cumballa Hill | 1 |
| 169. | Cumballa Sea Face | 1 |
| 170. | Cuncohim | 1 |
| 171. | Curchorem | 1 |
| 172. | D Lines | 1 |
| 173. | Dadar Colony | 1 |
| 174. | Dadar HPO | 1 |
| 175. | Dahanu | 1 |
| 176. | Dahanu Road | 1 |
| 177. | Dahisar | 1 |
| 178. | Dahisar R S | 1 |
| 179. | Dahiwadi | 1 |
| 180. | Dajipeth | 1 |
| 181. | Dandekarwadi | 1 |
| 182. | Dapodi | 1 |
| 183. | Dapoli | 1 |
| 184. | Darwa | 1 |
| 185. | Daryapur | 1 |
| 186. | Datala | 1 |
| 187. | Daund | 1 |
| 188. | Deccan Gymkhana | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|----------------|---|
| 189. | Deepnagar | 1 |
| 190. | Degloor | 1 |
| 191. | Dehuroad Cant | 1 |
| 192. | Delisle Road | 1 |
| 193. | Deola | 1 |
| 194. | Deoli | 1 |
| 195. | Desiaganj | 1 |
| 196. | Deulgaon Raja | 1 |
| 197. | Devdhe | 1 |
| 198. | Devgad | 1 |
| 199. | Devalali | 1 |
| 200. | Devalali Bazar | 1 |
| 201. | Devrukh | 1 |
| 202. | Dhamangaon RS | 1 |
| 203. | Dhankavadi | 1 |
| 204. | Dhantoli | 1 |
| 205. | Dharangaon | 1 |
| 206. | Dharavi | 1 |
| 207. | Dharavi Road | 1 |
| 208. | Dharmabad | 1 |
| 209. | Dhami | 1 |
| 210. | Dhebewadi | 1 |
| 211. | Dhule City | 1 |
| 212. | Dhule HO | 1 |
| 213. | Dighi Camp | 1 |
| 214. | Digras | 1 |
| 215. | Dindori | 1 |
| 216. | Diveagar | 1 |
| 217. | Dockyard | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|----------------------|---|
| 218. | Dombivali | 1 |
| 219. | Dombivali IA | 1 |
| 220. | Dondaicha | 1 |
| 221. | Dr. Ambedkar Marg | 1 |
| 222. | Dr. B.A. Chowk | 1 |
| 223. | Dr. Deshmukh Marg | 1 |
| 224. | Dwarka Comer | 1 |
| 225. | Erandol | 1 |
| 226. | Ex-servicemen Colony | 1 |
| 227. | F C I | 1 |
| 228. | Faizpur | 1 |
| 229. | Falkland Road | 1 |
| 230. | Fazilpura | 1 |
| 231. | G.M. Yard Kolhapur | 1 |
| 232. | Gadchiroli | 1 |
| 233. | Gadhinglaj | 1 |
| 234. | Gandhi Nagar Nasik | 1 |
| 235. | Gandhinagar Nagpur | 1 |
| 236. | Gandhinagar | 1 |
| 237. | Ganeshkhind | 1 |
| 238. | Gangakhed | 1 |
| 239. | Gangapur | 1 |
| 240. | Gargoti | 1 |
| 241. | Gevrai | 1 |
| 242. | Ghata Noji | 1 |
| 243. | Ghatkopar West | 1 |
| 244. | Ghodegaon | 1 |
| 245. | Ghoti | 1 |
| 246. | Girgaon | 1 |
| 247. | Gokhale Road | 1 |
| 248. | Gokhale Road | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|--------------------|---|
| 249. | Goley Colony | 1 |
| 250. | Gondia HO | 1 |
| 251. | Gondiya City | 1 |
| 252. | Gondpipri | 1 |
| 253. | Goregaon | 1 |
| 254. | Goregaon | 1 |
| 255. | Goregaon East | 1 |
| 256. | Goregaon RS | 1 |
| 257. | Govandi | 1 |
| 258. | Govt. Colony | 1 |
| 259. | Gowalla Tank | 1 |
| 260. | Grant Road | 1 |
| 261. | Guhagar | 1 |
| 262. | H V Nagar Amravati | 1 |
| 263. | Hadapsar | 1 |
| 264. | Hadgaon | 1 |
| 265. | Haffkin Institute | 1 |
| 266. | Halkarni | 1 |
| 267. | Hanuman Nagar | 1 |
| 268. | Hanuman Road | 1 |
| 269. | Hatkalangada | 1 |
| 270. | HIE | 1 |
| 271. | High Court | 1 |
| 272. | Hinganghat | 1 |
| 273. | Hingoli | 1 |
| 274. | HMP School | 1 |
| 275. | Holiday Camp | 1 |
| 276. | HPT College NSK | 1 |
| 277. | Hupri | 1 |
| 278. | I.S.P. Nashik Road | 1 |
| 279. | IAF Stn. | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|------------------------|---|
| 280. | Ichalkaranji HO | 1 |
| 281. | Igatpuri | 1 |
| 282. | Indapur | 1 |
| 283. | Intl. Airport | 1 |
| 284. | Irla | 1 |
| 285. | Itwara Nanded | 1 |
| 286. | J B Nagar | 1 |
| 287. | J K Gram | 1 |
| 288. | JM Road | 1 |
| 289. | Jacob Circle | 1 |
| 290. | Jai Hind Colony | 1 |
| 291. | Jaisthamba Chowk (N D) | |
| 292. | Jalgaon | 1 |
| 293. | Jalgaon Bazar | 1 |
| 294. | Jalgaon Collect. | 1 |
| 295. | Jalgaon HO | 1 |
| 296. | Jalgaon Peth | 1 |
| 297. | Jalna HO | 1 |
| 298. | Jalna R.S. | 1 |
| 299. | Jamkhed | 1 |
| 300. | Jamner | 1 |
| 301. | Jamsande | 1 |
| 302. | Janjira Murud | 1 |
| 303. | Jaripatka | 1 |
| 304. | Jat | 1 |
| 305. | Jatharpeth Akola | 1 |
| 306. | Jawhar | 1 |
| 307. | Jaysingpur | 1 |
| 308. | Jeevan Prakash | 1 |
| 309. | Jejuri | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|-----------------|---|
| 310. | Jejuri | 1 |
| 311. | Jeur | 1 |
| 312. | Jintur | 1 |
| 313. | JNPT | 1 |
| 314. | Jogeshwari East | 1 |
| 315. | Jogeshwari West | 1 |
| 316. | Juhu | 1 |
| 317. | Junnar | 1 |
| 318. | K C Park | 1 |
| 319. | K. Mahankal | 1 |
| 320. | K. Wadi | 1 |
| 321. | Kada | 1 |
| 322. | Kadegaon | 1 |
| 323. | Kadepur | 1 |
| 324. | Kagal | 1 |
| 325. | Kaij | 1 |
| 326. | Kala Chowki | 1 |
| 327. | Kalamb | 1 |
| 328. | Kalamboli Node | 1 |
| 329. | Kalamnuri | 1 |
| 330. | Kalbadevi HO | 1 |
| 331. | Kale | 1 |
| 332. | Kallam | 1 |
| 333. | Kalmeshwar | 1 |
| 334. | Kaiwan | 1 |
| 335. | Kalyan City HO | 1 |
| 336. | Kalyan DC | 1 |
| 337. | Kalyan RS | 1 |
| 338. | Kamathipura | 1 |
| 339. | Kamptee HO | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|-----------------|---|
| 340. | Kamthi City | 1 |
| 341. | Kandivali East | 1 |
| 342. | Kandivali West | 1 |
| 343. | Kanhanpipri | 1 |
| 344. | Kankavli | 1 |
| 345. | Kannad | 1 |
| 346. | Kannamwar Nagar | 1 |
| 347. | Kapshi | 1 |
| 348. | Karad HO | 1 |
| 349. | Karanja | 1 |
| 350. | Karjat | |
| 351. | Karjat | 1 |
| 352. | Karmala | 1 |
| 353. | Kasal | 1 |
| 354. | Kasarwadi | 1 |
| 355. | Kasba | 1 |
| 356. | Kasbapeth | 1 |
| 357. | Kasoda | 1 |
| 358. | Katemanivalli | 1 |
| 359. | Katol | 1 |
| 360. | Katta | 1 |
| 361. | Kedgaon | 1 |
| 362. | Khadki | 1 |
| 363. | Khalgaon | 1 |
| 364. | Khamgaon HO | 1 |
| 365. | Khamla | 1 |
| 366. | Khanapur | 1 |
| 367. | Khandala Bavda | 1 |
| 368. | Khandhar | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|--------------------|---|
| 369. | Khapa | 1 |
| 370. | Khaparkheda | 1 |
| 371. | Khar Colony | 1 |
| 372. | Kharepatan S.O. | 1 |
| 373. | Kharodi | 1 |
| 374. | Khed | 1 |
| 375. | Khed Shivapur Baug | 1 |
| 376. | Kherdi | 1 |
| 377. | Khopi | 1 |
| 378. | Khopoli | 1 |
| 379. | Kille Dharur | 1 |
| 380. | Kinwat | 1 |
| 381. | Kodoli | 1 |
| 382. | Kokrud | 1 |
| 383. | Kole | 1 |
| 384. | Kolhapur City HO | 1 |
| 385. | Kolhapur H.O. | 1 |
| 386. | Kolhapur RS | 1 |
| 387. | Kolpewadi | 1 |
| 388. | Konkan Bhavan | 1 |
| 389. | Kopergaon | 1 |
| 390. | Koperkhairane | 1 |
| 391. | Koradi | 1 |
| 392. | Koregaon | 1 |
| 393. | Kotal Road | 1 |
| 394. | Kothrud | 1 |
| 395. | Koyna | 1 |
| 396. | Kranti Chowk | 1 |
| 397. | Krishinagar | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|--------------------|---|
| 398. | Kudal | 1 |
| 399. | Kudus | 1 |
| 400. | Kuhi | 1 |
| 401. | Kurduwadi | 1 |
| 402. | Kurkheda | 1 |
| 403. | Kurla | 1 |
| 404. | Kurul RCF Colony | 1 |
| 405. | Kurundwad | 1 |
| 406. | Lakhni | 1 |
| 407. | Lanja | 1 |
| 408. | Lasalgaon | 1 |
| 409. | Latur HO | 1 |
| 410. | Laxmipuri Kolhapur | 1 |
| 411. | Liberty Garden | 1 |
| 412. | Lonand | 1 |
| 413. | Lonar | 1 |
| 414. | Lonavala | 1 |
| 415. | Loni B.K. | 2 |
| 416. | Loni Khurd | 2 |
| 417. | M.J. College | 2 |
| 418. | Madha | 2 |
| 419. | Madhavnagar | 2 |
| 420. | Mahableshwar | 2 |
| 421. | Mahad | 2 |
| 422. | Mahagaon | 2 |
| 423. | Mahal | 2 |
| 424. | Mahim Bazar | 2 |
| 425. | Mahim East | 2 |
| 426. | Mahim HO | 2 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|-------------------|---|
| 427. | Mahtma Fule Bazar | 2 |
| 428. | Mahul Road | 2 |
| 429. | Main Road Nasik | 2 |
| 430. | Majalgaon | 1 |
| 431. | Makhjan | 1 |
| 432. | Malad East | 1 |
| 433. | Malad N D | 1 |
| 434. | Malad West | 1 |
| 435. | Malbar Hill | 1 |
| 436. | Malegao | 1 |
| 437. | Malegaon Camp | 1 |
| 438. | Malegaon HO | 1 |
| 439. | Maiharpeth Karad | 1 |
| 440. | Malkapur | 1 |
| 441. | Malkapur | 1 |
| 442. | Malsiras | 1 |
| 443. | Malvan H.O. | 1 |
| 444. | Manchar | 1 |
| 445. | Mandangad | 1 |
| 446. | Mandpeshwar | 1 |
| 447. | Mandvi | 1 |
| 448. | Mangalvedha | 1 |
| 449. | Mangalwarpeth | 1 |
| 450. | Mangaon | 1 |
| 451. | Mangaon | 1 |
| 452. | Mangrulpir | 1 |
| 453. | Manmad | 1 |
| 454. | Manora | 1 |
| 455. | Mantralaya | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|--------------------|---|
| 456. | Manwath | 1 |
| 457. | Mapusa | 1 |
| 458. | Maregaon Road | 1 |
| 459. | Margao H.O. | 1 |
| 460. | Marine Lines | 1 |
| 461. | Markandi | 1 |
| 462. | Market Yard | 1 |
| 463. | Marol Bazar | 1 |
| 464. | Masjid | 1 |
| 465. | Masur | 1 |
| 466. | Masura | 1 |
| 467. | Matunga | 1 |
| 468. | Matunga Rly W/shop | 1 |
| 469. | Mauda | 1 |
| 470. | Mazgaon Road | 1 |
| 471. | Mehekar | 1 |
| 472. | Meri Colony | 1 |
| 473. | Mhasala | 1 |
| 474. | Mhasvad | 1 |
| 475. | MIDC (Rtg) | 1 |
| 476. | MIDC (S) | 1 |
| 477. | MIDC Ahmednagar | 1 |
| 478. | MIDC Nagpur | 1 |
| 479. | MIDC Satara | 1 |
| 480. | MIDC Shirol | 1 |
| 481. | Mira Road | 1 |
| 482. | Miraj H.O. | 1 |
| 483. | Mirajgaon | 1 |
| 484. | Model Colony | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|-------------------|---|
| 485. | Mohan Nagar (ND) | 1 |
| 486. | Mohal | 1 |
| 487. | Mohone | 1 |
| 488. | Mori Road | 1 |
| 489. | Mormugao | 1 |
| 490. | Morshi | 1 |
| 491. | Motala | 1 |
| 492. | Motilal Nagar | 1 |
| 493. | Mukhed | 1 |
| 494. | Muktainagar | 1 |
| 495. | Mul | 1 |
| 496. | Mulund Colony | 1 |
| 497. | Mulund East | 1 |
| 498. | Mulund West | 1 |
| 499. | Mumbai Central HO | 1 |
| 500. | Mumbai GPO | 1 |
| 501. | Mumbra | 1 |
| 502. | Murbad | 1 |
| 503. | Murtizapur | 1 |
| 504. | Murugud | 1 |
| 505. | N D Road | 2 |
| 506. | N S Patkar Marg | 2 |
| 507. | Nagbhid | 1 |
| 508. | Naghtane | 1 |
| 509. | Nagpur Airport | 1 |
| 510. | Nagpur City HO | 1 |
| 511. | Nagpur GPO | 1 |
| 512. | Naigaon | 1 |
| 513. | Nanded HO | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|-----------------------|---|
| 514. | Nandgaon | 1 |
| 515. | Nandgaon Khandeshwar | 1 |
| 516. | Nandura | 1 |
| 517. | Nandurbar | 1 |
| 518. | Narayangaon | 1 |
| 519. | Narayanpeth | 1 |
| 520. | Nariman Point (South) | 1 |
| 521. | Narkher | 1 |
| 522. | Nashik City | 1 |
| 523. | Nashik HO | 1 |
| 524. | Nashik Road Camp | 1 |
| 525. | Nashik Road HO | 1 |
| 526. | Nate | 1 |
| 527. | Natepute | 1 |
| 528. | Naupada | 1 |
| 529. | Navapur | 1 |
| 530. | Navelim | 1 |
| 531. | Navipeth | 1 |
| 532. | Navsahyadri | 1 |
| 533. | NCL | 1 |
| 534. | NDA Khadakwasla | 1 |
| 535. | Nehru Nagar | 1 |
| 536. | Nehru Road | 1 |
| 537. | Neral | 2 |
| 538. | Nerparasopant | 1 |
| 539. | Nerul Node-III | 1 |
| 540. | Netaji Bazaar | 1 |
| 541. | Netaji Nagar | 1 |
| 542. | Nevasa | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|----------------|---|
| 543. | New Prabhadevi | 1 |
| 544. | Yew Yogakshema | 1 |
| 545. | Nhavare | 1 |
| 546. | Nilanga | 1 |
| 547. | Niphad | 1 |
| 548. | Nira R.S. | 1 |
| 549. | NITIE | 1 |
| 550. | Null Bazaar | 1 |
| 551. | OE Ambemath | 1 |
| 552. | Ogalewadi | 1 |
| 553. | Ojhar T.S. | 1 |
| 554. | Omerga | 1 |
| 555. | Opera House | 1 |
| 556. | Ortem | 1 |
| 557. | Oshiwara | 2 |
| 558. | Osmanabad HO | 2 |
| 559. | Osmanpura | 2 |
| 560. | Otur | 2 |
| 561. | P H Colony | 1 |
| 562. | Pachal | 2 |
| 563. | Pachora | 2 |
| 564. | Paithan | 2 |
| 565. | Paldhi | 2 |
| 566. | Palgad | 2 |
| 567. | Palghar HO | 1 |
| 568. | Pali | 2 |
| 569. | Pali | 2 |
| 570. | Palus | 2 |
| 571. | Panaji HO | 2 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|-------------------|---|
| 572. | Panchgani | 2 |
| 573. | Panchvati | 2 |
| 574. | Pandharkawada | 1 |
| 575. | Pandharpur HO | 1 |
| 576. | Pant Nagar | 1 |
| 577. | Panvel City | 1 |
| 578. | Panvel HO | 1 |
| 579. | Parali | 1 |
| 580. | Paranda | 1 |
| 581. | Paratwada HO | 1 |
| 582. | Parbhani HO | 1 |
| 583. | Parel | 1 |
| 584. | Parel Naka | 1 |
| 585. | parite | 1 |
| 586. | Pari Vajjnath | 1 |
| 587. | Pamer | 1 |
| 588. | Parola | 1 |
| 589. | Partur | 1 |
| 590. | Parvati | 1 |
| 591. | Parwatinagar | 1 |
| 592. | Patan | 1 |
| 593. | Patanbori | 1 |
| 594. | Pathardi | 1 |
| 595. | Pathari | 1 |
| 596. | Pathrot | 1 |
| 597. | Patoda | 1 |
| 598. | Patur | 1 |
| 599. | Patwardhan Ground | 1 |
| 600. | Pauni | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|------------------|---|
| 601. | Pawas | 1 |
| 602. | PCNT | 1 |
| 603. | PCTS Nagothane | 1 |
| 604. | Peint | 1 |
| 605. | Pen | 1 |
| 606. | Pernem | 1 |
| 607. | Phaltan | 1 |
| 608. | Phondaghat | 1 |
| 609. | Pimpalgaon (B) | 1 |
| 610. | Policeman Colony | 1 |
| 611. | Ponda | 1 |
| 612. | Powai IIT | 1 |
| 613. | PPF | 1 |
| 614. | Prabhadevi | 1 |
| 615. | Pravaranagar | 1 |
| 616. | PSM Colony | 1 |
| 617. | Pulgaon | 1 |
| 618. | Pulgaon Camp | 1 |
| 619. | Pune Cantt East | 1 |
| 620. | Pune City HO | 1 |
| 621. | Pune HO | 1 |
| 622. | Pune RS | 1 |
| 623. | Purna | 1 |
| 624. | Pusad | 1 |
| 625. | Pusegaon | 1 |
| 626. | Pusesavali | 1 |
| 627. | Quepem | 1 |
| 628. | R S Marg | 1 |
| 629. | Radhanagari | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|---------------------|---|
| 630. | Rahata | 1 |
| 631. | Rahimatpur | 1 |
| 632. | Rahuri | 1 |
| 633. | Rahuri Factory | 1 |
| 634. | Rahuri MPKV | 1 |
| 635. | Rajapur | 1 |
| 636. | Rajarampuri | 1 |
| 637. | Rajawadi | 1 |
| 638. | Raje Raghujji Nagar | 1 |
| 639. | Rajendranagar | 1 |
| 640. | Rajgurunagar | 1 |
| 641. | Rajur | 1 |
| 642. | Rajura M K | 1 |
| 643. | Ralegaon | 1 |
| 644. | Rampur | 1 |
| 645. | Ramtek | 1 |
| 646. | Ranade Road | 1 |
| 647. | Ranapratap Nagar | 1 |
| 648. | Rangehills | 1 |
| 649. | Rankala Klp | 1 |
| 650. | Rasayani | 1 |
| 651. | Rat. Collectorate | 1 |
| 652. | Ratnagiri H O | 1 |
| 653. | Raver | 1 |
| 654. | RCF Thal | 1 |
| 655. | Reay Road | 1 |
| 656. | Revdanda | 1 |
| 657. | Risod | 1 |
| 658. | Roha | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|-------------------|---|
| 659. | Roha AV | 1 |
| 660. | Rukmininagar | 1 |
| 661. | S B Road | 1 |
| 662. | S K Nagar | 1 |
| 663. | S V Marg | 1 |
| 664. | S. Colony | 1 |
| 665. | S.P. College | 1 |
| 666. | Sadar Bazar | 1 |
| 667. | Sadashiv Peth | 1 |
| 668. | Sahakar Bhavan | 1 |
| 669. | Sahar P&T | 1 |
| 670. | Sailu | 1 |
| 671. | Saitwada | 1 |
| 672. | Sakharkherda | 1 |
| 673. | Sakharpa | 1 |
| 674. | Sakharwadi | 1 |
| 675. | Sakinaka | 1 |
| 676. | Sakoli | 1 |
| 677. | Sakri | 1 |
| 678. | Sandoz Baug | 1 |
| 679. | Sangameshwar | 1 |
| 680. | Sangamner | 1 |
| 681. | Sangamner Satara | 1 |
| 682. | Sangave | 1 |
| 683. | Sangli City | 1 |
| 684. | Sangli H.O. | 1 |
| 685. | Sangola | 1 |
| 686. | Santacruz Central | 1 |
| 687. | Santacruz East | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|-------------------|---|
| 688. | Santacruz P&T | 1 |
| 689. | Santacruz West | 1 |
| 690. | Saoner | 1 |
| 691. | Saswad | 1 |
| 692. | Satana | 1 |
| 693. | Satara City | 1 |
| 694. | Satara HO | 1 |
| 695. | Satara Road | 1 |
| 696. | Satpur TS | 1 |
| 697. | Savalaj | 1 |
| 698. | Savarkar Marg | 1 |
| 699. | Savda | 1 |
| 700. | Savedi Road | 1 |
| 701. | Sawantwadi H.O. | 1 |
| 702. | Sawarda | 1 |
| 703. | Secretariat | 1 |
| 704. | Secretariat | 1 |
| 705. | SEEPZ | 1 |
| 706. | Seloo | 1 |
| 707. | Seminar Yes Hills | 1 |
| 708. | Session Court | 1 |
| 709. | Sevagram | 1 |
| 710. | Sewree | 1 |
| 711. | Shahad | 1 |
| 712. | Shahada | 1 |
| 713. | Shahapur | 1 |
| 714. | Shahupuri | 1 |
| 715. | Shanichara | 1 |
| 716. | Shaniwarpeth | 1 |
| 717. | Shankar Nagar | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|---------------------|---|
| 718. | Shegaon | 1 |
| 719. | Shevgaon | 1 |
| 720. | Shilphata | 1 |
| 721. | Shirala | 1 |
| 722. | Shirdi | 1 |
| 723. | Shiroda | 1 |
| 724. | Shirol | 1 |
| 725. | Shirpur | 1 |
| 726. | Shirur | 1 |
| 727. | Shirval | 1 |
| 728. | Shivaji Nagar | 1 |
| 729. | Shivaji Park | 1 |
| 730. | Shivaji Park Akola | 1 |
| 731. | Shivaji University | 1 |
| 732. | Shivajinagar (Rtg) | 1 |
| 733. | Shivajinagar Amt. | 1 |
| 734. | Shivajinagar Chanda | 1 |
| 735. | Shivajinagar HO | 1 |
| 736. | Shivajinagar NND | 1 |
| 737. | Shivnagar | 1 |
| 738. | Shreepur | 1 |
| 739. | Shrigonda | 1 |
| 740. | Shringartali | 1 |
| 741. | Shrtrampur HO | 1 |
| 742. | Shrivardhan | 1 |
| 743. | Sillod | 1 |
| 744. | Sindewahi | 1 |
| 745. | Sindkhed Raja | 1 |
| 746. | Sindkheda | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|---------------------------|---|
| 747. | .Sinnar | 1 |
| 748. | Sion | 1 |
| 749. | Sironcha | 1 |
| 750. | Sirpur | 1 |
| 751. | Sitabardi | 1 |
| 752. | Solapur City | 1 |
| 753. | Solapur HO | 1 |
| 754. | Solapur Market | 1 |
| 755. | Sonai | 1 |
| 756. | SRPF | 1 |
| 757. | SSK Sangli | 1 |
| 758. | Station Parbhani | 1 |
| 759. | Station Rd Ulhasnagar | 1 |
| 760. | Stock Exchange | 1 |
| 761. | Surgana | 1 |
| 762. | Swargate | 1 |
| 763. | T F Deonar | 1 |
| 764. | Tagore Nagar | 1 |
| 765. | Tajmahal | 1 |
| 766. | Tajnapeth | 1 |
| 767. | Tala | 1 |
| 768. | Talebazar | 1 |
| 769. | Talegaon Dhabhade | 1 |
| 770. | Talegaon Dhamdhare | 1 |
| 771. | Talegaon General Hospital | 1 |
| 772. | Talera | 1 |
| 773. | Taloja AV | 1 |
| 774. | Tank Road | 1 |
| 775. | Tarale | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|-----------------|---|
| 776. | Tarapur APP | 1 |
| 777. | Tarapur IE | 1 |
| 778. | Tarapur | 1 |
| 779. | Tasgaon | 1 |
| 780. | Telhara | 1 |
| 781. | Teosa | 1 |
| 782. | Thane East | 1 |
| 783. | Thane HO | 1 |
| 784. | Thane RS | 1 |
| 785. | Tilak Nagar | 1 |
| 786. | Tilak Nagar | 1 |
| 787. | Tilak Nagar LTR | 1 |
| 788. | Tirora | 1 |
| 789. | Town Hall | 1 |
| 790. | Trimbak | 1 |
| 791. | Trimurti Chowk | 1 |
| 792. | Trombay | 1 |
| 793. | Tuljapur | 1 |
| 794. | Tulsiwadi | 1 |
| 795. | Tumsar | 1 |
| 796. | U. Islampur | 1 |
| 797. | Udgir | 1 |
| 798. | Ulhasnagar 1 | 1 |
| 799. | Ulhasnagar 2 | 1 |
| 800. | Ulhasnagar 4 | 1 |
| 801. | Ulhasnagar 5 | 1 |
| 802. | Umbraj | 1 |
| 803. | Umerkhed | 1 |
| 804. | Umrer | 1 |
| 805. | Upper Tudil | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|-----------------|---|
| 806. | Uran | 1 |
| 807. | Urli Kanchan | 1 |
| 808. | Uttur | 1 |
| 809. | V J B Udyan | 1 |
| 810. | V P Road | 1 |
| 811. | Vada | 1 |
| 812. | Vadgaon | 1 |
| 813. | Vadgaon Pune | 1 |
| 814. | Vaduj | 1 |
| 815. | Vaibhavwadi | 1 |
| 816. | Vaijapur | 1 |
| 817. | Vakavali | 1 |
| 818. | Valpoi | 1 |
| 819. | Vambori | 1 |
| 820. | Vani | 1 |
| 821. | Varangaon | 1 |
| 822. | Varangaon O.F. | 1 |
| 823. | Vasco | 1 |
| 824. | Vashi | 1 |
| 825. | Vashi VII | 1 |
| 826. | Vengurta | 1 |
| 827. | Vesava | 1 |
| 828. | Vidyanagari | 1 |
| 829. | Vidyashram | 1 |
| 830. | Vikrikar Bhavan | 1 |
| 831. | Vikroli | 1 |
| 832. | Vile Parle East | 1 |
| 833. | Vile Parle RS | 1 |
| 834. | Vile Parle West | 1 |
| 835. | Virar | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|------------------|---|
| 836. | Vishnunagar | 1 |
| 837. | Vite | 1 |
| 838. | Vivekanand Nagar | 1 |
| 839. | W.C.Sangli | 1 |
| 840. | Wadala | 1 |
| 841. | Wadala RS | 1 |
| 842. | Wadi | 1 |
| 843. | Wagle I.E. | 1 |
| 844. | Wai | 1 |
| 845. | Walchandnagar | 1 |
| 846. | Walgaon | 1 |
| 847. | Wani | 1 |
| 848. | Wanowarie | 1 |
| 849. | Waranagar | 1 |
| 850. | Wardha HO | 1 |
| 851. | Warora | 1 |
| 852. | Warud | 1 |
| 853. | Washim | 1 |
| 854. | Worli | 1 |
| 855. | Worli Colony | 1 |
| 856. | Worli Naka | 2 |
| 857. | WTC | 2 |
| 858. | Yawal | 2 |
| 859. | Yeola | 2 |
| 860. | Yeotmal HO | 2 |
| 861. | Yervada | 2 |
| 862. | ZNPO | 2 |
| 863. | ZP TSO Yeotmal | 2 |
| 864. | Zuarinagar | 2 |

| <i>Punjab</i> | | |
|---------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Sl.No. | Name of Post Office | No. of Computers |
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Abohar | 1 |
| 2. | Abohar Mandi | 1 |
| 3. | Adampur AD | 1 |
| 4. | Adampur Doaba | 1 |
| 5. | Aerodramme Chandigarh | 1 |
| 6. | Ahmedgarh | 1 |
| 7. | Ajnala | 2 |
| 8. | Amargarh | 1 |
| 9. | Amlon | 2 |
| 10. | Amlon Road Khanna | 1 |
| 11. | Amritsar HO | 1 |
| 12. | Amritsar Ktcy | 1 |
| 13. | Anandpur Sahib | 1 |
| 14. | Attari | 1 |
| 15. | B.R. Street, Ludhiana | 1 |
| 16. | Baba Bakala | 1 |
| 17. | Baghapurana | 2 |
| 18. | Balachaur | 2 |
| 19. | Banga | 1 |
| 20. | Banga Road Phagwara | 2 |
| 21. | Barnala | 1 |
| 22. | Barnala Ktchy | 2 |
| 23. | Basant Avenue | 1 |
| 24. | Bassi Kalan | 1 |
| 25. | Bassian | 1 |
| 26. | Basti Guzan Jalandhar | 1 |
| 27. | Basti Jodhewal | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|--------------------------|---|
| 28. | Basti Nau | 2 |
| 29. | Basti Sheikh, Jalandhar | 1 |
| 30. | Batala HO | 1 |
| 31. | Bathinda City | 2 |
| 32. | Bathinda HO | 1 |
| 33. | Bazar Nauhrian | 1 |
| 34. | Bazar Sahidan, Jalandhar | 1 |
| 35. | Beas | 1 |
| 36. | Bhangala | 2 |
| 37. | Bhawani Garh | 4 |
| 38. | Bhikhiwind | 1 |
| 39. | Bhogpur | 1 |
| 40. | Bholath | 1 |
| 41. | Bhulowal | 2 |
| 42. | Cantt. RS Ferozepur | 1 |
| 43. | Chamkaur Sahib | 1 |
| 44. | Chandigarh GPO | 2 |
| 45. | Chhabal | 2 |
| 46. | Chhehrata | 1 |
| 47. | Chogawan | 1 |
| 48. | Chowk Arya Samaj | 2 |
| 49. | Civil Line Patiala | 1 |
| 50. | CMC Ludhiana | 1 |
| 51. | CPO Ludhiana | 1 |
| 52. | Daba Road Ludhiana | 1 |
| 53. | Dasuya HO | 1 |
| 54. | Datarpur | 2 |
| 55. | DCW Patiala | 1 |
| 56. | Dera Baba Nanak | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|------------------------|---|
| 57. | Dhanaula | 1 |
| 58. | Dhanderi Kalan | 1 |
| 59. | Dharamkot | 1 |
| 60. | Dhariwal | 1 |
| 61. | Dhilwan | 1 |
| 62. | Dhuri | 1 |
| 63. | Dina Nagar | 1 |
| 64. | Doraha | 1 |
| 65. | F.F. Nangal | 1 |
| 66. | Faridkot HO | 1 |
| 67. | Fatehabad | 2 |
| 68. | Fatehgarh Churian | 1 |
| 69. | Fazilka | 1 |
| 70. | Ferozepur HO | 1 |
| 71. | Ferozepur Sadar Bazar | 1 |
| 72. | Gandhi Bazar Amritsar | 1 |
| 73. | Garcha | 1 |
| 74. | Gardhiwala | 1 |
| 75. | Garh Shankar | 1 |
| 76. | Ghuman | 1 |
| 77. | Gidderbaha | 1 |
| 78. | GM Jalandhar | 1 |
| 78. | Golden Temple Amritsar | 1 |
| 79. | GNDU | 1 |
| 80. | Golden Temple Amritsar | 1 |
| 81. | Goniana Mandi | 1 |
| 82. | GP Patiala | 2 |
| 83. | GT Amritsar | 1 |
| 84. | Gurdaspur HO | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|----------------------|---|
| 85. | Guru Arjan Dev Nagar | 1 |
| 86. | Guru Bazar Amritsar | 4 |
| 87. | Guruhar Sahai | 1 |
| 88. | Hajipur | 1 |
| 89. | Halwara AD | 1 |
| 90. | Haryana | 2 |
| 91. | Hide Market | 1 |
| 92. | Hoshiarpur HO | 1 |
| 93. | HS College Amritsar | 1 |
| 94. | Ind Area Chandigarh | 1 |
| 95. | Iqbal Ganj, Ludhiana | 1 |
| 96. | IT Jalandhar | 2 |
| 97. | J.F. Mill | 1 |
| 98. | Jagraon HO | 1 |
| 99. | Jail Road Ldh | 1 |
| 100. | Jaitu | 1 |
| 101. | Jalalabad | 1 |
| 102. | Jalalabad West | 1 |
| 103. | Jalandhar Cantt HO | 1 |
| 104. | Jalandhar City HO | 1 |
| 105. | Jandiala | 1 |
| 106. | Jandiala Guru | 1 |
| 107. | Janta Nagar Ludhiana | 1 |
| 108. | Kamalpur | 1 |
| 109. | Kamhi Devi | 2 |
| 110. | Kapurthala HO | 2 |
| 111. | Kartarpur | 1 |
| 112. | Katra Karam Singh | 1 |
| 113. | Khalsa College | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|-------------------------|---|------|-------------------------|---|
| 114. | Khanna HO | 1 | 143. | Maur | 1 |
| 115. | Kharar | 1 | 144. | MDBJ Singh | 1 |
| 116. | Khem Karan | 1 | 145. | Medical College Patiala | 1 |
| 117. | Kot Ise Khan | 1 | 146. | Mehatpur | 1 |
| 118. | Kot Kapura | 1 | 147. | Mehta Chowk | 1 |
| 119. | Kurali | 1 | 148. | Millerganj Ludhiana | 1 |
| 120. | L.R. Market | 1 | 149. | Moga HO | 1 |
| 121. | Labour Colony | 1 | 150. | Moga Ktchy | 2 |
| 122. | Lalru | 1 | 151. | MT Jalandhar | 1 |
| 123. | Lawerence Road Amritsar | 1 | 152. | MT Ludhiana | 1 |
| 124. | Lehragaga | 1 | 153. | Mukatsar | 1 |
| 125. | Lohian | 1 | 154. | Mukerian | 1 |
| 126. | LR Market Ludhiana | 1 | 155. | Mullanpur mandi | 1 |
| 127. | Ludhiana HO | 1 | 156. | Mundian Kalan | 1 |
| 128. | Ludhiana Ktchy | 1 | 157. | Nabha | 1 |
| 129. | Machhiwara | 1 | 158. | Nakodar | 1 |
| 130. | Madho Puri | 1 | 159. | Nangal T/S | 1 |
| 131. | Madhopur | 1 | 160. | Nawan Shahar | 1 |
| 132. | Mahal Kalan | 1 | 161. | Nawan Shahar Mandi | 2 |
| 133. | Mahilpur | 1 | 162. | New M.T. Ludhiana | 1 |
| 134. | Majitha | 1 | 163. | New Sectt Chandigarh | 1 |
| 135. | Makhu | 1 | 164. | NFL Bathinda | 1 |
| 136. | Malauhd | 1 | 165. | Noor Mahal | 1 |
| 137. | Malerkotla | 1 | 166. | Nurpur Bedi | 1 |
| 138. | Malout | 1 | 167. | P&T Colony, Ludhiana | 1 |
| 139. | Malsian | 1 | 168. | Pathankot | 1 |
| 140. | Mandi Gobind Garh | 1 | 169. | Patiala HO | 1 |
| 141. | Mani Majra | 1 | 170. | Patran | 2 |
| 142. | Mansa | 1 | 172. | PAU Ludhiana | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|-------------------------|---|------|-------------------------|---|
| 173. | Pbi University Pta | 1 | 202. | Sec-15 PO Chandigarh | 2 |
| 174. | Phagwara HO | 1 | 203. | Sec-18 PO Chandigarh | 1 |
| 175. | Phanton Ganj, Jalandhar | 1 | 204. | Sec-23 PO Chandigarh | 1 |
| 176. | Phillaur | 1 | 205. | Sec-36 PO Chandigarh | 1 |
| 177. | Piplanwala | 1 | 206. | Sec-47 PO Chandigarh | 1 |
| 178. | Punjabi Uni Patiala | 1 | 207. | Sec-59 PO Chandigarh | 1 |
| 179. | Pur Hiran | 1 | 208. | Sec-62 PO Chandigarh | 1 |
| 180. | Quadian | 1 | 209. | Sector 14 Chandigarh | 1 |
| 181. | Raikot | 1 | 210. | Sector 19 Chandigarh | 1 |
| 182. | Railway road, Jalandhar | 1 | 211. | Sector 20 Chandigarh | 1 |
| 183. | Raja Sansi | 1 | 212. | Sector 22 Chandigarh | 1 |
| 184. | Rajpura HO | 2 | 213. | Sector 36 Chandigarh | 1 |
| 185. | Rajpura Town | 1 | 214. | Sector 55 Mohali | 1 |
| 186. | Raman | 1 | 215. | Sector 8 Chandigarh | 1 |
| 187. | Rampura Phul | 1 | 216. | Shakhot | 1 |
| 188. | Rayya | 1 | 217. | Shahpur Kandi | 1 |
| 189. | RCF Kapurthala | 1 | 218. | Sham Chaurasi | 1 |
| 190. | Reru | 1 | 219. | Sheranwala Gate Patiala | 1 |
| 191. | Ropar HO | 1 | 220. | Shiv Puri Ldh | 1 |
| 192. | Sahi Samadhan | 1 | 221. | Sidhpeeth | 1 |
| 193. | Sahnewal | 1 | 221. | Sirhind | 1 |
| 194. | Sailakhurd | 1 | 223. | Sujanpur | 1 |
| 195. | Samana | 1 | 24. | Sultanpur Lodhi | 1 |
| 196. | Samrala | 2 | 225. | Sunam | 1 |
| 197. | Samrala Road, Luchiana | 1 | 226. | SŪ Gate Patiala | 1 |
| 198. | Sangrur HO | 1 | 227. | T.C. Phagwara | 1 |
| 199. | Satnampura | 1 | 228. | Talwandi Bhai | 1 |
| 200. | Sec-11 PO Chandigarh | 1 | 229. | Talwandi Sabo | 1 |
| 201. | Sec-12 PO Chandigarh | 2 | 230. | Talwara T/ship | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|----------------------|---|
| 231. | Tapa | 1 |
| 232. | Taragarh | 1 |
| 233. | Tam Taran HO | 1 |
| 234. | Urban Estate Patiala | 1 |
| 235. | Urmar | 1 |
| 236. | Verka | 1 |
| 237. | Zira | 1 |
| 238. | Zirakpur | 1 |
| HO | Head Post Office | |
| GPO | General Post Office | |

Statement II

Names of Post Offices where computers are proposed to be installed in 2006-07

Assam

| Sl.No. | Name of Post Office |
|--------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 |
| 1. | Amerigog |
| 2. | Amguri |
| 3. | Amingaon |
| 4. | Anipur |
| 5. | Assam Agricultural University |
| 6. | Azara |
| 7. | Badulipar |
| 8. | Baihata |
| 9. | Baladmari |
| 10. | Balipara |
| 11. | Bamunbari |
| 12. | Barama |
| 13. | Barangabari |

| 1 | 2 |
|-----|------------------|
| 14. | Barbheta |
| 15. | Barpathar |
| 16. | Barua Bamungaon |
| 17. | Basugaon |
| 18. | Bebejia |
| 19. | Behara Bazar |
| 20. | Belsor |
| 21. | Bengenakhowa |
| 22. | Bhangabazar |
| 23. | Bhojo |
| 24. | Bhowanipur Assam |
| 25. | Bidyapara |
| 26. | Bokajan |
| 27. | Bokakhat |
| 28. | Borgang |
| 29. | Borhapan |
| 30. | Borhat |
| 31. | Borholla |
| 32. | C.R. building |
| 33. | Chamata |
| 34. | Chapakhowa |
| 35. | Chaparmukh |
| 36. | Chariduar |
| 37. | Chenga |
| 38. | Cinamara |
| 39. | Dabaka |
| 40. | Dalgaon |
| 41. | Demow |
| 42. | Dhaligaon |

| 1 | 2 |
|-----|----------------------|
| 43. | Dholai Bazar |
| 44. | Dibrugarh University |
| 45. | Dikrong |
| 46. | Dimakuchi |
| 47. | Dudhnoi |
| 48. | Dullavchera |
| 49. | Dwarbond |
| 50. | Fakiragram |
| 51. | Furkating |
| 52. | Gar Ali |
| 53. | Garamur Satra |
| 54. | Gaurisagar |
| 55. | Gopinath Nagar |
| 56. | Goreswar |
| 57. | Guwahati Airport |
| 58. | Halem |
| 59. | Hatigarh |
| 60. | Hojai Bazar |
| 61. | Hoognrijan |
| 62. | Howly |
| 63. | Jalannagar |
| 64. | Jamugurihat |
| 65. | Jamunamukh |
| 66. | Jhanji |
| 67. | Jonai |
| 68. | Jorhat Air Field |
| 69. | Jorhat Research Lab |
| 70. | Joypur Rajabazar |
| 71. | Jubilee Digboi |

| 1 | 2 |
|------|-----------------|
| 72. | Juria |
| 73. | Kahilipara |
| 74. | Kakapathar |
| 75. | Kalain |
| 76. | Kalinagar |
| 77. | Kamakhya |
| 78. | Kamalabari |
| 79. | Karimganj Court |
| 80. | Katigora |
| 81. | Katlicherra |
| 82. | Kgajinagar |
| 83. | Khelmati |
| 84. | Khoirabari |
| 85. | Khowang |
| 86. | Krishnai |
| 87. | Lakhipur |
| 88. | Lakhipur (GP) |
| 89. | Lakshmisahar |
| 90. | Lala |
| 91. | Laluk |
| 92. | Link Road |
| 93. | Lokra |
| 94. | Mahur |
| 95. | Maibong |
| 96. | Majuli Bongaon |
| 97. | Malugram |
| 98. | Manipurbagan |
| 99. | Mankachar |
| 100. | Meherpur |

| 1 | 2 |
|------|------------------|
| 101. | Misamari |
| 102. | Moirabari |
| 103. | Monacherra |
| 104. | Moran |
| 105. | Moranhat |
| 106. | Mussalpur |
| 107. | Na Kachari |
| 108. | Nagarbera |
| 109. | Nahakati |
| 110. | Namtidoll |
| 111. | Numaligarh |
| 112. | ONGC Colony |
| 113. | Pailapool |
| 114. | Palasbari |
| 115. | Palonghat |
| 116. | Panerihat |
| 117. | Parbatpur |
| 118. | Purana Titobar |
| 119. | Puranigudam |
| 120. | Rajabari |
| 121. | Rajmai |
| 122. | Ratanpur Road |
| 123. | Rupahi |
| 124. | Saffry |
| 125. | Saikhowaghat |
| 126. | Salakati Project |
| 127. | Salenghat |
| 128. | Salonibari |
| 129. | Samaguri |

| 1 | 2 |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| 130. | Santipara |
| 131. | Sarthebari |
| 132. | Sarupathar |
| 133. | Sarupeta |
| 134. | Sepekhati |
| 135. | Sepon |
| 136. | Settlement Road |
| 137. | Silchar Regional Engg. College |
| 138. | Silghat |
| 139. | Sipajhar |
| 140. | Soalkuchi |
| 141. | Sonari |
| 142. | Sootea |
| 143. | Sukahanpukhuri |
| 144. | Talap |
| 145. | Tamulichiga |
| 146. | Teok |
| 147. | Tezpur Bazar |
| 148. | Titabar |
| 149. | Udaband |
| 150. | Udaiguri |
| 151. | Umrangshu |
| 152. | Uzanbazar |
| <i>Maharashtra</i> | |
| 1. | A.I. Staff Colony |
| 2. | Agari Pada |
| 3. | Anandnagar |
| 4. | Best Staff Colony |
| 5. | Best Staff Qtra |

| 1 | 2 |
|-----|---------------------|
| 6. | Bhandup Ind. Est |
| 7. | BPT Colony |
| 8. | Charkop |
| 9. | Cidco Colony Nashik |
| 10. | Cotton Exchange |
| 11. | D.M. Colony |
| 12. | Danda |
| 13. | Daultnagar |
| 14. | Dhalgaon |
| 15. | Haines Road |
| 16. | Haji Ali |
| 17. | Hanuman Road |
| 18. | Hindinagar Wardha |
| 19. | HMP School |
| 20. | Holiday Camp |
| 21. | Indiranagar |
| 22. | K.V. Nagar Barshi |
| 23. | Khar Colony |
| 24. | Khatav |
| 25. | Kidwainagar |
| 26. | Kulgaon |
| 27. | Lalbaug |
| 28. | Lokmanyagar |
| 29. | M A Marg |
| 30. | Mahul Road |
| 31. | Mangalwarpeth |
| 32. | Manpada |
| 33. | Marol Naka |
| 34. | Masjid |

| 1 | 2 |
|-----|---------------------|
| 35. | Mazgaon Dock |
| 36. | Mazgaon Road |
| 37. | Medha |
| 38. | Mulund Colony |
| 39. | Mulund D D Road |
| 40. | Nalasopara East |
| 41. | Nasrapur |
| 42. | Netaji Nagar |
| 43. | NITIE |
| 44. | Noor Baug |
| 45. | P.H. Colony |
| 46. | Parel Rly Work Shop |
| 47. | Porvorim |
| 48. | Princess Dock |
| 49. | PSM Colony |
| 50. | R.B. Bhavan |
| 51. | Ramnagar |
| 52. | Raoli Camp |
| 53. | Sanguem |
| 54. | SC Court |
| 55. | Shaniwarpeth |
| 56. | Shroff Mahajan |
| 57. | Taloda |
| 58. | Tardeo |
| 59. | Trombay |
| 60. | Usha Nagar |
| 61. | Vadgaon Budruk |
| 62. | Vakola |
| 63. | VWTC |

| 1 | 2 |
|---|---|
|---|---|

64. Wardh Gunj

65. Worli Sea Face

Jammu & Kashmir

1. Kulgam

2. Martand

3. Pulwama

4. Tral

Punjab

1. Bus Stand Chandigarh

2. Govt. Press Chandigarh

3. High Court Chandigarh

4. New Ind Area Chandigarh

5. Raj Bhawan Chandigarh

6. Ram Darbar Chandigarh

7. Sector 09 Chandigarh

8. Sector 10 Chandigarh

9. Sector 16 Chandigarh

10. Sector 21 Chandigarh

11. Sector 26 Chandigarh

12. Sector 27 Chandigarh

13. Sector 29 Chandigarh

14. Sector 31 Chandigarh

15. Sector 34 Chandigarh

16. Sector 40 Chandigarh

Combating Arthritis

3131. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than 150 million people in the country are suffering from Arthritis;

(b) if so, whether the Government has any programmes for creating awareness among the people, regarding prevention of this disease;

(c) if so, whether there is any modern facility in the country for knee replacement; and

(d) if not, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) Data on rheumatological diseases is sparse in India. However, Indian Council of Medical Research, on the basis of material available with it, has projected the number of people suffering from arthritis at about 74 million. Thousands of knee replacement surgeries are being conducted every year in most of the tertiary level health facilities in the country. AIIMS has the most modern theatre environment using latest state of the art implants and techniques.

Irregularities in Administration of NBE

3132. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has done away with the mandatory one of two year teach experience for diploma holders of the National Board of Examination (NBE) before being considered for appointment as teachers in specialities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a large number of irregularities have been found in the administration of the NBE; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The Government has done away with requirement of one of two year teaching experience for diploma holders of the National Board of Examination (NBE) for appointments as teachers in basic specialities/super specialities respectively, after taking into consideration the facts that the DNB degrees are equated to MD/MS or DMMCh. Degree and that there has been

changes in course contents, method of training, duration of course, etc. for award of DNB qualifications over the years.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Pending Proposals of National Highways

3133. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE:
SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:
SHRI RAKESH SINGH:
SHRI KAILASH JOSHI:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposals have been received for strengthening/widening/repairing/extension of National Highways by the Government during the last three years particularly from Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details in this regard, year-wise, State-wise;

(c) the number of proposals pending in this regard, State-wise;

(d) the total length of roads declared as NHs in the country, State-wise, year-wise;

(e) the number of proposals received from States pending under CRF for the various works on NHs;

(f) the reasons for not according approval to some of them;

(g) the total amount received by the State Governments for NHs that have been spent under various heads, head-wise, State-wise, year-wise; and

(h) the time by which all the pending proposals for various works on NHs are likely to be accorded approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) Proposals have been sanctioned during the last three years based on *inter-se* priority and availability of funds which includes 270 no. of proposals in the State of Madhya Pradesh and 250 no. of proposals for the State of Andhra Pradesh. The details of proposals sanctioned during last three years, year-wise, and State-wise are given in the enclosed Statement-I. No proposal is pending.

(d) The details of total length of roads declared as National Highway in the country, State-wise, Year-wise is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(e) No proposal is considered for sanction under CRF on National Highways except proposals for service roads to bypasses. Only two no. of proposals for service roads to bypasses on National Highways are pending under CRF.

(f) Works under CRF are sanctioned based on the annual accruals and utilization of fund by the State and *inter-se* priority of works. Some works could not be sanctioned due to various reasons like the limit of sanction having been already exceeded, priority for these works being low etc.

(g) State Governments had spent an amount of Rs. 4393.01 crore and Rs. 1854.18 crore during the last three years under Plan and Non Plan heads respectively. The State-wise details of amount spent are given in the enclosed Statement-III, year-wise and head-wise.

(h) Does not arise.

Statement I

| State | No. of proposals received during last three years | | | | | | | | | | | | No. of proposals pending | | | |
|-------------------|---|----|----|----|---------|----|----|----|---------|----|----|----|--------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| | 2003-04 | | | | 2004-05 | | | | 2005-06 | | | | Total | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 |
| | S | W | R | O | S | W | R | O | S | W | R | O | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 9 | 13 | 28 | 37 | 9 | 12 | 37 | 36 | 8 | 2 | 34 | 25 | 250 | | | |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 7 | | | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
|-------------------|----|----|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|----|
| Assam | 4 | 1 | 0 | 22 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 18 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 27 | 94 | | | |
| Bihar | 0 | 0 | 39 | 15 | 0 | 1 | 30 | 17 | 1 | 8 | 27 | 28 | 166 | | | |
| Chandigarh | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 9 | | | |
| Chhattisgarh | 0 | 2 | 12 | 51 | 1 | 9 | 14 | 30 | 1 | 6 | 15 | 23 | 164 | | | |
| Delhi | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | | | |
| Goa | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 15 | | | |
| Gujarat | 4 | 8 | 13 | 11 | 4 | 7 | 17 | 35 | 7 | 8 | 17 | 14 | 145 | | | |
| Haryana | 0 | 2 | 6 | 7 | 1 | 6 | 11 | 18 | 1 | 4 | 12 | 7 | 75 | | | |
| Himachal Pradesh | 0 | 0 | 22 | 9 | 0 | 10 | 30 | 20 | 4 | 7 | 20 | 31 | 153 | | | |
| Jammu and Kashmir | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | | | |
| Jharkhand | 0 | 0 | 15 | 9 | 1 | 0 | 7 | 16 | 0 | 4 | 13 | 10 | 75 | | | |
| Karnataka | 0 | 6 | 24 | 47 | 0 | 13 | 41 | 70 | 2 | 15 | 29 | 61 | 308 | | | |
| Kerala | 0 | 0 | 8 | 29 | 0 | 3 | 23 | 22 | 0 | 1 | 45 | 17 | 148 | | | |
| Madhya Pradesh | 0 | 2 | 41 | 52 | 2 | 11 | 34 | 33 | 3 | 16 | 43 | 33 | 270 | | | |
| Maharashtra | 4 | 4 | 39 | 45 | 26 | 4 | 33 | 33 | 1 | 7 | 35 | 9 | 240 | | Nil | |
| Manipur | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 7 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 5 | 23 | | | |
| Meghalaya | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 10 | 41 | | | |
| Mizoram | 1 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 23 | | | |
| Nagaland | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 21 | | | |
| Orissa | 0 | 11 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 9 | 4 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 52 | | | |
| Pondicherry | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 9 | | | |
| Punjab | 1 | 1 | 11 | 31 | 5 | 0 | 19 | 15 | 6 | 2 | 13 | 23 | 127 | | | |
| Rajasthan | 1 | 9 | 13 | 10 | 11 | 7 | 31 | 7 | 4 | 11 | 24 | 9 | 137 | | | |
| Tamil Nadu | 26 | 3 | 30 | 43 | 14 | 7 | 21 | 40 | 0 | 1 | 30 | 37 | 252 | | | |
| Uttaranchal | 5 | 1 | 9 | 0 | 6 | 2 | 9 | 3 | 20 | 2 | 11 | 0 | 68 | | | |
| Uttar Pradesh | 2 | 5 | 42 | 91 | 1 | 6 | 37 | 74 | 0 | 6 | 48 | 54 | 366 | | | |
| West Bengal | 4 | 0 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 11 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 47 | | | |
| Sikkim | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | | | |
| Tripura | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | | | |
| | 69 | 70 | 372 | 541 | 93 | 122 | 414 | 543 | 543 | 65 | 119 | 431 | 455 | | | |

Note: S Stands for strengthening, W Stands for Widening, R. Stands for Repairs and O Stands for other Works.

Statement II

| Sl.No. | States | Prior to 9th Plan | Addition during IXth Plan (1997-2002) | Addition during Xth Plan (2002-07) in Feb. 2004 | Addition During Xth Plan (2002-07) in March & June 2006 | Denotified Length during Xth Plan in year 2006-07 (upto July, 2006) | Total NH length at present |
|--------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|----------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 2888 | 1114 | 470 | | | 4472 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 330 | 62 | 0 | | | 392 |
| 3. | Assam | 2296 | 540 | 0 | | | 2836 |
| 4. | Bihar | 1272 | 2040 | 225 | 105 | | 3642 |
| 5. | Chandigarh | 24 | 0 | 0 | | | 24 |
| 6. | Chhattisgarh | 840 | 970 | 374 | | | 2184 |
| 7. | Delhi | 72 | 0 | 0 | | | 72 |
| 8. | Goa | 229 | 40 | 0 | | | 269 |
| 9. | Gujarat | 1631 | 830 | 410 | 374 | | 3245 |
| 10. | Haryana | 698 | 659 | 111 | 44 | | 1512 |
| 11. | Himachal Pradesh | 854 | 334 | 20 | | | 1208 |
| 12. | Jammu & Kashmir | 648 | 175 | 0 | 422 | | 1245 |
| 13. | Jharkhand | 965 | 638 | 202 | | | 1805 |
| 14. | Karnataka | 1996 | 1574 | 273 | | | 3843 |
| 15. | Kerala | 940 | 500 | 0 | | | 1440 |
| 16. | Madhya Pradesh | 2106 | 2558 | 536 | | 530 | 4670 |
| 17. | Maharashtra | 2918 | 708 | 550 | | | 4178 |
| 18. | Manipur | 431 | 523 | 5 | | | 959 |
| 19. | Meghalaya | 472 | 245 | 93 | | | 810 |
| 20. | Mizoram | 551 | 376 | 0 | | | 927 |
| 21. | Nagaland | 113 | 256 | 125 | | | 494 |
| 22. | Orissa | 1649 | 1652 | 403 | | | 3704 |
| 23. | Pondicherry | 23 | 30 | 0 | | | 53 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|-------|-----------------------------|-------|-------|------|------|-----|-------|
| 24. | Punjab | 892 | 665 | 0 | | | 1557 |
| 25. | Rajasthan | 2931 | 1666 | 988 | | | 5585 |
| 26. | Sikkim | 62 | 0 | 0 | | | 62 |
| 27. | Tamil Nadu | 1896 | 1862 | 425 | 2769 | | 4462 |
| 28. | Tripura | 200 | 200 | 0 | | | 400 |
| 29. | Uttaranchal | 0 | 1075 | 916 | | | 1991 |
| 30. | Uttar Pradesh | 2733 | 2209 | 657 | 275 | | 5874 |
| 31. | West Bengal | 1638 | 313 | 374 | 52 | | 2377 |
| 32. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 0 | 0 | 300 | | | 300 |
| Total | | 34298 | 23814 | 7457 | 1551 | 530 | 66590 |

Statement III

(Amount in Rs. Crore)

| State | 2003-04 | | 2004-05 | | 2005-06 | | Total | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| | Plan (Original) | Non Plan (M&R) | Plan (Original) | Non Plan (M&R) | Plan (Original) | Non Plan (M&R) | Plan (Original) | Non Plan (M&R) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 110.51 | 37.43 | 89.91 | 20.99 | 69.91 | 32.18 | 270.33 | 90.60 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 4.10 | 0.30 | 6.00 | 0.31 | 6.00 | 0.14 | 16.10 | 0.75 |
| Assam | 106.83 | 21.08 | 78.00 | 15.62 | 58.00 | 26.73 | 242.83 | 63.43 |
| Bihar | 72.05 | 29.46 | 59.05 | 42.40 | 66.29 | 45.89 | 197.39 | 117.75 |
| Chandigarh | 1.60 | 0.24 | 1.00 | 0.43 | 0.89 | 0.55 | 3.49 | 1.22 |
| Chhattisgarh | 43.54 | 17.68 | 34.98 | 20.47 | 49.18 | 20.49 | 127.70 | 58.64 |
| Delhi | 8.35 | 0.26 | 3.95 | 0.00 | 0.51 | 0.04 | 12.81 | 0.30 |
| Goa | 24.00 | 5.03 | 5.00 | 2.80 | 5.50 | 3.87 | 34.50 | 11.70 |
| Gujarat | 68.55 | 21.66 | 53.64 | 33.73 | 103.25 | 38.11 | 225.44 | 93.50 |
| Haryana | 52.92 | 11.90 | 37.87 | 5.48 | 51.42 | 15.43 | 142.21 | 32.81 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 33.07 | 13.93 | 40.48 | 14.58 | 39.00 | 23.27 | 112.55 | 51.78 |
| Jammu and Kashmir | 4.00 | 0.35 | 0.22 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.18 | 4.22 | 0.53 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|-----------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| Jharkhand | 36.70 | 15.46 | 35.00 | 23.78 | 40.00 | 21.27 | 111.70 | 60.51 |
| Karnataka | 150.35 | 38.70 | 76.37 | 36.00 | 88.56 | 42.60 | 315.28 | 117.30 |
| Kerala | 99.86 | 20.81 | 64.69 | 30.70 | 70.96 | 34.59 | 235.51 | 86.10 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 80.30 | 53.18 | 82.87 | 53.54 | 77.93 | 53.44 | 241.10 | 160.16 |
| Maharashtra | 120.00 | 50.04 | 65.35 | 48.48 | 112.00 | 50.24 | 297.35 | 148.76 |
| Manipur | 16.00 | 6.50 | 14.00 | 6.88 | 20.00 | 9.44 | 50.00 | 22.82 |
| Meghalaya | 39.30 | 7.18 | 28.43 | 9.43 | 24.00 | 9.60 | 91.73 | 26.21 |
| Mizoram | 31.00 | 3.75 | 25.00 | 3.28 | 15.75 | 4.66 | 71.75 | 11.69 |
| Nagaland | 11.50 | 0.98 | 16.00 | 1.69 | 11.25 | 3.60 | 38.75 | 6.27 |
| Orissa | 69.97 | 42.51 | 72.33 | 33.83 | 67.30 | 40.92 | 209.60 | 117.26 |
| Pondicherry | 2.20 | 0.83 | 2.13 | 0.85 | 2.64 | 0.41 | 6.97 | 2.09 |
| Punjab | 51.00 | 19.37 | 50.72 | 17.42 | 62.50 | 38.26 | 164.22 | 75.05 |
| Rajasthan | 46.44 | 25.81 | 46.45 | 42.74 | 84.60 | 48.82 | 177.49 | 117.37 |
| Tamil Nadu | 80.79 | 31.11 | 85.31 | 34.56 | 81.80 | 49.76 | 247.90 | 115.43 |
| Uttaranchal | 18.88 | 3.48 | 26.49 | 10.46 | 40.41 | 16.24 | 85.78 | 30.18 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 89.05 | 53.48 | 172.00 | 53.87 | 199.02 | 50.82 | 460.07 | 158.17 |
| West Bengal | 72.49 | 22.01 | 70.00 | 25.26 | 55.75 | 28.53 | 198.24 | 75.80 |
| Total | 1545.35 | 554.52 | 1343.24 | 589.58 | 1504.42 | 710.08 | 4393.01 | 1854.18 |

*[English]***Irregularities in Marketing of Coal**

3134. DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO:
SHRI FURKAN ANSARI:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received complaints against the Central Coalfields Limited with regard to the irregularities and bungling in marketing of coal to the industrial units/power plants;

(b) if so, the details of complaints received in this regard alongwith the number of cases registered/referred to the Vigilance Department/Central Bureau of Investigation

during the last three years and the number of cases investigated by these agencies;

(c) the details of irregularities detected in each of the last three years and the amount of bungling involved therein;

(d) the action taken against the officers found guilty; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to curb the corruption and inefficiency ailing the coal sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Two complaints have been received against officials of Central Coalfields Ltd. (CCL) concerning

irregularities in marketing of coal to the industrial units/power plants.

The first complaint relates to irregularities on account of less realization of price on coal dispatched from Karo OCP to Tenughat Thermal Power Station. This complaint was investigated and based on findings of Chief Vigilance Officer (CVO), CCL, major penalty proceedings have been initiated against the erring officials for less realization on supply of coal.

The other complaint pertains to difference in sale price sold through road mode *vis-a-vis* rail mode under e-marketing. This complaint was also investigated. During preliminary scrutiny conducted by CVO, CCL, No irregularity has been substantiated in respect of this complaint.

(e) Due attention is paid to streamline the procedures and practices prevailing in the Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiaries so as to make their working more transparent and systematic thus minimizing chances of corruption. The Government and CIL are taking the following steps to check corruption:

- (i) Identification of sensitive posts/departments.
- (ii) Rotational transfer of officers/employees working in sensitive posts.
- (iii) Transfer of officers figuring in the list of officers of doubtful integrity.
- (iv) Periodical inspections, both regular and surprise, in sensitive areas.
- (v) Post-scrutiny of file, etc.
- (vi) Scrutiny of property returns.
- (vii) Annual verification of the coal stock position.
- (viii) Joint Action by coal companies in liaison with the local police administration, CISF, Railway police to check the illegal mining, theft and pilferage of coal.

Ban on Recruitment

3135. SHRI P. MOHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Employees in Central Services as on date, Ministry/Department-wise;

(b) the sanctioned strength of total posts of all the Union Government offices;

(c) the total number of vacancies remaining unfilled, Ministry/Department-wise;

(d) the number of posts ordered to be abolished, Ministry/Department-wise;

(e) whether the ban on recruitment in Central Services is likely to continue;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the time by which it is likely to be revoked?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) The Estimated total number of Civil Union Government Employees in Central Services as on 01.03.2004 was 31.28 lakhs. The Ministry/Department-wise breakup is given at Col. 4 of the enclosed Statement.

(b) The estimated Civil sanctioned strength of total posts of all the Union Government employees as on 1.3.2004 was 35.60 lakhs. Ministry/Department-wise breakup is given at Col. 3 of the enclosed Statement.

(c) The estimated total number of Civil vacancies left unfilled as on 1.3.2004 was 4.32 lakhs. Ministry/Department-wise breakup is given at Col. 5 of the enclosed Statement.

(d) The information regarding the number of posts ordered for abolition in different Ministries/Departments is not maintained centrally.

(e) to (g) There is no ban on recruitment in Central Services.

Statement*Estimated Number of Central Government Civilian Employees (as on 1.3.2004)*

| Sl.No. | Ministry/Department | Number of Sanctioned Posts | Number in Position | Number of Vacancies |
|--------|------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Agriculture | 12589 | 11557 | 1032 |
| 2. | Atomic Energy | 35275 | 33209 | 2066 |
| 3. | Bio-Technology | 214 | 185 | 29 |
| 4. | Cabinet Secretariat | 320 | 289 | 31 |
| 5. | Chemicals and Petrochemicals | 302 | 270 | 32 |
| 6. | Civil Aviation | 1667 | 1459 | 208 |
| 7. | Consumer Affairs | 1323 | 1012 | 311 |
| 8. | Coal | 441 | 348 | 93 |
| 9. | Commerce & Supply | 7647 | 6950 | 697 |
| 10. | Company Affairs | 2510 | 2030 | 480 |
| 11. | Culture | 11218 | 9394 | 1824 |
| 12. | Defence (Civilian) | 473233 | 353741 | 119492 |
| 13. | Economic Affairs | 26876 | 22966 | 3910 |
| 14. | Education | 1971 | 1626 | 345 |
| 15. | Election Commission | 413 | 336 | 77 |
| 16. | Information Technology | 5688 | 5166 | 522 |
| 17. | Environment & Forests | 4913 | 4186 | 727 |
| 18. | Expenditure | 1143 | 944 | 199 |
| 19. | External Affairs | 6838 | 6227 | 611 |
| 20. | Fertilizers | 323 | 293 | 30 |
| 21. | Food & Public Distribution | 1778 | 1583 | 195 |
| 22. | Food Processing Industries | 239 | 214 | 25 |
| 23. | Health & Family Welfare | 25981 | 23388 | 2593 |
| 24. | Heavy Industries | 235 | 218 | 17 |
| 25. | Home Affairs | 720365 | 687943 | 32422 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|---|---------|---------|--------|
| 26. | Indian Audit & Accounts | 71484 | 56659 | 14825 |
| 27. | Industrial Policy & Promotion | 3651 | 3073 | 578 |
| 28. | Information & Broadcasting | 7605 | 6531 | 1074 |
| 29. | Labour | 10188 | 8697 | 1491 |
| 30. | Law & Justice | 2546 | 2187 | 359 |
| 31. | Mines | 18216 | 13434 | 4782 |
| 32. | Non Conventional Energy Sources | 410 | 399 | 11 |
| 33. | Ocean Development | 181 | 159 | 22 |
| 34. | Parliamentary Affairs | 152 | 152 | 0 |
| 35. | Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions | 9293 | 7934 | 1359 |
| 36. | Petroleum and Natural Gas | 318 | 283 | 35 |
| 37. | Planning Commission | 1451 | 1231 | 220 |
| 38. | Posts | 230093 | 191391 | 38702 |
| 39. | Power | 2353 | 1947 | 406 |
| 40. | President Secretariat | 311 | 281 | 30 |
| 41. | PMO | 502 | 461 | 41 |
| 42. | Public Enterprises | 121 | 108 | 13 |
| 43. | Railways | 1618732 | 1445428 | 173304 |
| 44. | Revenue | 126706 | 118207 | 8499 |
| 45. | Rural Development | 673 | 569 | 104 |
| 46. | Science & Technology | 22940 | 17755 | 5185 |
| 47. | Space | 17460 | 15012 | 2448 |
| 48. | SSI Agro & Rural Industries | 3390 | 2619 | 771 |
| 49. | Statistics & Programme Implementation | 6584 | 5701 | 883 |
| 50. | Steel | 564 | 529 | 35 |
| 51. | Road Transport, Highways | 1022 | 920 | 102 |
| 52. | Shipping | 3205 | 2628 | 577 |
| 53. | Telecommunications | 3115 | 2506 | 609 |
| 54. | Textiles | 5607 | 5327 | 280 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-------|---|---------|---------|--------|
| 55. | Tourism | 625 | 595 | 30 |
| 56. | Tribal Affairs | 100 | 82 | 18 |
| 57. | Union Public Service Commission | 2133 | 1867 | 248 |
| 58. | Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation | 28495 | 23880 | 4615 |
| 59. | Vice President's Secretariat | 59 | 54 | 5 |
| 60. | Water Resources | 14514 | 11958 | 2556 |
| 61. | Social Justice & Empowerment | 984 | 957 | 27 |
| 62. | Women & Child Development | 702 | 659 | 43 |
| 63. | Youth Affairs & Sports | 486 | 420 | 46 |
| Total | | 3560433 | 3128134 | 432299 |

Sale of Railway Tickets through Post Offices*[Translation]*

3136. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU:
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:

Appointment in MTNL

3137. SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:
SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to sell Railway Tickets through post offices in the country in order to reduce rush of passengers at the stations;

(a) whether the CMD and the Directors of the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) are allegedly appointing their relatives in the corporation directly while there are already surplus officers and staff in the corporation;

(b) whether any consultation has been made by the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology with the Ministry of Railways in this regard;

(b) if so, the names of officers appointed above the rank of Assistant Manager during the last two years and the reasons therefor;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) whether more qualified and competent personnel than directly appointed ones are already working in the MTNL;

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

(d) if so, whether the Government proposes to make any enquiry and punish those found guilty in this regard;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (d) The matter of reservation of railway tickets through post offices is under examination in the Ministry of Railways and Department of Posts, Government of India. Since the negotiations are still on, it is not feasible to fix any time frame for implementation of this scheme.

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No, Sir. CMD and Directors of MTNL have not appointed their relatives in the Company.

(b) The name of the officers above the rank of Assistant Manager appointed during the last two years are:

- | | | |
|------------------------|---|---|
| (i) Shri Anupam Anand | — | General Manager (Human Resource) |
| (ii) Shri M.K. Saxena | — | Deputy General Manager (Human Resource) |
| (iii) Shri D.N. Mishra | — | Deputy General Manager (Human Resource) |

These appointments are made only in the area of Human Resources, as professionally qualified personnel with requisite years of post qualification experience are not available in the organization in the immediate zone of consideration.

(c) No, Sir. There are no more professionally qualified personnel with requisite post-qualification experience than the directly recruited ones from the zone of consideration.

(d) to (f) As no specific complaint or allegation has been received in this regard, no investigation is proposed.

[English]

Four Laning of National Highway in Kerala

3138. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to convert National Highway into four lane in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the third and fourth phase of Quilon Bypass has not been started so far;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The entire length of NH-17 and NH-47 passing through the State of Kerala are proposed for four laning under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase-II (North South Corridor), Phase-III A and Phase-III B..

(c) to (e) The construction work of Quilon (Kollam) Bypass Phase-III and IV has been included in NHDP Phase-III for four laning on Build Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis. The preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) has been taken up.

[Translation]

Multi-National Companies in Coal Sector

3139. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to contact many Multi National Companies of the world in coal sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for giving preference to these foreign companies in comparison to domestic companies;

(c) the foreign companies contacted so far; and

(d) the quantity of coal likely to be allotted to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of reply at (a) above.

[English]

Handling of Mails

3140. SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP:
SHRIMATI MANORAMA MADHAVRAJ:
SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Government to ban couriers from handling postage that are less than 300 gms in weight;

(b) if so, whether this is likely to monopolise the system of weighed mails by allegedly stifling competition;

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

(d) whether the Government proposes to regulate and register the couriers industry; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) Section 4 of the existing Indian Post Office Act, 1898 confers exclusive privilege on the Central Government for conveying letters with some exceptions. This exclusive privilege is now proposed to be relaxed so that couriers also may be permitted to carry letter mail weighing over 300 grams.

(d) and (e) The draft amendment Bill which proposes to amend the Indian Post Office Act, 1898, envisages the setting up of an independent Mail Regulatory and Development Authority for ensuring a level playing field in the mail sector for all service providers including private courier companies. Registration of couriers is also provided for in the Amendment Bill so as to ensure accountability, responsibility and best services to the customers.

Illegal Mining

3141. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are incidents of illegal mining in various coal sectors in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantity of illegal coal mining alongwith its market value;

(d) the details of people found guilty of illegal mining during the last three years; and

(e) the action taken against such guilty persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) Yes, Sir, illegal mining is carried out stealthily and clandestinely from abandoned/closed/discussed mines/non-working part of mine or from outcrop regions in coalfield areas.

(b) Illegal mining is predominant in the eastern region particularly, in the State of Jharkhand, covering BCCL, CCL & ECL and in the State of West Bengal covering ECL and BCCL.

(c) Since illegal mining is carried out stealthily and clandestinely it is not possible to have full details of such instances. However, on the basis of raids conducted by security personnel as well as joint raids with law and order authorities of the concerned State Government, the quantity of coal seized and its value during last three years is given below:

| Company | 2003-2004 | | 2004-2005 | | 2005-2006 | |
|---------|------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| | Quantity of Coal seized (Te) | Value (Rs. lakhs) | Quantity of Coal seized (Te) | Value (Rs. lakhs) | Quantity of Coal seized (Te) | Value (Rs. lakhs) |
| ECL | 2625.00 | 21.00 | 1331.97 | 10.64 | 2481.00 | 24.31 |
| BCCL | 363.00 | 3.64 | 120.50 | 1.96 | 639.31 | 10.41 |
| CCL | 128.00 | 1.28 | 428.00 | 4.86 | 532.50 | 5.66 |
| NCL | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| WCL | 74.00 | 0.75 | 144.00 | 1.44 | 26.50 | 0.28 |
| SECL | 43.00 | 0.44 | 955.65 | 9.58 | 42.50 | 0.48 |
| MCL | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| NEC | 0.00 | 0.00 | 600.00 | 7.20 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| CIL | 3233.00 | 27.11 | 3580.00 | 35.66 | 3721.81 | 41.13 |

(d) and (e) According to the information available with the Coal companies, FIRs lodged and arrests made

during last three years in case of illegal mining of coal are given below:

| Company | 2003-2004 | | 2004-2005 | | 2005-2006 | |
|---------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| | FIRs lodged | Arrests made | FIRs lodged | Arrests made | FIRs lodged | Arrests made |
| ECL | 96 | 0 | 17 | 11 | 9 | 32 |
| BCCL | 193 | 6 | 120 | 9 | 83 | 28 |
| CCL | 26 | 5 | 113 | 27 | 63 | 14 |
| NCL | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| WCL | 2 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 5 | 8 |
| SECL | 8 | 18 | 22 | 22 | 14 | 49 |
| MCL | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| NEC | 00 | 00 | 7 | 00 | 6 | 1 |
| CIL | 325 | 33 | 281 | 75 | 180 | 132 |

[Translation]

Purchase of Dredger Ships

3142. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has purchased 'Dredger Ships' for desilting the rivers recently;

(b) if so, the total number of 'Dredger Ships' purchased;

(c) the total amount spent on the purchase of these ships;

(d) the total number of 'Dredger Ships' with the Government presently;

(e) whether these 'Dredger Ships' are also used for the protection of cargo ships; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) The Government is not directly involved in dredging operations,

therefore, the Government has not purchased any dredgers. However, Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI), an autonomous body under the administrative control of the Government had purchased three dredgers in 2003-04 at a total cost of Rs. 16.55 crores.

(d) At present, IWAI and Kolkata Port Trust own a total of 16 dredgers for dredging in the rivers. Besides, Dredging Corporation of India, a Public Sector Undertaking, owns 12 Dredger Ships which are mostly used for dredging in the navigation channels of Ports.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Faulty Phones in Uttaranchal

3143. SHRI NIHAL CHAND: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether telephones of Pauri District in Uttaranchal in general and starting with digits 225 such as (01368)-225210, 225211, 225027 remain frequently out of order;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether complaints are not attended to despite repeated reminders;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Sir, the telephones starting with digits '225' are working from Liwali exchange connected to Pauri, which is 15 km away, through Optical Fibre Media. There had been no breakdown of this exchange during the last six months.

The average telephone fault rate of Pauri district is 7.93 faults/100 telephones/month during the last six months compared to all India average of BSNL which is 7.2 faults/100 telephones/month.

Telephone number 225027 was repaired within norms while telephone numbers 225210 and 225211 took more time to repair due to individual technical failures.

(c) Sir, the complaints are attended to promptly.

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

(e) The following steps have been taken by BSNL to further improve the fault reporting/clearance in Pauri District:

- (i) IVRS based fault reporting at SDCC level has been introduced.
- (ii) Faults are registered at Customer Service Centres as well as at SSA HQs.
- (iii) Line staff has been provided with WLL mobile telephones for reporting and taking faults at any place while moving in the field.

[English]

Achievements of Sports Persons

3144. SHRI C.H. VIJAYASHANKAR: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is satisfied with the results of its sports authorities/agencies in producing competitive sports persons in the country;

(b) if so, the results of international level events in which Indian team have performed well;

(c) the special schemes in place to identify untapped talents at village levels; and

(d) the details of steps taken by the Union Government to provide infrastructural facilities such as Indoor/Outdoor stadiums, gyms and trained coaches at block and sub-division level?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) While there is considerable room for improvement in the standard of sports in the country, the performance of Indian sportspersons has shown some improvement. At the Commonwealth Games-2002 held in Manchester, India secured the fourth position and won 69 medals, as against 25 medals won by Indian participants in the earlier Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur. In the Commonwealth Games held at Melbourne in 2006, India retained the fourth position despite the fact that certain disciplines, where India has a strong medal winning potential like Wrestling and Judo were not included and the number of medals available in the Weightlifting had been significantly reduced. Indian sportspersons have performed creditably in a number of other international competitions, including the First Afro-Asian Games in Hyderabad and SAF Games in Islamabad in 2004 and various other recent international championships/events. In the Athens Olympics 2004, India won its first ever Silver medal in an individual event since Independence, while some of the Indian sportspersons also gave their best performances. In the Paralympic Games-2004 at Athens, India won 1 gold medal in athletics and 1 bronze medal in power-lifting. Efforts are being made on a continuous basis to try and further improve the standards, performance and achievements of Indian sportspersons.

(c) and (d) The promotion of sports is primarily the responsibility of State Governments and National Sports Federations. The Government of India, directly and through schemes of the Sports Authority of India (SAI), augments the efforts of the State Governments and Federations in the promotion of sports.

The Sports Authority of India implements the following sports promotion schemes in the country:

1. National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC)
2. Army Boys Sports Company (ABSC)
3. SAI Training Centre (STC)

4. Special Area Games (SAG) Scheme.
5. Centres of Excellence (COX).

All these schemes, especially NSTC and SAG, also focus on identifying untapped talent from rural areas. These are in addition to the schemes being implemented directly by the Ministry *viz.*, Rural Sports Programme and Scheme for Talent Search and Training.

Till 31.03.2005, the Government of India was supplementing the creation of sports infrastructure in State by means of a centrally sponsored scheme. The scheme included assistance for creation of Indoor/Outdoor Stadia and gyms etc. From 01.04.2005, the scheme has been transferred to State Sector. Accordingly, fresh proposals of infrastructure would have to be funded by State Government out of their own resources.

However, in recognition of the shortage facilities in rural areas, and the consequent lack of access to organized sports and games for a large section of the youth, consideration is being given in the Ministry to the promotion of a Panchayat Yuva Khel Abhiyan in collaboration with various stakeholders, including Panchayat Raj Institutions youth organizations, educational institutions etc. The proposal will be finalized after necessary consultations with the Ministries and Organizations concerned, as also the State Governments. Thereafter, approval of the competent authority will be sought.

Anti Hepatitis-B Vaccine

3145. SHRI M. APPADURAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people suffering from Hepatitis-B disease in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether any research is going on to develop anti-Hepatitis-B Vaccine;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of the funds allocated yearly for the research; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken to take the help of Cuba for production of anti-Hepatitis-B Vaccine?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The separate data regarding people suffering from Hepatitis-B is not centrally maintained, however, State-wise number of cases due to Viral Hepatitis including Hepatitis-B as reported by Central Bureau of Health Intelligence during the period from 2003-2005 is enclosed as Statement.

(b) to (e) Two types of Hepatitis-B vaccine-Pharma derived vaccine and Recombinant DNA vaccine have been developed so far and are available in India. Besides, as per information available from World Health Organisation, several other vaccines for Hepatitis-B are under development in different institutions of the world like Genencor International Inc., Pasteur Institute, Paris and Cuban Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology. At present the Government is not supporting any research on the development of Hepatitis-B vaccine and there is no proposal to associate Cuba for production of Hepatitis-B vaccine in the country.

Statement

Reported Cases and Deaths due to Communicable Diseases in India-2003

Viral Hepatitis

| Sl.No. | State/U.T. | Male | | Female | | Total | | Reference Period upto |
|--------|-------------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|-----------------------|
| | | Cases | Deaths | Cases | Deaths | Cases | Deaths | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 12301 | 72 | 10793 | 38 | 23094 | 110 | Dec. 2003 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 132 | 4 | 167 | 3 | 299 | 7 | Dec. 2003 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|-----|-----------------------------|-------|-----|-------|----|-------|-----|--------------------------|
| 3. | Assam | — | — | — | — | — | — | NR |
| 4. | Bihar | — | — | — | — | — | — | NR |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | — | — | — | — | — | — | NR |
| 6. | Goa | 135 | 0 | 55 | 0 | 190 | 0 | Dec. 2003 |
| 7. | Gujarat | 1711 | 9 | 1041 | 6 | 2752 | 15 | Dec. Excpt Feb. |
| 8. | Haryana | 1025 | 8 | 620 | 1 | 1645 | 9 | Dec. 2003 |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | 1041 | 1 | 883 | 0 | 1924 | 1 | Dec. 2003 |
| 10. | Jammu & Kashmir | — | — | — | — | 8432 | 0 | Dec. 2003 |
| 11. | Jharkhand | — | — | — | — | — | — | NR |
| 12. | Karnataka | 13676 | 66 | 11278 | 42 | 24954 | 108 | Dec. 2003 |
| 13. | Kerala | 4282 | 4 | 3151 | 5 | 7433 | 9 | Dec. 2003 |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 4962 | 8 | 4637 | 17 | 9599 | 25 | Dec. 2003 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 22852 | 73 | 10663 | 45 | 33515 | 118 | Dec. 2003 |
| 16. | Manipur | 177 | 0 | 133 | 0 | 310 | 0 | Dec. 2003 |
| 17. | Meghalaya | 198 | 0 | 221 | 1 | 419 | 1 | Dec. 2003 |
| 18. | Mizoram | 402 | 2 | 342 | 6 | 744 | 8 | Dec. 2003 |
| 19. | Nagaland | 79 | 0 | 48 | 0 | 127 | 0 | Dec. Except July 2003 |
| 20. | Orissa | 1546 | 27 | 954 | 12 | 2500 | 39 | Dec. 2003 |
| 21. | Punjab | 3136 | 18 | 2033 | 4 | 5169 | 22 | Dec. 2003 |
| 22. | Rajasthan | 1312 | 21 | 764 | 18 | 2076 | 39 | Dec. 2003 |
| 23. | Sikkim | 229 | 1 | 185 | 1 | 414 | 2 | Dec. 2003 |
| 24. | Tamil Nadu | — | — | — | — | 6476 | 2 | Dec. 2003 |
| 25. | Tripura | 131 | 1 | 111 | 2 | 242 | 3 | Dec. 2003 |
| 26. | Uttaranchal | — | — | — | — | — | — | NR |
| 27. | Uttar Pradesh | — | — | — | — | 2964 | 1 | Dec. 2003 |
| 28. | West Bengal | 3914 | 136 | 2613 | 62 | 6527 | 198 | Dec. 2003 |
| 29. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 244 | 9 | 223 | 3 | 467 | 12 | Dec. 2003 |
| 30. | Chandigarh | — | — | — | — | 398 | 11 | Dec. 2003 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|-------|------------------------|-------|-----|-------|-----|--------|------|-----------|
| 31. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 71 | 0 | 35 | 0 | 227 | 0 | Dec. 2003 |
| 32. | Daman and Diu | 12 | 1 | 11 | 0 | 23 | 1 | Dec. 2003 |
| 33. | Delhi | 4567 | 155 | 2909 | 107 | 7476 | 262 | Dec. 2003 |
| 34. | Lakshadweep | 10 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 19 | 0 | Dec. 2003 |
| 35. | Pondicherry | 417 | 2 | 455 | 1 | 872 | 3 | Dec. 2003 |
| Total | | 78562 | 618 | 54334 | 374 | 151287 | 1006 | |

Data is provisional and not comparable due to ill defined coverage.

— Not Reported

NR—Not received

The sum of male and female may not tally with the total figure as some States/UTs. have not reported genderwise information separately.

Source: Monthly Health Condition Reports of States/UTs, Directorate of Health Services.

Reported Cases and Deaths Due to Communicable Diseases in India-2004

Viral Hepatitis

| Sl.No. | State/U.T. | Male | | Female | | Total | | Reference Period upto |
|--------|-------------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|-----------------------|
| | | Cases | Deaths | Cases | Deaths | Cases | Deaths | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 15936 | 54 | 12286 | 18 | 28222 | 72 | Dec. 2004 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | — | — | — | — | — | — | NR |
| 3. | Assam | 4668 | 0 | 6272 | 0 | 10940 | 0 | Dec. 2004 |
| 4. | Bihar | — | — | — | — | — | — | NR |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | — | — | — | — | — | — | NR |
| 6. | Goa | 67 | 0 | 29 | 0 | 96 | 0 | Dec. 2004 |
| 7. | Gujarat | 3427 | 13 | 2433 | 13 | 5860 | 26 | Dec. 2004 |
| 8. | Haryana | 1226 | 1 | 752 | 135 | 1978 | 136 | Dec. 2004 |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | 1311 | 0 | 1048 | 0 | 2359 | 0 | Dec. 2004 |
| 10. | Jammu & Kashmir | — | — | — | — | 8398 | 0 | Dec. 2004 |
| 11. | Jharkhand | — | — | — | — | — | — | NR |
| 12. | Karnataka | 28035 | 153 | 18624 | 75 | 46659 | 228 | Dec. 2004 |
| 13. | Kerala | 4305 | 2 | 2805 | 0 | 7110 | 2 | Dec. 2004 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|-------|-----------------------------|--------|-----|-------|-----|--------|------|-----------|
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 7648 | 18 | 8011 | 10 | 15859 | 28 | Dec. 2004 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 42067 | 121 | 21532 | 80 | 63599 | 201 | Dec. 2004 |
| 16. | Manipur | 156 | 1 | 154 | 0 | 310 | 1 | Dec. 2004 |
| 17. | Meghalaya | 377 | 0 | 387 | 1 | 764 | 1 | Dec. 2004 |
| 18. | Mizoram | 407 | 1 | 383 | 1 | 790 | 2 | Dec. 2004 |
| 19. | Nagaland | 21 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 27 | 0 | Dec. 2004 |
| 20. | Orissa | 1678 | 33 | 788 | 7 | 2448 | 40 | Dec. 2004 |
| 21. | Punjab | 1018 | 5 | 780 | 1 | 1798 | 6 | Dec. 2004 |
| 22. | Rajasthan | 1403 | 34 | 869 | 19 | 2272 | 53 | Dec. 2004 |
| 23. | Sikkim | 220 | 5 | 152 | 0 | 372 | 5 | Dec. 2004 |
| 24. | Tamil Nadu | — | — | — | — | 12237 | 8 | Dec. 2004 |
| 25. | Tripura | 796 | 0 | 391 | 0 | 1187 | 0 | Dec. 2004 |
| 26. | Uttaranchal | 2191 | 7 | 1219 | 1 | 3410 | 8 | Dec. 2004 |
| 27. | Uttar Pradesh | — | — | — | — | 2 | 1 | Jan. 2004 |
| 28. | West Bengal | 4639 | 154 | 2938 | 71 | 6771 | 212 | Dec. 2004 |
| 29. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 175 | 1 | 83 | 1 | 258 | 2 | Dec. 2004 |
| 30. | Chandigarh | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 300 | 1 | May. 2004 |
| 31. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 599 | 2 | 226 | 2 | 825 | 3 | Dec. 2004 |
| 32. | Daman and Diu | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 | Dec. 2004 |
| 33. | Delhi | 6417 | 75 | 4413 | 72 | 10830 | 147 | Dec. 2004 |
| 34. | Lakshadweep | 16 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 20 | 1 | Dec. 2004 |
| 35. | Pondicherry | 420 | 2 | 368 | 0 | 788 | 2 | Dec. 2004 |
| Total | | 129429 | 683 | 86933 | 507 | 236493 | 1186 | |

Data is provisional and not comparable due to ill defined coverage

— Not Reported

NR—Not received

The sum of male and female may not tally with the total figure as some States/UTs. have not reported genderwise information separately.

Source: Monthly Health Condition Reports of States/UTs, Directorate of Health Services.

*Reported Cases and Deaths Due to Principal Communicable Diseases in India—2005***Viral Hepatitis**

| Sl.No. | State/U.T. | Male | | Female | | Total | | Reference Period upto |
|--------|-------------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|----------------------------------|
| | | Cases | Deaths | Cases | Deaths | Cases | Deaths | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 15835 | 30 | 13447 | 9 | 29282 | 39 | Dec., 05 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 235 | 2 | 208 | 2 | 443 | 4 | Dec., 05 |
| 3. | Assam | 15938 | 0 | 991 | 0 | 16929 | 0 | Dec., 05 |
| 4. | Bihar | — | — | — | — | — | — | NR |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | — | — | — | — | — | — | NR |
| 6. | Goa | 11 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 19 | 0 | Apr., 05 |
| 7. | Gujarat | 5775 | 5 | 3875 | 7 | 9650 | 12 | Dec., 05 |
| 8. | Haryana | 2437 | 15 | 1021 | 5 | 3458 | 20 | Dec., 05 |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | 1432 | 0 | 1237 | 0 | 2669 | 0 | Dec., 05 |
| 10. | Jammu & Kashmir | — | — | — | — | 7908 | 1 | Dec., 05 |
| 11. | Jharkhand | 17 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 23 | 0 | Dec., Except Jan. to Mar., 05 |
| 12. | Karnataka | 10144 | 20 | 7769 | 26 | 17913 | 46 | Dec., 05 |
| 13. | Kerala | 5539 | 12 | 3366 | 3 | 8905 | 15 | Dec., 05 |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 3792 | 115 | 3255 | 13 | 7047 | 128 | Dec., 05 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 27490 | 39 | 11677 | 43 | 39167 | 82 | Dec., 05 |
| 16. | Manipur | 106 | 0 | 100 | 0 | 206 | 0 | Dec., 05 |
| 17. | Meghalaya | 122 | 0 | 147 | 0 | 269 | 0 | Dec., 05 |
| 18. | Mizoram | 343 | 1 | 299 | 1 | 642 | 2 | Dec., 05 |
| 19. | Nagaland | 37 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 1117 | 0 | Dec., 05 |
| 20. | Orissa | 1543 | 12 | 979 | 9 | 2522 | 21 | Dec., 05 |
| 21. | Punjab | 1086 | 6 | 729 | 1 | 1815 | 7 | Dec., 05 |
| 22. | Rajasthan | 1484 | 43 | 777 | 7 | 2261 | 50 | Dec., 05 |
| 23. | Sikkim | 148 | 2 | 102 | 0 | 250 | 2 | Dec., 05 |
| 24. | Tamil Nadu | — | — | — | — | 4752 | 19 | Dec., 05 |
| 25. | Tripura | 185 | 2 | 158 | 1 | 343 | 3 | Dec., 05 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|-------|-----------------------------|--------|-----|-------|-----|--------|-----|----------|
| 27. | Uttaranchal | 616 | 1 | 268 | 0 | 884 | 1 | Nov., 05 |
| 27. | Uttar Pradesh | 1143 | 5 | 999 | 6 | 2142 | 11 | Dec., 05 |
| 28. | West Bengal | 3269 | 89 | 2357 | 46 | 5626 | 135 | Aug., 05 |
| 29. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 172 | 5 | 95 | 2 | 267 | 7 | Dec., 05 |
| 30. | Chandigarh | — | — | — | — | — | — | NR |
| 31. | Dadra and Nagar Havell | 97 | 7 | 62 | 2 | 159 | 9 | Dec., 05 |
| 32. | Daman and Diu | 6 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 11 | 0 | Nov., 05 |
| 33. | Delhi | 6276 | 59 | 4326 | 44 | 1062 | 103 | Dec., 05 |
| 34. | Lakshadweep | 22 | 0 | 18 | 0 | 40 | 0 | Dec., 05 |
| 35. | Pondicherry | 448 | 0 | 341 | 0 | 789 | 0 | Dec., 05 |
| Total | | 105748 | 470 | 58637 | 227 | 178110 | 717 | |

Data is provisional and not comparable due to ill defined coverage

— Not Reported

NR—Not received

The sum of male and female may not tally with the total figure as some States/UTs. have not reported genderwise information separately.

Source: Monthly Health Condition Reports of States/UTs, Directorate of Health Services.

[*Translation*]

Breakdown of Telecom Service

3146. SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints have been received recently regarding breakdown of system of telephone, internet and mobile in ITO area due to frequent cutting of MTNL cables;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/being taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir. Telephone and internet services in ITO area provided by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) were interrupted due

to frequent cutting of Optical Fibre Cable (OFC). However, mobile services of this area were not affected.

(b) The ITO area comprising of Police Headquarters, Sales Tax Office, IIPA, Revenue building, WHO Building, Prasar Bharati, Pratap Bhawan, Link House and Express Building etc. was affected as the OFC media servicing about 1400 telephone connections in these areas were damaged. The details are as below:

(i) Optical Fiber (OF) Cable was cut at ITO on 04.04.2006. It was attended within 23 hours.

(ii) OF Cable was damaged on 28.05.2006. It was attended within 25 hours.

(iii) The underground Primary Copper Cable was damaged on 29.05.2006. It got rectified by 06.06.2006.

(c) The action taken by MTNL to improve the situation are as follows:

- (i) FIR is lodged when such damages come to notice
- (ii) Regular liaisoning is done with various utility authorities.
- (iii) The OF Cables have been shifted to less fault prone rout.
- (iv) Primary Cable Pillar has also been shifted to safer place in liaisons with PWD.
- (v) Regular routine inspection is being carried out to avoid recurrence of breakdown.

Hike in Prices of Postal Services

3147. SHRI AJIT JOGI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is increase in prices of all services being provided by the Postal Department;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the estimated revenue to accrue to the Postal Department due to the hike in prices of postal services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No, Sir.

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

[English]

Purchase of Sub-Standard Medicines

3148. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is corruption and mess in supply of medicines in Safdarjung Hospital, AIIMS, New Delhi;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether hospitals are allegedly purchasing the sub-standard medicines from the small suppliers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and

- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (e) No, Sir. Medicines are procured by Safdarjung Hospital after following the prescribed procedure and the suppliers are required to get the medicines tested from a Government approved laboratory at the time of supply of the consignment. The medicines so procured are inspected by an inspection committee.

In AIIMS the medicines are procured directly from manufacturing firms and no instances of purchase of sub-standard medicines have come to notice. The supplies received by AIIMS are also inspected by a committee before utilization.

[Translation]

Traffic Density on Golden Quadrilateral

3149. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the traffic density on Golden Quadrilateral passing through Rajasthan;
- (b) whether there is any proposal to construct six lane road keeping in view the traffic density; and
- (c) if so, the time by which this proposal is likely to be submitted to N.H.D.P.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Volume of traffic on Golden Quadrilateral passing through Rajasthan is in the range of 10200 PCU to 49500 PCU.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Proposal for six laning of whole Golden Quadrilateral including those passing through Rajasthan is included under National Highway Development Project (NHDP) Phase-V. Proposal is at preliminary stage and as such it is too early to indicate the date of start.

[English]

Removal of Encroachments on National Highway

3150. DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the removal of encroachments on NH No. 39 in Imphal area has been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the compensation paid by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government proposes to remove the encroachments on NH No. 53 in Imphal area; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No compensation is payable to remove encroachments.

(c) and (d) Highway Administrations have been setup under the Control of National Highways (Land & Traffic) Act, 2002, which are responsible for removal of encroachments from National Highway land.

[Translation]

Repair of National Highway No. 3

3151. SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether repair work done recently in Mumbai, Nashik, Dhulian on Mumbai National Highway No. 3 in Maharashtra is substandard;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the funds allocated by the Government for the repair work on the said National Highway;

(d) the persons responsible for not doing the above said work according to the stipulated standards and the action proposed to be taken in this regard;

(e) the time by which the said work is proposed to be executed as per the norms;

(f) whether no security measures have been taken to check the accidents on the above mentioned highway;

(g) if so, the action taken against the contractor responsible for any such accidents;

(h) whether any compensation has been provided to the families of those whose members lost their lives in various accidents; and

(i) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Repair work has been done on National highway No. 3 in Maharashtra as per norms within the available funds and no substandard work has been reported.

(c) Government has released an amount of Rs. 662.92 lakhs for the repair of National Highway No. 3 during the year 2005-06. In addition to this Rs. 138.00 lakhs during the current financial year has been allocated for repair and maintenance of this stretch of National Highway No. 3. However, stretches of National Highway No. 3 from Dhulia (Km. 265/00) to Pimpalgaon (Km. 380/00), Gonde (Km. 440/00) to Vadape (539/500) have been awarded and stretch from Vadape (Km. 539/500) to Thane (Km. 563/124) was completed under Build, Operate & Transfer (B.O.T.) basis and are to be maintained by the concessionaire as per the provisions under concession agreement.

(d) and (e) Does not arise. The maintenance and repair of National Highway is a continuous process and repair is undertaken as per norms within the available funds.

(f) Necessary safety measures have been taken while executing above works. No accidents on account of lapse in the security measures during execution of maintenance works have been reported.

(g) to (i) Do not arise.

Registration of BDS Doctors

3152. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any memorandum from the students of Dental Colleges of Bihar wherein they have complained that despite getting BDS degree the Dental Council of India (DCI) is not registering them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon;

(d) whether MBDS Degree was awarded during the year 1991 to 1997 by Mithila University, Darbhanga on the order of the Hon. High Court to the students, who got admission in these Dental Colleges;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for non-registration of such students by the DCI; and

(f) the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (f) Lalit Narayan Mithila University Dental Student's Federation, New Delhi, have submitted representation to the Central Government for recognition of the BDS Degree awarded by Lalit Narayan Mithila University, Darbhanga, Bihar, to the students who passed out from the three dental colleges located within the jurisdiction of the Lalit Narayan Mithila University, Darbhanga, Bihar, viz. Mithila Minority Dental College & Hospital, Dr. S.M. Naqui Imam Dental College & Hospital and Darbhanga Dental College & Hospital. They had indicated that the affected students had taken admission in these colleges between 1989-1990 and 2000-2001. The degree awarded to the students of these institutions have not so far been recognized as issues relating to affiliation etc. of these colleges have not been sorted out by the University concerned and that no application for recognition under Dentist Act has been made for such recognition by the concerned institution/university. The matter has been discussed with the representatives of the University, the colleges concerned and the Dental Council of India. The matter will be considered further on receipt of application from the concerned authorities under Dentists Act and the recommendation of Dental Council of India thereon.

[English]

Ban Imposed on Indian Weightlifters Federation

3153. SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR:
SHRI RABINDER KUMAR RANA:

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

(a) whether the Indian Weightlifters Federation plagued by positive dope tests has been banned as reported in *The Hindustan Times* dated July 22, 2008;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of times in the past the Indian weightlifters and other sportspersons were found positive in dope test alongwith the names of such sportspersons;

(d) the action taken by the Union Government against the weightlifters, other sportspersons, coaches and the Indian Weightlifters Federation; and

(e) the efforts made by the Union Government to prevent such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) The International Weightlifting Federation has imposed a ban on participation of Indian Weightlifters in international weightlifting events for a period of one year till March, 2007 along with a fine of US \$ 50,000. In case the fine is not paid, the ban will be extended for one more year till March, 2008.

(c) Since the year 2000, 15 Indian sportspersons (10 weightlifters, 3 athletes, 1 badminton and 1 judo player) have tested positive for dope at the International level. The details are given in enclosed statement.

(d) Disciplinary action against the sportspersons testing positive for dope is required to be taken by the concerned National/International Federation as per their rules and regulations and as per code of the International Olympic Committee (IOC). Accordingly, the sanctions have been imposed on the sportspersons as per details given in reply to part (c) above. In addition, the Sports Authority of India (SAI) has taken disciplinary action against a few coaches under their administrative control. SAI has also debarred weightlifters under the ban period from training at SAI centers.

(e) It is primarily the responsibility of the Indian Olympic Association and the NSFs to take steps to prevent doping incidents. However, the Government of India and SAI have made serious efforts to keep our sportspersons away from use of any kind of prohibited drugs through dissemination of information. During the coaching camps, strict instructions are given to the

coaches attached with campers to educate and regularly counsel the players about the prohibited drugs. Apart from this, Sports Medicine Doctors at Netaji Subnash National Institute of Sports (NSNIS), Patiala and other Regional Centers Conduct lectures to educate the players in this regard. At the time of commencement of camps, each player is provided with documents, brochure etc., about prohibited substances. The list of banned drugs, and placards for educating the players, are put in the rooms

of the campers. Rooms and belongings of the players are also searched and checked at regular periods to see that no prohibited drugs are used.

Government of India is a contributing member of World Anti Doping Agency (WADA) and have also signed the Copenhagen Declaration as an affirmation of the Country's determination to fight the menace of doping in sports.

Statement

Ban Imposed on Indian Weightlifters Federation

| Sl.No. | Name of the sportspersons/disciplines | Competition in which detected positive and action taken against the sportspersons |
|--------|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Ms. Aparna Poppat, Badminton | Uber Cup, March-2000, New Delhi. International Badminton Federation imposed the ban for 6 months from March to August-2000. Since then, the drug alleged to have been used has been removed by WADA from the list of prohibited substances. |
| 2. | M/s. Seema Antil, Athlete | Junior World Athletic Championship, Santiago (Chile)-July-2000. International Amateur Athletic Federation had warned her. |
| 3. | Ms. Kunjarani Devi, Weightlifter | Asian Weightlifting Championship, Korea-July-2001. Asian Weightlifting Federation had banned her for 6 months from July to December-2001 and imposed a fine of US\$ 1000. |
| 4. | Mr. Bahadur Singh, Athlete (Shot Put) | Asian Athletics Grand Prix, Bangkok-21st May, 2002. International Amateur Athletic Federation had warned him. |
| 5. | Mr. Sateesha Rai, Weightlifter | Commonwealth Games-2002, Manchester (UK), July-2002. International Weightlifting Federation and Commonwealth Games Federation had banned him for 6 months from August-2002 to January-2003 and imposed a fine of US\$ 1000. |
| 6. | Mr. K. Madasamy, Weightlifter | Common Wealth Games-2002, Manchester (UK), July, 2002. International Weightlifting Federation and Commonwealth Games Federation had banned him for 2 years from August-2002 to July-2004 and imposed a fine of US\$ 1000. |
| 7. | Ms. Aruna, Judo | KRA Cup, 2003 Korea Open International Judo Tournament held from 5th to 8th December, 2003. International Judo Federation had banned her for 2 years from 1st January, 2004. |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|-----------------------------------|---|
| 8. | Ms. Sunaina, Weightlifter | Asian Weightlifting Championship held at Almaty from 5th to 12th April, 2004. International Weightlifting Federation had banned her for 2 years till 8th April, 2006. |
| 9. | Ms. Paratima Kumari, Weightlifter | 28th Olympic Games held at Athens from 13th to 29th August, 2004. Indian Olympic Association and Indian Weightlifting Federation had banned her for life but the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) termed the life ban as harsh and reduced it to two years, i.e. till 14.08.2006. |
| 10. | Ms. Sanamacha Chanu, Weightlifter | 28th Olympic Games held at Athens from 13th to 29th Aug' 2004. Indian Olympic Association and Indian Weightlifting Federation had banned her for life but the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) termed the life ban as harsh and reduced it to two years, i.e. till 14.08.2006. |
| 11. | Ms. Neelam J. Singh, Athlete | World Championship in Athletics held in Helsinki from 6th to 14th August, 2005. International Amateur Athletic Federation banned her provisionally for 2 years. |
| 12. | Ms. P. Shalaja, Weightlifter | National Coaching Camp at NIS, Patiala in February, 2006 by WADA. International Weightlifting Federation banned her for 2 years and fined US\$ 2000. |
| 13. | Mr. Tejinder Singh, Weightlifter | 18th Commonwealth Games, 2006 at Melbourne from 15-26 March, 2006. International Weightlifting Federation banned him for 2 years and fined US\$ 2000. Indian Weightlifting Federation has imposed life ban and fined Rs. 10,000. |
| 14. | Mr. Edwin Raju, Weightlifter | 18th Commonwealth Games, 2006 at Melbourne from 15-26 March, 2006. International Weightlifting Federation imposed a ban for 2 years and fined US\$ 2000. Indian Weightlifting Federation has imposed a life ban and fined Rs. 10,000. |
| 15. | B. Pramila Valli, Weightlifter | National Coaching Camp at NIS Patiala in February, 2006 by WADA. International Weightlifting Federation has banned her for 2 years and fined US\$ 2000. |

Declaration of National Highways

3154. SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE:
 PROF. CHANDER KUMAR:
 SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to declare new National Highways in the country;

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

(c) the details of the existing National Highways, State-wise and the norms for declaring National Highways;

(d) whether four-laning of National Highways are being taken up during the current years;

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

(f) whether the Government has included all the States under the Golden Quadrilateral Project and the North South and East West Corridor Project, Phase-I; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The details of the existing National Highways, State-wise and the norms for declaring National Highways are given in enclosed Statement-I and II respectively.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The State-wise details of four laning works targeted to be taken up during the current year of 2006-07 are given in the enclosed Statement-III.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) The Golden Quadrilateral connects Delhi-Mumbai-Chennai-Kolkata. The North-South and East-West Corridors connect Srinagar to Kanyakumari including Salem-Kochi Spur and Silchar to Porbander respectively. These National Highways do not pass through all the states as the alignments of Golden Quadrilateral as well as North-South and East West Corridors have been finalised on the basis of shortest connecting distance between two cities/metros.

Statement I*State-wise National Highways and their length in the Country*

| Sl.No. | Name of State | National Highway No. | Total Length (in Km.) |
|--------|-------------------|--|-----------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 4, 5, 7, 9, 16, 18, 43, 63, 202, 205, 214, 214A, 219, 221 & 222 | 4472 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 52, 52A & 153 | 392 |
| 3. | Assam | 31, 31B, 31C, 36, 37, 37A, 38, 39, 44, 51, 52, 52A, 52B, 53, 54, 61, 62, 151, 152, 153 & 154 | 2836 |
| 4. | Bihar | 2, 2C, 19, 28, 28A, 28B, 30, 30A, 31, 57, 57A, 77, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 98, 99, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107 & 110 | 3642 |
| 5. | Chandigarh | 21 | 24 |
| 6. | Chhattisgarh | 6, 12A, 16, 43, 78, 111, 200, 202, 216, 217 & 221 | 2184 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|--------------|---------------------|--|--------------|
| 7. | Delhi | 1, 2, 8, 10, & 24 | 72 |
| 8. | Goa | 4A, 17, 17A & 17B | 289 |
| 9. | Gujarat | 6, 8, 8A, 8B, 8C, 8D, 8E, 14, 15, 59, 113, NE-I & 228 | 3245 |
| 10. | Haryana | 1, 2, 8, 10, 21A, 22, 64, 65, 71, 71A, 71B, 72, 73, 73A & NE-II | 1512 |
| 11. | Himachal Pradesh | 1A, 20, 21, 21A, 22, 70, 72, 73A & 88 | 1208 |
| 12. | Jammu & Kashmir | 1A, 1B, 1C & 1D | 1245 |
| 13. | Jharkhand | 2, 6, 23, 31, 32, 33, 75, 78, 80, 98, 99 & 100 | 1805 |
| 14. | Karnataka | 4, 4A, 7, 9, 13, 17, 48, 63, 67, 206, 207, 209, 212 & 218 | 3843 |
| 15. | Kerala | 17, 47, 47A, 49, 208, 212, 213 & 220 | 1440 |
| 16. | Madhya Pradesh | 3, 7, 12, 12A, 25, 26, 28A, 27, 59, 59A, 69, 75, 76, 78, 86 & 92 | 4670 |
| 17. | Maharashtra | 3, 4, 4B, 4C, 6, 7, 8, 9, 13, 16, 17, 50, 69, 204, 211 & 222 | 4176 |
| 18. | Manipur | 39, 53, 150 & 155 | 959 |
| 19. | Meghalaya | 40, 44, 51 & 62 | 810 |
| 20. | Mizoram | 44A, 54, 54A, 54B, 150 & 154 | 927 |
| 21. | Nagaland | 36, 39, 61, 150 & 155 | 494 |
| 22. | Orissa | 5, 5A, 6, 23, 42, 43, 60, 75, 200, 201, 203, 203A, 215, 217 & 224 | 3704 |
| 23. | Pondicherry | 45A & 66 | 53 |
| 24. | Punjab | 1, 1A, 10, 15, 20, 21, 22, 64, 70, 71, 72 & 95 | 1557 |
| 25. | Rajasthan | 3, 8, 11, 11A, 11B, 12, 14, 15, 65, 71B, 76, 79, 79A, 89, 90, 112, 113, 114 & 116 | 5585 |
| 26. | Sikkim | 31A | 62 |
| 27. | Tamil Nadu | 4, 5, 7, 7A, 45, 45A, 45B, 45C, 46, 47, 47B, 49, 66, 67, 68, 205, 207, 208, 209, 210, 219, 220 226 & 227 | 4462 |
| 28. | Tripura | 44 & 44A | 400 |
| 29. | Uttaranchal | 58, 72, 72A, 73, 74, 87, 94, 108, 109, 119, 121, 123 & 125 | 1991 |
| 30. | Uttar Pradesh | 2, 2A, 3, 7, 11, 12A, 19, 24, 24A, 24B, 25, 25A, 26, 27, 28, 28B, 28C, 29, 56A, 56B, 58, 72A, 73, 74, 75, 76, 86, 87, 91, 91A, 92, 93, 96, 97, 119 & NE-II | 5874 |
| 31. | West Bengal | 2, 2B, 6, 31, 31A, 31C, 32, 34, 35, 41, 55, 60, 60A, 80, 81 & 117 | 2377 |
| 32. | Andaman and Nicobar | 223 | 300 |
| Total | | | 66590 |

Statement II**Criteria for Declaration of National Highways**

1. Roads which run through the length and breadth of the country.
2. Roads connecting adjacent countries.
3. Roads connecting the National Capital with State Capital and roads connecting mutually the State Capitals.
4. Roads connecting major ports, large industrial centers or tourist centers.
5. Roads meeting very important strategic requirements.
6. Arterial roads which enable sizeable reduction in travel distance and achieve substantial economic growth thereby.
7. Roads which help opening up large tracts of backward area and hilly regions.
8. National Highways grid of 100 Km is achieved.
9. The road must be up to the standard laid down for State Highways-both in its technical requirements as well as the land requirements.
10. The road and right of way must be free of any type of encroachment and should be the property of the State Government.
11. The right of way required for the National Highways (preferably 45m, minimum 30m) must be available for acquiring, fee of encroachments and the State Government would complete acquiring formalities within six months.

Statement III

4-Laning of National Highways targeted to be taken up during the year 2006-07.

| State Name | Total Length (in Km). |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | 2 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 684.1 |
| Assam | 86 |
| Bihar | 123 |

| 1 | 2 |
|-------------------|--------|
| Chhattisgarh | 83 |
| Delhi | 0.3 |
| Gujarat | 148.3 |
| Haryana | 21.88 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 110 |
| Jammu and Kashmir | 318 |
| Jharkhand | 75 |
| Karnataka | 471.38 |
| Kerala | 348 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 303 |
| Maharashtra | 359.50 |
| Orissa | 406 |
| Punjab | 57.80 |
| Rajasthan | 11.4 |
| Tamil Nadu | 782 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 172.1 |
| Uttaranchal | 71 |
| Pondicherry | 3.5 |
| West Bengal | 201 |

Note: The award contracts on BOT basis would depend upon the viability gap funding limited to 40% cap.

Vacant Posts in CGHS

3155. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several posts of Ayurvedic and Homeopathic Pharmacists are lying vacant in CGHS, Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the date from which these posts are lying vacant;

(c) whether Central Employment Exchange had sponsored the names of candidates for the vacant posts of Homeopathic/Ayurvedic Pharmacists in August, 2003;

(d) if so, the reasons for not filling up these posts so far; and

(e) the time by which the aforesaid posts are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, only 4 posts of Pharmacist-cum-clerk (Ayurveda) and 7 posts of pharmacist-cum-clerk (Homeopathy) are lying vacant in CGHS Delhi, as on 31st July 2006 as per existing staff strength. These posts have fallen vacant progressively as given below:

Vacancy position of Homeopathic and Ayurvedic Pharmacists during last 3 years

| Sl.No. | Pharmacist cum clerk | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | As on 31.7.2006 |
|--------|----------------------|---------|---------|-----------------|
| 1. | Homoeopathic | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| 2. | Ayurvedic | 3 | 3 | 4 |

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) and (e) SIU had conducted a study on the staffing norms of Homoeopathy/Ayurveda dispensaries/units and has fixed the norms as per the average daily attendance. In this study SIU has shown overall surplus staff position in respect of AYUSH dispensaries.

[Translation]

Pending Projects

3156. SHRI CHHATTAR SINGH DARBAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether several projects/development schemes of the State Governments are lying pending for the approval of the Union Government;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to grant approval to the pending projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) to (c) No Projects/development schemes of the States are pending

for approval with the Planning Commission, as the Annual Plan outlays of the States are approved by the Planning Commission alongwith broad Sectoral/sub-sectoral allocations while finalising the Annual Plans. The details of development Projects within the approved sectoral/sub-sectoral outlays are decided by the State Governments.

Remark by Pak President

3157. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards the allegedly threatening statement given by the President of Pakistan that if India contemplated to attack any part of Pakistan in the name of terrorism, it too would give a befitting reply;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) to (c) On 26 July 2006, Pakistan President Musharraf, at the inaugural ceremony of MAPAK Edible Oil Refinery at Port Qasim in Karachi; reportedly said that any "punitive" action against Pakistan would be paid back in the same coin. According to Pakistani media reports, he said, "Nobody should have this wishful thinking that Pakistan will bear any kind of adventure inside its territory. No one is there who can take any punitive action against Pakistan as the country's defence is in strong hands."

[English]

Development of Inland Water Transport System

3158. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether different maritime States in the country have submitted proposals for development of Inland Water Transport system in their States with regard to Crew training, night navigation facilities etc. at small and medium harbours;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) Nine maritime States have submitted 61 proposals for development of inland water transport under Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS). Out of this, 19 proposals have been sanctioned, details of which are given in the enclosed Statement. 30 proposals have not been agreed to and clarifications have been sought from the States on remaining 12. These included two proposals relating to crew training centres received from States of Orissa

and West Bengal under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CS). Proposal of Orissa related to renovation of crew training centre at Chandballi and that of West Bengal related to setting up of regional inland navigation institute-cum-regional crew training centre at Shibpur. These proposals could not be considered for sanction since the same were beyond the purview of the existing guidelines of CSS. No proposal for night navigation facilities at small and medium harbours has been received from any maritime State.

Statement

| Sl.No. | State | Name of Project | Sanctioned cost (Rs. lakhs) | Fund released (Rs. Lakhs) |
|--------|----------------|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | Survey and techno-economic feasibility study for development of inland Waterways in Andhra Pradesh | 75.00 | 15.00 |
| 2. | Goa | Conducting fresh Hydrographic Survey in the Inland Waterways of Goa at Mapusa, Chapora and Sal river | 109.00 | 21.80 |
| 3. | Karnataka | Techno-economic feasibility study/survey for development of IWT in Karnataka | 56.70 | 51.03 |
| 4. | Kerala | Revival of Veli-Kovalam stretch of TS canal | 362.22 | 65.30 |
| 5. | Maharashtra | 1. Development of IWT in Godavari river near Vishnupuri | 272.21 | 206.77 |
| | | 2. Development of IWT from South Mumbai to Amba river/Dharmatar Creek & vice-versa-Terminal at Karanja. | 481.54 | 174.73 |
| | | 3. Development of IWT from south Mumbai to Mandwa (Amha river/Dharmatar Creek & vice-versa-Terminal at Mandwa). | 410.95 | 204.45 |
| | | 4. Development of Inland Waterways in Mhasla/Mandad River (Rajpuri Creek)-at Rajpuri. | 469.45 | 171.00 |
| | | 5. Development of Inland Waterways in Mhasla/Mandad River (Rajpuri Creek)-near Janjira Fort. | 124.60 | 51.96 |
| | | 6. Development of Inland Waterways in Mhasla/Mandad River (Rajpuri Creek)-Terminal at Dighi. | 499.39 | 83.83 |
| | | 7. Development of IWT in Penganga river at Isapur reservoir Taluka-Pusad. | 390.00 | 78.00 |
| | | 8. Development of Inland Waterways in Mhasla/Mandad river in Rajpuri Creek-Terminal at Agardanda. | 335.34 | 67.07 |
| | | Sub Total Maharashtra | 2983.48 | 1037.81 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|----|-------------|--|----------------|----------------|
| 6. | Orissa | 1. Development of IWT sector in the State of Orissa for upgradation of existing facilities. | 204.40 | 40.80 |
| | | 2. Preparation of DPR on waterways development and future development of IWT sector in the State of Orissa | 10.30 | 9.27 |
| | | Sub Total Orissa | 214.70 | 50.07 |
| 7. | West Bengal | 1. Construction of Gangway Pontoon type floating jetties 53 nos. an RCC slipway jetty—4 nos. on NW-1 between Tribeni and Farakka | 2261.50 | 1129.00 |
| | | 2. Construction of 4 Gangway Pontoon type jetties and 1 RCC jetty at Dakshineswar, Sheorafuli, Manirampur, Santoshpur (AKRA) and Nandigram between Haldia and Triveni. | 372.82 | 300.51 |
| | | 3. Construction of 2 Gangway-cum-Pontoon Jetties at Nebukhali and Duldul on river Sahibkhali in Sunderban. | 460.00 | 312.80 |
| | | 4. Construction of 22 RCC jetties in Sunderban area. | 407.00 | 81.40 |
| | | 5. Construction of two gangways-cum-pontoon jetty at Harwood point and Kachuberia. | 382.00 | — |
| | | Sub Total (West Bengal) | 3683.32 | 1823.71 |
| | | Total | 7684.42 | 3064.72 |

National Sports Talent Contest Scheme

3159. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Sports Talent Contest Scheme is mainly limited to urban areas;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of talented sportspersons from rural areas selected to represent the country in international events during the last three years;

(d) whether the Sports Authority of India, in collaboration with the State Governments proposes to formulate any scheme for recruiting sports talent from rural areas; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) No, Sir. The main objective of the National Sports Talent Contest Scheme (NSTC) run by Sports Authority of India (SAI) is to broad-base sports at the grass-roots level and spot talented boys and girls from every part of the country. Under the NSTC Scheme, the following schemes are also covered under which talent is scouted and inducted from rural, semi-urban areas and the village level:

(i) Promotion of Indigenous Games and Martial Arts.

(ii) Extension of NSTC Schemes to Navodaya Vidyalayas.

(iii) Promotion of Wrestling in the country.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) 97 sportspersons belonging to rural areas and trained by SAI in NSTC Schemes have represented our country in international events in the last three years.

(d) and (e) SAI has launched the SAI Training Centre (STC) and Special Area Games (SAG) extension centre scheme with the following objectives:

- (i) To make it possible for the Central Government and State Governments to work together for sports development through integrated efforts.
- (ii) To correct existing regional imbalance in sports infrastructure in the country and within a state.
- (iii) To enable SAI to scientifically nurture Junior Sports Talent who have attained excellence at the Sub-junior Level under the NSTC Scheme on long-term basis.
- (iv) To provide a package assistance for sports infrastructure and to undertake various sports programmes in that area.
- (v) To ensure maximum utilization of facilities already existing/to be created in a district to avoid a situation where sports infrastructure remains idle, and also ensure its proper maintenance and operations.
- (vi) To ensure equitable distribution of funds earmarked for various plan schemes of Govt. of India and SAI.
- (vii) To take the benefit of various plans schemes to the grass-roots level i.e. upto the block level.

[Translation]

Poverty Rate

3160. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:
SHRI SHISHUPAL PATLE:
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government and World Bank have evaluated the rate of poverty of urban and rural areas in the country during the last three years;

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

(c) whether the percentage of poverty rate is expected to be reduced during the current year as compared to the last three years;

(d) whether the rate of literacy and medical facilities have increased in all the States as result of poverty alleviation programme;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Union Government to bring uniformity in the rate of poverty in urban and rural areas of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) and (b) The Planning Commission estimates the incidence of poverty at national and state level from the large sample survey on household consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) at an interval of approximately five years according to the Expert Group Methodology (Lakdawala Committee on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor). The latest available data from such surveys is from NSS 55th Round, which was conducted in 1999-2000.

The percentage of people living below the poverty line in the country using available data from the last three quinquennial rounds of National Sample Survey Organization on household consumption expenditure are given below in the table:

Percentage of people living below poverty line

| Year | Percentage of poor | | |
|-----------|--------------------|-------|----------|
| | Rural | Urban | Combined |
| 1987-88 | 39.1 | 38.2 | 38.9 |
| 1993-94 | 37.3 | 32.4 | 36.0 |
| 1999-2000 | 27.1 | 23.6 | 26.1 |

The official estimate of poverty by the Planning Commission is the standard method, which is adopted for uniform calculation of poverty by the Government of India. State-wise number and percentage of people living below Poverty line during the year 1999-2000 in the rural and urban areas is given in the enclosed Statement.

The World Bank estimates poverty on the basis of purchasing power parity (PPP) which is \$1 per day and \$2 per day measured in 1985 international prices. On the basis of their latest Report (2006 World Development

Indicators) the percentage of persons below \$ 1 per day and \$ 2 per day during the survey year 1999-2000 is 34.7 and 52.4 respectively. The Government of India does not use this estimate, since it does not distinguish between rural and urban areas or between different States of the country.

(c) Whether the percentage of poverty rate has been reduced during the recent years will be known only when the next poverty estimates are made on the basis of the results of 61st Round (2004-05) of NSS survey on household consumer expenditure which has not been published.

(d) and (e) The poverty alleviation programmes do not in general address literacy and medical facilities. However, as observed from the last three Census of India, that the rate of literacy has increased from 43.67 per cent in 1981 to 52.10 per cent in 1991 and to 75.26 per cent in 2001.

The Government has also launched a National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) in April, 2005 to provide integrated comprehensive primary healthcare services, especially to the poor and vulnerable sections of the society. The seven year NRHM (2005-12) was launched with a mandate to address the innumerable infirmities across the domain of health care. The Mission aims to bridge the infirmities in rural healthcare through increased community ownership, decentralization of the programmes to the district level, inter-sectoral convergence and improved primary health care. The Mission aims to achieve the goal of the National Population Policy and the National Health Policy through improved access to affordable, accountable and reliable Primary Health Care. An amount of Rs. 6731.16 crore was allocated under NRHM for the year 2005-06 and an amount of Rs. 9065 crore for the year 2006-07.

(f) The Government has been implementing various programmes/schemes through out the country to address the rate of poverty in urban and rural areas.

In rural areas, the programmes which are being implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development for upliftment of BPL families are (i) Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), (ii) Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozar Yojana (SGSY), (iii) Indra Awas Yojana (IAY), and (iv) National Rural Employment Guarantee Act.

The poverty alleviation programme which is being implemented in urban areas is Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY). This programme seeks to provide gainful employment to the urban unemployed or underemployed poor through setting up of micro enterprises and also through provision of Wage Employment by utilizing their labour for construction of useful public assets. Jawaharlan Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) is being implemented in selected 63 Mission Cities. Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP) is applicable to all cities and towns as per the 2001 Census except 63 Mission Cities. The basic objective of IHSDP is to strive for holistic slum development with a healthy and enabling urban environment by providing adequate shelter and basic infrastructure facilities to slum dwellers.

In addition of the above, the Public Distribution System in India has been more focused and targeted towards the very poor category. The "Antyodaya Anna Yojana" provides 35 kgs of foodgrains to the poorest of the poor families at a highly subsidized rate of Rs. 2 per kg., for wheat and Rs. 3 per kg., for rice. Recently, the coverage of Antyodaya Anna Yojana has been expanded from 2.0 crore (BPL) families to 2.5 crore families in 2005. The State Governments have been advised to give priority to the households from the poorest and the backward blocks and/or where nutritional deficiency is more widespread, while identifying the beneficiaries.

Statement

Number and Percentage of Population Below Poverty Line by States—1999-2000

| Sl.No. | States/U.T.'s | Rural | | Urban | | Combined | |
|--------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------|------------------------|--------------|------------------------|--------------|
| | | No. of Persons (Lakhs) | % of Persons | No. of Persons (Lakhs) | % of Persons | No. of Persons (Lakhs) | % of Persons |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 58.13 | 11.05 | 60.88 | 26.63 | 119.01 | 15.77 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 3.80 | 40.04 | 0.18 | 7.47 | 3.98 | 33.47 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|-----|-----------------------------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| 3. | Assam | 92.17 | 40.04 | 2.38 | 7.47 | 94.55 | 36.09 |
| 4. | Bihar | 376.51 | 44.30 | 49.13 | 32.91 | 425.64 | 42.60 |
| 5. | Goa | 0.11 | 1.35 | 0.59 | 7.52 | 0.70 | 4.40 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 39.80 | 13.17 | 28.09 | 15.59 | 67.89 | 14.07 |
| 7. | Haryana | 11.94 | 8.27 | 5.39 | 9.99 | 17.34 | 8.74 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 4.84 | 7.94 | 0.29 | 4.63 | 5.12 | 7.63 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 2.97 | 3.97 | 0.49 | 1.98 | 3.46 | 3.48 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 59.91 | 17.38 | 44.49 | 25.25 | 104.40 | 20.04 |
| 11. | Kerala | 20.97 | 9.38 | 20.07 | 20.27 | 41.04 | 12.72 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 217.32 | 37.06 | 81.22 | 38.44 | 298.54 | 37.43 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 125.12 | 23.72 | 102.87 | 26.81 | 227.99 | 25.02 |
| 14. | Manipur | 6.53 | 40.04 | 0.66 | 7.47 | 7.19 | 28.54 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 7.89 | 40.04 | 0.34 | 7.47 | 8.23 | 33.87 |
| 16. | Mizoram | 1.40 | 40.04 | 0.45 | 7.47 | 1.85 | 19.47 |
| 17. | Nagaland | 5.21 | 40.04 | 0.28 | 7.47 | 5.49 | 32.67 |
| 18. | Orissa | 143.69 | 48.01 | 25.40 | 42.83 | 169.09 | 47.15 |
| 19. | Punjab | 10.20 | 6.35 | 4.29 | 5.75 | 14.49 | 6.16 |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 55.06 | 13.74 | 26.78 | 19.85 | 81.83 | 15.28 |
| 21. | Sikkim | 2.00 | 40.04 | 0.04 | 7.47 | 2.05 | 36.55 |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 80.51 | 20.55 | 49.97 | 22.11 | 130.48 | 21.12 |
| 23. | Tripura | 12.53 | 40.04 | 0.49 | 7.47 | 13.02 | 34.44 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 412.01 | 31.22 | 117.88 | 30.89 | 529.89 | 31.15 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 180.11 | 31.85 | 33.38 | 14.86 | 213.49 | 27.02 |
| 26. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 0.58 | 20.55 | 0.24 | 22.11 | 0.82 | 20.99 |
| 27. | Chandigarh | 0.06 | 5.75 | 0.45 | 5.75 | 0.51 | 5.75 |
| 28. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 0.30 | 17.57 | 0.03 | 13.52 | 0.33 | 17.14 |
| 29. | Daman and Diu | 0.01 | 1.35 | 0.05 | 7.52 | 0.06 | 4.44 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|-----|-------------|---------|-------|--------|-------|---------|-------|
| 30. | Delhi | 0.07 | 0.40 | 11.42 | 9.42 | 11.49 | 8.23 |
| 31. | Lakshadweep | 0.03 | 9.38 | 0.08 | 20.27 | 0.11 | 15.60 |
| 32. | Pondicherry | 0.64 | 20.55 | 1.77 | 22.11 | 2.41 | 21.67 |
| | All India | 1932.43 | 27.09 | 670.07 | 23.62 | 2602.50 | 26.10 |

Note:

- Poverty Ratio of Assam is used for Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland and Tripura.
- Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Goa is used to estimate poverty ratio of Goa.
- Poverty Line of Himachal Pradesh and expenditure distribution of Jammu and Kashmir is used to estimate poverty ratio of Jammu and Kashmir.
- Poverty Ratio of Tamil Nadu is used for Pondicherry and A & N Island.
- Urban Poverty Ratio of Punjab used for both rural and urban poverty of Chandigarh.
- Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Dadra & Nagar Haveli is used to estimate poverty ratio of Dadra and Nagar Haveli
- Poverty Ratio of Goa is used for Daman and Diu.
- Poverty Ratio of Kerala is used of Lakshadweep.

*[English]***Prophylactic & Curative Treatment for HIV/AIDS**

3161. DR. P.P. KOYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the treatment (both prophylactic and curative) is available to the patients suffering from HIV/AIDS;

(b) if so, whether such treatment is approved by the WHO;

(c) the details of the percentage of HIV/AIDS patients getting Anti-retroviral treatment at present in the country;

(d) the number of HIV/AIDS patients in the country including the number of patients getting anti-retroviral treatment and the percentage of patient getting this treatment from the Government and private hospitals;

(e) the total expenditure required for one patient to undergo anti-retroviral treatment for a period of one year;

(f) whether there is any insurance coverage policy now in existence for the HIV/AIDS patients to cover the treatment sponsored by the Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) with the help of insurance companies; and

(g) if so, the contribution of the Government towards the insurance cover of the people living with HIV/AIDS ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) There are estimated 5.2 million HIV+persons in the country. Approximately 5.2 lakh (10%) of HIV+persons may require Anti-retroviral treatment. Currently, 33,542 patients are receiving anti-retroviral treatment in 54 Government hospitals in the country. The number of patients receiving treatment in private hospitals is not maintained by National AIDS Control Organisation.

(e) The cost of antiretroviral drugs is Rs. 7848 per patient per year.

(f) and (g) No Sir. Question does not arise.

*[Translation]***Quality of Internet Service**

3162. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY:
SHRI BHAL CHANDRA YADAV:
SHRI SWADESH CHAKRABORTTY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India regarding quality of service being provided by the Internet service providers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the number of Internet subscribers in the country, State-wise; and

(e) the place India occupies in the field of internet use in the age group of above 15 years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To identify the problems faced by Internet users, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) had prepared a questionnaire containing various items relating to the provision of service, accessibility problems, problems while using Internet, customer services, tariff, equipment details and general comments, if any, etc. Based on this questionnaire, an online survey was conducted by TRAI using their website for a period of one month from 15 June 2000 to 15 July 2000 during which the users could fill in the form and forward the responses electronically as well as by post. A total of 468 responses were received. The issues which had arisen from this survey were further considered by TRAI while issuing the 'Regulation on Quality of Service of Dial-up and leased Line Internet Access Service, 2001' dated 10th December, 2001.

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

(d) Details regarding the number of Internet subscribers in the country, as reported by Internet Service Providers (ISPs) are given in the enclosed statement.

(e) As per a newspaper report, US-based technology research firm M/s Comscore Networks has conducted a survey. As per this survey, India has become the 9th biggest country in terms of the online population in the age group of above 15 years as on June 2006.

Statement

Number of Internet subscribers in the country, as reported by Internet Service Providers (ISPs)

| Sl.No. | State/Telecom Circle | Internet subscribers (As on 31.03.2006) |
|--------|---|---|
| 1. | Andaman and Nicobar | 3057 |
| 2. | Andhra Pradesh | 398632 |
| 3. | Assam | 30532 |
| 4. | Bihar (including Jharkhand) | 83298 |
| 5. | Delhi** | 1042454 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 391753 |
| 7. | Haryana | 156166 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 20736 |
| 9. | Jammu and Kashmir | 34366 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 535528 |
| 11. | Kerala (including Lakshadweep) | 377834 |
| 12. | Maharashtra (including Goa) | 1612169 |
| 13. | Madhya Pradesh (including Chhattisgarh) | |
| 14. | North East* | 30738 |
| 15. | Orissa | 58169 |
| 16. | Punjab | 246977 |
| 17. | Rajasthan | 269391 |
| 18. | Tamil Nadu (including Pondicherry) | 780886 |
| 19. | Uttar Pradesh (including Uttaranchal) | 338797 |
| 20. | West Bengal (including Sikkim) | 442587 |

* Includes Meghalaya, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Nagaland and Tripura .

** Includes subscribers reported under service area of Delhi under Unified Access Service by an operator.

[English]

UPSC Report

3163. SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV:
SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Public Service Commission has tabled its report in Parliament regarding non-compliance of its recommendations by the Government relating to the selected candidates in the Civil Services examination since the year 1994;

(b) if so, whether there is any attempt to suppress vital information from the Parliament which is detrimental for the development of the OBCs; and

(c) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Criteria for Cadre Allotment

3164. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT:
SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA:
SHRI DHAN SINGH RAWAT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria laid down for allotment of cadre to IAS officers;

(b) whether the 30-point roster or 100 point roster is followed for such cadre allotment for General, OBC, SC and ST officers;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether separate 30-point roster has been formed, one for the General category and other for the OBC and SC/ST category after introduction of OBC reservation;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the number of cases in which the cadre has been changed owing to marriage, court case and other reasons;

(g) the details of each case, including the name of the officer, year of allotment, category, home State, changed cadre, and reason for the change of cadre and

roaster point against which they appointed since 1985; and

(h) the number of IAS officers between 1985 and 2003 whose cadre has been changed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) to (e) Statement-I indicating the details of procedure followed in the allotment of cadre to the officers of the All-India Service is enclosed.

(f) to (h) Statement-II is enclosed.

Statement I

Details of procedure followed in the allotment of cadre to the officers of the All India Service

The States of the Union of India are divided into 24 cadres/Joint Cadres. Each State constitutes a cadre except the three Joint Cadres, namely, Assam—Meghalaya, Manipur-Tripura and AGMUT (Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Mizoram and Union Territories) Cadre.

2. The first stage in cadre allocation is to divide the vacancies in each cadre among general, OBC and SC/ST on the basis of prescribed percentage for each category. (The vacancies earmarked for SC and ST are taken together and percentage for both the categories are added for the purpose of cadre allocation).
3. The next stage is to divide the vacancies for each category (*i.e.* General, OBC and SC/ST) between insiders and outsiders on the basis of 30 point roster. In the said roster, the first vacancy goes to outsider, the second vacancy goes to insider and the third vacancy goes to outsider. The cycle is repeated. This 30 point roster is continuous.
4. A list of candidates allotted to the service is prepared indicating their home states and their willingness to be allocated to their home states and each candidate is assigned a Sl. No. in order of merit in the said list.
5. Allocation of 'insiders' is done strictly according to their ranks, subject to their willingness to be

allocated to their home-States. Allocation of 'outsiders' is done according to the roster system after placing 'insiders' at their proper places on the Allocation-chart as explained below.

6. All the cadres/joint cadres are arranged in alphabetical order and divided into four groups. These groups are devised on the basis of an average intake by each group which over a period of time is roughly equal. The groups are as below:

Group I: Andhra Pradesh, Assam-Meghalaya, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat;

Group II: Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala and Madhya Pradesh;

Group III: Maharashtra, Manipur-Tripura, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan and Sikkim and

Group IV: Tamil Nadu, AGMUT (UT Cadre), Uttaranchal, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

7. Since the number of cadres/joint cadres is 24, the cycles are 1-24, 25-48, 49-72 and so on. The candidates between Sl.No. 1 and 24 who can be allocated to their home states are slotted into the first cycle (1-24) and the candidates between Sl.No. 25 and 48 who can be allocated to their home states are slotted in the second cycle (25-48) and so on.
8. If there are two or more candidates who as per their Sl. No. have to occupy the same cycle, they will occupy the next cycle irrespective of their Sl. No. In other words, if there are three candidates to be allotted as insiders at Sl. Nos. 3, 7, 11, then the Sl. No. 3 will occupy the first cycle (1-24), Sl. No. 7 will occupy the second cycle (25-48) and Sl. No. 11 will occupy the third cycle (49-72).
9. If a general candidate is not available to fill general insider vacancy then it is filled by an insider SC/ST candidate provided there is an SC/ST outsider vacancy available in that cadre to facilitate exchange. If SC/ST insider candidate is not available or SC/ST outsider vacancy is not available in that cadre then the general vacancy is filled by insider OBC candidate with

the same condition that there must be an outsider OBC vacancy to facilitate the exchange. Similarly, the insider OBC vacancy, if not filled due to non-availability of insider OBC candidate is first filled by an insider SC/ST candidate and then by insider general candidate with the same conditions. An unfilled insider SC/ST vacancy is first filled by insider OBC candidate and then by a general insider candidate with the same conditions.

10. Even after exchange, if an insider vacancy is not filled it goes to outsider and it is not carried forwarded.
11. The candidates who could not get their home states are arranged in the order of merit and allocated to the cadres against vacant slots available in various cadres, beginning from the first cadre of the order in which they are arranged for the year. After the first cycle is filled, the remaining outsiders will be allocated in the second cycle but the second cycle will start from the next group of the States and so on. For example, in a particular year, the 1st Group which starts from Andhra Pradesh is at the top. After allocating the outsiders against the available slots in the first cycle, the next available outsider candidate will be allotted to the first available state of IInd Group and after allocating all the available outsider candidates who can be allocated in the second cycle, the next available outsider will be allocated in the first available state of IIIrd Group and so on. This ensures equal distribution of merits.
12. For the succeeding year, the Groups of States will rotate. The Group at top this year will come at the bottom in the next year. The second Group will come at the top and so on.
13. In the case of reserved categories, separate charts are prepared for OBC and SC/ST candidates with similar details and methods.
14. In the case of candidates belonging to reserved category such of those candidates who are recommended for appointment against unreserved vacancy and get allocated to the service against unreserved vacancy are given the benefit of reservation if they get their home state as reserved candidates.

Statement II

| Sl.No. | Name of the IAS Officer | Allotment Year | Category | Home State | Transfer Year | Parent Cadre | Cadre Transferred to | Grounds |
|--------|-------------------------|----------------|----------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 1. | A.K. Chugh | (RR: 1974) | — | Delhi | 1985 | Tamil Nadu | Bihar | Marriage |
| 2. | Braj Raj Sharma | (RR: 1984) | — | J&K | 1985 | West Bengal | Jammu and Kashmir | Public Interest |
| 3. | G.P. Joshi | (RR: 1978) | — | Gujarat | 1985 | Manipur-Tripura | Gujarat | Marriage |
| 4. | R. Acharya | (RR: 1982) | — | Punjab | 1985 | Gujarat | Andhra Pradesh | Marriage |
| 5. | Sudesh Kumar | (RR: 1984) | SC | Punjab | 1985 | Andhra Pradesh | Madhya Pradesh | Marriage |
| 6. | A.P. Sawhney | (RR: 1984) | — | Delhi | 1986 | Nagaland | Andhra Pradesh | Marriage |
| 7. | Amitabh Mukherjee | (RR: 1983) | — | Delhi | 1986 | Gujarat | West Bengal | Marriage |
| 8. | Aruna Sundara Rajan | (RR: 1982) | — | Tamil Nadu | 1986 | Tamil Nadu | Kerala | Marriage |
| 9. | Ashish Bahuguna | (RR: 1982) | — | U.P. | 1986 | West Bengal | Rajasthan | Marriage |
| 10. | Atul Bagai | (RR: 1983) | — | Delhi | 1986 | Manipur-Tripura | Uttar Pradesh | Marriage |
| 11. | Manisha Sridhar | (RR: 1984) | — | Delhi | 1986 | Maharashtra | Andhra Pradesh | Marriage |
| 12. | Mitali Sen Gupta | (RR: 1984) | — | West Bengal | 1986 | West Bengal | Maharashtra | Marriage |
| 13. | Preeti Sudan | (RR: 1983) | — | Haryana | 1986 | Haryana | Andhra Pradesh | Marriage |
| 14. | R.S. Mann | (RR: 1985) | — | Punjab | 1986 | Haryana | Punjab | Marriage |
| 15. | Ramesh Inder Singh | (RR: 1974) | — | Punjab | 1986 | West Bengal | Punjab | Public Interest |
| 16. | Seema Bahuguna | (RR: 1983) | — | U.P. | 1986 | Jammu & Kashmir | Rajasthan | Marriage |
| 17. | Indu Bhushan | (RR: 1983) | — | U.P. | 1987 | Uttar Pradesh | Rajasthan | Marriage |
| 18. | S.K. Gulati | (RR: 1982) | — | Delhi | 1987 | West Bengal | Haryana | Marriage |
| 19. | Sanjay Prasad | (RR: 1986) | — | Delhi | 1987 | Punjab | Gujarat | Marriage |
| 20. | T. Shering Yangzom Das | (RR: 1982) | ST | West Bengal | 1987 | Uttar Pradesh | Assam-Meghalaya | Marriage |
| 21. | Vineet Chaudhary | (RR: 1982) | — | Punjab | 1987 | Manipur-Tripura | Himachal Pradesh | Marriage |
| 22. | Chitram Ram Chandran | (RR: 1985) | — | Maharashtra | 1988 | Bihar | Andhra Pradesh | Marriage |
| 23. | M. Mohan Rao | (RR: 1985) | SC | A.P. | 1988 | West Bengal | Madhya Pradesh | Marriage |
| 24. | M.K. Singh | (RR: 1985) | — | Punjab | 1988 | Sikkim | Madhya Pradesh | Marriage |
| 25. | Manish Nanda | (RR: 1985) | — | Rajasthan | 1988 | West Bengal | Himachal Pradesh | Marriage |
| 26. | Nisha Singh | (RR: 1987) | — | Punjab | 1988 | Gujarat | Himachal Pradesh | Marriage |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|-----|----------------------|------------|----|------------|------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 27. | Saleena S.P. Singh | (RR: 1986) | — | Punjab | 1988 | Manipur-Tripura | Madhya Pradesh | Marriage |
| 28. | Vandana Khullar | (RR: 1985) | — | Punjab | 1988 | AGMUT | Maharashtra | Marriage |
| 29. | Veenu Gupta | (RR: 1987) | — | U.P. | 1988 | Bihar | Rajasthan | Marriage |
| 30. | Anita Sinha | (RR: 1988) | — | Delhi | 1989 | Bihar | Gujarat | Marriage |
| 31. | Dheera Khandelwal | (RR: 1986) | — | U.P. | 1989 | AGMUT | Haryana | Marriage |
| 32. | I.S.N. Prasad | (RR: 1986) | — | A.P. | 1989 | Manipur-Tripura | Karnataka | Marriage |
| 33. | Jiwesh Nandan | (RR: 1987) | — | Bihar | 1989 | AGMUT | Uttar Pradesh | Marriage |
| 34. | Rajiv Arora | (RR: 1987) | — | Punjab | 1989 | Bihar | Haryana | Marriage |
| 35. | S. Radha | (RR: 1988) | — | Delhi | 1989 | Assam-Meghalaya | Uttar Pradesh | Marriage |
| 36. | Shalini Misra | (RR: 1988) | — | U.P. | 1989 | Gujarat | Andhra Pradesh | Marriage |
| 37. | Sunil Kumar | (RR: 1987) | — | Bihar | 1989 | Punjab | Uttar Pradesh | Marriage |
| 38. | Usha Sharma | (RR: 1985) | — | U.P. | 1989 | Manipur-Tripura | Rajasthan | Marriage |
| 39. | Veera Rane | (RR: 1988) | — | U.P. | 1989 | Maharashtra | Madhya Pradesh | Marriage |
| 40. | Amita Prasad | (RR: 1985) | — | Bihar | 1990 | West Bengal | Karnataka | Marriage |
| 41. | G.V.V. Sarma | (RR: 1986) | — | A.P. | 1990 | Nagaland | Orissa | Marriage |
| 42. | Gouri Singh | (RR: 1987) | — | Rajasthan | 1990 | West Bengal | Madhya Pradesh | Marriage |
| 43. | Jay Shree Mukherjee | (RR: 1986) | — | Delhi | 1990 | Manipur-Tripura | Maharashtra | Marriage |
| 44. | Manoj Saunik | (RR: 1987) | — | Bihar | 1990 | Manipur-Tripura | Maharashtra | Marriage |
| 45. | Narendra Kumar | (RR: 1988) | SC | Delhi | 1990 | Assam-Meghalaya | AGMUT | Tribunal Order |
| 46. | Ravneet Kaur | (RR: 1988) | — | Punjab | 1990 | Assam-Meghalaya | Punjab | Tribunal Order |
| 47. | Renu Sharma | (RR: 1988) | — | Bihar | 1990 | Bihar | AGMUT | Marriage |
| 48. | S. Apama | (RR: 1988) | — | Tamil Nadu | 1990 | Nagaland | Gujarat | N.E. Policy |
| 49. | S.K. Sandhu | (RR: 1987) | SC | Punjab | 1990 | Jammu & Kashmir | Punjab | Tribunal Order |
| 50. | Samier Singh Chandel | (RR: 1989) | — | U.P. | 1990 | Punjab | Rajasthan | Marriage |
| 51. | Sanjeev Kaushal | (RR: 1986) | — | Haryana | 1990 | Tamil Nadu | Haryana | Tribunal Order |
| 52. | Sunil Porwal | (RR: 1983) | — | U.P. | 1990 | Bihar | Maharashtra | Medical |
| 53. | A.V. Chaturvedi | (RR: 1986) | — | U.P. | 1991 | Manipur-Tripura | Bihar | Marriage |
| 54. | Anshuli Arya | (RR: 1989) | — | U.P. | 1991 | Karnataka | Bihar | Marriage |
| 55. | G. Jayashree | (RR: 1987) | — | Delhi | 1991 | Assam-Meghalaya | Tamil Nadu | N.E. Policy |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|-----|----------------------|------------|----|-------------|------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 56. | I. Rani Kumudini | (RR: 1988) | SC | A.P. | 1991 | Jammu & Kashmir | Andhra Pradesh | Medical |
| 57. | Ishita Roy | (RR: 1991) | — | Bihar | 1991 | Punjab | Kerala | Marriage |
| 58. | Kusumjeet Bedi | (RR: 1979) | — | Punjab | 1991 | Nagaland | Punjab | N.E. Policy |
| 59. | Maitreyi Das | (RR: 1986) | — | Rajasthan | 1991 | Sikkim | Maharashtra | Compassionate |
| 60. | V. Kulshrestha | (RR: 1989) | — | U.P. | 1991 | Assam-Meghalaya | Bihar | Marriage |
| 61. | V.K. Jena | (RR: 1979) | — | Delhi | 1991 | Manipur-Tripura | Orissa | N.E. Policy |
| 62. | Vasudha Sharma | (RR: 1987) | — | Delhi | 1991 | Karnataka | Andhra Pradesh | Marriage |
| 63. | Archana Agarwal | (RR: 1990) | — | A.P. | 1992 | AGMUT | Uttar Pradesh | Marriage |
| 64. | Arti Rishi | (RR: 1990) | — | Chandigarh | 1992 | Bihar | Orissa | Marriage |
| 65. | Meena Ahuja | (RR: 5) | — | Rajasthan | 1992 | Jammu & Kashmir | Rajasthan | N.E. Policy |
| 66. | R.N. Gupta | (RR: 1979) | — | Delhi | 1992 | West Bengal | Punjab | Compassionate |
| 67. | S.A. Tagade | (RR: 1991) | SC | Maharashtra | 1992 | Kerala | Maharashtra | Compassionate |
| 68. | Saurabh Garg | (RR: 1991) | — | U.P. | 1992 | Kerala | Orissa | Marriage |
| 69. | Sudhir Garg | (RR: 1990) | — | Punjab | 1992 | Manipur-Tripura | Karnataka | Marriage |
| 70. | Vandana Gurnani | (RR: 1991) | — | Delhi | 1992 | Kerala | Karnataka | Marriage |
| 71. | Amit Yadav | (RR: 1991) | — | Rajasthan | 1993 | West Bengal | AGMUT | Marriage |
| 72. | Anita Bhatnagar | (RR: 1985) | — | U.P. | 1993 | Gujarat | Uttar Pradesh | Compassionate |
| 73. | Arvind Kumar | (RR: 1991) | ST | Delhi | 1993 | Gujarat | Andhra Pradesh | Marriage |
| 74. | B.V.R. Subrahmaniam | (RR: 1987) | — | A.P. | 1993 | Manipur-Tripura | Madhya Pradesh | Marriage |
| 75. | Kalpna Bhatnagar | (RR: 1992) | — | U.P. | 1993 | West Bengal | Madhya Pradesh | Marriage |
| 76. | Kiran Soni Gupta | (RR: 1985) | — | Punjab | 1993 | Kerala | Rajasthan | Marriage |
| 77. | Madhukar Gupta | (RR: 1985) | — | Punjab | 1993 | Tamil Nadu | Rajasthan | Marriage |
| 78. | Manu Srivastava | (RR: 1991) | — | U.P. | 1993 | Jammu & Kashmir | Madhya Pradesh | Marriage |
| 79. | Neelam Shami | (RR: 1992) | SC | U.P. | 1993 | Assam-Meghalaya | Madhya Pradesh | Marriage |
| 80. | Seema S. Sreshtha | (RR: 1991) | — | Karnataka | 1993 | West Bengal | Punjab | Marriage |
| 81. | Seema Sharma | (RR: 1992) | — | U.P. | 1993 | Assam-Meghalaya | Maharashtra | N.E. Policy |
| 82. | Shyamala Ramakrishna | (RR: 1990) | — | Bihar | 1993 | Bihar | Maharashtra | Marriage |
| 83. | A.H. Samoon | (RR: 1993) | ST | J&K | 1994 | Andhra Pradesh | Jammu & Kashmir | Public Interest |
| 84. | Abha Shukla | (RR: 1993) | — | U.P. | 1994 | West Bengal | Maharashtra | Marriage |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|------|------------------------|------------|----|-------------|------|------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| 85. | Alwyn Didar Singh | (RR: 1976) | — | Delhi | 1984 | Assam-Meghalaya | Punjab | Marriage |
| 86. | Manju Rani (Dr.) | (RR: 1992) | — | Delhi | 1984 | AGMUT | Rajasthan | Marriage |
| 87. | G. Ashok Kumar | (RR: 1991) | — | Kerala | 1984 | Manipur-Tripura | Andhra Pradesh | Marriage |
| 88. | Lokesh Chandra | (RR: 1993) | — | Rajasthan | 1984 | AGMUT | Maharashtra | Marriage |
| 89. | P.K. Chowdhary | (RR: 1979) | SC | West Bengal | 1984 | West Bengal | Assam-Meghalaya | Marriage |
| 90. | Puniya Salila | (RR: 1993) | — | U.P. | 1984 | Assam-Meghalaya | AGMUT | N.E. Policy |
| 91. | S.K. Srivastava | (RR: 1980) | — | U.P. | 1984 | Manipur-Tripura | AGMUT | Medical |
| 92. | Sukriti Vohra | (RR: 1993) | — | Chandigarh | 1984 | Manipur-Tripura | Haryana | N.E. Policy |
| 93. | Supriya Sahu | (RR: 1991) | SC | U.P. | 1984 | Bihar | Tamil Nadu | Marriage |
| 94. | Uma Kant Panwar | (RR: 1991) | SC | Haryana | 1984 | Tamil Nadu | Uttar Pradesh | Marriage |
| 95. | Abhilaksh S. Likhri | (RR: 1990) | — | Punjab | 1985 | Tamil Nadu | Haryana | Marriage |
| 96. | Babu Lal Meena | (RR: 1991) | ST | Rajasthan | 1985 | Tamil Nadu | Uttar Pradesh | Marriage |
| 97. | Deepali Rastogi | (RR: 1994) | — | Maharashtra | 1985 | Andhra Pradesh | Madhya Pradesh | Marriage |
| 98. | Deepti Guram | (RR: 1993) | — | Maharashtra | 1985 | Himachal Pradesh | Haryana | Marriage |
| 99. | G. Latha Krishna Rao | (RR: 1982) | — | A.P. | 1985 | Andhra Pradesh | Karnataka | Marriage |
| 100. | Raj Kamal | (RR: 1994) | — | Haryana | 1985 | Haryana | Madhya Pradesh | Marriage |
| 101. | Raj Kumar Sharma | (RR: 1987) | — | Rajasthan | 1985 | Kerala | Orissa | Marriage |
| 102. | Sanjeev Khinwar | (RR: 1994) | — | Delhi | 1985 | Tamil Nadu | AGMUT | Marriage |
| 103. | Sonia Bali (Smt.) | (RR: 1994) | — | Delhi | 1985 | Bihar | Maharashtra | Marriage |
| 104. | Alka Tewari | (RR: 1990) | — | U.P. | 1986 | Maharashtra | Madhya Pradesh | Marriage |
| 105. | Anirdudhe Mukerjee | (RR: 1993) | — | U.P. | 1986 | Uttar Pradesh | Madhya Pradesh | Marriage |
| 106. | Atish Chandra | (RR: 1994) | SC | Rajasthan | 1986 | Manipur-Tripura | Bihar | Marriage |
| 107. | Deepali Rastogi (Smt.) | (RR: 1994) | — | Maharashtra | 1986 | Andhra Pradesh | Madhya Pradesh | Marriage |
| 108. | Deepti Gaur (Smt.) | (RR: 1993) | — | U.P. | 1986 | Bihar | Madhya Pradesh | Marriage |
| 109. | Deepti Guram (Smt.) | (RR: 1993) | — | Maharashtra | 1986 | Himachal Pradesh | Haryana | Marriage |
| 110. | Manju Rani (Smt.) | (RR: 1992) | — | Delhi | 1986 | AGMUT | Rajasthan | Marriage |
| 111. | Neelam Shami (Smt.) | (RR: 1992) | SC | U.P. | 1986 | Assam-Meghalaya | Madhya Pradesh | Marriage |
| 112. | Neeraj (Smt.) | (RR: 1993) | SC | Punjab | 1986 | Bihar | Haryana | Marriage |
| 113. | Pallevi Jain (Smt.) | (RR: 1994) | — | Delhi | 1986 | Siddm | Madhya Pradesh | Marriage |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|------|------------------------|------------|-----|------------|------|------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| 114. | Raj Kamal | (RR: 1994) | — | Haryana | 1996 | Haryana | Madhya Pradesh | Marriage |
| 115. | Raj Kumar Sharma | (RR: 1987) | — | Rajasthan | 1996 | Kerala | Orissa | Marriage |
| 116. | Ranjana Handa (Smt.) | (RR: 1994) | — | Punjab | 1996 | Bihar | Orissa | Marriage |
| 117. | Seema Sharma (Smt.) | (RR: 1992) | — | U.P. | 1996 | Assam-Meghalaya | Maharashtra | Marriage |
| 118. | Shambhu Kiloliker | (RR: 1991) | SC | Karnataka | 1996 | West Bengal | Tamil Nadu | Marriage |
| 119. | Sonia Bali (Smt.) | (RR: 1994) | — | Delhi | 1996 | Bihar | Maharashtra | Marriage |
| 120. | Surinder Singh | (RR: 1993) | ST | Rajasthan | 1996 | Jammu & Kashmir | Bihar | Marriage |
| 121. | V.K. Singh | (RR: 1989) | — | Bihar | 1996 | Himachal Pradesh | Bihar | Supreme Court Order |
| 122. | Ashish Kumar Singh | (RR: 1988) | — | U.P. | 1997 | Kerala | Maharashtra | Marriage |
| 123. | Mukesh Kumar Meshram | (RR: 1995) | SC | M.P. | 1997 | Jammu & Kashmir | Uttar Pradesh | Marriage |
| 124. | Pradeep Kumar Vyas | (RR: 1989) | — | Rajasthan | 1997 | Tamil Nadu | Maharashtra | Marriage |
| 125. | Valsar Nair (Smt.) | (RR: 1991) | — | Kerala | 1997 | Uttar Pradesh | Maharashtra | Marriage |
| 126. | Ashish Kumar | (RR: 1996) | — | Punjab | 1998 | Tamil Nadu | AGMUT | Marriage |
| 127. | Gaurav Dwivedi | (RR: 1995) | — | U.P. | 1998 | Tamil Nadu | Madhya Pradesh | Marriage |
| 128. | Maninder Kaur (Smt.) | (RR: 1995) | — | Punjab | 1998 | Orissa | Madhya Pradesh | Marriage |
| 129. | Manish Bhardwaj | (RR: 1997) | — | U.P. | 1998 | Nagaland | Gujarat | Marriage |
| 130. | Mukesh Kumar | (RR: 1996) | — | Bihar | 1998 | Kerala | Gujarat | Marriage |
| 131. | Rakhee Gupta (Smt.) | (RR: 1997) | — | U.P. | 1998 | Karnataka | Punjab | Marriage |
| 132. | S.D. Ushakumari (Smt.) | (RR: 1996) | OBC | Karnataka | 1998 | Uttar Pradesh | Orissa | Marriage |
| 133. | Sheo Shekhar Shukla | (RR: 1994) | — | U.P. | 1998 | Manipur-Tripura | Madhya Pradesh | Marriage |
| 134. | Shikhar Aggarwal | (RR: 1993) | — | U.P. | 1998 | Manipur-Tripura | Rajasthan | Marriage |
| 135. | Srivastava Krishna | (RR: 1994) | — | Delhi | 1998 | AGMUT | Andhra Pradesh | Marriage |
| 136. | Tejveer Singh | (RR: 1994) | — | Chandigarh | 1998 | Maharashtra | Punjab | Marriage |
| 137. | Vinita Vaid (Smt.) | (RR: 1996) | — | Haryana | 1998 | Bihar | Maharashtra | Marriage |
| 138. | Tinku Biswal (MS) | (RR: 1997) | — | Orissa | 1998 | Manipur-Tripura | Kerala | Marriage |
| 139. | B. Chandra Mohan | (RR: 1995) | OBC | Karnataka | 1999 | Sikkim | Tamil Nadu | Marriage |
| 140. | C.E. Khongwar | (RR: 1996) | ST | Meghalaya | 1999 | Assam-Meghalaya | Madhya Pradesh | Marriage |
| 141. | Chandra Mohan B. (Dr.) | (RR: 1995) | OBC | Karnataka | 1999 | Sikkim | Tamil Nadu | Marriage |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
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| 142. | G. Jayalakshmi | (RR: 1997) | OBC | Tamil Nadu | 1999 | AGMUT | Andhra Pradesh | Marriage |
| 143. | Mugdha Sinha | (RR: 1999) | — | U.P. | 1999 | Manipur-Tripura | Rajasthan | Marriage |
| 144. | Nitin M. Kulkarni | (RR: 1995) | — | Maharashtra | 1999 | Manipur-Tripura | Bihar | Marriage |
| 145. | Rajeev Kumar | (RR: 1997) | SC | Bihar | 1999 | Manipur-Tripura | West Bengal | Marriage |
| 146. | Rajesh Kumar Singh | (RR: 1991) | — | Bihar | 1999 | Manipur-Tripura | Uttar Pradesh | Marriage |
| 147. | Sandeep Verma | (RR: 1993) | — | U.P. | 1999 | Assam-Meghalaya | Rajasthan | Marriage |
| 148. | Sushil Kumar | (RR: 1995) | OBC | Maharashtra | 1999 | Manipur-Tripura | Orissa | Marriage |
| 149. | Ajoy Kumar Sharma | (RR: 1999) | — | Rajasthan | 2000 | Assam-Meghalaya | Punjab | Marriage |
| 150. | Bhaskar Jyoti Sarma | (RR: 1999) | — | N.A. | 2000 | Nagaland | Orissa | Marriage |
| 151. | Sanjeev Kumar | (RR: 1998) | — | Bihar | 2000 | Manipur-Tripura | Gujarat | Marriage |
| 152. | Sanyukta Samaddar | (RR: 1999) | SC | West Bengal | 2000 | Haryana | Uttar Pradesh | Marriage |
| 153. | Vishal Gagan | (RR: 1998) | OBC | Bihar | 2000 | Kerala | Orissa | Marriage |
| 154. | A.K. Rastogi | (RR: 1986) | — | U.P. | 2001 | Uttaranchal | Uttar Pradesh | Grievance Committee |
| 155. | Abdul Qasim Farooqhi | (SCS: 1986) | — | U.P. | 2001 | Uttaranchal | Uttar Pradesh | Grievance Committee |
| 156. | Ajay Chauhan | (RR: 1998) | — | Delhi | 2001 | Tamil Nadu | Uttar Pradesh | Marriage |
| 157. | Anju Singh Baghel (Smt.) | (SCS: 1994) | — | M.P. | 2001 | Chhattisgarh | Madhya Pradesh | Grievance Committee |
| 158. | Aradhana Patnaik | (RR: 1998) | — | Orissa | 2001 | Uttaranchal | Jharkhand | Marriage |
| 159. | Daya Ram | (SCS: 1990) | SC | U.P. | 2001 | Uttaranchal | Uttar Pradesh | Grievance Committee |
| 160. | Dilip Mehra | (RR: 1975) | — | Rajasthan | 2001 | Chhattisgarh | Madhya Pradesh | Grievance Committee |
| 161. | Dinesh Singh | (RR: 1982) | — | Punjab | 2001 | Uttaranchal | Uttar Pradesh | Grievance Committee |
| 162. | G.S. Mishra | (SCS: 2000) | — | M.P. | 2001 | Madhya Pradesh | Chhattisgarh | Grievance Committee |
| 163. | H.L. Birdi | (RR: 1972) | SC | Punjab | 2001 | Uttaranchal | Uttar Pradesh | Grievance Committee |
| 164. | I.M. Chahal (Smt.) | (RR: 1976) | — | Punjab | 2001 | Chhattisgarh | Madhya Pradesh | Grievance Committee |
| 165. | Madhup Vyas | (RR: 2000) | SC | U.P. | 2001 | Himachal Pradesh | AGMUT | Marriage |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
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| 166. | Modh. Sulaman | (RR: 1989) | — | U.P. | 2001 | Chhattisgarh | Madhya Pradesh | Grievance Committee |
| 167. | Neena Sharma (Smt.) | (RR: 1998) | OBC | Chandigarh | 2001 | Madhya Pradesh | Uttar Pradesh | Marriage |
| 168. | Niherika Barik | (RR: 1997) | — | Orissa | 2001 | Manipur-Tripura | Chhattisgarh | Marriage |
| 169. | P.P. Sharma | (RR: 1971) | — | Bihar | 2001 | Bihar | Jharkhand | Grievance Committee |
| 170. | Rajeev Kumar | (RR: 1984) | — | U.P. | 2001 | Bihar | Jharkhand | Grievance Committee |
| 171. | Sanjeev Dubey | (RR: 1987) | — | Bihar | 2001 | Kerala | Uttar Pradesh | Marriage |
| 172. | Santosh K. Misra | (RR: 2000) | — | U.P. | 2001 | AGMUT | Tamil Nadu | Marriage |
| 173. | Sarita C. Chauhan (Smt.) | (RR: 1999) | SC | Delhi | 2001 | Karnataka | Jammu & Kashmir | Marriage |
| 174. | Sudhir Prasad | (RR: 1981) | — | Bihar | 2001 | Bihar | Jharkhand | Grievance Committee |
| 175. | V. Karthikeya Pandian | (RR: 2000) | OBC | Tamil Nadu | 2001 | Punjab | Orissa | Marriage |
| 176. | V. Ponnuraj | (RR: 2000) | OBC | Tamil Nadu | 2001 | Jammu & Kashmir | Karnataka | Marriage |
| 177. | Alaknanda Dayal | (RR: 2000) | SC | U.P. | 2002 | West Bengal | Punjab | Marriage |
| 178. | Anshu Sinha | (RR: 1999) | — | U.P. | 2002 | Bihar | Maharashtra | Marriage |
| 179. | Bimal Julka | (RR: 1979) | — | Delhi | 2002 | Chhattisgarh | Madhya Pradesh | Grievance Committee |
| 180. | Dhirendra Mishra | (SCS: 2001) | N.A. | N.A. | 2002 | Bihar | Jharkhand | Policy of Bifurcation |
| 181. | Girindra Narayan Thakur | (SCS: 2001) | N.A. | N.A. | 2002 | Bihar | Jharkhand | Policy of Bifurcation |
| 182. | Himani Pande | (RR: 1998) | — | U.P. | 2002 | Bihar | Jharkhand | Marriage |
| 183. | K. Dhanalakshmi | (RR: 2000) | OBC | Karnataka | 2002 | AGMUT | Uttar Pradesh | Marriage |
| 184. | Kumar Arun | (SCS: 2001) | N.A. | N.A. | 2002 | Bihar | Jharkhand | Policy of Bifurcation |
| 185. | Manikant Azad | (SCS: 2001) | N.A. | N.A. | 2002 | Bihar | Jharkhand | Policy of Bifurcation |
| 186. | Milind S. Torawane | (RR: 2000) | OBC | Maharashtra | 2002 | Assam-Meghalaya | Gujarat | Marriage |
| 187. | Mohan Lal Rai | (SCS: 2001) | N.A. | Bihar | 2002 | Bihar | Jharkhand | Policy of Bifurcation |
| 188. | Nidhi Pandey | (RR: 2001) | — | U.P. | 2002 | Kerala | Maharashtra | Marriage |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
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| 189. | Nikunj Kumer Srivastava | (RR: 1998) | — | U.P. | 2002 | Jammu & Kashmir | Madhya Pradesh | Marriage |
| 190. | Rahul K. Purwar | (RR: 1998) | — | U.P. | 2002 | AGMUT | Jharkhand | Marriage |
| 191. | S.C. Bardhan | (RR: 1973) | — | Orissa | 2002 | Chhattisgarh | Madhya Pradesh | Grievance Committee |
| 192. | Sonal R. Ponshe (Smt.) | (RR: 2000) | — | Maharashtra | 2002 | Maharashtra | Madhya Pradesh | Marriage |
| 193. | Vijendra Kumar Sinha | (SCS: 2001) | N.A. | N.A. | 2002 | Biher | Jharkhand | Policy of Bifurcation |
| 194. | K. Shivaji | (RR: 1986) | — | Biher | 2003 | Kerala | Maharashtra | Supreme Court Order |
| 195. | Bhupender Kaur (Smt.) | (RR: 1997) | SC | Punjab | 2003 | Andhra Pradesh | Uttaranchal | Marriage |
| 196. | Krishan Kumar | (RR: 2002) | — | Haryana | 2003 | Nagaland | Orissa | Marriage |
| 197. | Mandeep K. Bhandari | (RR: 2001) | — | Punjab | 2003 | Manipur-Tripura | Jammu & Kashmir | Marriage |
| 198. | N. Nawin Sona | (RR: 2000) | SC | Tamil Nadu | 2003 | Madhya Pradesh | Maharashtra | Marriage |
| 199. | Vijayalakshmi Bidari | (RR: 2001) | — | Karnataka | 2004 | Assam-Meghalaya | Maharashtra | Marriage |
| 200. | Girdhari Lal | (SCS) | N.A. | N.A. | 2004 | Uttar Pradesh | Uttaranchal | Policy of Bifurcation |
| 201. | Jaya Shree S. Bhoj | (RR: 2003) | SC | Karnataka | 2004 | Uttar Pradesh | Maharashtra | Marriage |
| 202. | Kumar Rahul | (RR: 2000) | — | Biher | 2004 | Biher | Punjab | Marriage |
| 203. | Amit Singla | (RR: 2003) | — | Punjab | 2004 | West Bengal | AGMUT | Marriage |
| 204. | Ritu Sain | (RR: 2003) | OBC | Rajasthan | 2004 | Manipur-Tripura | Chhattisgarh | Marriage |
| 205. | Munish Moudgil | (RR: 1998) | — | Punjab | 2004 | Orissa | Karnataka | Marriage |
| 206. | Swamy D.V. | (RR: 2001) | SC | Karnataka | 2004 | Manipur-Tripura | Orissa | Marriage |
| 207. | Ritu Singla | (RR: 2003) | — | Punjab | 2005 | Jammu & Kashmir | Uttar Pradesh | Marriage |
| 208. | Pooja Kulkarni | (RR: 2003) | — | Karnataka | 2005 | Karnataka | Tamil Nadu | Marriage |
| 209. | R. Kirlosh Kumar | (RR: 2001) | OBC | Karnataka | 2005 | Manipur-Tripura | Tamil Nadu | Marriage |
| 210. | Minalini Darswal | (RR: 2002) | — | J&K | 2005 | Manipur-Tripura | Orissa | Marriage |
| 211. | Nitesh Kumar Jha | (RR: 2002) | — | Biher | 2005 | Manipur-Tripura | Sikkim | Marriage |
| 212. | Archana | (RR: 2002) | ST | Rajasthan | 2006 | Manipur-Tripura | West Bengal | Marriage |
| 213. | Anbalagan P. | (RR: 2004) | OBC | Tamil Nadu | 2005 | Orissa | Chhattisgarh | Marriage |
| 214. | Rohit Kumar Singh | (RR: 1989) | — | U.P. | 2006 | Manipur-Tripura | Rajasthan | Marriage |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|------|---------------------|------------|-----|-------------|------|-----------------|------------------|----------|
| 215. | Priyanka Basu Ingty | (RR: 2004) | ST | Assam | 2005 | Tamil Nadu | Himachal Pradesh | Marriage |
| 216. | Anneet Rattan | (RR: 2001) | SC | Punjab | 2005 | Sikkim | Haryana | Marriage |
| 217. | Raman Ravinath MVAP | (RR: 2004) | — | Maharashtra | 2005 | West Bengal | Uttaranchal | Marriage |
| 218. | Pinky Jowel | (RR: 2003) | SC | Haryana | 2005 | Tamil Nadu | Uttar Pradesh | Marriage |
| 219. | Amrita Soni | (RR: 2003) | — | Bihar | 2005 | Chhattisgarh | Uttar Pradesh | Marriage |
| 220. | Baldeo Purushartha | (RR: 2002) | — | Bihar | 2006 | Manipur-Tripura | Punjab | Marriage |
| 221. | Shalini Agarwal | (RR: 2005) | — | Rajasthan | 2006 | Jammu & Kashmir | Gujarat | Marriage |
| 222. | Sanjay Kumar | (RR: 2002) | — | Bihar | 2005 | Manipur-Tripura | Uttar Pradesh | Marriage |
| 223. | K. Manicka Raj | (RR: 2005) | OBC | Tamil Nadu | 2006 | Uttar Pradesh | Andhra Pradesh | Marriage |
| 224. | Ankur Garg | (RR: 2003) | — | Punjab | 2006 | Manipur-Tripura | AGMUT | Marriage |
| 225. | Siddharth Mahajan | (RR: 2003) | — | Delhi | 2006 | Uttaranchal | Rajasthan | Marriage |
| 226. | Avinash Champawat | (RR: 2003) | — | Rajasthan | 2006 | Nagaland | Chhattisgarh | Marriage |

Declaration of National Highways

3165. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh have sent any proposal for improvement of works of various stretches of National Highways across Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government thereon;

(d) the details of proposals pertaining to Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh pending with the Union Government regarding declaration of roads as National Highways; and

(e) the time by which the said proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) Governments of Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh have sent 16 proposals amounting to Rs. 46.80 crore and 31 proposals amounting to Rs. 74.13 crore respectively under Annual Plan 2006-07 for improvement of National Highways in these states. Out of these, 8 proposals amounting to Rs. 15.09 crore pertaining to Uttar Pradesh have been sanctioned. Remaining proposals of both the states are under different stages of scrutiny and their sanction will be subject to fulfilling of technical requirements, inter-se-priority and availability of funds.

(d) and (e) Ministry has received 3 proposals from Maharashtra and 6 proposals from Uttar Pradesh for declaring State roads as National Highways, the details of which are given in the enclosed Statement. At present emphasis is on development of existing National Highways, and declaration of new National Highways in the country including Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh is not envisaged.

Statement

| Name of State | Description | Approximate length (in Km.) |
|---------------|--|--------------------------------|
| Maharashtra | 1. Coastal Road | 733.87 |
| | 2. Akola-Nanded-Dugulur-Raichur | |
| | 3. Kolhapur-Solapur-Latur-Nanded-Yantol-Wardha-Nagpur | 457.00 |
| | Total | 1190.870 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 1. Kuravali-Manipuri-Karhal-Etawah Road | 73.158 |
| | 2. Sirsaganj-Karhal-Kishni-Vidhuna-Chobepur road | 161.53 |
| | 3. Bareilly-Badaaun-Bilsi-Gajraula-Chandpur-Bijnaur Road | 262.39 |
| | 4. Jagdishpur-Gauriganj-Amethi-Pratapgarh Road | 79.00 |
| | 5. Fatehpur-Raibareilly-Jagdishpur-Faizabad Road | 181.960 |
| | 6. Lumbini Dudhi State Highway No.; 5 | 101.00 |
| | Total | 758.093 |

Monopoly in Supply of Coal

3166. SHRI DHANUSKODI R. ATHITHAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to reduce the monopoly of the Coal India Limited (CIL) with regard to supply of coal to domestic and non-captive consumers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) By and large, supply of coal to domestic and non-captive consumers is made by Coal India Limited and Singareni Collieries Company Limited. At present, there is, however, no such proposal to change the existing procedure of supply of coal by Coal India Limited/Singareni Collieries Company Limited to domestic and non captive consumers.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of reply given at (a) above.

Indo-Sino Border Talks

3167. SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the eighth round of border talks between India and China was held recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the size of bilateral trade between the two countries; and

(d) the existing cultural relations between them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) Yes.

(b) The Eighth Round of talks between the Special Representatives of India and China, Shri M.K. Narayanan, National Security Adviser and Mr. Dai Bingguo, Executive Vice Foreign Minister respectively, on the India-China Boundary Question was held in Xi'an and Beijing in China from June 25 to June 27, 2006. The Special Representatives continued their discussions on an agreed framework for a boundary settlement on the basis of the "Agreement on Political Parameters and Guiding Principles for Settlement of India-China Boundary Question", which was signed on April 11, 2005. Talks were held in a friendly, cooperative and constructive atmosphere.

(c) The trade turnover between India and China during the financial year 2005-06 amounted to US\$ 17.46 billion.

(d) Presently, cultural exchanges between India and China are held under the aegis of a Cultural Agreement signed between the two sides in May 1988 and a Cultural Exchange Programme signed every three years to implement various provisions of the aforementioned Agreement. In addition, both sides have recently taken a number of steps to reinforce traditional cultural links between India and China. For instance, as part of commemorative activities to mark the India-China Friendship Year in 2006, a series of cultural activities are being held in both countries. Construction of an Indian-style Buddhist temple at Luoyang in Henan Province of China is underway under an agreement concluded between the two sides in April 2005. A Centre for India Studies was inaugurated in China's Peking University in June 2003. Both sides have also agreed to establish Cultural Centres in each other's capitals.

[Translation]

Overcharging of Rentals by BSNL

3168. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for connecting the municipality to the telephone exchange by the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. for the realisation of rentals;

(b) whether this has led to an increase in the rentals to be paid by the consumers;

(c) if so, whether any complaints have been lodged in this regard;

(d) if so, whether the Government is reconsidering the issue of overcharging from the consumers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No new orders have been issued by BSNL for connecting the Municipality to the

Telephone exchange. Rentals are to be fixed based on exchange system capacity of Short Distance Charging Area as prescribed by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India in the Telecommunication Tariff Order, 1999.

(b) BSNL has recently reduced rental of fixed line service from Rs. 250 per month to Rs. 180 per month and from Rs. 210 per month to Rs. 150 per month. Hence the question of increase in rental does not arise.

(c) No specific complaint, to the issue raised, has been received.

(d) and (e) Do not arise in view of (c) above.

[English]

Recommendations by TRAI

3169. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the recommendations made by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) during the last three years with regard to the field of telecommunications;

(b) the number of recommendations accepted and implemented by the Union Government; and

(c) the reasons for non-implementation of remaining recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) The list of recommendations made by TRAI on various issues related to Telecommunication Service during the year 2003-2006 are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) Each recommendation made by TRAI given in the Statement actually consists of a large number of proposals. Out of 33 recommendation received during the year 2003-2006, 13 recommendations have been partially accepted and implemented by the Government.

(c) Government formulates its views on the recommendations of TRAI regarding acceptance or otherwise after taking into consideration the overall scenario of telecom sector.

Statement**Recommendations of TRAI**

| Sl.No. | Title |
|--------|--|
| 1 | 2 |
| 1. | Letter to Secretary, DIT recommending steps for Improvement in the effectiveness of National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI). |
| 2. | Recommendations for permitting usage of * and # in provisioning of value added intra-network services like USSD (Unstructured Supplementary Service Data) by Access Providers. |
| 3. | Recommendations on Issues relating to Convergence and Competition in Broadcasting and Telecommunications. |
| 4. | Recommendations of Next Generation Networks. |
| 5. | Recommendations on Mobile Number Portability. |
| 6. | Recommendations for permitting usage of Strings containing #, \$, £ etc. for accessing High Speed Data Services in Wireless Networks. |
| 7. | Recommendations on Transition from IPv4 to IPv6 in India. |
| 8. | Recommendations on Promotion of Competition in International Private Lease Circuits (IPLC) Segment. |
| 9. | Recommendations for review of Broadband Policy and to reconsider TRAI's recommendations related to Local Loop Unbundling and Fiscal Incentives for Broadband. |
| 10. | Recommendations on growth of Telecom Services in Rural India. |
| 11. | Recommendations on Digitalization of Cable Television. |
| 12. | Recommendations on issues Relating to Private Terrestrial TV Broadcast Service. |
| 13. | TRAI's Recommendation on Issues Relating to Private Terrestrial TV Broadcast Service. |
| 14. | Recommendations on Issues Relating to Satellite Radio Services. |

| 1 | 2 |
|-----|--|
| 15. | TRAI's Recommendations on Spectrum Related Issues. |
| 16. | Recommendations on publication of Telephone Directory and Directory Enquiry Services. |
| 17. | Recommendations on Unified Licensing. |
| 18. | Recommendations on Licensing Issues Relating to Community Radio Stations. |
| 19. | Recommendations of Funding of TRAI. |
| 20. | Recommendations on Issues relating to Broadcasting and Distribution of TV Channels. |
| 21. | TRAI's Recommendations on 2nd phase of Private FM Radio Broadcasting. |
| 22. | TRAI's Recommendations on office of Ombudsman. |
| 23. | Recommendations on Accelerating Growth of Internet and Broadband Penetration. |
| 24. | Recommendations for allowing ISPs to lay Copper Cable in Last Mile. |
| 25. | Recommendations on Intra-Circle Merger and Acquisition Guidelines. |
| 26. | Recommendations for waiving of License Fee and Bank Guarantee for Infrastructure Provider-II. |
| 27. | Chairperson's Letter to Secretary DoT regarding Recommendations on Numbering issues as a follow up of Unified Access Services License Migration. |
| 28. | Recommendations on "WLL (M) Issues pertaining to TRAI based on Hon'ble TDSAT's Order". |
| 29. | Recommendation of TRAI on Unified Access Licensing. |
| 30. | Clarification regarding utilization of resources from multiple service providers for setting up of CUG Network. |
| 31. | Recommendations of TRAI on the Issue of Fresh Licenses to Cellular Mobile Service Providers (CMSPs). |

| 1 | 2 |
|-----|---|
| 32. | Recommendations for use of certain IP devices for providing Internet Telephony Services. |
| 33. | Recommendations of TRAI on Issues Concerning Public Mobile Radio Trunked Service (PMRTS). |

[Translation]

Construction of Overbridges

3170. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the places where construction work of overbridges is being done with the Central assistance on National Highways as on date;

(b) the amount of Central assistance sanctioned for this purpose; and

(c) the details thereof, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) The State-wise details of ongoing works of overbridges on National Highways entrusted with State Governments and Border Road Organization (BRO) are given in Statement-I and Statement-II respectively. The Union Government is responsible for development of all the National Highways including overbridges and provides fund. The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) awards works on package basis which includes 4/6 laning as well as construction of bridges/structure and no separate allocation is made for overbridges. The State-wise details of overbridges being constructed by the NHAI are given in the enclosed Statement-III.

Statement I

Details of ongoing construction works of over-bridges as on 31th July, 2006 on National Highways entrusted to State Governments

| Sl.No. | Name of State | Name of project | NH No. | Name of Place | Sanctioned/ Project Cost (Rs. in Crores) |
|--------|----------------|---|--------|---------------|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. | Bihar | Construction of approaches road of ROB at Km. 19 | 28A | Singhia | 4.95 |
| 2. | Bihar | Construction of ROB at level crossing No. 28 between Mansi-Maheshkunt in Km. 279 | 31 | Chutki | 7.51 |
| 3. | Chhattisgarh | ROB at Tipra crossing in Km 114/4 | 200 | Bilaspur | 14.67 |
| 4. | Haryana | Construction of ROB at Rohtak in Km 354.00 | 71 | Rohtak | 18.37 |
| 5. | Kerala | Construction of approaches to ROB at Km. 437/375 including 280.80 m. long viaducts on either sides of NH-17 | 17 | Edappally | 17.92 |
| 6. | Madhya Pradesh | Construction of ROB at Maxi in Km 537/2 | 3 | Maxi | 9.6 |
| 7. | Tamil Nadu | Construction of Lalapet ROB in Km 183/4 | 67 | Lalapet | 27.79 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|----|-------------|--|---|--------------|--|
| 8. | West Bengal | ROB over Sealdah-Bongaon Railway line at Km. 1.806 (under Construction of Belghoria Expressway Project) | — | near Kolkata | Total project cost=Rs. 129.03 crore (Cost of Both ROB's = Rs. 15.36 crore) |
| 9. | West Bengal | ROB over Sealdah-Ranaghat Railway line at Km. 5.129 (under Construction of Belghoria Expressway Project) | — | | |

Note: ROB: Road Over Bridge

Statement II

Details of ongoing construction works of over-bridges as on 31th July, 2006 on National Highways entrusted to Border Road Organisation

| Sl.No. | Name of State | Name of project | NH No. | Name of Place | Sanctioned/Project Cost (Rs. in Crores) |
|--------|---------------|-----------------|--------|------------------|---|
| 1. | Tripura | ROB at Km 0.290 | 44 | Karimganj bypass | 1.77 |
| 2. | Tripura | ROB at Km 1.850 | 44 | Karimganj bypass | 1.50 |

Statement III

Details of ongoing construction works of over-bridges as on 31th July, 2006 on National Highways entrusted to National Highway Authority of India

| Sl.No. | Name of State | Name of Project (with Kms/Chainage) | NH No. | Name of Place |
|--------|---------------|---|--------|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Bihar | Muzaffarpur to Purnea National Highway Project from Km. 360 to Km. 520 | 28 | Kuchaicoat (Km. 369), Bangri (Km. 453) & Sedatpur (Km. 517) |
| 2. | Bihar | Muzaffarpur to Purnea National Highway Project from Km. 0.00 to Km. 310 | 57 | Darbhangha (Km. 61.940), Sakri (Km. 83.840), Jhanjhapur (Km. 105.880), Pratapganj (Km. 212.351), Narpaganj (Km. 223.782), Forbeeganj (Km. 239.00), Simraha (Km. 250.00) |
| 3. | Bihar | Km. 410 to 419 & Km. 470 to 476.150 of NH-31 in Bihar | 31 | Kahanganj ROB/Km. 470-586-Km. 471.433 |
| 4. | Bihar | Km. 419 to 447 of NH-31 | 31 | Kahanganj Flyover/Km. 472.84-Km. 474.515 |
| 5. | Bihar | Km. 112 | 3 | Flyover (Tarachandi) |
| 6. | Bihar | Km. 119 | 2 | Flyover (Ierua) |
| 7. | Bihar | Km. 211.5 | 2 | Flyover (Sherghati) |
| 8. | Bihar | Km. 222 | 2 | Flyover (Dhobi) |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|---------------|---|---------------|--|
| 9. | West Bengal | Km. 419 to 447 of NH-31 | 31 | Dhalkola Flyover/Km. 444.460-Km. 445.200 |
| 10. | West Bengal | Km. 526 to 551 of NH-31 | 31 | ROB at Sonapur on Siliguri-Lalampur section Km. 528.60 |
| 11. | Assam | 4-laning from Km. 93.0 Km. 60.00 of Bijni to WB Border section of NH-31C | 31C | Bongaigaon and Chaprakata (Ch Km. 79.90 and km. 87.50) |
| 12. | Assam | 4-laning from Km. 1040.30 to Km. 1013.00 of Nalbari to Bijni section of NH-31 in Assam | 31 | Pathasala (Ch. Km. 1029.0) |
| 13. | Assam | 4-laning form Km. 1093 to Km. 1065 of Guwahati to Nalbari section of NH-31 | 31 | Gagraped and Rangia (Ch. Km. 1075.32 and 1083.085) |
| 14. | Assam | 4-laning from Km. 1121 to Km. 1093 to Guwahati to Nalbari section of NH-31 in Assam | 31 | Sangsari (Ch. Km. 1113.8) |
| 15. | Assam | 4-laning from Km. 255.05 to Km. 230.50 of Nagaon to Dharamtul Section of NH-37 in Assam | 37 | Nagaon (Ch. Km. 240.110) |
| 16. | Assam | C/o of service road from km. 146.00 to 156.00 including flyover on Guwahati Bypass section in Assam | 37 | Guwahati bypass (Ch. Km. 154) |
| 17. | Assam | 4-laning from km. 183.00—km. 183.90 of Sonapur to Guwahati section of NH-37 in Assam | 37 | Kanapara and Jorabat (Ch Km 164 and km. 171) |
| 18. | Assam | 4-laning of Nagaon bypass (from km. 260.570 of NH-37, crossing NH-36 near km. 5.00 and upto km. 262.7250 of NH-37) and from km. 262.725 to Km. 255.00 of Nh-37 of Nagaon to Dharamtul section of NH-37 in Assam | Nagaon bypass | Nagaon by pass (Ch. Km. 0.750) |
| 19. | Assam | 4-laning from km. 127-Km 111 of Maibang to Lunding section of NH-54 in Assam | 54 | Kalachend (Ch. Km. 122.750) |
| 20. | Assam | 4-laning from km. 306.54—km. 275 of Silchar to Balachera section of NH-54 in Assam | 54 | Silchar (Ch. Km. 306.54) |
| 21. | West Bengal | Second Viveknand Bridge Project on BOT basis ROB at Bally Km. 668.819 | 2 | Bally Hawrah |
| 22. | Uttar Pradesh | Four laning of NH-24 from Km. 58 to Km. 93 (Hapur to Garhmukteshwar)—Package | 24 | Flyover at Sohanpur at the end of Hapur Bypass/Chainage Km. 58.800 |
| 23. | Uttar Pradesh | Four laning of NH-24 from Km. 58 to Km. 93 (Hapur to Garhmukteshwar)—Package | 24 | Overpass at Babugarh/Chainage Km. 61.160 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | Four laning of NH-24 from Km. 58 to Km. 93 (Hapur to Garhmukteshwar)—Package | 24 | Overpass at Uphera/Chainage Km. 65.621 |
| 25. | Uttar Pradesh | Four laning of NH-24 from Km. 58 to Km. 93 (Hapur to Garhmukteshwar)—Package I | 24 | Overpass at Kutchesari/Chainage Km. 68.663 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|---------------|--|----|---|
| 26. | Uttar Pradesh | Four laning of NH-24 from Km. 58 to Km. 93 (Hapur to Garhmukteshwar)—Package I | 24 | Overpass at Sikhera/Chainage Km. 71.190 |
| 27. | Uttar Pradesh | Four laning of NH-24 from Km. 58 to Km. 93 (Hapur to Garhmukteshwar)—Package I | 24 | Overpass at Simhachli/Chainage Km. 75.288 |
| 28. | Uttar Pradesh | Four laning of NH-24 from Km. 58 to Km. 93 (Hapur to Garhmukteshwar)—Package I | 24 | Overpass at-Baksar/Chainage Km 76.968 |
| 29. | Uttar Pradesh | Four laning of NH-24 from Km. 58 to Km. 93 (Hapur to Garhmukteshwar)—Package I | 24 | Overpass at Atseni/Chainage Km. 81.370 |
| 30. | Uttar Pradesh | Four laning of NH-24 from Km. 58 to Km. 93 (Hapur to Garhmukteshwar)—Package I | 24 | Overpass at Garhmukteshwar/Chainage Km. 86.025 |
| 31. | Uttar Pradesh | Four laning of NH-24 from Km. 93 to 149.25 Garhmukteshwar to Moradabad)—Package II | 24 | Overpass at Gajraula/Chainage Km. 103.521 |
| 32. | Uttar Pradesh | Four laning of NH-24 from Km. 93 to 149.25 Garhmukteshwar to Moradabad)—Package II | 24 | Flyover at Gajraula/Chainage Km. 105.690 |
| 33. | Uttar Pradesh | Four laning of NH-24 from Km. 93 to 149.25 Garhmukteshwar to Moradabad)—Package II | 24 | Overpass at Rajapur/Chainage Km. 117.400 |
| 34. | Uttar Pradesh | Four laning of NH-24 from Km. 93 to 149.25 Garhmukteshwar to Moradabad)—Package II | 24 | Overpass at Joya/Chainage Km. 127.945 |
| 35. | Uttar Pradesh | Four laning of NH-24 from Km. 93 to 149.25 Garhmukteshwar to Moradabad)—Package II | 24 | Didauli Chainage Km. 132.525 |
| 36. | Uttar Pradesh | Four laning of NH-24 from Km. 93 to 149.25 Garhmukteshwar to Moradabad)—Package II | 24 | Budherpur Chainage Km. 137.300 |
| 37. | Uttar Pradesh | Four laning of NH-24 from Km. 93 to 149.25 Garhmukteshwar to Moradabad)—Package II | 24 | Choudharpur Chainage Km. 140.615 |
| 38. | Uttar Pradesh | Four laning of NH-24 from Km. 93 to 149.25 Garhmukteshwar to Moradabad)—Package II | 24 | Lodhipur Chainage Km. 143.580 |
| 39. | Uttar Pradesh | Four laning of NH-24 from Km. 93 to 149.25 Garhmukteshwar to Moradabad)—Package II | 24 | Pakbara Chainage Km. 146.500 |
| 40. | Uttar Pradesh | Four laning of NH-24 from Km. 93 to 149.25 Garhmukteshwar to Moradabad)—Package II | 24 | Pakbara Chainage Km. 147.392 |
| 41. | Uttar Pradesh | Four laning of NH-24 from Km. 93 to 149.25 Garhmukteshwar to Moradabad)—Package II | 24 | Flyover at Naya-Moradabad, the start of Moradabad Bypass/Chainage Km. 148.668 |
| 42. | Uttar Pradesh | Four laning of NH-24 from Km. 93 to 149.25 Garhmukteshwar to Moradabad)—Package II | 24 | ROB at Km. 180.300 at Railway level crossing |
| 43. | Uttar Pradesh | Lucknow Bypass/km. 1.695—ROB | — | Lucknow Bypass |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|---------------|--|----|--|
| 44. | Uttar Pradesh | Lucknow Bypass/km. 3.375—ROB | — | Lucknow Bypass |
| 45. | Uttar Pradesh | Lucknow Bypass/km. 8.737 | — | Lucknow Bypass (Flyover at Sultanpur Road) |
| 46. | Uttar Pradesh | Lucknow Bypass/km. 13.130—ROB | — | Lucknow Bypass |
| 47. | Uttar Pradesh | Lucknow Bypass/km. 16.121 | — | Lucknow Bypass (Flyover at Raibheri Road) |
| 48. | Uttar Pradesh | km. 59.64 (ROB) | 25 | Unnao |
| 49. | Uttar Pradesh | Jajmau Bridge ato Ramadevi Crossing/Km. 77.277 to 80.588 (Viaduct) | 25 | Jajmau Bridge to Ramadevi Crossing |
| 50. | Uttar Pradesh | Meerut-Muzaffarnagar (3 ROB's at 64/400, 87/200 & 114/0) | 58 | Meerut bypass, Sacauti Tande, Muzaffarnagar bypass |
| 51. | Uttar Pradesh | Lucknow Muzaffarpur National Highway Project from Km. 9.000 to Km. 360 | 28 | Barabanki (Km. 20.45), Safaidabad (Km. 82.815), Faizabad Bypass (Km. 1.2, 2 & 11.6), Basti (Km. 200.838), Gorakhpur (Km. 244.2 & 25.945 of GKP Bypass) |
| 52. | Uttar Pradesh | Km. 91.00 to Km. 104.00 | 25 | Fly over-1 no. (at NH-3 crossing on Jhansi Bypass (97.083) and ROB-2 nos. on Jhansi bypass (96.32, 101.401) |
| 53. | Uttar Pradesh | Km 104.00 to Km 170.00 | 25 | ROB-1 no. (near parichha (121.53) |
| 54. | Uttar Pradesh | Km 170.00 to Km 220.00 | 25 | ROB-1 no. (on orai bypass (217) |
| 55. | Uttar Pradesh | Km. 239.441 | 2 | Flyover (Firozabad) |
| 56. | Uttar Pradesh | Km. 218.341 | 2 | ROB (Tundia) |
| 57. | Uttar Pradesh | Km. 264.500 | 2 | ROB (Shikohabad) |
| 58. | Uttar Pradesh | Km. 478 | 2 | ROB (6/1), Kanpur Bypass |
| 59. | Uttar Pradesh | Km. 482 | 2 | ROB (19/1), Kanpur Bypass |
| 60. | Uttar Pradesh | Km. 11 (Kanpur-Varanasi section) | 2 | ROB (Chakeri) |
| 61. | Uttar Pradesh | Km. 160.161 (Allahabad Bypass) | 2 | Grade Separator (Kokhori) |
| 62. | Uttar Pradesh | km. 185.544 | 2 | Flyover (Nawabganj) |
| 63. | Uttar Pradesh | Km. 188.749 | 2 | ROB (Kanja & Madhapur) |
| 64. | Uttar Pradesh | Km. 196.605 | 2 | Flyover (Shivgadh) |
| 65. | Uttar Pradesh | Km. 199.810 | 2 | ROB (Abdulpur-Tulapur) |
| 66. | Uttar Pradesh | Km. 209.075 | 2 | ROB (Derragadhai) |
| 67. | Uttar Pradesh | Km. 216.816 | 2 | Flyover (Bharatpur) |
| 68. | Uttar Pradesh | Km. 240.575 | 2 | ROB cum Grade Separator (Handia) |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|-----------|---|---------|--|
| 69. | Rajasthan | Swaroopganj to Bekariya/0.406 (ROB) | 76 | Pindwara (Sirohi) |
| 70. | Rajasthan | Swaroopganj to Bekariya/0+000 (Flyover) | 76 | Pindwara (Sirohi) |
| 71. | Rajasthan | Gogunda to Udaipur/95+080 (Flyover) | 76 | Amberl (Udaipur) |
| 72. | Rajasthan | Chittorgarh Bypass (joining Km. 159.000 of NH-79 to Km. 213.000 of NH-76) | 79 & 76 | Chittorgarh |
| 73. | Rajasthan | Bharatpur-Mahwa (ROB at 64/3) | 11 | Sewer |
| 74. | Rajasthan | Mahwa-Jaipur (ROB at 178/2) | 11 | Dausa |
| 75. | Rajasthan | Km. 213.00 to Km. 253.00 | 76 | Flyovers—2 nos. (at NH-79 Junction (0.0), at Railam Road Junction (5.16) and ROB—1 no. (on Chittorgarh bypass (6.36)) |
| 76. | Rajasthan | Km 253.00 to Km. 316.00 | 76 | Flyovers-1 no. (at Ladpura crossing (301)) |
| 77. | Rajasthan | Km. 406.00 to Km. 449.15 | 76 | Flyovers-1 no. (at Tathed (411)) and ROB-1 no. (of chambal fertilizer (431.8)) |
| 78. | Rajasthan | Km. 449.15 to Km. 509.00 | 76 | Flyovers-2 nos. (at SH-19 crossing (473), at NH-90 crossing (476) and ROB-1 no. (near NH-90 crossing (476)) |
| 79. | Gujarat | Radhanpur-Deesa Section Km. 458.00 to Km. 372.60 | 14 | Bhildi Km. 394.70 (ROB) |
| 80. | Gujarat | Radhanpur-Deesa Section Km. 458.00 to Km. 372.60 | 14 | Deesa Km. 378.20 (Grade Separator) |
| 81. | Gujarat | Radhanpur-Deesa Section Km. 458.00 to Km. 372.60 | 14 | Radhanpur Km. 458.43 (Grade Separator) |
| 82. | Gujarat | Gagodhar-Radhanpur Section Km. 245.00 to Km. 138.80 | 15 | Malgarh (Varahi) Km. 161.20 (ROB) |
| 83. | Gujarat | Gagodhar-Radhanpur Section Km. 245.00 to Km. 138.80 | 15 | Adesar Km. 217.40 (ROB) |
| 84. | Gujarat | Garamore-Gagodhar Section Km. 254.00 to Km. 308.00 & Km. 281.30 to Km. 245.00 | 8A & 15 | Samakhiyai Km. 281.10 (ROB), Malliya Miyana Km. 267.10 (ROB), Harper (Maliya) Km. 271.74 (ROB) and Samakhiyai Km. 281.66 (Grade Separator) |
| 85. | Gujarat | Bamanbore-Garamore Section Km. 182.60 to Km. 254.00 | 8A | Bamanbore Km. 182.61 (Grade Separator) and Wakaner Km. 210.70 (ROB) |
| 86. | Gujarat | Jetpur to Gondal and Rajkot Bypass Section | 8B | Rajkot Bypass Km. 175.38 (ROB) |
| 87. | Gujarat | (Km. 117.00 to Km. 143.00 and Km. 175.00 to Km. 185.00) & improvement of existing four-lane (km. 143.00 to Km. 175.00 (Gujarat)—(BOT) | 8B | Gondal Km. 142.55 (Grade Separator) |
| 88. | Gujarat | (Km. 117.00 to Km.143.00 and Km.175.00 to Km.185.00) & improvement of existing four-lane (Km. 143.00 to Km. 175.00 (Gujarat)—(BOT) | 8B | Rajkot Bypass Km. 184.39 (Grade Separator) |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|------|----------------|---|----|--|
| 89. | Gujarat | Bhiladi-Jetpur Section Km. 52.50 to Km. 117.00 | 8B | Km. 76.20 Upleta Bypass (ROB) |
| 90. | J&K | ROB at Km. 48.44 of Pathankot Jammu Section of NH-1A | 1A | Hiranagar |
| 91. | J&K | Flyover at Km. 0.00 of Jammu Bypass Kunjawani Junction | 1A | Kunjawani |
| 92. | J&K | Flyover at Km. 9.08 on Srinagar Bypass (Bridge Portion) | 1A | Hyderpora |
| 93. | Punjab | ROB at Km 29+756 | 1A | Bhogpur |
| 94. | Punjab | ROB at Km. 83.00+100 | 1A | Harsa Mansar |
| 95. | Punjab | ROB at Km. 111+444 | 1A | Pathankot |
| 96. | Punjab | ROB at Km. 115+910 | 1A | Pathankot |
| 97. | Punjab | Flyover at Km. 27.500 | 1A | Bhogpur |
| 98. | Punjab | Flyover at Km. 72.00 | 1A | Mukerain |
| 99. | Punjab | Flyover at Km. 110.600 | 1A | Pathankot |
| 100. | Punjab | Jalandhar-Amritsar (409/2, 418/1, 452/1, 456/1 ROB) | 1 | Dhiltwara, Beas, Amritsar pass (2 Nos.) |
| 101. | Punjab | Ambala-Chandigarh (39/0 flyover) | 22 | Zirakpur |
| 102. | Haryana | Flyover at Ch-km. 48.611 on NH-1 | 1 | Murthal |
| 103. | Haryana | Flyover at Ch-km. 62.013 on NH-2 | 1 | Gansur |
| 104. | Haryana | Panipat Elevated Highway Ch. Km. 88.765 to km. 91.812 on NH-1 | 1 | Panipat |
| 105. | Haryana | Ambala-Chandigarh | 22 | Baldevnagar |
| 106. | Madhya Pradesh | Construction of four lane sagar bypass between Km. 187 and 211 | 26 | Flyover at Km. 202.250, Km. 202.950 and ROB at km. 206.050 |
| 107. | Madhya Pradesh | Four laning of Jhansi Lakhnandan Section Km. 255-297 | 26 | Flyover at Km. 297 |
| 108. | Madhya Pradesh | Four laning of Jhansi Lakhnandan Section Km. 297-351 | 26 | ROB Km. 322/300 |
| 109. | Madhya Pradesh | Four laning of Jhansi Lakhnandan Section Km. 351-405.7 | 26 | Flyover at Km. 405/100 |
| 110. | Madhya Pradesh | Indore-Khalghat 1 No. ROB 2609.392 | 3 | Mihow |
| 111. | Madhya Pradesh | Guna bypass (Bina-Kota Section) km. 93.01 (1 ROB) | 3 | Guna bypass |
| 112. | Madhya Pradesh | Indore-Khalghat 1 Grade separator+2 overpasses (km 12.83+13.23) | 3 | Gujri, Neemuch Mihow road |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|------|----------------|---|------------|---|
| 113. | Madhya Pradesh | Km 579.00 to 610.00 of NH-76 and Km. 0.00 to Km. 15.00 of NH-25 | 76 & 25 | Flyovers-1 no. (at Parora (6087.53) and ROB-1 no. (at Kaulara (603.9) |
| 114. | Maharashtra | Overbridge construction at Km. 767.500 at Mahabaleshwar Junction (balance work) | 4 | Surur |
| 115. | Karnataka | Tumkur Bypass (Km. 62 to Km. 75) | 4 | Grade separator near Kytasandra Ch. 62.76 and Grade separator near batawadi @ ch. 66.34 |
| 116. | Karnataka | Chitradurga Bypass (Km. 189 to Km. 207) | 4 | Interchange @ 192.480, Interchange @ 197.315 and Interchange @ 199.976 |
| 117. | Karnataka | Chitradurga-Harihar Section (Km. 207 to Km. 284) | 4 | ROB at Davanagere Ch. 261.00 |
| 118. | Karnataka | Harihar Haveri Section (Km. 284 to Km. 340) | 4 | Fly over near Rantabennur bypass @ Ch. 11.500, ROB @ Ch. 311.00 at Hanumamatti and ROB @ Ch. 328.00 at Nelogal |
| 119. | Karnataka | Devanahalli-Hebbal section km. 539 to Km. 556 & Km. 527—Km. 535—NS—24/KNT | 7 | 3 ROB's at Chickajala, Doddajala and Yelahanka |
| 120. | Karnataka | NH-17 Km. 358 to Km. 375.00 | 17 | Km. 364-365 |
| 121. | Karnataka | NH-48 Km. 328 to Km. 345 | 48 | Km. 328.329 |
| 122. | Karnataka | NH-13 Km. 743.90 to Km. 745.00 | 13 | — |
| 123. | Tamil Nadu | Four-laning and strengthening of Poonamallee Kanchipuram Section of NH-4 from Km. 13/8 to Km. 70/2 | 4 | Noombal (Km. 18/105), Poonamallee (Km. 19/195), Poonamallee (Km 22/400) and Sunguwarachattam (Km. 51/131) |
| 124. | Tamil Nadu | Four laning of Chengalpattu-Tindivanam section from Km. 28/0 to Km. 67/0 of NH-45 including strengthening of the existing four lane section of Tambaram Chengalpattu from Km. 67/0 to Km. 121/0 | 45 | Thozhupedu (Km. 101) (ROB) |
| 125. | Tamil Nadu | Construction of Chennai Bypass Phase-II connecting NH5 and widening of Chennai Bypass Phase-I connecting NH45 & NH4 (Km. 0/0 to Km 32/221) | 45, 4, 5 | ROB at Pattaravakkam (Km 25 of Chennai Bypass) Construction of Trumpet Interchange at Medhavaram (Junction of NH5 and Chennai) Construction of Elevated corridor at Ambathur Industrial estate in Chennai Construction of Grade Separator at Maduravoyal (Junction of NH4 and Chennai Bypass PH-1) |
| 126. | Tamil Nadu | Improvement of access to golden quadrilateral (GQ) Corridor by free flow facilities in Chennai City. It includes improvement of four junctions at Padi, Koyambedu, Kathipara and Airport. Apart from this widening of NH-4 to four-lanes from Km. 9/2 to Km. 13/8 | 205, 4, 45 | Elevated Rotary including ROB at Padi Junction (Km. 81/of NH-205) Grade Separator at Koyambedu Junction in Chennai |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|------|----------------|---|----|---|
| | | | | Grade Separator at Kathipara Junction in Chennai |
| | | | | Construction of Flyover in front of Meenambakkam International Airport in Chennai |
| 127. | Tamil Nadu | Construction of ROB at Km. 183/4 of NH-67 near Lalapet | 67 | Near Lalapet in Krishnarayanpuram Taluk of Karur District |
| 128. | Tamil Nadu | TN-01 from Km. 11.000 to Km. 52.800 | 5 | Karanodai |
| 129. | Orissa | Construction package or-I (Khurda to Bhubaneswar) from Km. 387.700 to Km. 414.00 of Vizag-Bhubaneswar Section and Km. 417.000 to Km. 418.000 of Bhubaneswar Kolkata section | 5 | Flyover-1 at Khurda at km. 394 Flyover-3 at Baramunda in Bhubaneswar city at Km. 414 Flyover I-5 at Jayadev Vihar in Bhubaneswar city at km. 417 |
| 130. | Orissa | Construction package or-V-Construction of 40 major bridges, 6 flyovers, 1 ROB from Chandikhole to Balasore (Km. 61.00 to Km. 199.141 of Bhubaneswar-Kolkata section) | 5 | Flyover-1 at Kuakhia at km. 78 Flyover 2 at Panikoli at Km. 90 Flyover-3 at Bhadrak at km. 124 Flyover-4 at Jamhari at km. 147 Flyover-5 at Balasore bypass at km. 187 Flyover-6 at Remuna Golei in Balasore city at km. 193 ROB at Soroot km |
| 131. | Orissa | ROB at Km. 297.157 under the | 5 | Rambha |
| 132. | Orissa | Flyover at Km. 258.200 under | 5 | Gopeipur junction |
| 133. | Maharashtra | (1.785 Kms.) From Km. 22.865 to Km. 24.650 Butibori ROB (27.400 km.) From Km. 36.600 to Km. 64.000 Borihedi to Jam (30.000 km) from Km. 64.000 to Km. 94.000 Jam to Wadner (29.000 m.) from Km. 94.000 to Km. 123.000 Wadner to Devadri (30.000 km.) from Km. 123.000 to Km. 153.000 Devdari to Kelapur (22.000 km) from km. 153.000 to km. 175.000 Kelapur to Pimpalkutti | 7 | Butibori ROB km. 23.700 of Nagpur Hyderabad Borihedi ROB km. 37.418 of Nagpur Hyderabad Hinghghat ROB (km. 76.380), Overbridges at (Nanduri) km. 74.490 & (Wardha) km. 80.000 of Nagpur Hyderabad Wadki Overbridge km. 113.300 of Nagpur Hyderabad Overbridges at Karanji (Km. 132.850) & Salhi (Km. 139.657) of Nagpur Hyderabad |
| | | | 7 | Pimpalkutti ROB at 173.522 Overbridges at Km. 153.204 (Kelapur) & Km. 169.640 (Bori) of Nagpur Hyderabad |
| 134. | Andhra Pradesh | (22.300 km) from km. 464.000 to km. 474.000 | 7 | Km. 464.560 of Nagpur-Hyderabad section Km. 471.680 of Nagpur-Hyderabad section Km. 21.640 of Hyderabad, Bangalore section |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|------|------------|--|-----|--|
| 135. | Tamil Nadu | Thopurghat to Thumpipadi Km. 163.40 to Km. 180.00 (Tamil Nadu) | 7 | 1 ROB at Thoppur |
| 136. | Tamil Nadu | Thumpipadi to Salem Km. 180.00 to Km. 199.20 | 7 | 1 ROB at Karuppur |
| 137. | Tamil Nadu | Krishnagiri (Km. 94 to Thopurghat (Km. 158) | 7 | 1 ROB at Dharmapuri bypass |
| 138. | Tamil Nadu | Salem (Km. 207.05) to Namakkal (Km. 248.625), | 7 | 1 ROB near Mallur |
| 139. | Tamil Nadu | Dindigul (Km. 373.275) to Semyanallore (Km. 426.6) | 7 | 2 ROB's at Dindigul & Meturgate |
| 140. | Tamil Nadu | Salem (Km.) (Km. 203.96 on NH-7) to Kumarpalayam (Km. 53.00)— | 47 | 2 ROB's at Magudenchavadi & Vaiguntham |
| 141. | Tamil Nadu | Km. 0.00 to Km. 42.000—of Madurai—Kanniyakumari section on NH-7 (Tamil Nadu) | 7 | 2 ROB's at Semyanalur (Madurai-Chennai B.G. Line) & near Keelakuigudi (Madurai-Bodi MG Line) |
| 142. | Tamil Nadu | Km. 42.000 to Km. 80.000 of Madurai—Kanniyakumari section of NH-7 (Tamil Nadu) | 7 | 2 ROB's at Virudhunagar-Rajapalayam BG line & RAMCO Cement factory |
| 143. | Tamil Nadu | Km. 120.000 to Km. 180.000-of Madurai—Kanniyakumari section on NH-7 (Tamil Nadu) | 7 | 2 ROB's at Thalakkuthu BG & Tiruchendur MG. |
| 144. | Tamil Nadu | Km. 160.000 to 203.00—of Madurai—Kanniyakumari section on NH-7 (Tamil Nadu) | 7 | 1 ROB at Sankulam village (Tirunelveli-Nagercoil broad gauge) |
| 145. | Tamil Nadu | Km. 203 to Km. 233.6—of Madurai—Kanniyakumari section on NH-7 (Tamil Nadu) | 7 | 2 ROB's at Kavalkinaru & Kanniyakumari |
| 146. | Tamil Nadu | Between km. 0 and 5.1 of proposed bypass | 45B | Flyover in Trichy Bypass (Trichirappalli city road) |
| | | Between km. 24 and 28.1 of proposed bypass | 45B | Flyover in Viralmalai Bypass |
| | | Between km. 75.6 and 79.2 of proposed bypass | 45B | Flyover in Kottampatti Bypass |
| | | Between in 96.9 and 102.3 of proposed bypass | 45B | Flyover in Metur Bypass (across Metur Thirupattur road) |
| | | | 45B | Flyover in Metur Bypass (across Metur Sivagangai road) |
| | | Km 3 of proposed bypass | 45B | ROB in proposed Trichirappalli bypass alignment |
| 147. | Jharkhand | Km. 357.29 | 2 | ROB (len) |

[English]

AIDS Deaths

3171. SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India had about 4 lakh deaths due to AIDS during the previous year, which is the highest in

the world as reported in the Indian Express dated June 13, 2006;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of AIDS deaths, State-wise and year-wise during the last three years till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI

PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Statement of reported deaths due to AIDS, state-wise, year-wise for

the last three years to 2006 (June) is enclosed. Figures for 2006 are provisional.

Statement

The Reported number of Deaths due to AIDS since Inception (1993—June, 2006)

| Sl.No. | State | Cumulative figure (1993-2000) | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 (June) | Total |
|--------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------|-------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 1. | Andaman and Nicobar Island | 16 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 0 | 36 |
| 2. | Andhra Pradesh | 45 | 53 | 36 | 185 | 237 | 229 | 22 | 807 |
| 3. | Arunachal Pradesh | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 4. | Assam | 9 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 12 |
| 5. | Bihar | 37 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 38 |
| 6. | Chandigarh | 21 | 29 | 22 | 19 | 19 | 27 | 19 | 156 |
| 7. | Chhattisgarh | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 8. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 9. | Daman and Diu | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 10. | Delhi | 142 | 27 | 32 | 29 | 6 | 46 | 6 | 288 |
| 11. | Goa | 14 | 15 | 14 | 20 | 22 | 86 | 0 | 170 |
| 12. | Gujarat | 43 | 20 | 83 | 62 | 30 | 92 | 11 | 341 |
| 13. | Haryana | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11 |
| 14. | Himachal Pradesh | 2 | 0 | 5 | 23 | 13 | 26 | 2 | 71 |
| 15. | Jharkhand | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 11 |
| 16. | Jammu & Kashmir | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 17. | Karnataka | 116 | 27 | 40 | 27 | 28 | 172 | 0 | 410 |
| 18. | Kerala | 152 | 120 | 139 | 120 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 531 |
| 19. | Lakshadweep | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 20. | Madhya Pradesh | 49 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 10 | 15 | 7 | 92 |
| 21. | Maharashtra | 681 | 354 | 404 | 415 | 338 | 194 | 63 | 2449 |
| 22. | Manipur | 147 | 51 | 73 | 133 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 413 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|-------|---------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|------|
| 23. | Meghalaya | 14 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 14 |
| 24. | Mizoram | 7 | 0 | 5 | 11 | 21 | 0 | 0 | 44 |
| 25. | Nagaland | 54 | 28 | 35 | 51 | 82 | 3 | 0 | 253 |
| 26. | Orissa | 13 | 1 | 19 | 79 | 56 | — | 0 | 168 |
| 27. | Pondicherry | 35 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 42 |
| 28. | Punjab | 76 | 12 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 5 | 108 |
| 29. | Rajasthan | 64 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 64 |
| 30. | Sikkim | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| 31. | Tamil Nadu | 522 | 249 | 285 | 351 | 297 | 187 | 0 | 1691 |
| 32. | Tripura | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| 33. | Uttar Pradesh | 37 | 15 | 4 | 23 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 86 |
| 34. | Uttaranchal | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 35. | West Bengal | 39 | 27 | 48 | 62 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 176 |
| Total | | 2346 | 1039 | 1265 | 1620 | 1170 | 1094 | 155 | 6689 |

Checking of Consignment of Medicine

3172. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:
SHRI ANANDRAO VIDHOBHA ADSUL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a consignment of medicine, which was not for human use, has been supplied to Safdarjung Hospital;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any consignment of medicine has to be checked/verified at three different stages before reaching the store of a hospital;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the manner in which the said consignment reached the medical store of the said hospital;

(f) whether the Union Government has conducted any inquiry in the matter;

(g) if so, the outcome thereof;

(h) the action taken against the persons found guilty; and

(i) the concrete measures being taken to avoid recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (i) An antiseptic veterinary 5% Providone Iodine IP solution, meant for local application was received in Safdarjung Hospital alongwith the efficacy certificate from Government approved laboratory. The solution is used for human as well as veterinary use as there is no difference in the quality and strength. As a statutory provision, the label for use of human as well as veterinary should be indicated clearly on the bottle. As soon as this came to the notice of the

hospital authority, the consignment has been sent back to the supplier, the entire cost recovered and the State drug control authority, Drug Controller (General) India have been informed. An enquiry has also been conducted by the hospital, in this matter and concerned staff have been shifted from the store. The existing system of inspection has been strengthened at all levels and the concerned persons have been advised to be careful in future in order to avoid such recurrence.

Development of Research Network Infrastructure

3173. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India allegedly stands at the bottom of the world table in terms of high speed networking and digital connectivity dedicated to research and education;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the country lags in development of research network infrastructure thus affecting support to science and engineering research and education;

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

(e) the steps taken by the Government to augment the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (e) Education and Research Network (ERNET) connect Education and Research Institutions on intranet and internet through a common backbone. The present infrastructure comprises of end-to-end fibre cable links with state-of-the-art network infrastructure which can provide bandwidth capacity upto 155 Mbps. The entire infrastructure can be scaled up with the growth in the traffic on the network. As of today, 150 universities, 274 agricultural universities and research institutions and 77 engineering colleges have been connected through ERNET. 200 Navodaya Schools in rural areas are also connected through ERNET. ERNET is

further connected to Europe Education Research Network (GEANT) and facilitate peer-to-peer connectivity to the Education Institutions in the country with counterparts in Europe. Under a proof of concept phase of National Grid Computing in the country, a project titled—'GARUDA' is designed to connect 45 Educational Research Institutions in 17 cities across the country on a backbone of 2.4 Gbps bandwidth. The institutions connected under the project would access bandwidth upto 100 Mbps depending upon their need.

Centrally Sponsored Schemes

3174. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes which are in force;

(b) the essential features of each of the Schemes; and

(c) the details of Schemes adopted and implemented by the Government of Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) and (b) The number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) in force at the beginning of 2006-07 is reported to be 155. The formulation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes is the responsibility of the concerned administrative Ministry/ Department in consultation with the State Governments/ UTs and are implemented by the State Governments/ UTs/their Agencies. These Schemes are designed with a specific objective(s) and are monitored by the administrative ministries concerned. The names and essential features of these Schemes, as per information available with the Planning Commission is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) adopted and implemented by the Government of Tamil Nadu as informed by the State Government is indicated in Col. 4 of the above stated enclosed Statement.

*Statement**Centrally Sponsored Schemes*

| Sl.No. | Name of the Scheme | Essential features of the scheme | If in operation in Tamil Nadu yes or no |
|---|---|--|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CO-OPERATION | | | |
| 1. | Technology Mission on Cotton/Intensive Cotton Prog. (Mini Mission I & II) | To improve the quality and productivity of cotton cultivation | Yes |
| 2. | Enhancing Sustainability of Dryland Rainfed Farming Systems | To enhance Sustainability of Dryland Rainfed Farming Systems | Yes |
| 3. | Integrated Scheme of Oil Seeds, Pulses, Maize, Oil Palm | To provide varietal research, extension, input support to improve productivity | Yes |
| 4. | Technology Mission on Horticulture for NE Regions | To develop Horticulture in NE Regions | No |
| 5. | Micro Irrigation | To improve the water efficiency and crop productivity | Yes |
| 6. | National Mission on Bamboo Technology and Trade Development | To enhance the production of Bamboo and Trade development | No |
| 7. | National Horticulture Mission | To increase production of horticulture crops by providing backward & forward linkage | Yes |
| 8. | Support of State Extension | To rejuvenate the extension machinery | Yes |
| 9. | Improvement of Agricultural Statistics | To generate estimates of area and production of principal crops | Yes |
| 10. | Macro Management | Supplimentation of States' need for development of agriculture, improving productivity, preventing land degradation, soil & land conservation etc. | Yes |
| 11. | Agriculture Census | Enumeration of information on various aspects of land holdings in the country | Yes |
| DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING | | | |
| 12. | National Project on Cattle and Buffalo Breeding | To provide Animal Husbandry service at door step | Yes |
| 13. | National Project for improvement of Poultry and Small Animals | To provide funds for Projects for improvement of Poultry and Small Animals | Yes |
| 14. | Livestock Insurance | To bear 50% subsidy on livestock cattle & buffalos | No |
| 15. | Livestock Health | To provide assistance for health coverage | Yes |
| 16. | Integrated Dairy Development Project & strengthening infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production | To provide financial support for sick dairy units & to increase clean milk production | Yes |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---|---|--|-----|
| 17. | Development of Inland Aquaculture & Fisheries | Aquaculture in inland water bodies including coastal aquaculture and inland captive fisheries | Yes |
| 18. | National Welfare of Fishermen & Training & Extn. Including HRD | Fishermen insurance, housing, drinking water supply etc. | Yes |
| 19. | Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post Harvest | Development of traditional & mechanised fishing boats, fishing harbours, processing marketing etc. | Yes |
| DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE | | | |
| 20. | Assistance to States for Infrastructure Development for Exports (ASIDE) | Assistance to States for Infrastructure Development for Exports (ASIDE) | Yes |
| DEPARTMENT OF DRINKING WATER SUPPLY | | | |
| 21. | Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme | To provide rural habitations with drinking water | Yes |
| 22. | Central Rural Sanitation Programme | To provide rural sanitation by providing household toilets and sanitary complexes | Yes |
| DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY EDUCATION AND LITERACY | | | |
| 23. | National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education (MDM) | To boost universalisation of primary education and improved nutritional status of students | Yes |
| 24. | Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (including DPEP) | To bring about Universalisation of Elementary Education | Yes |
| 25. | Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalya | Residential scheme of girls belonging to SC/ST/OBC/Minority | Yes |
| 26. | Restructuring & Reorganisation of Teacher Education | To create sound infrastructure for pre-service and in-service training of elementary and secondary school teachers | Yes |
| 27. | Literacy Campaigns and Operation Restoration | To enhance literacy rate | Yes |
| 28. | PL&CE (Conti. Education for new literates) | Continuous learning efforts to literacy programme in the country | Yes |
| 29. | Mahila Samakhya (EAP) | To literate women | No |
| MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS | | | |
| 30. | Common Effluent Treatment Plant | To prevent pollution of environment through effluents of SSI | Yes |
| 31. | Environment Management in Heritage, Pilgrimage and Tourist Centres including Taj Protection Mission | To manage and protect Taj | No |
| 32. | Biosphere Reserves | To preserve biological and cultural diversity of the target areas | Yes |
| 33. | National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) | To clean up major polluted river stretches | Yes |
| 34. | NRCP (EAP) | To supplement investment through foreign aid in cleaning up major polluted river stretches | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----|---|--|-----|
| 35. | National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP) | For conservation and management of polluted and degraded lakes | No |
| 36. | Project Tiger | To ensure maintenance of a viable population of tigers in India | Yes |
| 37. | Project Elephant | To ensure long term survival of identified viable population of elephants | Yes |
| 38. | Conservation and Management of Mangroves, Coral Reefs and Wet Lands | For intensive conservation and management of coral reefs and wetlands | Yes |
| 39. | Development of National Parks & Sanctuaries | To provide financial and technical assistance to protected areas of the country | Yes |
| 40. | National Afforestation Scheme (NAS) | To restore ecological balance of forests and to green the urban areas in Tamil Nadu | Yes |
| 41. | Integrated Forest Protection Scheme (IFP) | Strengthening of infrastructure for forest protection and fire control and management | Yes |
| 42. | Gregarious Flowering of Muli Bamboos | To deal with menace of proliferation of seeds resulting from flowering of bamboo; harvesting of bamboo etc. | No |
| | DEPARTMENT OF ISM&H (now AYUSH) | | |
| 43. | Development of Institutions | Financial assistance is provided to Govt., Govt.-Aided & Pvt. Colleges/institution as for upgradation of buildings, library etc. | Yes |
| 44. | Hospitals and Dispensaries | To provide assistance of establishment of ISM poly clinics, therapy clinics, speciality clinics etc. | Yes |
| 45. | Drugs Quality Control | To strengthen the State Drug Testing Laboratories and Pharmacies | Yes |
| | DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH | | |
| 46. | National Leprosy Eradication Programme | Elimination of leprosy through private & public health facilities | Yes |
| 47. | National Tuberculosis Control Programme | To achieve a cure rate of 85% of new sputum +ive cases and detect at least 70% of such cases | Yes |
| 48. | National AIDS Control Programme including Blood Safety Measures and National S.T.D. Control Programme | To reduce growth of HIV infection | Yes |
| 49. | National Programme for Control of Blindness | Reduction in prevalence of blindness to 0.8% | Yes |
| 50. | National Vector Borne Disease Control Prog | To reduce incidence of malaria, Kala-azar, Japanese Encephalitis, Dengue and elimination of Lymphatic Filariasis | Yes |
| 51. | National Cancer Control Programme | Detection, diagnosis & prevention of Cancer | Yes |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---|---|--|-----|
| 52. | National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme | To control and prevent Iodine Deficiency Disorder in the Country | Yes |
| 53. | National Mental Health Programme | To ensure minimum mental health care | Yes |
| 54. | New Initiatives (Tele Medicine, Diabetes and Deafness) | Control of Diabetes/CVDs, Deafness & expanding the area of telemedicine | Yes |
| 55. | Assistance to States for Capacity building (drug quality) | Upgrading and strengthening the emergency health care services in State Hospitals for accident victims | Yes |
| 56. | Assistance to states for Capacity Building for drug & PFA | To ensure safety and quality of food and drugs for public | Yes |
| DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY & PROMOTION | | | |
| 57. | Growth Centre Scheme | To make industrial development in certain growth centres | Yes |
| 58. | Central Capital Investment Scheme-NER | Dev. of North East Region | No |
| 59. | Central Interest Subsidy Scheme-NER | Dev. of North East Region | No |
| 60. | Comprehensive Insurance Scheme | To cover hilly & difficult areas under insurance scheme | No |
| 61. | Package for Special category States J&K | Dev. of J&K | No |
| 62. | Capital Investment Subsidy (old) | Dev. of North East Region | No |
| MINISTRY OF LABOUR | | | |
| 63. | Rehabilitation of Bonded Labour | To rehabilitate Bonded Labour | Yes |
| 64. | Estt. of new ITIs in North Eastern States & Sikkim & J&K | Dev. of new ITIs in NE States, Sikkim and J&K | No |
| 65. | Testing and Certification of skills of workers in the informal sector | Testing and Certification of skills of workers in the informal sector | No |
| 66. | Upgradation of 100 ITIs | Upgradation of 100 ITIs | Yes |
| DEPTT. OF LAND RESOURCES | | | |
| 67. | Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP) | To integrate development of wasteland, degraded lands based on village/micro watershed plans | Yes |
| 68. | Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) | To minimize the adverse impact of drought on the production of crops and livestock, productivity of land water and human resources | Yes |
| 69. | Desert Development Programme (DDP) | Desert Development | No |
| 70. | Modernisation of Revenue and Land Admn. (MORALA) | To make records available to the people/planners by modernisation of revenue and land records | Yes |
| 71. | Bio-fuels | To supplement energy needs | Yes |
| 72. | Others schemes-EAP | To supplement resources through EAP for development of land resources | No |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|--|--|---|-----|
| MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE (Deptt. of Justice) | | | |
| 73. | Development of Infrastructure Facilities for the Judiciary | Development of Infrastructure Facilities for the Judiciary | Yes |
| MINISTRY OF NON CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES | | | |
| 74. | Small Hydro Power | To supplement Power generation | Yes |
| 75. | SPV Demonstration | To supplement energy needs | Yes |
| 76. | National Project on Bio-gas Development (NPBD) | To produce Bio-gas energy | Yes |
| 77. | IREP (Integrated Rural Energy Programmes) | To encourage Integrated Rural Energy | Yes |
| DEPARTMENT OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS | | | |
| 78. | Roads/Bridges of Inter-State and Economic Importance | Development of roads & bridges of inter-state and economic importance | Yes |
| 79. | Model Driver Training School | To provide training to drivers | No |
| DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT | | | |
| 80. | Rural Housing/Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) | To construct houses to be given to the poor, free of cost | Yes |
| 81. | Swarn Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) | To bring the assisted poor families (swarozgaris) above the poverty line | Yes |
| 82. | District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) Admn. | To effectively manage the anti poverty with other agencies like PRIs, NGOs, financial & technical institutions etc. | Yes |
| 83. | Sampurna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) | To provide additional wage employment in all rural areas and thereby provide food security and improve nutritional levels | Yes |
| 84. | Training | To provide training | Yes |
| 85. | Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) | PMGSY programme has been rephased to achieve Bharat Nirman Target of connecting 1000 + habitations (500 + for hill States, deserts and tribals areas) by 2009 | Yes |
| 86. | Food for Work (National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme-NREGA) | To enhance livelihood security of the people in rural areas by generating wage employment through works that develop the infrastructure base of that area | Yes |
| 87. | Provision for urban amenities in Rural Areas (PURA) | To provide urban amenities in Rural Areas | Yes |
| DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT | | | |
| 88. | Integrated Child Development Services | To provide integrated services like supplementary nutrition, immunisation, health checkups etc. | Yes |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---|---|---|-----|
| 89. | World Bank Assisted ICDS Projects | Objective like above scheme besides facilities ICDS buildings, outdoor and indoor play equipment, display boards etc. | Yes |
| 90. | Integrated Women's Empowerment Programme (Swayamsiddha) | Promote empowerment of women through SHG, promoting thrift and credit activities | Yes |
| 91. | Training of ICDS functionaries (UDISHA) | To provide regular and innovative & area specific training to ICDS functionaries | Yes |
| 92. | Swashakti Project | To empower the women through establishment of women SHG's, strengthening of institutional capacity of support agencies etc. | |
| 93. | Balika Samridhi Yojana | To provide a one time grant to the mother of a girl child and providing scholarship from Class-I to X | |
| 94. | National Nutrition Mission | To spell out policy direction from nutrition-related programmes and effective coordination of different nutrition Programmes | |
| MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS | | | |
| 95. | Scheme of PMS, Book banks and Upgradation of Merit of ST Students | To provide books etc. for upgradation of merit of ST students | Yes |
| 96. | Research & Mass Education, Tribal Festivals and Others | To provide research & mass education for upgradation of merit of ST students | Yes |
| 97. | Ashram Schools in TSP areas | Ashram Schools in TSP areas | Yes |
| 98. | Scheme of Hostels for ST girls and boys | To provide Hostels for ST girls and boys | Yes |
| 99. | Information Technology | Development of Information technology for upgradation of merit of tribal students | Yes |
| DEPARTMENT OF SECONDARY & HIGHER EDUCATION | | | |
| 100. | Integrated Education for Disabled Children (IEDC) | To provide educational opportunities to disabled children in common schools to facilitate the intigration and ultimate retention in the general school system | Yes |
| 101. | National Merit Scholarship Scheme | To support talented students and encourage them to excel academically in studies | Yes |
| 102. | Area Intensive Modernisation of Maderasas Programme | To modernise Madararas by providing basic educational infrastructure in schools | Yes |
| 103. | Vocational Education & Training | To provide vocational education & training | Yes |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|--|--|---|-----|
| 104. | Access and Equity | Strengthening of boarding and hostel facilities in the schools for girls | |
| 105. | Information and Communication in Schools (ICT in Schools) | To provide computer aided education to secondary and higher secondary Govt. schools | |
| 106. | Development of Sanskrit Edn. | To encourage students to study Sanskrit | Yes |
| 107. | Appointment of Language Teachers | To provide financial assistance for paying the salaries and allowances to teachers appointed for teaching modern Indian languages | No |
| 108. | Assistance to states for new polytechnics | To provide assistance to states for polytechnics | Yes |
| DEPARTMENT OF SHIPPING | | | |
| 109. | Inland Water Transportation Scheme implemented by States | Development of Inland Water Transportation | No |
| MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT | | | |
| 110. | Scheduled Caste Development Corporations (SCDCs) | Development of Scheduled Caste people | Yes |
| 111. | Implementation of PCR Act, 1955 & the SC/ST (POA) Act, 1989 | To protect Scheduled Caste/Tribe people under PCR Act-1955 and the SC/ST (POA) Act, 1989 | Yes |
| 112. | Post Matric Scholarships and Book banks for SC Students | To provide Post Matric Scholarships and Book banks for SC Students | Yes |
| 113. | Merit based Scholarships and Book banks for SC Students | To provide Merit based Scholarships for OBC and minority students | Yes |
| 114. | Scheme for Prevention and Control of Juvenile Social Mal-adjustment | For prevention and control of Juvenile and social mal-adjustment | Yes |
| 115. | Pre-Matric Scholarships for Children those engaged in unclean occupation | Scholarships for children engaged in unclean occupation | Yes |
| 116. | Hostels for SC & OBC boys and girls | To provide hostels for SC & OBC boys and girls | Yes |
| 117. | Coaching and Allied scheme for SCs/OBCs & other weaker sections | Coaching and Allied scheme for SCs/OBCs & other weaker sections | Yes |
| 118. | Up-gradation of Merit of SC Students | For upgradation of Merit of SC Students | Yes |
| MINISTRY OF TOURISM | | | |
| 119. | Product/Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits | For improvement of existing tourism products and developing new products | Yes |
| MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT & POVERTY ALLEVIATION | | | |
| 120. | SJSRY | To provide employment to Urban poor | Yes |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
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| 121. | Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana (VAMBAY) | To provide dwelling units to Urban poor | Yes |
| 122. | Integrated Low Cost Sanitation Programme (ILCS) | To provide Low Cost Sanitation to Urban poor | Yes |
| | MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT | | |
| 123. | Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme for Small Towns | To provide Water Supply for small towns in Urban areas | Yes |
| 124. | Mega City | Development of Infrastructure in Mega Cities | Yes |
| 125. | Integrated Development of Small & Medium Towns (IDSMT) | Infrastructure development in small and medium towns | Yes |
| 126. | National Urban Information System (NUIS) | To strengthen the information systems in the urban areas | Yes |
| 127. | Pooled Finance Development Fund | To provide financial assistance to Urban Local Bodies | |
| | MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES | | |
| 128. | Command Area Development & Water Management Programme | To bridge the gap between irrigation and potential created and utilised | Yes |
| 129. | Rationalization of Minor Irrigation Statistics | Data collection for compiling and maintaining minor irrigation details of the states | Yes |
| 130. | Critical Anti-erosion works in Ganga Basin States and maintenance of flood protection embankments in Kosi and Gandak | Anti-erosion works in Ganga Basin States and maintenance of flood protection embankments in Kosi and Gandak | No |
| | MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS | | |
| 131. | National Service Scheme | Aims at arousing social consciousness of the youth with overall objective of personality development | Yes |
| 132. | Scheme Relating to Infrastructure | Scheme Relating to Infrastructure | Yes |
| | MINISTRY OF TEXTILES | | |
| 133. | Handloom Export Scheme | To impart assistance to the handloom agencies for developing and marketing export worthy handloom products | Yes |
| 134. | Deen Dayal Hathikargha Pratsahan Yojana | It is a comprehensive project oriented assistance to handloom organisations | Yes |
| 135. | Cotton Technology Mission (Mini Mission-III & IV) | Dev. of Cotton Technology through Mini Missions | Yes |
| 136. | Catalytic Development Programme (Sericulture) | To increase the productivity and quality of sericulture | Yes |
| 137. | Weavers Welfare Scheme (Handlooms) | To help handloom weavers with schemes like Health package, Thrift Fund, New insurance Scheme, Group Insurance Scheme etc. | Yes |
| 138. | Workshed-Cum-Housing Scheme | Executed through State Governments through handloom development corporations primary cooperative societies etc. | Yes |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|------|---|--|-----|
| | MINISTRY OF AGRO & RURAL INDUSTRIES | | |
| 139. | Cooperativisation of Coir Industries | To bring coir workers into the cooperative fold and protect them from exploitation by middle men | Yes |
| | DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE | | |
| 140. | Rural FW Services (Sub-Centres) | To provide basic drugs for minor ailments needed for taking care of essential health needs of men, women & children | Yes |
| 141. | Urban FW Services | To provide grant to States & UTs for salary of staff, expenditure on rent contingency as per approved norms | Yes |
| 142. | Direction & Administration | To meet contingent expenditure for district and state family welfare Bureau, rural family welfare centres & to provide for vehicle with POL | Yes |
| 143. | Area Projects | To overcome the constraint faced by FW programme like weak infrastructure, poor skills of health functionaries and inadequate and poor quality of services | Yes |
| 144. | Grants to State Training Institutions | To provide grants to state training institutions | Yes |
| 145. | Free distribution of contraceptives | Free distribution of contraceptives | Yes |
| 146. | Sterilization | To provide sterilization facilities for women | Yes |
| 147. | Immunisation-Routine | To improve the implementation of immunization programme as per the guidelines issued by the GOI | Yes |
| 148. | Pulse Polio Immunisation | To accelerate the pace of polio eradication | Yes |
| 149. | Procurement of Supplies & Materials | Procurement of condoms, oral contraceptive, pills, IUDs, laproscopic and tubal rings etc. | Yes |
| 150. | Training | To pursue responsibilities of organizing and Reproductive, RCH training activities | Yes |
| 151. | Flexible Pool for State PIPs consisting of (RCH Flexi Pool & Mission Flexible Pool) | RCH II is the flagship programme of GOI on Reproductive, Child and Maternal Health under NRHM | Yes |
| 152. | Information, Education and Communication | To encourage health seeking behaviour that are physiblle in the context in which people live and are also amenable to change | Yes |
| 153. | Family Welfare Linked Health Insurance Plan | To provide insurance cover to all persons undergoing sterilization operation | Yes |
| | DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE | | |
| 154. | Setting up of Multi-purpose cultural complexes for children | Taking art and culture closer to people so that aesthetic and cultural activities of people remain active | |
| | MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ | | |
| 155. | Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Yojana | Capacity building of representatives of PRI and infrastructure development including e-governance | |

Flexibility in Labour Laws

3175. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has underlined the need for "inclusive" growth while the Rajasthan and Gujarat Governments sought flexibility in labour laws to boost foreign direct investment in the draft approach paper to the Eleventh Plan;

(b) if so, whether the Planning Commission has urged the State Governments to provide suggestions for more effective implementation of Centrally sponsored schemes;

(c) if so, the suggestions given to the Planning Commission in this regard; and

(d) the reaction of the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) In the draft Approach Paper to the Eleventh Five Year Plan, the Planning Commission has underlined the need for "inclusive" growth. In the regional consultations on draft Approach Paper to the Eleventh Plan, Chief Ministers of Rajasthan and Gujarat have suggested flexibility in labour laws for attracting foreign direct investment.

(b) In the regional consultations with Chief Ministers of States and Union Territories, the Planning Commission has requested for suggestions on effective implementation of centrally sponsored schemes.

(c) and (d) No concrete proposals have been received by the Planning Commission.

Drugs under Pharmaco Vigilance Programme

3176. SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has put certain drugs under its Pharmaco Vigilance Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any adverse reaction has been discovered about any of the medicines put under the programme during the last six months; and

(d) if so, the decision taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Some drugs like Phenylbutazone, Cisapride, Furazolidone, Statins, Phenylpropanolamine, Droperidol, COX-II inhibitors, Nimesulide, Analgin, Sildenafil and Gatifloxacin have been put under focused monitoring for possible adverse drug reactions.

During the last six months, no serious adverse drug reaction has been reported for these medicines.

Setting up of Laboratories

3177. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of drug testing laboratories located in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposes to set up laboratories in various metros to assess the quality of Indian drugs;

(c) if so, the amount proposed to be spent for the same;

(d) whether the Government also proposes to set up Hi-tech drug testing laboratories in various parts of the country; and

(e) if so, the estimated cost of setting up of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) There are 22 drug testing laboratories functioning in the States and 5 drug testing laboratories under Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO). Besides this, Central Drug Laboratory at Kasauli is engaged in testing of vaccines and National Institute of Biologicals (NIB) under the Ministry is engaged in testing of diagnostic kits. The details of the locations of the laboratories are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) to (e) There is no proposal with the Government to set up additional drug testing laboratories in various metros of the country.

Statement*List of Existing State Drug Testing Laboratories*

| | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| Madhya Pradesh | 1 |
| Gujarat | 1 |
| Tamil Nadu | 2 |
| Maharashtra | 2 |
| Karnataka | 1 |
| Rajasthan | 1 |
| West Bengal | 1 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 1 |
| Punjab | 1 |
| Haryana | 1 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 2 |
| Pondicherry | 1 |
| Goa | 1 |
| Kerala | 1 |
| Delhi | 1 |
| Tripura | 1 |
| Orissa | 1 |
| Jammu and Kashmir | 2 |
| Total | 22 |

List of New State Drug Testing Laboratories which are being set up in newly created States

Rudrapur (Uttaranchal)
Raipur (Chhattisgarh)
Ranchi (Jharkhand)

List of existing Central Drug Testing Laboratories

CDL, Kolkata
CDTL, Chennai
CDTL, Mumbai
RDTL, Guwahati
CIPL, Ghaziabad

New Central Drug Testing Laboratory which is being set up

RDTL, Chandigarh

Pending Projects of Karnataka

3178. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pre-sanctioned projects of Karnataka pending with the Planning Commission for financial assistance as on June 30, 2006;

(b) the details thereof;

(c) the time since when these projects are pending; and

(d) the provisions made for granting sanction to these projects alongwith the details of the action taken during the year 2005-06?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) No, Sir. There are no pre-sanctioned projects of Karnataka pending with Planning Commission.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Commission on AIDS

3179. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chairman of the PM's Economic Advisory Council is to hold world first independent commission on AIDS;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the main functions of this commission;

(d) the number of countries likely to be represented in this commission;

(e) whether the role of the commission is advisory in nature; and

(f) if so, the extent to which this commission likely to resolve the problem of AIDS in Asia-pacific region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Independent Commission on AIDS for Asia and the Pacific is an initiative taken by UNAIDS. The Commission is an

independent body of experts to study the socio economic implications and impact of HIV and AIDS on the countries in the Asia and Pacific Region. The Chairman of the PM's Economic Advisory Council in his individual capacity has been requested by UNAIDS to Chair the Commission.

(c) The main functions of the Commission are to assess the status of AIDS epidemic and programmes in place for prevention and control, analyze the socio-economic impact at household, community, workplace and societal levels as well as analyze medium and long term implications of HIV on the socio-economic environment in the effected countries.

(d) The Commission is comprised of 10 experts from 7 different countries.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The report of the Commission is likely to be an advocacy document for enhancing effective measures for the prevention and control of HIV/AIDS in the Region.

Advanced Surveillance System

3180. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of ports in which Advanced Surveillance System has been presently introduced and the salient features thereof;

(b) whether the Government proposes to install the same in various ports in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which this system is likely to be installed?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) Various security enhancement measures have been taken by the Major Ports in conformity with International Code for Security of Ships and Port (ISPS) Facilities which came into force on 1st July, 2004. As per the Terms of the Code, ports have developed measures to enhance security of port facilities, ships, persons, cargo etc. taking into account the threat perception to the port facilities. This includes measures like verification of identity, enhanced patrolling, installation of close circuit TVs, intruder alarms

etc. All major ports in India are ISPS complaint. To enhance the level of security and surveillance Major Ports of Kolkata, Mumbai, Jawaharlal Nehru, New Mangalore and Mormugao have also installed Vessel Traffic Management System (VTMS) which regulates the arrival of vessels in the Port channel and monitors the vessel's real time position.

[Translation]

Low Rate of Employment Generation

3181. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:
SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employment generation has been very low vis-a-vis increasing labour force despite economic growth in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the growth rate of employment which was 2.7 in 1983-84 has come down to one per cent;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(f) whether the Asian Development Bank has expressed its concern over the aforesaid trend;

(g) if so, whether the Government has fixed any target to increase annual employment generation rate;

(h) if so, the details thereof; and

(i) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) and (b) As per quinquennial rounds on employment and unemployment of National Sample Survey Organisation conducted in 1983 (38th round), 1993-94 (50th round) and 1999-2000 (55th round), between 1983 to 1993-94, labour force growth was 2.43 per cent per annum and employment growth was 2.7 per cent per annum on CDS basis. During the period 1993-94 and 1999-2000, labour force increased by 1.31 per cent per annum and employment increased by 1.07 per cent per annum. Both labour force and employment declined sharply during this period.

(c) and (d) The growth rate of employment in various sectors of the economy for the periods 1983 to 1993-94 and 1993-94 to 1999-2000 are given in the table below:

Table: Growth Rate of Employment on Current Daily Status basis

| Sectors | Employment Growth (% per annum) | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| | 1983 and 1993-94 | 1993-94 and 1999-2000 |
| Agriculture | 2.23 | 0.02 |
| Mining and Quarrying | 3.68 | -1.91 |
| Manufacturing | 2.26 | 2.58 |
| Electricity, Gas and Water | 5.31 | -3.55 |
| Construction | 4.18 | 5.21 |
| Trade, Hotels & Restaurant | 3.80 | 5.72 |
| Transport, Storage etc. | 3.35 | 5.53 |
| Financing Insurance etc. | 4.60 | 5.40 |
| Community Social Services | 3.85 | -2.08 |
| All Sectors | 2.70 | 1.07 |

It may be seen that employment in the later period has declined mainly due to decline in employment in the sectors like agriculture, mining, electricity and community services.

(e) The Tenth Plan envisaged creation of 50 million employment opportunities over the plan period. For employment generation, the Tenth Plan identified labour intensive sectors and sub sectors like agriculture and allied activities, agro forestry, energy, plantation for bio-mass power generation, small and medium enterprises including village industries, information and communication technology and provision of education, health, family and child welfare services. Stress has also been given to wasteland and watershed development to increase employment.

(f) Asian Development Bank has mentioned in their "Country Strategy and Programme Update 2006-2008: India" that employment growth has lagged in India.

(g) to (i) No target has been fixed to increase annual employment generation rate beyond the Tenth Plan.

Cleaning of Godavari River

3182. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for cleaning of river Godavari and construction of its Ghats forwarded by the State Government of Maharashtra is pending with the Planning Commission;

(b) if so, the status thereof along with the funds to be allocated for this purpose so far;

(c) whether many MPs from Maharashtra have also made a written request with regard thereto; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) No proposal relating to cleaning of River Godavari and construction of its Ghats is pending in Planning Commission.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Union Minister of Agriculture addressed a letter to Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission in January, 2006 requesting for inclusion of Pollution Abatement Works on River Godavari at Paithan Town in Aurangabad District of Maharashtra. This letter was processed in Planning Commission in consultation with Ministry of Environment & Forest (MOEF). The MOEF indicated that the State Government had forwarded a Detailed Project Report (DPR) to that Ministry on the said proposal in September, 2005. On scrutiny, the MOEF noticed that the DPR was lacking in some details and the State Government was requested in January, 2006 and again in July, 2006 to revise the DPR. However, the State Government's response is reported to be still awaited by the MOEF.

[English]

Sports Promotion Scheme

3183. SHRI RANEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is considering to launch a sports promotion scheme for rural women sportspersons in the country;

(b) if so, the main features of the scheme;

(c) whether the State Governments are to be associated in the implementation of the scheme; and

(d) if so, the time by which this scheme is likely to be launched?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) The National Sports Championship for Women and the Special Scholarship for Women are available to talented women sportspersons, including rural women sportspersons. The main features of these two schemes are detailed in the enclosed Statement.

Besides, the following schemes of the Sports Authority of India (SAI) also promote women's participation in sports.

1. National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC)
2. SAI Training Centre (STC)
3. Special Area Games (SAG) Scheme.
4. Centres of Excellence (COX).

(c) and (d) State Governments are consulted by SAI while processing proposals under these Schemes.

Statement

I. National Sports Championship for women

The scheme started in 1975, aims at promoting sports amongst women. Under the scheme, national level competitions are preceded by holding of lower level competitions (Block, District & State level) for which States/UTs are provided financial assistance as per norms. The scheme is implemented through the Sports Authority of India. The pattern being followed at present for Central financial assistance is as under:

- (i) For Block level competitions Rs. 1000/- per block
- (ii) For Distt. level competitions Rs. 3000/- per Distt.
- (iii) For State level Competitions Rs. 10,000/- per State
- (iv) For smaller States and UTs Rs. 5,000/- per State or U.T.

However, Central financial assistance for block level competitions is restricted to 60% of total blocks where competitions are held in a State and for the remaining 40% of the blocks, the State concerned is advised to share the full expenditure.

II. Special Scholarships for women

Special scholarships for women these scholarships have three components, namely; Scholarship for senior women champions, under which scholarship @ Rs. 1000/- per month *i.e.* Rs. 12,000/- per annum is provided. Scholarship for women doing diploma in sports coaching at a SAI center, under which scholarship @ Rs. 6000/- per course is awarded. Scholarship for women doing M. Phil./Ph. D. in Physical Education under which scholarship @ Rs. 6000/- per annum is awarded for a maximum period of 3 years.

The scheme has recently been revised with the following enhancement in the rates of scholarships. State level Scholarship (Category-I), @ Rs. 550/- per month *i.e.* Rs. 6600/- per annum (12 months) National level Scholarship (Category-II) @ Rs. 700/- per month *i.e.* Rs. 8400/- per annum (12 months). University/College level Scholarship (Category-III) @ Rs. 850 per month, *i.e.* Rs. 10,200/- per annum (12 months). Scholarship for senior women champions, @ Rs. 1500/- per month, *i.e.* Rs. 18,000/- per annum. Scholarship for women doing diploma @ Rs. 7,500/- per course. Scholarship for women doing M. Phil/Ph. D. @ Rs. 10,000/- per annum.

Coaching by SAI

3184. SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPAPARAI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of coaching provided by the Sports Authority of India (SAI) during the last three years;

(b) the criteria set by SAI for providing coaching facilities;

(c) whether there is any decline of talented sports youths in our country; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to promote talented sportspersons?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The details of coaching/training provided by Sports Authority of India (SAI) under its various schemes during the last three years are as under:

| Sl.No. | Name of the Scheme | Number of Sportspersons provided coaching/training (year-wise) | | |
|--------|--|--|---------|---------|
| | | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 |
| (i) | National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC) Scheme | 2130 | 2237 | 2216 |
| (ii) | Army Boys Sports Company (ABSC) Scheme | 702 | 738 | 830 |
| (iii) | Special Area Games (SAG) Scheme | 1378 | 1388 | 1390 |
| (iv) | SAI Training Centre (STC) Scheme | 5465 | 5502 | 5790 |
| (v) | Centre of Excellence (COX) Scheme | 371 | 400 | 404 |

(b) Induction of talented sportspersons under these schemes is done on the basis of selection trials conducted on all India basis.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) While there does not appear to be any decline in talented sports youth in the country, the steps being taken by the Government to promote talented sportspersons are detailed in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

| Sl.No. | Schemes of Government of India |
|--------|---|
| 1 | 2 |
| 1. | Schemes of incentives for promotion of sports activities: |
| | (i) Promotion of Sports and Games in Schools. |
| | (ii) Sports Scholarship Scheme. |
| | (iii) Rural Sports Programme. |
| | (iv) National Sports Development Fund. |
| | (v) Sports Fund for Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons. |
| 2. | Scheme relating to Talent Search and Training. |
| 3. | Scheme relating to Awards: |
| | (i) Scheme of Special Awards to Winners in International Sports events and their Coaches. |

| 1 | 2 |
|----|---|
| | (ii) Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratan Award. |
| | (iii) Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy |
| 4. | Scheme for the Dhyana Chand Awards for Life time achievement in Sports and Games. |
| 5. | Scheme for Arjuna Award for outstanding performance in Sports and Games. |
| 6. | Scheme for Dronacharya Award for outstanding Coaches in Sports and Games. |
| 7. | National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons. |
| 8. | National Sports Championship for Women. |
| 9. | Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations. |

HIV-Infections in Young People

3185. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 40,000 cases of HIV-infections have been recorded in Manipur in young people between the age group 18 to 24 years as mentioned by the Director, National AIDS Control Organisation recently; and

(b) if so, the details of the study report, based on which, such a huge number of HIV-infections in this age group has been recorded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI

PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) As per the size estimation exercise undertaken for formulating the third phase of National AIDS Control Programme, there are an estimated 28,086 Injecting Drug Users (IDUs) in the state of Manipur. The annual sentinel surveillance conducted among IDUs showed HIV infection rate ranging from 39% to 21% in the last four years. Considering this trend of HIV prevalence among IDUs, a cumulative total number of HIV infected persons in the State may vary from 23,520 to 43,680 during the last four years. Most IDUs are approximately 20 years of age as per survey done in 2004.

(b) This estimation is based on the following studies:

- Size estimation studies conducted for NACP III
- Annual Sentinel Surveillance Report 2005
- National Household Survey conducted by UNODC & MSJE in 2004.

Rehabilitation of Land Oustees

3186. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) has acquired land for Kamtee open cast mine at Gondagaon without rehabilitating the land oustees;

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

(c) whether the WCL has chalked out any rehabilitation programme for land oustees;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the time by which these families are likely to be rehabilitated; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (b) No land of Gondagaon has been acquired for Kamtee open cast mine. However, Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) is in the process of acquiring land in Gondagaon village for Inder Underground to Opencast Project. Proposal for acquisition of land submitted to the Collector, Nagpur on 17.4.2006 is under scrutiny by Government of Maharashtra.

(c) and (d) WCL has chalked out programme for rehabilitation of Gondagaon village at new resettlement site. The proposal for acquiring resettlement site measuring 21.93 hectares of land at village Kandri under Land Acquisition Act has been submitted to Collector, Nagpur on 9.5.2006 which is under scrutiny with Special Land Acquisition Officer, Nagpur.

(e) and (f) The entire rehabilitation process is expected to be completed by March, 2007.

Mining by WBMDC

3187. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has given permission to West Bengal Mineral Development Corporation for mining in the area of Barjora in the district of Bankura in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the mouzas of Barjora, Beliatme, Mejia and Gangajalghati of Bankura district will be mined by the E.C.L.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the same will be permitted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (b) The Central Government has allocated Trans Damodar Sector coal block near Barjora, Burdwan District in West Bengal to West Bengal Mineral Development and Trading Corporation Limited (WBMDTCL). However, mining lease is granted by the concerned State Government.

(c) and (d) The mauzas, namely, Barjora, Gangajal Ghati, Beliatore and Mejia near Barjora and Bankura district are not included in the future production programme of Eastern Coalfields Ltd. (ECL).

Criteria for Arjuna Awards

3188. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for selection of Arjuna Awards;

(b) the reaction of Ministry regarding doubts expressed by renowned sportspersons every year over the transparency adopted for the selection of awards;

(c) whether the Union Government has taken any steps to avoid such controversies;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether it is a fact that despite showing good performance, some deserving sportspersons are deprived of the Awards;

(f) if so, the details thereof and the names of such sportspersons; and

(g) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) As per the Scheme for Arjuna Awards, to be eligible for the Award, a sportsperson should have had not only good performance consistently for the previous three years at the International level with excellence for the year for which the Award is recommended but also should have shown qualities of leadership, sportsmanship and a sense of discipline. For this purpose, only sportspersons from the disciplines falling under following categories are considered:-

(i) Olympic Games/Asian Games/Commonwealth Games/World Cup/World Championship disciplines or any equivalent recognized international tournament, and cricket.

(ii) Indigenous Games.

(iii) Sports for Physically challenged.

(b) to (g) The Arjuna Awards are decided by a Selection Committee comprising 15 members, of which 12 (including the Chairman of the Committee) involve eminent sportspersons, Olympians of eminence, Arjuna Awardees or Sports Administrators.

Nominations are called from recognized National Sports Federations, Indian Olympic Association, States/UT Governments and Sports Promotion/Control Boards of various Government agencies every year in the month of January and nominations received by 31st May are scrutinized by the Sports Authority of India and placed

before a Screening Committee for verification of performances indicated in the nomination paper. The performance of each nominee is further scrutinized and discussed in the Selection Committee meeting. Only 15 awards can be given in a calendar year, for which selection is made by the Committee after due deliberation and consideration of all the nominations received. The possibility of a sportsperson, being personally aggrieved at not being selected cannot be ruled out. Every effort is made to ensure that the selection is made in an objective manner.

[Translation]

Labs at Sea-Ports

3189. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sea-ports in the country, State-wise;

(b) the details of the quantum of food materials received from foreign countries at these ports during the last three years;

(c) whether additional fare is required to be paid if unloading of the goods takes undue delay in these ports;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether lab test of these food materials are undertaken before unloading it;

(f) if so, the facts thereof;

(g) whether such labs are there at the ports itself or such tests are to be got done from Mysore etc.;

(h) if so, whether the Government proposes to establish such labs at these sea ports; and

(i) if so, the time by which this is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) There are 12 major ports and 187 non-major ports in the country. The state-wise details are as under:-

| West Coast | Number of major ports | Number of non-major ports | East Coast | Number of major ports | Number of non-major ports |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Gujarat | 1 | 40 | Tamil Nadu | 3 | 15 |
| Maharashtra | 2 | 53 | Andhra Pradesh | 1 | 12 |
| Karnataka | 1 | 10 | Orissa | 1 | 2 |
| Kerala | 1 | 13 | West Bengal | 1 | 1 |
| Goa | 1 | 5 | Pondicherry | — | 1 |
| Daman & Diu | — | 2 | Andaman & Nicobar Islands | — | 23 |
| Lakshadweep Island | — | 10 | | | |

(b) The quantity of food materials received from foreign countries as bulk cargo at the major ports during last 3 years are as under:—

| Year | 2003-2004 | 2004-2005 | 2005-2006 |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Quantity of food material in metric tones | 2110524 | 2423998 | 2370153 |

(c) and (d) Port recovers berth hire charges on the vessel during her stay at the berth on hourly basis. If vessel takes more time to discharge the cargo, vessel agents are required to pay more berth hire charges.

(e) to (i) Yes, Sir. As per Rule 3 of Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955, all imported food articles coming at the ports are required to be analyzed at the designated Central Good Laboratories. Collector of Customs takes assistance of the Port Health Officers posted at various ports to get the chemical tests done for the imported consignment. With a view to avoiding delay in analysis of samples of imported food articles, the Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has authorized 27 State Public Analyst Laboratories and one Export Inspection Council Lab at Kolkata to undertake the analysis of samples imported through the ports. Public Analyst Laboratories carry out the tests within three to four days of receipt of the samples. Since laboratories are available at or in proximity to each major port, no new laboratory is proposed to be set up by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

[English]

Promotion of Sports

3190. SHRI SUBRATA BOSE: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a committee has been set up on Government-Industry co-operation for promotion of sports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether various sports federations are also associated with the committee; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (d) The Government of India is fully aware and conscious of the importance of co-operation with Industry for the promotion of sports in the country. While no Committee has been set up in this regard, a number of meetings and interactions have been organized from time to time with the Chambers of Commerce & Industry for the promotion of sports with reference to scouting talent, grooming talented sportspersons and assistance in attaining excellence in terms of performance at the international level. In the process, the Sports Authority of India had entered into Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with FICCI and the Indian Olympic Association has entered into an MoU with CII under which CII extended support to selected sports disciplines in their preparation for the Athens

Olympics and also launched a scheme of "Golden Hopes" for the Olympics-2008. As a part of this ongoing process, interactions have also been/are being held with the various Chambers of Commerce and Industry with a view to identify the areas of co-operation in this regard in the context of the Commonwealth Games to be organized in Delhi in 2010. Such co-operation for the promotion of sports and excellence will have to be a collaborative effort between Government, Industry and the National Sports Federations who are primarily responsible for the preparation of terms with the help and assistance of Government.

Building of Aircraft Carrier

3191. SHRIMATI ARCHANA NAYAK:
SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the country's first indigenous aircraft carrier of Navy is being built by the Cochin Shipyard;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A sum of Rs. 213 crores has been sanctioned to M/s Cochin Shipyard Ltd., for augmentation of infrastructure to facilitate construction of Indigenous aircraft carrier. The project is under implementation in accordance with prescribed specifications.

Expressway In Assam

3192. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government of Assam has approached the Union Government for a fully Centrally funded four lane expressway between Guwahati and Dibrugarh; and
- (b) if so, the response of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) No proposal for expressway between Guwahati and Dibrugarh has been received in the Ministry. However, four laning of existing National Highway 37 is already under construction from Guwahati to Nagaon as part of East-West Corridor and four laning of Nagaon to Dibrugarh has been approved by the Government on 22.9.2005 under Phase 'A' of Special Accelerated Road Development Programme in North East Region.

[Translation]

Pak Assistance for Investigation of Bomb Blasts

3193. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Pakistan has offered assistance to investigate the serial train bomb blasts that took place recently in Mumbai;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) and (b) Yes. After the Mumbai train blasts on 11 July 2006, Pakistan President Musharraf in a speech on 20 July 2006 said that "Pakistan will fully help India to identify terrorists or their organization if we are provided with specific information and evidence".

(c) In response to President Musharraf's offer to help in investigations in the Mumbai blasts if evidence is provided to him, the Spokespersons of the Ministry of External Affairs said on 21 July 2006 that it "gives us no cause for satisfaction in view of Pakistan's refusal to cooperate in the past, most recently at the Home Secretary level talks in May this year, when substantial evidence was provided to Pakistan of the presence on its territory of terrorist groups and fugitives. Nevertheless, in view of President Musharraf's assurance, we will continue to provide to Pakistani authorities all available evidence and await practical action on their part." However, Government is disappointed at Pakistan's continuing denial of the presence of and failure to take action against jihadi groups threatening to operate against India from Pakistan and Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK).

Expert Committees' Reports on Organ Transplantation

3194. SHRI KAILASH JOSHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain expert committees have submitted their reports to the Government regarding organ transplantation;

(b) if so, the number of such reports received alongwith the date of their receipt;

(c) whether the Government has taken any action to bring about necessary changes in the law with a view to end the suffering of such patients on the basis of said reports; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report of transplant of Human Organs Act (THOA) Review Committee was submitted to the Government on 25th May, 2005.

(c) and (d) Among other things, the Committee recommended the creation of awareness about organ donations through Information/Education/Communication programmes and through incentives, with the objectives of increasing organ availability, especially cadaver organs. Consultations with other stake holders including State Governments would be necessary on the recommendations.

Research Projects for NGOs

3195. SHRI G. NIZAMUDDIN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Research Projects have been sanctioned by the Government for the NGOs during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of the Projects and the names of the NGOs and the amount sanctioned for the purpose; and

(c) the present status of these Projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Statements-I and II attached.

Statement I

Details of projects and amount sanctioned by GOI

| Sl.No. | Name of the NGOs | Name of the Project | Amount Sanctioned (in Rs.) | | | Present status of the project |
|--------|--|--|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------------------------|
| | | | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 1. | Varun Herbals Pvt. Ltd. Hyderabad | Standardization of Traditional Drugs of Natural Origin used in the Perinatal Care of women and the Child | 6,48,700 | | | Study completed. Report received |
| 2. | Institute for Self Employment and Rural Development, Distt. Puri, Orissa | Innovative project on Mobile Reproductive Health Clinic for Krushna Prasad and Brahmagiri Block of Puri Distt. | 15,29,950 | 18,62,489 | 20,00,778 | Project going on |
| 3. | Presidency College, Calcutta | Development of a Screening Tool for Prediction of Low Birth Weight Babies by Community Health Workers | 3,85,855 | | | Study completed. Report received |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | |
|-----|---|--|-----------|-----------|----------|---|----------------------------------|
| 4. | SNS Foundation, Gurgaon | Field Research Based Pilot Study to Demonstrate Action Oriented learning about Reproductive Health by Adolescent Girls | 9,46,585 | | | | Study completed. Report received |
| 5. | Pravara Sansthan, New Delhi | A clinical cum Socio Behavioral Evaluate Study of Women Seeking Termination of early Pregnancy (upto 56 days), using (i) Mifepristone followed by Oral Mifepristone and (ii) Misoprostol alone | 2,60,000 | | | | Study completed. Report received |
| 6. | Pravara Sansthan, New Delhi | Feasibility on Emergency Contraception (EC) for Enhancing Awareness Amongst Clients and Provider and Testing Acceptance of Branded Packaging of Oral Contraceptives Pills as Emergency Contraception | 10,50,000 | | | | Study completed. Report received |
| 7. | Society for women and children's (SWACH), Haryana | Community based Research on Adolescent Health for Feasibility of Specific Intervention | 5,40,520 | 4,80,000 | 46,589 | | Study completed. Report received |
| 8. | Centre for Research in Mental Retardation, Mumbai | Genetic Health Approach for Early Detection Diagnosis & Prevention of Development Disabilities | 11,87,548 | 15,67,875 | 7,38,192 | | Study completed. Report received |
| 9. | Srishti, New Delhi | Cost Assessment of RCH Services provided by NGO's | | 3,50,000 | 2,72,037 | | Study completed. Report received |
| 10. | Nutrition Foundation of India, New Delhi | Interstate and Interstate differences to the prevalence of pregnancy anemia—a study of possible contributing factors | 10,00,000 | 6,61,671 | | | Study completed. Report received |
| 11. | Nutrition Foundation of India, New Delhi | Investigation of Feasible Strategies for Combating Low Birth Weight and Intrauterine Growth Retardation | 12,54,000 | 6,40,612 | | | Study completed. Report received |
| 12. | Swaasthaya, New Delhi | Assessment of Swaasthyas Strategic approach to Family Planning | | 3,44,750 | 4,57,880 | | Study going on |
| 13. | Amity Institute of Bio-technology, Noida | Health and Family Welfare Infrastructure in Meghalaya (Private and Public Sector) Focusing on Gender issues and Abortion | | 3,59,271 | 2,33,062 | | Study going on |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|-----|--|--|----------|---|-----------|----------------------------------|
| 14. | Bihar Institute of Economic Studies, Patna | A study on perception of programme beneficiaries and Non beneficiaries of the need for and utility of family welfare programme | 3,00,000 | | 62,587 | Study completed. Report received |
| 15. | Haryali Centre for Rural Development, New Delhi | Study on Social Mobilization and Effective Involvement of Panchayats in the Implementation of RCH Programme in U.P. and M.P. | | | 3,17,416 | Study going on |
| 16. | Indian Institute of Health Management, Jaipur | An operational research study on meeting reproductive and sexual health need of school going and out of school adolescent | 5,41,200 | | 10,72,875 | Study completed. Report received |
| 17. | Society for Economic Development and Environmental Management, New Delhi | Society for Economic Development and Environmental Management, New Delhi | | | 5,05,680 | Study going on |

Statement II*Details of projects and amount sanctioned by GOI through ICMR*

| Sl.No. | Name of the NGOs | Name of the project | Amount Sanctioned (in Rs.) | | | Present status of the project |
|--------|--|--|----------------------------|-----------|----------|-------------------------------|
| | | | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 1. | Valsad Raktdan Kendra, Valsad | Intervention programme for Nutritional Anemia Haemoglobinopathies Amongst some Primitive Tribal Populations of India | 3,03,062 | 467520 | | Completed |
| 2. | Centre for Social Development Hyderabad | Health Aspects Among the Primitive Tribals of Chenchus in the Nallamala Hills of A.P. | 1,35,000 | 1,34,560 | | Completed |
| 3. | The National Instt. of Applied Human Research and Development, Cuttack | Home based Management of Young Infants | | 16,22,450 | 7,00,000 | Ongoing |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|-----|---|--|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| 4. | Action Research and Training for Health, Udaipur | Home based Management of Young Infants. | | 16,22,450 | 7,00,000 | Ongoing |
| 5. | National Instt. of Applied Human Research and Development, Cuttack. | Promoting male involvement under RCH strategy—An Action Research on Adolescents in Rural Orissa | 3,30,913 | | | Completed |
| 6. | Bombay Leprosy Project Vidriyan Bhavan, Mumbai | Screening for Drug Resistant M. Lepare using Mouse Foot Pad in Relapse cases of MB Leprosy—A Multicentric Study | | 4,09,615 | 2,06,600 | Ongoing |
| 7. | Inter Academy Bio-medical Sciences Forum Bangalore | Genomics of Male Infertility | 91,040 | 96,488 | 2,00,101 | Ongoing |
| 8. | Hind Kushit Nivaran Sangh New Delhi | Involvement of the School Children in Total Population coverage for surveillance of Leprosy and MDT compliance on Cosmopolitan City | 13,05,990 | 10,37,009 | | Completed |
| 9. | Vulimiri Ramlingasawami Foundation, New Delhi | Study of Health Consequences of Domestic Violence with special reference to reproductive Health | 2,38,967 | 5,12,953 | | Completed |
| 10. | Taleem Research Foundation, Ahmedabad | Study of Health Consequences of Domestic Violence with special reference to reproductive Health | 2,38,967 | 5,12,953 | | Completed |
| 11. | Mahila Chetna Munch, Bhopal | Study of Health Consequences of Domestic Violence with special reference to reproductive Health | 2,38,967 | 5,12,953 | | Completed |
| 12. | World Wide Fund for Nature-India, Kolkata | Invantorisation of Medicinal Plants in Ayodha Hills, Purulia Distt. W.B., documentation and analysis of indigenous knowledge system on their use by ethnic communities located near Ayodha Hills | | | 1,29,223 | Ongoing |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|-----|---|---|----------|----------|----------|---------|
| 13. | Academy for Nursing Studies, Hyderabad | A study of factors effecting acceptability of microbicides among different population group in India | | | 2,01,077 | Ongoing |
| 14. | Child in Need Institute (CINI), Kolkata | A study of roles and capacities of Panchayati Raj Institutions to Manage the Grass Root Health System | | | 1,77,220 | Ongoing |
| 15. | Samarthan, Bhopal | A study of roles and capacities of Panchayati Raj Institutions to Manage the Grass Root Health System | | | 1,77,220 | Ongoing |
| 16. | The Gandhigram Institute of Rural Health & Family Welfare Trust, Dindigul | A study of Psychological and Service Dynamics of Illegal Abortion in Rural Areas of India | | | 3,93,124 | Ongoing |
| 17. | Indian Cancer Society, Mumbai | National Cancer Registry- Population Based | 6,87,000 | 6,87,000 | 6,87,000 | Ongoing |

Medical Degree from Kazakhstan

3196. SHRI MOHD. TAHIR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken a decision to allow all the Indian candidates having obtained their Medical degree from Kazakhstan to appear in medical examinations in the country;

(b) if so, the number of Indian students having Kazak Medical degree;

(c) whether the Government is contemplating to recognise their medical degrees and also allow them to appear in other medical examinations in the country; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) As per the provisions of section 13 of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956, a medical qualification obtained by an Indian Citizen and granted by any medical institution in any country outside

India is recognized as a medical qualification for the purpose of the said Act for that person only if (i) the foreign medicine degree is a recognized degree for enrolment as medical practitioners in that country, (ii) the person has qualified a screening test in India after obtaining the foreign medical degree, and (iii) the said person had obtained an eligibility certificate issued to him by the Medical Council of India for pursuing that foreign medical degree.

The above provision applies to Indian citizens obtaining foreign medical qualification in any country outside India including Kazakhstan.

[English]

Administering Untested Vaccine

3197. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the untested Chinese J.E. Vaccine is being used in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some children have died or developed serious reaction as a result thereof;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check administration of the said vaccine;

(f) whether WHO has approved this vaccine; and

(g) if not, the reasons for use of the vaccine in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) No, Sir. This year Japanese Encephalitis (JE) vaccination has been carried out in 11 districts in Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Karnataka & Assam. In all 93,08,698 children between 1-15 years of age have been vaccinated.

A total of 504 cases of adverse events which include minor as well as 65 serious reaction were reported after JE vaccination. Out of these 65 cases of serious reactions 22 were deaths. On preliminary investigation it was found that these adverse events including the deaths were not related to JE vaccine. 16 Cerebro Spinal Fluid samples of adverse reaction cases were tested at the National Institute of Virology, Pune and 6 samples tested at the National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Delhi. These were found negative for JE thereby leading to the conclusion that there is no evidence of adverse reactions after vaccination.

(e) The Chinese JE Vaccine imported from Chengdu Institute of Biological Product, from China was tested by Central Drug Laboratory Kasauli, before its limited use in eleven identified endemic districts in India and was found to be of standard quality.

(f) The "Global Advisory Committee on Vaccine Safety" (GACVS) an expert clinical and scientific advisory body reporting to WHO, established to deal with vaccine safety issues has reported that this vaccine is safe & efficacious.

(g) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Reward for Outstanding Performance

3198. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:
SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Government to reward the bureaucrats for their outstanding performance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government also proposes to take action against corrupt and dishonest officers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has introduced "Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration" to recognize the extraordinary and innovative work done by the officers of Central and State Governments. The Scheme aims at promoting innovative behaviour, bringing systemic changes in administration and making public delivery systems efficient and citizen friendly. All Officers of Central and State Governments individually or as a group or as organizations are eligible to be considered for the awards.

(c) to (e) The Government is fully alive to the need to eradicate corruption and effectively implement its policy of "zero tolerance" to corruption. All government officials are required to discharge their duties according to the prescribed rules, regulations and government instructions and violation thereof may invite disciplinary action. The Ministries/Departments of the Government are required to take appropriate action as per relevant rules for imposing major or minor penalty against the erring officials.

[English]

Harassment of Doctors

3199. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether reserved category students and doctors are being harassed since the beginning of the anti-reservation agitation;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to protect the interests of these students?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) There have been some News Paper reports on the treatment of students in the hostels of All India Institute of Medical Sciences in the wake of anti-reservation agitation. A factual report from AIIMS has been called for.

[Translation]

Setting up of Nyaya Panchayats

3200. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:
ADV. SURESH KURUP:
SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:
DR. R. SENTHIL:
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up Nyaya Panchayats to delegate more judicial rights to the Panchayat in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its jurisdiction; and

(c) the time by which the Nyaya Panchayats are likely to be set up and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir, a proposal to set up Nyaya Panchayats to delegate more judicial rights to the grassroots in the country is under consideration. A Drafting Committee has been set up to draft a bill. The objectives of the proposed Nyaya Panchayat Bill is to provide a sound alternative forum at the grassroots level for dispute resolution through mediation, conciliation and compromise, which can be institutionalized with community involvement. No recommendations have been received as yet from the drafting committee.

[English]

Closure of Software Companies in Bangalore

3201. SHRI M. SHIVANNA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether some software companies have closed their units in Bangalore recently;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government for revival of these industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) Indian ITES-BPO operation is a de-licensed activity. Their operations are governed by contracts between the parties. The opening and closure of the companies is dependant on the market forces. However, as per Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), out of about 1500 companies in Bangalore, 9 STP Units have been closed due to change in business strategy and 8 STP Units have been closed due to shortage of export orders.

Improving Condition of Burns Ward in Safdarjung Hospital

3202. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether three committees had been formed for improving the condition of Burns Ward in Safdarjung Hospital during the last ten years;

(b) if so, the details thereof together with the recommendations made by these committees;

(c) the reasons for not implementing the recommendations of the committees;

(d) whether there is a shortage of medical facilities, machines etc. in the said Burns Ward;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the arrangements made to overcome the same;

(f) whether proper cleanliness is also not maintained; and

(g) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (g) Functioning of the Burns Department of the Safdarjung Hospital has been continuously reviewed. Three Committees had been constituted in the years 1996, 1999 and 2002 to look into the condition of the Burns Ward in Safdarjung Hospital. The Committees had made recommendations regarding the requirement of additional staff, provision of exclusively big ambulance, strengthening of burns department with latest equipments, linkage of burns ward with other burns ward available in Delhi, Engagement of MCH & DNB students after completion of the course, training of paramedical staff and provision of clean bed sheets & blankets, etc. Most of the recommendations have been implemented. The upgradation of the medical facilities including the strengthening of equipments is a continuous dynamic process and the same are undertaken as per the need and available resources. All measures are regularly being taken for the maintenance of cleanliness which is supervised by designated officer in the burns ward of the Safdarjung Hospital.

[*Translation*]

Achieving Excellence in International Events

3203. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:
SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH:

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

(a) the details of recommendations made in the meeting held with the office bearers of the Indian Hockey Federation to analyse the performance in hockey after the Athens Olympic Games-2004;

(b) the future action plan for achieving excellence in the International events;

(c) whether sportspersons are unable to win enough medals in the International events due to lack of sports infrastructure in the country; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to improve the sports infrastructure in the country?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) After the Athens Olympic, 2004, the then Minister of Youth Affairs & Sports held discussions with the Indian Hockey Federation (IHF), inter alia, on the issue of the disappointing performance of the Hockey team, wherein they were advised to introspect and pinpoint where things went wrong and initiate the necessary corrective measures. The office bearers of IHF indicated that they had undertaken a close scrutiny of overall individual performance and initiated steps to search talent at the junior level and induct young blood with an eye on the future. The need for preparing a vision document and action plan based on that was stressed, along with the need for broad-basing of sports and arranging for the requisite expert scientific and technical support. The Indian senior Hockey team has recently been provided with a foreign physiotherapist and a physical trainer from abroad.

(b) 'Sports' is primarily the responsibility of State Governments and, in respect of specific disciplines, the National Sports Federations (NSFs) concerned. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the NSFs by providing assistance for training and participation of sportspersons/teams in international tournaments abroad, organization of national/international tournaments in India, coaching/training of the teams under Indian and foreign coaches, procurement of equipment and provision of the requisite technical and scientific back-up etc. Long Term Development Plans, linked with the 4-year cycles of all major international events are prepared by the NSFs and the SAI for different disciplines, based on which assistance as mentioned above is provided.

(c) It is a fact that there is need to expand and strengthen sports infrastructure in the country. There has been improvement in the performance of Indian sportspersons in the recent years and efforts are being made continuously to further improve the same through focused action as indicated in part (b).

(d) Till 31.3.2005, the Government of India was providing financial assistance to State Governments, Schools, Universities, NGOs etc. for creation/development of sports infrastructure. However, these schemes were transferred to the State sector with effect from 1.4.2005 and, accordingly, no provision is now made for new infrastructure projects under the schemes and it is the responsibility of the State Governments to do so from their own resources. However, in recognition of the

shortage of sports facilities in the rural areas, and the consequent lack of access to organize sports and games for a large section of the youth and potentially talented sportspersons, consideration is being given in the Ministry to the promotion of a Panchayati Raj Yuva Khel Abhiyan in collaboration with various stakeholders including Panchayati Raj institutions, youth organizations, education institutions, etc.; the proposal will be finalized after necessary consultations with the Ministries and organizations concerned as also the State Governments. Thereafter, approval of the competent authority will be sought.

Appointment of CMDs in PSUs

3204. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the existing procedure prescribed for appointment of CMDs in Public Sector Undertakings;

(b) whether appointment of generalists at the helm of affairs had adversely affected the performance of PSUs;

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to appoint non-generalists as CMDs of PSUs; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) The selection policy for appointment of CMDs in Public Sector Undertakings is laid down in the Government's Resolution dated 3rd March, 1987, as amended from time to time. Such appointments are made by the Government, generally on the recommendations of Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB). The administrative Ministry/Department assists PESB in making its recommendations.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Procurement of Equipment

3205. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has purchased a large number of Hand Held Terminals (HHTs), Fixed Wireless Terminals (FWTs), Fixed Remote Sets (FRSs) and Wall Sets (WSs) etc. during the year January, 2003 to December, 2004;

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

(c) whether the Government has conducted any customers survey before procurement of these equipments;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) the number of sets lying idle in stock in the various circles as on date;

(g) the loss of revenue suffered as a result thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government telecom operators viz. Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) had purchased HHTs, FWTs, FRSs and WS during the period January 2003 to December 2004.

(b) MTNL had purchased 160K HHTs during the said period. No purchases of FWTs, FRSs and WS were made. Details in respect of BSNL are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) to (e) Procurement of all equipments is done based on demand projections and keeping in view the available stock. Since the demand for Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) connections was continuously increasing from

2002 onwards procurements of WLL terminals was done to cater to the demand of customers.

(f) Number of sets lying in the stock of MTNL and BSNL as on 30.06.2006 is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(g) and (h) There is no loss of revenue as BSNL has been providing connections as per the requirements and needs of customers. The present focus of the company is to provide fixed line service using IFWTs to its customers. All out efforts are being made to utilize HHTs and FRS terminals lying in stores for which BSNL introduced two special tariff plans. There is no loss of revenue for MTNL also.

Statement I

(Purchase orders placed during January 2003 to December 2004 by BSNL)

| Sl.No. | Vendor | Ordered Quantity (Nos.) | Procured Quantity (Nos.) |
|---|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| HHT (Hand Held Terminals) | | | |
| 1. | M/s ITI | 1,80,000 | 1,80,000 |
| 2. | M/s Teracom | 1,68,000 | 1,68,000 |
| 3. | M/s UTL | 85,909 | 85,909 |
| 4. | M/s XL Telecom | 82,901 | 82,091 |
| 5. | M/s ICOMM | 82,281 | 82,281 |
| Total | | 5,98,281 | 5,98,281 |
| IFWT (Integrated Fixed Wireless Terminals) | | | |
| 1. | M/s ITI (RQ) | 86,940 | 86,940 |
| 2. | M/s ITI (RQ) | 41,854 | 41,854 |
| 3. | M/s Bhagyanagar Metals Ltd. | 81,144 | 81,144 |
| 4. | M/s Surana Telecom Ltd. | 41,854 | 41,854 |
| 5. | M/s ITI (RQ) | 4,50,000 | 1,17,660 |
| 6. | M/s ITI (RQ) | 33,137 | — |
| 7. | M/s Teracom | 5,25,000 | 5,25,000 |
| 8. | M/s HFCL | 2,62,514 | 2,62,514 |
| 9. | M/s HFCL | 2,62,486 | 2,62,486 |
| Total | | 17,84,929 | 14,19,452 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---|-------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| FRS/WS (Fixed Remote Station/Wall Set) | | | |
| 1. | M/s ITI | 97,000 | 97,000 |
| | | (I) 19,500 Rs. (IP Wall sets) | |
| | | (II) 75,700 RS (Wall sets) | |
| | | (III) 1800 Multi Wall sets | |
| 2. | M/s Shyam Telecom | 98,000 | 98,000 |
| | | (I) 19,000 RS (IP Wall sets) | |
| | | (II) 75,300 RS (Wall sets) | |
| | | (III) 1700 Multi Wall sets | |
| 3. | M/s HFCL Ltd. | 1,92,000 | 1,92,000 |
| | | (I) 38,500 RS (IP Wall sets) | |
| | | (II) 1,50,000 RS (Wall sets) | |
| | | (III) 35000 Multi Walls sets | |
| 4. | M/s HTL | 55,000 | 55,000 |
| | | (I) 11,000 RS (IP Wall sets) | |
| | | (II) 43,000 RS (Wall sets) | |
| | | (III) 1000 Multi Wall sets | |
| Total | | 4,40,000 | 4,40,000 |

Statement II**Status of WLL Terminals for the month of June 2006 of BSNL and MTNL**

| Sl.No. | Name of the Circle | Balance Equipment at the end of Month June, 2006 | | | | | Total |
|----------------|---------------------|--|-------------|-------------|----------------|---------------------|-------|
| | | CDMA HHT | CDMA FWT | MWS- 200 | FRS (Voice) | FRS (Voice & IP) | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| A. BSNL | | | | | | | |
| 1. | Andaman and Nicobar | 937 | 1325 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2262 |
| 2. | Andhra Pradesh | 61902 | 34 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 61936 |
| 3. | Assam | 3080 | 23651 | 78 | 1294 | 2406 | 30509 |
| 4. | Bihar | 4578 | 22324 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 26902 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|-------|----------------------|--------|--------|------|-------|-------|--------|
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 3920 | 12952 | 17 | 1302 | 33 | 18224 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 49317 | 21374 | 100 | 5959 | 5600 | 82350 |
| 7. | Haryana | 12245 | 7232 | 164 | 0 | 12534 | 32175 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 1471 | 7287 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8758 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 4733 | 16387 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 21120 |
| 10. | Jharkhand | 3516 | 11866 | 0 | 108 | 0 | 15490 |
| 11. | Karnataka | 19253 | 9936 | 800 | 18358 | 7196 | 55543 |
| 12. | Kerala | 37503 | 8112 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 45615 |
| 13. | Madhya Pradesh | 29057 | 3573 | 0 | 1926 | 771 | 35327 |
| 14. | Maharashtra | 31268 | 17003 | 826 | 32427 | 10666 | 92190 |
| 15. | North East-I | 137 | 15550 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15687 |
| 16. | North East-II | 1547 | 20607 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 22154 |
| 17. | Orissa | 510 | 4141 | 5 | 864 | 0 | 5520 |
| 18. | Punjab | 29674 | 8763 | 250 | 4654 | 5519 | 48860 |
| 19. | Rajasthan | 44999 | 11961 | 242 | 12040 | 5629 | 74871 |
| 20. | Tamil Nadu | 13578 | 84958 | 600 | 6483 | 6510 | 112129 |
| 21. | Uttaranchal | 2721 | 15426 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 18147 |
| 22. | Uttar Pradesh (East) | 28357 | 29161 | 225 | 4586 | 4273 | 66802 |
| 23. | Uttar Pradesh (West) | 10301 | 22371 | 0 | 4439 | 479 | 37590 |
| 24. | West Bengal | 4476 | 25964 | 75 | 1196 | 3995 | 35706 |
| 25. | Kolkata TD | 6335 | 7907 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 14242 |
| 26. | Chennai TD | 360 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 880 | 1240 |
| Total | | 405775 | 409865 | 3382 | 95636 | 66491 | 981149 |
| B. | MTNL | 12902 | 1255 | — | — | — | 14157 |

**Sports Council for Football, Hockey
and Badminton**

3206. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Union Government to set up Sports Council on the lines of BCCI, particularly for Football, Hockey and Badminton;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) If not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) As per information received from the National Federations pertaining to Football, Hockey and Badminton, they do not have any such proposals. It may be mentioned that National Sports Federations (NSFs), including the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), are autonomous organizations which function as per their rules and regulations.

Improvement of Sports Facilities

3207. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has provided Rs. 100 crores from the current financial year to improve sports facilities in the States;

(b) if so, the sports on which the money will be utilized;

(c) whether the Union Government has announced its sports policy in this regard;

(d) if so, the main features of the policy; and

(e) the time by which this policy is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (e) As 'Sports' is a State subject in the Constitution, the primary responsibility for creation of sports facilities throughout the country lies with State Governments. Till 31.3.2005, the Ministry was supplementing the efforts of the State Governments for creation of sports facilities in various states by providing assistance under the Centrally Sponsored Sports Infrastructure Schemes in accordance with the approved pattern. With effect from 1.4.2005, the Sports Infrastructure Schemes were transferred to the State Sector. Thus, fresh cases of Sports Infrastructure projects will now have to be funded by State Governments out of their own resources. However, funds to the extent of committed

liabilities will be provided for ongoing approved Sports Infrastructure projects during the remaining period of the X Plan.

In addition, the Ministry is implementing the scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations. Under this scheme, Central assistance is provided to the recognised National Sports Federations, which are autonomous registered bodies, for participation of teams/sportspersons in tournaments and training abroad, organizing National/International Championships in India and purchase of sports equipments. The budget allocation under the scheme during the current financial assistance year 2006-07 is Rs. 43.60 Crores. In addition, the Sports Authority of India is also implementing various schemes for the promotion of sports including scouting and nurturing of talent and providing facilities for training and coaching etc.; a budget allocation of Rs. 165.72 crores has been provided for the SAI during the 2006-07.

Four Laning of National Highways

3208. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made regarding four-laning of National Highways in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra and Gujarat;

(b) whether the four-laning works of National Highways in these States are slow;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the extent to which loss has been suffered and cost overrun caused due to delay; and

(e) the criteria laid down for providing green belt along the National Highways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) The status of 4-laning being done by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) in the States of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra and Gujarat are as under:

(Length in km.)

| State | Total Length | Completed/ 4-laned | Under Implementation | Balance for Award |
|----------------|--------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Madhya Pradesh | 834 | 42 | 648 | 144 |
| Rajasthan | 1778 | 742 | 722 | 314 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 2023 | 699 | 1232 | 92 |
| Chhattisgarh | 153 | 18 | 45 | 90 |
| Maharashtra | 1457 | 597 | 467 | 393 |
| Gujarat | 1425 | 637 | 686 | 102 |

(b) and (c) There has been delays in some contracts due to problem associated with acquisition of land, shifting of utilities, difficulty in environment and forest clearances, poor performance of some contractors, termination of some contracts etc.

(d) The overall expenditure on National Highways Development Project Phase-I is within approved estimated cost allowing for escalation.

(e) NHA has developed a tree plantation strategy for providing green belt along the National Highways. The tree plantation strategy provides for detailed technical specification for undertaking plantation work.

Conversion of N.H. Into Four Lanes

3209. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:
SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1092 answered on 1.3.2006 regarding conversion of National Highway into four lanes and state:

(a) whether Gujarat was requested to carryout the feasibility study for conversion of National Highway leading to Mundra port into four lanes;

(b) if so, whether Gujarat has sent the report;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the decision taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) Government of Gujarat was requested to carry out the feasibility study for construction of four laning in Gandhidham-Mundra section of NH-8A Extn. on BOT basis at Zero Grant with capping rates as per National Highways Rules. Based on the feasibility study conducted by the State Government, it is reported that this project will be feasible on BOT basis with 20% gap funding for which Government of India did not agree.

(d) Four laning of Gandhidham-Mundra Section of NH-8A (Extn.) of length 73 km in Gujarat has been approved under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase IIIA on Build Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis by the Government. Steps are being taken for award of consultancy services for conducting feasibility study to consider the possibility of award of this section on Design Build Finance and Operate (DBFO) basis.

Discretionary Powers to Civil Servants

3210. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has any proposal to delegate discretionary powers to civil servants;

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

(c) whether the Union Government is aware that flaws in governance are resulting in under performance of employees, inefficient and corrupt bureaucracy, cost overruns and low returns on development programmes; and

(d) If so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Government of India has constituted the second Administrative Reforms Commission for preparing a detailed blueprint for revamping the public administration system. The Commission has been requested to make its recommendations, inter alia, covering enhancing performance of civil servants, upgradation of their skills and competencies and strengthening financial management systems.

Ro-Ro Ferry Service Project

3211. SHRI HARIN PATHAK:
SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI:
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal regarding Ro-Ro ferry service project in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the route of the said ferry service;

(c) the quantum of amount or percentage sharing of cost of project demanded by the State Government and the amount sanctioned by the Union Government; and

(d) the extent to which this ferry service is likely to benefit people?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Gujarat Infrastructure Development Board (GIDB) made a proposal to Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs under viability gap funding scheme for Ro-Ro ferry service on Ghogha-Suvali (Surat) route.

(c) The proposal from Gujarat Infrastructure Development Board was received prior to circulation of

detailed guidelines dated 23.1.2006 issued by Department of Economic Affairs. The Project Authority has been advised to submit the proposal in the prescribed format. The same is awaited.

(d) The likely benefits of the proposed project are—
(i) The travel time to be reduced by 3-4 hours (ii) The transporters will gain by saving almost 30-40% of the present vehicle operating cost (iii) Passengers will get AC coaches and other luxury facilities at normal bus/train rates.

[Translation]

Annual Rate of Employment Generation

3212. DR. CHINTA MOHAN:
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of annual rate of generation of employment opportunities recorded since 1998 till 2005;

(b) the reasons for difference in the rate of employment generation in different States of the country; and

(c) the States where the rate of generation of employment opportunities is greater than the annual rate of increase in the number of labourers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) to (c) The annual rate of generation of employment is available through the NSSO quinquennial surveys conducted in 1994 and 2000 (50th and 55th rounds of NSS on employment and unemployment). The annual growth rates of labour force and work force on current daily status basis for major States are indicated in the enclosed Statement. The rate of development is not uniform in all the States. This depends on infrastructural facilities, difficult terrain, industrial base. These factors attribute to the difference in employment generation in different States.

Considering the current daily activity status, in the States of Gujarat, Haryana and Karnataka, the rate of generation of employment opportunities is greater than annual rate of increase in the number of labourers in other States during the period 1994-2000.

Statement

*Estimated Annual Growth Rate (%) during 1994-2000
in Labour Force and Work Force by current
daily status*

| States | Labour Force | Work Force |
|------------------|--------------|------------|
| Andhra Pradesh | 0.59 | 0.35 |
| Assam | 1.99 | 1.99 |
| Bihar | 1.77 | 1.59 |
| Gujarat | 2.10 | 2.31 |
| Haryana | 2.11 | 2.43 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 0.56 | 0.37 |
| Karnataka | 1.36 | 1.43 |
| Kerala | 1.05 | -0.07 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 1.44 | 1.28 |
| Maharashtra | 1.63 | 1.25 |
| Orissa | 1.06 | 1.05 |
| Punjab | 2.12 | 1.96 |
| Rajasthan | 1.04 | 0.73 |
| Tamil Nadu | 0.44 | 0.37 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 1.13 | 1.02 |
| West Bengal | 1.35 | 0.41 |
| Delhi | 3.73 | 3.34 |
| All India | 1.31 | 1.07 |

Source: NSSO

Contract Systems in Coal Mines

3213. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:
SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the coal mines continue to employ/engage labourers on contract basis;

(b) if so, the details of fields in which the contract system has been implemented;

(c) the number of workers employed under the contract system and the amount spent thereon during the last two years, year-wise and current year till date; and

(d) the reaction of the Government to the contract system presently in vogue in coal mines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (b) Coal India Limited and its subsidiary companies do not directly employ/engage labourers on contract basis. However, certain works, which are not of permanent and perennial nature, are given on contract for which contractors deploy their workmen. Contractor's work are mainly of temporary nature and as a result, number of contractors' workmen keeps changing. Terms and conditions of service, other facilities/benefits etc. are as per the provisions of contract agreement and Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply given to part (a) and (b).

(d) Since the works given on contract are occasional in nature, the present system is required to be continued for the efficiency and economy of the Coal Companies.

Talks with Pakistan on Kashmir Issue

3214. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:
SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the talks held with Pakistan regarding Kashmir issue during the last two years;

(b) the details of the results of the said talks held so far; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government to the results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) and (b) The Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan had a detailed exchange of views on Jammu and Kashmir, one of the eight subjects of the Composite Dialogue, during

the talks in New Delhi on 27-28 June 2004. Recalling the reassurance contained in the Joint Press Statement of 6 January 2004, they exchanged views on carrying the process forward in an atmosphere free from terrorism and violence. The Foreign Secretaries reiterated the hope that the dialogue will lead to peaceful settlement of all bilateral issues, including Jammu and Kashmir, to the satisfaction of both sides. They agreed to continue the sustained and serious dialogue to find a peaceful negotiated final settlement.

During the meeting between Pakistan President Musharraf and Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh in New York on 24 September 2004, it was agreed that possible options for a peaceful, negotiated settlement of the issue should be explored in a sincere spirit and purposeful manner. Prime Minister, however, conveyed to President Musharraf that there can be no redrawing of boundaries. During the Foreign Secretary level talks in Islamabad on 27-28 December 2004, both sides discussed, *inter alia*, the issue of Jammu and Kashmir and agreed to carry forward the process.

During the visit of the former External Affairs Minister, Shri Natwar Singh to Islamabad in February 2005, both governments agreed to allow travel across the Line of Control between Srinagar and Muzaffarabad by bus. The bus service was operationalised on 7 April 2005.

During the visit of Pakistan President Musharraf to New Delhi on 16-18 April 2005, it agreed to continue discussions on Jammu and Kashmir in a sincere, purposeful and forward looking manner for a final settlement. They agreed to pursue further measures to enhance interaction and cooperation across the LoC including agreed meeting points for divided families, trade, pilgrimages and cultural interaction. They agreed to operationalise additional routes including that between Poonch and Rawalakot and a truck service on the Srinagar-Muzaffarabad route to promote trade. The Poonch-Rawalakot bus commenced service from 20 June 2006. Modalities for trade across the Line of Control on the Srinagar-Muzaffarabad route and the meeting points are being worked out.

During the talks between the Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan in New Delhi on 17-18 January 2006, the two Foreign Secretaries had a detailed exchange of views on Jammu & Kashmir and agreed to continue the sustained dialogue in a purposeful and forward looking manner to find a peaceful and negotiated final settlement.

They noted with satisfaction the opening of the five crossing points across the Line of Control in November 2005 after the earthquake.

The Foreign Secretaries also discussed Pakistan's proposed concepts of self-governance, demilitarisation of three towns and joint management. The Pakistan side was informed that self-governance is embedded in our Constitution. Jammu and Kashmir already enjoys autonomy under the Indian Constitution and has in place a democratically elected government. However, there is only nominal autonomy in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir (POK) and there has been no popular election in Gilgit-Baltistan, which does not even have a legal/constitutional status. Any demilitarisation or redeployment of security forces within the territory of India is a sovereign decision of the Government of India based on our assessment of the security situation prevailing in any particular part of the country and cannot be dictated by any foreign government. Concepts such as joint control or joint management over Jammu and Kashmir, proposed by President Musharraf, cannot be the basis of a settlement of the issue of Jammu and Kashmir because Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India. There can be no compromise on the sovereignty of India over the state of Jammu and Kashmir and on India's unity.

(c) India is committed to resolving all outstanding issues with Pakistan bilaterally and peacefully in accordance with the Simla Agreement. The Government intends to continue with the present process of confidence building, cooperation and dialogue in an atmosphere free from terror and violence.

Promotion of Homoeopathy

3215. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government allocates fund to Uttar Pradesh to promote Homoeopathy;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the heads under which the fund is allocated;

(c) the funds allocated and the items on which the same has been spent during the last three year-wise;

(d) whether the Union Government has sought any explanation from Government of Uttar Pradesh in this regard; and

(e) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The Department of AYUSH allocates funds to the States, including the State of Uttar Pradesh through its three Centrally Sponsored Schemes viz.:

- (i) Schemes for Quality Control of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathic drugs.
- (ii) Schemes on Hospitals and Dispensaries.
- (iii) Scheme for upgrading the strengthening of colleges of Ayurveda, Yoga, Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH).

The Schemes on Quality control have been launched with the purpose to strengthen Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathic State Drug Testing Laboratories/ Pharmacies for Quality Assurance to meet the requirements of Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules thereunder and also to meet Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) requirements under Schedule-T.

The Scheme on Hospitals and Dispensaries aim to improve the drugs supply position in rural dispensaries and if considered necessary to encourage setting up of general and specialized treatment Centres of AYUSH in

the allopathic Hospitals and to supplement the efforts of State Governments for ensuring proper supply and stocking of essential AYUSH drugs in rural area Dispensaries.

The scheme for development of institutions seeks to supplement the efforts of educational institutions in order to make the task of upgradation of education standards easier. The scheme has following components:—

- (i) Development of AYUSH UG Colleges
- (ii) Assistance to PG Medical Education
- (iii) Re-orientation Training Programme for AYUSH personnel
- (iv) Renovation and Strengthening of hospital wards of Government/Government-aided teaching hospitals of AYUSH.
- (v) Establishment of Computer Laboratory in ISM&H colleges.
- (vi) Upgradation of academic institutes to the status of State Model Institute of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani, Homoeopathy.

(c) to (e) A statement of funds allocated for Homoeopathic Institutions in Uttar Pradesh is enclosed. The Department of AYUSH release funds only after receipt of Utilization Certificate in respect of earlier grants.

Statement

Release of Funds for Homoeopathy under Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Uttar Pradesh

(Rupees in Lakhs)

| Name of the College/Institution | Name of the Scheme | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 |
|---|--------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Govt. Homoe. College, Chandeshwar, Azamgarh, UP | Under Graduate | 15.00 | — | — |
| State Shri Durgaji Homoeo Medical College & Hospital Azamgarh | ROTP/CME | — | — | 1.00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---|---------------------------|---|---|---------------|
| Pt. JLN Homoeo Medical College & Hospital, Kanpur | ROTP/CME | — | — | 0.50 0.93 |
| State Dr. Brijkishore Homoeo Medical College & Hospital, Faizabad | ROTP/CME & Under Graduate | — | — | 1.00 62.00 |
| Dr. B.K. Homoeo Medical College, Faizabad, UP | ROTP/CME | — | — | 0.93 |

[English]

Condition of National Highways in Bihar

3216. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:
SHRI SITA RAM SINGH:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the condition of National Highway is not traffic worthy in Bihar;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to increase the length of various National Highways in Bihar under the Pradhan Mantri Bharati Jodo Pariyojna and to upgrade the same to four lane;

(d) if so, the measures taken by the Government in this regard;

(e) the amount of funds allocated for the purpose;

(f) whether the Government proposes to upgrade two lane National Highways into four lane; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) The National Highways in Bihar are maintained in traffic worthy condition within the available resources.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

(f) and (g) An aggregate length of 890 Kms of nine National Highways in Bihar viz. NH-19, NH-28-A, NH-30, NH-31, NH-77, NH-80, NH-84, NH-85 and NH-47-A has been identified for up-gradation to four lane/two lane with paved shoulder under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase III earlier known as Pradhan Mantri Bharat Jodo Pariyojna. In addition to this, four laning of 206 Kms of NH-2 under NHDP Phase I and 513 Kms of NH-28, NH-57 and NH-31 under NHDP Phase II is already under implementation.

LTC Package for Srinagar

3217. SHRI SHISHUPAL PATLE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had announced an LTC Package for the Government employees and their dependants for visiting Srinagar by air during the recent past;

(b) if so, whether the expenses incurred by the Government employees on the air fare are reimbursable in respect of their dependant parents irrespective of being senior citizens under the above package;

(c) if so, whether the Government is aware that some Government Departments are reimbursing half of the airfare only in respect of the above said senior citizens though the concerned national airlines had charged them for the full fare;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the guidelines/rules prescribed to reimburse Leave Travel concessions to the senior citizens, children and others in the air journey with and without packages announced from time to time by the national/private carriers; and

(f) the efforts made or proposed to be made to ensure that these guidelines are circulated to all Ministries/ Departments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) Yes, Sir. The special concession was available upto 15.6.2006 only.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) No such instances have been brought to the notice of this Department.

(e) As per Rule 13 of CCS (LTC) Rules, 1988 reimbursement of expenses of journey shall be allowed on the basis of a point to point journey on a through ticket over the shortest direct route. Where employees are eligible to travel by air as per entitlement, full normal air fare or actual fare paid whichever is less will be admissible for reimbursement irrespective of whether the air tickets were purchased with or without concession.

(f) The CCS (LTC) Rules, 1988 and the instructions issued there-under are already available in all Ministries/ Departments.

Growth Rate in Eleventh Five Year Plan

3218. SHRI G.V. HARSHA KUMAR:
SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has set an ambitious 8.5 per cent growth target for the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details worked out so far to achieve the target;

(c) whether the Planning Commission has convened a meeting of Chief Ministers of various States and Union Territories recently to finalise the draft Eleventh Plan;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Planning Commission to ensure adequate allocation to States for various programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) and (b) No growth targets have been fixed for the Eleventh Five Year Plan. However, draft Approach to the Eleventh Plan has been prepared for consultations. In this draft Approach Paper, an average growth target of 8.5 per cent has been proposed.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir, the Planning Commission recently convened regional meetings with Chief Ministers of various States and Union Territories to obtain their views on the draft Approach Paper to the Eleventh Five Year Plan, the details of which are given in the enclosed Statement.

(e) No allocations has been made for the Eleventh Five Year Plan.

Statement

Details of Regional Consultations for the Draft Approach Paper to the Eleventh Plan

Regional Consultations on the Draft Approach Paper to the Eleventh Five Year Plan have been held between Deputy Chairman and Members of the Planning Commission with States/UTs as per the following schedule:

| Sl.No. | Date of Meetings | Venue | States/UTs |
|--------|------------------|--------------------|---|
| 1. | 27-28 June, 2006 | Mumbai | Maharashtra, Goa, Madhya Pradesh, Daman & Diu, Dadra & Nagar Haveli |
| 2. | 3-4 July, 2006 | Delhi | Haryana, Punjab, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Delhi, Chandigarh |
| 3. | 8-9 July, 2006 | Shillong | All North Eastern States (including Sikkim) |
| 4. | 17-18 July, 2006 | Kolkata | West Bengal, Orissa, Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, A&N Islands |
| 5. | 21-22 July, 2006 | Thiruvananthapuram | Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Pondicherry, Lakshadweep |
| 6. | 24 July, 2006 | Delhi | Gujarat and Rajasthan |

The consultations were taken up over 2 days with three sessions at each of these meetings. In the first session on day one, a Presentation was made by Planning Commission highlighting the main issues in the Approach Paper followed by comments by each of the Chief Ministers/Lt. Governors or their representatives. In the second session, discussions were held with the State Planning Ministers, Vice Chairpersons of State Planning Boards and Planning Secretaries on the process, timeliness and other issues relating to the formulation of the State Approach Paper and District Plans for the Eleventh Five Year Plan. On the second day of the discussions, there was interaction between Planning Commission and civil society representative including academicians, researchers and NGOs. The suggestions that emerged from the regional consultations will be suitably incorporated in the final Approach Paper.

Tenth Plan Outlay for Ministry of Power

3219. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for reduction of the Tenth Plan outlay for the Ministry of Power from Rs. 1,43,399 crores to Rs. 92,941 crores by the Planning Commission;

(b) whether during the last three years, the Plan Expenditure of the Ministry is far below the allocated amount;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) if not, the details of Plan expenditure in the first three years of the Tenth Plan;

(e) the total outlay for 2006-07; and

(f) the details of plan for utilizing the budget estimate of 2006-07?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) The main reasons for reducing the Tenth Plan outlay for the Ministry of Power is due to scaling down the capacity addition target originally envisaged at 41,110 MW to 31,290 MW at the time of the Mid-Term review.

(b) Yes, Sir. The actual expenditure against the Annual Plan for the Ministry of Power during the last 3 years is given below:—

| (Rs. in crores) | | | |
|-----------------|----------|----------|------------|
| Years | Approved | Actuals | Percentage |
| 2003-04 | 14667.61 | 10741.30 | 73.23 |
| 2004-05 | 15630.32 | 12947.57 | 82.84 |
| 2005-06 | 23013.90 | 16847.54 | 73.21 |

(c) The reasons for the under utilization of plan funds during the last three years as indicated by the Ministry of Power are given in the enclosed statement.

(d) Question does not arise in view of response to (b) to (c).

(e) The total Outlay of 2006-07 is Rs. 27623.70 crores.

(f) It is planned to add inter-alia a capacity addition target of 17766.72 MW along with 12876 Kts. Kms of transmission line and 21644 MVA capacity of sub-stations during the Annual Plan 2006-07 as reported by the Ministry of Power.

Statement

1. The reasons for shortfall in the Annual Plan 2005-06 are as follows:—

(Rs. In crores)

| Organisation/ Scheme | Approved | Actuals (Prov.) | Major Reasons for saving |
|-------------------------|----------|--------------------|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| NHPC | 3791.96 | 2040.54 | The reason for savings in Major projects are as follows:— • Subansiri Lower (Rs. 67.73 crore)—Due to delay in forest clearance. |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--|
| | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teesta Low Dam-IV (Rs. 41.50 crores), Uri-II (Rs. 92.00 crore), Parbati-III (Rs. 97.60 crore) and Siyom (Rs. 180 crore)—Due to delay in investment approval. • Kishan Ganga (Rs. 100 crore)—due to non award of the work because of revision in the scheme. |
| NEEPCO | 996.79 | 206.00 | <p>The reason for savings in Major projects are as follows;—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tripura Gas Based Power Project (Rs. 159 crore)—due to dropping of the project in the absence of gas linkage. • Kameng HEP (Rs. 200 crores)—Due to slow progress of the project |
| Power Grid | 4787.63 | 4110.93 | The shortfall was for the new schemes associated transmission scheme linked to Gas projects of NTPC. |
| SJVN | 407.70 | 45.72 | • Due to delay in investment approval of Rampur HEP. |
| DVC | 2373.00 | 976.93 | • Reduction of Rs. 1015 crores in on-going scheme of CTPS unit 7 & 8 & Mejia Ext. 5 & 6 and reduction of about Rs. 90 crore for the new scheme. |
| Other Schemes of MOP | 10654.31 | 9467.42 | Saving was due to Lower Expenditure by NTPC, which was partly offset by the higher expenditure by THDC. |
| Total | 23013.90 | 16847.54 | Total Savings-6166.36 |

2. The reasons for shortfall in the Annual Plan 2004-05 are as follows:—

| | | | |
|--------------------|---------|---------|---|
| NHPC | 2849.86 | 2424.34 | <p>(a) new schemes viz. Uri-II, Kichanganga, Nimoo Bazgo, Chutak, Siang were not ripe for investment approval.</p> <p>(b) Teesta Low Dam IV, Chamera-III and Parbati-III could not obtain environment and forest clearance resulting in delay in according approval for the same.</p> <p>(c) For the JV project of Purulia, PSP, PIB decided that no GBS shall be earmarked for the same and the equity will come from the retained earnings of the NHPC.</p> |
| NEEPCO | 482.00 | 166.53 | <p>(a) The major reason for saving is the non-approval of Tripura Gas based project (Rs. 190 crore) alongwith associated transmission line.</p> <p>(b) Due to adverse law and order situation in Mizoram, the Tural HE project could not be taken up for construction.</p> |
| PFC (AG&SP) | 300.00 | 250.00 | Due to less claims received for the R&M projects in the state sector. |
| Power grid | 3738.00 | 3216.18 | The shortfall in expenditure is due to the fact that some projects viz. Sipat stage-II supplementary, Transmission system for Tural (RCE), Transmission System for Tala (RCE) were not ripe for investment approval. |
| New Schemes of MOP | 32.50 | 5.00 | Due to delay in approval of the new schemes. |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---|
| CEA | 108.99 | 19.55 | Due to delay in approval of the new schemes viz. DPRs of New Hydro Electric Schemes and Scheme for 100,000 MW environment friendly thermal initiative, Modernization of CEA with low height partitioning including provision for EPBX, Upgradation of information technology facilities in CEA. |
| Kutir Jyoti Programme | 300.00 | 200.00 | This programme was merged with the New scheme i.e. Scheme for Rural Electricity Infrastructure and Household Electrification, which was approved by the Cabinet in February, 2005. |
| Other Schemes of MOP | 7818.97 | 6665.95 | Saving was due to Lower Expenditure by SJVNL which was partly offset by the higher expenditure by NTPC, DVC & THDC |
| Total | 15630.32 | 12947.57 | Total Savings—Rs. 2682.75 crore |

3. The reasons for shortfall during Annual Plan 2003-04 were as follows:—

| | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---|
| NEEPCO | 414.5 | 61.17 | Saving of Rs. 353.33 crores due to the non approval of new schemes namely Tipaimukh HEP, Tripura Gas and Kameng, HEP |
| NHPC | 3269.72 | 2087.11 | The saving of Rs. 1182.59 crores in case of NHPC was due to the following reasons <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non approval of the Purulia Pump storage schemes. Kishan ganga, Parbat-I, Chamera-III, projects were not ready for investment approval. |
| NPTI | 24.60 | 5.09 | Due to approval of the New Schemes and slow progress of ongoing schemes. |
| CPRI | 25.00 | 1.48 | Due to non-approval of the New Schemes and slow progress of ongoing schemes. |
| REC (AREP) | 100.00 | 0.00 | Expenditure on this scheme was rescheduled for the next year. |
| PFC (AG&SP) | 300.00 | 191.91 | Due to less claims received for the R&M projects in the state sector. |
| Powergrid | 2670.00 | 2301.08 | The scheme of NERLDC was completed at lesser cost. In addition, delay in Associated transmission projects to match with the schedule of delayed hydro projects (like Dulhasti, Tehri) led to a slower pace of expenditure. |
| New Schemes of MOP | 20.00 | 0.00 | The competent authority could not approve the new schemes of MOP. |
| THDC | 924.29 | 560.05 | Due to delay in commissioning of Tehri Stage-I and non approval of Tehri PSP as it was not ripe for investment approval. |
| DVC | 1450.00 | 316.51 | Due to non-approval of the schemes. |
| SJVNL | 758.05 | 504.00 | Due to make up of equity of Rs. 254.05 crore by Himachal Pradesh, which was pending for the last so many years. |
| Other schemes of MOP | 4711.45 | 4712.90 | No saving. |
| Total | 14667.61 | 10741.30 | Total Saving Rs. 3926.31 crores. |

Allocation from MPLADS Funds

3220. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA": Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to put restrictions on allocation of funds by MPs from MPLADS funds to certain Trusts and Non-Governmental Organisations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for imposing such restrictions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) to (c) The Para 3.21 of the MPLADS Guidelines stipulates that the community infrastructure and public utility building works are also permissible under MPLADS for registered Societies and Trusts. Conditions have been indicated in the same para and also in the model agreement given in the Annex-V to the MPLADS Guidelines. Reputed Non-Governmental Organisations can be engaged as Implementing Agency as per Para 2.11 of the Guidelines.

Increasing Nuclear Power Production

3221. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the per capita consumption of electricity in the country is 600 kwh a year which is low;

(b) if so, whether the Government is contemplating to harness nuclear power for increasing power production; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All sources of power, including nuclear, need to be exploited to increase power production.

(c) Currently, 16 nuclear power reactors with a power generation capacity of 3900 MWe are in operation and seven reactors with a capacity of 3380 MWe are under construction. On completion of the reactors, the capacity

will reach 7280 MWe progressively by March 2011. More units are also planned in the XI Plan and beyond to reach a capacity of 20,000 MWe by the year 2020. The recent initiatives of the Government on international cooperation in nuclear energy open the possibilities of a larger capacity addition by setting up of capacities, in addition to our indigenous programme based on imports.

Strengthening Relations with China

3222. SHRI BANSAGOPAL CHOUDHURY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any action plan has been proposed by the Union Government for strengthening cooperation with China after opening of Nathula Pass; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) and (b) Border trade between India and China through the Nathula Pass was resumed with effect from July 6, 2006 at the Changgu border trade mart at Sherathang on the Indian side and the Renqinggang trade mart on the Chinese side in accordance with the Memorandum on Expanding Border Trade signed between India and China on June 23, 2003, after basic infrastructure for conducting border trade was put in place at these locations. Both sides are engaged in upgradation of the relevant infrastructure with a view to further expanding border trade through the Nathula Pass, which is expected to bring benefit to the local economy.

FDI in Telecom Sector

3223. SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU:
SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:
SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has rejected the idea of automatic route for 74% Foreign Direct Investment in telecom sector in the larger interest of national security; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) The Government has formulated the policy for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in telecom sector and issued the Press Note No. 5 (2005 Series) dated 03.11.2005, according to which automatic route is available for FDI upto 49%. Approval of the Foreign Investment Promotion Board is required for FDI beyond 49% with a ceiling of 74%.

Closure of Coal Mines

3224. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the underground coal mines of the Mahanadi Coal Field Limited have been closed down;

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

(c) whether these underground coal mines were not filled up with sand before their closure; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (b) Till 2005-06, no underground coal mines of Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd. have been closed down. However, coal production from Deulbera underground mine has been stopped/suspended since 19.07.2006 in pursuance of the decision taken in the meeting convened on 28.02.2003 by the Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Department of Water Resources, Government of Orissa, Bhubaneswar to close the mine whenever water is released through the Right Main Canal. A Notice for release of water through Right Main Canal was given by the Executive Engineer, Rengali Right Canal Division No. 1, Baghuaboli, Talcher on 10.07.2006.

(c) and (d) MCL has decided to close Deulbera Underground mine of Talcher Area in Talcher coalfield and accordingly has stopped production since 19.07.2006. The salvaging operation of P&M and materials is going on there. Stabilization of certain areas by filling up by sand will be done before closure of mine.

[Translation]

Survey for Data on Poor

3225. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any special method has been evolved by the National Sample Survey for gathering data about the poor in its consumer surveys;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the methods by which the Government assesses the income and expenditure of the poor and prepares schemes for poverty alleviation and development in the absence of such data?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) to (d) The methodology adopted by NSSO in its consumer expenditure survey assign due weightage to all socio-economic groups to ensure their adequate representation. The methodology consists of the following:

(i) Selection of a sample of villages and urban blocks in accordance with a scientific sampling scheme.

(ii) Selection of sample of households from each selected village and urban block, ensuring adequate representation of all socio-economic groups.

(iii) Collection of data on household consumer expenditure by interview method from each selected household.

(iv) The schemes for the poor are generally take into account the result of the consumer expenditure surveys conducted by the NSSO. The schemes are prepared by the Ministries of Rural Development and Urban Development in consultation with Planning Commission and Ministry of Finance.

Widening of Modinagar-Haridwar National Highway

3226. DR. RAJESH MISHRA:
SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA:
SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to carry out widening and metalling of the NH from Modinagar to Haridwar and to put up dividers thereon in view of the heavy traffic;

(b) if so, the time by which the said work is likely to be started; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) The Modinagar-Haridwar section of National Highway is part of Delhi-Haridwar section of NH-58 which is identified for 4-laning/6-laning with the provision of dividers under NHDP Phase-III A. The status is as under:—

- (i) Delhi/UP Border-Meerut (46 km) is already 4-laned. Work for preparation of DPR for 6 laning is in progress.
- (ii) Meerut-Muzaffarnagar Section (79 km): The work of 4-laning of BOT basis has been awarded.
- (iii) Muzaffarnagar-Haridwar section: BOT bids had been invited in May, 2006. The single BOT bid was received, which has been cancelled. Process for re-bidding has been initiated.

[English]

Issue of Commemorative Stamp

3227. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to issue a commemorative stamp in memory of Guru Arjun Dev; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) A proposal for issue of a commemorative postage stamp on Guru Arjun Dev Ji has been received by the Department of Posts, and is under consideration.

(b) Proposals for issue of commemorative postage stamps are examined by the Department of Posts on the basis of certain guidelines, which are meant to ensure that the postage stamps, when issued, have adequate philatelic value. After examination, the proposals are placed before the Philatelic Advisory Committee (PAC), which is a duly constituted body meant to consider and recommend stamp issues on the basis of the proposals received. The proposal for issue of a commemorative stamp on Guru Arjun Dev has been received and the examined, and the same will be placed before the Philatelic Advisory Committee for consideration at its next meeting.

[Translation]

Recruitment of Distt. Youth Co-ordinators

3228. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:
SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE:

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

(a) whether recruitment to the post of district youth co-ordinators was advertised as per the prescribed procedure of examination as adopted in 1996 but the result thereof is yet to be announced;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the accountants had to move the court for increase in the prescribed percentage of promotion to the advertised vacant posts;

(d) if so, the decisions of the court thereon;

(e) whether the examinees had also moved the court for delay caused in declaring the result;

(f) if so, the verdict of the court thereon; and

(g) the time by which the result will be declared and job offer given to the youths?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. An advertisement was issued by the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) during December, 1996 inviting applications for recruitment to the post of District Youth Coordinators. However, the recruitment process was cancelled by the Government due to the following reasons:

- (i) Approval for the creation of posts was not there from Govt. of India.
- (ii) In accordance with the advertisement inviting applications, educational qualification was fixed as graduate but only post-graduates were called for written test/interview.
- (iii) A number of complaints were received relating to the appointment to these posts.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A few Accountant-cum-Typists had filed a case in the Hon'ble High Court of Punjab and Haryana at Chandigarh. The Hon'ble High Court, vide its order dated 11.03.1998 disposed of the petition with a direction to the Union of India to decide on the recruitment rules within two months and thereafter consider the case of the petitioners for promotion as per the rules. Accordingly, the rules were formulated and are being followed.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. Two of the applicants had moved the High Court of Delhi against the non-declaration of the result due to cancellation of the recruitment process. The Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in its Order dated 03.03.1999 directed the respondents to declare the results of the examination and stated that, if the petitioners are found successful, they should be appointed. On appeal, this order was set aside by the two-judge bench of the same court on 02.08.2000 and the case was remanded back to the single judge bench for fresh consideration and decision.

(g) The matter is sub-judice.

[English]

Allotment of STD/ISD/PCO Booths

3229. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently framed a new policy for allotment of STD/ISD/PCO booths at Railway platforms; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Sir, whereas there

is no change in the policy of provisioning of telephone lines for STD/ISD/PCOs by the Bharat Canchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL), the two telecom P.S.U.s under Department of Telecommunications (DoT), the Ministry of Railways has only rationalized their earlier guidelines dated 22.04.2002 on 14.05.2004 for fresh allotment of STD/ISD/PCO/FAX booths at Railway Stations.

A copy of the guidelines issued by Railway Board vide No. 2001/TG.IV/10/PCO/Policy dated 22.04.2002 and 24.05.2004 is enclosed as Statement.

Statement

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(RAILWAY BOARD)

No. 01/TGIV/10/PCO/Review

New Delhi, dtd. 14.05.2004

The General Managers (C),
All Zonal Railways

(Commercial circular No. 8 of 2004)

**Sub: Policy for fresh allotment of STD/PCO/ISD/
Fax/Internet booths at Railway stations**

**Ref: Board's letters No. 01/TGIV/10/PCO/Policy
dated 22.4.02 and No. 01/TGIV/10/PCO/
Review dtd. 29.10.02**

A committee was constituted in the Ministry of Railways to review the existing policy for allotment of STD/PCO/ISD/Fax/Internet booths. Based on the recommendations made by the Committee and with the approval of the competent authority the Ministry of Railways have decided to rationalize certain provisions in the existing guidelines referred to in policy letter dated 22.4.2002 above. The modification/additions/deletions made in the existing policy are as under:—

1. Below Para 4. IV, Para V be added as under:-

V. In case of D, E & F category stations, the applicant should be a local resident of the area. The residence would be treated as local residence if it is located within the same district in which the station, where the booth is proposed to be allotted, is also located. For

this, the applicant will be required to submit a certificate of local residence from the DM/ADM of the district in which the station is located or Voter Identity Card.

2. Para 5.3 has been modified and may be read as under:-

5.3 For the purpose of working out number of booths to be allotted to various categories of persons at various of stations, the following procedure shall be adopted:-

"The number of stations located on a Division will be segregated category-wise *i.e.* A, B, C, D, E & F. After this has been done, a serial number should be given to each booth at the station e.g. at Nagpur station, the booths will be numbered as NGP/1, NGP/2, etc. The number of booths assessed for all 'A' class stations on the Division will be clubbed and thereafter distributed by adopting principle of vertical and horizontal reservation. The same procedure will be adopted for 'B' and 'C' class stations. The total requirement at 'D', 'E' & 'F' class station will be clubbed together for entire division and this will be treated as one block and there after the same principle as mentioned above, will be adopted. To illustrate, If there are 100 booths to be allotted at all 'A' class stations of a particular Division, 25 will be allotted to physically handicapped persons, 25 to ladies and 50 to unemployed Youth. Amongst the 25 booths allotted to physically handicapped persons, 15% will be allotted to SC, 7.5% to ST and 27% to OBC and the remaining 50.5% to the general public. The same method will be adopted in case of women and unemployed youth. The category of persons to which these booths will be allotted, will be determined through a draw of lots to be done by any child separately for A, B & C category of stations and on combined basis for D, E & F stations. For one-time-identification of booths, a committee of 3 officers at Assistant/Senior Scale level should be constituted by the DRM. In this manner, each booth will be allotted a specific number and category of person for allotment which is to be called its booth ID.

3. Para 5.4 has been modified and may be read as under:-

5.4 After the present contract is over or in case of termination of contract etc., the booths should be allotted to the person belonging to the category as per the booth ID. Moreover, future tenders will be both specific only. In case, due to construction of new platforms etc., additional booths are to be set up the identification for these booths

will be done through a draw of lots to be done by any child based on the remaining category of persons of the table, as per the procedure prescribed above.

4. Para 6.1 has been modified and may be read as under:-

6.1 For allotment of booths at 'A', 'B' & 'C' category of stations, two packet tendering system will be followed for 'D', 'E' and 'F' category of stations, the allotment will be done by the DRM on the basis of draw of lots to be done by any child. The detailed procedure will be as under:—

5. Para 6.1.2 (ii) has been modified and may be read as under:—

Affidavit declaring assets and liabilities.

6. Para 6.1.3 has been modified and may be read as under:-

6.1.3 Packet 'B' which is the financial offer shall be opened after short listing on the basis of Packet 'A' and shall contain the financial bids only and no other document. The financial bid shall have two components. The first one shall comprise an undertaking for paying the land licence fee as notified by the Railway Administration from time to time. The second component shall be an offer in terms of percentage of the commission payable to him by the telephone service provider *i.e.* BSNL, MTNL or any other authorized service provider which shall in no case be less than 10% of the commission payable to him. The maximum will also not be quoted more than 100% in the tender. If any tenderer quote more than 100% commission on the tender will be treated as invalid. This should be specifically mentioned in the tender papers.

7. Para 6.1.4 has been modified and may be read as under:-

6.1.4 After the bids have been received, a Tender committee comprising three offices of appropriate level including one from commercial, Civil and Finance Department respectively will scrutinise the Paket 'A' and short list those who qualify in technical offer and reject summarily all those applications which are not accompanied by any of the documents stated for Pocket 'A'. Thereafter, Packet 'B' of only those bidders who qualify for opening of their financial bids in packet 'A' will

be opened. The highest offer received should be considered for acceptance by the approving authority *i.e.* Divisional Railway Manager. However, as the highest bid has been restricted to 100% of the commission, there will be a draw of lots to be done by any child if there are more than one candidate offering same highest bid; Candidates should be advised the date, time and venue of the draw by Courier/Regd. AD to enable them to attend it if they so desire.

8. Para 6.2.2 has been modified and may be read as under:—

6.2.2 After the applications have been received, a screening committee of the Division consisting of officers of appropriate level including one from commercial, civil and finance Deptt. shall scrutinize and shortlist the eligible offers. The allotment of both will then be made by the DRM through a draw of lots & the draw of lots should be done by any child. All the eligible candidates should be advised the date, time and venue of the draw through courier/Regd. AD so that they may attend the draw if they so desire.

9. Para 7.1 has been modified and may be read as under:-

The following charges will be realized from the booth operator.

7.1 Land license Fee at a uniform rate of 20% of the notified cost of the land price prevailing at the stations as notified by the Railway from time to time will be paid in respect of all category of stations and the same will be increased by 10% every year. Exact amount of land license fee will be worked out and mentioned in the tender document.

The above changes will be applicable to the STD/PCO/ISD/Fax/Internet booths to be allotted in future. In respect of booths, which have been allotted or are in the process of being finalized as per Board's policy guidelines dated 22.4.02; these will be governed by existing guidelines *i.e.* of 22.4.02 & 29.10.02.

This issues with the concurrence of Finance and Legal Directorates of the Ministry of Railways.

(Hindi version will follow)

DA: As above

-Sd-
27.2.

(A.K. Goyal)

Executive Director Passenger Marketing
Railway Board

No.01/TGIV/10/PCO/Review

New Delhi, dtd. 02.004

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:

1. The Principal Director of Audit, all Zonal Railways
2. The FA&CAO, All Zonal Railways

-Sd-
27/2

(Dhruv Singh)

Director Finance Commercial
Railway Board

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:

1. Chief Commercial Managers. All Zonal Railways
2. Divisional Railway Managers/all divisions of ZRs

-Sd-
27/2

(A.K. Goyal)

Executive Director Passenger Marketing
Railway Board

Copy forwarded for information to:

1. General Secretary, AIRF & NFIR
2. General Secretary, All India SC/ST Railway Employees Association, 171-B/3, Basant Lane, Railway Colony, New Delhi. 1

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(RAILWAY BOARD)

No. 2001/TGIV/10/PCO/Policy New Delhi, Dt. 22.4.02

The General Manager (Comml)
All Zonal Railways

(Commercial Circular No. 24 of 2002)

Sub: Policy for fresh allotment of STD/ISD/PCO/FAX/Internet Booths at Railway Stations

A comprehensive review of the STD/ISD/PCO booth policy issued vide Board's letter No. 2000/TG.IV/10/P/PCO/TATA dt. 28.4.2000 has been under consideration of the Board. A copy of the detailed policy guidelines framed for allotment of new STD/ISD/PCO/FAX/Internet Booths is enclosed. A copy of the agreement will be sent later on after vetting by the Convincing Branch of the Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Law & Justice.

In the meantime, process for fresh allotment of STD/ISD Booths be started. This issues with the concurrence of the Finance and Legal directorates of the Ministry of Railways.

The policy guidelines in respect of the existing STD/ISD/PCO/FAX/Internet Booth holders and PCO Booths having only Local Call facility will be issued separately.

Please acknowledge receipt.

(Hindi and English versions)

-Sd-

(Dr. P.K. Goel)

Encl: Copy of Policy

Executive Director
Passenger Marketing
Railway Board

No. 2001/TG.IV/10/PCO/Policy

New Delhi, Dt. 22.4.2002

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:

1. The Principal Director of Audit, All Zonal Railways
2. The FA&CAO, All Zonal Railways

-Sd-

(Tanveer Ahmed)

Director Finance Commercial
Railway Board

No. 2001/TG.IV/10/PCO/Policy

New Delhi, dt. 22.4.2002

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:

1. The Chief Commercial Managers/All Zonal Railways
2. The Divisional Railway Managers/All Divisions/All Zonal Railways

-Sd-

(Dr. P.K. Goel)

Executive Director Passenger Marketing
Railway Board

POLICY ON ALLOTMENT OF BOOTHS HAVING STD/ISD/LOCAL CALL/FAX/INTERNET FACILITY-2002

1. Objective

- 1.1 To provide easy and user friendly access to passengers to communicate in emergency or otherwise.

2. Scale and Number of booths

- 2.1 For the purpose of providing booths having STD/ISD/Local call/FAX/Internet facility, stations will be classified into various categories as per Board's letter No. 9/LM(B)/2/175 dated 28.9.99 which lays down as under:-

Category 'A': Non-suburban stations with an annual passenger earnings of Rs. 6 crores and above.

Category 'B': I Non-suburban stations with an annual passenger earnings between Rs. 3 crores to Rs. 6 crores.

B: II Stations of tourism importance, or an important junction station (to be decided by General Manager)

Category 'C': All Suburban Stations.

Category 'D': Non-suburban station with passenger earnings between 1 and 3 crores.

Category 'E': Non-suburban station with earnings less than 1 crore.

Category 'F': Halts.

- 2.2 At 'A' Class Stations upto 2 booths having STD/ISD/Local Call/Fax/Internet facility will be provided at each platform. Combined platform will be called a single platform for this purpose. In case of important stations serving metropolitan towns, State capitals etc. where there is sizeable traffic, this facility will also be provided in the concourse and the circulating area and the number of booths to be provided at these places will be decided by the Divisional Railway Managers.

- 2.3 At 'B' and 'C' Class stations one Booth will be provided at each platform.

- 2.4 At 'D' Class stations 2 such booths will be provided.

2.5 At 'E' and 'F' class stations, one Booth shall be provided if considered justified by the Division.

2.6 If there is a ban on the allotment of additional booths at any station but there is a justification for provision of these booths, the ban may be lifted with approval of Divisional Railway Manager. However, number of booths at any platform shall not exceed the prescribed number as mentioned above.

2.7 At stations, which are heavily congested or stations where need for providing booths having STD/ISD/Local call/Fax/Internet facility, as per the norms prescribed above, is not felt, lesser number of booths may be provided with specific approval of Divisional Railway Manager.

2.8 Divisional Railway Manager will assess the requirements of booths having STD/ISD/Local call/Fax/Internet facility for each category of stations on the division as per the norms mentioned above.

2.9 Places where this facility will be located will be identified in such a way that it does not hamper passenger movement but at the same time is accessible to the passengers.

2.10 The Telephones shall be provided to BSNL/ MTNL or any other authorised service provider duly selected in that State and operating under regulations of TRAI.

3. Operation of Booths: These booths will be operated by duly selected booth operators who should provide good quality of customer service.

4. Eligibility criteria for selection of Booth operators (for all category of applicants/Stations)

I. The booth operators should be educated unemployed person. No educational qualification is necessary for reserved categories such as SC/ST/OBC/women/physically handicapped including blind persons.

II. The applicants should not be less than 18 years of age on the date of opening of tender. There is no upper age limit.

III. Educational Qualification

The educational qualification requirement for allotment shall be as under:—

(i) At least matric or high school and above for urban areas.

(ii) 8th or middle pass and above for rural areas.

IV. Antecedents

Before awarding of the licence, the antecedents of the applicants should be got verified by policy.

5. Vertical and Horizontal Reservation in Allotment

The booths will be divided into 3 board categories *i.e.*, educated unemployed youth, physically handicapped and women. There will be quotas within this broad category as under:

5.1 The vertical and horizontal reservation percentage in allotment of the STD/ISD/Local call/FAX/Internet booths at stations will be as under:—

| Category | Total Percentage | Percentage reserved for various categories | | | |
|---|------------------|--|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | | Scheduled Caste | Scheduled Tribe | Other Backward Class | General (Unreserved) |
| Educated Unemployed Youth | 50% | 15% of 50% <i>i.e.</i> 7.5% | 7.5% of 50% <i>i.e.</i> 3.75% | 27% of 50% <i>i.e.</i> 13.5% | 50.5% of 50% <i>i.e.</i> 25.25% |
| Physically Handicapped (including Blind) Disability 40% and above | 25% | 15% of 25% <i>i.e.</i> 3.75% | 7.5% of 25% <i>i.e.</i> 1.875% | 27% of 25% <i>i.e.</i> 6.75% | 50.5% of 25% <i>i.e.</i> 12.625% |
| Women including War widows and Railway employees' widows) | 25% | 15% of 25% <i>i.e.</i> 3.75% | 7.5% of 25% <i>i.e.</i> 1.875% | 27% of 25% <i>i.e.</i> 6.75% | 50.5% of 25% <i>i.e.</i> 12.625% |
| Total | 100% | 15% | 7.5% | 27% | 50.5% |

5.2 The quota as specified above shall be maintained at Divisional basis.

5.3 For the purpose of working out number of booths to be allotted to various categories of persons at various categories of stations, the following procedure shall be adopted:-

"The number of stations located on a Division will be segregated category-wise *i.e.* A, B, C, D, E & F. The number of booths assessed for all 'A' class stations on the Division will be clubbed and thereafter distributed by adopting principle of vertical and horizontal reservation. The same procedure will be adopted for 'B' and 'C' class stations. The total requirement at 'D', 'E' and 'F' class stations will be clubbed together for entire division and this will be treated as one block and thereafter the same principle as mentioned above, will be adopted. To illustrate, if there are 100 booths to be allotted at all 'A' class stations of a particular Division, 25 will be allotted to physically handicapped persons, 25 to ladies and 50 to unemployed youth. Amongst the 25 booths allotted to physically handicapped persons, 15% will be allotted to SC, 7.5% to ST and 27% to OBC and the remaining 50.5% to the general public. The same method will be adopted in case of women and unemployed youth.

5.4 In the event of vacancy on account of expiry of contract or termination of contract etc., the booth will be allotted to person(s) belonging to the same category for which the vacancy has arisen, after following the laid down procedure.

6. Procedure for Selection

6.1 For allotment of booths at 'A', 'B' & 'C' category of stations, two packet tendering system will be followed. For 'D', 'E' and 'F' category of stations, the allotment will be done by the General Manager on the recommendations of the screening committee. The detailed procedure will be as under:—

6.1.1 Procedure for 'A', 'B' and 'C' Category of stations

Offers shall be invited by the division concerned through advertisements in the National/State level/Local News Paper, etc. Two packet tender system viz. Packet 'A' and Packet 'B' should be followed.

6.1.2 Packet 'A' containing the technical offer will be opened first and should inter alia have following documents:

- (i) Authenticated documents showing educational qualification of the applicant.
- (ii) Income Tax Clearance Certificate along with affidavit declaring assets and liabilities;
- (iii) Documents showing that the party has the requisite financial resources to pay the necessary MTNL/BSNL charges etc. for getting the connection as well as constructing/installing a booth at the earmarked site and capacity to pay Railway License fee, as also for employing staff to man the booth.
- (iv) Earnest money as stipulated.

6.1.3 Packet 'B' which is the financial offer shall be opened after short listing on the basis of Packet 'A' and shall contain the financial bids only and no other document. The financial bid shall have two components. The first one shall comprise and undertaking for paying the land licence fee as notified by the Railway Administration from time to time. The second component shall be an offer in terms of percentage of the commission payable to him by the telephone service provider *i.e.* BSNL, MTNL or any other authorised service provider which shall in no case be less than 10% of the commission payable to him.

6.1.4 After the bids have been received, a Tender Committee comprising three officers of appropriate level including one from Commercial, Civil and Finance Department respectively will scrutinize the Packet 'A' and shortlist those who qualify in technical offer and reject summarily all those applications which are not accompanied by any of the documents stated for Packet 'A'. Thereafter, Packet 'B' of only those bidders who qualify for opening of their financial bids in Packet 'A' will be opened. The highest offer received should be considered for acceptance by the approving authority *i.e.* Divisional Railway Manager.

6.1.5 The commission together with land license fee will be paid by both operators to Railway authority. Applications for each booth will be called for and considered separately.

6.2 Procedure for selection for 'D', 'E' & 'F' category stations

6.2.1 The two packet tender system will not be followed for these categories of stations. Applications will be called for by the division by giving suitable advertisements in the national/State-level/local newspapers etc. The eligibility criteria will be decided as per para 4 and the applicants shall also enclosed documents as specified in Para 6.1.2 (i to iv) above.

6.2.2 After the applications have been received, a screening committee of the Division consisting of officers of appropriate level including one from commercial, civil and Finance Deptt. shall scrutinize and shortlist the eligible offers. These shall then be forwarded with the comments of Divisional Railway Manager to the commercial department of the headquarter office. This will be examined by Headquarter committee comprising three officers of senior scale level/JA Grade (as convenient) including one from Commercial, Civil and Finance Department, as nominated by the General Manager. The recommendations of this committee shall be approved by the General Manager.

7. License fee and other charges

7.1 **Land licence fee** at a uniform rate of 20% of the notified cost of the land price prevailing at the stations as notified by the Railway from time to time will be paid in respect of all category of stations and the same will be increased by 10% every year.

7.2 **Commission:** (i) The percentage as agreed upon shall be the commission payable in case of A, B, C type of stations (this percentage shall in no case be less than 10% of the commission payable to the booth operators by the service provider *i.e.* BSNL/MTNL or any other authorised service provider.

(ii) in case of D, E, F category of stations, minimum 10% of commission payable to the booth operators by the service provider *i.e.* BSNL/MTNL or any other authorised service provider is payable to Railways. The percentage of commission to be charged for each station falling under D, E, & F categories of stations will, however, be fixed by the Division in consultation with their Associate Finance subject to minimum of 10%.

8. Terms and Conditions for Allotment

8.1 Only one booth would be allotted to one person. An undertaking should be obtained that applicant is not operating another STD/ISD/PCO/FAX/Internet booth on the Indian Railway premises.

8.2 The maximum size of the booth will be 5' x 6'.

8.3 Two telephone lines will be permitted in one booth.

8.4 The booth holders will be permitted to install FAX facility within the space allotted and in case FAX facility is installed, an additional telephone connection may be permitted. The booth holders shall also be permitted to install internet kiosk for which 10% space of the area be given extra on payment of additional land license fee. However, care should be taken not to congest the platform.

8.5 (a) For operating the booth, the licensee will pay one year's annual land license fee in advance before construction permission is granted.

(b) Commission shall be paid by the licensee to the railways based on commission payable to him by MTNL/BSNL to the licensee.

(c) The initial land licence fee decided at the time of signing of the agreement will be increased @ 10% for every subsequent year.

8.6 The earnest money deposit will be retained by Railways as part of the security deposit. Security deposit of 6 months land license fee shall be deposited by the successful bidder.

8.7 The period of contract would be for a period of five years. This would be extended for another five years, by the competent authority on recommendations of Divisional Commercial Manager/Senior Divisional Commercial Manager with finance concurrence provided the performance of the booth operator is satisfactory and full license fee is regularly deposited during the tenure. License will be for a maximum period of 10 years only including extension period and no further extension shall be permitted. Railways should take timely action to call fresh bids well in advance (preferably six months in advance) and not renew any of the contracts after the expiry of contractual period of 10 years including extension.

8.8 MTNL/BSNL/or any other authorized service provider bills would form the basis for realizing the commission for all facilities given to the licensees.

8.9 No subletting of premises/booth will be allowed.

8.10 In case of death of the licensee during the tenure of the contract, the license may be transferred in the name of his/her spouse or legal heirs of category I of succession Act for the unexpired period only irrespective of the fact whether he/she belongs to the category under which the license was accorded but subject to conditions that he/she will get the telephone booth transferred in his/her favour from the BSNL/MTNL or any other service provider on the request of the his/her spouse of legal heirs as stated above.

8.11 For easy identification of PCO booth by the rail users, yellow colour with black border should be used. They should conform to standardized design made by Railways.

8.12 In order to ensure that the facility is availed only by the person in whose favour, the license has been granted, it would be mandatory for the licensee to operate the booth personally at least in one shift of 8 hours.

8.13 The party who has been allotted booth will have to start the booth within one month of allotment falling which his/her allotment may be cancelled and earnest money forfeited.

9. Monitoring of Performance/Payment

- (i) Feed back about performance from the users of the facility should be gathered.
- (ii) There should be a periodical check on the service being provided.
- (iii) Quarterly paid statement should be prepared by accounts department and given to commercial departments. Details to include the confirmation about the timely payment by the party and the position of outstanding dues, if any.
- (iv) A separate dossier to be maintained for recording performance of the party.
- (v) An Officer should be nominated at Divisional/ Zonal Railway Headquarter to monitor.

(i) Timely Payment.

(ii) Satisfactory performance of service etc.

10. The Administration (*i.e.*, Divisional Railway Manager or General Manager) will have the right to impose fine/terminate the license if the licensee is not conforming to the conditions laid down by the railways and if there are complaints against him/her for overcharging, etc. the contract will be terminated after issuing due notice. The termination of the license may be done on the basis of the defaults committed by the licensee and at least 3 chances may be afforded by imposing fine. The compounding of defaults may be empowered to Divisional Railway Manager with the powers of imposing fine not less than Rs. 500 after due observance of the principles of Natural Justice.

11. A copy of the draft agreement to be entered into is enclosed. This can be suitably modified depending upon the category under which the booth is allotted.

12. These conditions will apply prospectively. Fresh allotments of STD/ISD/PCO/FAX/Internet Booths will be made only as per this new policy guidelines.

Development of National Highways

3230. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to develop the National Highways including extending it upto Vallarpadam Container Terminal at Cochin;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether NH-17 and NH-47 are proposed to be developed from Cochin;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the present status of bypass from Cochin to Munnar on National Highway No. 49?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) There is a proposal for developing a new International Container Transshipment Terminal (ICTT) at Vallarpadam in Kerala by Cochin Port Trust. A four lane road connectivity (17.2 km long) with

NH-47 to the ICTT is proposed at an estimated cost of Rs. 395.00 crore.

(c) and (d) The entire length of NH-17 (421 km) in Kerala from Karnataka-Kerala border to Edappally (Cochin) is proposed for four laning on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase III-B. Presently, the preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPR) for four laning is in progress. Four laning of NH-47 from Walayar (Kerala-Tamil Nadu Border) to Vytilla Junction (Cochin) is in progress under NHDP Phase II length of 32 km and the same is in progress in a length of 46 km. Preparation of DPRs/award of works are in progress in the balance reaches. As regards other section of NH-47 in Kerala *i.e.* from Vytilla Junction to Kerala-Tamil Nadu border, four laning is in progress from Vytilla Junction to Aroor Junction (10 km) under "Port Connectivity", from Aroor Junction to Cherthala (20 km) is already four lane and from Cherthala-Trivandrum-Karnataka/Tamil Nadu border (221 km), four laning is proposed under NHDP Phase III-A. Presently preparation of DPRs/award of works are in progress.

(e) Three bypasses viz. Tripunithura, Muvattupuzha and Kothamangalam are proposed between Kochi and Munnar on NH-49 in Kerala. The alignment for these bypasses stands approved and the land acquisition estimates awaited from the State PWD. However, for Tripunithura Bypass, land acquisition in part length has already been approved.

Allotment of coal blocks

3231. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Maharashtra has requested for allotment of Coal Blocks to Maharashtra State Mining Corporation (MSMC);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which approval is likely to be accorded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Maharashtra State Mining Corporation (MSMC) had requested for allocation of following blocks:

| Name of the State | Name of Block |
|-------------------|--|
| Jharkhand | Rajbar, Banhardih, Gomia and Saria-Koiyatand, |
| Chhattisgarh | Parsa, Morga I, Morga II, Gare Palma Sector I and Gare Palma Sector II |
| Madhya Pradesh | Dongeri Tal I, Dongeri Tal II, and Mara II Mahan |
| Orissa | Nuagaon Telisahi |
| Maharashtra | Marki-Zari-Jamani Adkoli |

(c) The Government vide its letter dated 02.08.2006 has allocated Marki-Zari-Jam Ani Adkoli to MSMC.

[Translation]

Generation of Power from Atomic Energy

3232. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether power generation through coal and lignite is cheaper than that from atomic power;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for promoting production of power from the atomic energy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) Currently, Nuclear Power is competitive to coal/lignite at locations away from coal mines. There are several regions in the country that are away from the coal mines, where nuclear power is competitive.

(c) India has vast reserves of thorium which has huge potential for electricity generation in the long term. A three-stage nuclear power programme has been formulated to achieve long term security through use of abundantly available Indian thorium resources.

Commercial maturity is reached for the first stage and second stage has been launched recently.

*[English]***Quality of Food at SAI Canteens**

3233. SHRI HITEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the food supplied to sportspersons at the canteens run by the Sports Authority of India (SAI) is unfit for human consumption;

(b) if so, whether the Government has conducted any enquiry into the matter;

(c) if so, the findings of the enquiry and the steps taken to improve the quality of food supplied; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (d) The Sports Authority of India (SAI) provides food and other dietary items to trainees under their various schemes in their training centres, coaching camps etc. SAI has had expert studies conducted to see that the desired nutritional standards are being maintained and also has a system of regular monitoring of the quality of food that is being provided to trainees. Complaints received from time to time are being looked into promptly.

Recommendations of Expert Committee on Coal

3234. SHRI UDAY SINGH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether an expert committee had been constituted by the Government to draw a roadmap for modernization of the coal sector;

(b) if so, the details of recommendations made by the committee;

(c) whether the Government has since examined the recommendations of the committee; and

(d) if so, the details of recommendations accepted by the Government and the reasons for not accepting the remaining recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The major recommendations made by the Expert Committee in Part-I of its report are as follows:

- (i) As coal shall remain India's primary source of commercial energy supply, a time-bound plan to cover the entire country by regional mapping in 15 years should be prepared by Geological Survey of India, Central Mine Planning and Design Institute and Ministry of Coal, Government of India.
- (ii) Coal India Limited (CIL) may be granted the status of Navratna company and the subsidiaries of CIL may be granted the status of Mini Ratna companies in which case only those proposals of such a subsidiary would need government approval wherein the capital expenditure exceeds Rs. 500 crore.
- (iii) The environmental issue in respect of projects should be taken up on priority consideration by the Government.
- (iv) Planned imports of coal needs to be encouraged.
- (v) Increasing proportion of all domestic coal that is not earmarked for Power Sector be brought into the E-auction market over the next 2 to 3 years.
- (vi) The current system of linkages feeding the power sector may be replaced with formal long term Fuel Supply and Transport Agreements that include the Railways.
- (vii) The procedures and processes need to be streamlined to expedite the allotment of the captive coal blocks in a transparent and effective manner.
- (viii) All possible legal measures should be evolved to cancel the licenses issues earlier if the allottee has not taken adequate steps to bring the allotted mines to production or in setting up the end use units.
- (ix) Coal price would need to be regulated in light of the market realities. The regulation of coal price has to be differentiate the pricing of coal for power generation since it consumes 80% of the domestic production and the quality of coal it consumes is not easily saleable to the steel and cement sectors.

- (x) The Railway tariff for coal should be subject to a detailed review by an independent agency, preferably headed by a High/Supreme Court Judge.
- (xi) The Railways should in consultation with Planning Commission and the Ministries of Coal and Power determine the main corridors through which coal would move in very large quantities to power plants and examine the cost and feasibility of setting up dedicated trunk-routes for coal transport.

Based on the above, the following actions have been initiated:

1. e-auction has been introduced in CIL during the year 2005-06. It was decided initially to sell 10 million tonnes of coal by CIL subsidiaries through e-marketing for the year 2005-06 on trial basis, which was subsequently enhanced to 20 million tonnes. During the year 2006-07, the Government has allowed CIL to sell 36 million tonnes of coal through E-marketing.
2. The matter of granting status of Navratna to CIL and Mini Ratna Status to CIL subsidiaries is under consideration of Ministry of Coal.
3. Under 'Increasing production through Emergency Coal Production Plan' scheme, CIL has identified 16 opencast projects/mines where production from existing mines/projects will be enhanced to a higher level yielding additional 71.3 Mt. by 2012-13. Out of 16 projects, 14 projects have been approved by the Govt./coal companies and two projects are in the process of approval.
4. CMPDI has been advised to enhance drilling capacity through outsourcing.
5. Action for de-reservation of some coal blocks in favour of power sector & others has been initiated.
6. For promotion of Clean Coal Technologies action has been initiated with cooperation of Indo-US Working Group, Indo-EU Working Group and Asia Pacific Partnership etc.

Committee is yet to submit Part II of the Report.

[Translation]

Opening of Post Offices

3235. SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of post offices targetted to be opened in Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand during the last two years;
- (b) whether target in this regard has been achieved;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, location-wise; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) In consonance with the policy directives of Tenth Five Year Plan rationalization of the postal network, on plan targets for opening of Post Offices are being allotted since the year 2004-05.

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

[English]

Science Counsellors in Indian Missions

3236. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:
SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Indian diplomatic missions abroad, country-wise;
- (b) the number of science counsellors in these missions;
- (c) the duties performed by these science counsellors posted in these missions;
- (d) whether the number of science counsellor is insufficient owing to a number of scientific collaborations taking place in the world;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) to (f) India has resident diplomatic Missions in 115 countries, as listed in the enclosed statement.

Apart from these, India has 2 Permanent Missions to the United Nations in New York and Geneva respectively, as well as a Permanent Delegation to United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in Paris.

As part of its diplomatic activities, each Indian Mission abroad promotes cooperation in the various facets of science and technology, including Atomic Energy, Space and Defence Technology. An officer in each Mission is given the responsibility for this work, either exclusively or as part of his overall work. In specific cases, non-MEA officers are also posted to Indian Missions abroad keeping in mind the nature and extent of bilateral cooperation in this field. Currently, 11 such officers at the level of Minister (Joint Secretary level), Counsellor (Director level) or First Secretary (Deputy Secretary level) are posted in the following Indian Missions: Washington-3 officers; Paris-2 offices; Beijing, London, Moscow, Berlin, Tokyo and Vienna-1 officer each.

The Government ensures that sufficient number of officers, either from MEA or otherwise, are posted to look after matters relating to Science and Technology in Indian Missions abroad. In addition, the Government facilitates direct linkages between science and technology institutions in India and their counterparts abroad.

Statement

| Sl.No. | Countries |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| 1 | 2 |
| I. Embassies of India: | |
| 1. | Afghanistan |
| 2. | Algeria |
| 3. | Angola |
| 4. | Argentina |
| 5. | Armenia |
| 6. | Austria |
| 7. | Azerbaijan |

| 1 | 2 |
|-----|------------------------------|
| 8. | Bahrain |
| 9. | Belarus |
| 10. | Belgium |
| 11. | Bhutan |
| 12. | Brazil |
| 13. | Bulgaria |
| 14. | Cambodia |
| 15. | Chile |
| 16. | China |
| 17. | Colombia |
| 18. | Cote D'Ivoire |
| 19. | Croatia |
| 20. | Cuba |
| 21. | Czech Republic |
| 22. | Democratic Republic of Congo |
| 23. | Denmark |
| 24. | Egypt |
| 25. | Ethiopia |
| 26. | Finland |
| 27. | France |
| 28. | Germany |
| 29. | Greece |
| 30. | Hungary |
| 31. | Indonesia |
| 32. | Iran |
| 33. | Iraq |
| 34. | Ireland |
| 35. | Israel |
| 36. | Italy |

| 1 | 2 |
|-----|---------------|
| 37. | Japan |
| 38. | Jordan |
| 39. | Kazakhstan |
| 40. | Korea (North) |
| 41. | Korea (South) |
| 42. | Kuwait |
| 43. | Kyrgyzstan |
| 44. | Laos |
| 45. | Lebanon |
| 46. | Libya |
| 47. | Madagascar |
| 48. | Mexico |
| 49. | Mongolia |
| 50. | Morocco |
| 51. | Myanmar |
| 52. | Nepal |
| 53. | Netherlands |
| 54. | Norway |
| 55. | Oman |
| 56. | Panama |
| 57. | Peru |
| 58. | Philippines |
| 59. | Poland |
| 60. | Portugal |
| 61. | Qatar |
| 62. | Romania |
| 63. | Russian Fed. |
| 64. | Saudi Arabia |
| 65. | Senegal |

| 1 | 2 |
|-----|----------------------------------|
| 66. | Serbia |
| 67. | Slovak Rep. |
| 68. | Spain |
| 69. | Sudan |
| 70. | Suriname |
| 71. | Sweden |
| 72. | Switzerland |
| 73. | Syria |
| 74. | Tajikistan |
| 75. | Thailand |
| 76. | Tunisia |
| 77. | Turkey |
| 78. | Turkmenistan |
| 79. | U.A.E. |
| 80. | U.S.A. |
| 81. | Ukraine |
| 82. | Uzbekistan |
| 83. | Venezuela |
| 84. | Vietnam |
| 85. | Yemen |
| 86. | Zimbabwe |
| II. | High Commissions of India |
| 1. | Australia |
| 2. | Bangladesh |
| 3. | Botswana |
| 4. | Brunei Darussalam |
| 5. | Canada |
| 6. | Cyprus |
| 7. | Fiji |

| 1 | 2 |
|-----|-------------------|
| 8. | Ghana |
| 9. | Guyana |
| 10. | Jamaica |
| 11. | Kenya |
| 12. | Malaysia |
| 13. | Maldives |
| 14. | Mauritius |
| 15. | Mozambique |
| 16. | Namibia |
| 17. | New Zealand |
| 18. | Nigeria |
| 19. | Pakistan |
| 20. | Papua New Guinea |
| 21. | Seychelles |
| 22. | Singapore |
| 23. | South Africa |
| 24. | Sri Lanka |
| 25. | Tanzania |
| 26. | Trinidad & Tobago |
| 27. | Uganda |
| 28. | U.K. |
| 29. | Zambia |

[*Translation*]

Alleged Misuse of Medical Profession

3237. SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:
SHRI MUNSHI RAM:
SHRI HEMMAL MURMU:
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:
SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain doctors are allegedly misusing their medical profession by amputating parts of the body to encourage begging as reported in the Hindi daily '*Dainik Jagran*' dated July 30, 2008;

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

(c) whether the Government has any proposals to assess the alleged nexus between such doctors and beggars;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government against the doctors found guilty; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to check such incidents/practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (f) The Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002 regulates the professional conduct of doctors. In the event of any doctor displaying proposal misconduct, suitable action is taken under the provisions of the said Regulation.

The MCI has informed that the Doctors alleged to be involved in maiming of the healthy people have been summoned by the Ethics Committee of MCI.

Spotting Talent from Rural Areas

3238. SHRI SITA RAM SINGH:
SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR:

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

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to launch a new scheme for talent hunt in the field of sports at rural level;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to set up branches of the Sports Authority of India in each district of every State;

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be done;

(e) whether the Union Government proposes to set up Sports hostels in rural areas so as to attract, encourage and promote traditional sports/games;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) In recognition of the shortage of sports facilities in rural areas and the consequent lack of access to organized sports and games for a large section of children, adolescents and the youth, consideration is being given in the Ministry to the promotion of a Panchayat Yuva Khel Abhiyan in collaboration with various stakeholders, including Panchayati Raj Institutions, youth organizations, education, institutions etc. The proposal will be finalised after necessary consultations with the Ministries and organizations concerned, as also the State Governments. Thereafter, approval of the competent authority will be sought.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) to (g) Under the Special Area Games (SAG) Scheme of the Sports Authority of India, infrastructure, including hostels, is being established in far flung rural, tribal and coastal areas to tap and nurture the sports talent in such areas. Moreover, under the National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC) Scheme and the SAI Training Centre (STC) Scheme of the Sports Authority of India, facilities are being provided for coaching and training in respect of traditional sports and games such as Kabaddi, Kho-Kho, etc. In addition, there is also provision for adoption/registration of akharas and schools where such facilities are provided.

[English]

Collapse of Communication Network

3239. SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:
SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY:
SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:
SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the whole communication network was collapsed immediately after the recent Mumbai blasts and the people were unable to get information about their affected relatives and friends;

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

(c) the steps that are proposed to be taken to set up an integrated emergency information/communication system that would provide information in case of such national, regional or local emergencies in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) As per the Press Reports, the mobile network of Mumbai was reported to be jammed on 11th July 2006 soon after the blasts. The reasons for such jamming was sought by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) from Telecom Service Providers of Mumbai Metro Service Area. As per the responses received from some of the operators, this blocking was due to excessive/repeated call attempts by the subscribers. The increase in the number of call attempts crossed the critical limit of Telephone Exchange/Mobile Switching Centre (MSC) processing load capacity and this resulted in activation of automatic overload control mechanism in the affected exchanges/MSCs. In telecommunications systems, automatic overload control is a standard design feature to protect the system which reverts back to normalcy once the overload is reduced.

In such emergencies helpline number are opened to provide information to public.

Modernisation of Coal Washeries

3240. SHRI JUAL ORAM:
SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to modernize the coal washeries under various coalfields;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in that regard including funds likely to be spent thereon, subsidiary-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Coal India Ltd. (CIL) has formulated action for modernization/renovation of various coal washeries in operation under its subsidiary companies to improve the performance of the washeries. The funds likely to be spent for the modernization/renovation of the washeries by the subsidiary companies to CIL are as follows:

| Subsidiary Company | (Rs. in crores) |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. | 125.00 |
| Central Coalfields Ltd. | 45.59 |
| Western Coalfields Ltd. | 7.07 |

(c) Does not arise in view of the reply given to part (b) above.

Review of Policy of Captive Coal Mining

3241. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to review the current policy of providing captive coal mining licences;

(b) if so, the aims and objectives for giving such a licence;

(c) the role of public-private partnership in the process; and

(d) the details of such licences given in Tamil Nadu, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) to (c) The Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973, as amended from time to time, allows captive mining of coal by Indian companies for use in power generation, iron and steel manufacture and cement production as an end-use. No change is proposed in the said policy. With the increase in production of coal from the captive mining blocks given to companies in the private and the public sector, the gap between the demand and supply would reduce. It has been decided by the Government to give priority to the power and steel sectors in allocation of coal blocks.

(d) No coal blocks have been allocated for captive mining in the State of Tamil Nadu so far.

Utilisation of MPLADs Funds

3242. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the funds allocated under the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) have been fully utilized during the last three years;

(b) if so, the funds allocated and the percentage of the funds utilized under the said scheme during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether the reasons for delay in implementation of the schemes sanctioned by the Government have been identified;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) MPLADS is a continuous Scheme under which the funds released to the District Authorities by the Government of India are non-lapsable. Funds left in the district are carried forward for utilization in the subsequent years. The information on the funds released and utilized during last three years is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) State-wise MPLADS funds released and utilized for 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 is furnished in the enclosed Statement-II.

(c) to (e) There are few reasons which cause delay. Those are estimates preparation, acquisition of land for few projects by the State Governments, finalization of contract etc.

Statement I

| Year | Funds released (Rs. in crore) | Expenditure (Rs. in crore) | Utilisation |
|---------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|
| 2003-04 | 1682 | 1736.66 | 103.25% |
| 2004-05 | 1310 | 1909.11 | 145.73% |
| 2005-06 | 1433.90 | 1382.63 | 96% |

Statement II

(Rs. in crore)

| Sl.No. | State | 2003-04 | | 2004-05 | | 2005-06 | |
|--------|-------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| | | Released by Govt. of India | Expenditure Incurred | Released by Govt. of India | Expenditure Incurred | Released by Govt. of India | Expenditure Incurred |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 1. | Nominated | 24.5 | 17.02 | 25.5 | 18.42 | 15.05 | 26.42 |
| 2. | Andhra Pradesh | 122 | 118.81 | 112 | 159.82 | 101.50 | 112.53 |
| 3. | Arunachal Pradesh | 6 | 7.74 | 6 | 4.28 | 6.00 | 7.98 |
| 4. | Assam | 47 | 53.63 | 43 | 52.87 | 35.00 | 34.50 |
| 5. | Bihar | 116.5 | 117.64 | 84.5 | 115.91 | 100.05 | 70.64 |
| 6. | Goa | 8 | 3.88 | 4 | 10.2 | 7.00 | 6.86 |
| 7. | Gujarat | 77.5 | 75.5 | 55.5 | 106.16 | 70.00 | 73.90 |
| 8. | Haryana | 30.5 | 30.39 | 28.5 | 19.14 | 27.00 | 21.77 |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | 14 | 17.86 | 13 | 12.03 | 15.95 | 14.21 |
| 10. | Jammu & Kashmir | 22 | 20.02 | 12 | 26.36 | 23.30 | 17.63 |
| 11. | Karnataka | 86 | 121.32 | 65 | 87.5 | 85.00 | 69.10 |
| 12. | Kerala | 63.5 | 62.47 | 21.5 | 72.89 | 39.00 | 42.01 |
| 13. | Madhya Pradesh | 86 | 93.61 | 76 | 87.42 | 77.00 | 81.78 |
| 14. | Maharashtra | 133.5 | 148.54 | 104.5 | 176.14 | 112.00 | 113.39 |
| 15. | Manipur | 6 | 8.2 | 6 | 3.49 | 6.00 | 4.10 |
| 16. | Meghalaya | 7 | 5.49 | 6 | 8.71 | 7.00 | 4.26 |
| 17. | Mizoram | 4 | 3.93 | 4 | 1.65 | 4.00 | 5.54 |
| 18. | Nagaland | 5 | 3.55 | 3 | 2.45 | 5.00 | 5.00 |
| 19. | Orissa | 69.5 | 63.81 | 52.5 | 107.74 | 61.00 | 53.61 |
| 20. | Punjab | 53.5 | 39.55 | 34 | 57.05 | 37.00 | 33.40 |
| 21. | Rajasthan | 69.5 | 75.16 | 65.5 | 65.72 | 69.00 | 70.99 |
| 22. | Sikkim | 3 | 1.754 | 5 | 5.49 | 4.00 | 2.19 |
| 23. | Tamil Nadu | 112.5 | 147.28 | 115.5 | 118.97 | 102.00 | 109.46 |
| 24. | Tripura | 6 | 10.39 | 6 | 7.38 | 6.00 | 6.89 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|-------|-----------------------------|------|---------|------|---------|---------|---------|
| 25. | Uttar Pradesh | 234 | 255.93 | 206 | 272.42 | 21.45 | 175.34 |
| 26. | West Bengal | 138 | 111.99 | 59.5 | 158.86 | 91.50 | 118.55 |
| 27. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 4 | 6.79 | 1 | 0 | 2.00 | 1.90 |
| 28. | Chandigarh | 2 | 6.04 | 4 | 3.18 | 1.00 | 0.64 |
| 29. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 2 | 3.7 | 1 | 0.73 | 3.00 | 3.88 |
| 30. | Daman and Diu | 2 | 0.83 | 2 | 1.68 | 2.00 | 1.86 |
| 31. | Delhi | 21 | 23.09 | 15 | 22.59 | 17.05 | 5.43 |
| 32. | Lakshadweep | 2 | 0.6 | 1 | 1.64 | 2.00 | 2.82 |
| 33. | Pondicherry | 4 | 2.55 | 1 | 2.29 | 1 | 2.87 |
| 34. | Chhattisgarh | 36 | 21 | 29 | 46.92 | 29.00 | 27.49 |
| 35. | Uttaranchal | 14.5 | 14.73 | 16.5 | 21.88 | 15.00 | 18.44 |
| 36. | Jharkhand | 49.5 | 41.77 | 27.5 | 49.67 | 41.00 | 35.25 |
| Total | | 1682 | 1736.66 | 1310 | 1909.11 | 1433.90 | 1382.63 |

[*Translation*]

Termination of SC/ST Employees

3243. SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA:
SHRI AJIT JOGI:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the last five years, more than 5000 SC/ST employees have been allegedly removed on the basis of long leave from the service of Coal India Limited Companies like BCCL, ECL, and CCL;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to reinstate these sacked employees; and

(d) if so, the time by which this is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (b) It is not a fact that 5000 SC/ST employees have been

removed on the basis of long absence in FCL, BCCL & CCL during the last 5 years. However, the services of 3247 employees (all categories taken together including SC/ST) were terminated due to proved misconduct of long absenteeism as detailed below:-

| Year | ECL | BCCL | CCL | Total |
|-----------|------|------|-----|-------|
| 2001-2002 | 196 | 237 | 103 | 536 |
| 2002-2003 | 182 | 232 | 104 | 568 |
| 2003-2004 | 209 | 337 | 85 | 681 |
| 2004-2005 | 310 | 413 | 156 | 879 |
| 2005-2006 | 174 | 308 | 101 | 583 |
| Total | 1071 | 1627 | 549 | 3247 |

(c) and (d) The certified Standing Orders applicable for the workmen, inter-alia have provisions for the terminated employees to make an appeal to the Appellate Authority. Such appeals as and when received are considered by the Appellate Authority on merit of the case.

*[English]***Rural Business Hubs**

3244. SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY:
SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with multinational companies based in India and abroad for the development of rural India by setting up rural business hubs; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including its present status?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) No Sir. The Government is not contemplating to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with multinational companies based in India and abroad for the development of rural India by setting up Rural Business Hubs (RBH). However, the Union Government with the help of State Governments, Panchayats, the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) and other similar organizations is implementing the concept of RBH to connect rural producers and rural markets to national and international markets with the help of business houses. Panchayat Raj Institutions are being facilitated to enter into Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with appropriate business partners.

Under the Rural Business Hubs initiative, the Union Government has so far facilitated the signing of over 50 MOUs between private companies (which include Indian as well as multinational companies based in India and abroad), Panchayats, rural artisans, producers, processors etc. These MOUs pertain to different streams of activities including distribution of power by Panchayats, plantation of Jatropa, fruit processing, seed production, organic food, dairying, brick making, electricity generation through bio-mass, handicrafts and handlooms, etc.

Non-Completion of Schemes

3245. SHRI VIKRAMBHAJ ARJANBHAJ MADAM: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether 80 percent of schemes undertaken in many districts of the States under MPLAD Scheme have not been completed;

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

(c) the action proposed to be taken by the Union Government to complete these schemes on time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The percentage of works completed to sanctioned as on 18.8.2006 at the all India level is 89.52%. A list showing State-wise brief on the percentage of works completed to works sanctioned is enclosed as Statement.

Statement*State-wise summary of works under MPLADS (as on 18.08.2006)*

| Sl.No. | State/UT | Total number of works sanctioned since inception | Total number of works completed since inception | Percentage of works completed to sanction |
|--------|-------------------|--|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | Nominated | 4598 | 3709 | 80.67 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 89915 | 78697 | 87.52 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 1602 | 1530 | 95.51 |
| 3. | Assam | 36190 | 32024 | 88.49 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| 4. | Bihar | 41518 | 35945 | 86.58 |
| 5. | Goa | 693 | 500 | 72.15 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 74282 | 68364 | 92.03 |
| 7. | Haryana | 24821 | 23168 | 93.34 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 16560 | 11477 | 69.31 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 8690 | 7049 | 81.12 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 41875 | 36384 | 86.89 |
| 11. | Kerala | 17280 | 14290 | 82.70 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 61073 | 55496 | 92.23 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 48822 | 41589 | 85.18 |
| 14. | Manipur | 4503 | 3710 | 82.39 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 3899 | 3409 | 87.43 |
| 16. | Mizoram | 3274 | 3142 | 95.97 |
| 17. | Nagaland | 1611 | 1598 | 99.19 |
| 18. | Orissa | 62694 | 57292 | 91.38 |
| 19. | Punjab | 46535 | 41045 | 88.20 |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 54942 | 50174 | 91.32 |
| 21. | Sikkim | 775 | 730 | 94.19 |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 57688 | 55565 | 96.32 |
| 23. | Tripura | 1293 | 1179 | 91.18 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 109329 | 101894 | 93.20 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 52576 | 44657 | 84.94 |
| 26. | Andaman | 642 | 642 | 100.00 |
| 27. | Chandigarh | 682 | 492 | 72.14 |
| 28. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 1021 | 859 | 84.13 |
| 29. | Daman and Diu | 512 | 449 | 87.70 |
| 30. | Delhi | 6133 | 5538 | 90.30 |
| 31. | Lakshadweep | 22 | 13 | 59.09 |
| 32. | Pondicherry | 1018 | 903 | 88.70 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-------|--------------|--------|--------|-------|
| 33. | Chhattisgarh | 23257 | 21387 | 91.96 |
| 34. | Uttaranchal | 12064 | 10859 | 90.01 |
| 35. | Jharkhand | 161619 | 14636 | 90.52 |
| Total | | 927658 | 830395 | 89.52 |

Widening/Repair of NHs in Gujarat

3246. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of National Highways in Gujarat where works regarding widening, extension and repair of the roads are in progress as on date and where works are likely to be started in near future;

(b) the status report in each case;

(c) the time by which the works are likely to be completed;

(d) whether the Government has received a proposal for reconstructing some old over-bridges on National Highways passing through Gujarat; and

(e) if so, the details of such over-bridges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) The details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

Widening/Repair of NHs in Gujarat

| Sl.No. | NH No. | Name of Work | Project Cost (Rs. in Cr.) | Actual/likely date of start | Actual/likely date of completion | Remarks |
|--|--------|---|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|-------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| A. NH Length entrusted to State R&B Department, Gujarat | | | | | | |
| 1. | 6 | Improvement of Riding Quality from KM 73/2 TO 85/0 | 3.26 | 26.04.2006 | 31.12.2006 | In progress |
| 2. | 6 | Rehabilitation to four minor bridges at km 39/2-4, 41/8 to 42/0, 68/4-6 & km 71/4-6 | 0.71 | 23.05.2006 | 30.09.2006 | In progress |
| 3. | 8E | Construction of Paved Shoulders from km 233/0 to 253/0 | 4.28 | 31.12.2004 | 30.09.2006 | In progress |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|-----|----------|--|------|------------|-------------------|-------------|
| 4. | 8E | Construction of Paved Shoulders from km 220/0 to 233/0 | 2.64 | 31.12.2004 | 31.10.2006 | In progress |
| 5. | 8A Extn. | Widening of single lane to 2-lane carriageway from km 174/0 to 176/2 & 190/0 to 205/0 | 3.98 | 5.11.2005 | 30.09.2006 | In progress |
| 6. | 8A Extn. | Widening of single lane to 2-lane carriageway between km 205/0 to 225/0 | 4.87 | 15.10.2005 | 30.09.2006 | In progress |
| 7. | 8A Extn. | Widening of single lane to 2-lane carriageway between km 225/0 to 243/650 | 4.83 | 15.10.2005 | 31.03.2007 | In progress |
| 8. | 8A Extn. | Construction of diversion for Rukmawati Bridge at 100/0 | 0.48 | 16.03.2006 | 30.09.2006 | In progress |
| 9. | 8A | Construction of five | 5.68 | 17.05.2006 | 16.11.2007 | In progress |
| 10. | 8A Extn. | Construction of five major bridges in km 128, 131, 134, 141 and 156 in lieu of existing causeway | 3.27 | | Yet to be awarded | |
| 11. | 8A Extn. | Improvement of Riding Quality from km 38/0 to 55/0 | 2.13 | | Yet to be awarded | |
| 12. | 8A Extn. | Construction of seven minor bridges in lieu of existing causeways at km 63/600, 63/700, 71/800, 85/300, 86/050 & 88/800 | 4.10 | | Yet to be awarded | |
| 13. | 8A Extn. | Reconstruction of seven slab culverts at km 125/680, 126/350, 127/120, 128/350, 129/750, 130/090 & 133/580 and widening of 14 existing pipe culverts between km 113/225 to 136/850 | 0.98 | | Yet to be awarded | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|-----|-------------|---|------|------------|------------|-------------------|
| 14. | 8E Extn. | Reconstruction of one minor bridge at km 343/2, one slab culvert etc. | 2.76 | | | Yet to be awarded |
| 15. | 8C | Providing Traffic Signals at four junctions on Sarkhej-Gandhinagar section | 0.58 | 16.03.2006 | 30.09.2006 | In progress |
| 16. | 15 | Periodic Renewal between km 82/0 to 100/0 | 2.97 | 21.11.2005 | 30.11.2006 | In progress |
| 17. | 59 | Improvement of Riding Quality from km 16/0 to 17/0, 19/0 to 20/0, 21/0 to 28/0 & 31/0 to 36/0 | 3.37 | 23.03.2006 | 30.09.2006 | In progress |
| 18. | 59 | Improvement of Riding Quality from km 147/0 to 161/0 | 3.60 | | | Yet to be awarded |

B. East-West Corridor (with NHAI): Widening to 4-lane in

| | | | | | | |
|-----|--------|---|--------|-----------------|----------------|--------|
| 19. | 14 | Deesa to Radhanpur (Package-VI) from km 372/600 to 458/0 | 399.89 | February, 2005 | November, 2007 | ADB |
| 20. | 15 | Radhanpur to Gagodhra (Package-V) from Km 138/100 to 245/0 | 429.40 | February, 2005 | November, 2007 | ADB |
| 21. | 15, 8A | Gagodhra to Garamore (Package-IV) from km 245/0 to 281/300 of NH-15 & km 308/0 of NH-8A | 412.78 | February, 2005 | November, 2007 | ADB |
| 22. | 8A | Garamore to Bamanbore (Package-III) km 254/0 to 182/600 | 360.70 | February, 2005 | November, 2007 | ADB |
| 23. | 8B | Rajkot Bypass and Gondal Jetpur (Package-VII) from km 185/0 to 175/0 | 265.00 | September, 2005 | March, 2008 | On BOT |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|--|-------------|--|--------|--|----------------|------------|
| 24. | 8B | Jetpur to Bhiladi (Package-II) from km 117/0 to 52/500 | 399.89 | February, 2005 | November, 2007 | ADB |
| 25. | 8B | Bhiladi to Porbandar (Package-I) from km 52/500 to 2/0 | 255.96 | February, 2005 | November, 2007 | ADB |
| 26. | 14 | Palanpur to Swarupganj | 498.00 | September, 2006 | February, 2009 | On Annuity |
| C. NHDP Phase-III A | | | | | | |
| 27. | 6 | Surat-Hajira Port | | Consultancy for 4-lane on BOT awarded and Scheduled for completion by December, 2009 | | |
| 28. | 8A Extn. | Kandla-Mundra Port | | Scheduled for completion by December, 2009 | | |
| D. NHDP Phase-V: Widening to 6-lane | | | | | | |
| 29. | 8 | Vadodara-Bharuch (Package BOT-I) | 660.00 | December, 2006 | June, 2009 | On BOT |
| 30. | 8 | Bharuch-Surat (Package BOT-II) | 492.00 | December, 2006 | June, 2009 | On BOT |

11.26 hrs.

MR. SPEAKER: I adjourn the House till 12 Noon.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till
Twelve of the Clock.*

12.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Twelve of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[English]

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam): Sir, the Parliament is in Session, and a Cabinet Minister has resigned from the Cabinet. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Now, Papers to be Laid on the Table.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Sir, the House should know as to why he has resigned from the Cabinet. ...*(Interruptions)* He has resigned. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Yerrannaidu, you know very well that an hon. Minister has resigned and he has a right to speak, but I have to get a notice for the same.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot compel him. I am sorry.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Papers to be laid on the Table, item 2, Shri T.R. Baalu.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Sir, the House is entitled to know from the Government about this issue. ...*(Interruptions)* They have not informed the House about it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. You are such a respected and important Member of this House.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Sir, this House is in Session. The House is entitled to know about it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have already requested and said that nothing could be heard. I made a personal request to them—when they met me—and here also I am making a request to the hon. Member, who is now on a fast, not to continue with this.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: If he wants to say anything, then I will give him full opportunity to come here. I request him to please discontinue his fast and come here, and tell whatever he has got to say, and I will hear him.

...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Sir, the Prime Minister or somebody from the Government should inform the House about this issue. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I believe that the entire House joins me in requesting that.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please cooperate with the Chair.

...*(Interruptions)*

12.01 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Amendment Rules, 2006 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 454(E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st August, 2006, under sub-section (3) of section 458 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—4830/06]

- (2) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 457(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd August, 2006 notifying that the Entry of Vessels Into Ports Rules, 2005 be kept in abeyance with immediate effect until further order of the Central Government, issued under Indian Ports Act, 1908.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—4831/06]

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 204 of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Panchayats) Regulation, 1994:—

- (i) The Andaman and Nicobar Gram Panchayats (Levy of Taxes and Fees) Rules, 2002 published in Notification No. F.No. 3-27/97-PR in Andaman and Nicobar Gazette dated the 24th April, 2002.

- (ii) The Andaman and Nicobar Islands Panchayats Samitis (Levy, Assessment, Collection and Appropriation of Taxes, Duties, Cess Tolls and Fees) Rules, 2002, published in Notification No. No. 93/2002/F.No. 3-27/97-PR in Andaman and Nicobar Gazette dated the 24th April, 2002.

- (iii) The Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Grant-in-Aid to Panchayati Raj Institutions) (3rd Amendment) Rules, 2003, published in Notification No. 153 (A)/2003/F.No. 6-6(1)/2003-PR (1) in Andaman and Nicobar Gazette dated the 21st August, 2003.

- (iv) The Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Panchayat Administration) (Amendment) Rules, 2003, published in Notification No. No. 154 (A)/2003/F.No. 6-6(1)/2003-PR (2) in Andaman and Nicobar Gazette dated the 21st August, 2003.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—4832/06]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Right to Information (Regulation of Fee and Cost) Amendment Rules, 2006 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. 294(E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th May, 2006 under sub-section (1) of section 29 of the Right to Information Act, 2005.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—4833/06]

- (2) A copy of the Administrative Tribunals (Procedure for appointment of Vice-Chairmen and Members) Rules, 2006, (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 144(E) in Gazette of India dated the 6th March, 2006, under sub-section (1) of section 37 of the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985, together with a corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. G.S.R. 252(E) dated the 26th April, 2006.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—4834/06]

- (3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951:—

- (i) The All India Services (Death-cum-Retirement Benefits) Amendment Rules, 2005 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 617(E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th September, 2005.
- (ii) The All India Services (Death-cum-Retirement Benefits) Amendment Rules, 2005 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 699(E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th November, 2005.
- (iii) The All India Services (Death-cum-Retirement Benefits) Third Amendment Rules, 2005 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 727(E) in Gazette of India dated the 20th December, 2005.
- (iv) The All India Services (Death-cum-Retirement Benefits) Amendment Rules, 2006 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 360(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 2006.

- (4) Three Statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at item Nos. (i) to (iii) of (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—4835/06]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the AIDS Prevention and Control Project, Voluntary Health Services, Chennai, for the year 2004-2005.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the AIDS Prevention and Control Project, Voluntary Health Services, Chennai, for the year 2004-2005, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the AIDS Prevention and Control Project, Voluntary Health Services, Chennai, for the year 2004-2005.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—4836/06]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Homoeopathy, Kolkata, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Homoeopathy, Kolkata, for the year 2004-2005.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—4837/06]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005.
- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.
- [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—4838/06]
- (7) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 23 of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954:-
- (i) The Prevention of Food Adulteration (4th Amendment) Rules, 2006 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 400(E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th July, 2006.
- (ii) The Prevention of Food Adulteration (5th Amendment) Rules, 2006 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 398(E) in Gazette of India dated the 4th July, 2006.
- (iii) The Prevention of Food Adulteration (6th Amendment) Rules, 2006 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 435(E) in Gazette of India dated the 20th July, 2006.
- [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—4839/06]
- (8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Acharya Tulsi Regional Cancer Treatment and Research Institute, Bikaner, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Acharya Tulsi Regional Cancer Treatment and Research Institute, Bikaner, for the year 2004-2005.
- (9) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (8) above.
- [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—4840/06]
- (10) (a) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Red Cross Society, New Delhi, for the years 1989-1999.
- [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—4841/06]
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Red Cross Society, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.
- [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—4842/06]
- (iii) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Red Cross Society, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.
- [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—4843/06]
- (iv) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Red Cross Society, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002.
- [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—4844/06]
- (v) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Red Cross Society, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003.
- [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—4845/06]
- (vi) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Red Cross Society, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004.
- [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—4846/06]
- (b) (i) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Red Cross Society, New Delhi, for the period from 1.1.1989 to 31.12.1992, together with Audit Report thereon.
- [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—4847/06]

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Red Cross Society, New Delhi, for the period from 1.1.1993 to 31.3.1996, together with Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—4848/06]

- (iii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Red Cross Society, New Delhi, for the period from 1.4.1996 to 31.3.1999, together with Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—4849/06]

- (iv) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Red Cross Society, New Delhi, for the period from 1.4.1999 to 31.3.2000, together with Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—4850/06]

- (v) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Red Cross Society, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, together with Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—4851/06]

- (vi) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Red Cross Society, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002, together with Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—4852/06]

- (vii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Red Cross Society, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003, together with Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—4853/06]

- (viii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Red Cross Society, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004, together with Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—4854/06]

- (c) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Red Cross Society, New Delhi, for the years 1989-2004.

- (11) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (10) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—4855/06]

- (12) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Kamala Nehru Memorial Hospital, Allahabad, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Kamala Nehru Memorial Hospital, Allahabad, for the year 2004-2005.

- (13) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (12) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—4856/06]

- (14) A copy of the Statement* (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the National Institute of Naturopathy, Pune, for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—4857/06]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the TRAI Meetings for Transaction of Business (Second Amendment) Regulation, 2006, (7 of 2006) (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. F. No. 14-12/2006-FA. In Gazette of India dated the 10th July, 2006 under section 37 of the Telecom Regularity Authority of India Act, 1997.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—4858/06]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): I beg to lay on the Table—

*The Annual Report and Audited Accounts were laid on the Table on 2nd August, 2006.

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 10 of the National Highways Act, 1956:—
- (i) S.O. 1017(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th July, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening) of National Highway No. 28 (Lucknow-Uttar Pradesh/Bihar Border section) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.
 - (ii) S.O. 737(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th May 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/ four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 31 (Nalbari-Bijni Section) in the State of Assam.
 - (iii) S.O. 1123(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th July, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning) of National Highway No. 75 (Gwalior-Jhansi section) in the State of Madhya Pradesh.
 - (iv) S.O. 1124(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th July, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (construction) of Dholpur Bypass on National Highway No. 3 (Agra-Gwalior section) in the State of Madhya Pradesh.
 - (v) S.O. 691(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th May, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/ four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 5 (Vijayawada-Visakhapatnam Section) in the State of Andhra Pradesh.
 - (vi) S.O. 875(E) and S.O. 876(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th June, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening) of different stretches of National Highway No. 7 (Hyderabad-Bangalore section) in the State of Andhra Pradesh.
 - (vii) S.O. 913(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th June, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/ four-laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Hyderabad-Bangalore Section) in the State of Andhra Pradesh.
 - (viii) S.O. 1032(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th July, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 47 (Tamil Nadu/ Kerala Border to Thrissur Section) including construction of bypass in the State of Kerala.
 - (ix) S.O. 859(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th June, 2006, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1752(E) dated the 13th December, 2005.
 - (x) S.O. 956(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th June, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Bangalore-Salem-Madurai Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
 - (xi) S.O. 1047(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th July, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning) of National Highway No. 46 (Krishnagiri-Ranipet section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
 - (xii) S.O. 1092(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th July, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning) of National Highway No. 5 (Chennai-Vijayawada section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
 - (xiii) S.O. 1096(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th July, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening) of National Highway No. 7A (Palayamkottai-Thoothukudi section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
 - (xiv) S.O. 1122(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th July, 2006, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 925(E) dated the 29th June, 2005.

- (xv) S.O. 1030(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th July, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 22 (Ambala-Zirakpur section) in the State of Punjab.
- (xvi) S.O. 840(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st June, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 48 in the State of Karnataka.
- (xvii) S.O. 877(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th June, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 4 in the State of Karnataka.
- (xviii) S.O. 623(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th April, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Hyderabad-Bangalore section) in the State of Karnataka.
- (xix) S.O. 643(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th May, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Hyderabad-Bangalore section) in the State of Karnataka.
- (xx) S.O. 706(E) and S.O. 708(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th May, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning) of different stretches of National Highway No. 57 (Muzaffarpur-Purnea section) in the State of Bihar.
- (xxi) S.O. 654(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th May, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening) of National Highway No. 57 (Muzaffarpur-Purnea section) in the State of Bihar.
- (xxii) S.O. 951(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th June, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening) of National Highway No. 57 (Muzaffarpur-Purnea section) in the State of Bihar.
- (xxiii) S.O. 1018(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th July, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening) of National Highway No. 57 (Muzaffarpur-Purnea section) in the State of Bihar.
- (xxiv) S.O. 809(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th May, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 33, in the State of Jharkhand.
- (xxv) S.O. 890(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th June, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening) of National Highway No. 33, including construction of bypasses, in the State of Jharkhand.
- (xxvi) S.O. 1037(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th July, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 33, (Randhi-Jamshedpur section), in the State of Jharkhand.
- (xxvii) S.O. 580(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st April, 2006, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1687(E) dated the 5th December, 2005.
- (xxviii) S.O. 935(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd June, 2006, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1687(E) dated the 5th December, 2005.
- (xxix) S.O. 1031(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th July, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building widening, maintenance, management and operation of Tamil Nadu/Kerala Border (Walayar) of National Highway No. 47, including construction of bypass, in the State of Kerala.

- (xxx) S.O. 1097(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th July, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening), of National Highway No. 7A, (Palayamkottai-Thoothukudi section), in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxxii) S.O. 1101(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th July, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 67, in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxxiii) S.O. 1157(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st July, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), of National Highway No. 7, (Hosur-Krishnagiri section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxxiv) S.O. 1179(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th July, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building widening (four-laning and junction improvement/construction of free flow facilities), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 45, in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxxv) S.O. 1208(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th July, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning) of National Highway No. 4, (Chennai-Ranipet section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxxvi) S.O. 1033(E) to S.O. 1036 published in Gazette of India dated the 10th July, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of different Stretches of National Highway No. 11, (Bharatpur-Mahua section), in the State of Rajasthan.
- (xxxvii) S.O. 1091(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th July, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning) of different stretches on National Highway Nos. 14 and 76 in the State of Rajasthan.
- (xxxviii) S.O. 1084(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th July, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (six-laning) of National Highway No. 8, (Vadodara-Surat section), in the State of Gujarat.
- (xxxix) S.O. 1095(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th July, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 14, (Deesa-Radhanpur section), in the State of Gujarat.
- (xl) S.O. 1173(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th July, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for construction of bypass road outside the Sangamner town on National Highway No. 50 in the State of Maharashtra.
- (xli) S.O. 1261(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th August, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening) of different stretches on National Highway Nos. 13 and 17 in the State of Karnataka.
- (xlii) S.O. 1237(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd August, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.) maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 52B in the State of Assam.
- (xliii) S.O. 1239(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd August, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for the public purpose of building (four-laning) maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 54 (Lumding to Maibong section) in the State of Assam.
- (2) Three statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at item Nos. (xviii, six and xxvii) of (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—4859/06]

- (3) A copy of the Notification No. F. No. NH-11014/2/2004-P&M (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th July, 2006, assigning additional charge of the National Highway Tribunal, Chandigarh to the Presiding Officer, National Highway Tribunal, Lucknow with immediate effect till Presiding Officer, National Highway Tribunal, Chandigarh is appointed, issued under sub-section (2) of section (3) of the Control of National Highways (Land and Traffic) Act, 2002.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—4860/06]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005, 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—4861/06]

12.02 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA
AND
BILL AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA

[*English*]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following three messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:-

- (i) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to

enclose a copy of the Pondicherry (Altration of Name) Bill, 2006 which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 21st August, 2006."

- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (Railways) No. 4 Bill, 2006, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 11th August, 2006 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."
- (iii) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 2006, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 11th August, 2006 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

Sir, I lay on the Table of The Pondicherry (Altration of Name) Bill, 2006, as passed by Rajya Sabha on the 21st August, 2006.

12.03 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Thirty-First and Thirty-Second Reports

[*Translation*]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Sir, I beg to lay the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Public Accounts Committee (2006-2007).

- (1) Thirty-first Report (14th Lok Sabha) on "Excesses over Voted Grants and Charged Appropriations (2004-2005)
- (2) Thirty-second Report (14th Lok Sabha) on Action Taken on Tenth Report of PAC (14th Lok Sabha) on "Excesses over voted Grants and Charged Appropriations (2002-03)".

12.03¹/₂ hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): I beg to lay the following Reports of the Committee on Petitions (Hindi and English versions):-

- (1) Sixteenth Report on matters concerned with Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.
- (2) Seventeenth Report on matters concerned with Ministry of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Ministry of Home Affairs.
- (3) Eighteenth Report on matters concerned with Ministry of Tourism and Culture.
- (4) Nineteenth Report on matters concerned with Ministry of Labour and Employment.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please maintain silence in the House. Please pay some respect to the House.

...(Interruptions)

12.04 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the 20th, 22nd and 28th Reports of Standing Committee on Information Technology pertaining to the Departments of Posts, Information Technology and Telecommunications respectively in the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology

*THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): Sir, in pursuance of the Direction 73A of the hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha issued *vide* Lok Sabha Bulletin-Part II dated 1st September, 2004, I am making this statement on the status of implementation of recommendations contained in the 20th, 22nd and 28th Reports of the Standing Committee on

*Placed in Library. See No. LT 4862/06.

Information Technology in respect of Department of Posts, Department of Information Technology and Department of Telecommunications respectively under the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology.

The Reports No. 20, 22 and 28 contain 20, 61 and 18 recommendations in respect of Department of Posts, Department of Information Technology and Department of Telecommunications respectively. I would like to lay the detailed Action Taken Report on the Table of the House without taking valuable time of the House.

12.05 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF
URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Situation arising out of violation of various labour laws particularly the Industrial Disputes Act, the Minimum Wages Act, the Factories Act, the Trade Unions Act, the Provident Funds Act and the Employees State Insurance Act, etc., and steps taken by the Government in this regard

*...(Interruptions)**[English]*

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR (Bareilly): Where is the Labour Minister?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): Sir, I would like to submit that the hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Labour and Employment is laying the papers in the other House.

He is here. The hon. Minister of Labour and Employment has submitted his resignation, which is under the active consideration of the hon. Prime Minister.

*...(Interruptions)**[Translation]*

SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI (Udaipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, kindly take up the issue of Rajasthan first.

MR. SPEAKER: I would certainly give you a chance to speak on this issue, but not now, later.

[*English*]

Although you do not deserve it, I will allow you to speak. You never chose to give the notice in time. Even then, I will allow you to speak.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have also given in noting. Kindly give me also a chance to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: You, please sit down. Let us now do some business.

...(Interruptions)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: These are all important matters. I will allow you to raise it.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Panskura): 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 arising out of violation of various labour laws particularly the Industrial Disputes Act, the Minimum Wages Act, the Factories Act, the Trade Unions Act, the Provident Funds Act and the Employees State Insurance Act, etc., and steps taken by the Government in this regard."

MR. SPEAKER: I find that there is a 10-page closely typed statement. You can lay it on the Table of the House.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): Sir, I beg to lay the detailed statement on the Table of the House, but I will just read out the gist of it.

Sir, the Ministry of Labour and Employment is mandated to create a work environment conducive to achieving a high rate of economic growth with due regard to protecting and safeguarding the interests of the working class in general and those of the vulnerable sections of the society in particular. The Ministry has been performing its assigned duties with the help and cooperation of State Governments.

Some of the important policy initiatives undertaken by the UPA Government for the welfare of labour in the country are as follows:

- (i) Rajiv Gandhi Shramik Kalyan Yojana;
- (ii) Re-inventing EPF India;
- (iii) Upgradation of 500 existing ITIs into centers of excellence;
- (iv) Skill development initiatives through Public Private Partnership;
- (v) welfare scheme for *baedi* workers;
- (vi) Prohibition of employment of children as domestic servants; and
- (vii) Workers Education.

Regarding the violation of labour laws and steps taken by the Government, the Labour Enforcement Officers (Central) of the Organisation of the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) are declared as Inspectors under various labour laws, who carry out inspections of the establishments in the central sphere regularly in order to secure compliance with the provisions of labour laws. Prosecutions are launched, and claim cases are filed in the courts and before the appropriate authority against the employers in respect of violations/irregularities detected during inspections. The State Governments are also the "appropriate Government" under various labour laws. In case of any violation of labour laws, it is for the appropriate Government to take necessary action as they are legally vested with the power to deal with such violations.

Despite best efforts made to secure implementation of the various Acts, violations of provisions of labour laws are reported here and there. Whenever these violations come to notice—either on the basis of complaints or at the time of periodical inspections made by the enforcement officers of the appropriate Government in the State sphere as well as in the Central sphere—action is taken by the appropriate Government concerned as per provisions of the respective enactment. The details of the inspections and the actions taken are given in my detailed statement.

The violation of labour laws should not be seen in isolation. This should be viewed along with the welfare measures taken by the Government to strengthen the

[Shri Chandra Sekhar Sahu]

social safety net for the labour. Labour being a concurrent subject, we have to act within the parameters laid down by law. The State Governments are appropriate Governments in bulk of the labour laws. They enjoy full powers in the enforcement of labour laws that fall within their domain.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, please wait for a while.

Hon. Members, what is happening there? Your private discussions can go outside.

SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU: I can assure the hon. Members that if any specific violation of labour laws is brought to our notice, we would take appropriate action in the matter. I would request the hon. Members to cooperate and help us in our endeavour for effective and meaningful labour law administration in collaboration with the State Governments.

Very recently, the hon. Prime Minister has held a three and a half hour meeting with the Central Trade Union leaders. He heard all the Central Trade Union leaders and he assured them that he will take up the issue with the Chief Minister of the States at the National Development Council and will take appropriate action.

The detailed statement has been laid on the Table* of the House. I now have given a gist of that statement. Thank you. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: If you interrupt like this, I will not allow this Call Attention to continue.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (Barrackpore): Why Sir? This is a sensitive matter.

MR. SPEAKER: It is a sensitive matter. That does not mean you have a right to disturb the House.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, I have all sympathy for our honourable, young, energetic, newly appointed Minister of State for Labour. It is a coincidence, which is very interesting to note, that we are discussing the problems of labour under the shadow of the resignation of the Labour Minister, when he himself is on a hunger strike, that we are discussing one of the most leading questions of human nature in this country.

MR. SPEAKER: Please come to the subject.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Coming to the subject, Sir, let me tell my young friend that 30 crore workers, both organised and unorganised, are under attack as never before. I am using my words with care and caution. About 30 crore workers, both organised and unorganised, are under attack as never before. It is for a realisation of the political parties in Parliament.

Economic reform, rather globalisation and liberalisation, has grossly affected the economic policy—policy of the present Government and policy of the earlier Government. The economic policy pursued, the economic reform carried out and the globalisation which has become the slogan of the nation in the country, has grossly affected the quality of living of the organised and unorganised labour in the country. If globalisation is a reality, then intensification of exploitation of labour is also a reality.

The Prime Minister had given us a dinner. It was nice. We had a three-hour discussion. But it is also pertinent for the Government to note that if globalisation is a reality, intensification of exploitation of the labour is also a reality. What is most surprising is that when enforcement of labour laws more stringently is becoming an urgent necessity, when strengthening of the machinery of enforcement has become urgently needed for the country, the question of flexibility of labour laws has become a priority for the Government and the Ministers.

It is all intended. Flexibility is a word which is all intended to give free hand to the employer because they will invest money in India in order to keep them the power, the reckless hire and fire in the way they want. It is the Government which is giving the green light to the private corporates.

Let me give you few instances as to how the labour laws are being violated. When according to the Factories Act, 48 hours work for six days in a week is permitted, the hon. Minister of Textiles is on record, holding a seminar in Vigyan Bhawan, where the former Labour Minister was present where he has categorically said that the workers should work for more than 60 hours a week. It means, from eight hours, it will go to 10 hours. It is an attempt to ask the management to accept flagrant violation of labour if the Minister speaks in that way. Hon. Minister of Finance is on record saying that the interest rate of Provident Fund is too high and it should even be reduced from eight to 7½ per cent. Provisions of Minimum Wages Act are being cynically violated even

*Laid on the Table and also placed in the Library. See No. LT—4863/2006.

by the Central Government Public Sector Undertakings. The Prime Minister has given an assurance but assurance does not condone the criminality of the Government.

Contract workers, whose numbers are galloping everyday, are not being given provident fund. I would request the hon. Minister of State for Labour to kindly ask his Department to collect the complaints and conduct the inquiry about the contract labourers in the country.

Minimum wages are being denied even in Government undertakings, denied even in public sector. Minimum wages are being denied and complaint of minimum wage is not being entertained. Trade unions are not being allowed to be registered. I shall not name the States. ...(*Interruptions*) Haryana, Punjab. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us not go into State matter.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: As you say, I will agree. It is the most unfortunate situation. Will the political parties in Parliament take note of it that trade unions are not even being allowed to be registered in a number of States in the country. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

I pray to you.

MR. SPEAKER: When the Speaker prays, no body supports. All right, please continue.

[*English*]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: I never disturbed Members.

Legal trade unionism as guaranteed under the provisions of the Constitution is sought to be suppressed with the help of police. One single example is: there was a strike in a factory in Haryana demanding wage increase. They had blocked the road. There was *lathi* charge. They were all dispersed. Forty-seven workers have been booked under Section 307 on murder charge. When I asked the Police Commissioner of that State as to how many policemen have been injured and as to what are the properties damaged, he could not give a single example.

MR. SPEAKER: Come to the Central Government.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: I am coming. Kindly allow me to complete my argument.

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded except the speech of Shri Gurudas Dasgupta. You have not got unlimited time.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: I am only saying that even private security guards armed with un-licensed guns are being employed by the contractors and by the proprietors in different parts of the country. Payment of DA is being violated in most of the places. What is their slogan? The slogan is, "either accept under-payment, low wage and long working hours or remain unemployed and starve". That is the slogan. ...(*Interruptions*) Let me tell you. You are raising so many issues on your count.

MR. SPEAKER: Please address the Chair.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: There is constant commentary that is going on.

MR. SPEAKER: What can I do? I have been requesting your own Leaders to come by turn and conduct the House.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: The slogan is, "either accept under-payment or starvation". Mounting unemployment is promoting violation of labour laws in the country because unemployed youths have no alternative but to accept under-payment under duress. This is a grave danger signal for the whole country.

Corporates have posted high profits. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: It is a Calling Attention and not a debate.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: But the real wage for the workers has come down. Working conditions have worsened. Violation of labour laws is on the rise. My point is. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You have to put only questions.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, I am coming to it. Will the political leadership of the country, including the Prime Minister, while speaking say that violation of labour law is a problem for the country? They are speaking of responsible trade unionism but nobody is speaking of the violation of labour laws. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Do not bring me into this.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: At least the Prime Minister never says so. At least the Finance Minister or the Leader of the UPA Government never says so. Why am I raising this question? I am not an unintelligent person. I am here for 20 years. Why should Parliament discuss it? All the laws that I am referring to, were made by the Parliament. If the laws made by the Parliament are violated, can the Parliament turn a Nelson's eye to their violation? That is my question. Laws are being made by us. If the laws are violated, Parliament cannot afford to be blind to the labour laws.

Secondly, labour is on the Concurrent List. Still, the Central Government has a role to play. Economic reforms at the cost of the working people will not be accepted.

Will the hon. Minister agree to state frankly from his own heart to the Parliament that he believes that the labour is mercilessly attacked in the country? Will he accept it?

Will he agree to call a Conference of the State Labour Ministers wherein this question of violation of labour laws will be discussed?

Will the hon. Minister of State for Labour agree to discuss with the trade unions the question of amendment of labour laws to give more teeth to the aggrieved?
...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): He has been speaking for the last 15 minutes.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will apply this to you also.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Will the hon. Minister agree to call a meeting of the trade unions and take their views on the question of enforcement of labour laws?

My last question—which is there in the Common Minimum Programme—is when the Government is going to bring comprehensive labour laws for the un-organised and agricultural labour. When is it going to bring such comprehensive labour laws?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Amitava Nandy, you ask only clarifications.

SHRI AMITAVA NANDY (Dumdum): Sir, it is an important matter which is being discussed by the House. My colleague, Shri Gurudas Dasgupta has pointed out certain valid matters in regard to the violation of labour laws. It is important to discuss this matter in this House. Though it is happening around the country in different States, the legislations are enacted by this House itself. So, there is a responsibility on the part of the Central Government to look into the matter so that violations do not take place anywhere in the country.

The hon. Minister has placed a statement in this House. We have gone through that statement but the scenario is completely different from the position stated in the statement.

MR. SPEAKER: This is not a debate, Mr. Nandy. Please put your question.

SHRI AMITAVA NANDY: Sir, I want to touch upon one thing before coming to the matter itself. The human civilisation has emerged and the wealth which has been created in this world are all due to the human resources. So man is utilised for the creation of human resources and the wealth of the country. We are sitting in this Parliament. Who has constructed this Parliament? The construction workers are the main force of this building.

MR. SPEAKER: This we all know. What is your question?

SHRI AMITAVA NANDY: Everywhere the labour force along with intelligence of the human resources are applied to build the wealth of the society. The carpenters were involved for making these benches and all this infrastructure.

MR. SPEAKER: Have you got any question to ask?

SHRI AMITAVA NANDY: But they are being neglected. The carpet on which we are moving is made by the weavers. I visited one State where a hydel power project was being constructed. It was in Chamba. There I found that the management had organised killers to attack workers and they killed a worker.

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry, I would not allow any further. Unless you have a question to put, I would not allow.

SHRI AMITAVA NANDY: Sir, eyewitness of that murder is being harassed. He has been arrested by the police. What is the reply of the Government.

MR. SPEAKER: Is it at all related to the Central Government?

SHRI AMITAVA NANDY: The management is organising the killing of the workers. What steps will be taken by the Government to stop this?

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing more will be recorded. Now, Shri Basu Deb Acharia to speak.

This is not a debate. It is a Calling Attention. You only have to seek a clarification. I cannot convert it into a debate.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI AMITAVA NANDY: At some places, the registration of the union is denied. If the registration is not denied, the management is denying them their rights.

MR. SPEAKER: He has no question to ask.

SHRI AMITAVA NANDY: If the registration is denied, what steps will be taken by the Central Government so that the unions can get themselves registered?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, the situation is alarming. The statistics provided by the Government does not reflect the grim reality as is prevailing today in the labour sector. There are about 40 crore workers in the country. Out of that, about 37 crore are in the unorganised sector. The extent of violation of the minimum wages related statute and the extent of exploitation is much more than what is apparently visible. This has become the order of the day.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has become a Discussion under Rule 193. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am trying. You just see how much time I gave to them.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Your running commentary is only a reflection on the Chair. You can understand the position and you know how much I am trying to control the proceedings. But if you all the time go on making

reflections on the Chair, then it is not helping the cause of this House. If it goes on like this, then I will not allow any Calling Attention in future.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, BSESI is a Central Public Sector Undertaking and the provisions of the Payment of Wages Act are applicable to all Central Public Sector Undertakings. ...(Interruptions) While the owner of the Central Public Sector Undertakings is the Central Government, the shares are lying with the President of India. Now, then the provisions of Payment of Wages Act are being violated in regard to the workers and employees of a Central Public Sector Undertaking and that too when such a law was enacted by this House, who would be held responsible for this?

Sir, there is also an Act in regard to the contract labours, namely the Contract Labours (Regulation and Amendment) Act, 1970. The Ministry of Labour had issued a notification in regard to the abolition of contract labour. But that notification also is not being implemented by various Ministries. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please put your question. Do not create problems for me. You are hearing such snide remarks.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, I would like to know from the Minister, who is a very active and dynamic person, whether he would take steps to implement the notification issued by the Ministry of Labour in regard to absorption of labours who are engaged by the contractors. I would also like to know from the hon. Minister whether he would assure this House about strengthening the labour laws by way of bringing forward a comprehensive legislation in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Acharia, I am sorry you are not co-operating with the Chair.

Shri Sunil Khan, you have to put a question. I will not allow anything else.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, finally I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he would bring forward a comprehensive legislation for these 37 crore workers in the unorganised labour force of the country or not. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI SUNIL KHAN (Durgapur): Sir, through you, I would like to bring to the kind notice of the hon. Minister and I am sorry about it that though I raised a Calling Attention on the same issue in 2005, nothing had been done by the Ministry so far in this regard.

Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister why the management of BSCL is deliberately denying the payment of Provident Fund to its employees since 1975-76. BSCL is a Government of India undertaking. But it has never paid the statutory rate of interest on provident fund at par with the statutory rate declared by the Government of India from time to time.

My second question is on the non-payment of minimum wages by Hindustan Steel Construction Limited and non-payment of legal dues to its employees in Bokaro and other units of HSCL which got separated earlier.

My third question is about the Rehabilitation Corporation of India. A few employees of RCI have not been given the provident fund. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded except the Minister. Do not record even one word of Shri Khan.

...*(Interruptions)**

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Sir, I may be given an opportunity to make a few points. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I am not bound to give you any opportunity.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This is very strange. According to rules, you have not given any notice and you are creating disturbance in the House.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: I am being penalised by your office. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Do not blame my office. I would not allow you to speak. I would have allowed you if you had cooperated. You are constantly disturbing the House. You are the leader of your Party and you should set an example for others to follow.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (Barrackpore): Sir, I would like to say that. ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, the Minister has yielded.

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. He has not yielded. I am not allowing you. Why are you raising it?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You are talking about labour problems and you have no interest to hear what the Minister is saying. This is the way you are showing concern for labour. Shri Tripathy, you may put your questions briefly now.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Sir, is it a fact that the Ministry of Labour and Employment has not conducted any specific survey to ensure implementation of labour laws and what are the recommendations of the National Commission for Labour and Employment for the unorganised sector and—It is a fact that 2000 corporate entities including IOC and ONGC have default in making payments to the Employees Provident Fund Organisation amounting to Rs. 1,698 crore? What steps has the Government taken so far in this regard and Service sector is the second after Agriculture, sector giving employment to the country. But there is no law for the workers of service sector. What the Government is doing to make laws for the workers of service sector? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing else except that of the Minister will be recorded.

...*(Interruptions)**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): Sir, I am very much concerned, as the hon. Members are, about the labour problems in the country. In my statement, I have given the exact details which have been raised by the hon. Members. Hon. Members have raised certain specific cases regarding the violation of Minimum Wages Act for workers and provident fund not given to the contractual workers. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: What is it, your name is not there not have you given any notice, then why are you speaking.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): Sir, I have given the notice. Kindly give me an opportunity.

MR. SPEAKER: I will not.

...(*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: My only crime is that I am following the rules. That is my only crime. You can go on giving specific cases. You can go on misusing all opportunities given to you and the time of the House. You are disturbing everyone here. It is your fundamental right. It is not conceded by me at least.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU: I request the hon. Members to give me the specific cases which they have raised now so that I will definitely look into and take appropriate action. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, please do not respond to it. If you go on responding like this, what will happen?

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU: Sir, hon. Member Shri Gurudas Dasgupta suggested that the Ministry should call for a meeting of State Labour Ministers. Every year it is the practice that we hold a Conference of the State Labour Ministers. In that Conference we discuss various issues. So, I assure hon. Members that definitely we will call a meeting of the State Labour Ministers very soon and we will also call the Central trade union leaders to discuss different issues. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, please do not reply to that. Do not look at them.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU: Before we call the meeting of the State Labour Ministers, our Ministry will meet the Central trade union leaders and we will finalise the agenda. We will just call them and we will discuss various issues keeping the present situation in mind. This assurance was made also by our hon. Prime Minister when he met all the trade union leaders.

Regarding comprehensive legislation for the workers of unorganised sector, I want to just say that they all know that the Ministry has three Reports related to this issue. One is from the Central Advisory Council, the second is from our own Ministry; ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing else to be recorded.

...(*Interruptions*)*

SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU: Another is from the Arjun Sen Gupta Committee. These three Reports are under the Government's consideration. During the meeting with the Central trade union leaders, hon. Prime Minister has also assured them that a comprehensive legislation for social security of unorganised sector workers would be brought within the UPA's present regime. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing else will be recorded.

...(*Interruptions*)*

SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU: There is a Committee of Secretaries, which is looking after it. A Group of Ministers has also been formed. Regarding other problems which have been brought to my notice, I assure them that I will look into them. Specific cases may be given to me and I will definitely see that these cases are sorted out. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, we are not satisfied with the reply of the hon. Minister. Therefore, we are walking out in protest. ...(*Interruptions*)

12.43 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Basu Deb Acharia and some other hon. Members left the House.)

*Not recorded.

12.43½ hrs.

**MOTION RE: TWENTY-NINTH REPORT OF
BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the House will take up item No. 14. Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Twenty-ninth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 22nd August, 2006."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Twenty-ninth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 22nd August, 2006."

The motion was adopted.

12.44 hrs.

SUBMISSION BY MEMBERS

- (i) **Need to give financial package to Karnataka due to unprecedented flood and drought situation in the State**

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have got several notices—some of them beyond time—relating to situation of flood or matters connected therewith. I will give everybody a chance. But my earnest appeal is that, please do not go on saying: "Sir", "Sir" because

[Translation]

that does not serve. I will give a chance to all one by one.

[English]

I will call all of you, although some hon. Members have not given notices in time. They have not taken the trouble of giving the notices in time. Even then I will call them

because this subject relates to common citizens of the country who are suffering. Please cooperate.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR (Bangalore South): Sir, with a heavy heart and with great anguish I am raising this issue for the second time in this House. The State of Karnataka has been ravaged by both floods and drought. We have lost 120 lives. More than 170 *tehsils* have been ravaged by both floods and drought. Twenty-three districts and 589 villages have been affected. Nearly one lakh sixty-seven thousand hectares of crops have been washed away. Due to drought, the sown area of 6.67 lakh hectares have been totally destroyed. There is not water in 3,387 minor irrigation tanks. But our basic question is that our Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister came to Delhi and met the hon. Prime Minister and Deputy Chief Minister came to Delhi and met the hon. Prime Minister, the hon. Minister of Home Affairs and the hon. Minister of Agriculture and submitted an interim memorandum for relief to the tune Rs. 1,406 crore. But till date not a single paisa has been released for the suffering millions of people of Karnataka State.

Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs because I thought the hon. Minister of Home Affairs would be here. The State of Maharashtra has been given an interim relief of Rs. 450 crore. The State of Andhra Pradesh has been given Rs. 400 crore. The State of Gujarat has been given Rs. 400 crore and the State of Madhya Pradesh has been given Rs. 200 crore. If they are affected by floods and drought, then they should be given. ...*(Interruptions)* We are not upset about it. But why is there a step-motherly treatment towards the State of Karnataka when we have already submitted a memorandum?

Sir, recently our Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister have submitted a memorandum of the hon. Rashtrapatiiji also complaining about the step-motherly treatment of the Government of India towards the suffering millions of people of Karnataka.

Therefore, I urge, through you, Sir that the Central Government should immediately forthwith release an interim relief to the Government of Karnataka to mitigate the problems of Karnataka State. I want to have a response from the Government of India because this is unfair. When Maharashtra has been given, Andhra Pradesh has been given, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat have been given, I do not understand why Karnataka has not been given anything. Actually, the flood situation

is from July onwards and it is a peculiar situation. In each district and tehsil especially because of river Krishna and water let down by Koyna river, all the major districts of Karnataka like Chikkodi, Belgaum, Gulbarga etc. have been flooded. ...(*Interruptions*)

Sir, I want a response from the Union Government and we demand a response. They have mentioned it again and again. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: All those hon. Members who wish to associate may please send their names. They would be recorded.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Sir, they would like to be associated. We want a response from the Government. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ananth Kumar, as a Minister, you know what is done.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Sir, I came to you and you have been kind enough to tell me that there will be hon. Minister of Home Affairs in the House to answer. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Probably, there was some lack of communication. I am requesting the hon. Minister to bring it to the notice of the Minister of Home Affairs.

...(*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): Sir, I will convey it to the Minister of Home Affairs. But I would like to make a very humble submission through you to the hon. Member, Shri Ananth Kumar, that this Government headed by Dr. Manmohan Singh has no ill-will towards any State. There is no question of any discrimination. If we are sincere to Maharashtra, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, we are not insincere to Karnataka. It is always done, Shri Ananth Kumar knows, based on certain assessment by a Committee and when that assessment comes, evaluation and valuation can be done. We have no attitude of discrimination towards Karnataka. I will bring this to the

notice of the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Minister of Home Affairs. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: He is replying and you are disturbing. Shri Hemlal Murmu.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ananth Kumar, you have made your point.

Shri Hemlal Murmu.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: But for Karnataka some amount may kindly be released immediately. A step-motherly treatment is being meted out to Karnataka. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister has said that he would bring it to the notice of the Home Minister.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You have raised this issue very ably and forcefully. I am saying that when questions of peoples' miseries are there, I am sure, everybody has to act accordingly.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Gujarat has been given, but we have not been given single paisa. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shrimati Tejaswini See Ramesh, Shri Pralhad Joshi, Shri G.M. Siddeswara, Shri Suresh Angadi and Shri Manjunath Kunnur will be associated with this matter.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Why is the Government of India so callous towards the sufferings of the people of Karnataka? ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Who will answer immediately? It cannot be answered now. But, I am sure, they have realised the intensity of your feelings. Shri Hemlal Murmu to speak now.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I am making the observation from the Chair. I am sure, the Government will take appropriate steps in the matter. I want to communicate that.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I want to know from the hon. Members one thing. Do you follow any procedure, any law, any system? I have called you.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA (Shimoga): I have followed the procedure. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You have not been bothered to give a notice. You have not got the time. You are so busy that you have no time to give a notice even.

[Translation]

what can I do?

[English]

You want to disturb the House now.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Why is there no type of relief for Karnataka? ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You associate yourself.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Then, I will have to adjourn the House.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ananth Kumar ji, this is not good.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: I have already conveyed it to the House. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please listen to him.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: I have already conveyed that we are not insincere towards any State. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is very unfortunate. Not one word of any hon. Member, who has not been called, will be noted.

...(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: I have already conveyed that our Government headed by Dr. Manmohan Singh is not insincere to any State in any crisis. ...(Interruptions) Let him shout. I will not respond. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Hemlal Murmu to speak now.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI HEMMAL MURMU (Rajmahal): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to touch upon the flood and drought facing the state of Jharkhand. Through you, I want to draw the attention of the Government towards the fury of floods in the entire state. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Only Shri Hemlal Murmu's statement goes on record.

...(Interruptions)*

12.52 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Suresh Angadi and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table)

MR. SPEAKER: I have called you first. I have made an observation from the Chair. I have requested him to communicate it to the hon. Minister for Home Affairs. I have also requested him. I am sure, the Government will take this matter seriously.

[Translation]

SHRI HEMMAL MURMU: The cities which are situated along the coast of the Ganges reel under flood every year. The river bed of the Ganga has become shallow and expended following the construction of the Farrakka barrage. ...(Interruptions)

*Not recorded.

12.52¹/₂ hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Suresh Angadi and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: As the Parliamentary Affairs Minister, I can only convey the matter to the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Home Minister. I have said that. Shri Ananth Kumar, as a Minister, what did you do? Did you give any assurance on the floor of the House? What are you talking? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You have not even given a notice. Why are you showing concern now? You have no time to give a notice. You are so busy.

12.53 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri S. Bangarappa came and stood on the floor near the Table.)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: We have no ill-will towards any State. Our Government is not discriminating against any State.

MR. SPEAKER: Then, all the other hon. Members are losing the opportunity. Other hon. Members from Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra are losing the opportunity. What can I do?

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Sir, the Leader of the House is here. I would request him, through you, to respond to it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The impression is going round that by creating trouble in the House, you can try to get something. If this is the policy, very well, go there and sit there. Create trouble outside.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I would request Shrimati Kiran Maheshwari to decide what is to be done, who is to be called,

[Translation]

Whom to be called for speaking.

12.54 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Bangarappa went back to his seat.)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record except Shri Hemlal Murmu's statement.

...*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record anything. Except the statement of Shri Hemlal Murmu, nothing will be recorded.

...*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

SHRI HEMMAL MURMU: I want to tell that the State of Jharkhand is surrounded by the mountains but a huge loss of life and property is caused due to flood water of the Ganges.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You are not doing justice to your cause. I have spoken for you. I have requested the hon. Minister to bring it to the notice of the hon. Home Minister. I have made a further observation. I am sure, the Government will look into the matter with all the importance that it deserves.

[Translation]

What do you want to say? You please cooperate.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

SHRI HEMMAL MURMU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, due to the construction of the Farrakka barrage, silt, sand and soil have been deposited in the river bed of the Ganga and that causes flood in that area and property worth lakhs of rupees gets damaged ...*(Interruptions)*

*Not recorded.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has already assured and that is the assurance of the Government. He said that he would bring it to the notice of the concerned Minister. When the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs speaks, he does not speak on his behalf, he speaks on behalf of the Government and so the Government's assurance is already there. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Ananth Kumar, you are a senior Member. You have been a very responsible Minister also. Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we condemn the attitude of the Government and in protest against the discriminatory attitude of the UPA Government towards the State of Karnataka, we walk out.

12.56 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Ananth Kumar and some other hon. Members left the House.)

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is deplorable. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Don't record anything except what Shri Hemlal Murmu says.

...*(Interruptions)**

12.57 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri S. Bangarappa left the House.)

[Translation]

SHRI HEMLAL MURMU: Sir, I was saying that on the one hand there is flood in the state of Jharkhand. ...*(Interruptions)* What is happening kindly let other members also speak. ...*(Interruptions)*

*Not recorded.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please maintain silence in the House. Please allow another hon. Member to speak. He is mentioning about the problems of his State.

[Translation]

SHRI HEMLAL MURMU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was saying that the Ganga river flows through Jharkhand and the Farraka dam is built on it ...*(Interruptions)* Floods occur due to silting in Ganga river and all the areas get submerged resulting in losses amounting to lakhs of rupees every year. Erosion is continuing in Ganga resulting in hundreds of villages getting washed away every year. I am drawing the attention of the Government towards the problem as to how the erosion of the Ganga river can be checked. The Government should definitely feel concerned about it. There is drought situation in 12 to 13 districts in Jharkhand today. The paddy crop has not been planted there yet. The fields which were planted have developed cracks after drying up. There is no possibility of having paddy crop there. The Government should help and give a package to deal with the problems of flood and drought in Jharkhand so that the people may be able to grow their Rabi crops. It is my only submission.

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South): Mr. Speaker, Sir, kindly give me chance to speak for a minute.

MR. SPEAKER: I will give you chance without notice.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, I have given notice.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, it has come. Certainly I will give you chance.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI (Udaipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me time to speak on a sensitive issue. I hail from Rajasthan and want to draw the attention of the Government towards Rajasthan. The flood situation in Rajasthan is very serious. Twelve districts of Rajasthan have been affected by floods. Such is the situation there that many houses have been washed away rendering many people homeless. Many houses, roads and culverts have been broken leading to communication break down. ...*(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I do not understand what is happening here. Are you really serious that Parliament of India should continue to function? If you are serious, then it is not shown by your conduct and it applies to everybody. You say, 'why do you look here?'

...(*Interruptions*)

13.00 hrs.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: What can I do, I cannot call everyone together, I do not have many faces.

[*English*]

I do not have ten faces that I can see every side. The hon. Member, who has been given the opportunity, has not taken the trouble to give notice in time and even then I am calling her. Some Members are so much interested about raising the people's problems that they have not got the time to give the notice in time.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the flood in the southern part of Rajasthan has resulted in losses to lakhs of people. The villages have lost communication and people have been rendered homeless. The situation in the twelve districts in Rajasthan namely Udaipur, Banswada, Dungarpur, Pali, Sirohi, Bundi, Kota, Jhalawar, Barmer, Jaisalmer, Tonk and Chittor is very bad. Therefore, I want to draw the attention of the Government towards it. As far as the Rajasthan Government is concerned, the hon. Chief Minister is keeping a watch over flooded areas through aerial survey.

...(*Interruptions*)

13.02 hrs.

[*MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to submit that the way the Chief Minister of Rajasthan is keeping a watch over and listening to the problems of the people with much sensitivity, the Central Government should also pay attention to the problem of Rajasthan. Rajasthan is dealing with flood situation today. People have been rendered homeless there due to floods. The Central Government

should concentrate on the flood affected areas of Rajasthan in such a situation. I want to suggest the Central Government that the declaration of the Calamity Relief Fund and National Calamity Contingency Fund made in the year 2001 is like a drop in the ocean, under which compensation of rupees ten thousand for fully damaged pucca house and rupees six thousand for kutcha house; rupees two thousand for severely damaged pucca house, rupees one thousand two hundred for severely damaged kutcha house and rupees eight hundred for slightly damaged house is awarded which is very little. I think that it should be revised. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Silence please.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI: The Central Government, therefore, should pay attention to it immediately. If it is revised then it will be for the whole country and not only for Rajasthan. That is why it is very necessary to revise it. The poor people rendered homeless can not build their house in just eight hundred rupees or construct the roof of the house in just one thousand two hundred rupees. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing should be recorded except the submission by Shrimati Kiran Maheshwari.

...(*Interruptions*)*

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI: Sir, through you, I would like to urge the Government that the amount given under National Calamity Contingency Relief Fund and Calamity Relief Fund should be revised immediately. Orders were issued in this regard in 2001. I, therefore, demand that the Central Government should announce a compensation of Rs. 30,000 for fully damaged house and Rs. 20,000 for kutcha house; Rs. 10,000 for severely damaged pucca house and Rs. 5,000 for kutcha house after revising the orders. Sir, through you, I want to make this demand to the Central Government.

*Not recorded.

[Shrimati Kiran Maheshwari]

Besides, I want to make one more submission that the Central Government should send a team to Rajasthan to conduct a survey of flood affected areas and provide immediate relief to the affected people. I also want to draw the attention of the Central Government towards it.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Silence please. No running commentary please.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI: My submission is that the Central Government should immediately provide a package of one thousand crore rupees to Rajasthan. ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now Shri Bhupendra Singh Solanki will speak.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Central Government should send a team to conduct a survey of the flood affected areas. ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record without permission.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Rasa Singh ji, give a notice and then you will be associated with it.

...(Interruptions)

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the situation in Rajasthan is very serious. ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please associate them. I have got you associated. Now please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please give your notices. I'll get you associated.

...(Interruptions)

*Not recorded.

SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, we want assurance from the Government. The Government must assure us. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat and Shri Jaswant Singh Bishnoi have been allowed to associate with this matter.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA (Banaskantha): Sir, people have suffered a lot, crops have been ruined and roads broken due to excessive rains in my area Banaskantha and Lakhanpur. Floods also occurred and the condition is miserable. ... (Interruptions) People are being forced to take shelter at other places. In my area, for example, in Gujarat and in Surat there was wide spread devastation but the problem is that the attention of the government was focussed very much on Surat. Therefore, government could not pay proper attention to my area. My request to the government of India is that the people of my area especially the farmers should be paid the amount of their crop insurance at the earliest and amount should also be allocated to repair the damaged roads. The school buildings and the houses of the poor have been damaged due to excessive rains. In Lakhanpur and Radanpur too, the homes of the poor have been damaged and big loss has been inflicted to the poor and the peasants. Therefore, I request the government of India that a substantial amount should also be paid to those poor people whose homes have been damaged. I request the government of India that a special grant should be earmarked for Banaskantha and Radhanpur area. ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please associate Solankiji with this.

SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA: Sir, I want to say one more thing. The entire Radanpur area has become water-logged. When some people tried to break the wall of a graveyard to ease water logging there ensued a scuffle resulting in the death of three-four people. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha): Mr. Deputy speaker, Sir, my notice is also about this. ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You may give your notice you will get associated.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, several people have been killed there. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It will not go on record.

...(*Interruptions*)*

SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI (Godhara): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as the floods is wreaking havoc in various parts of the country, my constituency Godhara is not an exception. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record. Please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when 13 lakh Qusec water was released from Kadana and Panam Bandh on 10, 11 and 12 August, the entire Panchmahal district and Balasinor and Birpur tehsils of Khera district of my constituency got flooded. Up to 5-7 kilometre land on both sides of the river got submerged in water making islands at various places and turning land into drains. The entire constituency was flooded by the water carried by the rivers as well as the drains. As a result more than ten thousand small houses of small farmers and the poor located on the banks of rivers were destroyed, their crops were also destroyed, electric poles fell down and electric wires got broken. Schools, bridges, roads and pucca roads were damaged and washed away. As a result, small farmers and the poor in my constituency Godhara have no food to eat, no seeds to sow and no houses to live in. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: After this I have to start. At present flood is being discussed.

SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, their cattle were also washed away in the current of flood water. There is no trace of wells dug for irrigation and drinking water near the fields due to the wells have got filled with mud. Thus small farmers and the poor

*Not recorded.

have been rendered homeless and they have nothing to eat.

Though the state government is trying its best to provide relief to these people but as you know that other districts of Gujarat e.g. Surat, Anand and Vadodara are also affected by floods. The state government cannot provide full relief to these people due to its limited resources. I have already mentioned the devastation caused by the floods in my constituency Godhara and I myself have witnessed it during my visit. Therefore, through you, I would like to make especial request to hon. Prime Minister to send central team to conduct a survey and take stock of the destruction caused by floods in my constituency Godhara. A special package should be given to provide relief to those people and arrangement should be made to provide the required amount there.

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR (Chimur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, huge loss has been caused by floods at Gondiya, Gadchiroli, Bhandara, Chandrapur, Nagpur and Wardha districts of Vidarbha region of Maharashtra. Sudden release of water from Sanjay Sagar and the dam constructed on the subsidiary of Banganga river caused damage to more than 12 thousand houses. It destroyed standing crops of paddy and soyabean in thousands of acres and about 50 people lost their lives. There was huge loss of life and property. Roads have washed away, minor irrigation projects and schools have been damaged. The Chief Minister of Maharashtra has demanded a package worth of Rs. 500 crore from hon. Prime Minister. I request the Central Government to provide assistance to the villagers by giving a package of Rs. 500 crore. Huge damage was caused during the previous year as well as in the current year. Farmers are being forced to commit suicides. My request is that the loans to farmers of entire district should be waived. Those who have lost their lives, their families should be given rupees one lakh each on behalf of the Central Government or from Prime Ministers Relief Fund. Each damaged house should be given Rs. 40 thousand and the farmers whose paddy and Soyabean crops were damaged should be provided Rs. Ten thousand per hectare as relief. An instruction to this effect should be issued to the Government of Maharashtra and it should be included in that Package. A Central team should visit to assess the damage caused to the paddy and Soyabean crops in the districts of Vidarbha and provide assistance.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir I would like to draw the attention of

[Prof. Mahadeorao Shiwankar]
 the House towards a very sensitive issue. I was watching on TV yesterday that when the doctors of AIIMS were going to see Shrimati Sonia Gandhi, the Police were attacking them with water canons and lobbying tear gas shells. In this process several students were falling down. This situation has emerged as a result of reservation announced by Shri Arjun Singh, the Human Resource Development Minister. Initially AIIMS took the lead in the matter of staging dharnas and demonstrations when reservations for OBCs was announced. Thereafter this movement started spreading all over the country. The issue created two opposing camps. For a short while, the matter was dropped but dharnas and demonstrations have started again in opposition of the cabinet's decision. I would like to remind the government, through you, that the government has as much responsibility towards watch and every member of the public as it has towards the Parliament. I am not against reservation but I would like to demand that the government should provide a certain percentage of reservation for the economically backward categories as well and they should be provided seats in educational institutions.

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Bettiah): But those who are economically forward?

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Shri Jha has not understood my point. I said that economically weaker sections include people belonging to forward as well as backward castes. They should be given reservations whichever caste they may belong to and the government should fix a percentage of reservation for them and make an announcement in this regard.

[English]

SHRIMATI TEJASWINI SEERAMESH (Kanakapura): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Water Resources to the drinking water problem in Bangalore and request him to resolve it.

Sir, everybody knows that Bangalore is the dearest city to every Indian due to its pleasant weather and peaceful atmosphere. This Capital of Kamataka, Bangalore is considered as one of the fastest growing cities in Asia. Though officially, its present population of 70 lakh, yet in reality, it is reaching about 1 crore.

Sir, it is becoming a challenge to any Government to provide sufficient drinking water to its largest population. When Nadarabhu Kempegowda built Bangaloru, he also took keen interest to build hundreds of lakes to provide drinking water to Bongalorians. But due to the urbanisation and negligence towards the water management in our times, many lakes disappeared, with the result, underground water is alarming reducing.

Presently, the Government is spending thousands of crores of rupees to provide drinking water to Bangalorians. It is lifting water from faraway Cauvery to supply, in four stages. So far, all the previous Governments had spent Rs. 32,000 crore on this greatest measure. During the acute drought year between 2000 and 2004, this underground water level had further gone down and created a lot of havoc to Bangalorians.

I would, therefore, urge upon the Minister of Water Resources to immediately build a barrage. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Prabhunath Singh, please keep silence. It is not a meeting place.

SHRIMATI TEJASWINI SEERAMESH: Sir, I would urge upon the Government to immediately build a barrage near the confluence of river Arkarathi and river Cauvery in Sathanur Assembly Segment in my Kanakpur Parliamentary Constituency to supply drinking water to Bangalorians. This barrage can also link Tamil Nadu Inter-State Road. We can use it is an Inter-State Road, which would reduce to Coimbatore by half. This barrage requires only just about Rs. 500 crore. By constructing it, we can save thousands of crores of tax-payers' money.

I would again urge upon the Government to immediately act upon to build this barrage at Sathanur Sangma. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, Kumari Mamata Banerjee.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please maintain silence in the House.

[Translation]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: I do not get a chance to speak, that is the problem. ...*(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please have order in the House.

13.17 hrs.

(ii) **Re: Development of North Bengal**

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, I am sorry that within this month, I have got only one chance to speak during 'Zero Hour'. It is very unfortunate. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

I am not given a chance to speak at all. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

That is the problem. We cannot represent the House. It is most unfortunate.

Sir, I thank you very much; at least, you have given me an opportunity today to speak during 'Zero Hour'.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am listening to you.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Members, have silence, please.

[*Translation*]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: It is not fair that I am not given even a single chance to speak during the Zero Hour during the course of a month long session.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Madam, you should continue now.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to a very important issue from the economic and geographical points of view.

Both North Bengal and the North-Eastern Region are the border districts of our country. North Bengal is the gateway of North-Eastern region. and the North-Eastern Region is the gateway of China and Myanmar. North

Bengal is also the gateway of Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal and Bhutan. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nobody should disturb her, please.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: *Bhai*, North-Eastern Region and North Bengal are the border areas. Bangladesh is the border of Pakistan; you know better than me. ...(*Interruptions*)

Sir, I am raising the development issues. ...(*Interruptions*) Do you want to differ here also? ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Madam, you please address the Chair and not to any individual.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, Bangladesh is also the border of Pakistan. India also has a border with Pakistan.

North Bengal is a very neglected area; and the North-Eastern Region is very far away from the country though they are very much in the mainstream of the country. Therefore, I would request the Government to give some special package to North Bengal because its areas are so underdeveloped and neglected. You would appreciate that in Aliporeduar, more than 180 people have died because of malaria. There are no doctors, no medicines.

Sir, the main earning of the people of North Bengal is mostly based on the jute industry and tea gardens.

In the tea garden area, more than 1000 people died because of hunger. It is unfortunate that North Bengal is far from us. So many children are being sold out because they do not get food. They do not have good health condition so that they can revamp themselves.

I know that our Minister, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, belongs to North Bengal. I would request the Government to immediately send a team to survey the malaria-affected areas, give medicines, equipment and arrange other infrastructure so that people could get them.

My second point is regarding Ganga erosion.

Regarding foreign currency, the hon. Finance Minister is here. I am repeating this question. Once the Reserve Bank of India investigated the matter. Foreign currency is used there. Sir, North Bengal is very much in India. North-

[Kumari Mamata Banerjee]

Eastern Region is very much in India. But we are busy with other matters that we do not take care of these people, as a result of which, being a border area, smuggling is increasing. People, who are indulging in terrorist activities, are increasing. They are coming and helping. We want that Government should give special attention, special protection and a special package to North Bengal and to the North-Eastern region. Thank you.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): Sir, I have the privilege to represent that region. In response to your request, I would respond to the House that during the tenure of the NDA Government, I tried to draw the attention to these matters. I got not even a lip service from the previous Government. Soon our Government was installed, I took up the issue of erosion. For the first time, the Government of India, with the concurrence of the State Government, extended the erosion management task from the Farakka barrage both in Murshidabad and Malda. We have solve one-fourth of the problem. We have solved one of the major problems in Panchanandpur.

In regard to other economic support, I have presented a memorandum two months back and the Prime Minister is actively examining it. I can assure that justice to North Bengal's economic package, involving both the State Government and the Central Government, would be ensured by this Government at the earliest.

13.21 hrs.

(iii) **Need to bring forth a legislation providing for ownership rights to adivasis on forest land**

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Adivasis in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra and Orissa are holding agitations. The major newspapers in the country have reported that a large-scale demonstration was held by the Adivasis yesterday in Bhopal, the capital of Madhya Pradesh. The Adivasis belonging to Betul, Harda, Hoshangabad, Dharwadhar and other Adivasi dominated regions had got together to hold a demonstration and

had demanded to know the reason why the government was not bringing the Bill regarding rehabilitation of Adivasis in forest areas in the present session.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the UPA Government had given its commitment that it would rehabilitate the Adivasis on forestland. The Bill had, in fact, been brought in the House and thereupon it was sent to the Joint Parliamentary Committee. Three months have passed from the date when the Joint Parliamentary Committee presented its report but the Bill has not been taken up in this session. This seems to be a serious matter. It shows that the government is not serious about matters which pertain to the poor and the Adivasis. Despite the fact that the government has made a commitment, the Bill regarding the rehabilitation of Adivasis has not been brought in the present session. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is present, hence I would like to ask him why the government failed to bring that Bill in this session, what are the reasons for its failure to do so? When is the government likely to bring this Bill? ...*(Interruptions)* The JPC had returned the Bill regarding rehabilitation of tribals on forestland to you after considering it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the Minister, through you, why the government failed to bring the Bill in this session despite having made a commitment in this regard? When does the government intend to bring this Bill?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): Report of the Joint committee in this regard has been reviewed and I have also called a meeting of the Group of Ministers in this regard. Some tribal representatives are present here and I would like to assure the House that the government intends to take concrete steps to bring this Bill after reaching an equitable agreement with the non-tribals. I hope that this problem would be soon resolved. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV (Sambhal): Please indicate a time limit in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is present in the House. I would like to ask him the reason for delay in rehabilitating Adivasis on their lands when the Ministry has received the recommendations of the parliamentary committee.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to inform the House, through you, that work in this regard would be completed during the current year. ...(*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Hemlal Murmu—not present.

Shri M.P. Veerendra Kumar to speak now.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record except the speech of Shri Veerendra Kumar.

...(*Interruptions*)*

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR (Calicut): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Government through you to the serious situation and the plight of coconut farmers of Kerala. Sixty lakh plus households in Kerala, devoting 42 per cent of acreage to coconut cultivation, have a stake in the remunerative pricing of it and its by-products. The price is falling. Compared to the average price of Rs. 6,638 per 1,000 nuts without husk in 2005, it plummeted to Rs. 3,500. Compounding this disaster is the implementation of FTAs like SAFTA effective from July 1, 2006 and ASEAN to be effective from January 1, 2007. The experience show how unrestricted imports facilitated by such trade agreements can lead to price crash. The EXIM policy of 2000 result in the price of coconut plunging from Rs. 5,050 for 1,000 nuts in January, 2000 to Rs. 2,446 for 1,000 nuts in 2001.

Unless the Government demonstrate the political will to enact a few measures, the economic spine of Kerala will be shattered beyond repair. Thank you.

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH (Gorakhpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of hon. Minister of Health and Family Welfare towards a serious situation arising out of withdrawal of

recognition granted to various government medical colleges located in Uttar Pradesh by Medical Council of India. The people of Uttar Pradesh will have to face great difficulty on account of this arbitrariness of Medical Council of India.

Sir, more than 17 crore people of the country reside in Uttar Pradesh. Medical Council of India has withdrawn the recognition to various medical colleges functioning under the Government of Uttar Pradesh in the state which is the largest state in terms of population as a result of which the admission to the post-graduate classes in these colleges has been hampered. I belong to the eastern region of Uttar-Pradesh. I would like to draw your attention towards B.R.D. Medical College located in my constituency in which admission to post-graduate classes has been banned.

Sir, around 4 crore people of eastern Uttar Pradesh and about 2 crore people of the neighbouring state Bihar and neighbouring country Nepal are being benefitted from the medical services in B.R.D. college which is the only medical college located in eastern Uttar Pradesh. Thousands of people of that region have died of Japanese encephalitis and viral encephalitis caused by lacteria due to lack of treatment.

Sir, if the admission to P.G. courses is banned, health services in B.R.D. College will be completely paralysed. Hence, through you I would like to request hon. Minister of Health and Family Welfare that this arbitrariness of Medical Council of India should be checked. Most of the reasons cited for withdrawal of recognition by the Medical Council of India relate to the state governments. The state government has initiated recruitment of teaching staff in some colleges while it is unable to do the same in some others. But the people of the state cannot be forced to suffer due to mistake committed by the state government.

Sir, through you, I want to draw the attention of the government towards one more issue. ...(*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Only one matter may be raised. ...(*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH: There are many courses which conform to the criteria laid down by MCI. ...(*Interruptions*)

*Not recorded.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, nothing should be recorded.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH: By withdrawing the recognition to PG courses, the admission to these courses has been banned in Medical college. It should be restored immediately as the medical services have been paralysed due to this. For that separate arrangement be made so that medical services for patients suffering from viral encephalitis and Japanese encephalitis should be restored as before.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Shankhlal Majhi is allowed to associate with this matter.

[Translation]

SHRI MITRASEN YADAV (Faizabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of government of India towards Rajiv Gandhi Rural Electrification Scheme, worth crores of Rupees, which is being implemented in the states of our country.

Sir, billions of rupees are being spent under this scheme in various states. Nagarjun Construction Company has been given contract under this scheme in our Uttar Pradesh. This company has deployed small contractors under it. This has led to adverse effect on the Rajiv Gandhi Rural Electrification Scheme. Use of substandard material and working against the set norms and other such underhand tactics adopted by them might prove quite detrimental to whole scheme. There is no government agency to monitor this rural electrification scheme which is being implemented on contract basis. Work is being done against set standard and quality. At some places misappropriation is being committed on large scale under this scheme. Substandard material is being used in this scheme.

I request the government through you that a technical committee be constituted for this big scheme in which such a huge amount of money is being spent in order to monitor this scheme particularly in districts like Purvanchal and Faizabad of Uttar Pradesh which are examples of underhand activities being carried out under the scheme.

Sir, I demand from the government through you that this scheme be get technically inspected.

SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA (Hoshiarpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of this House through you towards those unemployed people of Haryana, who have been cheated. An institution namely Agro West an undertaking of Government of India was set up and having received application and money from hundreds-thousands of youths, it issued appointment letters to them. This institution was a fake one and during enquiry it was revealed that*...

I demand from the Government through you that the entire issue be investigated by the CBI and money received from thousands of youths be returned and*...

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, I rise to bring an important matter to the notice of the House. We have passed the Electricity Regulatory Authority Act. At the time when it was passed, I had specifically mentioned that power generation and distribution is a subject in the Concurrent List. I feel that passing a law, which is mandatory to all will definitely curtail the federal structure of our Constitution.

In Kerala State we are in great difficulty. The Kerala State Electricity Board (KSEB) is running profitably. Now, as per the provision of the Act, the Board will have to be disbanded, and we will have to bring in three separate units. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have not forgotten you.

SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI (Rewa): I could not get an opportunity to speak during Zero Hour in the entire session, hence I am walking out of this House.

13.36 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Chandra Mani Tripathi left the House)

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: We do not know how far it will be successful, but one thing is certain that it will lead to privatisation in power generation and

distribution. Therefore, I would request the Central Government to make an amendment to the Central Act and provide an option to the State Governments to have their own Boards for power generation and distribution. Otherwise, we will be in difficulty, and the spirit of the Constitution will also be in difficulty. Therefore, I again request the Government to bring an amendment to the Electricity Regulatory Act. I conclude with these words.

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR (Bareilly): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the House towards a serious problem. An issue pertaining to Chowdhury Charan Singh University, Meerut has come into light recently and that is the answer-sheets of graduation and post-graduation examination are being evaluated by fifth standard pass-children; who have no knowledge. This subject does not come under the state government. All the universities are under the jurisdiction of University Grant Commission and section 12 provides the instruction about bringing improvement in the method and standard of education. But it is unfortunate that thousands of answer sheets of Chowdhary Charan Singh University, Meerut are lying scattered on roads and fifth standard pass children are evaluating them. When these children were interviewed and asked that they are only fifth standard pass whether they know what Physiotherapy is; their reply was they have nothing to do with that. The answer-sheets written in good handwriting have been given good marks.

I want to state through you that they are playing with the future of these students and problems are being created for them. It is unfortunate that the Vice-Chancellor, who is patron of the University, is involved in politics and he is not taking any decision due to political constraints. Since question mark has been put before all the degrees of this educational institution and it will create problem for youths in future, I want to request you that the Central Government may get the issue inquired by the CBI and University Grants Commission should take proper decision at its own level so that future of the youth may be secure.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very grateful to you for allotting me time to speak on the notice of special mention. I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the problem being faced by lacs of Shiksha Mitras in the entire country.

Whether it be School Chalo Abhiyan, or Sarva Siksha Abhiyan, these Shiksha Mitras and these schemes are considered to be the backbone of education since the last 5-6 years. But, the future of Shiksha Mitras is insecure. They are being appointed at the age of 18 to 35 years on the basis of merit, but in case of their re-appointment, money is being asked for and they are being exploited due to factional politics prevailing in the village among Pradhan, Headmaster, guardians, A.B.S.A. and B.S.A. so far as the question of payment of honorarium is concerned, they are being paid an honorarium of 2400 rupees per mensem, but they are paid in instalments of 6 months or a year. When the total amount goes upto 14 thousands, the Pradhan thinks that they are being paid big amount of honorarium and he asks for a share of money out of the honorarium being paid to them. Hence, there is a need to increase their honorarium. The second thing is ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No other issue, only one issue can be raised at a time.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: There are various types of expenses like, household expenditure, expenditure on treatment of parents and taking care of them. Para-teachers employed in various educational institutions get better honorarium than them. There is no provision of any kind of leave for them, whether it be casual leave, medical leave or maternity leave in case of women Shiksha Mitra. Thus they are being exploited. It is unfortunate that the amount from their honorarium is being deducted in case they take leave.

The second thing is that there are many unmarried girls who serve as Shiksha Mitra and when the Government provides them grant for marriage. ...*(Interruptions)* I am going to conclude my speech, this is my last point. The government provides grant for marriage to the poor girls, but after marriage they are removed from service. I demand the government through you that special attention to be paid to the basic problems being faced by Shiksha Mitra so that they may serve the country in a better way by being associated with the field of education.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was not present in the House, and I was watching the proceedings on TV in my room. One

[Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi]

distinguished Member, Shri Avinash Rai Khanna, in the 'Zero Hour' intervention made a substantial allegation against one of the Ministers of the Government. The rule of the House is that if any allegation against a Minister is to be made, then it should be substantiated and given to the Speaker's office and a notice will be given to the Minister allowing her to respond. Therefore, I would request you that since it was not done according to the practice of the house, it should be expunged from the records.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will see the records, and if there is anything derogatory in it, then I will expunge it.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): Sir, he did not mention anybody. He did not particularly mention his name. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will see the records.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Sir, there is a provision to provide post-matric scholarship to the students belonging to Schedule Castes, Schedule Tribes and other backward castes under centrally sponsored schemes. This scholarship scheme is in implementation before the beginning of Ninth Five Year Plan and the state government is disbursing the scholarship sanctioned under this scheme by the end of Ninth Five Year Plan. The Central Government has to make available funds for all the cases of scholarship under this scheme after the Ninth Five Year Plan. The scheme of disbursing scholarship to the students belonging to the other backward castes under centrally sponsored schemes in Rajasthan was raised during the Tenth Five Year Plan. The state government has no liability under this scheme and full responsibility lies with the central government. Rajasthan government has made payment of its full contribution and has asked again and again for the amount which is not being provided by the Central government.

At last, I demand from the central government to pay the balance amount of post-matric scholarship to the students belonging to scheduled caste, scheduled tribes and other backward castes under this scheme immediately.

I am very much grateful to you for providing me an opportunity to speak.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Matters of Urgent Public importance will be taken up in the evening. ...(Interruptions)

13.42 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Item No. 15, namely, Matters under Rule 377 may be laid on the Table of the House, and they will form part of the proceedings.

(i) **Need to confer Bharat Ratna Award on Dr. Shiva Kumara Swamyjee, head of Shri Siddaganga Math, Tumkur, Karnataka**

SHRIMATI TEJASWINI SEERAMESH (Kanakapura): I request the Government to recommend the highest civilian award 'Bharat-Ratna' to the proud son of Karnataka, head of the Sri Siddaganga Math Tumkur, Jagadguru Dr. Sri Sri Sri Shivakumara Swamyji, for his greatest service to the mankind.

Siddaganga Math is the one of the reputed Veera-Shaiva Religious Math which preaches and practices the teachings of Vachanakara Basavanna's equality, casteless society, and secularism from the 12th Century. Dr. Swamyji is a greatest soul, who is running his centenary year in this "Suarna Karnataka"-2006. Tumkuru Siddaganga Math is known for his 'Dashoha' meaning free feeding to the thousands of rural poor hungry children and providing them free hostel and education.

Recently, Dr. Kalam, President of India personally honoured and appreciated him for his selfless service to the mankind. So, on this background I would like to communicate the sentiments of the lingayut community towards this greatest personality to the Government of India. I hope our Government will do justice to the Dr. Shivakumara Swamyji by recommending his name to the 'Bharat Ratna' award.

(ii) **Need for early commencement of Bhuj-Bareilly Express as proposed in Railway Budget 2006-07 and restore the stoppage at Rajgarh Station in Rajasthan**

[Translation]

DR. KARAN SINGH YADAV (Alwar): Sir, an announcement was made in the railway budget for the

*Treated as laid on the Table.

year 2006-2007 for starting of Bhuj-Bareilly Express thrice in a week. At present another train i.e. New Bhuj-Bareilly on this route is operating thrice in a week. Practically the newly announced train will add three more days in the frequency of already operational trains. It is a matter of regret that the said train has not been started even after six months of presentation of rail budget. Therefore, the Ministry of Railways is requested to start the said train early so that one more train between Delhi and Jaipur could be made available at day time.

For the last so many years the train playing between Bareilly-New Bhuj thrice in a week used to stop both ways at Rajgarh station. But since last year stoppage to this train from Bareilly to New Bhuj at Rajgarh has been done away with which has caused lot of inconvenience to the people of the area. Therefore, I request that both way stoppage of the aforesaid train at Rajgarh should be restored. Besides both way stoppage of proposed new train should also be provided at Rajgarh station.

(III) Need to provide more financial assistance for Sarva Siksha Abhiyan in Andhra Pradesh

[English]

SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA (Machilipatnam): Andhra Pradesh is one of the successful States in the country in achieving maximum results under SSA. Number of schools opened/upgraded is 7,810; number of children covered through bridge courses is 3,22,322; number of school buildings constructed so far is 4,153 with 5,776 additional classrooms, 4,000 toilets and drinking water in 4,261 schools. Dropouts rate has come down by 10% and enrolment and access has gone up to 98%. Of course, the retention level is low. To promote retention of girls, State Government is giving Rs. 50, Rs. 75 and Rs. 100 to girls studying in 8th, 9th and 10th classes, along with Children language Improvement Programme. Under Mid-Day Meal Scheme, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has allocated Rs. 240 crores in addition to GOI's allocation of Rs. 131 crores last year.

So, to make the SSA more effective, the Government of Andhra Pradesh is thinking of extending Mid-Day Meal Scheme to Upper Primary School and later to high school. As a result of the success of SSA in State, the movement of students in higher classes has gone up and there is a need to create infrastructure with the State Government's decision to extend Mid-Day Meal Scheme to classes 6 and 7, it requires finances.

Hence, I request for consideration of the GOI to provide financial assistance to Andhra Pradesh to fulfill its dream of becoming number one State in India in implementation of SSA.

(iv) Need to make provision in the Budget for the development of backward areas in Banaskantha, Gujarat and other parts of the country

[Translation]

SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA (Banaskantha): Mr. Speaker Sir, several areas of the country are extremely backward and balanced development of the country is not taking place due to non-development of these backward areas. These areas are not getting any facilities due to which numerous economic problems have cropped up in the country and people are migrating from such areas. The government should pay attention towards these backward areas. My Parliamentary constituency Banaskantha is the most backward area of Gujarat and there is a need to pay special attention towards this region. As good diet is given to an ailing person and more expenditure is incurred on him, similarly the Government should make budget provision in the budget for development of backward areas.

I request the government that provision should be made in the budget for development of backward areas and proper care should be taken to see whether balanced developmental work is going on properly or not.

(v) Need to take steps to conserve the ecology in Himachal Pradesh

[English]

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH (Mandi): The Himachal Pradesh Government aims to preserve and intensify the forest cover to recreate the pristine glory of selected area in the state which will lead to increase in the life of major river valley projects located in the North-Western India, provide adequate water resources to the downstream states and also lead to improve environmental quality locally. Plantation programmes to cover an additional area of 5,000 square kilometers by 2020. This means planting an additional area of 25,000 hectares per annum for 20 years. For this purpose it has become imperative to raise Himachal ecological TA battalion which owing to multifaceted and complex global state of affairs affecting Himachal Pradesh can undertake the task, relieve

[Shrimati Pratibha Singh]

the regular Army from state duties and assist Civil administration in dealing with natural calamities and maintenance of essential services in situations, where life of the Communities is affected or the security of the country is threatened and in peace time to help the state government to conserve the ecology of the state.

I would urge the Centre Government that Himachal Ecological TA battalion should be raised as early as possible.

(vi) Need to provide adequate facilities to 'Madhwalia Gausadan' in district Maharajganj, Uttar Pradesh

[Translation]

SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY (Maharajganj, U.P.): Mr. Speaker Sir, in my Parliamentary Constituency Maharajganj district, Uttar Pradesh there are no shelter, fodder, water and medicines for stray and sick animals and even there is no ambulance facility for ferrying sick animals. As a result of which people have to face lot of difficulties in carrying injured or sick animals to hospitals. Many times due to non-availability of treatment in time animals dies on the spot or on the way to hospital. Often wandering animals collide with vehicles and remain lying injured on the roads for hours which not only result in hindrance in traffic movement but also poses a threat of possible outbreak of any disease. Madhwalia cow shelter is located in the said district and difficulties are being experienced in keeping the animals therein due to lack of facilities. Therefore, the Union Government is requested to provide adequate facilities like construction of cow shelter, supply of fodder, water, medicines and facility of ambulance for ferrying sick animals in Madhwalia cow shelter.

(vii) Need to gear up the relief and rehabilitation work in flood affected area of Vidarbha, Maharashtra

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR (Chandrapur): Sir, Chandrapur, Garhchiroli and Yavatmal districts in Vidarbha region are in the grip of devastation flood. Due to incessant heavy rainfall in the first week of August 2006 and water released from dams this year flood has taken the shape of devastating disaster. This time flood has already claimed lives of hundreds of people alongwith thousands of cattle. Thousands of people have been rendered homeless and flood water has entered in villages and cities resulting in huge damage to houses and seeing

the magnitude of loss of life and property caused by the flood the pace of relief and rehabilitation work being carried out there by the local administration and the state government is very slow. The people of flood affected areas are being forced to live in camps even today. The people whose houses have been washed away in flood and who have become shelterless are complaining to the administration but the state government is not able to provide houses to those people due paucity of resources. In flood affected areas huge loss has been caused to agriculture. This natural calamity has wracked havoc on the shattered farmers of Vidarbha region. Besides Vidarbha crops on three lakh hectare area of land have been destroyed in Maharashtra also. In 29 districts 3500 villages and several cities have come in the grip of flood. The relief fund of Rs. 500 crore sought by the State Government from the Union Government is too meagre. Rs. 2000 crores should be provided to the state for relief work. I demand that the people whose houses have been damaged should be compensated and the rural and urban people should be rehabilitated by constructing houses for them particularly under the Valmiki Ambedkar scheme and the national Sam Vikas Yojana.

(viii) Need to ensure the dignity of the individual by providing social and economic justice as enshrined in the Constitution

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA (Ujjain): Sir, our constitution secures social, economic and political justice, liberty and equality of status and opportunity and dignity of individual to all its citizens.

Crores of people are deprived of social and economic justice even today and political justice is not available to them in true sense. Life of dignity to everyone is not ensured and in some areas it is not available at all. An action plan should be formulated and implemented to get rid of from the situation of deprivation and injustice.

So far employment is concerned, poor are not able to sustain in the situation of either employment or partial employment. In order to bailout crores of countrymen from this hapless and pitiable condition and to provide them opportunity for leading a dignified life it is necessary to provide them employment, good accommodation, healthcare facilities and uniform education i.e. there should be no difference in education being imparted in rural and urban areas.

Therefore, the Union Government should take various measures to ensure dignity of individual.

(ix) Need to remove objectionable phrases used against Hindu Deities in the syllabus of Indira Gandhi National Open University

SHRI GANESH SINGH (Satna): Sir, the Indira Gandhi National Open University has included several objectionable phrases in the text books of M.A. History and Political Science, entitled 'Bharat ke Dharmic Chintan' and 'Ashatha', towards the God Shankar and the Goddess Durga, that is very unfortunate.

Hon. Human Resource Development Ministry had given a statement on 19.7.2006 for removing the objectionable phrases. The Vice-Chancellor of the University had set up a seven member team on 20.7.2006 to review the above objectionable phrases, but the report of which is still awaited.

Such objectionable phrases are there not only in the Hindi book but also in the English books. So far more than 15 thousand students have been distributed these Hindi and English books all over the country. The person who wrote this title is the professor of History of this university itself.

I think this is a very serious matter and this has continuously been done under a well thought conspiracy just to paint in poor light the Gods and Goddess which are the symbols of the faith of the Hindus. It may have dire consequences in future.

I demand that such objectionable remarks be immediately removed from the books.

(x) Need to provide Railway network in Sarangarh Parliamentary Constituency, Chhattisgarh

SHRI GUHARAM AJGALLE (Sarangarh): Sir, a survey was conducted earlier in Raipur, Ballaunda Bazar, Kasdol, Gidhauri, Bhatgao, Sarangarh and Jhad Sugara areas of Chhattisgarh for laying a new rail line. Sir, the Sarangarh Lok Sabha Constituency spans 250 kms. from North to South and 150 km. from East to West. There are four districts under the Sarangarh Lok Sabha Constituency but the rail line touches this Lok Sabha nowhere. Therefore, it is the demand of the people of the area that the above areas should also be connected with the rail line.

Sir, through you, I request the hon. Railway Minister to keep this in the priority order under the new rail line action plan.

(xi) Need to provide infrastructural facilities at Calicut Airport, Kerala

[English]

SHRI T.K. HAMZA (Manjeri): The Government of India had declared the Calicut Airport as international Airport in March, 2006. It is highly welcomed. But the infrastructural facilities are quite inadequate in the Airport. The Ministry and Airport Authority assured to give all facilities of the international standard by September 2006, by providing international terminal, multilayer car parking facility, escalator, etc. These works have already started but the progress is very slow, though the works were undertaken by the leading contracting company in India i.e. L & T.

So, I request the Hon'ble Minister of Civil Aviation to kindly look into the matter.

(xii) Need to finalize the project for widening of NH-17

SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI (Badagara): The project for widening the N.H.-17 by making it four lines is pending for the last several years without implementation. Meantime various report are coming through several medias that the Ministry is making some alterations in the earlier proposal. The acquisition process was started years back and not yet completed. The people whose land are marked for acquisition were put in so much hardship without getting any confirmation of the finalisation.

Hence I urge upon the Ministry of National Highway to finalise the acquisition and announce the implementation of the widening of the NH-17 by making it four lines.

(xiii) Need to look into the problems being faced by the residents of Khanjarpur and Bhangari imposed on their movement by the Army

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDER KUMAR (Haridwar): Sir, the population of village Bhagari Mahavatpur in Roorkee under my Parliamentary Constituency Haridwar is about 13,000. On three sides of this village lies the army land which was once acquired by the army, but the army has restricted the movement on the routes leading to Khanjarpur Bazar and Dhadera Railway Station as a result of which the villages are facing a lot of difficulty in their movement because they are asked to show their identity cards by the army officers.

[Shri Rajender Kumar]

Sir, I, therefore, request you to keep above both routes free from the army restrictions in view of the difficulties faced by the villagers in going to Khanjarpur and Dhadhera Railway Station and from there.

(xiv) Need to implement the centrally sponsored schemes in Banka Parliamentary constituency, Bihar

SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV (Banka): Sir, my Parliamentary Constituency Banka is a very backward district and almost all the population of which lives in jungles and hilly areas and people living there are leading their life in abject poverty. And there is no big college and sufficient number of schools for education and the youth there are getting attracted towards naxalite activities due to poverty and unemployment and the naxalite forces are on the rise due to all these reasons and in turn leading to assassination of human and fundamental rights. The people there are not getting benefited from the centrally sponsored schemes and people there are fully deprived of the benefits of social and economic development.

I, request the Government, through this House, that the centrally sponsored schemes be implemented in the Banka Parliamentary constituency so that the people there get an opportunity for development.

(xv) Need to stop unloading of coal at Barabanki Railway Station to protect the environment of residential areas near Railway Station

SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT (Barabanki): Sir, while inviting the attention of the hon. Railway Minister towards the NER and NR of Barabanki district, I want to say that coal is unloaded in residential areas near Barabanki railway station causing pollution in the residential areas. People are suffering from various diseases like asthma and other respiratory diseases. The NER constructed the rail line by raising the height at the above station in 1965-70 but that was cancelled. I, therefore, request the hon. Minister that the racks of coal should not be unloaded in the NER and NR residential colonies but they should be unloaded at the sidings of the rail line constructed in 1965-70 after carrying out the repairing work of the above rail line and this would also not result in any additional financial burden on the Railways.

(xvi) Need to run a daily train between Nanded and Pune, in Maharashtra

SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGHE PATIL (Parbhani): Sir, a train service was introduced between Nanded to Pune which used to ply twice a week but the same now plies only once a week, this is the only train which plies from Marathwada to Pune. People have to travel by buses due to non-availability of the train service. About two hundred buses ply from Parbhani and Nanded to Aurangabad, Jalana and Pune. I have come to know that a secret deal has been struck between the bus operators and the DRM Nanded wherein a decision has been taken by the DRM to ply the above train service only once a week between Nanded and Pune because people would have to travel by bus if the sufficient train service is not available. Even if the above train plies on daily basis, it would be beneficial because the number of passengers on the above routes is very high.

Through this House, I request the Government that the train service which plies only once a week between Nanded and Pune should ply on a daily basis.

(xvii) Need to formulate norms for clearing local cheques in two days and out station cheques in four-six working days

[English]

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): By inordinately delaying the clearance of cheques deposited by customers, bank-public sector, private and foreign are enriching themselves by about thousands of crores of rupees and to be specific Rs. 3726 crore in 2005-06 alone. This has been revealed by a study conducted by the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) and the RBI's Department of Statistical Analysis & Computer Services. It states that the enrichment had been on 13 thousand lakh cheques worth Rs. 113,37,000 cr. As Banks enjoyed 'free float of customers' fund on 50 per cent of the cheques transacted.

Reserve Bank of India has given the Banks the freedom to formulate their own policies on the issue of cheques clearance since November, 2004. But most Banks have not put their cheques collection policy in place and over 94 per cent of 55537 bank offices or branches have no idea as to what the policy was about. This chaos has led to the violation of consumers' right to access their funds in time. While cheques of upto Rs. 15,000 have to be credited immediately, it happens only in 2-5 per cent cases. More than 15 Banks impose

additional charges for clearing cheques immediately. This is in violation of all banking regulations.

Out station cheques clearance has become a virtual nightmare for customers. While cheques between two State capitals take 10-14 days for clearance, those from the hinterland are not being realized for months.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to impress the Reserve Bank of India to stipulate a two day norm for clearing local cheques while outstation cheques could be cleared in four-six working days. With internet banking and the induction of suitable information technology tools, most banks could credit even outstation cheques instantaneously, something not being done currently.

(xviii) Need to lift ban on sale of non-iodised salt

SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN (Coimbatore): After 6 years of lifting the ban on sale of non-iodised salt in 2000, the government has again imposed the ban with effect from May 17th 2006. The government claims that the ban is to address the increasing iodine deficiency diseases. But there are no studies to prove that IDD is rampant in the country. Instead there are medical researches that reveal the ill effects of continuous excess consumption of iodine. There is distinct commercial angle in the rush for iodised salt. Iodination, besides resulting in huge increase in salt prices will expose the small scale manufacturers into uneven competition with the established brands. The small manufacturers will certainly not be able to withstand the competition and will lose their very livelihood with nearly one lakh workers in the industry.

Moreover, the WHO recommends a daily intake of iodine for people over 12 years, a mere 150 mg. This is provided through any simple diet. Hence the claim of the government that this ban is to address the IDD is thus defeated.

I, therefore, urge upon the government to lift the ban on non-iodised salt with immediate effect.

(xix) Need to Implement Durgaduani Tidal Power Plant and provide special Package for solar power energy Centres in Sunderbans, West Bengal

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL (Joynagar): Sunderbans is the largest delta/mangrove forests of the planet deserving the full attention of the Government. The people of the Sagar Island and the Gosaba Island

have already been benefited by renewable energy sources. There is a lot of potential for power generation through non-conventional energy sources such as wind power (54,000 MW) tidal waves (79,000 MW) mini Hydel (10,000 MW), bio-mass (35,000 MW) and bio-gas (1 Lakh MW), abundantly available in Sunderbans, which can be harnessed for the generation of electricity.

Sunderbans comprises large number of islands and hence conventional energy is very difficult thing to be made available in the area. Solar power has become very successful in Sunderbans and therefore, the Government should provide a special package for Sunderbans to have more solar power energy there.

I believe that all the necessary clearances have been accorded towards the Durgaduani Mini tidal power Plant, a first of its kind in the country to provide electric power supply to the remote but well populated islands of Sunderbans. Because of inadequacy of the existing local solutions to provide electricity the people as well as tourists who visit Sunderbans find it very difficult. Therefore, the Government for starting speedy execution on this project should take all necessary steps.

I would, therefore, urge upon the Government to take immediate steps for implementation of Durgaduani Mini Tidal Power Plan as Well as to provide special package for increasing the number of solar power energy Centres in Sunderbans.

(xx) Need to provide 20% reservation to General Category Candidates in educational institutions and jobs

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): Sir, there is a provision to give 15, 7.5 and 27 per cent reservation to the Scheduled Castes, scheduled Tribes and other backward classes respectively. The population of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe is 25 per cent and that of other backward classes is 55 per cent currently. Thus, these three communities constitute 80 per cent of the population but they get only 49.5 per cent reservation whereas the rest of the 20 per cent population which is of the Swarna Castes, gets 50 per cent general seats. Even then, there is opposition to reservation and clashes take place between the reservation supporters and those against it and the caste not getting reservation feels that it should also get the reservation facility.

[Shri Ramdas Athawale]

I, therefore, request the Central Government that necessary steps should be taken to provide 20 per cent reservation to the 20 per cent population of the Swarna Castes in the country so that they also get the benefit of reservation and the everyday conflict taking place in the country between the reservation supporters and those against it can be brought to an end.

13.44 hrs.

BANKING COMPANIES (ACQUISITION AND TRANSFER OF UNDERTAKINGS) AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2005

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, the House shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill further to amend the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) and Financial Institutions Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2005.

The question is:

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was negatived.

Motion Re: Suspension of Rule 80(I)

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): I beg to move:

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to the Government amendment No. 3* to the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) and Financial Institutions Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2005 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the

Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to the Government amendment No. 3* to the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) and Financial Institutions Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2005 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 2A—Amendment of Section 3

Amendment made:

Page 2, *after* line 12, *insert—*

Page 2, *after* line 12, *insert*

'Amendment of 2A. In section 3 of the Bank Nationalisation section 3. Act,—

(a) in sub-section (2B), *for* clause (c), the following clause shall be *substituted*, namely:

"(c) such amounts as the Board of Directors of the corresponding new bank may, after consultation with the Reserve Bank and with the previous sanction of the Central Government, raise whether by public issue or preferential allotment or private placement, of equity shares or preference shares in accordance with the procedure as may be prescribed, so, however that the Central Government shall, at all times hold not less than fifty one percent of the paid-up capital consisting of equity shares of each corresponding new bank:

Provided that the issue of preference shares shall be in accordance with the guidelines framed by the Reserve Bank specifying the class of preference shares, the extent of issue of each class of such preference shares (whether perpetual or irredeemable or redeemable) and the terms and conditions subject to which, each class of preference shares may be issued.";

(b) in sub-sections (2BB) and (2BBA), for the words "raised by public issue", the words "raised by public issue or preferential allotment or private placement" shall be *substituted*;

(c) in sub-section (2C) for the words "raised by public issue", the words "raised from public by public issue or preferential allotment or private placement" shall be *substituted*;

(d) in sub-section (2E), the following proviso shall be *inserted*, mainly:

"Provided that the shareholder holding any preference share capital in the corresponding new bank shall, in respect of such capital, have a right to vote only on resolutions placed, before such corresponding new bank which directly affects the rights attached to his preferences:

Provided further that no preference shareholder shall be titled to exercise voting rights in respect of preference shares held by him in excess of one per cent of the total voting rights of all the shareholders holding preference share capital only." (3)

(Shri P. Chidambaram)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That new clause 2A be added to the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

New clause 2A was added to the Bill.

Clause 3—Amendment of Section 9

Amendments made:

Page 2, for line 21, *substitute*,—

'(ii) for clause (c), the following clause shall be *substituted*, namely:—

"(c) one director, possessing necessary expertise and experience in matters relating to regulation or supervision of commercial banks, to be nominated by the Central Government on the recommendation of the Reserve Bank of India;"

(iii) clause (d) shall be omitted;. (4)

Page 2, line 22, for "(iii)", *substitute* "(iv)". (5)

Page 2, line 39, for "2005", *substitute* "2006". (6)

Page 2, after line 44, *insert*,—

'(c) after sub-section (3A), the following sub-sections shall be *inserted*, namely:

"(3AA) Without prejudice to the provisions of sub-section (3A) and notwithstanding anything to the

contrary contained in this Act or in any law for the time being in force, no person shall be eligible to be elected as Director under clause (i) of sub-section (3) unless he is a person having fit and proper status based upon track record, integrity and such other criteria as the Reserve Bank may notify from time to time in this regard.

(3AB) The Reserve Bank may also specify in the notification issued under sub-section (3AA), the authority to determine the fit and proper status, the manner of such determination, the procedure to be followed for such determination and such other matters as may be considered necessary or incidental thereto.

(d) in sub-section (3B), for the word, brackets, figure and letter "sub-section (3A)" at both the places where they occur, the words, brackets, figures and letters "sub-section (3A) and (3AA)" shall be *substituted*". (7)

(Shri P. Chidambaram)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 3, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 3, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 4 was added to the Bill.

Clause 5—Amendment of Section 10A

Amendment made:

Page 3, line 20, for "Financial Restructuring Authority may, if it considers", *substitute* "Administrator may, if he considers". (8)

(Shri P. Chidambaram)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 5, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 5, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 6—Insertion of New Section 10B

Amendments made:

Page 3, for lines 24 to 50, *substitute*,—

6. Insertion of new section 10B. After section 10A of the Bank nationalisation Act, the following section shall be *inserted*, namely:— (9)

[Mr. Deputy Speaker]

Page 4, *omit* lines 1 to 51. (10)

Page 5, *omit* lines 1 to 13. (11)

Page 5, line 14, *for* "10C", *substitute* "10B" (12)

Page 5, line 15, *for* "2005", *substitute* "2006" (13)

Page 5, line 17, *for* "forty-two days", *substitute* "thirty days". (14)

Page 5, line 19, *for* "forty-two days", *substitute* "thirty days". (15)

Page 5, line 21, *for* "forty-two days", *substitute* "thirty days". (16)

(Shri P. Chidambaram)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 6, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 6, as amended, was added to the Bill.

**Clause 7—Insertion of New Section 18A
Supersession of Board in certain cases**

Amendments made:

Page 5, *for* lines 40 to 52, *substitute*,—

7. Insertion of new section 18A. After section 18 of the Bank Nationalisation Act, the following section shall be *inserted*, namely:—

18A. Supersession of Board in certain cases. (1) Where the Central Government, on the recommendation of the Reserve Bank is satisfied that in the public interest or for preventing the affairs of any corresponding new bank being conducted in a manner detrimental to the interest of the depositors or the corresponding new bank or for securing the proper management of any corresponding new bank, it is necessary so to do, the Central Government may, for reasons to be recorded in writing, by order, supersede the Board of Directors of such corresponding new bank for a period not exceeding six months as may be specified in the order!

Provided that the period of supersession of the Board of Directors may be extended from time to time, so

however, that the total period shall not exceed twelve months.

(2) The Central Government may, on supersession of the Board of Directors of the corresponding new bank under sub-section (1), appoint, in consultation with the Reserve Bank, for such period as it may determine, an Administrator (not being an officer of the Central Government or a State Government) who has experience in law, finance, banking, economics or accountancy.

(3) The Central Government may issue such directions to the Administrator as it may deem appropriate and the Administrator shall be bound to follow such directions.

(4) Upon making the order of supersession of the Board of Directors of the corresponding new bank, notwithstanding anything contained in this Act,—

(a) the chairman, managing director and other directors shall, as from the date of supersession, vacate their offices as such;

(b) all the powers, functions and duties which may be exercised and discharged by or on behalf of the Board of Directors of such corresponding new bank, or by a resolution passed in general meeting of such corresponding new bank, shall until the Board of Directors of such corresponding new bank is reconstituted, be exercised and discharged by the Administrator appointed by the Central Government under sub-section (2):

Provided that the power exercised by the Administrator shall be valid notwithstanding that such power is exercisable by a resolution passed in the general meeting of the corresponding new bank.

(5) The Central Government may constitute, in consultation with the Reserve Bank, a committee of three or more persons who have experience in law, finance, banking, economics or accountancy to assist the Administrator in the discharge of his duties.

(6) The Committee shall meet at such times and places and observe such rules of procedure as may be specified by the Central Government.

(7) The salary and allowances payable to the Administrator and the members of the committee constituted under sub-section (5) by the Central Government shall be such as may be specified by the Central Government and be payable by the concerned corresponding new bank.

(8) On and before the expiration of two months before expiry of the period of supersession of the Board of Directors as specified in the order issued under sub-section (1), the Administrator of the corresponding new bank, shall call the general meeting of the corresponding new bank to elect new directors and reconstitute its Board of Directors.

(9) Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law or in any contract the memorandum or articles of association, no person shall be entitled to claim any compensation for the loss or termination of his office.

(10) The Administrator appointed under sub-section (2) shall vacate office immediately after the Board of Directors of the corresponding new bank has been reconstituted." (17)

Page 6, *omit* lines 1 to 53. (18)

Page 7, *omit* lines 1 to 53. (19)

Page 8, *omit* lines 1 to 13. (20)

(Shri P. Chidambaram)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 7, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 7, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 8—Amendment of Section 3

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Clause 8, we are voting negatively because the subsequent amendment based on the recommendation of the Committee has superseded clause 8. Clause 8, we are voting negatively. Please put it to the vote of the House.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 8 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was negatived.

Motion Re: Suspension of Rule 80(i)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to the Government amendment No. 21 to the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) and Financial Institutions Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2005 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to the Government amendment No. 21 to the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) and Financial Institutions Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2005 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 8A—Amendment of Section 3

Amendment made:

Page 8, *after* line 25, *insert*,—

8A. Amendment of section 3. In section 3 of the Bank (second) Nationalisation Act,—

(a) in sub-section (2B), for clause (c), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:

"(c) Such amounts as the Board of Directors of the corresponding new bank may, after consultation with the Reserve Bank and with the previous sanction of the Central Government, raise whether by public issue or preferential allotment or private placement, of equity of preference shares in accordance with the procedure as may be prescribed, so, however that the Central Government shall, at all times hold not less than fifty-one per cent of the paid-up capital consisting of equity shares of each corresponding new bank:

[Mr. Deputy Speaker]

Provided that the issue of preference shares shall be in accordance with the guidelines framed by the Reserve Bank specifying the class of preference shares, the extent of issue of each class of such preference shares (whether perpetual or irredeemable redeemable) and the terms and conditions subject to which, each class of preference shares may be issued.”;

(b) in sub-sections (2BB) and (2BBA), for the words, “raised by public issue” the words “raised by public issue or preferential allotment or private placement” shall be *substituted*,

(c) in sub-section (2C) for, the words “raised by public issue”, the words “raised from public by public issue or preferential allotment or private placement” shall be *substituted*,

(d) in sub-section (2E), the following provisos shall be *inserted*, namely:

“Provided that the shareholder holding any preference share capital in the corresponding new bank shall, in respect of such capital, have a right to vote only on resolutions placed before such corresponding new bank which directly affects the rights attached to his preference shares:

Provided further that no preference shareholder shall be entitled to exercise voting rights in respect of preference shares held by him in excess of one per cent of the total voting rights of all the shareholders holding preference share capital only.” (21)

(Shri P. Chidambaram)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

“That clause 8A be added to the Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

Clause 8A was added to the Bill.

Clause 9—Amendment of Section 9

Amendments made:

Page 8, for line 34, *substitute*,—

‘(ii) for clause (c), the following clause shall be *substituted*, namely:

“(c) one director, possessing necessary expertise and experience in matters relating to regulation or supervision of commercial banks, to be nominated by the Central Government on the recommendation of the Reserve Bank of India;”;

(ii) clause (d) shall be *omitted*’. (22)

Page 8, line 35, for “(iii)”, *substitute* “(iv)” (23)

Page 9, line 7, for “2005”, *substitute* “2006”. (24)

Page 9, after line 12, *insert*,—

‘(c) after sub-section (3A), the following sub-sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“(3AA) Without prejudice to the provisions of sub-section (3A) and notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Act or in any law for the time being in force, no person shall be eligible to be elected as Director under clause (i) of sub-section (3) unless he is a person having fit and proper status based upon track record, integrity and such other criteria as the Reserve Bank may notify from time to time in this regard.

(3AB) The Reserve Bank may also specify in the notification issued under sub-section (3AA), the authority to determine the fit and proper status, the manner of such determination, the procedure to be followed for such determination and such other matters as may be considered necessary or incidental thereto.

(d) in sub-section (3B), for the word, brackets, figure and letter “sub-section (3A)” at both the places where they occur, the words, brackets, figures and letters “sub-section (3A) and sub-section (3AA)” shall be *substituted*.” (25)

(Shri P. Chidambaram)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

“That clause 9, as amended, stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

Clause 9, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 10 was added to the Bill.

Clause 11—Amendment of Section 10A

Amendment made:

Page 9, line 39, for "Financial Restructuring Authority may, if it considers", substitute "Administrator may, if he considers". (26)

(Shri P. Chidambaram)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 11, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 11, as amended, was added to the Bill.

**Clause 12—Insertion of New Section 10B
Transfer of unpaid or unclaimed Dividend
to unpaid Dividend Accounts**

Amendments made:

Page 9, for lines 43 to 50 substitute,—

12. Insertion of New Section 10B. After Section 10A of the Bank (Second) Nationalisation Act, the following section shall be *inserted*, namely:— (27)

Page 10, omit lines 1 to 50. (28)

Page 11, omit lines 1 to 33. (29)

Page 11, line 34, for "10C", substitute "10B".(30)

Page 11, line 36, for "2005", substitute "2006".(31)

Page 11, line 37, for "forty-two days", substitute "thirty days". (32)

Page 11, line 40, for "forty-two days", substitute "thirty days". (33)

Page 11, line 41, for "forty-two days", substitute "thirty days". (34)

(Shri P. Chidambaram)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 12, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 12, as amended, was added to the bill.

Clause 13—Insertion of New Section 18A

Amendments made:

Page 12, for lines 9 to 51 substitute,

'Insertion of new section 13. After section 18 of the Bank (Second) Nationalisation Act, the following section shall

18A. Supersession of Board in certain cases. (1) Where the Central Government, on the recommendation of the Reserve Bank is satisfied that in the public interest or for preventing the affairs of any corresponding new bank being conducted in a manner detrimental to the interest of the depositors or the corresponding new bank or for securing the proper management of any corresponding new bank, it is necessary so to do, the Central Government may, for reasons to be recorded in writing by order, supersede the Board of Directors of such corresponding new bank for a period not exceeding six months as may be specified in the order:

Provided that the period of supersession of the Board of Directors may be extended from time to time, so, however, that the total period shall not exceed twelve months.

(2) The Central Government may, on supersession of the Board of Directors of the corresponding new bank under sub-section (1) appoint, in consultation with the Reserve Bank, for such period as it may determine, an Administrator (not being an officer of the Central Government, or a State Government) who has experience in law, finance, banking, economics or accountancy.

(3) The Central Government may issue such directions to the Administrator as it may deem appropriate and the Administrator shall be bound to follow such directions.

(4) Upon making the order of supersession of the Board of Directors of the corresponding new bank, notwithstanding anything contained in this Act,

(a) the chairman, managing director and other directors shall, as from the date of supersession, vacate their offices as such;

(b) all the powers, functions and duties which may, by or under the provision of this Act or any other law for

[Mr. Deputy Speaker]

the time being in force, be exercised and discharged by or on behalf of the Board of Directors of such corresponding new bank, or by a resolution passed in general meeting of such corresponding new bank, shall until the Board of Directors of such corresponding new bank is reconstituted, be exercised and discharged by the Administrator appointed by the Central Government under sub-section (2):

Provided that the power exercised by the Administrator shall be valid notwithstanding that such power is exercisable by a resolution passed in the general meeting of the corresponding new bank.

(5) The Central Government may constitute, in consultation with the Reserve Bank, a Committee of three or more persons who have experience in law, finance, banking, economics or accountancy to assist the Administrator in the discharge of his duties.

(6) The committee shall meet at such times and places and observe such rules of procedure as may be specified by the Central Government.

(7) The salary and allowances payable to the Administrator and the members of the committee constituted under sub-section (5) by the Central Government shall be such as may be specified by the Central Government and be payable by the concerned corresponding new bank.

(8) On and before the expiration of two months before expiry of the period of supersession of the Board of Directors as specified in the order issued under sub-section (1), the Administrator of the corresponding new bank, shall call the general meeting of the corresponding new bank to elect new directors and reconstitute its Board of Directors.

(9) Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law or in any contract, the memorandum or articles of association, no person shall be entitled to claim any compensation for the loss or termination of his office.

(10) The Administrator appointed under sub-section (2) shall vacate office immediately after the Board of Directors of the corresponding new bank has been reconstituted." (35)

Page 13, omit lines 1 to 50. (36)

Page 14, omit lines 1 to 40. (37)

(Shri P. Chidambaram)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 13, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 13, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 14 to 19 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1—Short Title and Commencement

Amendment made:

Page 1, line 5, for "2005", substitute "2006". (2)

(Shri P. Chidambaram)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the bill.

Enacting Formula

Amendment made:

Page 1, line 1, for "Fifty-sixth", substitute "Fifty-seventh". (1)

(Shri P. Chidambaram)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That Enacting Formula, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

The Enacting Formula, as amended, was added to the Bill.

The Long Title was added to the Bill.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, once again I wish to express my regret to the House for the mistake yesterday. The mistake was not on the part of the Table Office. The mistake was on the part of the Government. I am sorry for the mistake.

13.55 hrs.

**SALARY, ALLOWANCES AND PENSIONS
OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2006**

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House shall now take up item No. 17.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Panskura): Sir, I have a point. I object to the statement explaining reasons why the copies of the Bill could not be circulated two days before. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You can speak after hon. Minister. It has already been introduced.

Hon. Minister, Sir, would you like to say something in this regard?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Members of the House that the Bill got the concurrence of the Cabinet day before yesterday. The very next day the House was adjourned because of the sad demise of a sitting Member. I also wanted to check the nitty-gritty and all the details of the Bill which took some time. Accordingly, I sought the indulgence of the House giving my notice to the Secretary-General on August 19th ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): This already took place yesterday.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Then, Sir, yesterday when the objection was raised I answered fully with the permission of the chair.

I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954, be taken into consideration."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954, be taken into consideration."

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, I rise to oppose this Bill. I would request the hon. Members who are present in the House, who may be having different views, to please kindly listen to me. It is a question of objection in principle.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN' (Begusarai): Sir, I also want to speak on the subject.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You send the notice.

[English]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, I do not say that the Members of Parliament do not have any financial difficulties. I admit that the Members have financial difficulties for many reasons like inflation, they have to entertain their guests, they have to go to their constituencies, they have other commitments, etc. I agree that they do have difficulties. I also agree that there should be a mechanism for the improvement of salary and allowances of the Members. I agree with that also.

Then what is my objection? My first objection is this. We are the lawmakers. We make the laws for the country. If the lawmakers themselves decide to increase their salary, that will not be looked upon in a nice way by the people.

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

[Shri Gurudas Dasgupta]

14.00 hrs.

Please listen to me, my dear friends. I have my objections. *...(Interruptions)* I would like to say to the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs that if his party Members interrupt us, then, that is not a good thing. *...(Interruptions)* I am saying what I am saying. *...(Interruptions)* The point is that lawmakers are making law for themselves. You are constantly speaking.

[Translation]

Do not say so. You are speaking too much.

[English]

The point is, if the lawmakers make law for themselves which give additional financial benefit to themselves, it will be a matter of criticism among the public. Why? In the country, there is a serious economic distress, peasants are committing suicides, unemployment is increasing, 30 per cent of the people do not have two square meals a day. We are pleading for austerity. Government has announced a programme of austerity. I welcome the programme of austerity. There is a need to ensure that our expenses are reduced and more funds for development is invested. I agree that in this situation if we do this, it will have a bad effect on the people.

Secondly, I am submitting for the consideration of my hon. colleagues that in a situation of financial stringency, in a situation of curtailment of expenditure, in a situation of economic crisis, Members may be in difficulty—I agree that we are in difficulty—but we should not take upon ourselves the responsibility of increasing our salaries and allowances. *...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

*SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): He is threatening the Members.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Please, listen to me.

[English]

I am a dissenting voice. We are perhaps two dissenting voices in this House. Dissenting voice should be honoured. *...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have given you two minutes. Only Gurudas Dasgupta's speech will go on record.

*...(Interruptions)**

[English]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Let me conclude. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will allow you. But let me say.

[Translation]

Any Member willing to speak should give a notice. He will be given two minutes' time but do not try to disturb the House like this.

[English]

This is my humble request.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: I am aware that we are handful minority in this House; I am aware that we are representing a dissenting voice; I am aware that other hon. Members have a different view but it should be a matter of practice that minority view in this House. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded. Please sit down.

*...(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You should also conclude, Shri Dasgupta.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: I understand that where the shoe pinches. Nevertheless, I am saying that this dissenting voice may kindly be taken note of by Parliament and the Indian people that we are opposing it. *...(Interruptions)* This is the culture. *...(Interruptions)* Congressmen and this side are combining. It is good. It is good that people are in their true colours. *...(Interruptions)* Are you joining hands? *...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): You put your point.

[English]

We know where the Congress Party people are living! *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You shall conclude now, Shri Dasgupta.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): He has the right to oppose. Nobody has the right to pass such comments. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will give time to your leader also.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Let me finish. Hypocrisy is unknown to us. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, Shri Acharia.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: People are in their true colours when the crisis emerges. We strongly oppose this. We do not think that it should be done. There should be a separate mechanism for determining salaries and allowances to the Members, not by Parliament. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': You have two years.

[*English*]

What is the mechanism in Bengal? ...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

What is the mechanism in your Bengal?

SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA (Banaskantha): I associate myself with hon. Gurudas Dasgupta.

[*English*]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I rise to oppose this legislation to increase the salaries and allowances of Members of Parliament. This is an embarrassment for us when we, the lawmakers ask for it. We oppose the legislation to increase the salaries and allowances of Members of Parliament. This is an embarrassment for us. There was a suggestion from the hon. Speaker after assuming the charge, he called the meeting of all the political parties. All are in agreement that there should be an independent Committee. We too examine the salary and allowances. There is a necessity or need for the increase in salaries and allowances of Members of

Parliament. This is not the proper time. We could have waited for such a Committee because nowhere in the world—in any Parliament of other countries—where the salaries and allowances are increased by bringing in a legislation in the House. This is not the proper time also when the nation is facing crises. We are representing the people belonging to poorer sections, middle-class and lower middle-class. We are asking for hefty increase in our salaries and allowances. In the case of Central Government employees, they had to wait for three years for the constitution of the Sixth Pay Commission. Government very recently has announced the constitution of the Sixth Pay Commission to recommend the revision of pay and allowances of Central Government employees. We are now passing a legislation to increase our salary and allowances. My suggestion is, let there be an independent Committee, which should examine and recommend to the Government and then if there is a need to increase the salary and allowances, it should be implemented. I would suggest that instead of increasing the salary and allowances, other facilities should be augmented so that the Members of Parliament can function efficiently. It is the other facilities, with the help of which the Members of Parliament can function efficiently and not the money that is urgently needed. Hence, I oppose this legislation.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a Member has a right to oppose any Bill which is introduced in the House. After much debate, the founding fathers of our constitution accepted the system of the Mother Parliament Britain and decided that the decision regarding the salaries, allowances and facilities of the Members of Parliament, judges of the Supreme Court, the President and the Vice-President of the country and the Judges of the High Courts will be taken only by the Parliament. Under the same power, the Members of the Parliament increase their facilities from time to time. It is not something on which the MPs should feel inferiority complex. There is an all party Parliamentary Committee for increasing or decreasing the facilities of the Members constituted under the provisions of the Constitution. I consider it hype that we make recommendations in the Committee to increase or not to increase the facilities and to oppose the Bill when it is introduced in the Parliament just for the sake of getting one's name published in the newspaper. I do not consider it proper. It is true that a Pay Commission is constituted to increase the pay of the State or Central Government employees. ...(*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing, except the speech of Shri Mohan Singh, will go on record.

*...(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: There is no prescribed pay scale for the MPs. The Pay Commission constituted under the Constitution revises the pay scales after every 10 years. It has been seen that the dearness allowance is adjusted in the basic salary after 10 years after taking into account the inflation. But there is no such system for the MPs and that is why the Parliament had increased the salaries and allowances to some extent in the year 2002 and had decided to further increase them in 2006. An increase of Rs. 4000 has been made to Rs. 12000 in view of the inflation during the five years. Three days back, a misinformation campaign was launched by the newspapers and media in the country. I think it is objectionable and we should think about it. The pictures of MPs becoming richer are being shown on Star TV. My wife asked me as to what will be her share in this wealth? I want to tell that our salary now is Rs. 16,000 after an increase of Rs. 4000 out of which Rs. 1500 will go towards tax. The MPs should also make a habit to pay taxes. Thus, in reality, the actual increase is of Rs. 2500 which is not something for which we should pass the Censure Motion now. It is true that we feel inferiority complex after listening to the news in the media. There should be some separate mechanism for the MPs. We are reminded of this mechanism at the time when a Bill is introduced in the House. No hon. Member introduces a private Bill or brings resolution in the House during this time regarding the need for a separate mechanism or pay commission. I think that to oppose the present increment, which is a limited one, is nothing but hypocrisy lacking morality. With these words, I support the Bill.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to speak a few words regarding the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members Bill. It is a fact that I have been a Member of this House for the last 20 years. Three governments fell during three years, so that period was also included. During the last 20 years I have seen that whenever the salary of MPs is increased, our leftist friends, I call them friends, always

oppose it but they readily accept the money first. I am not saying this because I fully agree to it. It is true why MPs should formulate laws for themselves. There should be an independent Committee. Introducing this bill Minister of Parliamentary Affairs said that an independent committee would be set up. That should be constituted and all of you will be happy because as a result of it your salary will be increased up-to tenfold. I would like to know from the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs whether the salary and allowances of Indian Parliament is far less vis-à-vis the salary and allowances of the members of other Parliament in the world? If not please state in the House. We would surely like an independent commission. We do not want to fix our salaries on our own *...(Interruptions)*. Let me present my point of view because I am speaking from this side. I have a right to present my point of view.

it has been said during the last two three days that the salaries of MPs has increased so much and they get electricity, water and telephone free.

[English]

I am also upset. It is disgusting. I am not blaming anybody. I am blaming myself.

[Translation]

Telephones calls may be free but we work in the field.

[English]

I am not working as an individual Member.

[Translation]

Some public representatives work only for the constituency, some work for the country and others work for the State. There is a difference in it. There are capitalists in the country, there are also opportunists in the country. Many of the MPs and MLAs only play politics. They are nothing but MPs and MLAs. They have three responsibilities to deal with, one for the constituency, second for the State and the third one is when they are in Delhi. It is true that in Delhi water and electricity facility is free. But when they are in Kolkata and any other place,

[English]

They have to pay the cost of electricity and water. Is this not true? People say that we are not paying the income tax. Of course we are paying income tax.

[*Translation*]

Who says this? Many MPs and MLAs are big businessmen and barristers. I am in politics since the days of student movement. Politics and public service have remained the sole motto of my career.

[*English*]

I am speaking on behalf of MPs. People say that every MP is corrupt.

[*Translation*]

Corruption is everywhere. It is not right to term all MPs corrupt ...(*Interruptions*). If it is not acceptable to leftist Members they will have to show it. ...(*Interruptions*) Let me speak.

[*English*]

Since 1991, I never travelled by executive class. In all these 17 years, I saved around Rs. 20 lakh to Rs. 40 lakh of this Parliament but I never said all this.

But today, I am saying on behalf of all Members of Parliament. If they want to cut expenses, they can do it from their own expenses. They can do it voluntarily. Who told them not to do it? Let them do it and tell the Parliament they have done it and that they have made the sacrifices.

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude now.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: All say when MPs go abroad. ...(*Interruptions*).

Let me speak, I do not get opportunity to speak. I have not spoken on this Bill. When MPs go abroad, they get dollars. But it is not correct. Many foreign delegations, for example UN delegation get hundred dollars. But now many time we go abroad. I have not gone abroad for eight-ten years and various other MPs have also not gone. Nevertheless, if anybody goes abroad then how much do they get, I do not know.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: 75 dollars.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: If it is an official delegation you get ticket, accommodation and food from

the Government. But the things being spread outside is not good. Yesterday, I received many telephone calls. If we go home, we shall have to pay money to the people. Patients needing kidney transplantation come to MPs and demand Rs. 1 lakh forty thousand. If a heart patient goes to the hospital, the price of an injection is rupees 25 thousand. Those who cannot pay demand it from us. If anybody goes for heart operation he demands three-four lakh rupees from us. The prices of medicine have gone up. If daughter of a person is being married, an MP has to pay certain amount of money.

[*English*]

We are bound to give.

[*Translation*]

If somebody dies, we have to give some money.

[*English*]

All are equal.

[*Translation*]

Will we commit theft, we cannot do that.

[*English*]

This is not fair.

[*Translation*]

On the one hand you take advantage of the office of profit. You say

[*English*]

law-makers cannot make their own laws. You can do it for Offices of Profit, but you cannot do it for the salaries and allowances of Members.

[*Translation*]

Those who have office, have peon, having vehicles, land and money from office of profit. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing except the speech of Kumari Mamata Banerjee will be recorded.

...(*Interruptions*)*

*Not recorded.

[Translation]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: When our friends were speaking, we listened to them. Now when I have got the opportunity to speak, they should let me speak. You may say that when they get the benefit the double salary under office of profit, they do not need to take salary. I request from the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs that there should be one salary, one allowance and one pension for those who get double salary, double opportunity, they should not be allowed to enjoy double benefits. If this is cut off, the people of this country will bless you. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: We do not get. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No running commentary please.

[Translation]

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN (Khurja): Mamataji did not point him out, why he is getting disturbed? ...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: I pray that they should speak independently, I supported them. But those who take double salary should not be allowed to take double salary. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Kumari Mamata Banerjee, please address the Chair.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing should be recorded. Only Kumari Mamata Banerjee's speech should be recorded.

...*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: If somebody takes double pension and someone gets single pension. ...*(Interruptions)*. Pension should be single. It will save the money of the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

*Not recorded.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: We have already enacted a legislation here.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: So what? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, this is irrelevant. Is this all going on record? ...*(Interruptions)* We are discussing the Bill here.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down. Shri Acharia, nothing is going on record.

...*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, I would like to request the Parliamentary Affairs Minister to find out for himself whether or not the MLAs in West Bengal are getting financial benefits. I am not saying anything about CPM. ...*(Interruptions)* Those who are part of the Government are not getting such benefits but our MLAs are getting them. If they stand at a lower position then who makes legislations in this regard? Who makes the legislations there? MLAs make the legislations. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

I will tell you. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: It is the lowest in the country. ...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, this is too much. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: We speak the truth. ...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Are you speaking the truth? It is double standard. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Acharia, nothing is going on record. Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)**

*Not recorded.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, I am speaking on behalf of the NDA. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down. You are wasting the time of the House.

[*Translation*]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, this is why I am saying that it is the MLAs who formulate the laws in our region. I have also observed that large amounts are paid as medical reimbursement in West Bengal.

Twenty five to thirty thousand rupees can be easily claimed for buying spectacles from the open market. Reimbursement may be claimed on consulting a private doctor but MPs do not get such reimbursements. Such reimbursements are not given anywhere else. They have this advantage.

[*English*]

If I am wrong, I may be corrected. I have got the evidence here. We are in the opposition there. That is why, we know of all these things. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

That is why I would like to say that. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Acharia, no running commentary.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sometimes people claim that they donate their salaries to their parties. Earlier there was only one Party and as far as I had known it had no funds. An amount of Rs. 44 crores has been mentioned here today. How is it that the same people who had nothing at one time have become richer by a thousand crore of rupees. ...(*Interruptions*) You are making so much noise about Rs. 44 crore. ...(*Interruptions*) You talk of double standards. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, what is this? Should we hear all these things? I want to know whether these are all going on record. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If there is anything objectionable I will get it deleted. Please sit down. I have said that if there is anything objectionable I will get it deleted.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Madam, you may also kindly conclude now.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Acharia, please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: This is the Parliament. This is a democracy. It is not their monopoly that we would not be allowed to speak. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Achariaji, please sit down.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am not levelling any charge on him. If I had done so then he would have the right to say anything. I have not levelled any charge.

[*English*]

I know the discipline of the House.

[*Translation*]

It is my request that the salary and pension of MPs should be increased after four years. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Chakravartyji, this is my job, not yours. Please sit down.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: This is why I want to say to the hon. Minister that this line of thought...

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will see that. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: I will also disturb you when you speak. I want to tell the Minister that we have to go by what is correct. We have to face the truth. If it is correct, then we have to fight for it. Do not just think that MPs' name will be spoiled.

[Translation]

They will get a bad name. Some people take bribes but all the MPs get a bad name.

[English]

We are not beggars. We have the respect. We have to take action, we have the mission and we have the vision.

[Translation]

Those who do not want to take action.

[English]

Voluntarily let them say "NO". I would request the hon. Minister to start a VRS. Tell them take VRS so that they are not able to come to the House because they do not want that MPs should work for the people.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have a point of order. Mamataji has strayed from the main point. The original issue related to the salary and allowances of MPs. It has a lot of scope. Hence, this Bill may be passed at the earliest.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I stand in support of this Bill. All of us are aware of the manner in which this Bill is being presented to the public by the media. It is unfortunate that many ex-MPs are reduced to begging. They do not have money to buy medicines or to take care of their families. There are many such people. I would like to make it clear that it is a ploy to give a bad name to the MPs. Whenever such a Bill has been brought in the House MPs have been put on the dock. A member of Parliament gets a salary of Rs. 12000/- which is being increased to Rs. 16000/-. But what difference will this hike of Rs. 4000/- make? Out of this hike one third will be deducted in the income tax. We all here would like to say that the way prices are soaring and especially the prices of petrol, diesel, medicines, rice, flour and wheat are spiralling, how difficult it is to pull on within a salary of Rs. 12000/-. How can we discharge our professional obligations and duties. We have got families and we ought to take care of them as a priority. I belong to Bihar where there is all pervasive poverty and depravity. How much difficulty we face in discharging our responsibilities, you too must be aware of it. How are today's MPs pulling on in today's tough times as hundreds of people throng at their doors and they have to be entertained with a cup of tea.

The Government is giving the minimum possible to the MPs and which has to be given to them. All the M.Ps very much wish to discharge their assigned duties & responsibilities. As stated by Kumari Mamata Banerjee also that we have to help the people if they approach us seeking assistance for treatment etc. Should we not do this? Now pay hike is being effected after five years. This is good move but the proposed hike moved by Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi ji is absolutely inadequate. It also has a provision to give a pension of Rs. 6000/-. But the question is whether a family can survive with this amount. Our widows would get just Rs. 3000/- per month for a period of six months only. There are the provisions in the proposed legislation. This move, I feel, will create unnecessary controversies. I would once again say that this is absolutely inadequate and this must be increased. It could be increased from proposed Rs. 16,000/- to Rs. 20,000/- and pension amount from Rs. 6000 to Rs. 10,000. One day everyone has to become an ex-Member. Public has not elected anyone permanently. It should therefore, be increased to Rs. 10000.

I would request honourable Railway Minister Shri Lala Prasad Yadav ji that an M.P. is entitled to bring his spouse once in Parliamentary Session. One time to and

from pass is given. If an M.P. tries to bring his/her spouse second time then he/she will be arrested. This is the state of affairs. I, therefore, feel that this rule needs to be amended. Our father, mother, sister or brother or any person from public would accompany us. But in the laid down rule spouse is essential. Why is this rule not amended? Why is this rule not amended by replacing spouse with companion or attendant. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Laluji, do you want to say anything?

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, hon. Member is aware that Ministry of Railways does not make these rules. The facilities and privileges given to Members are determined and decided by a Parliamentary Committee. Ministry of Railways just executes those decision. If hon. Speaker and other Members decide something then we do not have any objection. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': Any announcements pertaining to Railways is to be made by you. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI LALU PRASAD: All these issues are determined by a Parliamentary Committee then it comes to us. We do not have any objection ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Sir, we have still to talk so many things ...(*Interruptions*) certain important issues are to be discussed. Air tickets have just been increased from 32 to 34 which need to be increased to 40. Most of the Members have grown old, therefore, they should be given all India pass to set out on an all India pilgrimage.

Sir, several Members have raised certain objections too ...(*Interruptions*) if we do not pass this legislation then, there will be no hike in pay in next five years and previous salary of Rs. 4000/-per month will have to be accepted. I would, therefore, request that such Members should be given the salary at the old rate. Morality is one thing and practicality is just other. We talk too much about moral rights but what are we actually doing? It is for us all to see. I would, therefore, request that Members should be given more facilities.

Sir, Members are granted a grant of Rs. 2 crores for development of their constituency. This amount, too, is

inadequate and it also brings bad reputation. It should be discontinued. Instead, development work like school buildings roads etc. should be assigned. Hon. Minister Sir, the government has raised the prices of petrol and diesel from Rs. 8 to Rs. 13 ...(*Interruptions*). The message going across the masses needs to be clarified. All sort of news items that the Members will get a salary of one lakh or two lakh are appearing in the newspapers which is not true. Keeping in view the dignity and high office of Members of Parliament, there should be a permanent mechanism which should be automatic mechanism available for the revision of salary on the lines of Govt. employees.

Sir, with these few words, I support this Bill and conclude my speech.

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK (Unnao): Mr. Deputy Speaker, thanks. We are today discussing a Bill which is being widely discussed by our Media and the public in the country. ...(*Interruptions*)

Sir, among all the Bills passed in this or previous sessions, this Bill has attracted the people's attention most. This Bill relates to Member's salary and perks. I very much support the decision taken by you and the committee. But we shall do something for those old Members who are seen in the corridors. They are often seen bringing their spouses who are like our mothers & sisters, we need to do something for them. They do not have money to afford their treatment or to pay for their travel expenses. They get a pension of Rs. 3000/-. I do not want to make a lengthy speech on this issue but this is directly related to us. The entire media has attempted to put us in the dark that we people have drawn funds from the national exchequer for ourselves. This really makes me feel ashamed. Most of us are connected with social service and only a few of us are such who do any job. We are in politics from the very beginning. We also need to support our families though morality demands that we should serve the masses. We would like to demand that dearness allowance should be linked with their pension for ex-members.

Sir, I had moved this amendment but I feel that it has not been admitted. I would like to request you that their pension be increased to Rs. 8000 and DA also should also be linked therewith for ex-Members. With these words, I conclude.

[English]

SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA (Sambalpur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, at the outset, I would like to say that I have given notice of an amendment. I do not know why that amendment has not been circulated. My amendment was that whoever Member wishes not to take salary, pension and allowances, that amount should be remitted to the Prime Minister's Relief Fund. This was my amendment. I do not know why that amendment has not been circulated. This is the first point.

Secondly, a few years back, I came across a news item in a newspaper. That news item concerned to an ex-MLA of West Bengal. I do not remember the name of that ex-MLA. I do not even remember to which party he belongs. That ex-MLA of West Bengal is now a rickshaw puller. He pulls the rickshaw. This was the news item which appeared two years back in a newspaper.

So, my point is, there is a wrong notion in this country and with due apology, I want to say that this wrong notion has been spread by our friends in the media that both the Houses of Parliament, namely the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha belong only to rich people. This is completely a wrong notion. Do they want to say that this House should be represented only by industrialists? Do they want to say that this House should be represented, as Mamtaji was saying, only by leading practitioners of various professions in this country and big industrialists and businessmen?

Sir, I know even today there are Members in this House who were Primary School Teachers earlier. I know particularly one hon. Member in the Rajya Sabha belonging to one of the Left Parties who was a school teacher throughout his life and now he is a Member of the Rajya Sabha. There may be many Members in this House also whose financial background is not sound. So, why is this double standard? Why is this hypocrisy? Let us call spade a spade. As Kumari Mamta Banerjee demanded, I would like the Parliamentary Affairs Minister Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, if he has information, to let us know the comparative picture of salary and allowances of Members of Parliament of the whole democratic world, as to what is happening in other Parliaments and how much salary and other benefits they are taking.

Sir, there was a leader in my own State and his name is Utkal Gaurav Madhusudan Das. He resigned from the then Assembly because his proposal of not

accepting salary and allowances by Members was rejected by the Assembly and, therefore, in protest he resigned, but days have changed. As you heard just now, there are many Members in this House who are in politics right from their student career. I hail from a textile business family, but I handed over my business to my nephews and my brothers. If my brother calls me and asks me to take care of the business, I cannot do that because since my student career I am in politics. I am not even capable of taking care of my family business now. I am almost a full time politician. What shall I do? So, let us not be hypocritic. Let us be very clear on this.

Then, I agree with the suggestion made by Shri Gurudas Dasgupta. There is some morality involved in this. Let us not take on ourselves the responsibility of deciding our own salary, allowances and pension. I agree with him. Let there be a separate Committee where no Member of Parliament should be associated and let that Committee take a decision. I agree with this proposal.

With these few words, I support this Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajan), Bihar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the House, through you, towards two-three points. First of all, I would like to say that the manner in which media highlighted this issue, first when it was sent to Cabinet and again when it got approval of the Cabinet, was not good. I, myself telephoned to many media (T.V.) channels and told them that it was not like that, it was only then that they stopped telecasting that news. Thus the manner in which media is trying to indulge in character assassination of the Members of Parliament, is not right at all.

Sir, media personnel are being paid at the rate of Rs. one lakh per month and some of them are being paid at the rate of the Rs. 1.5 lakh per month as salary. I am not against them but the owners of those T.V. Channels are continuously indulging in smear campaign against the Members of Parliament and are trying to make character assassination of Members of Parliament without any proof and knowledge. Therefore, I request this House, through you, that a law should be enacted under which if media-personnel are found guilty in any case, they may also be arrested and kept behind bars.

Sir, our friend Shri Gurudas Dasgupta is a very senior Member. He has been in the Parliament since long. He said that some mechanism for increasing the pay and allowances of the Members of Parliament be developed. I want to ask whether you want to entrust the responsibility of fixation of pay and allowances of Members of Parliament to bureaucrats or to judiciary. If you are thinking so, it is not right at all. The present system is a good one in which when the Members of Parliament feel it necessary to increase their pay-allowances and other facilities, an all party Committee is constituted. A Joint Committee is constituted by selecting the members of Parliament from different parties. Joint Committee submitted its report and Cabinet review the report. Cabinet has not accepted all the recommendations made by the Committee and it has also effected some reduction in it. Besides this which mechanism do they want? They do not give suggestion about any mechanism. They just use the world mechanism again and again.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I cannot call them hypocrite like others. I request the government to add one minor amendment in it to the effect that if any Member wants to draw less money, or take salary at the rate of old basic pay he should be permitted to do so. I want to say that not only Gurudas Dasguptaji but all the communist members were talking of the principles. They are the men of principles are morality. They can never do any immoral work. Hence, the Government should make such an amendment so that no one may call them hypocrite or immoral or unprincipled. Hence, I hope that they will certainly draw the salary at the rate of old basic pay to save themselves from any criticism. With these words, I conclude my speech.

*SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA (Ropar): Hon'ble Deputy-Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak on this important Bill in Punjabi. I support this Bill whole-heartedly.

Many Hon'ble Members have given valuable suggestions on this Bill that deals with the salary, allowances and pension of Members of Parliament. The Government has taken a commendable step. There are many Members of Parliament who are poor and have no other means to sustain themselves. Some Hon'ble MPs may be affluent too. However, the way media has indulged in a smear campaign against us, is a matter of great concern. Something should be done to check this practice.

*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Punjabi.

In reality, the increase in the salary, allowances and pension of MPs envisaged in this Bill is a pittance. It is a drop in the ocean. How will it help the Hon'ble Members of Parliament? It has been reported in the newspaper today that DDA is selling flats at the whopping rate of Rs. 56 lakhs per flat. How many MPs can afford to purchase these flats? So, various facilities should be granted to the Hon'ble Members of Parliament. It is the need of the hour.

Ex-MPs are in a miserable condition. I have seen them from close quarters. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please maintain silence in the House.

*SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA: The plight of ex-MPs evokes pathos in us. I urge upon the Government to increase the pension of ex-MPs to at least Rs. 15,000/-.

Moreover, Sir, I propose that every Hon'ble MP should be given an insurance policy of rupees one crore. There is considerable risk factor involved in the work that we do.

Sir, the minimum daily wage of labourers should also be increased. I strongly support this measure. However, it is unfair to criticise the nominal increase being made by the Government in the salary, allowances and pension of Hon'ble Members of Parliament. The Labour Unions should also work for the welfare of the workers. With these words, I support this Bill.

[*English*]

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL (Joynagar): Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, the Government has introduced a Bill hiking salaries, allowances and pensions of the Members of Parliament. The Bill has not found the support among the people in general.

People think that the Members of Parliament are increasing their own salaries. This has sent a wrong signal. Moreover, this is not the appropriate time when the common man is facing many problems in our country. In my view, the hike is not justified. Let the Government set up a mechanism which will go into the details of salary and allowances of MPs and give its report. Let

*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Punjabi.

[Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal]

the Government wait for some time. With these words I conclude and I oppose the Bill.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): I have already opposed even the introduction of the Bill. Now, the question before us is very simple. I think that the right hike in salaries and allowances for MPs and MLAs is not a sin. It is an usual occurrence. It can take place every now and then, but the way in which it has been done is the matter of concern. In Kerala State as well as in other States, MLAs' pensions and MLAs' allowances are increased. Nobody finds fault with it. Here also, MPs are entitled to get hikes in their allowances and pension. There is no doubt about that. But the question is this. How do we do it? It is an admitted fact that the Parliament is having the right to decide. It is the ultimate authority to decide the salary, allowances and pension. We have been entrusted with that task by the Constitution. It is a constitutional right. We have the right to do it. How we do that is the most important question.

Here is an instance where we find that a Committee consisting of Members of Parliament has discussed the issue and made certain recommendations. Those recommendations came into the Press. Now, when I return to my constituency, people will ask me that I am getting nearly Rs. 1 lakh per month. But, what exactly is the position? The Government would not accept it. But they are ready to ask. They have produced all those recommendations. The recommendations that they have accepted are increasing the daily allowance and also increasing the number of air journeys from 32 to 34. That is what is done now. But we have become passionate for the simple reason that the recommendations of the MPs were given wide publicity in the Press and we were forced to oppose it. That is the situation which is created now. That is why I say that this job should be done by an independent agency not connected with MPs. We can take a decision on the recommendation by an independent agency. We may get a report from the independent agency suggesting the increments to be made. In each and every aspect, we will consider it. That is the judicious way and reasonable way of doing things. But we ourselves decided for a Standing committee to go into the question and then give it wide publicity. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, the hon. Minister.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: So, I would like to request the Government; the Government could have done one thing. The present Salary, Allowances and Pension Bill is due to expire by September. Some time could have been extended. It is because we are now discussing about the farmers distress in this House. On the very same day, could we discuss about our hike in salary and allowances? That is the reason why this job should be entrusted to an independent agency and we will accept their recommendations. That is what I have to say. I welcome the suggestion that the matter will be referred to the Committee. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, the hon. Minister.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down. Nothing is going on record. The Minister is on his legs.

...*(Interruptions)**

15.00 hrs.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first of all, I am thankful to all the hon. Members who have supported this Bill and who have opposed this Bill.

Sir, when I entered in this House in 1971, I was one of the youngest Members of this House. I also feel that we have a larger commitment to the people. We are literally the servants of the people and we should take care of the people first in this House and then ourselves. Naturally, Sir, that spirit should continue to grow more among the Members of Parliament and Legislators in the States.

First of all, I would like to tell you about the mechanism. Parliament, by its own wisdom, brought article 106 in the Constitution. Parliament and even the Constitution makers felt in those days that we have to legislate even the law pertaining to Salary and Allowances of the Members of Parliament. Who will legislate? Parliament will legislate it. Who will legislate the law? Parliament will legislate the law. Who will give the recommendation for this legislation? There were two opinions. One opinion was that let a Committee of Parliament comprising of all Parties go through it, give a

*Not recorded.

recommendation, and the Government would consider whether that recommendation to be accepted or not. The other opinion was that let some third force outside Parliament examine the matter and give a recommendation, and let the Government then decide it on its merit. In that matter, a number of Members of Parliament often said: "Once we say Parliament is supreme, should the members of Parliament's fate, privilege and salary to be scrutinized by a body outside Parliament or should it be within Parliament?" That debate is not over. I am not making any comment on that. Please do not misunderstand me.

The hon. Speaker of the Lok Sabha has very rightly advised the Government that for more sanity of Parliament and the conduct of the Members, could it be by some mechanism which appears to be more transparent free from any interest of the Members of the House. We do not discourage the suggestion made by the hon. Speaker. It is one of the highly appreciated suggestions. What is my response to that? First I would like to deal with that because we cannot ignore the public perception, the sentiment and advice of the hon. Speaker.

Sir, the Joint Committee is chaired by Shri Giridhar Gamang, who is one of the able and longstanding Parliamentarians of the House and who represents the tribal community of his area. He not only delivered this recommendation alone but he was also accompanied by Members of Parliament of all Parties including CPM Member, Shri Vijayaraghavan. That Committee came out with this suggestion. The Joint Committee recommended that the Government should consider working out the modalities of a permanent mechanism for determination of Salary and Allowances of Members of Parliament in consultation with the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha and the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, and the Leaders of recognized political parties in both the Houses of Parliament, and bring a suitable legislation before Parliament. This was the recommendation of the Committee, which was appointed by the House. Please give all possible thanks to the Committee Members who, on their own, responded and gave a recommendation.

The hon. Speaker had also convened a meeting of the leaders of all political parties on 23rd March to evolve a mechanism for periodical revision of Salary and Allowances of the Members of Parliament. All the leaders unanimously agreed in principle to a proposal for setting up a Salary Commission consisting men of eminence

from the fields of finance, planning, Constitution law, etc. for recommending Salary and Allowances of the Members of Parliament. I am happy to inform that the Government have agreed in principle to set up a permanent mechanism for recommending Salary and Allowances of the Members of Parliament, and a suitable amendment in this matter called 'Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members Act' for this purpose will be brought up in the next Session of Parliament.

Since the Joint Committee has already made recommendations regarding the salaries and allowances, it is proposed to amend the Act now for a period of five years; and a permanent mechanism would be set up before the constitution of the 15th Lok Sabha. The Government also, in its spirit and mechanism, endorsed the recommendations and the spirit of the hon. Speaker. So, there is no dispute about it. I am coming out with another piece of legislation.

This legislation, for which I seek your support to pass today, is for only five years. Why is it for five years? I would give the reason. Many hon. Members, especially, Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal, Shri Gurudas Dasgupta and Shri Basu Deb Acharia, for whom I have great respect had asked: "What is the hurry? Why now?" I am explaining the hurry. My distinguished predecessor—who was my best friend, and who is no more now—late Pramod Mahajanji, the then Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, brought the legislation in 2001. When it was brought in 2001, it was mentioned in the Amendment Act that Rs. 4,000 be substituted by word Rs. 12,000, and the ethics of that Rs. 12,000 is valid up to 14th September, 2006. Therefore, if I cannot get this legislation passed before 14th September 2006, we would go back to Rs. 4,000. So, that was the legal compulsion on the part of the Joint Committee and on the part of the Government to bring this legislation in this Session, because there is no House in September.

Therefore, Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Members of the House that it was not the Government's intention to make it in hurry, but it was to suit the legal compulsion of the earlier Act, which was amended in 2001, whose validity is only up to 14th September, 2006. So, if we did not do it, from 15th September the salary would have been computed as Rs. 4,000, and all that which had been effected in the earlier five years scene, would have been nullified. Naturally, therefore, the Government had no other option but to come forward

[Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi]

with the legislation, as recommended by the Joint Committee on Salary and Allowances.

Sir, I do agree that in the perception of the media, if anything goes in the name of legislation, it is the most juicy, it is the most choosy, it is the most TRP increasing item of the electronic media. I know it. I do not criticise the media; they have their leverage; they have their *azadi*; they have their freedom; and they have their way of functioning. And also, I do not want to cast aspersion as the Minister of Information and Broadcasting; I do not question the *bona fide* and legitimacy. But I would like to say that the facts should be placed first. What are the facts? I profusely thank this Joint Committee on Salary and Allowances for the kind of hard work they had done. They had collected all the information of the world and tabulated it. They had gone through each and every aspect meticulously while preparing the Report. One should go through the Report to know as to how they have prepared it.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): It may be circulated.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Yes, it would be done.

I tell you, with all responsibility at my command that we are the only lucky or the unlucky MPs of the world, who represent the largest numbers of the electorates in the world, in democracy. I can also say so among the developed democracies and the developed nations. I can give the examples of Canada, UK, Australia, New Zealand, Singapore and Germany. Our hon. Speaker, after the visit of the World Cup Football and after the visit of Germany, had also told me "When I went to the German Bundestag, I found each MP had an office fitted with all the gadgets." I was surprised to hear all this. They are getting 7,000 Euros. If we minus the tax etc., they are getting 4,000 Euros; and if we convert and calculate in terms of Indian rupees, their salary per month is beyond Rs. 3 lakh. I did also ascertain the facts.

Let us not make ourselves very small. We are not doing something wrong in the country. Now, I would just give you two examples. The first example is that, an MP is representing on an average, one million electorates. Does he need an in-built supported office free from allowance in his Constituency? If you say, yes, then you calculate the infrastructural cost. It would be in a good proportion. Does he need an in-built supported office in

Delhi? If you say, yes, you calculate the infrastructural cost of his office, his car, his telephone, his Secretary, his personal staff and everything in the two offices.

It is in Canada. It is in Germany. It is in UK. We are improving. We are modernising our activities. It is on what basis? It is without any infrastructural support. Therefore, if some day you raise a debate saying that, no we will not take money, but it is better that we will ask the Government to give us infrastructure, then I will welcome it. Have we got an in-built constituency office? Whomsoever is elected, is he entitled to an office in the constituency and an in-built office in Delhi?

Otherwise, what happens is that the office is the house of the MP. Thousands of people come in the morning from constituency by train. They go and catch hold of the MP. They wait for hours together for him thinking when he will go to Parliament, when he will come back from Parliament and when he will dispose of the issue. This is the hard reality. Let us understand that. Unless the MP has a well-paid personal staff, he cannot dispose it of.

When I came to Parliament in 1971, I remember I had to go and type my letter in the Typing Pool here. I had a wait for two hours because other MPs were waiting. On some days, I had to give it in writing, collect the letter in the evening and then post it. Those were the days in 1971. Now, maybe, things have been improving in this present situation. Therefore, let us not blame each other. None of the MPs is dishonest. None of the MPs tries to misuse these things. What happens is that we ourselves are painting a picture of ourselves as if we are very bad people. We are not. In every system, there may be someone who is a black sheep. For that, why should we colour the entire fraternity of parliamentarians? How much trouble do they take?

To serve one member of the electorates, in terms of getting his petition, then to read it, forward it, follow it up and for going through all these things, I have calculated myself that the MP has to spend, in a month, for one letter, including telephone calls, Rs. 65. This is to give justice to one petition, one letter of an electorate of the constituency. I am talking of one electorate. Therefore, if we simply say we can take care of everything, it is not correct.

Let us honestly confess to the nation that we are serving the people with minimum possible support that

the Government could afford us. We are not serving the people in a luxurious manner that the Government is giving beyond the world parameters or beyond even the Asian parameters. If I say Asian parameters, I take the examples of three nations, namely Singapore, Malaysia and our neighbour Sri Lanka. The per month salary of the MPs of Sri Lanka is not Rs. 16,000. It is Rs. 22,500. Therefore, I humbly submit that we are serving the nation.

Yes, I fully share the perception expressed by Mr. Gurudas Dasgupta. He has asked this question. At a time when the rocketing price is hitting the commoners, at a time when the farmers are committing suicides, will it look nice that the MPs are increasing their salary? If you see the perception, we should not increase the salary. But if you see the reality, yes, we have to increase the salary. It is because if I am to address the situation, I will address it like this.

Protecting the farmers is also a duty of the Government. Our Government is aggressively addressing this issue. Price rise in the oil front, you know, is not because of us but it is because of the international scenario. We are facing all the burdens. Earlier the diesel consumption limit was 22 litres. Now, there is price rise. We cannot help you. It is because of that price rise if the MP is asked that he has to consume 10 litres of diesel, he cannot make tours in his constituency more than twice. But, if you ask him to do, he has to take the patronage from someone. I tell you very honestly as a Minister and also as a member of the House that if anyone who takes patronage for any support, then he also tries to get something done for his own interest. Patronage never comes straightaway voluntarily. Do you like to free the pollution from around us?

One day I was discussing this matter in the House of Commons when I went as a part of the Delegation to the United Kingdom. They were telling us that they knew how many people we represented. But if you want to do justice to the electorates, where is the infrastructure? Do you have a car in your constituency? I said: "No". Do you have a car in the Capital? I said: "No". Do you have two Private Secretaries—one in the constituency and one here? I said: "No". I am talking of those days in 1971-72. Tulsidasappa was leading the Delegation. Therefore, let us understand the reality that how much we should expect and how much we should not.

Now, I come back to the ex-MPs.

You take the case of ex-MPs. Let there be a social study. I am keen to study it. About 85 per cent of our ex-MPs are from the common class. A few among them are in difficult position, whatever be the reason, family separation or whatever it is. I know it. In the Central Hall, a few of us, cutting across Party lines, from our pockets gave some donation for the admission and education of their children or for some physical ailment for which CGHS cannot afford to pay to them.

[Translation]

They come for a donation and ask to pay Rs. 100/-

[English]

They say give us something. They interact with us in the Central Hall. These things are not studied.

There was an ex-MP in Asansol, when I came here for the first time, from the Left Parties who wrote me a letter. What are you thinking of this fellow? He was a Muslim ex-MP from Asansol. He was in a pathetic condition. He was about to beg in the roads, having served the people so much. I know, I can tell you the name of Shri Dhiren Haldar. Kumari Mamata Banerjee will agree with me. He was an MLA from Balagarh. When I saw him I did not believe. I saw him in the bus stand to sell some biscuits and other things and also beg. There was another person, Rajaraman Sharma of Nawadweep who used to sell small towels on the road to the tourists. These pictures never come in the television. These pictures never appear. The pictures that appear are few. It is not correct.

Therefore, if you want to serve the people in the best possible manner, we have to make sure that the MP is supported to the extent this nation can afford and not beyond. We did not accept all the recommendations of the Joint Committee of Parliament. We did not accept. We reduced them, we slashed them.

My only appeal to the hon. Members of the House is—please bear with us, we are not doing anything, making an MP a super power or a superman in terms of financial purposes, but to bear the minimum expenses that in this situation one MP requires. I agree with Kumari Mamata Banerjee about the point of MPs who are from rural areas and also of some urban areas. There are constituents who come to the MPs and sit in the house of the MP asking for something for the purpose of marriage of the daughter.

[Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi]

[*Translation*]

Give me something.

[*English*]

In your social responsibility, you cannot simply brush them aside and say—'get out, go to my Party office or go to somewhere else'.

[*Translation*]

One has to pay Rs. 100 or Rs. 200. What should we do now?

[*English*]

It is a reality in Indian life. It is not a reality of the life in UK or Germany or in Singapore.

Therefore, I do not think that the Government is doing something, a special favour to the MPs or a special patronage to the MPs but is giving just, required bare minimum as supported by the Joint Committee which is represented by all Parties. The only suggestion that Shri Vijayaraghavan of CPI(M) made in the Committee was to have a mechanism which I endorsed. Otherwise, this support or the recommendation is unanimous. It is not a partisan recommendation in the Joint Committee. It was by all Parties. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Will you set it up? Will you set up a mechanism? ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: I said it. You did not hear. ...(*Interruptions*)

I come back quickly to the Bill. The existing provisions regarding salary and daily allowance were for five years. It will expire on 14th September. Therefore, I had to bring it. The Joint Committee on Salaries and Allowances, on 22nd May, 2006 has submitted the Report on the entire matter. After due consideration the Government decided to implement most of the recommendations along with the recommendation of the parliamentary mechanism which will be effective for 15th Lok Sabha.

The proposals which involve the amendment of the Act have been included in the Bill and they are as follows. The salary is being raised from Rs. 12,000 to Rs. 16,000 per month. The daily allowance is being increased from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,000. When I studied the report, I found

that in Patna in Bihar there is a provision that if Members have to go and to attend any meeting outside Patna, he would get Rs. 1,000. So, I have not done something superfluous or extraordinary than the Indian Parliament. The increase of salary and daily allowance will be effective from 14th September, 2006 for five years or until they are later changed. The road mileage is now eight rupees. We have accepted the recommendation of the Committee to make it 13 rupees per kilometre.

Sir, the physically handicapped Members—we have included a new provision—who cannot travel by rail or air will be entitled to perform the entire journey by road and claim the road mileage at the rate of Rs. 13 per kilometre. The physically handicapped Member will also be entitled to travel facility by road along with a companion in lieu of travel facility by rail or air for the Member and the companion and may claim the road mileage at the same rate.

Sir, when this Act was there, there were only Consultative Committees. Now, there are Standing Committees and also some Joint Committees. So, in order to enable the Members to travel more frequently during the interval of two sittings of the Parliamentary Committees, particularly during the break period of Budget Session, and claim Travelling Allowance, it is proposed to accept the recommendation of the Joint Committee to reduce the period from seven days to five days. I have reduced it by only two days.

Air journeys from any place in India to any other place in India allowed to a Member as per the present position are 32. We have increased it to 34 only. Members will be entitled to carry forward unutilised air journeys for the remaining term and to adjust eight excess air journeys against the next year's entitlement.

Ex-Members of Parliament from Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep are being provided the facility of travelling by steamer between the Islands and the mainland. At present, an ex-Member is not entitled. We have included the ex-member also.

At present, the minimum pension allowed to ex-Member of Parliament is Rs. 3,000. The Committee recommended Rs. 8,000. We have agreed for Rs. 6,000. But Ex-Members of Parliament Association met me yesterday, had long deliberations and explained their cause. So, I went back to the Prime Minister and apprised him of the condition of the ex-Members of Parliament.

Finally, we have agreed and I will come out with an official amendment to accept the recommendation of the Joint Committee to make it Rs. 8,000.

The additional pension for each year in excess of five years is being raised from Rs. 600 to Rs. 800, an increase of only Rs. 200. At present, the family pension is half of the existing pension only for two years. If an ex-MP dies, his wife or the dependent will get family pension for two years only. We made it only 'life-time', so long as she or the dependent survives. It was also the recommendation of the Joint Committee.

Sir, other things will be covered by the rules. Constituency Allowance was earlier Rs. 10,000. The Committee recommended Rs. 24,000. Government has accepted Rs. 20,000. It will be covered by rules and not by the Act. Members of Parliament, at present, are entitled to office expense up to Rs. 14,000 per month. This is being raised to Rs. 20,000. Why? It was suggested by the Committee that it should be Rs. 31,000. We did not agree to it because we thought that it would be a big jump. We brought it to Rs. 20,000 per month on the following slabs. Now, there is a limit of Rs. 1,000 on the postage allowance. We increased it to Rs. 2,000 because Shri Dayanidhi Maran agreed that the cost of stamps has gone up. The limit for stationery is Rs. 3,000 at present. We increased it by Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 4,000. We increased staff assistance expense from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 14,000 because we gathered that a good computer-literate Assistant is not available unless you pay him a minimum of Rs. 10,000. Therefore, we say that a computer-literate Assistant could be paid Rs. 10,000 in Delhi and one Assistant in constituency could be paid Rs. 4,000. We have done only this much increase. It is not a big one.

Now, as per the Housing and Telephone Facilities (Members of Parliament) Rules, 1956, a Member of Parliament is entitled, without payment of charges, to a maximum of 50,000 units of electricity and 4,000 kilolitres of water per annum in respect of his accommodation in Delhi. It has been decided to amend the rules to provide for carry forward of unutilised units of electricity and water to the subsequent years and adjustment of excess units consumed in the next year's quota. Where both husband and wife happen to be Members of Parliament and reside in the same accommodation, their entitlement of water and electricity will be pooled together. On retirement, resignation or death, a Member or his family will be

entitled to consume the balance units of electricity and water for that year within a period of one month.

Monetary ceiling for rent free furniture supplied at the residence of a Member is also being raised from Rs. 24,000 to Rs. 60,000 for durable furniture and Rs. 6,000 to Rs. 15,000 for non-durable furniture.

I inquired about this from the CPWD also. The Joint Committee of Parliament too said that the cost of the furniture has not only gone up, but the repair cost has also become almost equivalent. Therefore, this is done as necessitated by the recommendation of the Committee. We have accepted this and that too without any objection from the Finance.

At present, the family of a Member of Parliament can retain the Government accommodation for two months after the death of the Member. The period of retention of Government accommodation by the family has been considered to be raised to six months for shifting of the establishment, etc. We are increasing the period of stay for the family to six months instead of two months.

At present, the Members of Parliament are entitled to three landline telephones and one BSNL mobile phone with 1,50,000 local calls per year, which can be availed on any number of telephones in the Member's name. Now, they will be provided another BSNL/MTNL mobile phone for the constituency. Further, 20,000 additional local calls—where constituency is 1,000 kilometres away—will be dispensed with, as recommended by the Joint Committee.

As per the decision taken by the Committees on Provision of Computers to Members of Parliament, the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha Secretariats would be extending broadband facilities to the Members in lieu of 1,000 free local calls per annum separately, in respect of each broadband connection. The Government has decided to provide the broadband facilities on one telephone subject to the condition that the rental should not exceed more than Rs. 1,500 per month.

The Joint Committee has made a recommendation for evolving a permanent mechanism for determination of salaries and allowances of the Members of Parliament. I have already admitted that I would look into it, and I am bringing a legislation in the next Session in this regard that will be effective from the 15th Lok Sabha.

[Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi]

These are the proposals, which will be covered by the law, and by the rules. With this, I would request the House to accept the recommendations and the provisions of the Bill, and the Rules thereunder, as stated by me.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

Clause 4—Amendment of Section 5

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, Shri Kharabela Swain to move Amendment No. 1.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): Sir, I would like to say just a couple of sentences. It was very surprising and shocking for me to find that even though I had given two amendments, yet only one amendment has been circulated. The second amendment has not been circulated. Has it not been printed?

I just want to know this from you. As a Member, I have given one amendment. It should be put for the consensus of the House. If the House does not agree, then it does not agree and the matter ends there. How is it that my amendment was not printed, and was not circulated? Let me tell you ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Swain, your second amendment was not admitted by the hon. Speaker.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, kindly allow me to tell you as to what that amendment was. I just want to make a mention about it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It was beyond the scope. Therefore, it was rejected by our hon. Speaker.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Why should it be rejected? I would like to tell you about it. ...*(Interruptions)* I will go with my amendment, but in one sentence I would like to tell you about that amendment. This point has already been raised by many hon. Members. I wanted that there should be a new clause 10, and it should say that:

"Members will have the right to refuse the enhanced salary, allowances and pension raised through this Bill."

The only thing I wanted was that all those Members who do not want it, let them refuse it. That is the only thing I wanted to say and, that is why, I wanted to introduce this amendment, but it has been rejected. Shri Prasanna Acharya also give a similar amendment, but his amendment has also been rejected. Why should it be rejected? It is very surprising to note that anything which does not suit some people will be rejected.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please make your amendment.

[English]

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: I would like that amendment to have been included in the list. ...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): Do not argue over the decision of the Chair.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Some people wanted to make such a great sacrifice, why do we not give them the opportunity to sacrifice for the country? Shri Gurudas Dasgupta said that he is giving a dissenting note. I want that, that dissenting note to be taken care of, and they should be given ample opportunity to make sacrifices for the poor people of this country, whom they represent.

Anyway, since this amendment has not been printed, I will request the hon. Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Goyalji, please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Ramkripalji, you also take your seat.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please be silent.

[*English*]

Please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, he does not understand what I am saying, so I am not worried about it. On the only amendment that has been listed, I will make an appeal to the hon. Minister that the number should be increased by another two making it a total of thirty-six. If he agrees, it is fine; even if he does not agree, I will not press for the amendment.

I beg to move:

Page 2, line 35, for "thirty-four", substitute "thirty-six".
(1)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, I will consider his appeal if both of us are elected to the Fifteenth Lok Sabha.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Is it the pleasure of the House that the amendment moved by Shri Kharabela Swain be withdrawn?

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 4 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 4 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 5 and 6 were added to the Bill.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This is not the time, please sit down.

Clause 7—Amendment of Section 8A

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Brajesh Pathak ji, do you want to move your amendment?

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, our amendment has not been circulated. My amendment was that D.A. also be added to the pension given to our former members.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Do you want to move your amendment now?

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Sir, I do not want to move my amendment.

[*English*]

Amendment made:

Page 3, line 22, for "six thousand rupees per mensem, substitute "eight thousand rupees per mensem."
(4)

(Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 7, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 7, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 8 was added to the Bill.

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Do you want to move your amendment.

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Sir, I do not want to move my amendment.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 9 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 9 was added to the Bill.

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title
were added to the Bill.*

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: From which date
it will be applicable.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: As I stated
already, it would be effective from 14.09.2006.

I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended be passed."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

15.36 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA
AND
BILL AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the
following message received from the Secretary-General
of Rajya Sabha:

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the
Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the
Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the
Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Bill, 2006 which
has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting
held on the 22nd August, 2006."

2. Sir, I lay on the Table the Wild Life (Protection)
Amendment Bill, 2006, as passed by Rajya Sabha on
the 22nd August, 2006.

15.38 hrs.

PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2006

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Item No. 18.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): On
behalf of Shri Shivraj V. Patil, I beg to move:"

"That the Bill further to amend the Protection of
Human Rights Act, 1993, as passed by Rajya Sabha,
be taken into consideration."

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) was
set up in October, 1993, under the provisions of the
Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993, for promotion and
protection of human rights in the country. In the light of
the experience gained in the administration of the law for
nearly five years, the Commission felt that a second hard
look was necessary on the structural inadequacies in the
law. In May, 1998, the NHRC set up an Advisory
Committee under the Chairmanship of Justice A.M.
Ahmedi, former Chief Justice of India, to assess the need
for structural changes and amendments in the Protection
of Human Rights Act, 1993. The above Advisory
Committee under the Chairmanship of Justice Ahmedi,
suggested amendments to the Protection of Human Rights
Act, 1993. The NHRC then considered the
recommendations of the Advisory Committee and
suggested amendments to the Act, to the Government.

The amendments suggested by the NHRC were
examined by an Inter-Ministerial Committee, consisting of
the Ministry of External Affairs, the Ministry of Defence
and the Ministry of Law, keeping in view the scope and
ambit of the Act. The Inter-Ministerial Committee made
recommendations to the Government for amendments to
the Act. The Government considered the recommendations
of the Inter-Ministerial Committee and introduced the
Protection of Human Rights (Amendment) Bill, 2005 in
the Rajya Sabha on the 8th of December, 2005. This Bill
was referred by the hon. Chairman, Rajya Sabha to the
Departmentally-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee
on Home Affairs for examination. The Parliamentary
Standing Committee after a clause-by-clause consideration

*Moved with the Recommendation of the President.

of the Bill, suggested certain modifications to sharpen the focus of the amendments on the proposed changes so as to make it more effective. The Government, after consideration, has accepted the modifications suggested by the Parliamentary Standing Committee. These are reflected in the list of official amendments and these are submitted along with the Bill. ...(*Interruptions*)

The salient features of the proposed Bill are as follows:

Making eligible judges of the Supreme Court with at least three years of service to be eligible for appointment as Chairperson of the NHRC, apart from the existing provision of having retired Chief Justices of India eligible for the post of Chairperson.

Similarly, it makes eligible a judge of the High Court with at least five years of service eligible for appointment as Chairperson of the State Human Rights Commission, apart from the existing provision of having a retired Chief Justice of a High Court. This would enable the Selection Committee to have a wider choice while recommending a suitable person for the post of Chairperson.

The amendment reduces the number of members of a State Human Rights Commission from the present five to three. This will also help in reducing the costs of such Commissions in the States. The Bill also provides that where a State, on financial considerations, is unable to have its own Commission, it can co-opt the Chairperson or member of another State Commission for itself with the approval of the Selection Committee of the State concerned. This will enable smaller States to have the benefits of a Human Rights Commission.

The proposed amendments enable the NHRC to transfer complaints received by it to the concerned State Human Rights Commission. The NHRC at present receives a large number of complaints, making disposal of such complaints time consuming. The amendment will enable the NHRC to transfer these complaints to the concerned Human Rights Commission of the State concerned for disposal. The NHRC has also been empowered to visit any jail or other institution without prior intimation to the State Government concerned. This will enable the Commission to make surprise visits to prisons.

15.42 hrs.

[SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN *in the Chair*]

Another important amendment relates to enabling the NHRC and the State Human Rights Commission to make

interim recommendations for compensations at any stage of the inquiry and not only after the completion of any inquiry, as is the law at present. This would ensure that victims of human rights violations would be in a position to obtain interim compensation wherever the NHRC or a State Human Rights Commission feels it justified to do so. The amendments also empower the NHRC and its Chairperson to delegate certain powers and functions of the Commission to the Secretary-General, except judicial functions and rule making power under Clause 18 of the Bill. The amendments also provide separate membership of the Commission for the Chairperson of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and the Chairperson of the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, consequent upon separate Commissions coming into existence.

The other amendments to the Bill clarify that the Chairperson of the NHRC and the State Human Rights Commissions are distinct from the members of the respective Commissions. The definition of International Covenants has also been modified to enable the Central Government to notify future international covenants and conventions to which the Act would be applicable.

It is expected that the above proposed amendments, to the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993, as laid down in the Bill before you, would make the National Human Rights Commission and the State Human Rights Commissions more efficient in their functioning and would help in the prevention of human rights violations.

With these words, Sir, I commend this Bill to this august House for consideration and approval.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

15.44 hrs.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (*Kalahandi*): Sir, I rise to debate on this Bill relating to the Protection of Human Rights (*Amendment*) Bill, 2005.

While starting my speech, I would like to say that we are the biggest democracy in the world. In a democratic country with a population of 108 crores, the

[Shri Bikram Keshari Deo]

protection of human values is the prime responsibility of the administrator or the Government which rules that country.

So the protection of human values is very important. It is surprising that even after 12 years of passing the Protection of Human Rights Act and the formation of National Human Rights Commission, it has not been applicable in all the States of the country. It has been applicable in 16 States only. Every year the Human Rights Commission receives about 70,000 complaints of human rights violations. So, it became necessary on the part of the Government to protect the human rights. In 1998, under the Chairmanship of the retired Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Justice Ahamadi, a Committee was set up to look into the ambit of the National Human Rights Commission and to see how it could be made more effective so that the human values could be protected. Mr. Ahamadi gave his report. Previously, only a retired Supreme Court Judge could be the Chairman or the Chairperson of the Human Rights Commission. That has been changed in this new Bill. It has been provided that a retired Supreme Court judge with three years experience can also be appointed as a Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission. Similarly, to head a State Human Rights Commission, it was mandatory then that he has to be a retired High Court judge who knew the vernacular language or the regional language of that particular State. In those days, it was difficult to find a retired High Court judge knowing the vernacular language. So, it has been changed now. It has been provided that any retired judge of the High Court with a minimum three years experience or a retired District Judge with seven years experience, can be the head of the State Human Rights Commission.

As has rightly been pointed out by the hon. Minister, previously what used to happen is that if the National Human Rights Commission wanted to visit a jail or some hospital or asylum, it had to take permission from the concerned State Government. Today, after passing this Bill, the National Human Rights Commission can go to any jail and have inquiries. It can see the conditions of the people who are languishing in jails. It can go to any asylums or mental hospital or any camp of the prisoners of war or a detention camp.

Sir, human rights are not related to *thanas* alone. Human right violations can be done by ruling Governments also by not providing the basic amenities to the poor

people, by not giving them the basic economic benefits, by not maintaining or revamping the Public Distribution System and health in tribal areas. There was time when people and the *Adivasi* had to eat Mango kernels in Kosipur Block. Poor people are led to destitution and starvation in places like KBK or backward regions of the country. If a farmer commits suicide, this is also a violation of the human rights. So, these are the violations of the human rights. I feel that with the passage of this Bill, the National Human Rights Commission and the State Human Rights Commission will be strengthened.

At the same time, there is a provision in the Bill regarding the international Covenants which have been passed by the United Nations General Assembly where we are also a signatory. The idea of human rights first came after the Second World War in 1948, the UN General Assembly adopted a Resolution regarding Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In the period between 1948 and 1966 to make a democracy successful and to protect democracy throughout the world, the protection of human rights and values was necessary.

So, they adopted a Resolution in the United Nations General Assembly and India was also a signatory to it.

The five core Human Rights instruments to which India is a party are (year of India's accession in parentheses): International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment has not yet been ratified by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

So, I would like to know from the Government of India, the Ministry of Home Affairs, as to when will the Government ratify the Convention against terror, against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. A legislation has not yet been brought to tackle this particular problem which has been ratified by the United Nations. Now, India has to do it.

Among other international instruments related to human rights, India signed the Convention on Transnational Organised Crime in December, 2002. The Ministry of Home Affairs also has not ratified this.

Take India's active participation in the negotiating process, and its role as the Chairman of the Open Ended Expert Group, in the negotiations on the International Convention against Corruption. Why am I emphasising on corruption because of the Volcker Report and because of the Food-for-oil scam which took place? It is providing a moderating voice with the developing countries insisting on obligatory provisions in the Convention for the return of assets generated through corruption and parked in safe havens abroad. So, in India, a parallel economy runs. As you know, most of the money is sent to the safe havens abroad, in Swiss Banks, in Zurich, to foreign banks abroad, to St. Kitts and banks of that nature. The development countries are demanding obligatory provisions for effective preventive measures and good governance mechanisms in the concerned country. So, this also leads to human rights values' protection because this money of our country is being clandestinely channelised to different countries which could have been used for our country's development and for our country's benefit. So, I hope this Bill will be seriously considered.

Sir, we should go by the Paris Principles. India also was a signatory to the Paris Principles. As per the Paris Principles, we have to be committed to fight human rights violation. Allegations have been made that fight against terrorism also is a violation of human rights by some people. But we are doing it for democracy. Those people who are fighting it in the name of terrorism, they are fighting a racial war and they are fighting a *fidayeen* war against the country and against the democracy. So, that has to be crushed.

Sir, I have a few more points. As you know, when our Constitution was being made, our Constitution-makers were very thoughtful regarding preservation of the human values and human rights in our democracy. So, while preparing the Constitution to decide the fundamental rights in our country, they passed it on to the courts under Articles 14, 19 and 21. In Article 14, Right to Equality is given. In Article 19, Right to Freedom is given. In Article 21, Right to Life and Liberty is given.

Therefore, these Fundamental Rights have been enshrined in our Constitution. These human rights values have been enshrined in the Fundamental Rights of the Constitution. Therefore, my plea is this. We are a vast country with a big majority, with about 30 per cent people living below the poverty line. It is those centres of poverty which have to be tackled and fought. To protect the

human values, their standard of life, their rate of nutrition, quality of food, quality of life have to be assessed. Then, we should try to improve their economic indicators. I hope the Human Rights Commission will give directions to the Government.

In one such case regarding Kalahandi, Panaspurji sold her child in Navpara District in Karyal Assembly segment. A Writ Petition was filed in the Supreme Court regarding poverty and starvation deaths in the village Chatta in Komna Block in Navpara district of Kalahandi Parliamentary constituency. In 1985-86, the Writ Petition was filed by the late Shri Kishan Patnaik in the Supreme Court. I thank him for that. He was a great socialist and a great fighter. In the name of Kalahandi, he had filed a Writ Petition in the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court gave a direction to the Human Rights Commission to look into the matter. After that, it was established that actually those people had died of starvation by eating roots, tubers because they were not getting food. The failure of the PDS system was there. Then the KBK Programme was started. I am very sorry to say that the UPA Government has shelved the KBK Programme. It has liquefied the KBK Programme and stopped that Programme. So, I would urge upon the Government to restart this Programme for the State of Orissa because Orissa, as it is, is a poor State. A lot of human values are to be protected there. With the introduction of the Bill, I hope something will happen. I welcome this Bill. I hope in many States, the Human Rights Commissions are not functioning. Only in 16 States, the Human Rights Commissions are functioning. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

The Human Rights Commission is functioning in other States but it is not functioning in your State. You had signed the agreement in the General Assembly of United Nations to implement it.

[English]

The UN Convention against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment is there. It is a right against terror.

[Translation]

Tell me as to when will you bring a Bill in this regard for legislation?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Adhir Chowdhury. You can speak for a few minutes because at Four of the Clock, we have to switch over to the other item. You can conclude your speech next time.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY (Berhampore, West Bengal): Actually, I rise to support the Bill under the nomenclature of the Protection of Human Rights (Amendment) Bill, 2006. The legislative document is very much relevant to our society, to our lives. The objective of this Bill seems to have essentially injected a structural reform in the constitution of the Commission and its mandate as well.

The Bill seeks to amend 17 Sections of the principal Act and insert a new Section 40 (b) in that Act. The nature of the amendments could be categorised as substantial one, consequential and clarificatory. It is true that after the establishment of this Act, 14 years have already lapsed. Thereafter, we are bringing in an amendment. There is no gainsaying the fact that insofar as human rights are concerned, we are in a nascent stage because the UN Declaration on Human Rights was proclaimed in the year 1948.

16.00 hrs.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can continue next time.

Now, the House shall take up Item No. 21, discussion under Rule 193 on Indo-US Nuclear Agreement.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South): Sir, again we are taking up a new discussion under Rule 193 when there are two more discussions already pending in the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Madam, this has already been decided that we will take this item at 4 o'clock today.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, you may please assure the House when the other two pending discussions will take place.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Sir, already two discussions under Rule 193 are pending and only a few Members have spoken and they are inconclusive.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): Sir, I am helpless in the matter in this place. Any discussion, which is started, is not allowed to be concluded on the same day. At the same time, the hon. Leaders insist that on a particular day the particular discussion should take place. Today's debate was fixed considering the availability of the hon. Prime Minister and that is why it was fixed for 4 o'clock. That is why it is coming. It does not mean that we are evading the other two debates. Another two days are left, we will accommodate them.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: That is all right that the availability of the hon. Prime Minister was considered in this matter. But I would like to know why two-three discussions under Rule 193 are pending. They take one discussion, two speakers speak and then they take another discussion and then also two speakers speak and then they take another one. What is this? The hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs should take care that this does not happen in future.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the hon. Prime Minister has arrived, I think, we can commence the discussion.

16.02 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Indo-US Nuclear Agreement

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Mr. Chairman Sir, I rise to raise a very important issue in regard to nuclear deal with United States of America.

For the last one and a half month, we have been discussing and demanding that there should not only be a discussion but also the sense of the House should be taken. Why have we been asking for the sense of the House on this particular issue? Since when we have been asking that the sense of the House should be taken on Indo-US nuclear deal.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY (Berhampore, West Bengal): Sir, just a minute!

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat. He is not yielding.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Sir, how can he say that it is a deal; whether it is contracted or not? It is yet to be disposed of. At this juncture how he is able to define this as a deal?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, the hon. Prime Minister made a statement in this House on 29th of July; then in the month of August and then again in the month of March. What the hon. Prime minister has stated in his statement that he made on 29th July? I quote: "I can assure the House that we have never made nor will we ever make any compromises in so far as our fundamental strategic needs are concerned. Our inheritance gives us confidence, our experience gives us courage, our belief gives us conviction to assert today that our nation stands on the threshold of an even better future."

These are the concluding remarks of the hon. Prime Minister that he made on 29th July 2005. After the US President's visit in the month of March, the two House Committees, one of Senate and the other of the US Congress, deliberated and drafted a Bill. Sir, when we found that there were a number of departures in both the Bills and these departures are on some of the important issues pertaining to the deal, then we felt that there should be a discussion and concern of the House should also be expressed.

Sir, the Indian Parliament does not have any power, under the Constitution, with regard to the ratification of any international agreement. We have been asking for this since 1994 when World Trade Organisation Treaty was signed. Parliament was informed but never any international treaty was ratified or approved by the Indian Parliament. The American Parliament has the power, but we do not have.

Sir, the system is there that both the Houses, Senate as well as US Congress, pass the Bill, then it is reconciled and then it becomes an Act. We have already stated and while replying to the debate on the same issue in the other House, the hon. Prime Minister has replied to all the nine points that we have stated as to where are the departures. But the main concern that we have expressed, in regard to this deal and the way the statement is being made by the Senator, is whether we will be able to maintain our independent foreign policy. I can give you one example.

This is regarding Iran; it is not regarding gas pipeline but the condition that has been incorporated there in their deal regarding India's support to Iran. This will affect our independent foreign policy. Why are we asking for independent foreign policy? In National Common Minimum Programme, it has been enunciated that we will have an independent foreign policy. Since Independence, we have been pursuing independent foreign policy because of our national interest. What have we seen in case of Iraq and in case of Iran? After the July statement, and when there was voting in International Atomic Energy Agency, we found that we sided with the United States of America. We supported the resolution moved by US and P 5. That was not expected before that. When we were trying to bring gas from Iran *via* Pakistan which we need, we supported America's stand in regard to Iran. There we find that the independent foreign policy has been affected.

We have been expressing our concern. We have developed independently the first breeder reactor in our country. After 1974 nuclear tests and Pokhran nuclear tests, restrictions were imposed on us. In spite of the restrictions we independently developed, our scientists independently developed the first breeder reactor. Our scientists had done a commendable work. In both the deals, USA is shifting the goalpost. The Prime Minister very categorically stated on 29th July—the concern we have expressed—that India will not compromise its strategic interest.

The House Resolution says:

"India has a foreign policy congruent that of USA and is working with US in key foreign policy initiative related to non-proliferation. Such co-operation will induce the country to give greater political and material support to the achievement of US goal and regional non-proliferation objectives, specially with respect to dissuading, isolating, and if necessary, sanctioning and containing States that sponsored terrorism and terrorist group that is seeking to acquire nuclear weapon capability or other weapons of mass destruction capability and the means to deliver such weapons."

This has been incorporated deliberately in the Bill. What does it mean? After the reconciliation of both the Bills, it will become an Act. I want to know whether this Bill will be binding on us or not.

There are some provisions which are not binding. If these provisions are not binding, what is the necessity of

[Shri Basu Deb Acharia]

bringing these provisions and to incorporate them in the Bill itself.

Sir, it is very much clear about the motive behind the United States of America as to why they want to bring such a provision and why they want to incorporate such a provision in the Bill itself.

Sir, it further says:

"Secure India's full and active co-operation in efforts to dissuade and isolate and if necessary, sanction and contain Iran for its effort to acquire weapons of mass destruction including nuclear weapons capability and means to deliver weapons of mass destruction."

This is what has been incorporated in the Bill. So, what will happen? The Prime Minister, while replying to the debate, has stated that even the Legislatures of other countries passed a Bill, make legislation and that would not be binding on us. But our apprehension is that when such a provision has been incorporated with certain motive, if we do not accept such a condition, then what will happen to the deal itself? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except the speech of Shri Basu Deb Acharia.

...*(Interruptions)**

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, I would like to know whether this is not a clear departure from the Agreement or not. The Prime Minister, while replying to this debate, shall clarify this point.

There are other such provisions. Section 4 (2) says:

"If nuclear transfers to India are restricted pursuant to this Act, the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 or Export Control Act, the President should seek to prevent the transfer of India's nuclear equipment material or technology from other participating Government in NSG or some other source."

Sir, these are the extraneous provisions that are being incorporated in the Bill. Further, it is said that India is to identify and declare a date by which India will be willing to stop production of fossil material for nuclear weapons, and is to be encourage to do so unilaterally.

Then, Section 103, Sub-section 9 lays down that 'exports to nuclear fuel to India should not contribute to or anyway encourage increases in the production of India of fossil material for non-civilian purposes. If these provisions are finally incorporated in the Act, it is presumed that after the reconciliation, in the Draft Bill which both the Committees have prepared, all these provisions are contained in the Draft Bill. Our apprehension is that when this would be reconciled and when it would become an Act, all these provisions would be incorporated in the Act itself.

Therefore, if these provisions are incorporated in the Act, whether it would not hamper our research and development in the atomic and nuclear energy.

Sir, the hon. Prime Minister had clarified that it would not be accepted. While replying to the debate in the other House, I would quote what he has said.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Acharia, your allotted time is over, and it is an extra time for you.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: No, Sir. I have spoken, so far, only for 10 minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your allotted time is already over.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I have just started, Sir. I have to deal with many points.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please continue. I have given you only a warning that your time is running fast.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: You have given me a warning only. That means, I can speak for another 15-20 minutes. ...*(Interruptions)*

While replying to the debate in the other House, the hon. Prime Minister said: "If US Congress, in its wisdom, passes the Bill in its present form, the product will become unacceptable to India." We congratulate the hon. Prime Minister that he candidly has stated that the product will become unacceptable to India in its present form. Diplomatically, it would be difficult to change it later. Hence, it is important for our Parliament to work out and insist on ground rules for nuclear deals at this stage itself.

When it will be unacceptable, then what would happen to the deal? If we do not accept it, and our

Prime Minister has already spoken to President Bush, what he said in the other House that he has conveyed that some extraneous provisions are being incorporated in the Bill, which we do not agree. In spite of that, this is being done in the United States of America. It is because of that we have been asking that the sense of the House should be taken in order to strengthen the hands of our Prime Minister. When the US Congress can deliberate, discuss and incorporate extraneous conditions, then why can we not here discuss, have a unanimous view and sense of the House?

That can be sent to the US Congress, and that would have strengthened the hands of our Prime Minister in regard to conveying our strong message to the United States of America. But unfortunately this has been not done. But we have accepted what he had stated there. That can be accepted as the sense of the House because a unanimous view has emerged from among the Members of the other House.

There are implicit and explicit concerns. Regarding implicit concerns, I have already stated about our foreign policy. I have also stated what has been incorporated in the Bill. What we have been seeing is that how our independent foreign policy is being affected. There is a need to have a better relation with Russia and China so that we are able to bargain with the United States of America.

Then, one important aspect of this deal is about the energy security, which our Prime Minister has time and again emphasised that we need energy security. He has not touched that aspect.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have taken 25 minutes.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: We have made a target of 10,000 megawatts by 2015. Today, in regard to nuclear power, the percentage of nuclear power is only 2.5 per cent. The total generation of nuclear power is 3,335 megawatts. We have thermal power. We have hydel power. We have an untapped hydro potentiality of more than 1,00,025 megawatts. When we have a huge hydro potentiality, why should we go for nuclear power? Nuclear power is the costliest among thermal and hydropower. The per unit cost of nuclear power will be Rs. 6. Why does the United States of America want to help our country in regard to nuclear power? In the last 30 years, the United States of America has not set up a new nuclear power station.

Now, if we go for nuclear power, say, 10,000 MW, our target is to have 15,000 MW by 2020, the United States' interest lies in selling their old, worn out breeders for our nuclear power plants. There will be a problem of disposal of nuclear waste. We have some nuclear power plants which we have developed with our own technology in spite of restrictions imposed by United States of America and other countries. In spite of that we have developed them. While we should go for nuclear power, why should our country depend on the United States of America in regard to nuclear power plant?

I want to make one point clear. We are against stockpiling of nuclear weapons. We have the capability. But we do not want that somebody should put restriction on our capability. ...(*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): Sir, my only appeal, with respect to Shri Basu Deb Acharia, is that this is a short duration discussion and we have to accommodate other speakers and to ensure that the debate is over in another two hours. Therefore, I would appeal to all, including Shri Basu Deb Acharia, to reduce the time so that all Parties can participate in the discussion and we can finish the debate. It is a short duration discussion. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Sir, has Shri Basudeb Acharia exempted China from stockpiling nuclear weapons? ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Do not talk of China. We are not discussing China here. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Basudeb Acharia, you have already taken half-an-hour. Please conclude. Please cooperate with the Chair. If you do not finish now, we will not be able to finish it in time. That is what I can tell you.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Our scientists have also expressed their reservation and the hon. Prime Minister, in his meeting with the scientists made certain points. Like the concerns that we have expressed, they have also expressed their reservation. The other day the hon. Prime Minister had a discussion with them. He definitely discussed with them and has seen that their concerns are addressed.

[Shri Basu Deb Acharia]

The hon. Prime Minister has clarified it in the other House. But while replying to the debate, he has stated a very important point in regard to our strategic relation with the United States of America. He has also expressed concerns. He has stated that the Government will not accept any such extraneous conditionalities if it is incorporated there. While saying so, the hon. Prime Minister has stated that India will continue to have a strategic relation with the United States of America. He has also stated that that relation will depend on our enlightened national interest. If we have a strategic relation with the United States of America, we have our experience as to what we have seen in Iraq and in Iran and in Lebanon very recently. Without the support from the United States of America, Israel would not have attacked Lebanon.

What are we seeing in a small country like Cuba? With these experiences, if the Prime Minister feels that our national interest can be protected by having strategic relation with United States of America, I would like to ask him how we can think of a strategic relation with America on seeing, when after the agreement was signed, how certain conditionalities are being incorporated in order to make our country subservient to USA. We will not be able to help ourselves if we do not reject the Bill itself. If the USA do not agree to delink those provisions from the Act when it would be passed and the deal will have the final shape and if they do not agree to delink those conditions, what will the Government of India do? The Prime Minister may clarify how our national interest can be protected in having strategic relation with USA, with such conditions as are being imposed. I would request the hon. Prime Minister to clarify about it in this House while replying to the debate.

My request to the Prime Minister is that when the debate is concluded and he replies, his reply would include the sense of the House, the concerns expressed by the Members in regard to departure, in regard to certain conditionalities that are being imposed, in regard to our research and development in nuclear power, our independent foreign policy and the policy which we are pursuing. We have not signed the NPT because of our policy of one universal. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, if we want.
...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except the speech of Shri Basu Deb Acharia. Please conclude now.

...*(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now Maj. Gen., (Retd.) B.C. Khanduri will speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, please give me one minute. I am concluding. ...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, we do not believe in a discriminatory regime. Our policy has been for a universal ban. I would request the Prime Minister to clarify whether the policy which we have been pursuing will be hampered or not. I hope, the sense of the House would be expressed by the Members of the House and that will strengthen the hands of our Prime Minister in regard to the nuclear deal.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI (Garhwal): Sir, I am thankful to you for permitting me to speak on the discussion regarding Indo-US nuclear deal, which is an event of far reaching consequences. I am also thankful to Shri Acharia for two things. Firstly, he has initiated the debate. He seems to be lucky with the draw because he gets his priority under Rule 193 very often. Anyway, he started this subject, and I am thankful to him. Secondly, I am also thankful to him for taking just 40 minutes, and leaving some time for the rest of us. ...*(Interruptions)*

This Deal, which is under consideration and scrutiny at various levels in both the countries, is of historical importance. It is a matter of serious concern for us. This Deal not only has historical importance, but it has far reaching political as well as national security implications. Therefore, any lapse or laxity on our part, knowingly or unknowingly, in dealing with the issue, and having the final terms worded properly would have very serious consequences. I am saying this because it will not only affect our national security, but it will also affect our defence preparedness. Hence, we feel that all those people who have national interest in view will certainly have a critical look at this Deal. We should not only see as to what it contains, but also see the positive view.

We have to take cognisance of the fact that today India and USA are the two biggest democracies of the

*Not recorded.

world. We have also to take note of the fact that today US is—whether we like it or not—the only super power in this unipolar world. But at the same time, we must also remember that India is also emerging as a world power, and a super power. Therefore, we feel that we should have good relations with the USA in the international scenario, but it should not be at the cost of our security. We should not be treated as unequal friends, but treated on equal terms and as equal friends on all issues.

We do not share the views of those people who are opposing this deal just for the sake of opposing it. Nor are we with those people who think that USA is Evil just because it does not gel with their own concepts and their own thinking, which is not only outdated and outmoded, but is internationally a failed concept of peoples welfare and development.

In our opinion, the Indo-US deal was moving on the right direction. But, unfortunately, as we went along, various signals that are emanating, particularly, from the USA indicate that we are now diverting from this right direction. Sometimes, we also get the feeling that it is being done by unfair means. These unfair means could be blackmailing, pressurising, hoodwinking or a combination of some of these. It is this concern, as is said, which, particularly, emanates from the USA and more so from the House of Representatives of the USA, namely, the Congress, which has caused a lot of concern and doubts in the minds of common Indians, and the nationalist Indians. These doubts lead us to believe that probably we are going to have this Deal on unequal terms. Probably, USA wants to impose certain constraints and restrictions on us; and dictate terms to us with particular reference to not really undoing, but disturbing our nuclear weapons programme. Therefore, as I said, it is a matter of great concern to any nationalist or any person who has national interest in view.

This Deal has been discussed in detail in the Rajya Sabha, and the hon. Prime Minister had given a very detailed and exhausting reply. In his 70-minute speech, which became very exhausting, sometimes, I am told, the Prime Minister has attended to many of the queries. I will come to that a little latter. I would like to bring to your attention one thing that he said. It looked very odd, and pardon me if I am making a comment on it. He said:

"We must never forget that the primary motivation of India's nuclear programme was the production of energy; Defence came much later."

Very humbly, I would like to put across to you that this must have been true at that point of time, but today, without any disrespect, I would say that this is an outdated concept. Gone are the days when the weapon system did not take the priority. Today, the political power in the entire world is flowing out of nuclear, shall I say, gun. Then, we just cannot afford to put our Defence requirements any lower than the energy requirements. In my opinion, the Defence requirements, the nuclearisation programme, the power that we can show to the world comes first and over and above everything else, including energy requirements. Therefore, I felt really surprised that if this was the intention of saying that it continues even today, I would disagree with that.

The main theme of our deal has been that we want energy security. I understand that energy security is important, but as I said just now, we cannot do it at the cost of national security; we cannot do it at the cost of more important and urgent things that are being faced all over the world, particularly by us.

We are told that we have got a very low record in utilisation of nuclear energy. The installed capacity of some of the countries in the world, as given by the Nuclear Energy Institute, Washington DC, is like this: USA has got 19.9 per cent of the total production of nuclear energy; France has got 17.8 per cent; U.K. has got 19.4 per cent; Russia has got 15.6 per cent; China has got 2.2 per cent as against India's 2.8 per cent. We are not as bad as we have been projected to be. It is not that if we do not have this energy security from the USA, India will just collapse. I do not think that it is the correct scenario.

The next thing that I want to bring to your notice, Mr. Prime Minister, is that, as we understand from this Deal and whatever information we have been given, we are to get 20,000 MW of nuclear energy after this Deal, that is, by 2020. Apart from the economic side, which I understand—it has not been clarified, but these are conjectures—the separation will cost around US \$ 40 billion, then further installation and production will cost anything up to US \$ 60 billion to US \$ 80 billion, approximately making it US \$ 100 billion. We will get that after 2020, if everything goes all right and if the negotiations are all right. The ideal conditions will give you that. As against this 20,000 MW, India has an assured potential of about a lakh MW of hydel power, leave alone coal, solar energy, wind energy, which are in abundance. I do not think any country in the world is as lucky as we are in these matters. Nature has given so

[Maj. Gen. (Retd.) B.C. Khanduri]

much. I do not know why we are bending backwards for the nuclear energy, when we have hydel power in abundance. Why are we not harnessing it? All these years, we have not harnessed it.

In my own State of Uttaranchal, a small State, it has got a potential of about 40,000 MW to 50,000 MW of assessed hydel power, which is not being utilised. We have coal, but there are certain objections and other problems in regard to that. Hydel power is a very clean and cheap power, besides wind and solar energy.

I am not against nuclear energy, but let us not depict a picture that we will be destroyed if we do not get this 20,000 MW of power at a cost that is prohibitive and under conditions which we do not know.

I would say that—if I may use the words—'energy security bogie' should not be taken too far. Even at this stage, I would again request the government to give a serious thought to this aspect of energy that is available with us. It is not only cheap, neat but it is also under our own control. It is not under anybody's dictates. Therefore, this aspect of nuclear energy needs should be taken in proper perspective.

As far as economic aspect are concerned, I have just given some figures, which shall be corrected, if I am not wrong. Anyway, it will be at a very large cost, apart from the risk involved with nuclear installations.

I am thankful to the Prime Minister that in the other House he has given very specific, categorical assurances. I wish he had given these assurances a little earlier. A lot of confusion was created earlier because of some discussion in the US, including in their Congress; some talks in India and some interpretation. But he has given some clarifications. I am only repeating those here to convey that these have certainly cleared some of the doubts and fog. He has given us categorical assurances that there will be no compromise to India's sovereignty and autonomy of decision making; annual certification; scrutiny of either our nuclear weapons programmes or safeguard to nuclear installations; allowing American inspectors; and, lastly, no effect of proposed US legislations on India's sovereignty. Shri Acharia was also just referring about this.

These are nice assurances. The only thing is, I still hope that the other side, that is, the US also would take note of it. At no stage, at no point of time and under no condition, are we required to compromise even a little bit on these issues. I hope you will make sure of it.

About these clarifications, as I said, we thank you and we compliment you for these. But, as a small aside, I hope you do not mind—there are two observations which you made are I think coming from you are little surprising.

Firstly:

"I may be late comer into politics, but I have the privilege of belonging to a Party which fought for India's freedom."

It was not a programme of the Congress Party, it was a national movement. Everybody fought for it. ...*(Interruptions)* I do not think at your level, you should have used these as an argument to strengthen your position. ...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): What is your objection to it? Everybody took part. ...*(Interruptions)*

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: I am not a very old politician. You people know much more. You must have taken part in the Indian freedom movement in your own way. But it was a freedom movement. Now all those people have gone to various parties. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Clear-cut policy is required.

...*(Interruptions)*

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: But the Prime Minister of a country talking this way is not correct. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): Please tell me as to what objection do you have if the Prime Minister has said that Congress has made the movement of the country its own movement.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: I am telling you what objection do I have. You have grabbed it. You are saying that you made it your movement. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Where were you at that time? At that time you were on the side in which you were not in a position to grab it.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: It that time, I was a soldier and was in uniform.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except the speech your speech. You please conclude. You have made a very categorical statement.

*...(Interruptions)**

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: Respected Prime Minister, now that your people are taking so much objection to my submission, let me also remind that this is the Party, in which you belong to, which also imposed Emergency. Are you proud of that? *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do not bring party politics. Let us discuss the issue.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: It is all right for us to talk. But for the Prime Minister, it does not look nice.

I want to seek some clarifications. I have gone through your assurances and clarifications made in Rajya Sabha. I am not repeating those. I am just listing those out. Somebody may kindly take a note of it. My first query pertains to an interview given by Mr. Ashley Tellis. As I understand, Mr. Ashley Tellis is a senior associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Washington, DC. He worked overtime along with United State Under Secretary of State Nicholas Burns and Indian Foreign Secretary Shyam Saran to seal the India-US nuclear agreement. He gave an interview to Mr. Omkar Singh. There are two or three questions, which I want to bring to your notice and seek clarifications on. I quote the excerpts from the interview:

"Mr. Omkar Singh: Why was no deal struck then with the Vajpayee Government?"

Mr. Ashley Tellis: The deal could not be reached because the Vajpayee Government did not offer much to the US in exchange for the agreement. We got more from the Government of Dr. Manmohan Singh.

Mr. Omkar Singh: What is it that you wanted from the Vajpayee Government and could not get?

Mr. Ashley Tellis: I am afraid, I cannot answer this question.

Mr. Omkar Singh: Did Dr. Singh cave in easily?

Mr. Ashley Tellis: I would not say that. There were long discussions before the agreement was reached."

Could you kindly clarify what are the things which you could cave in but the NDA Government did not? Were these matters of such interest that the NDA Government could not cave in but you could?

Second, I have talked about the cost of separation. The financial cost of separation, as I understand is 40 billion US dollar. You could kindly clarify it. Similarly, installing our own nuclear power plant, as per my assessment costs about 100 billion US dollars. I would like to know from where would the Government funds this huge sum. For all these years, the Government had been saying that it does not have the hydel power or development of coal and things like that. How is the Government going to find this 100 billion US dollar? And what will be the time frame for delivery of this famous 20,000 MW of nuclear power?

Third, why have we accepted such a water-tight separation plan, which does not apply to Nuclear-weapon-States? You might say that we are not a nuclear weapon State but, Sir, we are in our own way, in that category. You could kindly clarify that.

Fourth, why the fast breeder programme, which is based entirely on our own technology, has been offered for safeguards in future in the separation plan?

Fifth, why the CYRUS experimental reactor, producing a third of our weapons grade plutonium had been included in the list of civilian facilities and the fuel core of APSARA was being sought to be shifted from its present location?

Next, this one is again interesting. The US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice's testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on April 5, 2005 where she said and I quote:

"We have been very clear with the Indians that the permanence of the safeguards is permanence of the safeguards, without condition."

I would like to repeat this: "The permanence of the safeguards is permanence of the safeguards, without condition". She further says:

"In fact, we reserve the right, should India test, as it has agreed not to, or should India violate in any way IAEA safeguard agreement to which it would be adhering, that the deal from our point of view would at that point be off."

*Not recorded.

[Maj. Gen. (Retd.) B.C. Khanduri]

Finally, Prime Minister, Sir, you have told us many times that the test ban on us is not acceptable to you whereas Madam Rice says that it is. You may clarify, whom do we believe. And also, if what she says is wrong, has India taken it up at official level and contradicted her statement?

In conclusion, Sir, I have tried to convey the sentiments of the people of our country, as I said in the beginning, who have national interest in mind. I am not scoring points here but in the national interest I have tried to convey some points to you and I hope and pray that these will be taken care of not in the party interest but in the interest of the nation. Unfortunately, non-clearance of some of the doubts being raised here, also adds to the confusion. The confusion has become more confounded.

17.00 hrs.

Probably, this could have been avoided if Parliament had been taken into confidence at various stages. That you have to decide but certainly this confusion should not be allowed to prevail any more.

Sir, I hope the Government would give due consideration to what I have said. I would conclude by quoting a few lines from an article by Shri N. Ram, Editor of *The Hindu*. Again this is a matter of concern for all of us. I hope and pray that whatever his forecast is, it does not come true. He has said:

"When future historians write on the negotiations of the India-United States civil nuclear deal, they will marvel at the way the American side made full use of its legislative process to rewrite vital portions of a settled agreement while the Manmohan Singh Government was pushed on to the back foot at every point."

As I said, I hope and pray that this would not come true.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): Sir, this august House is witnessing this debate on this issue of critical national import which Gen. Khanduri rightly pointed out for the fourth time. Parliament is the highest forum of discussion and debate in our democracy. The very fact that this Prime Minister and this Government have come before the Parliament for the fourth time in 13 months

underscores the highest respect that the Prime Minister and the UPA Government accords to the institution of Parliament. We have adopted a transparent approach in dealing with matters of national importance and national security to take the Parliament into confidence about the on-going negotiations for the full civilian nuclear energy cooperation with United States of America and other international partners. We have tried to allay any apprehensions or misgivings or fears which people may have through these discussions. For the last few weeks, there has been a built up; there has been a campaign; and concerns have been expressed both in the media and also by leaders of the political parties belonging to the entire political spectrum from Left to the Right.

Last week in the Rajya Sabha—it was referred to by Shri Basu Deb Acharia—there was a marathon debate for eight hours and to my mind rightly so all issues were settled. The Prime Minister had categorically and convincingly clarified the Government's position and India's position. I am very happy to note that what was said there and the assurances made there also found reflection in Shri Basu Deb Acharia's speech and also in what Gen. Khanduri had said.

It is important for us to remember why is this debate is taking place. It is because of the follow up of the July 18 nuclear understanding which was reached last year between President Bush and the Prime Minister and which was defined in the Joint Statement which was signed then. It is also the on going legislative process in the US Congress and the negotiations between India and the IAEA aimed at eventually concluding India Specific Safeguards Agreement with regard to our civilian nuclear facilities. As I was mentioning that the criticism is there and also support is there. Criticism is acceptable in a democracy.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: But support is not.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Support is welcome and criticism also, provided it is *bona fide*. It is like what we have seen today. There are certain clarifications which are sought. I am sure, the hon. Prime Minister would convince this august House like the other House and in the past in both the Houses of Parliament.

Let me say that this path is acceptable when we talk of demand for a debate because the Parliament has a right to be informed and the Parliament has a right to

debate. We have a parliamentary system of Government and as per our Constitution, this is the highest forum. The hon. Prime Minister and the Government are answerable to Parliament and to this august House and are accountable to this House.

Therefore, on what we were hearing earlier, there were demands emanating from various quarters outside the Parliament and from within the Parliament that there should be a sense of Parliament and there should be a sense of the House. That was, to my mind, a borrowed expression. What was being criticised as some references which were merely declaratory in character or exhortations in the on-going debates in the House of Representatives which has passed a legislation in the Senate with the sense of the Congress, that was being super-imposed here or sought to be super-imposed as a sense of the Parliament. That would have amounted to turning our system upside down.

Sir, as I said, in our parliamentary democracy, the hon. Prime Minister's assurance and here repeated assurances to both the Houses of Parliament, is the final word. That is the sense of the Parliament and that is the sense of the country. There has, never, been any departure from this assurance. There is no dilution and we were left wondering as to what has happened in the interim period which necessitates this criticism and also to some extent a hostile propaganda and that is what we have to be careful about. We have to draw a distinction between criticism, concerns and a motivated partisan political propaganda to confuse and mislead the people. That is what had to be answered and that is what has to be rebutted.

Sir, through you, I would like to say to this august House that we all belong to the same country. We have the same commitment with regard to India's interests and India's national security. We may be on this side in the Government today and our friends on the other side. They were in Government for six long years. What was happening during that time, which however was never converted into a partisan political debate where accusations were not levelled about bartering away India's interests or compromising India's security. This is what must be avoided in any political debate. We have to draw the boundaries. A debate on this issue has reminded us once again as to what should be the parameters and to what extent we should go while criticising each other. We should refrain from attributing motives or questioning the intent, especially in this case, when we have a Prime

Minister who has the credibility, whose integrity is respected not only in India but the world over. Also, if I may say, why should there be apprehensions and concerns that the autonomy and the integrity of India's strategic nuclear programme will be compromised and fears that India's independent foreign policy is being compromised? What had warranted all these observations? We fail to understand it?

A reference was made by Maj. Gen. (Retd.) B.C. Khanduri about the Congress Party and the hon. Prime Minister having claimed with pride that he belongs to that Party. yes, it is Congress-led UPA Government. We do have a very proud legacy and a very proud history both as a Party and as a country. The Congress Party, our leaders, our forefathers had the good fortune and the courage to sacrifice, to challenge the mightiest of emperors and then to lead India to its freedom. That Party and the Government, which is led by the Congress cannot compromise with India's independent foreign policy, cannot compromise with the integrity and the autonomy of our strategic nuclear programme. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing can go on record.

...(*Interruptions*)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not proper. Mr. Minister, you can continue.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: I would just briefly mention that it is important to recall why and for objective is India seeking the full civilian nuclear cooperation. It is also for the dismantling of a discriminatory and iniquitous global regime.

The Indian nuclear programme is six decades old. It was the vision of our first Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Dr. Homi Bhaba. It was their commitment to make India nuclear capable. There were many generations of scientists who worked hard to achieve that objective. It was in 1974 that the dream was realised. The commitments were fulfilled. What our scientists had done was demonstrated to the world. In Pokhran-I, when the first detonation took place, Shrimati Indira Gandhi was the Prime Minister of this country. She had the courage to make a very loud statement to the world that India has the capability and India has the determination to pursue an independent path in its own national interest.

*Not recorded.

[Shri Anand Sharma]

That message reverberated the world over. It led to the imposition of sanction, the denial of technology, the denial of fuel, the denial of dual access technology which did affect not only the nuclear programme to some extent which it was meant to but also the space programme and other critical scientific research programmes. Our scientists worked in a very adverse situation in what we have described as not only a denial regime but virtual nuclear apartheid. They overcame that and made India nuclear capable. They mastered the fuel cycle. Last year, when the hon. Prime Minister signed the Joint Statement, the July 18 Statement, implicit in that was a recognition of the fact that India is a country with an advanced nuclear technology, India is a country with a dedicated military nuclear programme and the Indian scientists are in a position to work along with the scientists of the rest of the world for future generation technologies. That is why, we have been invited to join the ITER Project, we have been invited for the FUTUREGEN Project. Once the restrictions are lifted and full civilian nuclear cooperation takes place, our scientists would also be able to contribute, in a major way by sharing their experience, by sharing their knowledge, with the world community in the progress of what this world needs for the future generation technologies.

There are many people who ask what is happening; where is the need or compulsion for nuclear cooperation why, what we have, that should not be continued when we have our own nuclear programme. I will say one thing that the *status quo* would be hurtful to India's national interest because that would be a continued denial to our nuclear scientists and, for that matter, to our country of the cutting edge technologies which India must access to fulfil its quest to be a knowledge super power in the 21st century. As I said, today when, with respect others have recognised India's capabilities and also the fact that India is a military nuclear power, we must also remember one thing. Doubts were raised by Shri Basu Deb Acharia and Maj. Gen. Khanduri saying what would happen to our strategic programme. So, what has been done is in conformity with the reciprocal commitments which are integral to the July 18 Statement, the integrity of the strategic programme has been fully protected.

The freedom of our research and development programme has also been protected. We have also repeatedly reiterated our commitment to our three stage nuclear development programme. I need not go into the details of it here today, but it will eventually lead to breeder reactors with thorium as fuel.

Sir, the Separation Plan, as such, clarifies the position and clarifies all doubts, if there were any. In March this year, the Prime Minister tabled the Separation Plan both in this House and in the other House. We have kept out completely the fast breeder reactors, the proto-type fast breeder reactors and the indigenous research from any inspection, from any future safeguard arrangement. The Separation Plan is meant for only the civilian facilities which have been determined by our nuclear establishment. Those would only be subjected to inspection. The Separation Plan has been worked out by those scientists who have the oversight of our strategic programme. Surely they know what they are doing. There are 14 facilities which have been put in the Civilian List and 8 facilities have been put in the Strategic List with all the linking facilities both upstream and downstream. So, we do not see where any dilution is there, where any compromise is there.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: But our eminent scientists expressed grave reservations. Now you are painting a very rosy picture. If it is so, then why all these eminent people, all retired Chairmen of Atomic Energy Commission are objecting? I would like your clarification on that.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, we have the highest regards for nuclear scientists. The country is proud of them. This Government has always taken on board their concerns. Let me tell Gen Khanduri that their concerns never reflected a partisan agenda. Let me also tell him that our eminent scientists, while seeking some clarifications, while raising some concerns, welcomed the July 18 understanding as a historic breakthrough in the same statement. But I was pained that that statement was distorted and selectively quoted to create an impression that the scientific establishment was having some reservations about July 18 Joint Statement.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: But July 18 was signed before these concerns were expressed.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: I am referring to them. If you read that statement, in that statement itself they had welcomed it and termed it as a historic breakthrough. I am referring to the same statement which you are referring to. I am not referring to last year's statements.

Sir, here I may also say that many issues, which have been raised, will surely be answered, but I will quickly refer to a few. First and foremost, since a question

has been raised both by Gen. Khanduri and earlier by Shri Basu Deb Acharia on those issues which pertain to the ongoing legislative process in the USA and whether any compromise has been made by and since what was said by some Senators in the USA was quoted here, I would like to make it clear that the legislative process in the USA, as we had explained earlier in this House and in the other House, is different from our Parliament. They have the House of Representatives which has one version of a Bill which they have passed, but the Senate has another Bill with the same stated objective. But when we look at the body of the draft legislation, that is different. When that will be passed, then there would be a conciliation process which would lead to the final legislation and that would seek to empower the US Administration and the US President with an India-specific waiver authority to enter into a bilateral agreement. That is what the position would be. We are at this stage here today where the Senate has not passed the Bill. Then we have three more stages to go. What we are concerned with would be the agreement under 123 which will facilitate full civilian nuclear cooperation. That agreement would be signed between two sovereign States. The hon. Prime Minister has made it clear and the Government has made it clear that we will not accept any additional conditionalities, there will be no additional obligations. The agreement, which India will sign, will be within the templates of July 18 Agreement.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: What has Condoleeza Rice said? She has said that it will be always like this.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: I do not know. I have never said anything offensive. I have great regards for Gen. Khanduri.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: I do not mean anything offensive at all. He was making an argument. I have not raised the issue of legislation. I know the process.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: I am not answering this.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: I am just saying

[Translation]

that you should reply about what Condoleeza Rice has said.

[English]

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: I like Gen. Khanduri always smiling.

As I was saying that that is what India will be bound to.

As far as the legislative process, in any legislature, is concerned, with all respect to that legislature or to other legislatures, the hon. Prime Minister has made it clear, and our position has been stated in both the Houses earlier. We are not bound by the legislation of any foreign legislature. That is what our position is. The Agreement, which India will enter into, will be the final one.

There are certain things which have been said. I will only refer to two or three. The first is about safeguards arrangement. The Safeguards Agreement, India will enter into, will be with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) will be India specific with regard to our civilian nuclear facilities. Also there will be a inter-locking mechanism, the Safeguards Agreement will also have a multi-layered fuel supply guarantee. There will be uninterrupted fuel supply.

17.22 hrs.

[SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH in the Chair]

Secondly, what is very important and which I must underscore is that India will have the legal right to build a strategic fuel reserve for the life time of the reactors which we will be placing under the Safeguard. We are not taking any chance of future interruptions or denials and that would be built in these guarantees, even under the bilateral agreement which India will sign with the US. We would like to assure the House that the Government and our negotiators have taken all these aspects into consideration while we are referring to these Agreements.

Another reference was made about sequencing that whether, while we are talking to the IAEA for India specific safeguards, it would be different from any other safeguard arrangement of non-nuclear weapon States because India's military nuclear programme is acknowledged and recognised. So, as far as the sequencing part is concerned, it is in a phased manner. It will be from 2006 to 2014. Out of 14 of the facilities, six are already under

[Shri Anand Sharma]

International Safeguards Arrangement and the remainder eight will be under Safeguards Arrangement between next year and 2014. There is no question that before an agreement is reached, our facilities have been placed under Safeguards Arrangement. That is not the case. The assurance was given by the hon. Prime Minister was that India will place the facilities under IAEA Safeguards only after all restrictions are lifted. That commitment stands.

With regard to the inspection also that he has mentioned, it will be only through IAEA and it cannot be the inspection by any country.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: I complimented the hon. Prime Minister for saying that.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: I will just say in the end that when we talk of the FMCT, it is a multi-lateral treaty, which will be negotiated in Geneva. India's position remains very clear and very firm. We will negotiate along with other countries. But that is not a treaty, which India will negotiate bilaterally with US.

There has also been a reference to the tests and detonation and there has been a reference to many other issues. I would not like to raise any partisan issue, but, I would like to draw the attention of the House, particularly, Gen. Khanduri. For the sake of records and for the benefit of this House, let me say that while this Government is committed only to the voluntary unilateral moratorium. That we would continue with the voluntary moratorium. There is no provision in the US legislation under consideration, which requires India to abjure the right. When the unilateral voluntary moratorium was declared by India, in September 1998, the then Government, the then hon. Prime Minister had made an offer in the UN General Assembly to convert the unilateral moratorium into a *de jure* one, which virtually amounted to signing the CTBT which was taken further. I have the quotation. ...*(Interruptions)* Please do not shake your head. I can quote his speech. That was made at the United Nations. ...*(Interruptions)*

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: It was not a condition from USA. It was a voluntary imposition of the State. It was our own; we could have changed it any time we wanted. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Please do not interrupt.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: I think, for the benefit of the Members it is important for me now to refer to this. Madam, I quote from the speech of respected Vajpayeeji, the then Prime Minister, in the UN General Assembly in September 1998. He said:

"Accordingly, after concluding this limited testing programme, India announced a voluntary moratorium on further underground nuclear test explosions. We conveyed our willingness to move towards a *de jure* formalisation of this obligation. In announcing a moratorium, India has already accepted the basic obligations of the CTBT."

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: It was a voluntary imposition of the State. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Madam, I may also say, as I said right in the beginning when I started, that the hon. Prime Minister and this Government have repeatedly come before the Parliament. There was a time when for 11 long months there were talks between the then Foreign Minister of India and Mr. Strobe Talbott. This Parliament was never informed; this country was never informed. We were kept in dark. Today, we see the Delegations of Malhotraji's Party—you all were there—in the newspapers going to Rashtrapatiiji petitioning against this Government as if we have done something which totally compromises India's sovereignty. But, at that time I would have respected all my friends on the other side if they had protested and demanded what was transpiring between the two, between hon. Jaswant Singh ji and Strobe Talbott. ...*(Interruptions)* The country had to wait not for 11 months but for years. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Please do not interrupt.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: I am grateful to both my friends here. I am grateful to both of you. It is because, firstly, for years the country was in dark and we had to wait for Strobe Talboot to write a book and publish it. We had to buy the book and read it as to what was committed and what was offered including the CTBT offer. Secondly, you asked me, when we were on the other side, why we did not raise it. This is the difference between you and us. We do not carry out a partisan propaganda. ...*(Interruptions)*

17.30 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

I just quickly refer to one more thing, that is with regard to—what was said about—the certification. The Prime Minister had made it clear that any annual certification would be contrary to the spirit of July 18 and even a mention in the non-binding section will be unacceptable to India. This has been clearly conveyed by the Prime Minister; this has been clearly conveyed by the Government. There should not be any doubts on that score. India is very clear about its status, that is, of an advanced nuclear weapons country, an advanced technology country, which enjoys the same rights and benefits as the other.

One thing is very relevant and I leave that for the Prime Minister to respond, which he has done very convincingly in the other House, and that is about the need of nuclear energy. It has been questioned that we have hydel energy. Khanduri ji, you come from Uttaranchal. I know that your State has enormous hydel potential. I have the good fortune of belonging to Himachal. We also have a huge potential which we have exploited to some extent. We are not disputing that hydel potential should be exploited or saying that bio-energy should not be exploited, and renewable means of energy should not be accessed to. But what India would need for its energy security would be an ideal energy mix, an ideal fuel mix, which must also include the nuclear energy. If we only keep on referring to that we have huge resources of coal, then dependence will be on fossil fuels and coal—in any case these are depleting—we have to look at the environmental hazards and the costs involved. Similarly, with hydrocarbon reserves, the cost is rising. Today we know what is the cost of one barrel of oil we do not know what the prices would be in future, and then there would be pressure on the hydrocarbon reserves too. So, accessing clean technologies and accessing nuclear technology would be relevant.

Sir, what I am saying is that 46 years ago, in this House, on the 10th of August, 1960, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, whose vision it was to make India a nuclear capable State, said:

"We are equally determined not to be left behind in the advance, in the use of this new power. Also in spite of an apparently large supply of coal in India, it is not really large enough for the future. Therefore,

there is no doubt that we should lay the foundations for atomic power and go ahead from now on."

That is what Pandit ji had said in this House.

I would urge all the Members that after the hon. Prime Minister has spoken today—that earlier assurances have been strictly adhered to—let us all reflect that should we allow a partisan political debate or propaganda which eventually ends up hurting the interest of this country. Why I say that it is hurting the interest of this country is that there is a propaganda against us, against the Agreement on civilian nuclear understanding with the United States of America, which is carried out by those who are opposed to India, those who do not want India to access the cutting edge technologies, and those who do not want India to have the fuel. I am referring to our immediate neighbour. Lobbies are there. I am not talking of those who have reservations because of their proliferation concern. There is an active lobby which has been working. Yes, Pakistan has been active. While we debate in this country, let us not say anything which eventually is twisted, used and misused by India's opponents. Let us speak in one voice when it comes to India's interest.

Sir, I will conclude by quoting, and rightly so, our greatest Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, who had said:

"A large country like India must act with an inner conviction of its strength. I have tried to devote my life to build a tolerant India, a secular India and a peaceful India. I wish to continue to work for it and devote all my energy for it, and if necessary, die for it. Let us not be bogged down in petty squabbles which diminish the nation. Let us deploy our strength to face the issues which affect the long-term interests of our people."

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when the Prime Minister of India had returned from America on 18th of July last year after signing the agreement on supply of atomic energy with the President of America and when there was a discussion on the agreement in this House, our party had fully supported the agreement. We had supported it because we believe that there has always been unanimity on the issue of India's relations in international affairs and it is a globally

[Shri Mohan Singh]

accepted fact even today. There was a time when the world was divided into two parts after second world war. India was a newly formed nation and we had just got independence at that time. We had to build India with our own strength securing the interests of our nation and observing non-alignment in the world at the same time. In such a scenario the foreign policy of non-alignment was considered to be a meaningful foreign policy for us and our country has been following it since then. But whenever India has faced any crisis and we have felt that we are devoid of power, no powerful nation has ever helped us. When China attacked our country in 1962, it was said that our ally country is Soviet faction but it also sidelined itself on the plea that while ideologically China was one of its ally, India has been its friend, hence it was better for it to be a mute spectator, and thus we were left to face the war. However, it was the countries supporting the non-alignment movement which came forward to help us, particularly Sirimavo Bhandamayake, the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka came forward.

When the struggle of independence of Bangladesh was going on in 1971, India provided all help. At that time, America also sent its seventh naval fleet in the Indian Ocean. America set up its permanent base in Diego Garcia. But India succeeded in this struggle and captured a large number of a prisoners in comparison to the war prisoners captured in all wars in the world. With this, an independent country surfaced on the map of the world all with the help of India. The then Prime Minister of our country was right to think that the world might not consider India to be a frightened country in view of formation of a military base by America in Diego Garcia and after arrival of a big power in the Indian Ocean, hence our country showed its strength before the world by conducting Pokharan-I underground nuclear tests. India conveyed the message to the world that we can encounter any attack with our own might. Hence, I want to say that we have always raised our voice for upholding the principles we believe in whenever it was needed. During the sixties, when Egypt nationalised the Suez canal during the regime of President Abdul Gamal Nasser; France, Britain and Israel jointly attacked Egypt. At that time, India was the only country which raised its voice against that attack. As a result the citizen of Britain surrounded the residence of their Prime Minister. India evolved such a public opinion in the world that this joint attack on Egypt by all the three countries was immediately stopped. A few days later when the whole world was tense, the reconnaissance

planes of America entered into Russia but were shot down. President De Gaulle called a meeting of Khrushchew and Bulganin in France at that time, about which it is said that it was a summit between America and Russia. It was a move for arbitration by France but that summit failed. At that time, the Prime Minister of India Jawaharlal Nehru moved a resolution in the United Nations Organisation for bringing mutual negotiations between the two. His resolution was discussed in the UN and it paved the way for an environment of harmony in the tense world. All this could be possible due to efforts by Jawaharlal Nehru.

I mean to say that India still sincerely upholds its principles without sacrificing its national interests. Raising voice for such principles has always been India's priority and this has also been the basis of our independent foreign policy. With these principles, the Government of India has adopted its foreign policy by evolving national consensus with regard to any international issue.

Similar situations also existed in the Middle East. We are always of the view that America has always conspired to destabilise West Asia. We will have to accept the fact that America along with many small countries who are its allies, who want to remain with it will have no objection if a country like Israel become nuclear power. But it certainly does not want India to become a nuclear power. The world knows it very well how and with whose assistance Pakistan, our neighbouring country, acquired the capacity to make nuclear bomb. India has made more and more friends in these circumstances while pursuing its independent foreign policy. However, it has never compromised with its national principles.

We are not in favour of any kind of confrontation with America. We should take its assistance in all the matters relating to economic and strategic progress by considering it to be our friend. But India must not accept America's interference in the countries of west and south-Asia. The agreement that we signed with America on the 18th July should be viewed in this perspective.

I want to congratulate our Prime Minister for the statement he made in Rajya Sabha some time back. The entire speech reflects a powerful India. Each and every word of that speech points towards one thing that India cannot bow before any power in the world. Hence, I would like to say that the Prime Minister of India must not deviate from the commitment he has made in the other House of our Parliament. I would like to tell my friends that this Parliament is a symbol of faith and public

sentiments of this country. When any Prime Minister of India makes any promise before this Parliament, we do not have any reason to distrust it, so we should trust it. As some news is coming today, that some kind of manipulation might take place in the agreement signed between the Prime Minister of India and the President of America. We will have to be careful in this regard as well. A sense was developed, American Congress passed it but American Senate has a problem to approve it. We want that the Members of the American Senate should know unanimity of Indian Parliament on the issue and that the people and Parliament of India fully support both Prime Minister and the Government of India and we are not going to accept any kind of manipulation in the Agreement. We are taking part in this debate to express this concern.

Hon'ble Prime Minister met the President of America. This House expressed its full faith in the Prime Minister. Whatever agreement he had signed, the majority of this House was with him. Hence, this message should be conveyed to the outsiders that not only the majority but the entire country and Parliament unanimously support this agreement. This message also should have been conveyed with the statement of Prime Minister.

When our Prime Minister met with the American President, he was surprised that Vajpayeeji had opposed this agreement in the Parliament of India. We are surprised that he had expressed this opinion there during his meeting with the President of America. We regret to say that at least a person like me, who is having a good opinion about the Prime Minister did not like this surprise expressed by him. Hence, I want to say that the Government of India should stand by the promise, he has made in Rajya Sabha. The entire country, the entire House and at least my party, which has been opposing this Government on most of the issues, will be with you on this issue. With this promise, I conclude my speech.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a matter of national and international importance and not just a party issue. The joint statement given on the 18th July on the Indo-US Nuclear Treaty has removed whatever doubts some parties were having. A few days back, hon. Prime Minister made a statement in the other House which has not only strengthened the self-respect of the country but also the foreign policy and the non-alignment policy. Thus the doubts of some of the parties have been allayed.

One thing is being said from the beginning in connection with the Indo-US Nuclear Treaty that it will provide security to India in the field of energy. But, doubts were cast upon it because the views of our scientists had also started appearing. This created an atmosphere of confusion in the country. But, the vehemence with which hon. Prime Minister made his statement, it is clear that he and the UPA Government have taken cognisance of the concerns expressed by the scientists recently and he has personally apprised the US President George Bush of the sentiments of the Indian people. The strength with which the hon. Prime Minister has put across India's interests will be recorded in history. Even India had the right in the joint statement of 18th July to pull out of the treaty in case there would be any manipulation in its norms. I do not know why some people felt sceptical and all sorts of views started surfacing. But, I want to tell that having doubts by thinking on party lines is injustice to the country when it is a matter of country's respect, independent foreign policy or non-alignment policy.

We want to obtain power from nuclear energy but it is not good to doubt whether it is a matter of producing power from nuclear energy or from water. After 18th July, India has not taken any step bigger than giving a concrete shape on papers to its scheme of classification of nuclear plants into military and non-military zones in this case and inform the US administration. But, the US has also made connection with the nuclear supplier besides making legislation as a result of which only, Russia released the fuel for the Tarapur Reactor. The US has taken a step forward in this Treaty in comparison to India in case some snag develops regarding the Treaty. I want this point to be noted here. Therefore, hon. Friends should not have doubt in this regard.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: We have no doubt but your mind is confused.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Your point is O.K. ...(*Interruptions*) I had listened to your speech. I have no confusion. Your speech was creative.

17.50 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

I do not want to make any comment. Harin Pathak ji is provoking you to speak.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It should not provoke any nuclear matter.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have full confidence that there will be no interference in India's independent nuclear programme and independent foreign policy. There is no scope for any kind of interference. The kind of strength shown by the Government and the kind of statement given by the hon. Prime Minister before the country indicate that there will be no adverse impact on the sovereignty and national interests of the country. The concerns of the prominent scientists of the country have also been considered and accorded priority and consultations were also held with them and will be held in future also. No compromise can be made with the larger interests of the country. We as well as the whole of the country is behind the unflinching view of the hon. Prime Minister of not accepting unilateral moratorium on the rights of our country regarding foreign policy, nuclear disarmament and nuclear explosion in future too, the blue print of which was given by Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru in his speech in 1962 that the strong foundation of a country can be laid only through nuclear energy and the country should be ready for that. I think that this roadmap is a source of inspiration for us even today and we should not get astray. No doubt, the achievements gained by India even after the technical restrictions imposed after the nuclear explosion in 1974 are praiseworthy. But, it cannot be forgotten that those achievements stood on the foundation of the international technical cooperation which was the result of the efforts of Homi Bhabha. It is my belief that, today, India is on the verge of breaking free from the technical restrictions after 32 years by the US leadership and we will lose the opportunity of getting connected with the other super powers in the field of science and technology in case we reject the Indo-US Nuclear Treaty on the basis of some prejudices. Our country has to deal with the issues of economic development, foreign investment, trade, nuclear energy, hydro-electricity and a joint statement has definitely been given in the Treaty. Remaining within its limits, the hon. Prime Minister has expressed it strongly and clearly that we can never compromise with the larger interests of the country. So much so, India itself will review the nuclear weapons programme and our sovereignty will remain intact. There can be no compromise on that. Not only this, India will choose its own path in case the US

plays some trick. What more could be the proof of the strength and self-respect of the country? I, therefore, think that the hon. Prime Minister is standing by the Statement made in the House and the whole of the country supports him. The whole of the country is with the Prime Minister on this issue and we all resolve to be within him on this path. We should protect strongly the larger interests of the country under the Treaty and keep the self-respect of the country and our identity in the world. With these words, I conclude.

[English]

SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU (Rajapur): Sir, this agreement that has been signed between India and the United States, which the Prime Minister presented before the Parliament on the 18th of July, has three components. There is a relationship on economic issues; there is a relationship related to the nuclear and civilian energy and, as a result of this, there is a relationship which enacts into strategic relationship. So far, we have been discussing largely the nuclear and civilian issue because it has become a symbol of the relationship. One of the clauses of the agreement stipulates that we must separate the civilian nuclear capability and the military capability. It assumes a more serious implication, as far as the strategic relationship goes.

While we need to move forward with the United States, which is the largest economy of the world and being the largest science and technology hub of the world, it lies in India's interest that we must collaborate with them in India's interest, on India's terms, on such issues that concern India, and we should try to take the relationship forward in such a way that it will benefit India.

I would like to remind you that the First Green Revolution that took place in India also happened essentially because of cooperation that was offered by the US at that time. M.S. Swaminathan and C. Subramaniam played a key role in that; and technology and transfer of technology, in a great deal, also happened from there. Therefore, it is really important that we must strengthen the relationship in such terms that will benefit India.

In foreign policy, it is important that we must look at rest of the world from India's eyes and wherever it converges in India's interest, we should try to collaborate and cooperate.

Here, on the energy front, which is essentially the heart of this Agreement, India has, unfortunately, been secluded from accessing fuel for firing its rockets for a long period of time. In fact, India needs huge levels of energy—more than 10,000 MW to 15,000 MW every year. We have been planning to add 10,000 MW, and we are not even going up to 40 per cent of that for a variety of reasons. We clearly need to look into that because power is one of the key concerns of India. While doing that, it is important that we must develop an energy mix. How do we go about with an energy mix? Do we need one energy against another? We need all forms of energy, that are available within the country. We need hydro, thermal, renewable and we also need nuclear. Why do we need nuclear energy? It is essentially because the world is facing a serious challenge of climate change. The green-house emission has created a huge crisis in the world, which humanity has to now face. Probably, the whole humanity will not be there on this Planet in the next few years' time. We, in India, are facing this problem because of floods and the syndrome of drought which recurs time and again, which is also because of the effect of climate change. Nuclear energy is one of the cleanest forms of energy. It does not emit green-house gases. Therefore, we need that energy as well as we need, as my colleague General Khanduri was saying, hydro energy. We also need thermal energy because coal is going to be the mainstay of India in the energy sector contributing to more than 50 per cent of it until 2050 when we may have a significant contribution coming from other sectors. Therefore, we need this energy. Therefore, this energy cooperation with the US is welcome.

What is really concerning is the implication of this Agreement, snowballing of this implication on the strategic sector. To make sure that we are not solely guided only by looking at energy issues, we must converge with them while making sure that our own long-term strategic interests are in no way compromised.

18.00 hrs.

Therefore, I look forward. The Prime Minister has already made a very categorical statement, which, I again welcome it. But I am sure, this new process in the next few weeks are very crucial when the US Congress would legislate on this issue. It is now Senate and also the Congress, House of Representatives which are deliberating over it. I am sure, there is going to be a compromise between the Houses to decide conflicting issues that

would emerge. But I hope that the Prime Minister would be able to make sure on behalf of India that India's interest is not compromised. I am sure that the Prime Minister made a very clear statement. From our side, within these four walls and nothing more, I would like to know, suppose, for some reason, the legislation does not conform to our concerns and within the parameters that we already stipulated, whether we will be walking out of this agreement? There are so many other implications of this agreement. As I said, it is just the nuclear-civilian agreement. We have another agenda with the United States which goes beyond this agreement. Whether we would be compromising on that or whether we shall try to emerge in a way that would make sure that all our concerns are properly addressed, all the interests of India are properly protected and would be able to move forward?

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH (Bhilwara): This subject was discussed in Rajya Sabha for eight hours. You want to really curb it. This is a very important subject. We would like to speak on it.

MR. SPEAKER: Do not use such things which are not relevant.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH: You must give us time.

MR. SPEAKER: We know that. Now, let him speak.

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): I stand here to deliberate on the Indo-US Nuclear Agreement. After a marathon discussion on the Indo-US Nuclear Agreement in the other House, Prime Minister's reply should have allayed all doubts. But the situation is not so. What I understand from the hon. Prime Minister is that, whatever the US Congress may legislate on the issue, India is bound only by the July 18 Agreement, the Prime Minister signed with the US President. In other words, New Delhi will not accept any changes that the US Congress might make in the Agreement compromising India's national interest. If this is so, say this in clear terms.

I would say that India's nuclear programme is acted solely by its own legitimate concerns. We cannot allow a situation whereby foreign officials enjoy free access to Indian nuclear facilities. The proceedings in the US House of Representatives on the trajectory nuclear deal thus

[Shri B. Mahtab]

raise suspicions that the US may have a larger role in the implementation of the deal than has been presumed going purely by the text of July 188 deal. It is also a worry that development of Indian nuclear deterrent would suffer a set back with the US indirectly seeking a cap on India's nuclear weapon programme. But we should make it amply clear that we cannot accept any constraint on this issue.

My humble opinion is that, July 18 deal would benefit both India and the United States. We are emerging as strategic partners. It is the result of an 'out of the box' approach to nuclear and technological challenges we face in our bid to emerge as an economic giant by the end of the first quarter of the 21st century. We were informed that the Left was happy with PM now, after, at last, his reply in the other House. Yet, this discussion has been initiated by the Left.

I have three points to make. Among our nuclear scientific establishment, sections of the academia and some of our political parties, both on the Left and on the Right, there is an understandable fear of the Indo-US nuclear deal getting India entrapped. The fear is understandable because of the history of past 60 years. Even after nuclear tests in 1998, during the Jaswant-Talbot talk, the US always attempted to get India into the CTBT and to cap, reduce and roll back Indian nuclear arsenal. Successful US administrations have consistently aimed at curbing Indian nuclear arsenal. US will always try to advance United States interest. They are still out to sustain their pre-eminence in the international system but let us not be blind towards the US strategy towards India that has changed because of the change in time and circumstances. Those, who have reservations on the Indo-US Nuclear Deal, also should become aware to the fact that Russia, which is now emerging as the leading energy power, fully backs this Indo-US Nuclear Deal and so do the European Union and Japan.

In our country, we should give some thought to the changes in time and circumstances which have brought about this attitudinal change all over the world. There is no bipolar world with two adversarial blocs, but a balance of power system exists today in which no major power considers any other as an adversary. It is a globalised world in which there is a great deal of inter-dependence among the major nations of the world. Trade between United States and China is growing year after year. The US and Russia manage together a space station. There is a common research project on the thermonuclear

energy with participation of all other powers and now of India as well.

The equation of today's India with other major powers of the world, including the United States, is different from what it used to be before economic liberalisation. Today, our country has more Foreign Policy options, in a world of balance of power, than it had in a bipolar world. The United States, Russia and the European Union treat our country as a strategic partner. Even China is engaged today in a strategic dialogue with us. The Indo-US Nuclear deal recognises the existence of the Indian nuclear arsenal. India could serve to promote a better balance in Asia and the world.

Sir, I have two questions. It is learnt that Saudi Arabia's oil production has peaked and will soon be on a downward trend. The same is true of other oil producers of that region. This does not mean that oil wells are about to run dry. But that, more oil is being pumped out than new sources discovered. It is important to recognise that it is not a political problem but a resource problem brought on by the supply-demand equation.

Over the coming decades, the world will increasingly have to shift from fossil energy to non-fossil energy. Despite found hopes about windmills and solar energy, the only viable and proven source of non-fossil energy is nuclear power. One day the transition will take place. Should we evaluate the proposed Indo-US Nuclear Deal against this background? What will be the cost? The economic implications of this transaction are incalculable. Demand for energy is growing in India. Should we treat it as an opportunity? If so, for whom? Is it for the industrialists of the United States who are engaged in energy industry, particularly the nuclear industry?

I am aware that this agreement is complex but one thing stands out that it calls on India to stop its Thorium based research and development in exchange for Uranium based technology and fuel, which is to be supplied by the United States. The central theme is, 'yes' to Uranium and 'no' to Thorium. Let the Government say in clear terms what we will be sacrificing while relying on American business to supply its future non-fossil energy needs?

India has substantial thorium reserves but little uranium. India has technical capability in building reactors based on the thorium cycle. But are we being swayed by Western lobbyists?

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI B. MAHTAB: Sir, I have a last point to make.

MR. SPEAKER: Your last point was very long.

SHRI B. MAHTAB: Therefore, the basic question regarding the Indo-US nuclear deal is whether we really need it. Some say that the deal will give boost to our power sector, but the question is whether nuclear power is an economically viable proposition; whether any risks are involved to the human population in the process of producing energy through nuclear power; whether political and strategic issues favour our country; and whether this is the only alternative available. I need not go into all these questions. These are the questions which are before this country and this House today. I come to my last query.

MR. SPEAKER: The word 'last' has a meaning.

SHRI B. MAHTAB: Sir, this is the 'last'. I would like to know whether the countries which have installed nuclear power reactors are phasing them out. Has not a single plant been built or planned in the US for the last 25 years? Is this the same in United Kingdom? *The Financial Times* has reported that no nuclear power stations are likely to be built in the United Kingdom for at least a couple of decades to come. In the United Kingdom, the last reactor built was in 1995. In France and Germany no new nuclear power stations are being built for more than a decade. Then why are we rushing in? I conclude by saying a quotation which the Prime Minister may ponder over:

"Stay committed to your decisions but stay flexible in your approach."

This should be our path in today's international relations.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Chandrappan, you have four minutes but I will give you five minutes. Please conclude within that time.

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN (Trichur): Sir, I have not yet started.

MR. SPEAKER: Therefore, I am telling you before you start.

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN: Sir, actually while raising this discussion if we express our apprehension, it should not be taken as a reflection of our lack of confidence in the Prime Minister. We have great confidence in the Prime Minister. I remember in the other House while the debate was going on, he said that let the legislative process be completed. He was referring to the legislative process that is taking place in the United States. He said that once it is completed, we will then determine whether there are elements which go beyond what we have committed on July 18 last year. That was a very reassuring statement that he has made. Actually we congratulate him for making that very bold statement about the Indo-US Agreement but then the apprehensions are coming because we are dealing with another partner and not our Prime Minister alone or India alone. We are dealing with a country, namely, the United States that has a track record which is not in any way very enviable. That is why, we are raising this apprehension.

Now one of the questions that the scientists raised when they issued their statement was that we cannot accede to any restraint in perpetuity on our freedom of action.

This is about our strategic requirement of nuclear energy. I would like to know whether the new legislation that the United States is on the way of enacting would give us the freedom to go ahead with our strategic requirements. The other point is that there need not and should not be any subject of external control.

Sir, in regard to supply of nuclear fuel I understand that once we have entered into this agreement the other countries would be free to sell to us nuclear fuels like Uranium. But there have been statements made in the Congress in the course of the debate that there would be restrictions on other countries in selling nuclear fuel. I would like to know if this apprehension of ours is real or not. Probably, the hon. Prime Minister will be able to enlighten us on this point.

Sir, just now my friend was mentioning about very advanced research that we have been conducting in the field of nuclear energy development out of Thorium. There is an apprehension that we may lose out on the advantage of achievement of such nuclear energy development out of Thorium. I hope, the hon. Prime Minister would like to clear this point to us.

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude now. This is just the warning bell.

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN: Sir, this is my last point.

MR. SPEAKER: In the nuclear age we should be very time bound.

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN: Sir, I am trying to co-operate with the Chair.

Sir, we are dealing with a country like the United States, a country which has a very tricky approach to other nations. It has not only an unreliable past, but also an unreliable present. They try to twist arms of her friends. We expressed our doubts last year also when we had a discussion on the subject of voting on Iran. We were forced to vote on the question of Iran in the IAEA. I would like to know if we would tolerate such kind of arms twisting, or we would take a more independent policy in this so called uni-polar world about which there have been so much of a talk all around.

Sir, the hon. Prime Minister is visiting Havana to attend the Non-aligned Summit. Now, if the Non-aligned countries could be persuaded to rally behind India and they could all take a firm stand on following an independent foreign policy, a policy free of imperialist machinations, then that would serve as one of the guarantees and India, in turn, would also find many friends who would support the cause of India in the world. I hope, the hon. Prime Minister will take a firm stand and take this country forward in the path of Non-alignment.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Vijayendra Pal Singh.

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH: Sir, before I start, I would like to know the time allotted for me so that I can frame my points accordingly.

MR. SPEAKER: It is eleven minutes.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH: Sir, I stand to speak on a very important issue in the Indo-US nuclear deal of 18th July which is going to be having a very long ranging effect in India not only on the energy sector but also in various other aspects, most importantly on India's vital national security interest which is of immense importance and prime concern to us.

Sir, let me very categorically say that we do have a grave situation of power in this country. People have been talking about the mix. I agree to the way it has been done in the sense that we are depending more on the thermal. We have very little hydel although there is a potential of 80,000 megawatts. But it is an area where the gestation for hydel power plant has been very long. We agree to that. We have lignite in a very limited area and we have not been able to really exploit it. It should be exploited but nuclear is very important. I have been the Convenor of the Standing Committee on Power on nuclear and we have been working on this. We have also thought as to why is that the gestation in the nuclear power projects have been so long? They take 10 to 12 years. We also said that, leaving aside the critical, why do not we privatise it and bring down the gestation period? We have been doing well. It is nothing new that nuclear is a new idea but we have not gone a long way in it.

Let me also put it on record that during the Vajpayee Government, it was Shri Vajpayee who went to Russia and it was he who finalised the Koodangulam Project and so far, the nuclear power plants used to be of only 220 megawatts. For the first time, it was negotiated to 1000 megawatts energy and you are all aware of it.

Let me also put it on record that we are not against nuclear in any way. What we are worried is what the deal is all about. We all have a lot of respect for you, hon. Prime Minister. You are an eminent economist. But I do not know if you are going to fall us in the deal because you are not a diplomat. You have quoted Machiavellian. ...*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: These are irrelevant.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: By these interruptions, you are giving importance to it. I have already deleted it.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Personal reference should not be there. You can say that she is an hon. Member of Parliament. That is enough for us. Please sit down. She does not need your help.

...(Interruptions)

*Not recorded.

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH: We have Chanakya. You might have quoted Chanakya. We have Bismarck. Chanakya has been the greatest diplomat and Bismarck has been the greatest diplomat. I do not know why you have to really get down to Machiavellian. Everybody knows what machiavellian was all about, an unscrupulous guy. And that is what you are trying to quote. That is why, we have a lot of concern on this issue. As I have already said, our Party is not against the nuclear deal as such. But our concerns are primarily about the national security interest.

Let me put it on record that I want to salute all our scientists, Dr. Homi Baba, Dr. Vikram Sarabhai, Dr. Sethna, Dr. Raja Ramanna, etc., who have taken our three-stage nuclear programme ahead. What worries us today? This three-stage nuclear programme that we have developed is a unique programme in the sense that no other country has, in the third stage, thorium. Large quantity of thorium is available in India. It is to the extent that world's forty per cent of thorium sources is in India. If you can inject thorium in the third stage we will have an indigenous nuclear fuel.

If that programme is aborted by this deal, then we are going to be in real trouble because America wants to sell their own products and their reactors which have been spelt out earlier. They are hard bargainers. We just want to say: "Please be cautious." It has been happening all over, for very many years. They have done wrongs to a lot of countries. A lot of countries have complained about the way they have their deals. Even in the WTO, as you are well aware, they wanted to arm twist their way in the markets. Why is it that America signed this?

If you go into the details of it, one reason is economics, like selling reactors, and the other reason is to put us in the inspections of IAEA so that they can do their hound nosing on all our nuclear plants. Is that the reason that they have done it? They are not concerned about India having a nuclear power of 30,000 megawatts, etc. They are not interested in that. If you go into the details of it you will find that this whole deal is one-sided. That is what we are wanting to caution you about. Any deal should always be a two-way street. We feel that this has a tilt towards Americans. That is what our worry is.

Let me also talk about separation that the hon. Minister was talking about. Why is it that the CIRUS Reactor has been kept under the inspections? That is a

question that you must answer. Is there any moratorium on the production of fissile material? Have any negotiations been done on the FMCT? What is our present status on the FMCT? What is our status going to be compared to the nations which are signatories of the NPT? Will there be a discrimination of any kind from them? Or will we be at par with them? Subsequently, will the IAEA have a protocol of inspections different from the NPT? Or will it be the same? Will the American inspectors, along with the IAEA, go sniping around, as I had said earlier, all our nuclear facilities?

Fourthly, if there is a shifting of goals which has been much talked about after the reconciliation, what the hon. Minister was talking about in both the Houses—in the Senate and the Congress—what is the stand the hon. Prime Minister is going to take?

Sir, let me remind you here that the League of Nations which was promoted by one of their Presidents was thrown out by the reconciliation of both Houses. If a situation of that kind happens where are we going to land up?

Lastly, if we go down the memory lane, do you recall Tarapur and our other plants? The fuel was stopped because of some reason or the other. They are going to find some reason or the other to really stop the fuel after we having paid for all the reactors and millions and millions of dollars. If that is the situation and we do not get the uranium and we do not get on the thorium which is locally available to us, what are we going to land up with?

Sir, these are my queries.

MR. SPEAKER: I am extremely thankful to you for your cooperation.

THE PRIME MINISTER (DR. MANMOHAN SINGH): Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I listened to the debate, I felt being proud to be an Indian. This debate has clearly shown that when it comes to safeguarding India's supreme national interests, there are no party differences. There are concerns, there can be worries, but the nation will speak with one voice in defence of its interests and that is the message that comes out loud and clear. Let me say that I take pride in that. But I also recognise that it casts on me a great responsibility that I should be worthy of this trust that the House has displayed in the motivation behind this deal.

[Dr. Manmohan Singh]

Sir, I will take some time to spell out the big picture as I see it where India is in the world and where we ought to be moving and how we are going to move in that direction. I do recognise that we live in a world of unequal powers and those who are strong have always a tendency to twist the arms of others.

Sir, I recall that as a young boy, I once heard Man Singh who along with Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose was the founder of the INA. In a speech he said in Punjabi: *Duniya Mardi Zoran Noon-Lakh Laanat Kamzoran Noon-*. The world worships the mighty and the powerful; the weak and feeble are always at the receiving end.

I do recognise that we can realise our destiny only by working hard, to become a major people of the evolving global economy. It is only then that India will acquire that respect, that credibility and that power which is our legitimate goal. After all, we are a country with great civilisational heritage, a country of one billion people with a freedom struggle which should be the envy of every country in the world. But all these wishes can be realised only if India emerges economically as a strong nation.

Today, there is a change in the mood of the world towards India. After the experiences of the last 50 to 60 years, the world today marvels that there is a country like India, a country of one billion people, a country in which you can find all great religions represented in its population mix, a country committed to the rule of law, a country committed to respect for all fundamental human freedoms. The world recognises today that there is no country in the world of India's size, of India's diversity, of India's complexity seeking to social and economic salvation in the framework of an open society and an open economy. That is why there is such great interest.

Whenever a country emerges, those who are in power get worried. But whether you like it or not, I sense today a willingness in the rest of the world to help India to realise its inherent potential because in India's civilisational heritages, our people have never gone to other countries as conquerors. They have gone as traders, they have gone as preachers, they have gone as men and women of goodwill and the world respects us for that. That is what India is about. That is what Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru said on the eve of Independence when he said: "Our dreams are for India but they are not for India alone. They are dreams for the oppressed world as a whole." So, Sir, I would respectfully urge this august

House to recognise the changed mood of the world towards India. This is not to say that power politics is a thing of the past; that there will never be any attempt to twist our arms. We will protect ourselves to ensure against the risks that are there. But it would be wrong for us not to take advantage of the opportunities that are now on the horizon. I sincerely believe that it is in the interest of our country to have good relations with all the major powers. I make no apology that we seek good relations with the United States. The United States is a pre-eminent power. But, for that matter, in the last two years that I have been the Prime Minister, we have made big efforts to come closer to Russia, to come closer to the European Union, to come closer to China, to come closer to the Arab world.

We had the privilege of welcoming His Majesty the King of Saudi Arabia as our honoured guest on Republic Day. When he went back, what did he say to me? He said: "Mr. Prime Minister, the world talks about energy shortage. As long as Saudi Arabia is there, you can take it that we will take care of your energy requirements." So, this may be a unipolar world. But we have operated in a manner which strengthen our linkages with all the big powers, with all our neighbours. We are seeking a new set of relationship with the Asian countries. Let me say that I also consider it our obligation to work hard to normalise, to expand and develop our relations with our neighbours including Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Bangladesh. We will remain committed to that. That is our civilisational heritage. That is the meaning of our freedom struggle as I understand.

The second thing that I do wish to say is this. I was born in a village where there was no electricity. I never saw any electricity until I went to study in the neighbouring tehsil headquarters. Our women in rural homes use wood. They spoil their eye-sight in the process. Development will remain a mirage for millions and millions of our people unless we change that picture.

In the old days, whenever one went to the old Soviet Union, it used to be written boldly everywhere that socialism is Soviets plus electricity. The Soviets may have disappeared, but the role of electricity in modernisation and in expansion of economic and social opportunities for the people is a reality and, therefore, if India's struggle for its economic and social development is to succeed, we need ever-increasing amounts of energy.

There are two types of things which are at work today which determine the demand for energy in our country. First is the normal growth process. As growth takes place, commercial energy demand increases roughly at the same rate, if not more than the rate of growth of national income. But in our country, there is the other revolution and that is the modernisation of our rural economy and the replacement of non-commercial energy, like firewood and other non-commercial sources of energy, by commercial energy. So, history tells us that in the process of development, if our economy is to grow at the rate of 8 to 10 per cent, our demand for commercial energy will probably increase at the minimum at the same rate or probably even more.

Sir, questions have been raised whether we need nuclear power. I think Shri Suresh Prabhu knows this area as nobody else does. There have been important studies. I am not claiming that nuclear energy is the only way out for meeting the demand for energy in our country. We have important reserves of coal, we must exploit them. But as I look at the demand for energy, our coal reserves would be exhausted in about 45 years. We have sizeable amount of hydel resources, but they are in distant areas and we all know the type of problems that arise when you make use of hydro potential like resettlement cost, relief operation and also, I think, the costs associated with the risks arising out of being in unsafe seismic zones.

We, now, know, at least, that there is an uncertain future for hydrocarbons. There is uncertainty about supplies, there is uncertainty about prices. The price of oil has increased from less than \$ 30 per barrel two years ago to \$ 75 per barrel and there are very many people who tell me that, probably in a very short period of time, it will increase to \$ 100 per barrel. We are short of hydrocarbons. We consume about 110 million tonnes of oil. We produce only 30 million tonnes. We have not increased our oil production in the last 10-15 years. In this environment, if India's development is not to be frustrated by the shortage of energy, I think, it is incumbent on any Government to think of widening its options with regard to the supply of energy. All that I am saying as to why we need a nuclear deal is that we must ensure that the development of our economy will not be hampered by lack of adequate commercial energy. I am, therefore, seeking to enlarge the energy options that are available to our country. We must utilise those options even if what I am saying about the future of hydrocarbons does not materialise. But it would be imprudent on the part of the Government not to make

use of opportunities to widen development options, to widen the energy options. This is the reason why we through it is necessary to look around if this ambition of ours can be satisfied.

We are short of uranium. Our uranium is also relatively high cost compared to the cost of production in the rest of the world. The available estimates as of now are that we have uranium only for the production of nuclear energy equal to 10,000 MW and that too for a period of only 30 years. I believe, we must take a long-term view of our future possibilities.

If that is the picture, if there are international trading opportunities to increase the availability of uranium for us, if there are opportunities through international trade to promote a mutually beneficial exchange of technologies, that will help India's ambitions to emerge as a major pole of the evolving global economy we should exploit these opportunities. That is the vision which inspires us to look for opportunities, to remove this nuclear apartheid regime which has stifled the growth of India's nuclear power for the last three decades or more.

Mr. Speaker Sir, hon. Gen. Khanduri quoted to me what I had said in the other House that India's nuclear programme began with emphasis on nuclear energy, and that Defence came later. That, I believe, is a correct statement. If you read Panditji's statements, if you read Dr. Bhaba's statement, I think, our emphasis, by and large, has always been on peaceful uses of atomic energy. That is the reason why as early as 1960, India championed the cause of a comprehensive test ban in United Nations For a. We remain committed to the vision of Rajiv Gandhi for a nuclear free world.

It must be said of the vision of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, of Indira Gandhi, of Rajiv Gandhi that they were idealists, but they also recognised that we live in a very uncertain world. We do not control our environment and who can today say that they were not wise men and women. In the uncertain world that we live in, in a world of unequal power, the nuclear weapons are a reality. This country must keep its strategic option and that is why India's programme for strategic assets, nuclear assets was a precious heritage which came to this country, thanks to the efforts of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi.

You have my assurance, Sir, that we will do nothing to hurt this national heritage as long we will work steadfastly for universal, nuclear disarmament. But until,

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I know that the day is not going to come tomorrow, day after but hopefully some day it will materialise. But until then we cannot give up this strategic option. I assure you and through you, Sir, the House and the country that there is nothing in this nuclear deal which will hurt the strategic autonomy that this country must have with regard to the management of its nuclear weapons programme.

Sir, a number of issues have been raised and I do not think, it would be proper for me to go one by one, the ground which I covered in the other House, but some broad concerns, which have figured in the debate here, I will take them on board. The first one is the autonomy of our foreign policy. I wish to assure you, Sir—as I said a few moments ago—that this nuclear deal is not a device to be a subservient to any country whether it is United States or any other country. We have a proud heritage, a heritage from our freedom struggle. Mahatma Gandhi said once: "I want to build in this country a house open on all four sides so that winds of change may blow in from each and every direction. But, I refuse to be blown off my feet by any one influence. I must have the courage and the ability to stand on my own feet." That is the motivation, that is the inspiration for our foreign policy.

Reference has been made to a particular vote on Iran. We have civilizational ties and links with Iran as we have with the Arab world. We will work hard to strengthen those civilizational and cultural links, give them a new orientation, strengthen our economic links. And the gas pipeline project is a part of that process. We will work to make it a reality. But, that particular vote was in the context of one particular thing that we had to determine, and that is—the international community asked this question—Iran is a signatory to the NPT. Therefore, our view is that it must enjoy all the rights it has as a member of the NPT; it must also honour all the obligations that go with the members of NPT, nothing more and nothing less. Fortunately, things have moved in this direction. Right from the beginning, whether it is in the International Atomic Energy Agency or in the United Nations, we have consistently taken a view that this is not a matter to be resolved by coercive methods; debate, dialogue and discussion is the answer. I am glad, for example that things are moving in that direction. The Iranian Government, for example, have responded constructively to various proposals made by the P-5. And I sincerely hope that this will promote a constructive dialogue among all the interested parties. The problems relating to Iran's

nuclear programme can be resolved without exercise of coercive elements which we do not approve of.

Further, Sir, our record in the last two years is an open record. We have made efforts to promote good relations with China. I am very happy that last year Premier Wen came here; this year we are hoping to welcome the President of China, President Hu Jintao. The Prime Minister of Japan, Mr. Koizumi came here last year. Russian President Putin came here. Our relations with Russia, our relations with China, our relations with Japan, our relations with the European Union, and with ASEAN countries have taken a turn for the better. So, the House has my assurance that independence of our foreign policy and making it subservient only to our national interest will be ensured by us.

A number of questions have been raised with regard to our fast breeder programme. The House has my assurance that the proto type fast breeder programme, that is under way now, will be totally kept out of the purview of any surveillance by any agency.

If, in future, our programme develops and if we produce civilian fast breeders, we will then decide whether to designate them as civilian or military. So long as they are military, there is no question of putting them under any safeguard. So, I give my assurance that nothing will be done to impinge on the autonomy of the fast breeder programme.

A reference has been made about the three-stage nuclear fuel cycle, whether we have given any commitment or is there anything in this deal which will hurt the growth of thorium as a fuel of the future. There is nothing of that sort contemplated. I do not know where this idea came from. I saw this in *The Hindu* yesterday but as far as I know, there is nothing in this deal which says that we will give up the three-tier fuel cycle. The programme to pursue research in thorium-related technology will not be compromised.

Sir, Gen. Khanduri has asked me about the veracity of certain statements made by one particular American diplomat. I am sorry, I am not able to comment on what he said or what he did not say. He did not confide in me before he went on the television channel. Therefore, I am not able to enlighten as to what did this particular gentleman mean. But I can assure you, I believe if we stick by the July 18th Statement, we have got a very

good deal, a deal which I have been told was the ambition of the previous Government to negotiate but which they were not able to negotiate.

The question is, what is our status? Are we going to be regarded as a nuclear weapons State? Let me be very clear. A nuclear weapons State has a particular connotation. Since NPT cannot be negotiated until the whole Treaty can be re-negotiated, I think, it will be wrong on my part to say that we have been given the status of nuclear weapons State, and that fact was reflected in the July 18th Statement. It does not talk of India as a nuclear weapons State. It talks of India as a country with advanced nuclear technology, which should enjoy all the rights and obligations which countries similarly placed enjoy. It will be so because the safeguards agreement that we will sign with the International Atomic Energy Agency will not be the safeguards agreement signed by all other non nuclear weapons States. It will be a safeguards agreement unique to India because India's position is unique. We do not fall into the category of non-nuclear weapons State. The July 18th Statement recognizes clearly and unambiguously that India has a strategic programme, India has a military programme, and that programme is totally out of the preview of any international inspections of any kind.

Sir, questions have been raised. Please forgive me, Sir. I am just searching the relevant papers.

19.00 hrs.

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH: Are you justifying the reconciliation? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It does not matter.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: He can do that. But he is trying to find out a paper; and he can do. Kindly show this much of courtesy.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH: Can you explain about the July 18 Accord as to what is going to happen? ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Sir, a question was asked about the position on moratorium on production of fissile

material and what we have agreed to. We have not agreed to any moratorium on the production of fissile material. All that we have agreed to is the same thing, which the previous Government had agreed to, that we will work towards a multilaterally negotiated and internationally verifiable treaty in this regard. Until that, there is no question of accepting any limit on the production of fissile material.

Sir, a question had been raised about the separation and how costly it will be. Some figures had been mentioned by some hon. Members stating 40 billion dollars as the cost of separation. I do not know where this cost estimate originates. Doubts had also been raised about our accepting the separation of civil and military and nuclear facilities since Nuclear Weapon States do not accept such separation and retain the right to withdraw safeguards from their nuclear facilities. In our case, the July 2005 Statement acknowledges that India should be regarded as a State with advanced nuclear technology enjoying the same benefits and advantages as other States with nuclear technology, such as the United States. The July Statement did not refer to India as a Nuclear Weapon State as this has a particular connotation in the NPT. The July Statement, however, explicitly acknowledges the existence of India's military nuclear facility. This meant that India would not attract full scope safeguard such as those that apply to the Non-Nuclear Weapon States that are signatories to the NPT, and there would be no curb on continuation of India's nuclear weapon related activities.

In these important respects, India would be very much on par with the five Nuclear Weapon States, who are signatories to the NPT. The Separation Plan provides for India Specific Safeguards Agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency, with assurances of uninterrupted supply of fuels to reactors together with India's right to take corrective measures, in the event fuel supplies are interrupted. There is no question of separate agreement in this regard with the United States.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: Sir, what about the cost of separation?

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: I would come to it.

Sir, as far as I know, we have taken all precautions in working out the Separation Plan. Whatever costs are there, they are within the realm of practical economics and political calculations. This 40 billion dollar figure, I

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think, is totally misleading. I do not know what is the basis of that.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: What is the exact calculation?

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Well, I cannot divulge this, I think, at this stage. But there are no unacceptable additional financial burdens, which are being placed on our nuclear programme as a result of dividing our programmes between a civilian and a military programme. I do believe that it is a good thing for our country for the future growth of both our civilian programme and our military programme, that this wall should exist. We have, for example, DRDO, which deals with the missile programme.

We have the Space Department which deals with peaceful uses of space technology, and I do believe it has created greater cost consciousness. It has created greater sense of accountability and the same will apply as a result of the two programmes being kept separate. I am satisfied insofar as I have been told that the financial costs of the operations are not, I think, anywhere near the figures which are being quoted.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: It is 40 million. What is the estimate? ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: As of now, this is something which can be taken care of by the normal programmes of the Department of Atomic Energy. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: What is the estimate? This is something which is very important. He is making a statement...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): Did Mr. Jaswant Singh take it up with Strobe Talbot? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No, forget about that. Mr. Malhotra, you have raised a question. The hon. Prime Minister said, we shall be able to provide for that.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: All these details cannot be discussed.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You are entitled to.

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Questions had been raised about the CIRUS and APSARA reactors. This has been raised in both the Houses. I think Shri Yaswant Sinha raised it in the other House as to why the CIRUS experimental reactor and the Fuel Core of the APSARA have been included in the Separation Plan and whether this will not result in a decline in the fissile material availability for our strategic programme. That is the question. In my statement on March 7, 2006, I had explained the rationale why India had agreed to those provisions in the Separation Plan. The CIRUS reactor will be permanently shut down in 2010. The Fuel Core of APSARA was purchased from France and we have indicated our willingness to shift it from the present location and make it available for placing under safeguards in 2010. CIRUS and APSARA are located in the Bhabha Atomic Energy Centre and we do not want Bhabha Atomic Energy Centre to be subject to any of these safeguards. That is the reason.

Therefore, we have decided to take these steps rather than allow intrusive inspections of nuclear facilities of high national security importance. I would like to assure the hon. Members that these steps do not impact at all on the needs of our strategic programme nor will they hinder on going research and development. If and when required, we have the full freedom to build new facilities to cater to our national requirements.

Questions have also been raised about the detonation of nuclear tests in the future. Sir, we have made it quite clear to the United States that India is not willing to give any commitment about the future tests. All that we are willing to state—and that is the position which was also stated by the previous Government—is 'unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests.'

Now the question arises, what happens if our national security considerations require us to have it? Who can contemplate all the possibilities in the future? I think in that case, we will, of course, have the sovereign right to take whatever measures we can to protect our interests. But I cannot accept. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Very well, it is afterwards.

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: So, I have stated the position. We are not willing to have it in the Treaty or the Agreement that we will sign. We are not in favour of

having a bilateral CTBT. I think that position has been unambiguously made clear to the United States.

About the American inspectors, I have explained that all that we will sign with the International Atomic Energy Agency is an India-specific safeguards agreement and there is no question of American inspectors roaming about our nuclear facilities.

On shifting of goalposts, I stated in the other House that no legislature of a foreign country can bind our country. The sole consideration for us will be our own perceptions of our national interest. But, by the same logic, I cannot prevent the US Congress in its deliberations. Now, if the outcome of these deliberations is a piece of legislation which introduces some extraneous element not envisaged in the July 18 statement, not envisaged in the March separation plan statement, then, of course, we will draw appropriate conclusions. But, I sincerely hope that that stage will not come. I have personally conveyed all our concerns, the concerns which I mentioned in detail in the other House. I could go on explaining them. But, I think that will take unduly long time. All these concerns have been raised with the United States Government both at the official level and at my level. President Bush has assured me that it is not his intention to change the goalposts which were agreed to in the Joint Statement of July 18.

The Congressional process is still not complete. I cannot predict which way it will go. But if it goes in the direction in which it hurts us or which introduces extraneous considerations into this matter, we will draw the appropriate conclusion. The House can be rest assured that we will do nothing which will compromise the integrity of our strategic programme. There is no scope for capping of our strategic programme. The decision about the future of our strategic programme will be determined by the people, by the Government, by this Parliament and no outside power will have any influence in this regard.

I believe, Sir, I have covered most of the points. With these words I once again thank the hon. Members. I think this debate has been characterised by a common assertion of national will. I thank all the hon. Members. I thank Khanduriji because when Members of his Party spoke in the other House they said that they disown even the July 18 Statement. But when I heard hon. Members on the other side today, I was encouraged to believe that it is still not too late to work for a broad

national consensus. I will work in that direction. It is very important that the whole country should speak with one voice when it comes to a matter as important as is sought to be covered by the nuclear deal. ...(*Interruptions*)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Sir, with all the assurances that the hon. Prime Minister has given to this House and to the country, does he think that the deal will go through and if it does not go through what happens? ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: He has said that if any legislation is passed which is not acceptable, it will not go through. He has said that.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, he has said that it will not be acceptable. Then what will happen to the deal? We ask this question. ...(*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): When it happens, then we will consider it. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam): Sir, after the negotiations between the hon. Prime Minister and President George Bush, if the US Congress has modified our Agreement and tomorrow if they pass that draft law as it is, then it will be violation of our 18th July Agreement.

MR. SPEAKER: He has said that.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: To scrap those conditions in future will be a big problem for India. If that situation arises, what will be the stand of India? ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: He has thrice touched upon that point. You have not listened to it carefully.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH: Sir, we have been satisfied to a greater extent. But the only question that is not answered by the hon. Prime Minister is this.

MR. SPEAKER: Not Machiavellian.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH: It is about the inter-changeability of our military plans and the nuclear atomic plants and the nuclear civilian plants. Can there be a shift because if we are at par with the countries which have signed NPT, as you had mentioned, those countries have that right to change? Is that a possibility here? Or, have you thought about the inter-changeability? ...*(Interruptions)* We are also supporting this in many ways. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: It is quite right. ...*(Interruptions)* I am not an expert in nuclear matters. I think, there is a question mark about inter-changeability because we do not have the status of a nuclear weapons State, but there is other feature that we are free to build new reactors and new facilities. It is our prerogative whether we want to call them civilian or military. So, India's options are not being limited.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, now there are two other discussions under Rule 193 and also a Bill.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Let us take Special Mentions. That is the sweetest subject! Shri Gaurishanker Chaturbhuj Bisen—not present.

SHRI LONAPPAN NAMBADAN (Mukundapuram): Sir, I rise to bring to the notice of the House the situation arising out of the problems being faced by the people of coastal Kerala.

19.17 hrs.

[SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN in the Chair]

People in a number of districts in the State are facing the fury of the waves during the monsoon season year after year. The only defence against the rising sea waves during the high tides in the monsoon months are the artificial stonewalls constructed along the affected villages facing the sea and seashores. The most affected coastal talukas in Thrissur district are Chavakkad and Kodungalore. Since the people living in the villages along the coastal areas in Kerala are undergoing untold miseries due to the fury of the high tides, especially during the monsoon period every year, I would request the Central Government to kindly take all necessary steps to sanctioned the amount required to build the stonewalls along the affected areas on a war-footing urgency.

I would also request the Central Government to sanction the required amount for the Ponnani-Kochi canal development for which a request was submitted to the Twelfth Central Finance Commission. Thank you.

DR. K.S. MANOJ (Alleppey): Sir, I also associate with him.

SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA (Mavelikara): Sir, I also associate.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA (Hamirpur, U.P.): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Government towards an important subject. The Government policy envisages opening of two Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas in each district but this scheme has not been implemented properly so far. There are many districts which have 3 to 5 Kendriya Vidyalayas whereas there are several other districts which do not have even a single Kendriya Vidyalaya. Even there is no Kendriya Vidyalaya in nearby districts of my parliamentary constituency like Mahoba, Hamirpur, Banda, Chitrakoot, Chhatarpur, Jalaun districts nor there is any possibility of opening of Kendriya Vidyalaya there in future. The Government is not making any efforts for it as a result of which the wards of the Central Government employees and other needy students have to face a lot of difficulties. Coupons are issued to the Members of Parliament for admission of two children in the Kendriya Vidyalayas under the discretionary quota which is insufficient. There is an urgent need to set up a Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas in Sumerpur town and a Kendriya Vidyalaya in Maudaha town in Hamirpur district and a Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya in Kulpahar of Mahoba district and a Kendriya Vidyalaya in Mahoba.

Sir, through you, I request the Central Government that at least two Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas and at least one Kendriya Vidyalaya should be opened in each district of the country by relaxing the Government rules and the number of coupons issued to Hon. Members should be increased to at least five coupons per member for admission in Kendriya Vidyalayas.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Shankhlal Majhi is allowed to associate with this matter.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA (Etawah): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I want to draw the attention of the Central Government towards the drought situation in Uttar Pradesh. The farmers sowed paddy and other monsoon crops in Uttar Pradesh and then farmers used fertilizers, diesel etc. for the purpose but when it did not rain, the farmers paddy crops got damaged. The farmers of Uttar Pradesh are a troubled lot today due to failing of the monsoon rain. Their entire crops have been damaged and they are facing all sorts of the problem. Sir, through you, I would like to say that when other states are being given special economic package, then why is there discrimination against Uttar Pradesh? Uttar Pradesh is the largest State of the country. Being the largest state, today the farmers they are looking forward to the Central Government. I, therefore, request that Uttar Pradesh should also be given special economic package. Today, the farmers of the state have been ruined as the state is reeling under the drought.

I, once again request the Central Government to give a special economic package to Uttar Pradesh keeping in view the drought situation prevailing there so that the farmers who are on the verge of starvation may get some relief.

SHRI TEK LAL MAHTO (Giridih): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through this House, I want to draw the attention of the Government towards a matter of urgent public importance. Iron ore is available in abundance in the state of Jharkhand and this is a driving force behind the attraction of many industrialists towards Jharkhand. The iron ore available there is largely being exported but the necessity of the country is forgotten in view of the probable expenditure on the trade. Consequently, the workers associated with this industry have been facing economic hardships despite hard work and the iron ore available there is being misused on large scale.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government, in view of the large scale export of iron ore to take this matter seriously and immediately impose a ban on the export of iron ore and priority should be given to the processing of the iron ore available in various parts of the country and distribution and sale of good quality of iron products.

SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD ALIAS SADHU YADAV (Gopalganj): Mr. Chairman, Sir television is such a

medium in India through which the information of world over reaches in every nook and corner of the world. This is a medium which entertains the common public within a limited fee. One can get knowledge of every subject including Science by sitting within the four walls of a room. The television industry is doing a commendable job.

But there has been some rapid changes in the sponsored programmes of the television industry in the last some years. For instance showing the incidents taking place in the society on the small screen by videotaping them is really amazing. Several T.V. channels are telecasting such incidents with a view to earning money by dramatising such incidents and those who have nothing to do with the crimes or are unaware of the world of crimes, are told as to how a crime could be committed and how evidences are destroyed after committing the crime. People get to know about all these things through these T.V. channels. Some channels are creating superstitions among people by showing programmes related to sorcery and people are getting attracted towards such programmes.

Sir, I request the Government, through you, to immediately ban the telecast of such sponsored programmes on television.

[English]

SHRI MANJUNATH KUNNUR (Dharwad South): Respected Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. HRD Minister that the Ministry has not released grants to the girls hostels in the country for the academic years 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 under the Centrally-Sponsored Scheme.

These institutions have been running girls hostels for over a decade. They have sought financial assistance under Centrally-sponsored Scheme for the years 2005-06 and 2006-07. In spite of repeated requests, no grant has been released to the institutions. It has come to my notice that the Government of India has issued a Circular asking these institutions not to submit their proposals for seeking grants. These institutions are afraid of seeking grants from the Ministry after the said Circular.

I am of the firm opinion that these institutions which are running girls hostels in the backward areas should be encouraged by the Centre. There is no other scheme under which these institutions could opt for the Central

assistance. There is no denying of the fact that without grants, these institutions are facing a lot of difficulties to run the girls hostels. Moreover, it is an on-going scheme.

Therefore, I humbly request that the Ministry of Human Resource Development should continue the scheme and also consider the proposal to release the grant for the years 2005-06 and 2006-07 to these institutions immediately in the larger interest of women folk, that is, girl students in rural areas. That is my request to the Ministry.

"SHRI M. SHIVANNA (Chamrajanagar): "Eye Donation is the best, best donation".

This august House is well aware of the fact that the beauty queen Aishwarya Rai has signed to donate her eyes. Recently veteran Kannada Actor Late Dr. Rajkumar donated his eyes. Now, thousands of persons are coming forward to donate their eyes in Bangalore. Narayana Eye Hospital in Bangalore has Rajkumar's Eye Bank. Sponsors and donors are showing keen interest to convince the people to donate their eyes after death such that other unfortunate blind people can see the world. In less than 3 months more than 1500 persons have taken oath in this regard.

Justice Chandrashekhar, Legislator B.C. Patil, Lokayakth Santosh Hegde, film personalities like Smt. B. Saroja Devi, Lokesh, Doodanna have all signed to donate their eyes. I am also declaring in this august House that I will donate my eyes to this Narayan Eye Hospital. President of Nandini Hotel Groups is also their in this eye donation movement. Those who taken oath to donate their eyes will get 10% concession in his hotel bills for life time.

Rotary Orchard has brought but "ROTARY EYE CARD" which contains names and other details of donor and sponsor. This card contain legal clearance also. Eyes can be collected from any part of the world. The picture telephone number in the card are very useful. I request the hon. Prime Minister and Health Minister Ramadoss to take steps and on coming encourage eye donation movement in all parts of the country as it is being done in Bangalore today.

[Translation]

DR. RAJESH MISHRA (Varanasi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I want to draw the attention of the

*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Kannada.

Government towards the religious city of the country Varanasi also known as Kashi and the religious capital of the country. The Government had declared Varanasi airport an international airport some years back. Approximately 25 neighbouring districts are connected with Varanasi and the people travelling by air to anywhere have to take their flights from Varanasi airport. The Government declared it an international airport as well as provided funds for the purpose but the pace of work is so slow that it can take unlimited time in its completion. The villagers were reluctant to spare their land for approach roads but a compromise deal was done with farmers and the land was made available. Now the approach road is ready but the work inside the airport has not yet started. I request the Central Government, through you, that the funds already released for the airport be utilized at the earliest for constructing inner parts of the airport.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there are some 20-25 neighbouring districts of eastern Uttar Pradesh from where persons of minority community go for *haj*. So in view of this a flight for the *haj* pilgrims should be provided. This will reduce their financial burden as well as make their journey convenient and comfortable by skipping Lucknow or Delhi to catch their flights. I put forth my demand before the hon. Minister of Civil Aviation to get the airport ready at the earliest so that the *haj* pilgrims can go for *haj* comfortably.

SHRI SHANKHLAL MAJHI (Akbarpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, education and health are two fundamental rights given by our Constitution. The Uttar Pradesh Government is providing education and health facilities despite having limited resources. Outstanding dues of farmers to the tune of rupees 1100 crore have been paid and roads constructed during the last eight and a half years. The Uttar Pradesh Government has set new records of constructing bridges and roads in the history of 58 years. During the last two years or 700 days, 350 pucca bridges have been constructed. The Uttar Pradesh Government is doing all this despite limited resources. I want to draw the attention of the House that even since induction of UPA Government at the centre, the Government is discriminating against Uttar Pradesh. Uttar Pradesh consists of one sixth of the population of the country but the funds allocated by the 12th Finance Commission have not been provided to the State as yet. Through you, I put forth my demand to the Central Government that the remaining funds be provided to Uttar Pradesh at the earliest.

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN (Sonepat): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have been giving notices to make my point for the last three days, thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak today.

I want to draw the attention of the House towards a very important issue. In the recent past, there was a great hue and cry in Rajya Sabha on the NCERT books. The same had happened some 4-5 years back also. I do not know what sort of officials in education department or the writers are there who are bent upon to divide the society through NCERT books. They insult the great people and divide the society in their name. Foul expressions are their. The ninth Sikh Guru Teg Bahadur and the tenth Sikh Guru Govind Singh ji had made supreme sacrifice for the nation, very derogatory expressions have been used even for them in various books of NCERT. Besides them, the great leaders like Lala Lajpat Rai, Arbindo, Vir Savarkar, Bal Gangadhar Tilak who are respected and worshiped by the whole country have been vilified. The term 'plunderers' has been used for the Jat community to which I belong. The words—"They were the plunderers" have been used and 'plunderer' means "looter".

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: if you continue speaking, others cannot speak. Please conclude.

...(*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN (Sonepat): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is very important issue. The entire country is agitated. Highly objectionable comments have been made about the Jat community whose hundreds of people have made sacrifices for securing the freedom of the country. Not a day passes when a youth belonging to Jat community does not make sacrifice for the sake of the country. The Jats fought the Britishers and the Muslims. History is witness to a number of Mughal emperors removed by them and also to those jawans who laid their life on the borders of the country. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI JAI PRAKASH (Hissar): This is a very important issue. The entire country is agitated. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN: The entire Jat community is agitated ever since this issue has been raised. These books refer to the Brahmins and Agrawals

also as meat eaters. They have not spared even the Lord Shiva and Durga Mata. Nor have they spared the dalit community—term "bhangi" has been used for Valmiki. "Chamar" word has been used for Ramdasi community people. Numerous derogatory words are there in these books. I want to ask as to what sort of education does the government want to impart to the children through these NCERT books. Arjun Singh ji is the Minister in charge of this department. He should fix the responsibility in regard to these lapses and give reply. Case of sedition should be initiated against the culprit. You can go through the current newspapers to know that the entire Jat community is agitated. The community which produces Foodgrains for the country and has given so many sacrifices has been insulted. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, please let him speak. This is very important issue. The entire country is agitated. ...(*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: We will stop it if you continue like this. You have to conclude your submission in two minutes. Otherwise, I will stop the discussion. It is called 'special mention'. It is meant to make a 'brief' submission. But you are making a speech.

...(*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have already given the notice three days back. Today my turn has come. The entire country is asking us why are we not speaking when such issue has cropped up against our society? ...(*Interruptions*) They are asking why we have elected you? We shall not tolerate the insult to our society. Our society has self-esteem. We have not bowed before anyone, we are the most patriot, honest and vocal people. Today such things are being written against our society. I would like to say through you that. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is an important issue agitating the entire country. ...(*Interruptions*)

[English]

SHRIMATI TEJASWINI SEERAMESH (Kanakapura): It is a very irresponsible act on the part of NCERT. How can they accuse the communities who have also made

contributions to the country? We support the issue raised by the hon. Member. We would like to associate with this matter. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Jai Prakash, Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat, Shri P.S. Gadhavi and Shri Ganesh Singh are allowed to associate with this issue.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN: I would like to say through you that Jat society is self-respecting society. Immediate action should be taken against those who have tried to hurl insult at our society, otherwise the situation may become explosive. I thank you as you gave me an opportunity to speak.

DR. KARAN SINGH YADAV (Alwar): I also associate with the issues raised by Sangwanji. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can also associate.

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Criminal cases should be filed against those people and they should be put behind the bars who wrote this book four years ago. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI TEJASWINI SEERAMESH: The community which has made so many sacrifices, how anyone can write such things against them? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN: All these things were omitted by the NDA Government but today such things have surfaced again. It smacks of some kind of conspiracy. ...*(Interruptions)* Today they have come again. It smacks of certain conspiracy. ...*(Interruptions)* Murl Manohar Joshi removed all these things. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Those Members, whose names I have just now listed, can only associate. Everyone cannot be allowed to speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI TEJASWINI SEERAMESH: Sir, the Government should take action and immediately punish those who are responsible. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing, except the speech of Shri Sunil Kumar Mahato, will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO (Jamshedpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, according to a news item published on 21 August and 22 August, 2006 in Hindi Newspaper Jansatta, hundreds of students have alleged of irregularities in the examination of UPSC. The students appearing in the exams have alleged that irregularities have been committed and a partiality shown in declaring the results. All students want to know the marks obtained in the examination and the cut off marks. The commission is playing with the future of hundreds of students as the irregularities being committed in the civil services examination which is putting the future of intelligent students in dark. The confidence of the students which the UPSC enjoy is now certainly waning and it is very unfortunate that such irregularities are being committed in the examination of civil services, it is not in the interest of the nation.

Sir, I through you, demand that an enquiry be conducted by constituting a committee to find out whether irregularities are being committed in the preliminary examination of UPSC so that justice be done to the intelligent students. Thank you.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): Sir, I have to make a clarification with regard to a matter raised by Shri Sangwan.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can do so after Shri Karan Singh Yadav's submission.

[Translation]

DR. KARAN SINGH YADAV: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the precious land of farmers have been acquired by the Government and Industrial houses in the name of industrialization and development. The largest cement

*Not recorded.

plant of Asia is being set up at Kotputali area which is adjacent to my constituency. The Grasim industry of Birla group has expressed its desire to acquire about two thousand Bigha land near Kotputali with the help of the Government. The villages of this area Mohanpura, Jodhpura, Kujota, Mahrumpura, Rajpur, Kanwarpura, Gowardhanpura are densely populated. There is plenty of water and the land of this area is fertile and villages are densely populated. The businessmen want to render them jobless and homeless under the pressure of Government. They want to set up factories by displacing the villages.

Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government that whenever big industry or factory are set up they should at least not be set up at fertile lands by rendering farmers homeless. They are not demanding land for factories at nearby areas which are barren and unfertile. The Government of Rajasthan is displacing farmers under the very nose of the Central Government under the pressure of Grasim industry of Birla Group. I would like, through you, to request the Government to pay attention towards this otherwise farmers will be rendered jobless and homeless.

[English]

SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE: Sir, on 18.8.2006, hon. Member Shri Sangwan made a reference to an assurance given by me long ago. I do not remember the exact date, but I think it was given several months ago. It was in respect of one-rank-one-pension and I had said that yes it was being done. I had said that a Group of Ministers was meeting and soon a decision would be taken. On 18th also I repeated the same and said with authority that it would be done. At the time, I had also said that since it involved a huge number of ex-Servicemen, it took time to process it.

Now I have got a corroborated reply from the Department of Ex-Servicemen, Ministry of Defence, and three or four lines from that reply would clarify the matter. It says that based on a computer programme, all the 61 Defence Pension Disbursing Officers under the Controller of Defence Accounts, Pension Disbursement, Miraj and CDA, Chennai have revised the pension in the month of July 2006, in 2,16,273 cases out of 3,27,077 affected cases. Each individual has to be looked individually because sometimes you cannot generalise as the cases are different. It is such a stupendous task that it involves 35,000 branches of the public sector banks. Therefore,

the matter is pending for a long time but it is about to be implemented.

[Translation]

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank hon. Minister for replying immediately. Along with this I would also like to remind that when this issue was raised that day, he said that the case was under process. At that time, I also asked as to how longer it will remain under process?

[English]

SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE: It is a matter of one or two months.

SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL (Vijayawada): Sir, I would just like to recall that during the Budget Speech, the Finance Minister had announced a Backward Area Development Fund and he has also allocated Rs. 5000 crore for this Fund. In the process of identifying the districts, I personally requested the Group of Ministers as also the Prime Minister that we need to adopt a different yardstick in identifying which district should get the money from this Fund. We also have National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme for which the Government has allotted Rs. 14,400 crore and 200 districts out of 600 districts have already been selected. Recently the Government has finalised the number of districts and 200 districts plus additional 50 districts got money from the Backward Area Development Fund also.

Coming to my constituency in Krishna District, there are a lot of districts which are partly prosperous and partly backward but none of these two Schemes addressed those districts. In Krishna District in which my Parliamentary Constituency, Vijayawada also falls, half of the district is prosperous which is a delta area and a lot of water is there and the other half is all up land and dry land area where people are living in poverty. Unfortunately, this Scheme has not been extended to them. Our request is that this Scheme should not be given on the district basis because large districts are there where four parliamentary constituencies are there. There are certain districts where four districts comprise of one parliamentary constituency. A village should be taken as a unit. They should identify which are the backward villages. If it is not done, at least, the revenue *mandal* should be taken as a unit. It is my request to the Government. Either it should take the revenue *mandal*

or a village should be taken as unit. Then definitely equitable justice will be done to all. Otherwise, this will create some sort of heart burning and hatred among the people of the same district.

Therefore, my request to the Government is that they should look at afresh. I would request the Government to at least rectify it and take a village as a unit.

MR. CHAIRMAN: For the information of the hon. Member, I may inform that the House will be adjourned at 8.00 p.m. There can be no extension. So, if you cooperate, within that time many Members can make their submissions. Otherwise, I am helpless.

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI (Dharwad North): Sir, recently the Government of India has initiated a scheme, namely, Jawaharalal Nehru Urban Renewal Mission. This was to improve the infrastructure in the urban areas. But unfortunately as far as Karnataka is concerned, only two cities, *i.e.*, Bangalore and Mysore have been included in this. Hubli Dharwad which comes in my constituency is the second largest city in Karnataka. It also falls in the Northern part of Karnataka which is a backward area. In this context, it has been allocated Rs. 50,000 crore for five years. This amount cannot be spent in five years. This apprehension has been expressed in some of the newspapers also.

In this context I would like to mention that spending a sum of Rs. 50,000 crore over a period of five years is a difficult task. So far, only 11 to 12 cities have been identified by the Central Government for this purpose. In this connection I would also like to bring to the kind notice of the Government that Hubli-Dharwad should be included in this project and Hubli-Dharwad is the second largest city in Karnataka in terms of population. But unfortunately successive Governments have neglected this city. It has the potential to open the doors for the development of entire northern Karnataka. The JNURM could be a great instrument for building the required infrastructure of this city. But unfortunately the Government has put this city in 'C' category. An aggressive mass agitation is going on because of this. Therefore, I would once again like to request the Government to include this city under the JNURM.

PROF. BASUDEB BARMAN (Mathurapur): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to a very harmful practice of open defecation by people while travelling by train and I would like to draw the attention

to an announcement made by the hon. Railway Minister during his Budget speech in 2004-05.

The hon. Railway Minister, in his Budget speech of 2004-05, *inter-alia*, stated as follows:

"Environment-friendly toilet system: As per policy announced by the Ministry of Rural Development, which envisages total sanitation by the year 2012 and elimination of open defecation all over the country, the Indian Railways have taken up a project development of an environment-friendly coach toilet discharge system, as a part of RSDO's Technology Mission in Railway Safety."

Sir, I would like to request the hon. Railway Minister to initiate immediate steps, if not already initiated, to implement the proposed toilet discharge system in order that this environment-deteriorating practice of open defecation is stopped once for all and as early as possible throughout the country. I believe that once implemented, the system would help our countrymen to improve their health and sanitation status to a great extent and we shall be a true civil society.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR DUBEY (Dhanbad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I through you, drawing the attention of the Government towards a news published on 20 and 21 August 2006 in an daily Indian Express, would like to inform you that a bungling of 1.25 lakh tonne coal is being committed daily at South Eastern Coalfield, a unit of Coal India by the officers of the company in collusion with and the Messrs Aryan Company. Messers Aryan company is the only company, in fact, which has monopolized the entire work of mines by acquiring the contract in the name of 14 EMS ex-serviceman, companies and the widows of ex-serviceman. This is being carried out in the form of losses, resorting to under weighing in the absence of webriees, under-recording in transportation, undergrading of coal, incorrect washery charge and incorrect transportation charge. The Central committee authorized by the hon. Supreme Court has also confirmed the said facts.

Hence, I demand from the Government to immediately stop the loss of crores of rupees being incurred by this company of public sector by conducting point-wise enquiry into the said facts.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You said that you are in a hurry to catch the train, but you have just read out from the text.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR DUBEY: Sir, it is a very important issue, if it will be taken lightly, how things will go. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Have you completed your speech?

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR DUBEY: Yes my speech is complete.

[English]

DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA (Inner Manipur): Sir, tourism can be developed to its fullest potential in the North-Eastern States of the country. The huge potential of tourism industry in the region need not be re-emphasised. These States do not have enough resource/revenue collection for their developmental infrastructure or otherwise. At the moment, we are assisted by the Union Government for everything. But we cannot continue requesting the Union Government for plan assistance for years to come. The Union Government should also try to explore the type of industries that will be suited in the region and develop them fully. Tourism industry is one such industry through which these States shall be able to earn a good amount of revenue to supplement any deficiency and meet their other demands.

However, in this era of liberalisation and globalisation and in this biggest democracy of the world, we still continue with a law in my State, Manipur in the form of Protected Area Permit or Restricted Area Permit which restricts the entry of foreigners in the State. Under this law, foreigners are not permitted to enter the State without a special permit issued by the Union Home Ministry, that too, for a very short duration. Such restrictions are not imposed in any part of the country. Therefore, such a law is discriminatory and undemocratic and it amounts to unequal treatment amongst the States of the Union.

Even after 60 years of Independence, the North-Eastern States are still treated in a very strange manner.

For this, we are not blaming anybody or, for that matter, any Government. But now it is high time for the Union Government to look into such small but sensitive issues. As a matter of fact, such restrictions and unequal treatment not only tend to alienate the people of the North-East but also seriously hinder the development of tourism in the region since foreign tourists are being discouraged to enter the region by such an infamous law.

Therefore, I very respectfully urge upon the Union Government, particularly the Ministry of Home Affairs, to stop this meaningless and discriminatory Restricted Area Permit System immediately.

SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR (Ottapalam): Sir, it is a matter of grave concern that the Government is introducing privatization in rural electrification projects in the State of Kerala by offering big turnkey projects on large scale. Thus the Government is encouraging private capital investments at the cost of small entrepreneurs and such projects are strongly opposed as anti-people. Hence, it should be stopped immediately and these projects should be distributed among small scale rural contractors so as to limit the cost overrun for the project.

Similarly, the franchise for collection of electricity bills should not be franchised as it will open doors for privatisation. The above move of the Government will help big contractors only and will affect small rural contractors and hence should be stopped immediately.

SHRIMATI ARCHANA NAYAK (Kendrapara): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the immediate need for declaration to set up a National Institute of Science in Orissa. Keeping in view the emerging trend of industrialisation and foreign investment in Orissa, the need for setting up of a National Institute of Science is of very much importance to create adequate technical professionals.

On 9th December, 2003, Shri Murli Manohar Joshi, the then hon. Minister of Human Resources Development had announced that the UGC would take steps to set up four National Institutes of Science at Bhubaneswar, Chennai, Pune and Allahabad. However, on 28th September, 2005, when the Prime Minister declared for setting up of Indian Institutes for Education and Research at Pune and Kolkata, the name of Orissa was missing.

Hon. Chief Minister of Orissa, Shri Naveen Patnaik took up the matter with the Prime Minister and the Minister of HRD on several occasions. Educationists, students and people of different walks of life have staged a number of protests for the immediate declaration to set up a National Institute of Science in Orissa. In December, 2005, a dharna was held at Jantar Mantar, New Delhi where hon. Members of Parliament of Orissa were present in support of demand.

20.00 hrs.

Members of Parliament have also raised the issue very strongly in both the Houses of Parliament. I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government on the need for setting up of a National Institute of Science in Orissa at the earliest.

SHRI BANSAGOPAL CHOUDHURY (Asansol): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Coal Ministry regarding payment of provident fund and pension to the coal workers. Thousands of workers in coal mines are not getting provident fund and pension due to the negligence of Coal Mines Provident Fund Office. Nearly 30,000 cases are pending in Region I and they have not yet been settled. Similarly, a large number of retired persons are not getting provident fund. Actually, racketeers are playing a big role in the coal fields. They, in collusion with the Coal Mines Provident Fund Office, are actually depriving the coal workers of their provident Fund. Proper records are not being maintained. The interests of the corrupt persons and those who are associated with the CMP Office are being served.

I would urge upon the Coal Ministry to inquire into the entire fact and to punish the corrupt persons who are actually cheating the coal workers.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is it the pleasure of the House to extend the time so that some more hon. Members can be accommodated?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to demand the Union Government to make the singing of 'Vande Mataram', the National Song, compulsory in all the educational institutions in the country. Vande Mataram, originally incorporated in the famous

novel 'Anand Math' written by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyaya, is the National Song of India. This song is going to complete 100 years of its composition on 7 September. The nation is proud of this song. This is our national symbol. To raise objections to singing such a patriotic and inspiring song which once became a clarion call for thousands of revolutionaries and freedom fighters is just akin to treason.

The National Song 'Vande Mataram' is synonymous with patriotism. Islam can never be against patriotism. It is far from the truth to say that the entire Muslim community opposes the singing of the National song. Had Vande Mataram been against the tenets of Islam or the Shariat then the great revolutionaries like Ashfaq Ullah etc. would not have laid down their lives to gain freedom for the country and nor would an internationally renowned artiste like A R Rahman have presented Vande Mataram as "Maa Tujhe Salaam". It is a matter of deep regret that the Indian Government has a wavering policy in this regard. In the centenary year of the song's composition, singing of Vande Mataram should be made compulsory in all the educational institutions in the country.

I conclude with these words.

[English]

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI (Kutch): Sir, I may be allowed to associate with what Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat mentioned. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri P.S. Gadhave, Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma and Shri Guharam Ajgalle are allowed to associate with what Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat mentioned just now.

SHRI SANTASRI CHATTERJEE (Serampore): Mr. Chairman, Sir, last week the hon. Prime Minister has invited all the leaders of Central Trade unions and discussed with them so many trade union issues, labour laws, etc. In the course of discussion, all the leaders of Central Trade unions drew the attention of the hon. Prime Minister to the immediate need to bring an amendment to the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965.

As you know, the existing Payment of Bonus Act, 1965, as amended from time to time, does not cover a large section of the workmen. In the absence of amendments to this Act, a good number of workmen, both in organised and unorganised sectors, are deprived

of their legitimate share of bonus. This Act is the result of protracted struggle of the working class of our country who had to face severe repression at the hands of their employers and the State machinery. Many had to lay down their lives. It is after the blood and toil of the working class that this Act came into force, on the basis of the Bonus Commission appointed by the Government of India.

Sir, festivals in different States are knocking at the door. The biggest festival of Bengal, Sarado Utsav is getting nearer. The Government of West Bengal has advised the employers to pay bonus within 12th September. But unless the Act is amended, I apprehend the workmen will be deprived of bonus as a ceiling with Rs. 3,500 basic plus DA will leave 90 per cent of the workmen beyond the coverage of Bonus Act.

Sir Parliament Session is going to conclude on Friday. ...(*Interruptions*) This is a national issue. I am sorry that I have been called at a late hour. I appeal to you to pass this to the Government so that they can seriously reconsider amending the Payment of Bonus Act. That will benefit large sections of the workers of our country.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (Kasargod): Sir, I would like to place before the Government the misuse of the domestic gas in Kerala as well as in other parts of the country.

Sir, it has appeared in the newspapers that the authorised agents are diverting this domestic cooking gas to the private persons especially the shopkeepers, vehicle owners and also the fast food shops. As a result, the ordinary people who have already booked the gas, are getting this gas after one month or two months.

Sir, they are getting huge profits because the Government is giving this gas at a subsidised rate. So, it is really a looting and it is against the interests of the common people. The Government has to give strict instructions to the State Government. There are a number of incidents in Kerala that these cooking gases are used by the private persons.

So, I would like to appeal the Government to take necessary action in the matter.

SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI (Badagara): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Ministry of Railways regarding the necessity of extension and renovation of

platforms of certain railway stations in between Shoranur and Mangalore.

As there is not sufficient length for the platforms of certain railway stations of Malabar area especially Pattambi, Kuttippuram, Thirur, Thanur, Parappanangadi, Koyilandy, Feroke, Thallassery, Kanjangad, the commuters especially the women, children and old-aged passengers, are experiencing much hardship for getting in and down.

Very often the position of the last two or three compartments of West coast mail and other Express trains and other trains with 21 or more than 21 bogies are outside the platform. Therefore, the length of the platforms should be extended so as to enable the passengers to get in and down. Since major portions of these platforms are devoid of roofing, passengers are having difficulties both in summer and rainy seasons.

Therefore, roofing of these platforms also should be done considering the difficulties of the commuters. Hence, I urge upon the Ministry of Railways to take immediate action for the renovation and extension of platforms at railway stations from Shoranur to Mangalore.

SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA (Mavelikara): Sir, I would like to invite the attention of the Ministry of Tourism.

The world famous Aranmula Boat Race being conducted every year as part of Onam Festival. The boat race is the major event celebrated by the people in the Central Kerala. People from 35 villages around Aranmula directly take part in this colourful and magnificent festival which attracts thousands of local people and good number of tourists from inside the country and abroad. Aranmula is a historical place and the artifact 'Aranmula Mirror' is world famous. This village has been selected as a Tourist Village by the UNDP.

The Aranmula Boat Race has a history of over 700 years. The festival first started in 13th Century AD. Aranmula has all the potential to be developed into a great tourist destination. Hence, the further development of the area and enhancement of facilities including construction of a Water Stadium at the site of the Boat Race is much required.

I, therefore, request the Government to extend financial assistance.

SHRI KIRIP CHALIHA (Guwahati): Sir, the Prime Minister had taken a bold initiative on the 14th of August by announcing suspension of army operations against the United Liberation Front of Assam, the ULFA. The move was all the more significant because, at that time, the entire country was on the tenterhooks with apprehension of another round of terrorist violence in the country. The move stunned everyone but many viewed this decision with cynicism and skepticism.

The ULFA has responded positively to the gesture of the Prime Minister. The Independence Day celebration in Assam also passed off peacefully. On the 18th of August, the ULFA has announced 'cessation of their operations' for the first time in the last 27 years giving rise to hope to the people of Assam that there may be a breakthrough or peace may come to Assam. At this hour, through you, Sir, I would like to appeal to all concerned to exercise restraint and strengthen the peace process in Assam.

Nobody wants Assam to continue as a killing field. Many lives had been lost. Many parents have lost their children. Many children have become orphans. Many households have been drowned with the sad cries of young widows. The vicious cycle of non-development, insurgency leading to further non-development must stop. The future generations of Assam must look with hope towards a new Assam in which they will have their rightful place in India.

There is one last point. The endless orgy of violence must stop and the dangerous dances of deaths must be replaced by the smiles of hope and aspirations of the younger generations.

SHRI B.K. HANDIQUÉ: Sir, I would associate myself with it.

DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA: Sir, I also want to associate with it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your name has been included.

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Sir, I would like to thank you very much for giving me this opportunity.

I would like to invite the attention of the hon. Minister of Culture regarding one of the very important issues in my constituency, the Kutch District, in Gujarat. In my constituency, there is one of the best archaeological site

known as Dholavira site. The archaeological site at Dholavira is one of the largest harappan civilization sites in the Indian Sub-Continent. It is a better site than the Mohenjo Daro in Pakistan. In this site, excavations by the Archaeological Survey of India from 1990 to 2004 have brought to light a unique settlement with magnificent architecture such as gates, water reservoirs, stadium, etc. Apart from the structures, the site has yielded a large quantity of antiquarian remains which reflect upon the social, economic and religious life of the Harappan people. The antiquarian remains recovered from the sites have been shifted to New Delhi Office of the ASI for writing a report. But, since a long time, they are not putting up the site there. So, my demand to the hon. Minister is this that Dholavira requires a Museum in which the antiquities recovered from the site should be exhibited at the site itself so that the visitors may get a complete understanding of the site as well as the civilisation.

I would, therefore, urge upon the hon. Minister of Culture that immediately this type of a Museum should be put up at the site itself. Thank you very much.

[Translation]

SHRI GUHARAM AJGALLE (Sarangarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, my subject pertains to the Ministry of Railways. Raigarh railway station in Chhattisgarh is important in many ways. It has large reserves of coal. There are steel plants in Monet and Jindal which are located near Raigarh. Large scale sponge iron industries are being run from here which are yielding large amount of revenues for the railways. In view of this situation, the foundation stone of a new railway terminal was laid by the then Minister of Railways, Shri Nitish Kumar ji on 14 September 1998. The construction work has not yet been started. Most of Chhattisgarh lacks rail linkages and only Raipur and Bilaspur are connected with major train routes. Had there been a rail terminal in Raigarh then definitely trains running from Delhi to Chhattisgarh would have started off from Raigarh and people in Chhattisgarh would have been benefited. Setting up of railway terminal at Raigarh would provide employment to the local people. The railway department is not able to run trains from Raigarh despite being willing to do so as there is a lack of maintenance facilities. Hence, it is my request to the Minister of Railways that priority may be accorded in the next budget for starting the work on the railway terminal for which foundation stone was laid by the previous Rail Minister.

SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK (Panaji): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Railway Ministry towards the fact that the demand for running a local train from Panvel via Dheva Junction to CST, that is Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminal in Mumbai in Maharashtra has been raised in Lok Sabha and on other platforms time and again. This scheme has been pending for long with the Rail Ministry. This local train would earn lakhs of rupees in revenue for the Railways and at the same time benefit the people of Konkan region, particularly South Konkan area like Dheeva and nearby areas. I would also like to make the point that the Rail Ministry and the government would not need to spend a single paisa for running these trains as the resources required for running the said trains are in place. Hence, keeping in view the problems being faced by the people in the Konkan region and the long pending demand for a local train, I request the government to issue the necessary directions to start the local train at the earliest.

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA (Jalaun): Sir, the Union Government has included my constituency, Jalaun district in Uttar Pradesh under the schemes being run under the Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana. Roads are being constructed in the district out of the funds being provided under Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana. The work being carried out is sub-standard. Names of some of 30-40 such roads are Nagpura link road, Khakal link road, Budehara link road, Kariavali link road, Barigava link road, Bevana link road, Urari-Kota link road, Kamtha link road, Jesari link road, construction of bridge from Jalaun Konch to Sikri Raja road, Konch Vasoop road, road from Sooni to Gitti etc. The construction of roads is not being done according to set standards. Funds have also been provided under Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana for construction of a bridge but this work has not been initiated either.

Besides this, funds allocated under the said Yojana to many other departments, be it the Electrical Department or the Irrigation Department, are being misappropriated instead of being put to proper use.

I would like to say, through you, that guidelines regarding construction of roads under the Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana should be put up on a board at the site of construction and the inauguration of the construction work should be done by a local MP, at the very least. I would like to demand that the Union Government depute a team to examine the malpractices being committed and the sub-standard material being used in the construction of

roads and to carry out the repair of roads which are in a bad condition.

SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL (Tonk): Mr. Chairman, Sir, construction of dam under Bisalpur Irrigation Project in Tonk district in Rajasthan has been completed a long time ago. The Irrigation Department of the Rajasthan Government has completed the construction of canals and tributaries in the project area but the irrigation capacity generated by construction of the said dam is not being put to optimum use. The reason for this is that the project proposals submitted to the Union Water Resources Ministry for construction of reservoirs and OFD works under centrally sponsored schemes have not been sanctioned despite the passage of a long period of time.

The Union Government has initiated work on merely three of the projects in Rajasthan under the Comand Area Development and Water Management Programme, namely (i) Indira Gandhi Canal, (ii) Chambal, and (iii) Siddhmukh canal projects. In view of this situation Bilaspur project should be included as the fourth project to make up the permissible number of projects. This would make it easy for the farmers to irrigate lakhs of hectares of land.

[English]

DR. K.S. MANOJ (Alleppey): Thank you Mr. Chairman, Sir. I would like to draw the attention of the Government to an important matter regarding unconstitutional discrimination faced by Dalit Christians on the basis of religion.

Sir, Christians of Scheduled Caste origin of India, that is, Dalit Christians, are Scheduled Castes who accepted the religious faith of Christianity. The Dalit Christians are in the most backward position socially, educationally, economically and culturally. But they are not provided with the constitutional protection as available with the Scheduled Castes. They are deprived of reservation privileges of the Scheduled Castes. This is a sheer discrimination.

Article 14 of Constitution ensures equality before the law and Article 15 prohibits discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth. Article 16 ensures equality of opportunity in the matter of public employment. Article 25 ensures freedom of conscience and free profession, practice and propagation of religion.

The Dalit Christians have been praying for their constitutional rights for the last 57 years. The Scheduled Castes converted to Sikhism and Buddhism were given the reservation privileges as per the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order 1950 and by further amendments in 1956 and 1990. The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) order 1950, as amended, is discriminatory and violative of article 14 and 15 of the Constitution. The social and economic disabilities of Scheduled Castes converted to Christianity continue to persist even after their conversions. Hence, the unconstitutional denial of benefits to Dalit Christians should be stopped and Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order 1950 should be amended accordingly.

20.23 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA
AND
BILL AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary General of Rajya Sabha:-

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2006 which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 21st August, 2006."

2. Sir, I lay on the Table the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2006, as passed by Rajya Sabha on the 21st August, 2006.

[Translation]

*SHRI S. MALLIKARJUNIAH (Tumkur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the flood situation is worsening day by day. States like Gujarat, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh are the worst affected. Amidst these flood havocs there are some areas which are reeling under severe drought situation. Tumkur

is one of such places which is very badly affected by drought. There is no drinking water. There is no fodder for cattle. People are leaving the constituency in search of jobs. Shira, Tumkur, Chikkanayakana Hally and their surrounding areas are severely hit by the recent drought as there is no rain for the last six months.

Centre has released Rs. 3750 crores for Maharashtra. It has also announced packages for some other states. But, so far it has not become clear about the package for Karnataka especially for the drought hit area of Tumkur. If the situation is allowed to continue like this the farmers will continue to suffer and the number of suicides among farmers will also increase.

The coconut trees and arecanut trees are falling one after another. Sowing of Ragi, the main crop of Tumkur has not taken place so far. This pathetic situation has resulted in reducing the production of all food grains like jowar, beans, maize etc.

None of the agriculturists in my constituency has any Crop Insurance. The State Government has taken note of this situation in Tumkur. But, unfortunately it has no funds. Hence they have requested the Centre to come forward and provide sufficient funds for relief measures. Therefore, Sir, through you I request the Hon. Prime Minister and the Hon. Agricultural Minister to allocate at least ten crores to tackle the drought situation in Tumkur constituency Karnataka. Sir, I thank you and with these words I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI A.V. BELLARMIN (Nagercoil): I would like to draw the attention of the Government, through you, to a matter of urgent public importance that is creating panic in the minds of the people of this country. The demand for banning the soft drinks manufactured and marketed by the Coca Cola and Pepsi Coal India is growing everyday from the public, particularly from the student population of India and the academicians. The pesticide residues found in the cola soft drinks are much more than the permissible limits and are deterrent to the health of the users. It is warned that these pesticides present in the soft drinks are slow poisoning agents, and they may prove fatal in the long run. The Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) has also established the findings. The judicial authorities have warned the Government to take cognizance of these fatal elements. Several State Governments have urged the Centre to take steps for

*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Kannada.

banning the sale of the drinks whereas some of the States have banned them partly or totally.

The Government should note the lost nerve of the cottage industry, and small-scale manufacturing units would be revived if the operations of the cola majors are totally banned. Manufacturing and marketing of soft drinks made up of the natural agrarian products like tender coconuts, honey and particular variety of juicy fruits can be encouraged and subsidised by the Government. This will help augmenting employment opportunities in the rural side as well as economic development of the country.

We should not be coerced by the rejoinders of the cola majors and counter affidavits filed in the judicial fora which speak loud of their hollow arguments that they are following the European formula in pesticide residues which itself is banned in Europe and is not permitted by our Government.

So, I urge upon the Government to totally ban these drinks and, in their place, encourage natural drinks.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA (Jammu): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak. I am the last to speak and I would like to draw the

attention of the government and particularly of the Transport Minister, through you, towards the terrible accident that took place in my constituency Jammu-Poonch in district Rajouri and Daral, in which 15 people lost their lives and 24 people were grievously injured. First of all, through you, I would like to express my sympathy and offer condolences to those people whose relatives have died and to those who have been injured. I request that their families should be given compensation. I would also like to request the transport Minister to widen the narrow road that runs between the 150 metre deep nullah and the hills in Daral and Rajouri with the assistance granted under CRF and PMGSY. Four months ago a similar incident had occurred in which 60 people had lost their lives. Such incidents have become a daily occurrence immediate action should be taken to put a stop to such incidents.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow, the 24th of August, 2006 at 11 a.m.

20.29 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the clock on Thursday, August 24, 2006/Bhadra 2, 1928 (Saka)

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