

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

## **(English Version)**

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



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# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## LOK SABHA

Tuesday, March 07, 2006/Phalgun 16, 1927 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Q. No. 222, Shri Hiten Barman.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam): Sir, there is large scale corruption in the Government of Andhra Pradesh in sanctioning irrigation projects. What has happened in the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly?...(Interruptions)

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

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: This is not the proper way.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is not to be recorded.

(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER: You are a responsible leader. I will allow you after the Question Hour. Do not record anything.

(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. I will allow you after the Question Hour.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Do not do that. It is no pleasure or credit to be unruly.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. If you do not listen to me, I will not allow you even after the Question Hour. Nothing is being recorded, Shri Yerranna. Why are you shouting?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Sir, I am requesting you...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am requesting you now to sit down. I will allow you at 12 Noon.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not disturb.

[Translation]

This has become a fashion.

...(Interruptions)

11.02 hrs.

## ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

### Multipurpose National Identity Cards (MNICs)

+

\*222. SHRI HITEN BARMAN:

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the areas in thirteen States/UTs which have been covered under the pilot project on Multipurpose National Identity Cards (MNICs) scheme initiated in April, 2003 alongwith the status of the project as on date;

(b) the basis for selecting these areas under the pilot project;

(c) the details of States/places contemplated to be covered by the scheme in the subsequent phase and its time-frame;

(d) whether any steps have been initiated to ensure that the MNICs are not issued to illegal migrants;



(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the work relating to preparation of National Register of citizens has been started by the Government; and

(g) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken for its computerisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (g) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Statement**

(a) The pilot project is under implementation in selected sub-districts of 12 States and one Union Territory viz. Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Delhi, Goa, Gujarat, Jammu and Kashmir, Rajasthan, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Pondicherry. The details of the areas selected for issue of Multipurpose National Identity Cards (MNICs) in these States/UT are given in the enclosed annexure.

The baseline survey of population involved including the integration of photographs and finger biometrics has

been completed. The task of verification of citizenship status has also been completed for 59 per cent of the population being covered under the project, excluding Assam. The physical infrastructure facilities and manpower required at each MNIC centre are in place.

(b) The areas for the pilot project were selected taking into account various factors such as proximity to the border, good birth and death registration system and the possibility of integration with the already existing data base etc.

(c) The Government propose to implement the scheme in the entire country after completing the pilot project and after having tested the feasibility of processes and technologies involved.

(d) and (e) The identity cards would be issued to the Indian citizens after determining citizenship of each individual enumerated in the pilot project.

(f) and (g) The preparation of National Register of Citizens would begin with the decision on the national roll-out of the pilot project.

#### **Annexure**

##### *Areas selected for the Pilot Project*

Sl. No.	State	District	Sub-districts
1	2	3	4
1.	Jammu and Kashmir	Kathua (All Tahsils)	Bilawar Hiranagar Basohli Kathua
2.	Gujarat	Kachchh	Lakhpat
3.	Uttaranchal	Pithoragarh	Pithoragarh Tahsil
4.	Rajasthan	Jaisalmer	Jaisalmer Tahsil
5.	Uttar Pradesh	Maharajganj	Nowtanva Tahsil
6.	Assam	Karimganj	Pathankardi Revenue Circle

1	2	3	4
7.	Andhra Pradesh	Medak	Narsarpur Hathnoora Jinnaram Kowdipalle Shiwampet
8.	West Bengal	Murshidabad	Murshidabad-Jiaganj CD Block Murshidabad MC
9.	Tripura	West Tripura	<b>Agartala East Tahsil</b> 1. (a) Agartala Sheet No. 13-24 Agartala West Tehsil 1. (b) Agartala Sheet No. 1-12 <b>Lankamura Tahsil</b> 1. Singerbil 2. Lankamura <b>Barjala Tahsil</b> 1. Ramnagar 2. Barjala <b>Indiranagar Tahsil</b> 1. Indiranagar 2. Kunjaban
10.	Tamil Nadu	Ramanathapuram	Tiruvadanaï Taluka
11.	Goa	North Goa	Tiswadi Taluka
12.	Pondicherry	Pondicherry	Karaikal Sub-Taluka
13.	Delhi	North-West District	Narela Tahsil Village Pooth Khurd (CT)

SHRI HITEN BARMAN: Sir, Multipurpose National Identity Cards are issued by the district authorities under the order of the Union Government in the Indo-

Bangladesh border areas to the people living beyond the border fencing and also to the people who are living on the side of the border fencing. After the issue of the

MNICs by the district authorities, will the movement of the border people who are Identity card holders be restricted in the border areas? Will these Identity cards be valid or not for their free movement in the areas of border fencing?

**SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL:** Sir, we have not issued the cards. We are in the process of issuing the cards.

**SHRI HITEN BARMAN:** Sir, what is the policy of the Union Government in introducing the MNICs when there are enough proof of residence for the Indian citizens like ration cards, land deeds, birth certificate, photo identity cards, etc.? What is the need for the people to hold MNICs in the border areas in addition to these documents?

**SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL:** Sir, in 1986, it was decided that the cards of this nature should be issued. Then, in 2003, it was decided that these cards will be issued only in some districts. These districts will be those which are adjoining the neighbouring countries, so that it becomes possible to identify the citizens from the non-citizens. The name "multi-purpose" itself suggests that this card can be used for many purposes. It can be used for travelling, bank transactions and for getting some assistance from the cooperatives. At this stage we are in the process of finalising the scheme. Then, we will see as to how it can be done. First, it will be done on pilot basis and then it will be done at the national level.

**SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBHA ADSUL:** Sir, the idea of issuing Multi-purpose National Identity Cards, which is a unique system, was introduced during the NDA regime. It would enhance the national security and restrict the illegal immigration on its completion.

What kind of facilities or benefits proposed to be given through these Multi-purpose National Identity Cards? How far will it be helpful in identifying the illegal immigrants?

**SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL:** I have already mentioned as to how this card can be used by the citizens. One of the uses to which this card can be put is to identify the citizens from the non-citizens.

It was suggested that the citizens should have one kind of card and that the non-citizens should be issued a

card of different colour. Later on it was thought that if we issue cards to the non-citizens, then they will get a kind of legal right, which is not equal to that of the citizens, so it should not be done. These matters are being looked into very carefully for proper and final decision.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the State of Pondicherry has been included under the pilot project on the Multipurpose National Identity Cards. The refugees from Tibet who came to Pondicherry forty years back have their families and children there. Will they get the Indian citizenship? What kind of identity cards would be issued to them? What kind of cards would be issued to the children who were born in Pondicherry and are now of 25 years of age?

**SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, it would be scrutinized under the provisions of the Citizenship Act as to who is citizen and who is non-citizen. Those who are residing in Pondicherry, can they be treated as citizens or not, it would be decided by going through the provisions of the Act.

*[English]*

**SHRI KHAGEN DAS:** It is reported that a large number of families have been left out from taking photographs.

May I know from the hon. Minister whether any system for taking photograph and finger biometrics of the left out families have been put in place in all the pilot project areas, especially in Tripura? If not, what measures will be taken to do the needful in this respect?

**SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL:** In the pilot project, nearly 31 lakh persons will get these cards. These cards will be given to those people who are in the sub-districts which are adjoining to other countries. In Tripura, these cards will be issued in some sub-districts.

One of the most important and difficult issues which is being faced in preparing these cards is to get the information. First of all, the officers have to go from house to house and collect the information about the name, age, percentage, profession, documents etc. Then, biometrics and finger prints will have to be collected.

After collecting the information relating to these things, they have to be mixed in such a fashion that there is no mistake committed. So, the task of doing it on this scale is very complicated.

As far as the pilot project is concerned, there is no problem. But doing it for one billion people in the country is going to be a huge task. We have prepared some rules and regulations, given them machines, trained the people etc. Yet it is found that there is a likelihood of committing some mistakes somewhere. That is why supervision has to be done in a proper manner, which is what we are trying to do.

[Translation]

DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to submit that there are many RTOs, courts, selected collector courts and public enterprises which issue identity cards of their own. The Election Commission also issues identity cards and a lot of money is spent on this work. I want to know as to how quickly the Government will start making MNICs after completing the entire procedure so that it puts an end to the practice of making separate identity cards and unnecessary expenditure as well as administrative procedure involved in this work and in place of these separate identity cards a multipurpose National Identity card be issued. This will also help in reducing expenditure incurred on this count by the Election Commission. May I know his views on this?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a huge task. We will have to make cards for more than 100 crore people and for making these cards we will have to collect the technologies required for the purpose. Moreover, it is going to be a multi-purpose card. For example, for use in banks, for admission in schools and for going abroad this card will be useful, but for this purpose we will have to make changes in other laws or enact a law by virtue of which we can use this card for all these purposes. But when we look at this aspect and the number of people to whom these cards are to be issued, should we give them smart card or simple card, that is also a question. Because those living in rural areas, hilly or forest areas can do with simple card, perhaps without smart card. I want to tell for your

information that we require 15 thousand crore rupees for making cards for so many people. So, while doing so, we need to keep this aspect in view also. Besides, there is a law called the Citizens Act. But we have to see if other laws need to be enacted or not and we have also to keep its political implications in view.

Sir, for your information, I would like to submit that such cards were issued in Australia and Shri Fraser was the Prime Minister at that time. People there opposed this which led to large scale disturbance there. So we have to keep political implications and psychology in view also. It is a complicated and huge task, but we have to do it. And the Government is trying to do it. But how much time it will take in view of the large number, it is, in fact, difficult to say.

DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA: Three years have passed by now...*(Interruptions)*

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister that so many districts have been covered under it, but the border districts like Poonch and Rajouri have not been covered whereas large scale border crossing takes place there. I want to know whether there is any policy of the Government to include these districts in it.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is now a pilot project. How can you include all these things?

...*(Interruptions)*

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: Sir,...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No, further elucidation.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing to be recorded.

*(Interruptions)\**

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: As has been stated, it is a pilot project, so we have to take up this big project

\*Not recorded.

After collecting the information relating to these things, they have to be mixed in such a fashion that there is no mistake committed. So, the task of doing it on this scale is very complicated.

As far as the pilot project is concerned, there is no problem. But doing it for one billion people in the country is going to be a huge task. We have prepared some rules and regulations, given them machines, trained the people etc. Yet it is found that there is a likelihood of committing some mistakes somewhere. That is why supervision has to be done in a proper manner, which is what we are trying to do.

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DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA: Three years have passed by now...(Interruptions)

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[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is now a pilot project. How can you include all these things?

...(Interruptions)

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: Sir,...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No, further elucidation.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing to be recorded.

(Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: As has been stated, it is a pilot project, so we have to take up this big project

\*Not recorded.

keeping in view the difficulties likely to come in its way and how these difficulties could be removed. To begin with, some districts have been selected from each state, though the entire district has not been covered and this is how we are going about it. So what will be done today, it is difficult to say. The decision which has been taken earlier in regard to the pilot project, is to be restricted to that only.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You see, if you have 7 or 8 supplementaries after every question, then we cannot proceed. This Question Hour becomes meaningless.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, at present, the whole world has converted into a global village. We have enough technology. We are facing a lot of problems in the country. By providing this Multipurpose National Identity Cards (MNICs), we can solve so many problems that we are facing at present. Even the Governments are also providing the Multipurpose Identity Cards.

MR. SPEAKER: Please put your question.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: I will come to the question. So, like that, we are wasting a lot of money. Our hon. Home Minister has stated that instead of States, he has taken up the sub-district in the Pilot Project. This is not good for the States also. Instead of sub-districts, it is better to go State-wise. It is better to take one or two States. We have to complete everything. We can save the money. We can give some help to the States. Will the hon. Minister consider taking up the States instead of the sub-districts?

MR. SPEAKER: It is a suggestion for action.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we cannot act as suggested in the question by the hon. Member. According to the decision taken by the Government in the year 2003, a sub-district is considered instead of the district adjacent to international boundary with any neighbouring country and we are doing so. If we discontinue this practice and consider one state after

another, the other states will make such a demand. Hence, we cannot effect changes in the pilot project.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Tapir Gao, I am calling you because you are sitting quietly.

SHRI TAPIR GAO: Sir, I am always a disciplined Member. Hon. Speaker, Sir, in this Pilot Project, only one district from Assam has been taken. Sir, your birth-place, the North-East, is in danger because of the illegal migrants.

MR. SPEAKER: He will look after it.

SHRI TAPIR GAO: Will the hon. Minister put the entire North-East under this Pilot Project? Is there any way of doing it? I would like to know from the hon. Minister about this.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government has to be prepared for such questions. Suggestions keep coming into include a district or State just because its adjacent district or State has been included. But the Government has taken a decision to cover only 13 States and that too sub-districts only of the districts sharing boundary with the neighbouring country, be it Jammu-Kashmir, Bangladesh, Srilanka, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Uttaranchal or Uttar Pradesh. After these states, Tripura or other North-Eastern states have been covered. So it is difficult to cover all the districts of a state.

[English]

#### Promotion of Tea

+

\*223. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:  
SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has created a special tea fund;

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

(c) whether any amount was regularly allocated from this fund to each State during each of the last three years and thereafter;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to encourage production of tea?

**THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH):** (a) and (b) A special fund has been created with the Additional Excise Duty of Re. 1 per kg. collected on tea for the year 2003-04 and 2004-05 for the development of the Indian tea industry. In addition, Government proposes to set up a Special Purpose Tea Fund for financing replantation and rejuvenation of old tea bushes, the modalities of the scheme are being finalized.

(c) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Statement**

(c) and (d) Two schemes with an estimated outlay of Rs. 93 crores for financing from the special fund created with the collections of Additional Excise Duty on tea viz. incentive for production of orthodox teas and assistance to the two Research and Development Institutions in tea were sanctioned in June, 2005. Allocation of funds from this special fund for financing these two schemes are not made State-wise as it depends on the actual production of orthodox teas and the assistance to be given to the two R and D institutions viz. Tea Research Association in Assam and the United Planters' Association for Southern India—Tea Research Foundation (UPASI-TRF) in Tamil Nadu. While the modalities for setting up of the Special Purpose Tea Fund for financing replantation and rejuvenation of old tea bushes are being worked out, allocation from this Fund would depend upon actual individual borrowings.

(e) The focus of the Tea Board during the 10th Five Year Plan period is on improvement of the quality and productivity of tea. In addition to the scheme for providing incentives for production of orthodox teas, a number of developmental schemes are being implemented by the Tea Board during the 10th Five Year Plan for enhancing productivity, quality and marketability of tea produced in the country under which financial and technical assistance

is provided for undertaking replantation, rejuvenation, new planting in non-traditional areas in North Eastern States and Uttaranchal, creation of irrigation facilities, setting up of self help groups among the small tea growers, modernization of factories, etc. The Special Purpose Tea Fund being set up for financing replantation and rejuvenation of old tea bushes also aims at enhancing the productivity and quality of tea.

**SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:** Sir, for quite sometime, there has been a talk of promoting the consumption of tea as a health drink. Is it true that the industrialists are convinced at the India International Millennium Tea Convention held in New Delhi that tea can be promoted as a health drink? What are the comments of the hon. Minister in this regard?

**SHRI KAMAL NATH:** The domestic demand for tea is a very important factor because tea production by us. the CTC variety, is largely to the Indian taste. We produce the orthodox tea, green tea. It is increasing in the world market. Our production of this is very little. So, the Tea Board is carrying out various schemes of enhancing drinking of tea. But we must understand that tea has competition with coffee and other beverages also. So, whatever can be done would be done. Really, tea is very common in India. To promote it as a health drink or a medicinal drink, the Tea Board continues with these efforts.

**SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:** There has been a decline in tea exports. In the year 2004, it was 198 million kilograms. It has come down to 117 million kilograms in 2005. Has the Ministry studied the reasons of decline in the tea exports?

**SHRI KAMAL NATH:** Sir, it is true that the tea exports have been declining. In the current year, it is likely that we may not even reach the last year's figure. We must understand that new producers of tea have come into the world and both in terms of quality, productivity and competitiveness, we are having a problem. Our export market does not merely depend upon our desire to export tea but it depends on our competitiveness, and it depends upon our quality. In the various schemes, which have been launched, especially in terms of getting GI certification of Darjeeling tea, efforts are being made. But with the increased competition from

Sri Lanka, Kenya, China and Indonesia, this continues to remain a serious problem.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Mahboob Zahedi : Not present.

SHRI NAKUL DAS RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in view of the great international demand for organic tea today, I would like to know, through you, Sir, from the Minister, how many States in India are growing organic tea. What steps are being taken by the Government to promote those farmings?

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, we have started a scheme for orthodox tea. At the moment, there is no specific scheme for organic tea. The first thrust has to be towards increasing our production in orthodox tea. We have a scheme, which I have stated in my answer, in the statement laid, that we have introduced a scheme of orthodox tea. We have got to increase our production of orthodox tea. Orthodox tea is what is getting an increased demand worldwide and that is the scheme to which we are giving priority at the moment. Of course, organic tea is something which needs to be looked into in the future.

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Sir, I would like to know from the Minister what type of incentives are given for tea plantations in the non-traditional areas. I would also like to know whether financial assistance for plantations and rejuvenation from old bushes is being given directly to the individual planters. Or, is it being given in the name of subsidy?

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, I have answered it in my question that we have a scheme for promotion of orthodox tea, which we had announced in June of 2005, of Rs. 93 crore. We received 423 claims from various States. The number of applications which have been processed are 286. Sir, 137 continue to be in process. As far as replantation and rejuvenation are concerned, that lies at the heart of the problem. It is because there is no replantation. The bushes in India are old. Unfortunately, investment in the last two-three decades has not been done by the tea garden owners in replantation and rejuvenation of bushes. So, we have proposed a scheme to replant and rejuvenate 2,12,000 acres roughly covering Rs. 4,761 crore. This is now in various stages of examination, in the Planning Commission etc. The Finance Minister in the Budget of this year has announced

a Rs. 100 crore rolling amount for this. This is really going to be the main thing because interest subsidy etc. are only short-term measures and do not lead to a long-term perspective of this.

DR. P.P. KOYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much for permitting me to ask a supplementary question on tea which is a very sweet drink. This is a drink which gives stimulation. At the same time, it is not treated as an intoxicating drink which is very good. India was known from time immemorial for exporting varieties of things, mainly tea, coffee and other commercial crops. Tea export was almost the monopoly of India and we had a very good internal market also. But as the Minister has stated, now the production has started coming down, the export has also started coming down and the tea industry has become a sick industry. When the Minister is proposing Rs. 4,000 crore for rejuvenation of the tea industry, what the Finance Minister is announcing is only Rs. 100 crore. I do not think it is going to help.

MR. SPEAKER: What is your question?

DR. P.P. KOYA: My question is this. What more proposal is there before the Ministry to revitalise this falling industry?

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, I have said that we have a scheme coming up for Rs. 4,761 crore, That is on the anvil. It is being discussed. Now, that is the biggest of all schemes and that is going to be the solution to it.

I have said in my answer that we do have a scheme for promotion of orthodox tea. I agree that our export has come down. India's share in world export was 50 per cent. Today, our export is only 12.84 per cent because the world is buying orthodox tea and green tea. Our production of orthodox tea and green tea is very little whereas we are producing a large quantity of CTC tea. So, we need to increase our production of orthodox tea and green tea. My friend has just now suggested organic tea which we are also producing. I did not say so at that time, but we are producing 8.5 million kilograms of organic tea.

[Translation]

SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the farmers in areas like Katihar, Purnea, Kishanganj and



Thakurganj in East-Bihar had voluntarily started tea growing. It is learnt that good quality tea is being grown in these areas. Is the Government contemplating to formulate any scheme to encourage these tea growers and increase production? Has the Government any plans to explore potential of growing tea in other areas also by conducting climatic and soil tests?

[English]

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, we have a scheme and we have set up a Small Growers Development Fund.

[Translation]

We have set up a Development Wing in Tea Board for help, encouragement and convenience of small growers and efforts are being made to fulfil their needs.

[English]

MR SPEAKER: Shri Santasri Chatterjee. This will be the last supplementary on this question.

[Translation]

SHRI SANTASRI CHATTERJEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as stated by the hon. Minister, for quite sometime due to competition and various other reasons, the industry has been facing problems. May I know from the hon. Minister whether he has received any proposal from the Government of West Bengal for rejuvenation and revitalisation of the tea industry, particularly in Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri Districts of West Bengal.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, this is a Central Government scheme. Meetings have been held with the Government of West Bengal. I have personally held meetings with the Chief Minister of West Bengal. We looked at what can be done for the tea industry there. After all, this proposal, which has been made out is a proposal where Darjeeling is included and we have to identify which areas will come in, how many hectares per area will be looked at etc. At the end of the day, the Tea Board consults all State Governments and State Governments also remain in continuous interaction with the Tea Board and with my Ministry in the formulation of all these schemes.

SHRI SANTASRI CHATTERJEE: What about Jalpaiguri District?

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Jalpaiguri District is also there.

[Translation]

#### **Production by Agro and Rural Industry Units**

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\*224. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:

SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of registered rural industries/institutions, State-wise;

(b) the details with regard to the value and quantity of production of agro and rural industrial units during each of the last three years, state-wise;

(c) the present financial status of these industries;

(d) whether any scheme has been formulated to provide assistance to loss incurring industries;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the success achieved by the Government as a result of the promotional steps taken, if any, for agro and rural industries?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) to (f) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

#### **Statement**

(a) Village industry (VI) units are established by eligible entrepreneurs under the Government's Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP), implemented through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC). The State/Union Territory (UT)-wise number of such units is given in the enclosed at Annexure I.

(b) and (c) The State/UT-wise details of the estimated value of production in the khadi and village

industry (KVI) sector during 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 are given in the enclosed at Annexure II. In view of the widely diverse types of KVI products, information regarding quantity of production is not maintained centrally. The State-wise details of production and value of the coir industry products, also of many types, are not maintained centrally. Similarly, the information on the present financial status of individual or groups of units of these industries is not maintained centrally. In fact, the efforts involved in regular compilation of such detailed country-wide and/or State-wise data on product-wise quantity of production, etc., are not commensurate with the likely benefit of such compilation.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) During the period 2002-03 to 2004-05, the total value of production and the employment in agro and rural industries, i.e., khadi, village and coir industries, in the country are estimated to have gone up by 22.08 per cent and 14.67 per cent respectively.

#### **Annexure-I**

*State/Union Territory-wise details of projects established under REGP since its commencement on 01 April, 1995 and upto 31-03-2005*

Sl. No.	States/Union Territories	Projects set up (number)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	14858
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	422
3.	Assam	3865
4.	Bihar	1100
5.	Goa	2439
6.	Gujarat	1474
7.	Haryana	6249
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2374

1	2	3
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	7556
10.	Karnataka	14093
11.	Kerala	9341
12.	Madhya Pradesh	19884
13.	Maharashtra	21684
14.	Manipur	840
15.	Meghalaya	3293
16.	Mizoram	1070
17.	Nagaland	4941
18.	Orissa	4157
19.	Punjab	10467
20.	Rajasthan	27434
21.	Sikkim	286
22.	Tamil Nadu	6741
23.	Tripura	666
24.	Uttar Pradesh	17725
25.	West Bengal	19807
26.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	422
27.	Chandigarh	156
28.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	15
29.	Delhi	228
30.	Lakshadweep	10
31.	Pondicherry	956
32.	Chhattisgarh	1787
33.	Jharkhand	1058
34.	Uttaranchal	2307
<b>Total</b>		<b>209705</b>

## Annexure-II

State-wise estimated value of production of KVI sector during 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl. No.	States/Union Territories	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Chandigarh	1581.49	1624.93	1741.20
2.	Delhi	5503.32	5567.55	5602.22
3.	Haryana	18038.04	26180.40	35142.92
4.	Himachal Pradesh	23657.87	26500.91	28589.82
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	19673.17	20686.17	24487.61
6.	Punjab	40353.57	43900.12	47625.97
7.	Rajasthan	77583.59	90578.78	102621.96
8.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	491.92	609.76	619.27
9.	Bihar	18680.39	19518.18	21148.46
10.	Jharkhand	2534.91	3290.63	3708.59
11.	Orissa	12169.18	15540.23	19549.19
12.	West Bengal	30004.39	35685.98	42003.66
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	317.88	524.67	794.55
14.	Assam	6074.74	8368.55	9576.05
15.	Manipur	5997.52	6197.16	6520.07
16.	Meghalaya	3100.46	3709.57	4495.16
17.	Mizoram	3796.44	3936.02	4648.13
18.	Nagaland	4583.94	4962.48	5715.15
19.	Tripura	2235.29	3145.11	3355.82
20.	Sikkim	373.51	767.26	967.12
21.	Andhra Pradesh	38207.91	44486.50	59481.87
22.	Karnataka	74916.52	82516.59	87874.74
23.	Kerala	38005.87	48762.44	53646.16

1	2	3	4	5
24.	Lakshadweep	73.44	104.85	104.85
25.	Pondicherry	526.36	570.16	578.51
26.	Tamil Nadu	71743.59	76849.24	83002.17
27.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	70.58	92.26	92.26
28.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00
29.	Goa	2873.35	3003.30	3297.42
30.	Gujarat	46993.38	47466.30	50691.98
31.	Maharashtra	132128.00	133197.45	140157.87
32.	Chhattisgarh	4672.85	9932.22	15021.17
33.	Madhya Pradesh	48083.13	53698.90	62610.01
34.	Uttaranchal	5136.79	9567.56	11774.93
35.	Uttar Pradesh	116779.89	136635.40	154796.67
Total		856936.82	968177.63	1092043.53

[English]

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: Sir, it is heartening to note that during the period 2002-03 and 2004-05, the total value of production and employment in the agro and rural industry sector in the country is estimated to have gone up by 22.08 per cent and 14.67 per cent respectively. But still I want to know what are the future plans of the Government to further encourage the agro and rural based industries.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Is there any policy in this regard?

SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD: Yes Sir, under the same policy of NCMP in this very House we had resolved to promote Khadi and Village Industry and passed a Bill for its promotion and growth. Under the said Bill, the entire country has been divided into six zones and experts from the fields of technology, rural employment, marketing

and training have been posted. Action has been initiated to promote Khadi and village industries in each part of the country and our government is committed to eradicate regional backwardness on that basis. We are carrying it on.

SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD: Yes Sir, under the same policy, under NCMP, in this House.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Anything else left for you?

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: Sir, it was a very comprehensive reply.

My secondary supplementary is, why is there no... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reply should also come.... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Very emphatical reply has been given.

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: Why is there no support system to help the loss incurring industries to recover and stand on their own feet?

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Are you doing something for the loss incurring industries?

SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have just replied to this point as well in the original question also. We are conducting REJP. Through you, Sir, I want to inform the House that rural industry in the country was launched from 1-4-1995 and upto 31-3-2005, under rural industry scheme 2 lakh 9 thousand and 705 units have been established with Rs. 1372 crore subsidy provided as margin money. It provided employment to 28 lakh people. So far as the issue of participation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is concerned...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: If you are not prepared to listen, then I will go to the next question.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD: Shri Prabhunath Singhji is a very senior Member, I am replying to his question. ....(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: You reply to my question...(Interruptions)

SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD: Madam, I am replying to your question only. We have taken initiative to address the shortcomings prevailing in the industries. ....(Interruptions)

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Madam has asked about the sick units which are closing down. ....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Everything has been covered, you did not listen attentively.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You are not Harikewal Prasad.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: Mr. Minister, you have given a long speech like the one delivered from the ramparts of the Red Fort. But you have not given reply to my question.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There is a lot to do yet.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reply given by the hon. Minister is quite satisfactory. He has informed that information regarding financial status of the agro and rural industries is not maintained centrally. I want to ask if such information is not maintained then how the government will promote agro and rural industries? In addition to this, he has informed that the government has formulated a scheme to reduce the number of unemployed persons in the country. I want to ask the hon. Minister two questions as to how the Government is formulating these schemes when the Central Government has no information about the financial situation and secondly whether he is aware of any action being taken by the Government to revive the industries lying closed since three years?

SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD: Sir, through you, I would like to tell the hon. senior member that a package has been announced by the hon. Finance Minister on 10th August, 2005 and on the basis of that the Reserve Bank of India and all the nationalised banks have been directed to provide one time loan facility in order to help the revival of the labour intensive units lying closed ....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You have to be satisfied with the reply given.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot put another question

today. You have already put your Supplementary. He has answered your question.

...(Interruptions)

[Translitiona]

MR. SPEAKER: Prabhunath Singhji it was anticipatory, the hon. Minister has given reply to your question.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: What reply can the hon. Minister give if I had not asked a question?  
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: All right, ask a short question.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: I will only ask a short question. This question is related to agriculture and rural industries. From the reply given by the hon. Member, it seems that the Central Government does not monitor it and that is why it does not have the financial information.

MR. SPEAKER: You should ask question.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: According to the hon. Minister, agro and rural industry means Khadi industry only. Through you, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether he would provide funds for setting up of a new industry based on the agro product in the agriculture dependent states after holding talks with the state governments? In addition to it, whether the Government propose to set up agro and rural industries by giving encouragement to the farmers or the educated unemployed persons or technical persons in those states?

SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has asked a very original question. If you remember, it has been provided in the Bill brought forward by me to formulate a scheme by including both the State governments and KVIC to revive the agro-based industries or other industries. I would ask the hon. Member to have patience—all this would appear before him.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Minister has given a very good reply.

[English]

DR. K.S. MANOJ: Mr. Speaker, Sir, because of the implementation of the globalised liberal policy by the Government, many of the small-scale industries, agro and rural industries were crushed down, and many have become sick industries. In order to get out of the clutches of this disaster, one of the measures is diversification and value addition of the products from SSI, agro and rural industries. The Minister in his reply has mentioned that the Ministry has formulated and divided the various regions of the country into several zones.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there are any measures from the Ministry at present for the diversification of the small-scale industries as well as for the value addition of the products from the small-scale industries and agro and rural industries.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: He has asked a question about diversification.

SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have told Dr. Manoj that in the six zones to be set up, all the industries, whether it is coir or khadi or rural industry, would be considered at length. We have appointed four experts who are bringing programmes on the basis of the map of the country and taking note of the sentiments of the people. The Government intends to promote the SSIs and agro industries as decided in the NCMP.

[English]

#### Functioning of Anganwadi Kendras

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\*225. SHRI D.V. SADANAND GOWDA:

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of women working in Anganwadi Kendras, State-wise;

(b) the total amount released/utilized by the Anganwadi Kendras during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government proposes to augment the number of Anganwadi Kendras and also to enhance financial assistance for them;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the measures taken by the Government to check misutilisation/diversion of funds and to make the functioning of Anganwadi Kendras more effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) State-wise number of women working as Anganwadi Workers and Helpers in Anganwadi Kendras, as on 30-9-2005, is given in Annexure-I.

(b) Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme is a Centrally sponsored Scheme implemented through the States/UTs. State-wise details of funds released and expenditure incurred States/UTs, during the last three years, are given in Annexure-II.

(c) and (d) In pursuance of Government's commitment as enunciated in the National Common Minimum Programme, the ICDS Scheme has recently been expanded to cover 461 additional Projects and 1.88 lakh Anganwadi Centres. Further expansion to increase the outreach of the Scheme to hitherto uncovered areas, if any, is under consideration.

(e) The funds under the Scheme are released to the State Governments as per norms laid down by the Government. The utilization of funds released by the Government of India is watched through the statements

of expenditure and utilization certificates in which the States certify that the funds have been utilized for the same purpose for which they were released. [The accounts of the State Governments are also audited by the State Accountants General.]

Some of the measures and initiatives taken by the Government, in the recent past, to improve the effectiveness and impact of the programme include:—

- Expansion of the Scheme from existing 5652 Projects and 7.54 lakh Anganwadi Centres to 6113 Projects and 9.42 lakh Anganwadi Centres.
- Doubling of financial norms for supplementary nutrition.
- Sharing of 50% cost of supplementary nutrition with the States.
- Increase in the rent of Anganwadi Centres.
- Constant emphasis on States to:—
  - Operationalise all sanctioned projects and Anganwadi Centres (AWCs).
  - Fill up all vacant posts of ICDS functionaries.
  - Ensure regular supply of supplementary nutrition as per schematic norms.
  - Make available medicine and pre-school education kits in all AWCs.
  - Ensure effective convergence of health nutrition, education and safe drinking water services under various programmes.

#### Annexure-I

Sl. No.	State/UT	Number of Anganwadi Workers in position	Number of Anganwadi Helpers in position	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	55025	54879	109904

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1	2	3	4	5
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2359	2359	4718
3.	Assam	25416	25416	50832
4.	Bihar	60041	59797	119838
5.	Chhattisgarh	20108	20020	40128
6.	Goa	998	986	1984
7.	Gujarat	35852	36353	72205
8.	Haryana	13446	13526	26972
9.	Himachal Pradesh	7125	7324	14449
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	10398	10398	20796
11.	Jharkhand	19478	19148	38626
12.	Karnataka	39859	40240	80099
13.	Kerala	25260	25012	50272
14.	Madhya Pradesh	46846	46760	93606
15.	Maharashtra	61896	60670	122566
16.	Manipur	4496	4491	8987
17.	Meghalaya	2218	2218	4436
18.	Mizoram	1361	1361	2722
19.	Nagaland	2769	2770	5539
20.	Orissa	33342	33789	67131
21.	Punjab	14618	14613	29231
22.	Rajasthan	35600	35555	71155
23.	Sikkim	499	499	998
24.	Tamil Nadu	42677	38961	81638
25.	Tripura	3789	3761	7550
26.	Uttar Pradesh	98777	97998	196775
27.	Uttaranchal	6584	6540	13124

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1	2	3	4	5
28.	West Bengal	53441	52958	106399
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	527	527	1054
30.	Chandigarh	300	300	600
31.	Delhi	3842	3842	7684
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	138	138	276
33.	Daman and Diu	87	87	174
34.	Lakshadweep	74	74	148
35.	Pondicherry	677	677	1354
Total		729923	724047	1453970

#### Annexure-II

*State-wise position of funds released/utilised under ICDS Scheme (General), W.B. assisted ICDS Projects, Udisha during the year 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 (upto 03-03-2006) and SNP (upto 03-03-2006)*

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	State/UT	2003-04		2004-05		2005-06 Released
		Released	Expenditure	Released	Expenditure	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11135.88	14726.03	13271.47	15404.84	26115.94
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1552.73	1551.53	1697.61	1655.59	1632.32
3.	Assam	4489.45	7729.51	15999.37	9897.27	24974.55
4.	Bihar	5354.59	10525.49	13611.47	9913.88	16177.85
5.	Goa	420.70	428.20	294.52	359.50	492.66
6.	Gujarat	9894.54	12720.74	12465.58	11068.99	13582.36
7.	Haryana	4446.88	5486.45	4782.27	5054.29	6899.04
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1603.66	2890.14	2687.26	2729.70	3733.05
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	2415.88	1832.25	3457.78	4085.62	5642.75

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10.	Karnataka	11341.87	11862.03	11253.50	12526.78	21258.08
11.	Kerala	9585.50	7952.08	8403.16	8222.48	9113.93
12.	Madhya Pradesh	16002.77	15150.14	13757.61	15756.39	19379.86
13.	Maharashtra	19598.87	22048.67	14824.19	20674.59	29790.73
14.	Manipur	1453.55	1384.89	2065.65	1292.15	2344.45
15.	Meghalaya	881.52	1243.21	1467.81	1030.86	2813.65
16.	Mizoram	852.63	755.17	795.68	694.44	1952.90
17.	Nagaland	1509.28	1318.70	1383.50	1563.50	2430.51
18.	Orissa	11523.81	12544.37	11682.93	11027.37	17164.67
19.	Punjab	4943.21	5159.88	3956.27	4861.91	6798.17
20.	Rajasthan	11727.65	12097.20	11863.17	11700.19	12654.99
21.	Sikkim	173.69	292.08	332.88	224.17	313.86
22.	Tamil Nadu	10855.27	15456.69	14526.30	13013.60	19266.53
23.	Tripura	1822.82	1119.89	1452.32	1240.50	3103.73
24.	Uttar Pradesh	19095.23	20873.71	23564.37	23380.17	49706.06
25.	West Bengal	15873.69	12322.63	13069.59	17231.46	26581.24
26.	Chhattisgarh	6581.19	5740.98	6411.96	5875.25	8598.68
27.	Jharkhand	3081.25	3646.24	7719.66	4165.25	6249.82
28.	Uttaranchal	1862.83	1785.01	2458.77	1970.98	3898.67
29.	Delhi	1172.42	1141.69	1138.36	1232.93	2000.06
30.	Pondicherry	205.54	218.90	236.89	230.59	319.40
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	187.31	187.31	188.39	194.07	312.50
32.	Chandigarh	141.71	132.43	155.26	130.64	212.28
33.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	48.50	44.43	48.27	49.81	57.59
34.	Daman and Diu	41.37	41.41	38.98	38.98	51.62
35.	Lakshadweep	35.09	33.25	25.15	35.96	40.19
<b>Total</b>		<b>191912.88</b>	<b>212443.33</b>	<b>221087.95</b>	<b>203129.86</b>	<b>345664.70</b>

In the case of NE States, funds include for construction of AWCs but the exp. reported is only for ICDS.

SHRI D.V. SADANAND GOWDA: Sir, we are fully aware of the fact that the Anganwadi worker, who is but an honorary worker, is yet the most visible village-level functionary of the Government, and is being increasingly used for delivery of many other programmes and schemes of the Central and State Governments. These Anganwadi Workers are paid very little honorarium in spite of their doing scheduled works, which are allotted to them by the Central and State Governments. Is there any proposal before the Government either to make them permanent employees or to enhance their honorarium, which is very meagre at this present juncture?

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Sir, I appreciate the Member's concern for the Anganwadi workers. I also agree that the honorarium is not commensurate to the kind of services that they are rendering. What needs to be understood is that though the Anganwadi worker has been initiated by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, other Ministries also ride on her shoulders and utilize her services.

While I do agree that it is woefully inadequate amount that is being paid to them, I am, in the loop, trying to work out a situation where we may consider enhancing their remuneration. In the meantime, I do think that all the Members of Parliament who understand and appreciate the work that they are putting in must at least contribute from the MPLAD funds for the structure of permanent Anganwadi Centres in their respective constituencies because that will go a long way to give some support to the Anganwadi worker and make her job conditions better.

SHRI D.V. SADANAND GOWDA: Sir, it is a relationship between the Central and the State Governments, There are certain requests made by the Central Government to contribute some additional monitoring incentives for additional work being done by Anganwadi Workers and helpers pertaining to other Schemes/Departments from their own resources. I want to know whether the Government is making up its mind to have any welfare fund for these Anganwadi Workers at the State level. I also want to know whether the Government has received any such proposal from the State Government to implement such programmes in the State.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Sir, we are not aware of any such request from any State Government at present on record.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri N.N. Krishnadas—Not present. Now, Shrimati Satheedevi.

SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI: Sir, the survey shows that even after 30 years of introduction of ICDS, only one-third of the eligible children are covered by the Scheme. The Supreme Court has directed the Government to universalise the Scheme. It is only possible by opening one Centre for every one thousand population. Hence, I would like to know from the Minister whether there is any move from the Ministry to introduce one Anganwadi Centre per one thousand population at least in the tribal areas.

Now, the Central Government is allotting money considering the expenditure incurred by the State. In some States, the money is not spent for the ICDS.

So, I would like to know from the Minister whether, without considering the status of expenditure, a permanent amount would be allotted under this programme to the State Government.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: First of all, I would like to place on record in this House that it is this Government in the past 18 months that has taken cognizance of the Anganwadi Centres commensurate to what the Supreme Court had directed us. I am happy to let you all know that yes, universalisation of the scheme is taking place. There has been relaxation of the norms which were established earlier. So, today we will be able to give Anganwadis even for a population as small as 500 people. So, that will go a long way in addressing some of the issues which the hon. Member had raised.

Now, as regards the monies that are used by the State Governments, I am sure all of you will appreciate that this is a partnership relationship that we have between the Central Government and the State Government, and quite often the State Governments have used these funds for different areas. We have taken up our Central Monitoring Scheme whereby we keep some kind of liaison and control over what the State Government is doing with this money and to see that it is remitted at

its earliest. Sometimes, the State Governments find it convenient to keep this money parked in other places.

Particularly, in regard to the relaxation of norms of these Anganwadi Centres to be set up in tribal and hilly desert areas, the norms have been relaxed to a large extent. One Anganwadi Centre can be set up as against the 500 which were declared earlier. We have almost 1,88,000 Anganwadi Centres already established and we are going to expand them in a big way.

*[Translation]*

SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, how many Anganwadi Centres in Punjab are they going to expand out of all the Anganwadi Centres to be expanded? Regarding rent, I would like to ask the rent paid by them earlier and currently and the rent paid to Punjab?

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Have you got the figures?

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Sir, we do not pay rent to the Anganwadi workers. Sir, I appreciate that the hon. Member has come forward requesting about Punjab. Punjab has a number of Anganwadi workers in position. Their number is 14,618. If we look at the helpers also, in Punjab, we are able to give 14,613 helpers. We have 2,691 Centres in Punjab, part of them is also sanctioned in the expansion. So, it is very, very visible there. But I will take this opportunity to request the hon. Member to use his influence with his local State Government to see that these Anganwadi Centres are set up. Punjab has a dismal record on disappearing of the girl child. So, I would appreciate if all of them would use their might to support the girl child there. Punjab is a prosperous State and it should reflect it in the growth of the girl child there.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Anganwadi workers are forced to work for long hours. They are forced to work from morning till evening and have to face harassment during work. Has any grievance redressal cell been set up to redress the grievances of those having some complaints?

*[English]*

It is because they all go around and they have been hardly heard. I would request you to set up some kind of a permanent redressal system within your system so that they can go and narrate their problems.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Actually, it is very heartening that the House shares the kind of concern that we also have towards the Anganwadi workers. It is a fact that these women go too far and remote flung areas and sometimes they do not even have transportation to reach those areas. If you look at it, the kind of service that they render is really incalculable because if we had to hire someone's skill and appoint someone for that, it would have cost us a fortune. However, in regard to redressal of grievances of the Anganwadi workers, we have tried to set up cells which are already in existence in most of the States so that they can take recourse to those cells. We have established cells to redress the grievances at the Government, the State and District levels. I also propose in the very near future to have one-to-one meeting with all the federations and the women in the State level to see what we can do to facilitate them.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, ICDS scheme has recently been expanded and it has been expanded in 461 additional projects and 1.88 lakh Anganwadi centers. Through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the number of additional projects and Anganwadi centers of Uttar Pradesh included in it, their location and the time by which the scheme is likely to be implemented in the areas deprived of it? Besides, I would like to know the time by which the honorarium of the workers is likely to be hiked?

MR. SPEAKER: This is not right. Ask one question.

*[English]*

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Sir, of course, every State is equally important and relevant to us and with regard to Uttar Pradesh, being such a big State, 'yes', of course, we will look into it. As far as various

details are concerned, if the hon. Member so wants, I can give him a written reply. But to give State-wise numbers, it takes a long time.

**SHRI B. MAHTAB:** From the answer that has been given, expansion of the scheme from 7,54,000 Anganwadi centres that are there in this country, it is going to be increased to 9,42,000 centres. Though on 30th September, 2005 there are 7,29,000 centres operational in this country, the answer clearly states that 25,000 centres are not operational and yet in the answer the hon. Minister has stated that they are going to increase these centres. It clearly demonstrates in part-C of the answer in the Annexure-II that the money that was spent in 2003-04, though amount released in Rs. 1,919 crore, the expenditure was Rs. 2,124 crore. The expenditure was much more than the amount released. But in the next year, that is, 2004-05, amount released was Rs. 2,210 crore but the expenditure is Rs. 2,030 crore. The expenditure is less than the amount released. This has happened after the UPA Government has come into power. So, should we presume that the amount is not being spent because you have less Anganwadi centres in operation? Of course, the State is going to appoint the Anganwadi workers. But how are you going to ensure the expansion of Anganwadi centres when you are talking so much about the Anganwadi centres?

**SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:** That is very astute of the hon. Member that he has noticed the figures given in the Annexure. I also want to tell you all that establishing Anganwadi centres is not just the responsibility of one Minister sitting in the Government of India. I think it is for all of us. It reflects on our constituencies and it is politically important if nothing else, and it is a great measure of reaching out welfare projects to the citizens at the remote areas and at the grass root level. So, some kind of collective interpretation and facilitation of this must take place and any shortfall or excess in expenditure is adjusted in the releases to the next year and also the gestation period of sanctioning an Anganwadi centre and actually ground it, is anywhere between six and eight months. The process has to be done by the respective State Governments. We, of course, sit in the Centre and do try to put some pressure

there. But it would be of great valuable help and support if the hon. Members would take it upon themselves to see that this facilitation is done by the State Governments in their respective constituencies. It will get you a lot of women support and a lot of votes, if nothing else.

**MR. SPEAKER:** It is good. Now you have got new ideas of getting some support.

*[Translation]*

### Special Economic Zones

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\*226. **SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:**

**SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY:**

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the norms fixed for setting up of Special Economic Zones;

(b) whether the investment in Special Economic Zones has been assessed during the last three years and thereafter;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith revenue earned and achievements made thereunder;

(d) whether some companies set up under the Special Economic Zones in various States are violating the rules by selling their products in the domestic market;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(g) the special package given by the Government to Special Economic zones to attract Foreign Direct Investment (FDI); and

(h) the sectors which are likely to be benefited, Zone-wise?

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (h) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

(a) The minimum area requirement for setting up of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) are:—

Type	Area	Area for Special States/UTs
Multi-product	1000 hectares	200 hectares
Multi services	100 hectares	100 hectares
Sector specific	100 hectares	50 hectares
IT, gems and jewellery bio-tech, non-Conventional energy	10 hectares (min. built up area of 1 lakh sq. mtrs. for IT)	10 hectares (min. built up area of 1 lakh sq. mtrs. for IT)
FTWZ	40 hectares (min. built up area of 1 lakh sq. mtrs. for IT)	40 hectares (min. built up area of 1 lakh sq. mtrs. for IT)

The Special States are Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Manipur, Tripura, Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Sikkim, Jammu and Kashmir and Goa.

The other factors kept in view while considering proposals for setting up of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) include generation of additional economic activity, promotion of exports, promotion of investment from domestic and foreign sources, creation of employment opportunities and development of infrastructure facilities.

(b) and (c) The investment by entrepreneurs for establishment of units in the SEZs in the 15 functioning SEZs is of the order of about Rs. 2200 crores. Approval has been given for setting up of 110 SEZs in the private/joint sector or by the State Governments. Investment to the tune of about Rs. 100,000 crores over the next 3 years in infrastructure development of SEZs and in setting up of units therein has been estimated on the basis of projections made by the promoters at the time of seeking approval for establishment of SEZs by them. Since the SEZs are being encouraged to be set up in the private/joint sector or by the State Government, no revenue earnings are envisaged.

(d) to (f) Units in the Special Economic Zones are

to be Positive Net Foreign Exchange earners over a period of five years. The units are allowed to sell their goods in the domestic market on payment of duties as if the goods are being imported. No specific instances of violation regarding sale of goods in the domestic market by the units in SEZs has come to notice of the Government.

(g) Incentives and facilities offered to units in SEZs for promotion of investment, including foreign direct investment include duty free import/domestic procurement of goods for development, operation and maintenance of SEZ units, 100% Income Tax exemption for SEZ units under Section 10AA of the Income Tax Act for the first 5 years, 50% for next 5 years and 50% of the ploughed back export profit for next 5 years, exemption from Central Sales Tax, exemption from Service Tax and single window clearance mechanism for establishment of units etc.

(h) The incentives and facilities offered to the SEZs are sector neutral and all the sectors are eligible for the same benefits. Available indications are that manufacturing, information technology, textiles, auto parts, leather, pharmaceuticals are the sectors likely to be benefited.

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has taken a commendable step by taking the initiative of creating Special Economic Zones to promote trade and industry in the country but many proposals in this regard are still pending. As of now, thirty three proposals for creation of SEZ's from State Governments are lying pending with the government, out of which seven proposals have been submitted by the Maharashtra Government. One of the said proposals is regarding Shendra Complex spread over 517 acres which falls in my constituency. Maharashtra Industrial Corporation has recommended that this area be deemed an SEZ for the automobile sector. Similarly, Jalna has been recommended to be treated as an SEZ for the bio-technology sector, Latur for the agricultural sector, Butibori and Kadal for the textile sector, Pune as the IT sector. Maharashtra government has submitted seven such proposals. No meeting has been held in this regard for a long time. The last meeting had taken place on 25th November. I would like to request, through you, that proposals should be sanctioned at the earliest so that trade and industry in the country is able to derive optimum benefits from expansion of SEZ regions.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: All your projects should be cleared soon.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KAMAL NATH: The hon. Member has made a valid point. No meetings have been held for almost more than two months because although the SEZ Act had been passed by the House, Rules had yet to be formulated. The Rules have now been announced. We were waiting for the rules to be announced. The hon. Member is correct in saying that there are many proposals from Maharashtra. I am waiting for a proposal from Maharashtra which would bring Chhindwada, which is my parliamentary constituency, within its ambit. Thereafter, all the proposals would be considered together. A meeting in this regard has been fixed to take place on the 17th.

MR. SPEAKER: Add Bengal also to the list.

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Sir, Butibori region is adjacent to your constituency. It would be fit for the purpose. You have allowed for creation of SEZ on private land. What I mean to say is that Rs. One lakh crore is proposed to be invested on private and other lands. Suppose there is a big company which has a large-sized, vacant plot adjacent to its property. For example, the Bajaj Company has a 500 acre plot of land in my constituency. This company wants an SEZ for automobiles to be created on this plot of land. I would like to know if you would sanction such a proposal. Similarly, an automobile SEZ has been created in 517 acres of land in Shendra which falls in my constituency. Permission for SEZ spread over 250 acres for the pharmaceutical industry has been sought through MIDC in a nearby area.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: You go and meet him.

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Okard company, Lutrene and Ajanta Pharma are the companies involved. Would you grant permission for SEZ for pharmaceutical companies near a place where an automobile SEZ already exists I would like the Hon. Minister's answer.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: If the SEZ is Sector-specific, that is to say, there is a stipulation that at least 100 hectares of land should be available to create an SEZ. If the land area is more than 100 hectares and all the requirements are fulfilled then permission would definitely be granted. If for some reason the proposal is not sanctioned then other districts are available for creation of SEZ. There is my district, it can be done there also.

[*English*]

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Sir, the SEZ concept is certainly a very brilliant concept. Nobody can criticise it. But my question is, in my State of Orissa we are seeing that a Korean company, Pohan Steel Company is setting up a steel plant. It is setting up a

parallel port near Paradip. When Paradip is not prospering, they want to set up a parallel port. When other steel industries are competing and the steel market is going up and down, the Government, especially the federal Government, is very keen on allowing them SEZ facility.

I would specifically like to know what sort of benefit will the State get if there is a SEZ where a company like POSCO is allowed to function because they will be exploiting our mines, our facilities. What will we get?

MR. SPEAKER: There is no time left for the answer.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: All these SEZs in the end can only be approved and can only function if they have support from the State Government. So, if the State Government does not want to support a particular project because it feels that this is not in the interest of the State, does not bring benefit to the State, the State Government can certainly write and say that we do not want this. Nobody is thrusting this down anybody's throat.

So far as the issue of POSCO is concerned, this is for the State Government to evaluate what benefit it brings to the State. There has been an evaluation that this does bring benefit and so, the State Government has taken a position to extend all support to them.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

### Smuggling of Narcotics

\*227. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether narcotics are being smuggled into India from neighbouring countries;

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

(c) the quantum of various narcotics seized during each of the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check smuggling of narcotics?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) Seizures made and reports received indicate that Heroin, Hashish and Ganja continue to be smuggled into the country from and through neighbouring countries, across the borders of India.

(c) Following are the figures of seizures made during the last three years by various drug law enforcement agencies:—

Qty. (in Kilogram.)

Item	2003	2004	2005 (provisional)*
Heroin	991	1162	877
Opium	1720	2237	1027
Morphine	109	97	47
Ganja	79653	144055	108446
Hashish	3013	4599	3793

\*Due to late receipt of figures from various enforcement agencies, particularly States.

(d) The Government has taken a number of steps to check smuggling of narcotics which, inter alia, include:—

- (i) Strict surveillance and enforcement at import and export points, land borders, airports, foreign post offices etc.
- (ii) Intensive preventive and interdiction efforts a long known drug routes.
- (iii) Improved coordination between the various drug law enforcement agencies in order to impart greater cohesion to interdiction.
- (iv) Strengthening of international liaison to improve the collection, analysis and dissemination of operational intelligence.
- (v) Increased international co-operation for exchange of information and investigative



assistance in administering controls over the movement of precursor chemicals.

- (vi) Building of an electronic data base of offenders and suspects.
- (vii) Targeting illicit manufacturing units of brown sugar and methaqualone.
- (viii) Conducting raining programmes for law enforcement officials for upgrading their skills to combat drug trafficking.

[English]

### **Price/Import of Spices**

\*228. SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI:

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of various spices including pepper and cardamom have gone down due to liberal import of these spices during the last three years and thereafter;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received any request from spices growers to restrict the liberal import of spices;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to overcome this crisis and to protect the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) The domestic prices of pepper, cardamom, cinnamon, cassia, saffron and vanilla have shown a declining trend during the last three years. However, in the case of ginger, turmeric, celery, ajwan seed and tamarind, the domestic prices have improved during this period. In the case of other spices, prices have moved both upwards and downwards.

The decline in the domestic prices of various spices

including pepper and cardamom cannot be attributed to the liberal import of these spices during the last three years and thereafter. The domestic price movement is in line with the change in international prices of these commodities. The decline in international prices has been largely due to the increased global production and larger world supply.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The Government of India has received some representations from various quarters including spice growers for restricting the import of spices. The steps taken in this regard as well as those measures directed to benefit the spice growers include:—

- Duty-free import of pepper for re-export purpose through fresh Advance Licenses has been discontinued with effect from 14-12-2004 except for light pepper required by the oleoresin industry for re-export.
- Sale of processed pepper products in the Domestic Tariff Area by 100% Export Oriented Units has been banned.
- Current imports on the basis of Advance Licenses issued prior to the ban for re-exports would be allowed only if value addition is at least 15% and if exports are completed within 90 days of customs clearance of the imports.
- Recently, an FTA Cell has also been constituted in the O/o DGFT where problems arising out of increased import could be posed for remedial action.
- Subsidy for export of pepper covering international and internal transport was announced with effect from 27th October, 2005.
- The import duty on cardamom has been increased from 35% to 70% from the year 2002-03.
- To regain the lost market in the Middle East region, an air freight subsidy was given on

exports to make cardamom exports from India competitive.

- Department of Revenue has been alerted to be vigilant to curb the smuggling of cardamom into India. Preventive measures have been taken for possible illegal import of cardamom from Guatemala.
- Planting material is supplied at subsidized cost.
- Farmers are given assistance for setting up of on-farm vanilla curing units.
- The Speices Trading Corporation Limited (STCL) has agreed to procure 3 metric tonnes of cured vanilla beans for extraction of natural vanillin to be sold in the domestic and international market.
- Spices Board is promoting the recently launched "Flavourit" brand in order to increase the demand of selected grades of spices.

[Translation]

#### **Deemed Universities**

\*229. SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:

SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of "Deemed Universities" functioning in the country as on date;
- (b) the number of the Deemed Universities accorded approval during the last three years;
- (c) the details of proposals received from various State Governments for granting "Deemed to be University" Status as on 31st January, 2006, State-wise;
- (d) the action taken by the Government or University Grant Commission thereon; and
- (e) the mechanism available to assess the quality of education imparted by the Deemed Universities and

also to watch the exercise of autonomy by such Universities, particularly in financial matters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) There are 100 institutions, declared as 'Deemed to be University', as on date, in the country. During the last 3 years, i.e. from January 2003 till date, 25 institutions have been accorded the status of "Deemed to be University".

(c) and (d) Applications for granting "Deemed to be University" status is made by the institutions themselves and not by the State Governments. An institution is notified as a "Deemed to be University" by the Central Government on the recommendations of the University Grants Commission (UGC), in terms of the provisions of the UGC Act, 1956. As on 31st January, 2006, no proposals for "Deemed to be University" have been received from the State Governments.

(e) The institutions notified as "Deemed to be University" function in accordance with the provisions under their Memorandum of Association, Rules and Regulations, which provide for an appropriate authority to manage the administrative, financial and academic affairs of these institutions and, Representatives of the Central Government and the UGC are represented on it. The UGC in exercise of its statutory authority maintains and co-ordinates standards of higher education in all such institutions, which enjoy autonomy in managing their affairs.

#### **Impact of Import of Goods**

\*230. DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the import of consumer goods has been constantly increasing in the country during the last three years and thereafter;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the value of these goods imported during this period, year-wise;

(c) the value of capital goods and industrial raw material imported during the corresponding period year-wise alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(d) the overall assessment of the Government on the impact of the above imports on the economy?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) The details of import of consumer goods and capital goods during the last three years and thereafter are given below:—

(Value in Rs. Crores)

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	April 2005- September 2005
Consumer goods*	6253.9	9005.2	8436.3	6416.0
Capital goods**	24829.4	31857.5	41880.6	24469.4
Other imports*	266122.5	318245.0	440214.8	255473.4

\* Includes industrial raw material.

\*\* Chapter 84 (which primarily relates to capital goods) of the ITC(HS) Classification of Imports and Exports.

(c) The value of industrial raw materials imported cannot be given separately as many consumer goods are used as raw material by some industries and consumed as final products by some others.

(d) The overall trend of import of consumer goods as well as capital goods has shown healthy growth. Export has also increased by 21% and 26% in terms of US \$ during 2003-04 and 2004-05 respectively over the previous year. The increasing trend of investment as a proportion of GDP (at current prices) is manifested by the increasing import of capital goods. Foreign trade regime has ensured access to imports which are essential for meeting the requirements of consumption, growth and development.

[English]

#### Industrial Production

\*231. SHRI RANEN BARMAN:

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the industrial production during last two years, till date, sector-wise;

(b) whether the Industrial Production Index in some sectors, especially in mining and agriculture sector, had gone down during the said period;

(c) whether the industrial growth in some States has also gone down;

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

(e) whether the Prime Minister had called a meeting of National manufacturing Competitiveness Council recently;

(f) if so, the matters discussed and the outcome thereof; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to boost industrial production during 2006-07?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) As per the Quick Estimates of Index of Industrial Production (IIP), released by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO), the sector-wise Index and the growth rate, over the previous period, is indicated below:—

Sector	Index of Industrial Production (Base year 1993-94)			Growth Rate (%)		
	2003-04	2004-05	(Apr.-Dec.) 2005-06	2003-04	2004-05	(Apr.-Dec.) 2005-06
Mining	146.9	153.4	150.0	5.2	4.4	0.4
Manufacturing	196.6	214.6	227.4	7.4	9.2	8.9
Electricity	172.6	181.5	189.6	5.1	5.2	4.8
General/Overall	189.0	204.8	215.4	7.0	8.4	7.8

(b) There has been decline in the growth rate of the mining sector in the year 2004-05 and during the current year. The contribution of agriculture sector is not counted in the Index of Industrial Production.

(c) and (d) As per the CSO data, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Orissa, Pondicherry and Chandigarh recorded a decline in 2004-05 in the industrial growth rate compared to the previous year. The general reasons for declining industrial growth rate in some of these States were slow physical infrastructure development, difficulties in obtaining requisite raw materials and the relatively less favourable industrial climate.

(e) and (f) Ways and means to hasten the pace of development of the manufacturing sector was one of the issues discussed when the members of the National Manufacturing Competitiveness Council had called on the Prime Minister on 13th January, 2006.

(g) Measures being taken to step up industrial production in 2006-07, inter-alia, include improving the physical infrastructure of power, roads, ports, telecommunication etc. required by the industrial undertakings. Rationalisation of both direct and indirect taxes, including excise and customs duties is also aimed at giving a boost to the pace of industrialization. Also in the Budget proposals for 2006-07, besides announcing several new measures, the Government has proposed higher provisions for sector-specific schemes pertaining to textiles, jute, handloom, food processing, plantation and small and medium enterprises.

#### Navodaya and Kendriya Vidyalayas

\*232. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:

SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps in order to make Navodaya and Kendriya Vidyalayas in the country technically advanced;

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

(c) whether the basic infrastructure facilities in these Vidyalayas are not in pace with the time;

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

(e) whether Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan and Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti are likely to be converted into statutory bodies; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) Following steps have been taken to make Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs) and Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) technically advanced:—

(i) Computer laboratories are available in 461 out of 507 Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas and in 857 out of 919 Kendriya Vidyalayas.

- (ii) Internet connectivity has been provided to 461 JNVs and 820 KVs.
- (iii) 33 JNVs and 31 KVs have been upgraded as "Smart Schools" under the Scheme "ICT @ Schools". These schools are provided with 40 Computers each and Internet Connectivity, alongwith software.
- (iv) 614 KVs and 28 JNVs have their own web-sites.

(c) and (d) Provision of basic infrastructure facilities in JNVs and KVs is a continuous process. It naturally takes sometime before all infrastructural needs of newly-opened schools are provided. After opening of Vidyalayas and transfer of land by sponsoring authority, construction of school building is taken up. Time lag in getting necessary land from sponsoring authorities and delay in construction work in difficult areas result in delayed creation of permanent infrastructure.

(e) No such decision has been taken so far.

(f) Does not arise.

#### Export of Marine Products

\*233. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the marine products exported during the last

three years and thereafter alongwith the foreign exchange earned therefrom, country-wise;

(b) whether the export of marine products has declined;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the steps taken to enhance the export of marine products;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to produce high quality products to compete in the international market;

(e) whether the Government has permitted import of raw materials for the processing of sea food to be consumed in the domestic market;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor;

(g) whether the Marine Product Export Development Authority has introduced any subsidy assistance scheme to promote export of marine products; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) As per the export figures compiled by the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), on the basis of shipping bills and invoices, the export of marine products to the major importing countries during the last three years and the current year (upto December, 2005) have been as follows:—

(Q: Quantity in Metric Tonnes, V: Value in Million US \$)

Country	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		
	Export	% Growth	Export	% Growth	Export	% Growth	Export	% Growth	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
EU	Q.	94541	14.50	96284	1.84	117742	22.29	90692	6.64
	V.	287.84	19.43	319.95	11.16	405.40	26.71	335.21	14.74

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
USA	Q.	61703	25.82	53153	-13.86	50045	-5.85	42937	8.28
	V.	424.51	41.95	365.84	-13.82	345.52	-5.55	296.39	9.61
Japan	Q.	54916	-15.39	50020	-8.92	57832	15.62	41521	-2.59
	V.	317.17	-17.20	253.86	-19.96	266.96	5.16	205.26	-2.78
China	Q.	170811	26.75	123738	-27.56	124826	0.88	84545	-16.83
	V.	158.23	25.92	151.60	-4.19	154.10	1.65	120.07	-2.10
Total export from India	Q.	467297	10.09	412017	-11.83	461329	11.97	341929	-3.58
	V.	1424.90	13.69	1330.76	-6.61	1478.48	11.10	1190.44	5.63

(c) and (d) The reasons for the negative growth of exports to some of the markets have been market factors, quality issues, anti-dumping duty, sanitary/phyto-sanitary measures, etc.

In order to encourage quality, Government has been extending financial assistance for up-gradation of processing facilities; setting up/up-gradation of labs for testing, arranging of training programmes for capacity building.

(e) and (f) Except for the sea food items put in the negative list, other items are freely importable on payment of prescribed duty.

(g) and (h) In order to increase the export of marine products, the Marine Products Export Development Authority has been extending financial assistance aimed at implementing programmes for capacity building, upgradation of processing facilities, expansion of aquaculture, assistance for production of value added products and marketing support.

#### **Reforms in Existing Educational System**

\*234. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any recommendation

from the National Advisory Council with regard to the prevailing educational system in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken in this regard;

(c) whether the Government intends to introduce reforms in the existing educational system by ensuring qualitative training to teachers and uniformity in education throughout the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any steps have been taken by the Government to introduce accountability in the educational system; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) National Advisory Council (NAC) had given certain suggestions for effective implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), which aims to universalise elementary education. The Council's suggestions in this behalf included, inter alia, operationalisation of National SSA Mission, focus on quality and learning achievements with independent assessment of the latter, Recruitment and Training of Teachers, People's participation, Accountability of Teachers and Government officials,

using new technologies, etc. Most of these issues have been addressed.

(c) and (d) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme for improvement in Teacher Education is already being implemented since 1987-88. Besides, the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) regulates standards in Teacher Education. The National Policy on Education does not envisage a uniform education system throughout the country, but, instead recommends a National System of Education which is based on a common core alongwith other components that are flexible. A revised National Curriculum Framework has been approved in 2005.

(e) and (f) Village Education Committees (VEC)/ Parent-Teacher Associations (PTA)/School Management Committees (SMC) have been set up by various States to monitor and supervise functioning of elementary schools including performance of their teachers. Besides, Central and State Legislatures, Local Bodies, and regulatory institutions like AICTE and NCTE ensure accountability of educational institutions in accordance with the responsibility vested in them under the Constitution or concerned legislation, as the case may be.

#### **National Literacy Mission**

\*235. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Literacy Mission has lost its focus as reported in the *Times of India* dated December 17, 2005;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government proposes to revamp National Literacy Mission; and

(d) if so, the details of the changes and modifications proposed by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) In order to explore the possibilities of convergence of the schemes of National Literacy Mission with development programmes of other Departments, initial meetings have been held with the representatives of Non-Governmental Organisations, literacy activists and representatives of various Departments for further strengthening the existing programmes.

#### **Upliftment of Tribals**

\*236. SHRI D. VITTAL RAO:

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tribal belt has warned of ecological destruction and cultural indoctrination in some parts of the country;

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

(c) the details of the schemes/programmes being implemented for welfare of tribals living in forests, State-wise, particularly in West Bengal;

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government for providing alternative livelihood to such tribals due to shrinking of forest areas; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for the upliftment of such tribals?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) and (b) No specific cases of ecological destruction and cultural indoctrination in tribal areas of the country have been reported to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

(c) to (e) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs implements several Central Sector/Centrally Sponsored Schemes/ Programmes for the socio-economic development of tribal people in all the States/Union Territories, including those living in forests. The schemes of the Ministry relate to income and employment generation, infrastructure development, educational development and improvement in literacy of all the tribal people. Some schemes pertain

to ensuring fair prices for minor forest produce besides the promotion of voluntary effort in the area of tribal welfare. The list of schemes/programmes of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, being implemented in the country, including in the State of West Bengal, is enclosed as statement.

There is no separate scheme specifically for the tribal people living in forests or those affected due to shrinking of forest areas. While land-based activities under various programmes of the Ministry are taken up for providing livelihood opportunities to Scheduled Tribes, the scheme of Grant-in-aid to State Tribal Development Cooperative Corporations (STDCCs) for Minor Forest Produce operations aims at ensuring remunerative prices to tribals engaged in collection of MFPs. This Ministry has, however, decided to take up integrated development of forest villages in 13 States of the country during the remaining period of the Tenth Five Year Plan. The development envisaged would be in terms of providing basic minimum facilities and service, like, safe drinking water, health care, primary education, approach roads and other infrastructure facilities. The Planning Commission has earmarked additional funds to the tune of Rs. 230 crore to this Ministry for this purpose under the Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan during 2005-06, out of which an amount of Rs. 21.04 crore has been given to the State of West Bengal during the current financial year for the development of 170 forest villages in the State.

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has also introduced a Scheduled Tribes (Recognition of Forest Rights) Bill, 2005 in the Lok Sabha on 13-12-2005, which seeks to recognise and vest the forest rights and occupation in forest land in forest dwelling scheduled tribes who have been residing in such forests for generations but whose rights could not be recorded, and to provide a framework for recording the forest rights so vested. The Bill when enacted would recognise the rights of forest dwelling scheduled tribes relating to their (a) tenurial security, providing them relief against the physical and psychological alienation of land belonging to them; (b) livelihood, in terms of subsistence agriculture and ownership of minor forest produce, including rights to collect, trade and process the same; and (c) traditional and customary rights.

### **Statement**

#### *Major Schemes/Programmes of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for the Welfare and Development of Scheduled Tribes*

#### **Central Sector Schemes**

1. Grant in Aid to NGOs for Scheduled tribes including Coaching and Allied and award for exemplary service
2. Vocational Training in Tribal Areas
3. Educational Complex in Low Literacy Pockets
4. Grant-in-Aid to State Tribal Development Cooperative Corporations for Minor Forest Produce
5. Development of Primitive Tribal Groups
6. Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for Scheduled Tribe Students

#### **Centrally Sponsored Schemes**

7. Scheme of Post Matric, Book Bank and Upgradation of Merit of Scheduled Tribe Students
8. Girls Hostel and Boys Hostel for Scheduled Tribes
9. Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub Plan Areas
10. Research Information and Mass Education, Tribal Festival and Others

#### **Special Area Programmes**

11. Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan
12. Grant-in-aid under Article 275(1) of the Constitution

#### **Review of Centrally Sponsored Schemes**

\*237. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the implementation of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes meant for the development of agro and rural industries;

(b) if so, the shortcomings noticed in the implementation of these schemes; and



(c) the steps taken by the Government to overcome these shortcomings?

**THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD):** (a) and (b) Only one Centrally-sponsored scheme, namely, Scheme for Co-operativisation in the Coir Sector, is implemented by the Government in the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries. It has been decided to phase out the scheme on account of low response of the State Governments. A token allocation has been included in the budget estimates for 2006-07 to meet the balance committed liabilities on activities under the scheme.

(c) The Coir Board, a statutory organisation under the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries, implements a number of Central sector schemes for promotion, development, technological upgradation, marketing support, etc., of coir industries in various coconut-growing States.

#### **Rehabilitation of Displaced Tribals**

\*238. SHRI JUAL ORAM:

SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people belonging to Scheduled Tribes displaced due to the establishment of industrial units, particularly in tribal areas of the country such as Orissa, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand during Ninth and Tenth Plans, State-wise;

(b) the number of tribals out of them rehabilitated so far; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to rehabilitate all the displaced people?

**THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH):** (a) to (c) 'Land' and its management falls under the exclusive legislative and administrative jurisdiction of the States as per the Constitution. Therefore, the records of various land use and land reforms, the figures of people displaced as well

as rehabilitated including STs, due to establishment of various development projects, including industrial units, are maintained by the respective State/UT Governments.

However, for ensuring and strengthening the resettlement and rehabilitation (R and R) process in case of development projects, the Government of India in the Ministry of Rural Development has formulated and notified a comprehensive National Policy on Resettlement and Rehabilitation, 2003, on 17-2-2004 for Project Affected Families, including tribals. The guiding principles as enshrined in this policy are required to be followed by various State/UT Governments and project authorities while preparing the R and R Plans. The policy, inter-alia provides a special package for R and R benefits for the Scheduled Tribes in addition. Further, the policy also emphasizes that the compensation package proposed in the policy would be the minimum, and States where Resettlements and Rehabilitation packages are higher than proposed in the said policy, are free to adopt their own packages.

#### **Standard of the Quality of Mid-Day Meal Scheme**

\*239. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any standards have been laid down for the quality of mid-day meal being served to children under Mid-Day Meal Scheme in schools all over the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received complaints about the inferior quality of the meals provided under the Programme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to enforce of the meals served thereon?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI):** (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Guidelines of Mid-Day Meal Scheme stipulate that food served to children should conform to hygiene, wholesomeness and

variety, and should be of minimum 300 calories with 8-12 grams of protein.

(c) and (d) Stray incidents of inferior quality/unhygienic food have been reported in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Orissa, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh and Delhi.

(e) Government has been continuously exhorting States to give full attention to the issue of quality and regular supply of meal. A new initiative has been launched, w.e.f. 1-1-06 to mobilize mothers to take turns to oversee preparation of meal and feeding of children.

### **Rashtriya Mahila Kosh**

\*240. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount earmarked in the Tenth Five Year Plan period for the Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK);

(b) the quantum of loan disbursed so far from the Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK) to women in the country during the said Plan;

(c) whether the Government has issued any fresh guidelines to States for the effective implementation of schemes under the Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK);

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the achievements made in the improvement of living conditions of women after implementation of the schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Rs. 148 crores has been earmarked for Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK) in the 10th Five Year Plan.

(b) Rashtriya Mahila Kosh has disbursed loan aggregating Rs. 5,973.73 lakhs to NGOs and Government Organizations for lending to women beneficiaries from 1-4-2002 to 23-2-2006.

(c) and (d) In August, 2005 a request was made to all States/UTs to popularize the loan schemes of the Kosh. States were urged to avail of RMK loan to meet

credit requirements of Self Help Groups formed under the Schemes of Swayamsidha and Swa-Shakti.

(e) As a result of implementation of schemes, Rashtriya Mahila Kosh has effected remarkable improvement in the status of women in the society, such as:—

- Improved economic and social status of women.
- Increased participation of women in Panchayati Raj.
- Lesser dependence upon moneylenders.
- Increased confidence level among women.
- Increased awareness about importance of schooling.
- Better health care of family members.
- Improvement in nutritional status.
- Improved financial security as a result of easy access to credit.

[Translation]

### **Deployment of PMF Personnels**

\*241. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government deploys para-military forces in various States from time to time to protect the States from internal disturbances;

(b) if so, the percentage of expenses shared by the States and the Centre in this regard;

(c) whether any amount of deployment charges are outstanding against various States;

(d) if so, the details for each of the last three years, State-wise;

(e) whether the Government proposes to provide any package to tide over this situation;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor;

(g) whether the Government has deducted any

amount from the 'Plan' Head of these States to recover arrears; and

(h) if so, names of the States whose funds have been deducted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The Central Para Military Forces (CPMFs) are provided to the State Governments at their request to deal with the internal security, communal and public order situations. The deployment charges as fixed by the Government from time to time are payable by the States except by those which are exempted from such payments.

(c) and (d) A statement indicating the outstanding amount for deployment of CPMFs against various States during the last three years is enclosed.

(e) and (f) Depending upon the prevailing internal security situation in various States, the Government exempts States from recovery of deployment charges. In addition the expenditure on deployment is also reimbursed under the scheme of re-imbursement of Security Related Expenditure in insurgency affected States.

(g) No, Sir.

(h) Does not arise.

**Statement**

*Outstanding dues in Respect of Deployment of CPFS in the States*

(Rupees in Lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of State	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1,89,73	2,31,07	2,80,59
2.	Assam	39,67	44,59	44,00
3.	Bihar	1,61,31	30,27	2,45,59
4.	Chhattisgarh	0	30,27	82,56
5.	Delhi	3,51,44	2,87,70	2,42,68
6.	Delhi Police	20,22	2,61,88	1,79,21
7.	Goa	52	0	2,24
8.	Gujarat	32,35	28,92	26,98
9.	Haryana	48,46	35,96	4,40
10.	Jharkhand	64,61	1,08,03	1,63,45
11.	Kerala	29	36	55
12.	Karnataka	7,22	6,24	13,19
13.	Maharashtra	80	23	1,54
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1,53	1,60	15,56

1	2	3	4	5
15.	Orissa	12,58	33,31	70,19
16.	Pondicherry	5	0	19
17.	Punjab	3,28,78	3,23,99	3,23,93
18.	Rajasthan	16	34	7,03
19.	Tamil Nadu	1,17,50	1,27,81	1,44,56
20.	Uttar Pradesh	2,61,10	3,07,91	3,70,06
21.	Uttaranchal	1,31	4,83	8,78
22.	West Bengal	6,08	30,14	60,17
Total		164571	189545	229745

[English]

**New Scheme for Agro and Rural Industry**

1671. SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering/ implementing any new scheme for agro and rural industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The Central Government has recently approved a new scheme, viz., Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI). This Scheme envisages the development of 100 clusters of the khadi, coir and village industries over five years beginning 2005-06. The guidelines of SFURTI are available on the website of the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries at <http://ari.nic.in>.

**Import of Tyres**

1672. SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received complaints

from Automotive Tyre Manufacturers Association against the import of bus/truck tyres from China/Thailand;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Application for initiation of anti-dumping investigation against import of Bias tyres for bus and lorries/trucks from China PR and Thailand was received from Automotive Tyre Manufacturers Association (ATMA). In their application, ATMA has alleged that dumped imports of Bias tyres for bus and lorries/trucks from China PR and Thailand are causing injury to the domestic industry.

(c) Anti-dumping investigations have been initiated in the case of import of Bias tyres for bus and lorries/trucks from China PR and Thailand on 30-12-2005.

[Translation]

**Reduction in Fee by IIM's**

1673. SHRI TUKARAM GANPATRAO RENGE PATIL:

SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Institute of Managements have effected or propose to effect any reduction in fees to enable poor students to take admission in such institutes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) The matter relating fixation of fees falls within the jurisdiction of respective Board of Governors (BoG) of Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs). These Institutes also provide need based financial assistance to their students.

#### **Shortage of Metals**

1674. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any quota for the supply of zinc, copper etc. to the industrial units of all the States has been fixed;

(b) if so, whether the quota fixed is being provided to these units;

(c) if not, whether the domestic industries of the country are getting affected due to the current shortage of zinc, copper etc.;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the measures taken to meet this shortage;

(e) whether certain big industrial houses are hoarding these raw materials; and

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) The Central Government has not fixed any quota for supply of copper and zinc to industrial units in States.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No shortage of zinc and copper has been reported to the Central Government.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No case of hoarding of these raw materials has come to the notice of the Central Government.

(f) Does not arise.

#### **Donation from Foreign Countries**

1675. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a restriction has been imposed on the Vaishno Devi Shrine to accept donation from foreign countries;

(b) is so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of other such organisations on which the Government has imposed such restrictions during each of the last three years till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Recently, on November 18, 2005, 8,673 associations, including Vaishno Devi Shrine, were placed under prior permission category under section 6(1) of Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976 from receiving foreign contribution, for not filing prescribed annual FC-3 returns, of receipt and utilization of foreign contribution received by the associations, for the preceding three years 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04. However, the order placing Vaishno Devi Shrine in prior permission category has been revoked on 28-2-2006 after the association submitted accounts for receipt of foreign contribution for preceding four years.

(c) Associations found violating the provisions of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976/Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Rules, 1976, after field inspections or detailed inquiry are placed either in prohibited category u/s 10(a) or prior permission category u/s 10(b) of the Act for accepting foreign contribution. The list of such associations is available on the Ministry of Home Affairs' web-site <http://www.mha.nic.in/fore.htm>.

[English]

### Implementation of Janashala Programme

1676. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched Janashala programme in collaboration with United Nation for implementation of the 'Education for All' resolution;

(b) if so, the salient features of the 'Janashala' programme;

(c) the number of districts of various States particularly West Bengal covered under the programme, State-wise;

(d) whether any review of implementation of the Janashala programme has been carried out in the country particularly in West Bengal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) Janashala Programme was a collaborative programme of Government of India and five UN agencies—UNDP, UNICEF, UNESCO, ILO and UNFPA—to provide programme support to the ongoing efforts of Government of India towards achieving Universalization of Elementary Education (UEE). The objective of this community based Programme was to target girls and marginalized children in the project areas and to improve their attendance and performance in primary education. Notable achievements of Janashala have been in the areas of community-based management, multi-grade teaching to overcome constraints in infrastructure and trained teachers, and inclusive education.

The programme covered 139 blocks including ten cities in 30 districts of nine States of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. The programme commenced in 1998 and has concluded on 31st December, 2004.

The programme was externally evaluated by eight

agencies in 2003-04. The State-level Evaluation Reports submitted by the agencies were synthesized by the Indian Institute of Education, Pune and a "National Report" was submitted to Government of India in October, 2004. The Programme was not running in West Bengal and, hence, was not evaluated.

[Translation]

### Sick Prisoners in Tihar Jail

1677. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that large number of prisoners in Tihar Jail are suffering from diseases as reported in Jansatta dated February 04, 2006;

(b) if so, the details of medical facilities being provided to these prisoners;

(c) whether the specialized doctors for Cardiac disease, mental illness and skin disease are available in Tihar Jail;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether any operation theatre is available in the hospital at Tihar Jail; and

(f) if not, the measures taken by the Government to provide the services of specialized doctors alongwith the establishment of operation theatre in the hospital at Tihar Jail, Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) As per information given by Tihar Jail authorities, during the year 2005, 3,284 prisoners (out of an annual turnover of 72,000 prisoners) were diagnosed for different ailments.

(b) In each jail, there is a dispensary which functions on round the clock basis. One Senior Medical Officer assisted by Doctors and para medical staff treats prisoners in the OPD. Medicines are also dispensed to the prisoners from the dispensary itself. Specialized Senior Residents in various specialties visit jail Dispensaries on fixed days and examine the patients requiring such examination. In cases of serious ailments, they are sent to the Hospital situated in Central Jail No.

3 from where, depending upon the gravity of the case, referrals are made to specialized hospitals outside.

(c) and (d) There are Specialists in Psychiatry and Skin in Tihar Jail. Any prisoner requiring consultation/treatment from Cardiologists is referred to hospitals outside.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. A minor operation theatre is available in Tihar Jail with effect from March, 2005.

#### **Status of Primary Education**

1678. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the status of primary education in various States

particularly in Rajasthan as a result of implementation of welfare schemes like free distribution of textbooks, free education and 'Mid-day Meal Schemes', State-wise; and

(b) the time by when the target of cent percent literacy is likely to be achieved, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) A Statement showing the State-wise educational indicators at primary level such as Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER), Drop out rate and Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR) as on 30-9-2003 is enclosed.

(b) The goal of National Literacy Mission (NLM) is to attain a sustainable threshold literacy rate of 75% by 2007.

#### **Statement**

*The State-wise educational indicators at primary level such as Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER), Dropout Rate and Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR) as on 30-9-2003*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Gross Enrolment Ratio	Dropout	Pupil Teacher Ratio
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	87.72	42.61	35
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	109.56	46.34	39
3.	Assam	88.16	53.15	40
4.	Bihar	72.57	59.03	74
5.	Chhattisgarh	123.29	—	47
6.	Goa	97.96	-1.9	20
7.	Gujarat	113.41	26.02	32
8.	Haryana	75.25	13.31	45
9.	Himachal Pradesh	106.47	16.98	21
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	82.10	24.39	21
11.	Jharkhand	79.09	—	73

1	2	3	4	5
12.	Karnataka	108.91	9.75	34
13.	Kerala	96.92	0.00	29
14.	Madhya Pradesh	106.59	23.78	41
15.	Maharashtra	107.60	13.07	37
16.	Manipur	137.51	26.41	28
17.	Meghalaya	105.51	53.41	36
18.	Mizoram	120.17	55.61	18
19.	Nagaland	80.48	32.81	19
20.	Orissa	110.91	38.19	56
21.	Punjab	73.45	22.03	42
22.	Rajasthan	115.07	57.94	46
23.	Sikkim	116.51	53.85	19
24.	Tamil Nadu	116.51	3.23	35
25.	Tripura	122.76	44.8	30
26.	Uttar Pradesh	94.75	13.51	57
27.	Uttaranchal	106.85	—	27
28.	West Bengal	107.33	33.46	55
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	116.05	-0.35	19
30.	Chandigarh	71.44	-3.62	38
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	126.06	28.40	49
32.	Daman and Diu	111.35	0.00	43
33.	Delhi	90.10	22.03	40
34.	Lakshadweep	106.37	3.03	21
35.	Pondicherry	120.37	0.00	24
India		98.31	31.36	45

Source: Selected Educational Statistics 2003-04 (as on 30th September, 2003).



[English]

**Status of Forces on Assam-Nagaland  
Territory Dispute**

1679. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the para military forces are finding it difficult to maintain status quo along the disputed Assam-Nagaland territory as reported in the Assam Tribune dated January 30, 2006;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to augment the forces and to maintain status quo?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) Adequate Central Police Forces (CPF) are deployed on the Assam-Nagaland boundary to assist the State Governments to maintain the status quo in the area. Both the State Governments have also been advised not to take any step which may precipitate the situation on the ground.

**Loan to Entrepreneurs**

1680. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount/number of loan sanctioned to the entrepreneurs under the Khadi and Village Industry during the last three years;

(b) the percentage of women entrepreneurs sanctioned loan during this period;

(c) whether the Government proposes to reserve some of the items to be manufactured by the women only; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) Loans are sanctioned by banks to eligible entrepreneurs for setting up village industries under the Rural Employment Generation

Programme (REGP), implemented by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC).

Further, under the Interest Subsidy Eligibility Certificate (ISEC) Scheme, banks sanction loan to the khadi institutions registered with the KVIC/State Khadi and Village Industries Boards (KVIBs).

The amounts of loans sanctioned by the financing banks under the REGP and the ISEC Scheme, during the last 3 years, are as under:—

(Rs. crore)

Year	Bank loans sanctioned		
	REGP	ISEC Scheme	Total
2002-03	440.69	329.73	770.42
2203-04	604.55	362.70	967.25
2004-05	665.21	278.47	943.68

(b) 26 per cent of the REGP units were sanctioned to women entrepreneurs during this period.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**Mining Survey**

1681. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India and State Mining and Geology Department of Orissa have conducted any survey to find out the major and minor minerals in the State;

(b) if so, the names of the major and minor minerals located area-wise, quantity and quality-wise;

(c) the policy adopted for leasing the minerals by the State to public sector and private sector industries; and

(d) the steps taken by the government of India and the State Government of Orissa to exploit these minerals without exploiting the tribal populations of the area by giving constitutional and legal protections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Details of major mineral occurrences in Orissa are as under:—

(fig. in million tonnes otherwise stated)

Mineral	Location (District-wise)	Grade	Reserves	Remaining Resources
1	2	3	4	5
Bauxite	Koraput, Kalahandi, Keonjhar, Bolangir, Sambalpur, Sundergarh and Phulbani	40-45% Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	332.19	1159.12
Iron-Ore	Keonjhar, Sundargarh, Cuttack, Mayurbhanj and Koraput	60-65% FE	1822.31	1967.00
Chromite	Jajpur, Keonjhar, Dhenkanal and Phulbani	30-52% Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	45.49	129.53
Manganese Ore	Sundargarh, Keonjhar and Koraput	35-46% MnO <sub>2</sub>	36.50	67.20
Lead Ore	Sargipalli, Sundargarh	—	1.08	0.67
Nickel Ore	Jajpur (Sukinda), Mayurbhanj (Simlipal)	700 ppm—2600 ppm reaching upto 0.15% Ni	—	174.48
PGM	Keonjhar (Boula-Nausahi, Sukinda)	Upto 0.03 ppm Pi and 0.03-0.15 ppm Pd	—	14.20 (tonnes)
Limestone	Koraput, Sambalpur and Sundargarh	SMS, LD and Cement	925.09	1113.25
Dolomite	Koraput, Sambalpur and Sundargarh	SMS, LD and Cement	175.58	665.14
Graphite	Sambalpur, Dolangir, Kalahandi, Phulbani and Dhenkanal	—	0.82	1.80
Diamond	Search for Kimberlite/Lamproite continued in the Eastern part of Bastar craton mainly restricted in river valleys	—	One Lamproite idyke located near Sakri in Nuapada	—
Coal	Angula (Mahanadi valley coal field), Jharsuguda (Talcher coal field)	Non-coking power coal	60998	—

1	2	3	4	5
Granite	Ganjam, Bhudrak, Balasore, Gajapati, Koraput, Cuttuck, Puri and Keonjhar.	Berhampur Blue, Pink Granite, Silver Grey, Sea-Weed, Green, Chilka Blue, Grey, Red Pearl, Jeypur Black, Keonjhar Black.	80 Million cu.m.	1763 Million cu.m.

(c) The State Government follows the provisions of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and the Mineral Concession Rules, 1960 for grant of Mining leases of major minerals. The Orissa Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2004 has been formulated by the State Government, for grant/administration of minor minerals of the State. The Orissa Gem Stone Policy, 1998 has been formulated for administration and development of gemstones and processing units in the State.

(d) Policy on Grant of Mining Lease and Transfer of Land for Commercial Projects in Scheduled Area 2003 has been formulated to protect the interest of tribals in the Scheduled Areas. As per provisions of the policy inter-alia preference is given to the tribals and the persons displaced because of mining operations under the Mineral Concession Rules 1960. Rehabilitation and resettlement is as per the Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy of the Government of Orissa.

#### Export of Meat

1682. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of meat exported during each of the last two years and thereafter alongwith the names of the countries and foreign exchange earned therefrom;

(b) whether the export of meat has decreased due to recent bird flu;

(c) whether any country has refused to import meat from India;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the likely loss of foreign exchange as a result thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to protect the Indian meat industry in the international market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The quantity and value of meat and poultry products exported during the last two years are as below:—

(Quantity in MTs; Value in Rs. Crores)

Product	2003-04		2004-05		April 2005-Nov. 2005	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Meat and meat product	370467	1654.79	319760	1696.52	183280	1492.45

Source: DGCI and S, Kolkata.

Country-wise data on export of meat and poultry products is available in the publication of Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI and S).

(b), to (d) There is no impact on the export of meat and meat products. However, the recent outbreak of bird flu in some parts of the country is likely to affect our poultry meat export. USA, Bangladesh and Saudi Arabia

have banned poultry meat from India. Japan has also suspended import of poultry meat from India. It is difficult to assess the loss of foreign exchange on account of such a ban at this stage.

(e) The steps taken by the Government to increase export of poultry products include specification of standards, monitoring of pesticide residues, financial assistance to exporters for developmental and export promotional activities, development of infrastructure/export promotion marketing assistance etc. Further, following steps have been taken to contain the bird flue:—

- Culling and Stamping out all domestic poultry within a radius of 3-4 kms. of the affected area followed by thorough disinfection of premises.
- Vaccination of all poultry within a zone of approx. 6-7 km. around the zone of culling/stamping out.
- Movement control within the infected zone.
- Surveillance has been intensified around the infected area as well as in the entire country.
- Rapid response teams, both from veterinary and public health authorities, are in place.

#### **Production of Aluminium**

1683. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Aluminium Industry (IAI) report has stated that in 2002 there has been an 18-fold expansion of world aluminium production since 1950;

(b) if so, whether multinational companies such as the Arab Aluminium Company are entering into agreement with Indian firms to mine bauxite for the production of aluminium;

(c) if so, whether a large scale mining of bauxite to meet the demand of developed world will devastate the environment specially the areas rich in bauxite such as Kashipur, Kodingamali in Orissa; and

(d) if so, the steps the Government proposes to take to stop devastation of land and water as well as the

displacement of local population by large scale bauxite mining?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) Aluminium production has increased from 15,07,000 Metric Tonnes in 1950 to 2,61,01,000 Metric Tonnes in 2002 as per information made available by International Aluminium Institute (IAI).

(b) As per available information, a multinational company from the Middle East is seeking joint venture with an Indian company for production of alumina/aluminium in Orissa.

(c) and (d) The mining is done only after approval of a mining plan including a progressive mine closure plan, by Indian Bureau of Mines which deals with scientific mining, conservation of minerals and the environment management activities. Besides this, Ministry of Environment and Forests also gives environmental clearance without which no mining activity can commence for fresh areas.

Government of Orissa has, in place, a comprehensive Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy of 1998 which ensures that the interests of the displaced persons are taken care of.

#### **Private Educational Institutions**

1684. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA":  
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:  
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:  
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:  
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:  
MS. INGRID MCLEOD:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether large number of private educational institutions like management and engineering institutes bearing the prefix "Indian" and "National" is affecting the brand equality of IIMs, IITs and IISs as reported in *Times of India* dated January 6, 2006;

(b) if so, whether the Government has taken any action against such private institutions;

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

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check such practice of private institutions in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (d) In August, 2005 this Ministry wrote to the Ministry of Consumer Affairs that certain institutions are prefixing the word Indian and National which is not permitted in terms of Section 3 of the Emblems and Names (Prevention of Improper Use) Act, 1950. The Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, (Department of Consumer Affairs), the nodal Ministry for implementation of the above-said Act, were requested to take necessary action against such institutions which were using names in violation of the provisions of the Act. The AICTE and UGC were also requested to ensure implementation of relevant provisions of the Act.

The AICTE, through their Approval Process Handbook has been bringing to the notice of all concerned that the use of word Indian and/or National and/or All India and/or all India Council and/or Commission in any part of the name of a Technical Institution and/or any name whose abbreviated form leads to IIM/IT/IISc./HIT/AICTE/UGC shall not be permitted. The AICTE through public notice is also advising all approved Institutions to change their names by dropping the word 'Indian and National etc.' failing which, it may withdraw its approval. AICTE is not granting any fresh approval to the Institutes, which wishes to use the word India, National etc.

#### **Financial Assistance for setting up of Agro and Rural Industries**

1685. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether difficulties are being faced by the people in rural and backward areas of Maharashtra in obtaining loans from Nationalized Banks for setting up Agro and Rural Industries;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of financial support provided for setting up Agro and Rural Industries in Maharashtra during the financial year 2005-06?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The Government in the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries provides funds for its two credit-linked subsidy schemes of employment generation, namely, (i) Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) by assisting entrepreneurs in setting up village industries, in rural areas and small towns, and (ii) Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) by providing assistance to the educated unemployed youth in the rural as well as urban areas in setting up self-employment ventures. Subsidy admissible to the beneficiaries of both these schemes is released through banks in combination with the loans provided by these banks. The PMRY is implemented by the States while the REGP is implemented by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) and State Khadi and Village Industries Boards.

Instances of difficulty, if any, faced by the eligible applicants in obtaining loans from banks for setting up REGP/PMRY units are taken up by the KVIC/State Governments concerned in the meetings of the District Level Coordination Committees, District Task Force, State Level Coordination Committees, etc., to sort them out.

(c) Rs. 14.84 crore as margin money and Rs. 30.74 crore as bank loans under the REGP and Rs. 1.28 crore as grant for entrepreneur development and Rs. 37.60 crore as bank loan under the PMRY, have been provided as assistance to the entrepreneurs in Maharashtra during 2005-06 (upto December 2005). The latest State-wise amounts of Central Government subsidy released during 2005-06 to the banks by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) (with which the Central Government deposits the amount of subsidy) have not yet been fully reported by the RBI to the Government.

*[Translation]*

#### **Attack on Members of Parliament**

1686. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:

SHRI HEMMAL MURMU:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the fatal attacks on hon'ble Members of Parliament during each of the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof as on date;

(c) whether the Government has received request from hon'ble Members to provide them 'Y' category security;

(d) if so, the details thereof as on date;

(e) whether the Government has taken any steps or propose to take steps to provide security to hon'ble Members;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the amount spent by the Government on the security of VIPs during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (g) There have been no fatal attacks on Members of Parliament during the last three years as per available information. Several MPs from Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha have requested for providing them with security cover due to security scenario in their constituencies. The categorised security is provided to VIPs either on the basis of the position being held by them or on the basis of threat from terrorist, militants, organized criminal mafia etc. as assessed, in consultation with the central security agencies. Otherwise, the concerned State/local authorities are advised to provide appropriate security as per local threat perception. Representations received from hon'ble Members of Parliament are invariably sent to the concerned State Governments for immediate review of their security and for taking appropriate action.

The amount spent by the Government on security of VIPs is difficult to assess accurately as different agencies are involved for varying durations in various States/UTs for providing effective security to the VIPs.

*[English]*

#### **Exemption of NEC Projects from CCEA**

1687. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the NEC projects were exempted from CCEA/EFC/PIB procedure and other clearances;

(b) if so, whether this exemption is still continued to be given;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether execution of NEC projects got delayed due to endless procedural scrutiny at various levels;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor and the time consumed in giving clearance to each project during 10th Plan;

(f) whether all projects of NEC requires 'in principle' clearance from Planning Commission;

(g) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(h) the extent to which NEC is an independent planning and executing authority?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) to (c) NEC Projects were not being subjected of SFC/EFC procedures prior to 1998-99. It was observed that many NEC projects were suffering from cost and time over-run because of deficient project formulation and monitoring. After a careful review it was decided by the Central Government that scrutiny by SFC/EFC/PIB helps in observance of financial prudence and that the interests of NEC would be better served by implementing projects which are considered viable by SFC/EFC/PIB.

(d) and (e) Due to the requirement of obtaining the Planning Commission's 'in principle' approval for new schemes costing more than Rs. 5 crores and consultation with the Planning Commission, line Ministries, Ministry of Finance (in certain cases) and the State Governments for requisite clarifications and additional information required from implementing agencies, there have been delays in according approval to some projects. The Details are given in the enclosed statement.

(f) and (g) No, Sir. As per the Guidelines for Formulation, Appraisal and Approval of Government funded plan schemes/projects issued by the Ministry of Finance, 'in principle' approval of the Planning

Commission is required for projects costing more than Rs. 5 crore so that the projects are properly formulated and appraised on only such projects which are financially and economically viable are approved for sanction and implementation.

(h) The North Eastern Council Act, 1971, as

amended in 2002 provides that the NEC shall function as a Regional Planning Body for the N.E. States including Sikkim. It has also been provided that the council shall have such power as may be delegated to it by the Central Government. NEC schemes are generally being implemented by the State Governments, the BRO and other agencies.

**Statement**

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	State	Time taken
1	2	3	4
1.	Bhairabi Zamuang	Mizoram	1 year 6 months 26 days
2.	Saitual Saichal NE-Bualpui	Mizoram	—do—
3.	Keitum Artahkawn	Mizoram	1 year 5 months
4.	Pasighat Koyu Ego	Arunachal Pradesh	11 months 13 days
5.	Saichar Dwarbond Phaisen	Assam and Mizoram	—do—
6.	Nari Telem Rema	Arunachal and Assam	1 year 3 months 17 days
7.	Mahadev Tolloi	Manipur	1 year 1 month 4 days
8.	Barapani Umroi Mawlasnai	Meghalaya	11 months 8 days
9.	Saitual Phullen	Mizoram	1 year 6 months 26 days
10.	Upgradation of Mamit Bhairabi	Mizoram	1 year 5 months 4 days
11.	Hazo Nalbari Sarthebari	Assam	11 months 8 days
12.	Lanka Garampani	Assam	—do—
13.	Upgradation of Bhaga Anipur Kanaibazar	Assam	1 year 13 days
14.	Upgradation of Agartala Mohanpur Chebri	Tripura	1 year 9 months 19 days
15.	Rymbai Jallalpur	Assam and Meghalaya	2 years 3 months 21 days
16.	Upgradation of Singhat Sinzawl Tuivai River	Manipur	2 years 5 months 13 days
17.	Upgradation of Agia Mehendipara Phulbari Tura	Assam and Meghalaya	2 years 3 months 21 days/ 2 years 3 months

1	2	3	4
18.	Integrated Conservation and Development of Loktak Lake	Manipur	2 years 5 months 18 days
19.	Medziphema Jalukie Athebong	Nagaland	2 years 6 months 17 days
20.	Improving Air Connectivity in NER		1 year 1 month 17 days

#### **Lease of Chiria and other Mines to IISCO**

1688. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has framed any policy to restore the mines in the Indian hands and the State should not be the sole authority to crash the public sector undertakings;

(b) if so, whether IISCO will get the lease of Chiria and other mines situated in Jharkhand;

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

(d) the details of the decision taken in regard to POSCO?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) The policy framework for mining and utilization of minerals is set out in the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and the National Mineral Policy, 1993. Anyone can undertake mining, based on the economic viability of the project, provided such a person is an Indian national or a company registered in India.

(b) and (c) As per the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and Mineral Concession Rules, 1960, the power for renewal of mining lease in respect of minerals specified in part C (which includes iron ore) of the First Schedule of MMDR Act vest with the State Governments. IISCO had filed an application for renewal of the mining lease for its iron ore mines located in Mouza Jhilingburu, Mouza Budhabura and Mouza Ankua reserved forests in West Singhbhum, Jharkhand before the State Government which were rejected by the State Government. Subsequently, IISCO had filed revision applications before the Tribunal (Mines)

against the orders of the State Government. After due hearing, the Tribunal (Mines) has quashed the orders of the State Government and remanded the cases to the State Government for reconsideration of the renewal applications for the above said areas.

(d) No proposal seeking prior approval of the Central Government for grant of mineral concession in favour of POSCO has been received by the Ministry of Mines as yet from the State Government of Orissa.

#### **Deemed University Status to IASE**

1689. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:

SHRI D.P. SAROJ:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the University Grants Commission (UGC) has not given permission to Institute of Advanced Studies in Education (IASE) a deemed University in Rajasthan to set up study centres;

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

(c) whether IASE has set up more than 900 study centres all over the country;

(d) if so, the action taken in this regard;

(e) whether Income Tax Department raided the IASE's Delhi Study Centres;

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith outcome of the raid;

(g) whether the Universities in Chhattisgarh on being directed to shut down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court are trying to obtain affiliation from IASE; and



(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) According to the information received from the University Grants Commission (UGC), Institute of Advanced Studies in Education (IASE) was not permitted to set up any off campus centre or study centres outside its Headquarters in Sardarshah: (Rajasthan), as they were not covered under the UGC's Guidelines on 'Deemed to be Universities' and did not have the prior approval of the Distance Education Council, which is the competent authority in matters of standards of education in the distance mode.

(c) UGC has informed that as per latest information furnished by IASE, there are 216 study centres. However, earlier, IASE submitted a list of about 700 study centres.

(d) UGC has repeatedly asked IASE to close down all its unauthorized study centres. UGC has also posted notice on its website informing general public about non-recognition of study centres of certain institutions declared as 'Deemed to be Universities', including those of IASE.

(e) and (f) As per the information furnished by IASE, there was a report of an Income Tax raid at KCC Software, a study centre of various universities including that of IASE.

(g) and (h) UGC has stated that it had received a letter from the Government of Chhattisgarh on the issue of Private Universities. The State Government was informed by UGC that the IASE cannot affiliate any institute or college.

### **Chrysotile Asbestos Mining**

1690. SHRI SAI PRATHAP:

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:

SHRI BHANWAR SINGH DANGAWAS:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chrysotile Asbestos Mining has come to a standstill on account of ban imposed on expansion of asbestos mining and renewal of mining lease;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether thousands of poor rural people have become unemployed as a result of this ban;

(d) if so, the action taken in this regard;

(e) whether the Government proposes to lift the ban imposed on asbestos mining;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether a huge amount in foreign exchange is being spent for importing Chrysotile Asbestos;

(h) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) to (d) In view of the deleterious effect of asbestos mining on the health of the workers, the government have ordered the State Governments in 1986 not to grant any new mining lease for asbestos (including chrysotile variety) in the country. In June 1993, government stopped the renewal of existing mining leases of asbestos in the country.

(e) and (f) In 1998, Ministry of Mines approved a S and T Project titled 'Study of Pollution Level in Asbestos Mines and processing plants in Rajasthan' to be undertaken by Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) to assess the feasibility of lifting the ban on expansion of asbestos mining through a scientific study of pollution level in asbestos mines and processing plants in Rajasthan and in Andhra Pradesh and to suggest appropriate mitigation measures. The Study recommended that the ban imposed on grant and renewal of mining leases and expansion of mining may be lifted subject to control of pollution level in work environment of various operations and other remedial measures. IBM has been asked to work out necessary safeguards/measures in consultation with Central Pollution Control Board subject to which chrysotile asbestos mining can be permitted so as to ensure worker's safety. The guidelines have not been finalized yet.

(g) to (i) As per information available, Rs. 125.82 crores, Rs. 182.74 crores and Rs. 198.81 crores (provisional) were spent on import of chrysotile asbestos,

during the years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 respectively.

*[Translation]*

**Agreement with China to Check  
Narcotic Smuggling**

1691. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:  
SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:  
SHRI SHISHUPAL PATLE:  
SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has agreed to cooperate China at the internal level to stop the smuggling of narcotics;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the country through which maximum opium and heroin is being smuggled in India;

(d) whether the Government is holding talks with such countries to check this smuggling;

(e) if so, the time by which an agreement is likely to be signed; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) For cooperation in the field of prevention of illegal production, distribution and trade in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances including chemical precursors and cyber crimes, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on 8-9-2005 between the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India and the Ministry of Public Security of the Peoples Republic of China.

(c) The maximum quantity of heroin is reportedly being smuggled into India from Pakistan.

(d) to (f) Regular talks are being held with Pakistan to check smuggling of drugs across the border and for signing Agreement/MoU on narcotic drugs and related matters.

**Construction Activities on the Borders**

1692. SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR:  
SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has recently stepped up its work of constructing bunkers, watch towers and dams on Indian borders;

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

(c) whether the sector commanders of Indian side have made suggestions to their Pakistani counterparts for conducting joint survey under global positioning;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the reaction of the Government of Pakistan in this regard; and

(f) the action taken by the Government to check such activities of Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) It has been reported that Pakistan Rangers/Army troops are engaged in the construction of bunkers/pill boxes, new posts, observation towers, defence bundhs, etc. along/in close proximity of International Border.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

(f) Strong protest notes are lodged by Border Security Force with their counterparts in Pakistan. Pakistani activities are being closely monitored and suitable remedial measures are being adopted to deny advantage to them.

*[English]*

**IIT Students**

1693. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:  
SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether IIT has sent group of students in the rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details of research assigned to such groups;

(c) the details of report submitted by such groups; and

(d) the extent to which such research will be helpful in the development of rural areas through science?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (d) In some IITs Ph.D. Students especially in Centre for Rural Development and Technology visit rural areas in different parts of the country to carry out detailed field studies on various research topics related to rural development. Also, each year, several B. Tech. students opt for Industrial Training in rural areas and NGOs. Periodically the Departments of the institutes do send students to rural areas for project work.

Research work on development/upgradation of technologies related to reducing drudgery of women, artisans and farmers, value addition of natural products for increased wealth generation, organic food production and storage, renewable energy Agri-horticulture, wasteland reclamation etc. have been very useful for village rooted development. All these help in developing opportunities for employment generation in the rural sector.

[Translation]

#### **Cultivation Along the Border**

1694. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether farmers are facing problems in cultivation along the border;

(b) if so, whether any inconvenience in cultivation has been reported by farmers on Bikaner border;

(c) whether secessionist guerrillas have converted Manipur Valley into death field by laying landmines in fields and barns; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) Farmers are permitted to cultivate their fields ahead of the fencing. However, due to security considerations, some restrictions have been imposed like not to cultivate crops having a height more than four feet, etc. Cultivation has also been restricted to hours of daylight.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) It has been reported that underground outfits have laid landmines/booby traps in and around villages in Thanlon and Tipaimukh sub-Divisions of Churachandpur District.

(d) The army has taken steps to demine these areas. The State Government has been advised to launch awareness campaign in coordination with local media to educate the populace with regard the dangers of Improvised Explosive Devices.

[English]

#### **Iodised Salt**

1695. SHRI P. MOHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the industries which are producing iodised salt in the country;

(b) the import/export of salt during the last two years and thereafter alongwith foreign exchange earned/paid, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government proposed to modify the Salt Policy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) There are 807 iodised salt producing units registered with Salt Commissionerate. Statement-I showing the State-wise break-up of iodised salt producing units is enclosed.

(b) State-wise details of Import/Export of salt are not centrally maintained. Statement-II showing details of salt, Imported/Exported during the last 2 years and foreign exchange paid/earned is enclosed.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Does not arise.

**Statement-I**

*The State-wise break-up of iodised salt producing units*

Sl. No.	State	Total No. of Plants	Installed Capacity (In '000 Tonnes)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	35	432
2.	Tamil Nadu	71	134
3.	Gujarat	320	7476
4.	Rajasthan	299	1866

1	2	3	4
5.	Maharashtra	13	131
6.	Karnataka	5	32
7.	West Bengal	39	75
8.	Orissa	8	78
9.	Assam	3	71
10.	Nagaland	1	10
11.	Tripura	3	16
12.	Himachal Pradesh	1	12
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	5	64
14.	Uttar Pradesh	2	16
15.	Meghalaya	1	15
16.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	2
Total		807	11645

**Statement-II**

*The year-wise break-up of import/export of salt during the last 2 years and foreign exchange paid/earned*

Year	Import (Quantity in thousand kg.)	Value (Rs. in lakhs)	Export (Quantity in thousand kg.)	Value (Rs. in lakhs)
2003-04	21,604.53	406.88	370,518.05	4,851.80
2004-05	29,595.95	414.65	2,119,294.77	15,301.84
2005-06	6,524.71	94.26	1,134,835.95	8,530.59

Source: D.G.C.I. and S. Data.

[Translation]

**Foreigners Visit in India**

1696. SHRI SHISHUPAL PATLE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the number of foreigners visited the country during each of the last

three years, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): As per the information available, the number of foreigners arrived in India during 2002, 2003 and 2004 are 24,49,937; 28,03,240; and 34,78,444 respectively.

*[English]***Unutilisation of Funds**

1697. DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) whether huge funds are lying unutilized in the NE Non-lapsable Account;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken to utilize this fund; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to ensure that the funds deposited to NE Non-lapsable Account are fully utilized?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) to (c) As per provisional figures, on 01-04-2005 the notional balance under Non-lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR) was Rs. 3676.61 crore. In the current financial year (2005-06) Ministry was provided budgetary provision of Rs. 585.00 crore and out of this so far we have already released Rs. 563.73 crore leaving a balance of Rs. 3112.88 crore in the notional pool. Against this balance amount we have the committed liabilities of Rs. 1438.92 crore to be met for the already sanctioned projects. Projects worth Rs. 1635.89 crore are in the pipeline at different stages of preparation and sanction.

**Setting up of Science University**

1698. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to set up Science University in the country as reported in 'Nav Bharat Times' dated January 14, 2006;

(b) if so, the details of the place where they are likely to be located;

(c) the time by which they are likely to be set up; and

(d) the total expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (d) While no proposal to set up any Central Science University in the country is under consideration, the Government is in the process of setting up two Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research at Pune and Kolkata with an expenditure of Rs. 500.00 crores each spread over a period of seven years.

**Appointment of Heads of Educational Institutions**

1699. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:

SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has not been following DOPT rules with regard to the appointment of Heads of Government Educational Institutions as reported in Hindustan Times dated January 19, 2006.

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

(c) whether the Ministry has proposed to remove differences between Ministry and DOPT; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

*[Translation]***Scholarship to ST Students**

1700. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:

SHRI AJIT JOGI:

SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of students belonging to Scheduled

Tribe category provided scholarships during the last two years, State-wise;

(b) whether the scholarships have been given to the students living below the poverty line;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government proposes to introduce new scholarship scheme for research scholars of Scheduled Tribe;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether Government is aware that crores of rupees of scholarship is being embezzled every year by false registration of students in certain States;

(g) if so, the States where such cases have come to light during the last three years; and

(h) the action taken against guilty persons?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) The State-wise number of students belonging to STs provided scholarships under the "Post Matric Scholarship (PMS) Scheme for STs" of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, during the last two years is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) As per the PMS Scheme, those students were eligible for the Post Matric Scholarship (during the aforesaid years) whose parents'/guardians' income from all sources was upto Rs. 1.00 lakh per annum.

(d) and (e) During the current financial year the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has launched a new Central Sector Scheme called "Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship" Scheme for ST students to enable them to pursue higher studies leading to M.Phil and Ph.D. The scheme covers all Universities/Institutions recognized by the University Grant Commission (UGC) under section 2(f) of the UGC Act. The scheme is implemented through UGC, and the beneficiaries are entitled to get fellowship on UGC pattern.

(f) to (h) It is not true that every year crores of rupees of Scholarship are being embezzled. However, during the last three years one case of false registration of students in the State of Andhra Pradesh during 2002-03 has been

brought to the notice of Government. The Andhra Pradesh State Government has constituted a Committee to enquire into the matter. Based on the findings of the Enquiry Report action was taken against guilty officials i.e. suspension/dismissal/attachment of properties/freezing of Bank Accounts.

**Statement**

Sl. No.	Name of State/ UT	2003-04 Actual Beneficia- ries	2004-05 Actual Beneficia- ries
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	69427	107562
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	8190	*13347
3.	Assam	57850	15117
4.	Bihar	1796	1785
5.	Gujarat	162446	97923
6.	Himachal Pradesh	2956	2810
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	993	5783
8.	Karnataka	31892	37468
9.	Kerala	5200	5783
10.	Madhya Pradesh	41649	55019
11.	Maharashtra	55449	77923
12.	Manipur	30274	31427
13.	Meghalaya	41869	*43962
14.	Mizoram	17612	38368
15.	Nagaland	27615	*31757
16.	Orissa	39113	33623
17.	Rajasthan	68404	73297
18.	Sikkim	672	647

1	2	3	4
19.	Tamil Nadu	1545	2108
20.	Tripura	6251	7438
21.	Uttar Pradesh	468	5079
22.	West Bengal	11135	20764
23.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	111	184
24.	Daman and Diu	19	24
25.	Uttaranchal	9839	10277
26.	Chhattisgarh	54645	46752
27.	Jharkhand	8187	20452
28.	Goa	262	557
<b>Total</b>		<b>755869</b>	<b>787236</b>

\*Anticipated beneficiaries.

#### Trade Fairs in Rural Areas

1701. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to organize trade fairs in rural areas of the country especially in Uttar Pradesh in order to promote agro and rural industries;

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

(c) the names of districts in the country particularly Uttar Pradesh selected for organizing trade fairs during the current financial year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has a target of organizing 3 National, 6 Zonal, 16 State and 250 district level exhibitions/trade fairs of khadi and village industry (KVI) products in different parts of the country, including

Uttar Pradesh. The State-wise number of district-level exhibitions/trade fairs organized/scheduled during 2005-06 are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The names of the districts selected by the KVIC for organising trade fairs/exhibitions are being compiled.

#### Statement

*State-wise details of number of districts proposed for holding district level exhibitions*

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	Number of districts proposed for holding district level exhibitions
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15
2.	Assam	8
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	2
4.	Bihar	5
5.	Chhattisgarh	10
6.	Delhi	12
7.	Gujarat	10
8.	Goa	2
9.	Haryana	10
10.	Himachal Pradesh	2
11.	Jharkhand	5
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	2
13.	Karnataka	15
14.	Kerala	10
15.	Maharashtra	16
16.	Madhya Pradesh	10
17.	Manipur	2

1	2	3
18.	Meghalaya	2
19.	Mizoram	2
20.	Nagaland	2
21.	Orissa	5
22.	Punjab	12
23.	Rajasthan	17
24.	Sikkim	2
25.	Tamil Nadu	25
26.	Tripura	2
27.	Uttaranchal	10
28.	Uttar Pradesh	30
29.	West Bengal	5
Total		250

*[English]***Ban on Import of Soda Ash**

1702. SHRI HARIN PATHAK:

SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Gujarat has requested the Union Government to ban the import of Soda Ash from American Natural Soda Ash Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[Translation]***Total Literacy Programme**

1703. KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce a scheme in the country with financial/technical assistance from United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) for achieving total literacy particularly in the rural areas of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the areas identified for implementing this scheme, State-wise;

(d) the time by which this scheme is proposed to be implemented; and

(e) the State-wise amount of funds allocated for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

*[English]***Appointment of Teachers**

1704. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has assessed the requirement of teachers all over the States; if not, whether the Government has conducted any State-wise survey in this regard;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any resolution was taken by the Government in respect of teachers required upto eighth class;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the States which has adopted this resolution;



(e) whether the Government has any proposal to take immediate action against those States which have not adopted the resolution of the Government of India;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (g) The Xth Plan had projected a total requirement of 10.66 lakh additional teachers during the plan period for the primary and upper primary stages of elementary education. Under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), 7.72 lakh posts of additional teachers have been sanctioned. States/UTs had recruited 4.92 lakh teachers till 31st December, 2005 under SSA.

The cumulative progress in recruitment of teachers under SSA has been slow in the States of West Bengal (22% of sanctioned posts), Madhya Pradesh (56%) and Jharkhand (56%). Recruitment of teachers was delayed in some States on account of Assembly/Panchayat elections (Bihar, Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh) and Court orders (Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and West Bengal).

[Translation]

**Rural Mobile Phone Scheme of  
Bangladesh**

1705. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:  
SHRI SHISHUPAL PATLE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether internal security of India is getting affected due to Bangladesh Mobile rural Phone Call Scheme as reported in the Rashtriya Sahara dated January 6, 2006;

(b) if so, the length in kilometers upto which signals of Bangladeshi phones are available inside the Indian territory;

(c) whether the Government has taken up the matter with the Government of Bangladesh;

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

(e) whether the Government proposes to install jammers along the border; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by the government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The anti national elements, smugglers and other miscreants active along both sides of the Indo-Bangladesh Border use the Bangladesh mobile rural phone service. These signals are available on the Indian side in places upto several kilometers, depending upon the terrain of the area.

(c) and (d) This matter has been taken up with the Government of Bangladesh, in December, 2005. The Government of Bangladesh has not yet responded in this regard.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

[English]

**Foreign Direct Investment**

1706. SHRI SURENDRA PRAKASH GOYAL:  
SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA:  
DR. RAJESH MISHRA:  
SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID:  
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:  
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has constituted a Group of Ministers (GoM) on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI);

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the composition of the Group;

(c) whether the meetings of GoM are regularly held;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the steps being taken by the Government for the timely disposal of the FDI cases;

(e) whether the Group of Ministers (GoM) recently held a meeting on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI);

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith recommendations given by this Group; and

(g) the details of recommendations accepted by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (g) A Group of Ministers (GoM) was constituted to consider specific proposals related to review of the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy. Based on the recommendations of GoM, decisions have since been taken by the Government which have been notified on 10-02-2006.

[Translation]

#### Vacant Posts in IIITs

1707. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts of Teaching/Non-teaching staff (lecturers) lying vacant in Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIITs) particularly in IIITM, Gwalior;

(b) if so, the time by which these are likely to be filled-up;

(c) whether reservation rules relating to SC/ST have been followed in filling of these posts;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the amount spent so far in setting up of IIITM, Gwalior and the amount proposed to be spent further;

(f) whether the number of students there is sufficient;

(g) whether there is a shortage of lecturers in proportion to the number of students; and

(h) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) At present 35 teaching posts and 15 non-teaching posts are vacant in Atal Bihari Vajpayee-Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management, Gwalior.

(b) The Institute is taking action to fill-up the vacant posts.

(c) and (d) IIIT and M. Gwalior has informed that they are following the rules relating to reservation for SC/STs.

(e) The Government has released grants-in-aid of Rs. 7805.08 lakhs under Plan and Rs. 1360.25 lakhs under Non Plan to ABV-IIITM, Gwalior from 1997-98 till date. The amount proposed to be granted to the Institute for the financial year 2006-07 is Rs. 600.00 lakhs under Plan and Rs. 463.00 lakhs under Non Plan.

(f) The number of students at present is less than the sanctioned strength in ABV-IIITM, Gwalior.

(g) and (h) The post of lecturers is not a Government approved post in ABV-IIITM, Gwalior.

[English]

#### Amendment in Foreigner Act

1708. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH:

SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:

SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to amend Foreigners Act;

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

(c) the reasons for bringing such amendment in foreigners Act; and

(d) the extent to which the problem in deporting of illegal migrants is likely to be solved by such amendments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

**Infiltration/Smuggling from Bangladesh**

1709. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:

SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether large number of infiltrators are entering in the country and smuggling goods from Bangladesh through the goods train playing between India and Bangladesh;

(b) if so, whether a large number of smuggled goods have been seized from the said train during a raid conducted recently;

(c) if so, the details in this regard;

(d) whether the Government has received any report from BSF in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken by the Government to check such activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (e) Normally, infiltration from across the border takes place clandestinely. It is difficult to determine the precise magnitude of infiltration and smuggling of goods from across the border. During January, 2006, the goods like plastic materials, scrap, battery ash, CFC cylinders, palm oil, cigarettes, zinc ore etc., worth Rs. 26,05,280/- were seized in raids, jointly conducted by BSF, Customs and State Police.

(f) To check smuggling of goods from across the border, Government has taken a number of steps which include:—

(i) Erection of Fencing all along the border;

(ii) Round the clock surveillance of the border by patrolling;

(iii) Conduct special operations including naks/ambushes;

(iv) Use of night vision devices;

(v) Establishment of floating BOPs; and

(vi) Upgradation of intelligence network.

**Private Universities/Vocational Institutes**

1710. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO:

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any action against any Private University and Vocational Institutes who are not following the norms fixed by the Government;

(b) if so, the number and names of such Private Universities and Institutes during last two years and the matters on which action has been taken against them; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) **Private Universities:** According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), no complaint have been received against any Private University enlisted in the list of Universities maintained under Section 2 (f) of the UGC Act, 1956.

**Private Vocational Institutes:** There is a procedure for evaluation of Vocational Institutes, which are already affiliated to National Council for Vocational Training (NCVT) and in case facilities are found inadequate, the affiliation granted is withdrawn. A list of 25 Institutes, de-affiliated by the NCVT during last two years is enclosed as statement.

(Source: DGET, Ministry of Labour and Employment).

**Statement****Number and Names of the Institute's De Affiliated during last 2 years**

Sl. No.	State and Meeting Date	Address of Institute	Deaffiliation cases	Date of Inspection
1	2	3	4	5
1.	29-6-2004 AP-1 no., Chattisgarh-5 nos.	<b>Chhattisgarh</b> (1) R.N.S. Memorial Tech. Instt., Durg (2) Survodaya ITC, Gunderdeni, Durg (3) Sunrise ITC, Dhanora, Durg (4) Adarsh ITC, Ramnagar, Supela, Durg (5) Gramin Kalyan ITC, Aheri, Durg <b>Andhra Pradesh</b> (1) Kakatiya ITC, Paddappli Karim Nagar	5+1=6	January to March 2004
2.	19-10-2004 Orissa-1 no.	Dr. Ambedkar ITC (Women), Jagda, Rourkela, Distt-Sundargarh	1 case	July 2004
3.	31-01-2005 Orissa-15 nos., Punjab-1 no.	<b>Orissa</b> (1) Private ITC, B-1 and 3, Industrial Estate, At+PO-Jharsuguda (2) Council of Tribal Rural Development ITC, Industrial Estate, Phulbani, Distt. Kandhamal, (3) Mardaraja Stenography Institute, Khallikote, Distt.-Ganjam (4) Private ITC, Finesse Beauty Parlour, Plot No.-B/55, Sahid Nagar, Bhubaneswar-751007 (5) Institute of Management and Marketing Studies, Link Road, Badambadi, Cuttack-753012 (6) Western Orissa ITC, At- Jiridmali PO-Kamakhayanagar,	15+1=16	June/July 2004

1	2	3	4	5
		(7) NICE ITC, Plot No. 1184, Bomikhal, Bhubaneswar-751010, Distt.-Khurda, Orissa		
		(8) Jagannath Institute of Industrial Training ITC, Bugdia, PO- Chendipada, Distt.-Angul		
		(9) Private ITC of Rajendra Narayan Institute of Technology, At + PO- Narasinghpur, Distt.-Cuttack		
		(10) Indian Institute of Career of Information Technology ITC, AT+ PO-Main Road-Jeypore, Distt.- Moraput		
		(11) Mahila Sikhaya Sadan ITC, College Square, Cuttack, Pin 751003		
		(12) Mahatma Gandhi ITC, Ganjam		
		(13) Chaitali ITC, Keonjhar		
		(14) Capital ITC, Bhubaneswar		
		(15) Rural ITC, Kendrapara		
		<b>Punjab</b>		
		Baba Farid ITC, New Mukatsar Road, Guru Harsahai, Distt.-Ferozepur		
4. 12-1-2006	<b>Tamil Nadu</b>			
Tamil Nadu-2 nos.	(1) Chengalputtu ITC, Chengalpettu		2 nos	March 2005
	(2) Sri Renugambal ITC, Polar Tq.			
	<b>Total</b>		<b>25 cases</b>	

*[English]***Foreign Funding to Madarsas**

1711. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has carried out any

survey regarding foreign funding to madarsas in border areas of the country; particularly in Gujarat and Rajasthan States;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard and the outcome of such survey;

(c) the names of the countries providing assistance to these madarasas; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

#### **Coir Industries**

1712. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of coir industries running under the Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries; and

(b) the details of the progress achieved in the Coir Sector by the Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The Coir Board, in consultation with State Governments, has sent proposals for 16 coir clusters in the States of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Maharashtra, Lakshadweep and Andman and Nicobar for possible inclusion in the Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries. The number of coir industry units under the scheme has not been finalized so far.

*[Translation]*

#### **Awarding of Padma Bhushan and Padma Shree**

1713. SHRI ILYAS AZMI:

SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the name of the persons who have been honoured with Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shree awards during each of the last three years;

(b) the procedure adopted by the Government for awarding these awards;

(c) whether the Union Government conduct any enquiry of their own or through any other agency prior to giving award to awardees;

(d) if so, the details and name of the agency;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) the name of the persons whose name were considered for the above awards but were not found suitable;

(g) the qualifications required for the aforesaid awards and then composition of the Committee which decides them; and

(h) the name of the authority which finalises the list of awardees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT):

(a) The names of the persons who have been honoured with Padma Awards during the years 2004 and 2005 and those who have been selected for Padma awards for the year 2006 are given in the enclosed statement-I.

(b) In terms of the extant practice/guidelines, recommendations for Padma Awards are invited every year from State Governments/UT Administrations, Ministries/Departments of the Government of India, Bharat Ratna and Padma Vibhushan Awardees and Institutes of Excellence. Nominations received from them and others (including self recommendations) are placed before the Padma Awards Committee for its consideration. The committee's recommendations are submitted to the Prime Minister and the President for approval.

(c) and (d) It is the practice to have discreet enquiries carried out through top investigating/intelligence agencies of the Central Government, namely, Intelligence Bureau, Central Bureau of Investigation, Central Board of Direct Taxes, Directorate of Revenue Intelligence and Central Excise Intelligence and from Research and Analysis Wing (in respect of foreigner) to ascertain if there is anything adverse on record against any of the persons recommended by the awards committee.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) A list of the persons considered for Padma Awards during the years 2004, 2005 and 2006 is enclosed as statement-II.

(g) Any person without any distinction of race, occupation, position or sex is eligible for the awards. In terms of the Statutes and Rules governing the Padma Awards, Padma Vibhushan is awarded for exceptional and distinguished service, Padma Bhushan for distinguished service of high order and Padma Shri for distinguished service in any field. The Padma Awards Committee comprises three official members and four to six eminent persons nominated by the Prime Minister.

(h) The awards are approved by the President.

**Statement-I**

*Awards Conferred in the Year—2004*

**PADMA VIBHUSHAN**

1. Ms. Amrita Pritam
2. Prof. Jayant Vishnu Narlikar
3. Justice (Retd.) Shri Manepalli Narayana Rao Venkatachaliah

**PADMA BHUSHAN**

4. Smt. Alarmel Valli
5. Dr. (LT. Gen.) Bijoy Nandan Shahi
6. Just. (Rtd.) Chandrashekhar Shankar Dharmadhikari
7. Dr. (Prof.) Chennamaneni Hanumantha Rao
8. Prof. Gopi Chand Narang
9. Prof. Govindarajan Padmanaban
10. Shri Gulzar
11. Late Shri Komal Kothari
12. Dr. Krishna Srinivas
13. Shri Madhav Vittal Kamath

14. Shri Madurai Thirumalai Nambi Seshagopalan
15. Dr. Smt. N. Rajam
16. Smt. Poomima Arvind Pakvasa
17. Prof. Sardara Singh Johl
18. Shri Soumitra Chatterjee
19. Shri Thoppil Varghese Antony
20. Shri Tiruvengadam Lakshman Sankar
21. Shri Vishnu Prabhakar
22. Shri Yoshiro Mori

**PADMA SHRI**

23. Shri A. Hariharan
24. Prof. Anil Kumar Gupta
25. Smt. Anju Bobby George
26. Shri Anupam Kher
27. Dr. Arun Trimbak Dabke
28. Dr. Ashwin Balachand Mehta
29. Prof. Asifa Zamani
30. Shri Aubakir Dastanuly Nilibayev
31. Shri Bal Gangadhar Samant
32. Shri Batchu Lutchmiah Srinivasa Murthy
33. Pandit Bhajan Sopori
34. Shri Bharathi Rajaa
35. Smt. Bharati Shivaji
36. Dr. (Smt.) Dalip Kaur Tiwana
37. Pt. Damodar Keshav Datar
38. Dr. Devi Prasad Shetty
39. Shri Dilip Kumar Tirkey
40. Ms. Flora Isabel MacDonald
41. Dr. Gopal Prasad Sinha

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| 42. Smt. Gowri Ishwaran                           | 71. Smt. Queenie Rynjah                        |
| 43. Smt. Gurmayum Anita Devi                      | 72. Shri Rahul Dravid                          |
| 44. Prof. Hamlet Bareh Ngapynta                   | 73. Prof. (Dr.) Rajan Saxena                   |
| 45. Shri Haridwaramangalam A. Kumarvel Palanivel  | 74. Prof. Rajpal Singh Sirohi                  |
| 46. Prof. (Dr.) Heinrich Freiherr Von Stietencron | 75. Dr. Ramesh Chandra Shah                    |
| 47. Shri Heisnam Kanhailal                        | 76. Yogacharya Sadashiv Prahlad Nimbalkar      |
| 48. Ms. K.M. Beenamol                             | 77. Dr. Samuel Paul                            |
| 49. Shri Kadri Gopalnath                          | 78. Shri Satish Kumar Kaura                    |
| 50. Shri Kanhaiya Lal Sethia                      | 79. Dr. Sharad Moreswar Hardikar               |
| 51. Shri Kantibhai Baldevbhai Patel               | 80. Smt. Sharayu Daftary                       |
| 52. Guru Keezhpadam Kumaran Nair                  | 81. Dr. Shyam Narain Panday                    |
| 53. Prof. Kesava Paniker Ayyappa Paniker          | 82. Dr. Siddhartha Mehta                       |
| 54. Shri Krishn Kanhai                            | 83. Smt. Sikkil Natesan Neela                  |
| 55. Dr. Kudli Nanjuda Ghanpathi Shankara          | 84. Smt. Sikkil Venkatraman Kunjumani          |
| 56. Dr. Kumarpal Desai                            | 85. Shri Sourav Ganguly                        |
| 57. Dr. Lalji Singh                               | 86. Dr. Subhash Chand Manchanda                |
| 58. Shri Leeladhar Jagoodi                        | 87. Smt. Sudha Raghunathan                     |
| 59. Shri Maguni Charan Das                        | 88. Shri Sudhir Tailang                        |
| 60. Prof. Mamannamana Vijayan                     | 89. Prof. (Smt.) Sunita Jain                   |
| 61. Shri Manoranjan Das                           | 90. Pandit Surinder Singh                      |
| 62. Kumari Meher Jehangir Banaji                  | 91. Dr. Surinder Kumar Sama                    |
| 63. Shri Morup Namgial                            | 92. Dr. Syed Shah Mohammed Hussaini            |
| 64. Shri Nalini Ranjan Mohanty                    | 93. Dr. (Smt.) Tatyana Yakovlevna Elizarenkova |
| 65. Shri Nampally Divakar                         | 94. Dr. Tumkur Seetharamiah Prahlad            |
| 66. Shri Neyyattinkara Vasudevan                  | 95. Guru Shri Veemala Jayaram Rao              |
| 67. Shri P. Parameswaran                          | 96. Dr. Vishweshwaraiiah Prakash               |
| 68. Ms. Premiata Puri                             |  |
| 69. Prof. Prithvi Nath Kaula                      |  |
| 70. Shri Purshottam Das Jalota                    |  |

*Awards Conferred in the Year—2005*

**PADMA VIBHUSHAN**

1. Dr. Bal Krishna Goyal



2. Shri Jyotindra Nath Dixit
3. Dr. Karan Singh
4. Prof. Marthanda Varma Sankaran Valiathan
5. Shri Milon Kumar Banerji
6. Dr. Mohan Dharla
7. Pandit Ram Narayan
8. Shri Rasipuram Krishnaswamy Laxman

**PADMA BHUSHAN**

9. Shri A. Ramachandran
10. Dr. Andre Beteille
11. Dr. Anil Kohli
12. Shri Azim Premji
13. Shri Balraj Puri
14. Dr. Brijmohan Lall Munjal
15. Shri Chandi Prasad Bhatt
16. Shri Girish Chandra Saxena
17. Shri Gopichettipalayam Venkataramana Iyer Ramakrishna
18. Dr. Hari Mohan
19. Prof. Irfan Habib
20. Dr. Kiran Mazumdar Shaw
21. Shri Koduru Iswara Varaprasad Reddy
22. Prof. Kolli Srinath Reddy
23. Shri Madath Thekepat Vasudevan Nair
24. Prof. Mrinal Miri
25. Dr. Mrinal Datta Chaudhuri
26. Dr. Narasimhiah Seshagiri
27. Shri Probodh Chandra Manna Dey
28. Prof. (Ms.) Qurratulain Hyder

29. Dr. Sardar 'Anjum'
30. Shri Syed Mir Qasim
31. Dr. Tarlochan Singh Kler
32. Shri Tumkur Ramaiya Satish Chandran
33. Prof. Valangiman Subramanian Ramamurthy
34. Shri William Mark Tully
35. Dr. Yash Raj Chopra
36. Dr. Yusuf Khwaja Hamied

**PADMA SHRI**

37. Shri Amin Kamil
38. Prof. Amiya Kumar Bagchi
39. Shri Anil Kumble
40. Shri Banwari Lal Chouksey
41. Prof. Bhagavatula Dattaguru
42. Shri Bilal Paswan 'Vihangam'
43. Shri Chaturbuj Meher
44. Dr. Cyrus Soli Poonawalla
45. Prof. Darchhawna
46. Dr. Dipankar Banerjee
47. Shri Gadul Singh Lama (Sanu Lama)
48. Ustad Ghulam Sadiq Khan
49. Smt. Gladys June Staines
50. Dr. Govindaswamy Bakthavathsalam
51. Shri Gurbachan Singh Randhawa
52. Kum. Hema Bharali
53. Ms. Indira Jaising
54. Prof. Jagtar Singh Grewal
55. Dr. Jitendra Mohan Hans
56. Shri K.C. Reddy

57. Smt. Kavita Krishnamurti Subramaniam
58. Guru Kedar Nath Sahoo
59. Smt. Komala Varadan
60. Smt. Krishnan Nair Santhakumari Chithra
61. Smt. Kumkum Mohanty
62. Shri Kunnakudi Ramaswami Sastri Vaidyanathan
63. Rev. (Dr.) Lalsawma
64. Prof. Madappa Mahadevappa
65. Prof. Madhu Sudan Kanungo
66. Shri Mammen Mathew
67. Shri Manas Chaudhuri
68. Shri Manuel Santana Aguiar alias M. Boyer
69. Ms. Mehrunnisa Parvez
70. Shri Muzaffar Ali
71. Shri Nana M. Chudasama
72. Dr. Narendra Nath Lavu
73. Dr. Paneenazhikath Narayana Vasudeva Kurup
74. Shri Pullela Gopi Chand
75. Shri Punaram Nishad
76. Shri Puran Chand Wadali
77. Ms. Rachel Thomas
78. Lt. Col. Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore
79. Shri Shahrukh Khan
80. Smt. Shameem Dev Azad
81. Dr. Shantaram Balwant Mujumdar
82. Smt. Shobhana Bhartia
83. Shri Sougajam Thanil Singh
84. Dr. Srikumar Banerjee
85. Ms. Sunita Narain

86. Shri Sushil Sahai
87. Raasacharya Swami Ram Swaroop Sharma
88. Smt. Theilin Phanbuh
89. Shri Vasudevan Gnana Gandhi
90. Dr. Veer Singh Mehta
91. Smt. Yumlembam Gambhini Devi

*Awards Conferred in the Year—2006*

**PADMA VIBHUSHAN**

1. Shri Adoor Gopalakrishnan
2. Shri Charles Correa
3. Shri Colathur Rama Krishnaswamy Rao Sahib
4. Ms. Mahasveta Devi
5. Dr. (Ms.) Nirmala Deshpande
6. Dr. Norman E. Borlaug
7. Prof. Obaid Siddiqui
8. Prof. Prakash Narain Tandon
9. Justice Visheshwar Nath Khare

**PADMA BHUSHAN**

10. Shri A.K. Hangal
11. Ustad Abdul Halim Jaffer Khan
12. Shri Arjan Singh
13. Shri Deepak S. Parekh
14. Mrs. Devaki Jain
15. Dr. (Smt.) Dinesh Nandini Dalmia
16. Dr. Dusan Zbavitel
17. Shri Ganga Prasad Birla
18. Ustad Ghulam Mustafa Khan
19. Mr. Gregory Bongard-Levin
20. Late Dr. Gunter Kruger

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|--|--------------------------------------|
| 21. Shri Hira Lal Sibal                            | 49. Dr. Anil Prakash Joshi           |
| 22. Dr. Jaiveer Agarwal                            | 50. Shri Aribam Shyam Sharma         |
| 23. Air Commodore Jasjit Singh                     | 51. Dr. B. Palaniappan               |
| 24. Prof. Kalapathi Ganapathi Subramanyan          | 52. Shri Bahadur Singh               |
| 25. Shri Kamleshwar Prasad Saxena                  | 53. Shri Bonbehari Vishnu Nimbkar    |
| 26. Dr. Kewal Kishan Talwar                        | 54. Dr. D. Chinnaiiah                |
| 27. Shri Konidala Chiranjeevi                      | 55. Smt. Fatma Rafiq Zakaria         |
| 28. Shri Kunnath Puthiyaveetil Padmanabhan Nambiar | 56. Smt. Gayatri Sankaran            |
| 29. Prof. Lokesh Chandra                           | 57. Dr. Ghanashyam Mishra            |
| 30. Prof. Madhav Gadgil                            | 58. Prof. Hakeem Syed Zillur Rahman  |
| 31. Prof. Moolamattom Varkey Pylee                 | 59. Dr. Harbhajan Singh Rissam       |
| 32. Shri Nandan M. Nilekani                        | 60. Swami Hari Govind                |
| 33. Prof. Natuvilmatom Srinivasan Ramaswamy        | 61. Dr. Harsh Kumar Gupta            |
| 34. Shri Pavani Parmeswara Rao                     | 62. Dr. Ilena Citaristi              |
| 35. Late Smt. Porayath Leela                       | 63. Shri Jatindra Nath Chaudhry      |
| 36. Shri Puthenveetil Sankar Nair Appu             | 64. Prof. (Dr.) Kamal Kumar Sethi    |
| 37. Shri Ramakanta Rath                            | 65. Smt. Kanaka Srinivasan           |
| 38. Ustad Sabri Khan                               | 66. Shri Kashmiri Lal Zakir          |
| 39. Ms. Sai Paranjpye                              | 67. Shri Kavungal Chatunni Panicker  |
| 40. Dr. (Smt.) Shanno Khurana                      | 68. Prof. Laltluangliana Khiangte    |
| 41. Shri Shashi Bhushan                            | 69. Prof. (Dr.) Lothar Lutze         |
| 42. Shri Subramanian Ramadorai                     | 70. Smt. Madhumita Bisht             |
| 43. Shri Tarun Das                                 | 71. Shri Madhup Mudgal               |
| 44. Dr. V. Shanta                                  | 72. Ms. Mangte Chungneijang Mary Kom |
| 45. Prof. Vijay Shankar Vyas                       | 73. Shri Mehmood Dhaulpuri           |
| 46. Dr. Vijaypat Singhania                         | 74. Ms. Mehmooda Ali Shah            |
| PADMA SHRI   | 75. Shri Melhupra Vero               |
| 47. Sheikh Abdul Rahman Bin Abdullah Al-Mahmoud    | 76. Prof. (Dr.) Mohan Kameswaran     |
| 48. Ms. Ajeet Cour                                 | 77. Shri Mohan Singh Gunjyal         |

**Statement-II****List of Persons considered for Padma Awards—2004**

- |                                    |                                     |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 78. Smt. Mrinal Pande              | 1. Sanjeev Shri Abhyankar           |
| 79. Prof. Narendra Kumar           | 2. Bhadragiri Sant. Sri Achyuthadas |
| 80. Shri Pankaj Keshubhai Udhas    | 3. Pratibha Ms. Agarwal             |
| 81. Shri Prasad Sawkar             | 4. Satish Vasant Shri Alekar        |
| 82. Shri Prithipal Singh Bedi      | 5. Satish Shri Anand                |
| 83. Dr. R. Balasubramanian         | 6. Shobha Ms. Awasthi               |
| 84. Shri Rajendra Kumar Saboo      | 7. Shameem Dev Smt. Azad            |
| 85. Ustad Rashid Khan              | 8. Shabana Smt. Azmi                |
| 86. Dr. S. Sivaram                 | 9. Amitabh Shri Bachchan            |
| 87. Miss Sania Mirza               | 10. Sharan Rani Smt. Backliwal      |
| 88. Dr. Sanjeev Bagai              | 11. Jaidev Shri Baghel              |
| 89. Dr. Seyed Ehtesham Hasnain     | 12. K. Shri Balachander             |
| 90. Smt. Shahnaz Husain            | 13. Devdas Shri Banjare             |
| 91. Ms. Shobana Chandrakumar       | 14. H.G. Shri Basavannachar         |
| 92. Shri Shree Lal Joshi           | 15. Gurmeet Ms. Bawa                |
| 93. Guru Shyama Charan Pati        | 16. M. Shri Bhakthavatsala          |
| 94. Prof. Sitanshu Yashaschandra   | 17. Shri Bharathirajaa              |
| 95. Ms. Sucheta Dalal              | 18. Gopalakrishna Sheni Shri Bhat   |
| 96. Dr. Sudha Murty                | 19. Rohini Smt. Bhat                |
| 97. Sister Sudha Varghese          | 20. Jyoti Shri Bhatt                |
| 98. Smt. Sugathakumari             | 21. Bhikhubhai Shri Bhavsar         |
| 99. Shri Suresh Krishna            | 22. Rekha Smt. Chakraborty          |
| 100. Dr. (Smt.) Surinder Kaur      | 23. Chaman Singh Shri Chaman        |
| 101. Dr. Suwalal Chhaganmal Bafna  | 24. Geeta Smt. Chandran             |
| 102. Prof. Tehernton Erach Udwadia | 25. Mohan Shri Chandrasekaran       |
| 103. Dr. Tsering Landol            | 26. Soumitra Shri Chatterjee        |
| 104. Prof. Upendra Kaul            | 27. Dr. Chaturbhuj                  |
| 105. Smt. Vasundhra Korkali        |                                     |
| 106. Dr. Yashodhar Mathpal         |                                     |

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| 28. Anil Dr. Chaudhary                                | 56. Veenai Smt. Gayathri              |
| 29. Debu Pandit Chaudhuri                             | 57. Subhash Shri Ghai                 |
| 30. Konidala Shri Chiranjeevi                         | 58. Nema Shri Ghosh                   |
| 31. Krishnan Nair Santhakumari Smt. Chithra           | 59. Yaryun Sahu Shri Gomango          |
| 32. Amaratunga Arachige Maurice Dias @ Shri Chitrasen | 60. Kadri Shri Gopalnath              |
| 33. Laxmi Kumari Smt. Chundawat                       | 61. Sampuran Singh Shri Gulzar        |
| 34. Ustad Zia Fariduddin Shri Dagar                   | 62. Hans Raj Shri Hans                |
| 35. R. Fahimuddin Khan Ustad Dagar                    | 63. Shri Hariharana                   |
| 36. Manoranjan Shri Das                               | 64. Kamal Shri Hassan                 |
| 37. Maguni Charan Shri Das                            | 65. G.V. Shri Iyer                    |
| 38. Buddhadev Shri Dasgupta                           | 66. Ravindra Shri Jain                |
| 39. Damodar Keshav Pt. Datar                          | 67. Virendra Kumar Shri Jain          |
| 40. Mahendra Prasad Shri Deharia                      | 68. Purshottam Das Shri Jalota        |
| 41. Ramchandra Anant Dr. Dekhane                      | 69. Ms. Kamalini                      |
| 42. Yashvant Pt. Deo                                  | 70. Bhavaraju Prof. Kamesh            |
| 43. Laxman Narsinhrao Dr. Deshpande                   | 71. Krishn Shri Kanhai                |
| 44. Yashoda Smt. Devi                                 | 72. Heisnam Shri Kanhailal            |
| 45. Bowa Smt. Devi                                    | 73. S. Shri Kanniappan                |
| 46. Karpoori Smt. Devi                                | 74. Maheshkumar Mithalal Shri Kanodia |
| 47. P. Anjali Smt. Devi                               | 75. A. Kumari Kanyakumari             |
| 48. V.P. Shri Dhananjayan                             | 76. Jeetendra Shri Kapoor             |
| 49. Shanta Smt. Dhananjayan                           | 77. Prabhakar Pandit Karekar          |
| 50. Thiruppampuram Raju Shri Dhandapany               | 78. Gita Dr. Kasturi                  |
| 51. Mehmood Shri Dhaulpuri                            | 79. Bhawani Shankar Pandit Kathak     |
| 52. B.S. Shri Dwarakish                               | 80. Waman Shri Kendre                 |
| 53. S.M. Shri Gangadharachary                         | 81. Asha Smt. Khadilkar               |
| 54. Rajendra Pandit Gangani                           | 82. Rashid Ustad Khan                 |
| 55. Puttaraja Pandit (Dr.) Gavai                      | 83. Dilshad Ustad Md. Khan            |
|   | 84. Shah Rukh Shri Khan               |

85. Gulam Sadiq Shri Khan
86. Safi Ahmad Ustad Khan
87. Shamim Ahmed Ustad Khan
88. Ghulam Mustafa Ustad Khan
89. Suruj Bai Smt. Khande
90. Anupam Shri Kher
91. K. Shri Khosa
92. Komal Shri Kothari
93. Dinkar Shri Kowshik
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279. Madhu Smt. Agrawal  
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336. Narayan Karwarkar alias Shri Marathe  
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339. Ashok Shri Mehta  
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371. Kranti Shri Shah  
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373. Hemraj Shri Shah  
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677. Premanand Shantaram Dr. Ramani  
678. R.V. Dr. Ramani  
679. A. Venkoba Dr. Rao  
680. Kutikuppala Surya Dr. Rao  
681. Pasupuleti Hanumantha Dr. Rao  
682. Gullapalli Shri Rao  
683. Leo Dr. Rebello  
684. Chillakuru Muthu Krishna Prof. (Dr.) Reddy  
685. Middolu Ramakrisna Dr. Reddy  
686. Sarbeswar Dr. Sahariah  
687. Gurmukh Sajjanmal Dr. Sainani  
688. Surinder Kumar Dr. Sama  
689. B.K.S. Dr. Sanjay  
690. Prof. Rajan (Dr.) Saxena  
691. Bijoy Nandan Dr. (Lt. Gen.) Shahi  
692. T.V. Dr. Shanmugam  
693. Rajeev Dr. Sharma  
694. Shriram Prof. Vaidya Sharma  
695. Parmanand Dr. Sharma  
696. Lakshmi Kant Shri Sharma  
697. Garud Dhvaj Vaid Sharma  
698. Dhananjaya Prof. Sharma  
699. Rajesh Dr. Sharma  
700. Devi Prasad Dr. Shetty  
701. Kananjar Raghurama Dr. Shetty  
702. Jagannath S. Shri Shinde  
703. Dr. (Prof.) Shreenivas  
704. M.P. Dr. Shrivastava  
705. Laishram Nabakishore Shri Singh  
706. Trilochan Dr. Singh  
707. Utpal Kant Dr. Singh  
708. Awadhesh Kumar Dr. Singh  
709. Ishwar Shri Singh  
710. Om Prakash Shri Singh  
711. Bhim Sen Dr. Singhal  
712. Ram Sharan Dr. Sinha  
713. Gopal Prasad Dr. Sinha  
714. P. Dr. Somasundaran  
715. Kailash Prasad Dr. Srivastava  
716. Saroj Dr. Srivastava  
717. Swayambar Prasad Dr. Sudrania  
718. M.A. Dr. Sukkur  
719. Kewal Kishan Dr. Talwar  
720. Rajiv Dr. Tandon  
721. Prakash Narain Prof. Tandon



722. Hem Kumar Prof. Tewari
723. Ashok Kumar Dr. Thakur
724. S. Dr. Thankayyan
725. K. Raghavan Shri Thirumulpad
726. Hargovind Laxmishanker Shri Trivedi
727. Amar Dev Dr. Uniyal
728. G. Dr. Velayudhan
729. C.U. Dr. Velmurugendran
730. Mohsin Dr. Wali
731. Surendra Singh Prof. (Dr.) Yadav
732. P.T. Shri Abraham
733. Shreedhar Shesha Shri Adi
734. Syed Manal Shah Prof. (Dr.) Alquadri
735. Sardar Dr. Anjum
736. Suresh Dr. Awasthi
737. Allauddin @ Dilkash Shri Badayuni
738. E. Dr. Balagurusamy
739. Prof. Anjan Kumar Dr. Banerji
740. Hukam Chand Dr. Bharill
741. Ved Shri Bhasin
742. M. Hamidullah Dr. Bhat
743. S.M. Dr. Bhatia
744. P.V. Venkata Krishna Shri Bhatta
745. Madhukar Shri Bhave
746. Kumar Dr. Bimal
747. Raj Shri Budhiraja
748. Nazar Dr. Burney
749. Dhyanesh Narayan Prof. (Dr.) Chakrabarti
750. Satish Shri Chandra
751. Ramesh Shri Chandra
752. Purshottam Lal Dr. Chaturvedi
753. Madhukar Rao Shri Chaudhary
754. R.V.M. Shri Chokkalingam
755. Shayama Dr. (Mrs.) Chona
756. Kanaksen Shri Deka
757. Kumarpal Shri Desai
758. Ram Swaroop Dr. Dixit
759. Virendra Kumar Dr. Dubey
760. Kapil Deva Shri Dvivedi
761. Tatyana Yakovlevna Ms. Elizarenkova
762. Francis Shri Fanthome
763. Jagdish Shri Gandhi
764. Laxminarayan Dr. Garg
765. Bhawani Shankar Shri Garg
766. Hari Pratap Dr. Gautam
767. Tapan Dr. Ghosal
768. Pabitra Kumar Shri Ghosh
769. Vidya Nanda Swami Giri
770. Ram Prakash Shri Goel
771. Sitanath Dr. Goswami
772. Jai Bhagwan Dr. Goyal
773. Vidya Vinod Dr. Gupt
774. Anil K. Prof. Gupta
775. Chandra Bhan Dr. Gupta
776. Mohammad Iqrar Shri Hussain
777. Syed Shah Mohammed Shri Hussaini
778. Gowri Smt. Ishwaran
779. Mani Dr. Jacob

780. Liladhar Shri Jaguri
781. Sunita Prof. Jain
782. Shanti Dr. Jain
783. Sampat Raj Dr. Jain
784. D.P. Marwaha @ Jigar Shri Jalandhri
785. Adya Charan Acharya Jha
786. Ram Adhar Dr. Joseph
787. T. Shri Kalasalingam
788. Balbhadra Shri Kalyan
789. Madhav Vithal Kamath
790. Chennaveera Shri Kanavi
791. T.S.K. Shri Kannan
792. Madhu Sudan Prof. Kanungo
793. Jagan Nath (Late) Shri Kapur
794. Vamanrao Shri Kardak
795. Qamar Banu Abdul Dr. (Ms.) Karim
796. S.K. Dr. Karimkhan
797. Joginder Singh Shah Dr. Kashmiri
798. Sunder Lal Dr. Kathuria
799. Prithvi Nath Prof. Kaula
800. Brij Narain Shri Kaushik
801. Jai Narayan Dr. Kaushik
802. Ferdinand Rev. Dr. Kayavil
803. Israil Prof. Mohd. Khan
804. Vishnu Shri Khare
805. Krishna Murari Singh Shri Kisan
806. Bhadriraju Dr. Krishnamurti
807. Ravindra Dr. Kumar
808. N. Vajra Prof. Kumar
809. Narendra Shri Kumar
810. R.N. Shri Lakhota
811. Banwari Dr. Lal
812. Jetho Dr. Lalwani
813. Surjit Singh Shri Lamba
814. Dominique Shri Lapiere
815. Gregory M. Bongard Prof. Levin
816. Bhaskeranand Shri Lohani
817. Vijay Prof. Mahajan
818. Ramesh Chandra Shri Mahotra
819. Shantaram Balwant Dr. Majumdar
820. Stalin Dr. Malhotra
821. N. Purushothama Shri Mallaya
822. James Shri Malsawma
823. Laxman Babu Shri Mane
824. Agam Prasad Prof. Mathur
825. Ashok Shri Mehta
826. Keshav Shri Meshram
827. Maya Nand Prof. (Dr.) Mishra
828. Krishna Nand Shri Misra
829. Krishna Shri Mitra
830. Bhalchandra Prof. (Dr.) Mungekar
831. M. Shri Muthuswami
832. Arne Shri Naess
833. N. Prof. Nagappa
834. Parameswaran Thankappan Shri Nair
835. Gopichand Prof. Narang
836. Hamlet Bareth Prof. Ngapkynta
837. Aubakir Dastanuly Shri Nilibayev

838. Yashwant Shri Padhye  
839. Maitreyi Smt. Padmanabhan  
840. G.C. Prof. Pande  
841. Tribhuwan Dr. Pandey  
842. Shyam Narain Dr. Pandey  
843. K. Ayyappa Dr. Paniker  
844. Gangadhar Dr. Pantawane  
845. S. Solomon Shri Pappiah  
846. P. Shri Parameswaran  
847. Y.G. Rajalakshmi Dr. (Mrs.) Parthasarathy  
848. Mehrunnisa Ms. Parvez  
849. Surjit Shri Patar  
850. Prasanna Kumar Dr. (Prof.) Patasani  
851. Krishna Shri Patil  
852. Samuel Dr. Paul  
853. Salahuddin Mohammad Pervez  
854. Nirmalkumar J. Prof. (Dr.) Phadkule  
855. A.F. Dr. Pinto  
856. Birmla Smt. Poddar  
857. S. Sukumaran Shri Potti  
858. Vishnu Shri Prabhakar  
859. Virender Shri Prabhakar  
860. Sri Nandan Dr. Prasad  
861. D.P.N. Shri Prasad  
862. A.B.K. Dr. Prasad  
863. Yogesh Dr. Praveen  
864. Amrita Ms. Pritam  
865. Pushthakamane Harihara Shri Priya  
866. Premlata Ms. Puri  
867. Manohar Shri Puri  
868. Khushal Singh Dr. Purohit  
869. J.S. Prof. Rajput  
870. Vitthalsing Mahipatsing Shri Rajput  
871. Usha Mrs. Ram  
872. Ch. Hanumantha Dr. (Prof.) Rao  
873. Amudalapalli Venkata Subba Dr. Rao  
874. Sanjay Rajaram Shri Raut  
875. N. Subbu Dr. Reddiar  
876. Bezawada Gopala Late Shri Reddy  
877. C. Narayana Shri Reddy  
878. S.D. Rohmetra  
879. Dietmar Prof. Rothermund  
880. Ram Bachan Dr. Roy  
881. Ajai Shri Saitia  
882. Jayantrao Shri Salgaonkar  
883. Bal Shri Samant  
884. M.M. Late (Dr.) Sankhdher  
885. Chaman Lal Prof. Sapru  
886. Devkinandan Shri Saraswat  
887. Rajdeep Dilip Shri Sardesai  
888. Madugula Nagaphani Dr. Sarma  
889. Emani Sita Rama Dr. Sarma  
890. R. Surya Prakasa Shri Sastry  
891. Girish Chandra Dr. Saxena  
892. Kunwar Bahadur Shri Saxena  
893. Kanhiya Lal Shri Sethia  
894. Ramesh Chandra Shri Shah  
895. Ulunthurpettai Shri Shanmugam

896. Bhagwatikumar Hargovind Shri Sharma
897. Hanuman Prasad Shri Sharma
898. Som P. Ranchan Prof. Sharma
899. Devi Dutt (Prof.) Dr. Sharma
900. Radha Krishan Dr. Sharma
901. Ram Murti Prof. Sharma
902. Shashidhar Dr. Sharma
903. Priya Vrat Prof. Sharma
904. Neelam Smt. Sharma
905. S.C. Dr. Sharma
906. B.P.T. Vaghish Dr. Shastri
907. Satya Vrat Dr. Shastri
908. G.S. Dr. Shivarudrappa
909. Vijay Dutt Shri Shridhar
910. Vinod Kumar Shri Shukla
911. Suleman Prof. Muhammad Siddiqui
912. Yedla C. Shri Simhadri
913. Swadesh Bahadur Shri Singh
914. Th. Nabakumar Dr. Singh
915. Hari Raj Prof. Singh
916. Prem Shri Singh
917. Daya Prakash Shri Sinha
918. Dhamidhar Prasad Dr. Sinha
919. K.M. Shri Sreedharan
920. Krishna Shri Srinivas
921. Heinrich Freiherr Von Prof. Stietencron
922. S.A. Shri Subramaniam
923. S. Prof. Subramanian
924. Lalitha Smt. Sundaram
925. Shyam Shri Sunder
926. K.S. Narasimha Dr. Swamy
927. Sudhir Shri Tailang
928. Govind Shri Talwarkar
929. Aroon Dr. Tikekar
930. Dalip Kaur Dr. Tiwana
931. Shashi Shekhar Dr. Tiwari
932. Kamlesh Datta Shri Tripathi
933. Ramshankar Shri Tripathi
934. Lata Ms. Vaidyanathan
935. Mangalappallil Chacko Shri Varghese
936. Pavan K. Shri Verma
937. Bilal Paswan Shri Vihangam
938. Tarun Shri Vijay
939. Dayakrishan Dr. Vijayvargiya
940. Asha Rani @ Shakuntla Smt. Vohra
941. Asifa Prof. Zamani
942. Manuel Shri Aaron
943. Desh Prem Shri Azad
944. Arjuna Bhogeswar Shri Baruah
945. Kalayathumkuzhi Mathew Ms. Beenamol
946. Abhinav Shri Bindra
947. Harishchandra Madhavrao Shri Birajdar
948. Ravindra Nath Prof. Chaturvedi
949. Nathu Ram Shri Choudhary
950. Saloo Shri Choudhary
951. Bula Ms. Chowdhury
952. Moolchand Shri Chowhan
953. Gurmayum Anita Smt. Devi

954. Roque Shri Dias  
955. Sushil Shri Doshi  
956. Rahul Shri Dravid  
957. Sylvanus Shri Ddungdung  
958. Sourav Chandidas Shri Ganguly  
959. Anju Bobby Ms. George  
960. Edmund Shri Hillary  
961. Sanjay Shri Jagdale  
962. Suresh Shri Kalmadi  
963. Harish Shri Kapadia  
964. P. Shri Krishnamoorthy  
965. Balbir Singh Shri Kullar  
966. Anil Shri Kumble  
967. Ramesh Shri Kusale  
968. Mallaiah Shri Mahadeva  
969. Yasin Shri Merchant  
970. Bhupesh Kumar P. Shri Modi  
971. S.C. Shri Naganandaswamy  
972. Prem Shri Nath  
973. Sadashiv Shri Nimbalkar  
974. Thattil Varunny Shri Pauly  
975. N. Shri Ramachandran  
976. Gurbachan Singh Shri Randhawa  
977. Shantha Ms. Rangaswamy  
978. Syed Jalaluddin Shri Rizvi  
979. Gopal Shri Saini  
980. Amulya Shri Sen  
981. Sunil Dutt Late Shri Sharma  
982. Yaswant Prabhakar Late Shri Sidhaye  
983. Harbinder Shri Singh  
984. Shakti Shri Singh  
985. Randhir Shri Singh  
986. Gurbux Shri Singh  
987. Pritamrani Smt. Siwach  
988. Surinder Singh Shri Sodhi  
989. Rachel Ms. Thomas  
990. Ramesh Shri Tikaram  
991. Dillip Kumar Shri Tirkey  
992. Manohar Shri Topno  
993. Inivalappil Mani Shri Vijayan  
994. Shri T.V. Antony  
995. Udai Shanker Shri Awasthi  
996. Bipin Dr. Behari  
997. Puran Kumar Dr. Chhetri  
998. Birbal Dass Shri Dhalia  
999. Kanwarpal Singh Shri Gill  
1000. Kanayalal T. Shri Golani  
1001. Rajesh Shri Gupta  
1002. Amitabh Shri Gupta  
1003. Arvind S. Shri Inamdar  
1004. Dinesh Chandra Shri Jugran  
1005. Rameshwar Nath Late Shri Kao  
1006. Gautam Shri Kaul  
1007. Mohinder Singh Shri Malik  
1008. Laxman Prasad Shri Mandarwal  
1009. Harish Chandra Shri Pant  
1010. Gulabrao Dharmu Shri Pol  
1011. K.K. Late Shri Rangole

1012. T.L. Shri Sankar
1013. Balmiki Prasad Shri Singh
1014. Bhupinder Dr. Singh
1015. Kunwar Vijay Pratap Shri Singh
1016. Joginder Shri Singh
1017. Chandrika Prasad Shri Srivastava
1018. Parveen Ms. Talha
1019. Bholanath Shri Tiwari
1020. Madan Mohan Shri Upadhyay
1021. Habib Shri Ahmad
1022. Rama Mrs. Anand
1023. Narayana Vithalasa Shri Bankapur
1024. Ranjit Shri Bhargava
1025. Dilip Prof. Biswas
1026. Bikram Keshari Roy Prof. Burman
1027. Surakshit Dr. Goswami
1028. Syed Iqbal Prof. Hasnain
1029. Vishwanath D. Prof. (Dr.) Karad
1030. S. Chinny Dr. Krishna
1031. S.K. Shri Misra
1032. Afzal Peer Khwaja Nizami
1033. Lalit Dr. Pande
1034. Jameelbhai Mohd. Haneef Shri Rangrez
1035. Gouru Thirupathi Shri Reddy
1036. Ramchandra Gopal Shelar © Shri Shelarmama
1037. Shiva Varan Dr. Shukla
1038. Dayanand Shri Vishvakarma
1039. Ghanshyam Shri Vyas

*List of Persons Considered for Padma Awards—2005*

1. Shri Manuel Santana © M. Boyer Aguior
2. Shri S. Ganesa Aiyar
3. Shri Ajit Kumar Akela
4. Shri Muzaffar Ali
5. Shri Badri Nath Arya
6. Pandit Rabindra Atibudhi
7. Smt. Shameem Dev Azad
8. Shri Talat Aziz
9. Smt. Nadira Zaheer Babbar
10. Shri Amitabh Bachchan
11. Smt. Sharan Rani Backliwal
12. Shri Anandi Prasad Badal
13. Shri Sattiraju Lakshmi Narayana Babu
14. Pandit Balvant Rai Gulab Rai Bhatt
15. Shri Sobha Brahma
16. Shri Bharat Sharma Byas
17. Smt. Manjusree Chatterjee
18. Pandit Devabrata (Debu) Chaudhuri
19. Smt. Kanwal Chaudri
20. Shri Konidala Chiranjeevi
21. Smt. Krishnan Nair Santhakumari Chithra
22. Shri Amaratunga Arachige Maurice Dias © Chitrasena
23. Shri Yash Chopra
24. Dr. Birendranath Datta
25. Dr. Laxman Narsinh Deshpande
26. Ms. Vinjamuri Seetha Devi
27. Smt. P. Anjali Devi

28. Shri Thiruppampuram Raju Dhandapany
29. Shri Mehmood Dhaulpuri
30. Shri Guruvayur Dorai
31. Shri R. Ganesh
32. Shri S.N. Gangadharachary
33. Dr. Puttaraj Gavai
34. Ms. E. Gayathri
35. Shri Subhash Ghai
36. Shri Yaryun Sahu Gomango
37. Smt. Maya Govind
38. Shri Hans Raj Hans
39. Shri Kamal Hassan
40. Shri Isaighani Ilaiyaraaja
41. Shri Bulu Imam
42. Smt. Jayanthi
43. Shri Madras A. Kannan
44. Pandit Prabhakar Karekar
45. Smt. Surinder Kaur
46. Ustad Ali Ahmad Hussain Khan
47. Shri Shah Rukh Khan
48. Ustad Ghulam Mustafa Khan
49. Dr. S.K. Kareem Khan
50. Ustad Abdul Halim Jaffer Khan
51. Shri Nataraja Krishnamoorthy
52. Dr. S. Krishnaswamy
53. Smt. Padma Sampath Kumaran
54. Shri R. Kumaresh
55. Shri Kanayi Kunhiraman
56. Smt. C. Lalitha
57. Smt. P. Leela
58. Smt. Nithyasree Mahadevan
59. Smt. Geeta Mahalik
60. Shri Khagen Mahanta
61. Shri Goswami Gokulotsavji Maharaj
62. Pandit Vikash Maharaj
63. Smt. Shilpi Jasuben Manhar
64. Shri Syed Manzooruddin
65. Prof. Jerry Massey
66. Dr. Yashodha Mathpal
67. Smt. Munni Kumari Meenu
68. Shri Chaturbhuj Meher
69. Shri Suman Prasad Mehta
70. Pandit Shyam Das Mishra
71. Dr. (Ms.) Malabika Mitra
72. Shri Mehar Chand Mittal
73. Shri Fazal Mohammad @ Nannhe Miyan
74. Shri Madhup Mudgal
75. Shri Pranab Mukerji
76. Shri Nedunuri Krishna Murthy
77. Shri Achanta Venkata Ratnam Naidu
78. Shri M.T. Vasudevan Nair
79. Ms. Shovana Narayan
80. Pandit Ram Narayan
81. Late Shri K. Viswanath Naryanaswamy
82. Shri Narendra Singh Negi
83. Shri Puna Ram Nishad
84. Smt. Sushila Rani Patel
85. Pandit Ajay Pohankar

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| 86. Shri Gangadhar Pradhan               | 115. Shri Sharavan Kumar Sharma               |
| 87. Dr. (Smt.) Pushpa Prasad             | 116. Swami Ram Swaroop Sharma                 |
| 88. Shri Babasaheb Purandare             | 117. Shri Pasumarti Venugopala Krishna Sharma |
| 89. Smt. Veenai Ranganayaki Rajagopalan  | 118. Dr. Amar Nath Sharma                     |
| 90. Dr. P. Radhakrishna Raju             | 119. Smt. Smita Rajesh Shastri                |
| 91. Shri A. Ramachandran                 | 120. Dr. P.B. Shreenivos                      |
| 92. Smt. Padmini Ramachandran            | 121. Shri Baramn Lal Shrivass                 |
| 93. Smt. Shylaja Ramji                   | 122. Shri Brian Silas                         |
| 94. Smt. Phulan Rani                     | 123. Shri Tejpal Singh                        |
| 95. Prof. Kondapally Seshagiri Rao       | 124. Shri Rajkumar Singhajit Singh            |
| 96. Shri P.V. Rama Rao                   | 125. Shri Sougajam Thanil Singh               |
| 97. Prof. Aekka Yadagiri Rao             | 126. Shri Shiv Singh                          |
| 98. Smt. Vanashree Rao                   | 127. Prof. Guru Banamali Sinha                |
| 99. Dr. Gummadi Venkateswara Rao         | 128. Smt. N.C. Soundaravalli                  |
| 100. Dr. Balantrapu Rajanikantha Rao     | 129. Shri R.K. Srikantan                      |
| 101. Smt. G. Padmaja Reddy               | 130. Shri Kesiraju Srinivas                   |
| 102. Dr. (Smt.) Kanak Rele               | 131. Smt. Kanaka Srinivasan                   |
| 103. Shri Pyare Mohan Sahay              | 132. Dr. Vaidyanathan Ganapati Sthapati       |
| 104. Guru Kedamath Sahu                  | 133. Shri Shimoga Subbanna                    |
| 105. Late Dr. Bhabendra Nath Saikia      | 134. Shri Kuntgod Vibhuti Subbanna            |
| 106. Smt. C. Saroja                      | 135. Shri V.K. Subramanian                    |
| 107. Shri Kaikala Satyanarayana          | 136. Dr. (Ms.) Saraswati Sundaresan           |
| 108. Dr. Nookala China Satyanarayana     | 137. Smt. Pulapaka Susheela                   |
| 109. Dr. Navaneetham Padmanabha Seshadri | 138. Shri Annavarapu Rama Swamy               |
| 110. Shri Raghunath Seth                 | 139. Shri Vaman Thakare                       |
| 111. Shri Jadugar Samrat Shankar         | 140. Shri Pankaj Udhas                        |
| 112. Shri Gangopadhyay Shantiranjan      | 141. Shri Manhar Udhas                        |
| 113. Shri Kishan Sharma                  | 142. Shri Kunnakudi R. Vaidyanathan           |
| 114. Pandit Lallu Prasad Sharma          | 143. Shri Prakash Verma                       |



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|--|---|
| 144. Shri Basant Sahu Vikas                | 173. Shri Nana Chudasama                                |
| 145. Shri Kantilal Girdharlal Vora         | 174. Late Shri Ilaram Das                               |
| 146. Shri Puran Chand Wadali               | 175. Shri Mohan Dharia                                  |
| 147. Shri Piare Lal Wadali                 | 176. Shri Parvatrao Dhote                               |
| 148. Pt. Narasimhalu Wadavati              | 177. Shri Nanak Singh Diler                             |
| 149. Shri Suresh Wadkar                    | 178. Late Shri H. Mariyappa Gangadharaiah               |
| 150. Shri Hiralal Yadav                    | 179. Shri Ram Kumar Goel                                |
| 151. Smt. Chindula Yellamma                | 180. Dr. Muniratnam Gutta                               |
| 152. Shri Chakelathu John Yesudasan        | 181. Shri M.I. Habibullah                               |
| 153. Smt. Gambhini Devi Yumlembam          | 182. Shri Somanahally Honnaiah                          |
| 154. Dr. B. Sivanthi Adityan               | 183. Miss Sehba Hussain                                 |
| 155. Shri Kailash Chandra Agarwal          | 184. Shri V.S. Krishna Iyer                             |
| 156. Shri Jaikishan Aggarwal               | 185. Shri Bhikhu Ram Jain                               |
| 157. Shri Bala Ram Ahirwar                 | 186. Dr. Ram Adhar Joseph                               |
| 158. Shri S.P. Singh Ahluwalia             | 187. Shri Lalit Kumar Joshi                             |
| 159. Shri Suwalal Chhaganmal Bafna         | 188. Smt. Manorama Joshi                                |
| 160. Shri Laxmandas Bajaj                  | 189. Pandit Shiv Dutt Joshi                             |
| 161. Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Shri Ranbir Bakhshi | 190. Shri Narayan Karwarkar @ Marathe                   |
| 162. Ms. Runa Banerjee                     | 191. Shri Laxmandas Keswani                             |
| 163. Dr. Sheela Barthakur                  | 192. Shri Khamliana                                     |
| 164. Late Shri Panna Lal Barupal           | 193. Shri Shonlien Kiloung                              |
| 165. Shri Anil Bhandari                    | 194. Ms. Madhavi Kuckreja                               |
| 166. Smt. Hema Bharali                     | 195. Dr. Amod Kumar                                     |
| 167. Pandit Tej Ram Bhardwaj               | 196. Shri Bihari Lakda                                  |
| 168. Shri Onkar Nath Bhargava              | 197. Rev. Dr. Lalsawma                                  |
| 169. Shri Tej Lal Bharti                   | 198. Shri Dominique Lapierre                            |
| 170. Shri Chandi Prasad Bhatt              | 199. Smt. Hemlata Lavanam                               |
| 171. Shri Dina Nath Chaudhri               | 200. Shri Madhavanadha @ Nadadhoor Simhan S.V. Madhavan |
| 172. Dr. Nemichand Bhikchand Chhajed       |   |

201. Shri Alamjit Singh Mann  
202. Shri Younias Masih  
203. Shri Anand Mohan Mathur  
204. Smt. Mamta Mishra  
205. Dr. Gopalrao Mahadev Modak  
206. Smt. Sudha Murthy  
207. Dr. K. Narasimhan  
208. Dr. Kunwar Singh Negi  
209. Smt. Rita Panicker  
210. Shri Ishwarbhai Jivrambhai Patel  
211. Shri Surendra Motibhai Patel  
212. Dr. Atul Pramodchandra Pathakji  
213. Shri Basagouda Patil  
214. Smt. Theilin Phanbuh  
215. Shri B.S. Raman Pillai  
216. Late Shri Basavaiah Rachaiah  
217. Shri Chintalapati V.P. Murthy Raju  
218. Acharya Ramamurti  
219. Shri R. Eswar Rao  
220. Shri Salem Manjundiah Subba Rao  
221. Dr. Jaidev Singh Retola  
222. Shri Rajendra Kumar Saboo  
223. Shri Sushil Sahai  
224. Shri Motilal Sahu  
225. Shri Harkirat Singh Sandhu  
226. Shri Sangthankima  
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| 791. Shri Rasipuram Krishnaswami Laxman  | 820. Shri Sunil Khilnani                      |
| 792. Dr. (Smt.) Jaya Arunachalam         | 821. Shri Abhay Chhajlani                     |
| 793. Dr. Sunil Kapoor                    | 822. Dr. Andre Beteille                       |
| 794. Dr. M.R. Raju                       | 823. Shri Mammen Mathew                       |
| 795. Smt. Indira Jaisingh                | 824. Smt. Shobhana Bhartia                    |
| 796. Shri Harbans Lal Bajaj              | 825. Shri William Mark Tully                  |
| 797. Dr. Mrinal Datta Chaudhuri          | 826. Shri Anil Kumble                         |
| 798. Dr. Bhai Mohan Singh                | 827. Prof. Ishar Singh Chauhan                |
| 799. Dr. Kiritkumar Mansukhlal Acharya   | 828. Shri G.V. Ramakrishna                    |
| 800. Dr. Jaiveer Agarwal                 | 829. Shri S.R. Sankaran                       |
| 801. Dr. R.P. Aggarwal                   | 830. Shri Om Prakash Agrawal                  |
| 802. Dr. V. Bharathan                    | 831. Ms. Sunita Narain                        |
| 803. Dr. Narendra Jivanlal Pandya        | 832. Shri Probodh Chandra Dey alias Manna Dey |
| 804. Dr. Parmanand Sharma                | 833. Shri Jyotindra Nath Dixit                |
| 805. Dr. Lavu Narendranath               |   |
| 806. Dr. Shiv Kumar Sarin                |   |
| 807. Dr. J.M. Hans                       |   |
| 808. Prof. Minoru Hara                   |   |

*List of Persons Considered for  
Padma Awards—2006*

1. Shri K. Shamaraya Acharya
2. Shri C. Parameshwara Acharya

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| 3. Dr. (Smt.) Pratibha Agrawal           | 32. Prof. C.V. Chandrasekhar                     |
| 4. Shri Vishnu Narain Agrwal             | 33. Pandit Anindo Chatterjee                     |
| 5. Shri Iqbal Ahmed                      | 34. Pandit Devabrata (Debu) Chaudhuri            |
| 6. Smt. Amal Allana                      | 35. Shri Jonnalagadda Gurappa Chetty             |
| 7. Shri Satish Anand                     | 36. Shri Konidala Chiranjeevi                    |
| 8. Dr. Prabha Atree                      | 37. Dr. (Smt.) Ileana Citaristi                  |
| 9. Smt. Shabana Azmi                     | 38. Shri Mantu Chandra Das                       |
| 10. Smt. Nadira Zaheer Babbar            | 39. Smt. Sangeeta Dash                           |
| 11. Dr. Mohan Babu                       | 40. Shri Mangadurhokkalingam Devanesan @<br>Deva |
| 12. Shri Amitabh Bachchan                | 41. Smt. Bindhyabasini Devi                      |
| 13. Shri R. Kuppanna Bagavathar          | 42. Smt. P. Anjali Devi                          |
| 14. Shri Mirza Mohammed Ali Baig         | 43. Shri Thiruppampuram Raju Dhandapany          |
| 15. Shri Sobar Baisar                    | 44. Dr. (Smt.) Kumkum Dhar                       |
| 16. Shri Devdas Banjare                  | 45. Shri Mehmood Dhaulpuri                       |
| 17. Shri Sattiraju Lakshmi Narayana Babu | 46. Shri Omkar Dhawan                            |
| 18. Shri Shankar Gouda Bettadur          | 47. Shri Naseem Dullaha                          |
| 19. Shri Puran Bhaat                     | 48. Shri Suresh Dutta                            |
| 20. Shri Sharanappa Master Bhajantri     | 49. Shri Sunderlal Satyanarayan Gangani          |
| 21. Shri Sheni Gopalakrishna Bhat        | 50. Shri Rajendra Gangani                        |
| 22. Shri Daji Bhatavadekar               | 51. Dr. Puttaraj Kavi Gavai                      |
| 23. Smt. Rohini Bhate                    | 52. Smt. E. Gayathri                             |
| 24. Shri Lal Singh Bhati                 | 53. Dr. (Ms.) Soma Chakravarty Ghosh             |
| 25. Pandit Balvant Rai Gulab Rai Bhatt   | 54. Pandit Shankar Ghosh                         |
| 26. Pandit Tarun Bhattacharya            | 55. Shri Yaryun Sahu Gomango                     |
| 27. Smt. Shyamala G. Bhawe               | 56. Shri Kadri Gopalnath                         |
| 28. Pandit Kumar Bose                    | 57. Shri Kalamandalam Gopi                       |
| 29. Shri Sobha Brahma                    | 58. Shri Jatin Goswami                           |
| 30. Shri Bhaskar Chandavarkar            | 59. Late Shri H.L. Nage Gowda                    |
| 31. Ms. Shobana Chandrakumar             |  |

60. Ms. Sumitra Guha
61. Shri A.K. Hangal
62. Smt. Pushpa Hans
63. Shri Hans Raj Hans
64. Ms. Rekha Jain
65. Shri Shyamanand Jalan
66. Pandit Brij Bhushan Kabra
67. Ms. Aloka Prava Kanungo
68. Miss A. Kanyakumari
69. Shri Girish Kasarvalli
70. Shri Bansi Kaul
71. Ustad Ghulam Mustafa Khan
72. Ustad Mohd. Dilshad Khan
73. Ustad Sabri Khan
74. Ustad Hafeez Ahmed Khan
75. Ustad Abdul Halim Jaffer Khan
76. Shri Mohammed Yusuf Khatri
77. Shri Ismail Suleman Khatri
78. Smt. Vasundhra Komkali
79. Shri Soorya Nataraja Krishnamoorthy
80. Prof. T.N. Krishnan
81. Dr. S. Krishnaswamy
82. Smt. Padma Sampath Kumaran
83. Shri Jai Prakash Lakiwal
84. Smt. C. Lalitha
85. Shri Hayat Mohammed Langa
86. Smt. P. Leela
87. Smt. Geeta Mahalik
88. Shri Khagen Mahanta
89. Swami Hari Govind Maharaj
90. Dr. Abdul Majeed
91. Shri Ananta Malakar
92. Ms. Sudha Malhotra
93. Shri Syed Manzooruddin
94. Shri Babu Lal Marotia
95. Dr. Yashodhar Mathpal
96. Shri Kailash Chandra Meher
97. Shri Rajendra Mehta
98. Shri Bharath Balachandra Menon
99. Pandit Uma Shankar Mishra
100. Prof. Sharif Mohammed
101. Shri Raghunath Mohapatra
102. Shri Madhup Mudgal
103. Shri Pranab Mukerji
104. Shri Aithur Munikrishna
105. Shri Bhimrao Fakkirappa Murgod
106. Shri Ghattamaneni Sivarama Krishna Murthy
107. Shri Gopinath Muthukad
108. Shri P.K. Narayanan Nambiar
109. Ms. Shovana Narayan
110. Shri Haji Nasiruddin
111. Shri J.M. Nelson
112. Shri Shyam Kant Nigam
113. Shri Idris Nizami
114. Shri Ram Sahay Pande
115. Shri Shiv Charan Pandey
116. Shri Kavungal Chathunni Panicker
117. Shri Nilamadhav Panigrahi

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|--|---------------------------------------|
| 118. Shri Kavalam Narayana Panikkar    | 147. Dr. (Smt.) Kanak Rele            |
| 119. Smt. Sushila Rani Patel           | 148. Shri S.R.G. Sambandam            |
| 120. Shri Jeram Patel                  | 149. Smt. K.J. Sarasa                 |
| 121. Shri Dharendra Nath Pattnaik      | 150. Pandit Mohinder Sarin            |
| 122. Shri Sudarsan Pattnaik            | 151. Shri P.V.G. Krishna Sarma        |
| 123. Shri Virendra Prabhakar           | 152. Smt. C. Saroja                   |
| 124. Shri Gangadhar Pradhan            | 153. Shri Prasad Sawkar               |
| 125. Smt. Prathibha Prahlad            | 154. Shri Chand Narain Saxena         |
| 126. Shri Gaddebabu Rajendra Prasad    | 155. Shri Sushil Kumar Saxena         |
| 127. Shri Jagdish Prasad               | 156. Shri D.R. Singh Seepal           |
| 128. Shri Prasanna                     | 157. Shri Raghunath Seth              |
| 129. Shri Lashi Nath Pujapanda         | 158. Shri Jadugar Samrat Shankar      |
| 130. Shri Sarat Chandra Pujari         | 159. Shri Gurumyum Gourakishor Sharma |
| 131. Prof. (Smt.) Sudharani Raghupathy | 160. Dr. Jyoti Swaroop Sharma         |
| 132. Shri Chander Singh Rahi           | 161. Shri Narendra Sharma             |
| 133. Shri B.R. Rajagopalan             | 162. Pandit Lallu Prasad Sharma       |
| 134. Shri Kapu Rajaiah                 | 163. Shri Mahesh Chand Sharma         |
| 135. Smt. Indra Rajan                  | 164. Smt. Smita Rajesh Shastri        |
| 136. Shri S.R.G. Rajanna               | 165. Shri Aruva Koragappa Shetty      |
| 137. Dr. Rajkumar                      | 166. Shri Vithal Shinde               |
| 138. Smt. Padmini Ramachandran         | 167. Shri Rajaram Keshavrao Shinde    |
| 139. Shri Nataraj Ramakrishna          | 168. Dr. P.B. Shreenivos              |
| 140. Dr. Daggubati Ramanaidu           | 169. Shri U. Shrinivas                |
| 141. Dr. Thiruvargu Natesan Ramani     | 170. Shri Elangbam Joychandra Singh   |
| 142. Smt. Bombay Jayashri Ramnath      | 171. Shri Rajkumar Singhjit Singh     |
| 143. Shri Durga Charan Ranbir          | 172. Shri Tejpal Singh                |
| 144. Guru Shri Mayadhar Raut           | 173. Shri Amar Singh                  |
| 145. Shri Ajit Keshari Ray             | 174. Guru Hari Charan Sinha           |
| 146. Smt. G. Padmaja Reddy             | 175. Shri Inguva Sitaramaiah          |

176. Shri Kesiraju Srinivas  
177. Smt. Kanaka Srinivasan  
178. Shri Pannuru Sripathy  
179. Shri Shimoga Subbanna  
180. Prof. K.G. Subramanyam  
181. Dr. (Smt.) Suma Sudhindra  
182. Shri Rakesh Upadhaya Sugandh  
183. Kum. Thiyam Suryamukhi Devi  
184. Smt. Pulapaka Susheela  
185. Shri Habib Ahmed Khan Tanvir  
186. Shri Avinash Vittal Rao Thakare  
187. Shri Vaman Thakare  
188. Shri Ratan Thiyam  
189. Shri K.P. Udayabhanu  
190. Shri Manhar Udhas  
191. Shri Madhukar Rao Wasing  
192. Shri Heera Lal Yadav  
193. Smt. Chindua Yellamma  
194. Shri Chakelathu John Yesudasan  
195. Shri Jaikishan Aggarwal  
196. Shri Kailash Chandra Agrawal  
197. Major Hari Pal Singh Ahluwalla  
198. Shri Monuram Ahom  
199. Dr. Premanand M. Ambali  
200. Dr. Sharnbaswappa Appa  
201. Dr. (Smt.) Jaya Arunachalam  
202. Dr. Suwalal Chhaganmal Bafna  
203. Shri P.J. Bagilthaya  
204. Shri Th. Haokhothang Baite  
205. Shri Laxmandas Daryanomai Bajaj  
206. Major Gen. Ranbir Bakshi  
207. Ms. Runa Banerjee  
208. Shri P.S. Bedi  
209. Shri Ramesh Bhai  
210. Shri Anil Bhandari  
211. Shri Onkar Nath Bhargava  
212. Shri Tej Lal Bharti  
213. Ms. Radha Bhatt  
214. Prof. (Ms.) Jeroo Billimoria  
215. Shri Ganga Prasad Birla  
216. Dr. Sayedna Mohammed Borhanudeen  
217. Shri Bapu Bhau Chavan  
218. Smt. Andal Damodaran  
219. Baba Pritam Dass  
220. Miss Nirmala Deshpande  
221. Dr. Dhonde  
222. Shri Madhavrao Sitaramji Dongarwar  
223. Dr. Ramniklal R. Doshi  
224. Shri Gabbrudin  
225. Shri Dipchandbhai Gardi  
226. Shri Amar Kanti Ghosh  
227. Dr. J.P. Krishna Gowda  
228. Shri V.R. Gowrishankar  
229. Dr. (Smt.) Phulrenu Guha  
230. Shri M.I. Habibullah  
231. Shri Younis Masih Hans  
232. Shri C.V. Hariharan  
233. Shri Somanahally Honnalah



234. Miss Sehba Hussain
235. Shri Magraj Khangarmal Jain
236. Shri J.R. Jindal
237. Dr. Narayanhari S. Jiwarajka
238. Shri Rajinder Johar
239. Dr. Ram Adhar Joseph
240. Shri Madan Mohan Joshi
241. Dr. Anil Prakash Joshi
242. Dr. Gyan Prakash Kachhahari
243. Shri Shankarrao Deoram Kale
244. Dr. Sunil Kapoor
245. Shri Rajendra Puckraj Katharia (Jain)
246. Shri Jagan Nath Kaul
247. Dr. (Smt.) Inderjit Kaur
248. Rev. Dr. Ferdinand L. Kayavil
249. Shri Laxmandas Keswani
250. Shri Khamliana
251. Shri Shaikh Fakhruddin Shaikh Taherbhai Khorakiwal
252. Dr. Atul Krishna
253. Rev. Dr. Kuriackose Kunnacherry
254. Shri Khaliq Ahmad Ali al Lallan Neta
255. Shri Jagdih Loomba
256. Dr. Yogi Jeevan Brahmachari Maharaj
257. Ven. Dr. Rastrapal Mahathera
258. Chaudhary Nathi Mai Malia
259. Dr. Sanjiv Malik
260. Shri Daulal Malviya
261. Smt. Annie Mangsataram
262. Shri K. Subramanian @ K.S. Mani
263. Shri Gautam Mazumdar
264. Shri Ashok Mehta
265. Smt. Rekha Mody
266. Dr. Gutha Muniratnam
267. Smt. Sudha Murthy
268. Smt. Banu Mustaq
269. Dr. T. Vellasamy Nadar
270. Shri L.P. Naithani
271. Shri Amrik Singh Pahwa
272. Shri Krushna Chandra Panigrahy
273. Shri Odhavjibhai Ravjibhai Bhalodiya Patel
274. Dr. Atul Pramodchandra Pathakji
275. Shri Galangalappa Basappa Patil
276. Shri Biswanath Pattanaik
277. Shri Adams Paul
278. His Eminence Cardinal Simon Pimenta
279. Dr. (Smt.) Grace Pinto
280. Smt. Biru Bala Rabha
281. Prof. Devindra Rahinwal
282. Dr. Veeramalla Soma Deva Raju
283. Prof. N.S. Ramaswamy
284. Shri Sampat Tukaram Ramteke
285. Smt. Shobhana Ranade
286. Shri Bansilal Rathi
287. Shri Madan Mohan Sabharwal
288. Shri Rajendra Kumar Saboo
289. Shri S.P. Pavithra Sagar
290. Shri Vikramjit Singh Sahney

291. Dr. Jayadev Sahu
292. Shri Sangthankima Sailo
293. Shri Mahavirprasad G. Saraf
294. Shri Jethalal Hirji Savla
295. Shri Hamidson Chandsa @ Hamid Baba Seikh
296. Shri Satish Sharma
297. Shri Ramesh Prasad Shrivastava
298. Shri S. Bhola Singh
299. Thakur Ratan Pal Singh
300. Baba Sewa Singh
301. Shri Ranjit Sokhal
302. Shri Parasram Bakaram Sonekar
303. Shri Kandadai Damal Srinivasan
304. Guru Swarup Srivastava
305. Shri Chandra Mohan Srivastava
306. Late (Smt.) Saraswathi Subbaiah
307. Smt. Kancharla Sugunamani
308. Smt. S.G. Sushelamma
309. Shri Priya Ranjan Swarup
310. (Late) Shri Swamy Ramanand Teerth
311. Shri Kanhaiya Tripathi
312. Prof. (Dr.) A.R. Undre
313. Shri V. Vaikunth
314. Shri C.S. Veeraraghavan
315. Shri Jitendra Kumar Verma
316. Shri Melhupra Vero
317. Dr. Janardhan Madhavarao Waghmare
318. Prof. (Dr.) Gambir Singh Yonzone
319. Shri Jayanta Kumar Borooah
320. Late Dasaratha Deb
321. Prof. Kishore Gandhi
322. Shri B.B. Goroong
323. Shri H.P. Gulrajani
324. Late Thakur Deshraj Jaghina
325. Shri Bhikuram Jain
326. Late Dr. Shrikant Jichkar
327. Justice Shri Vijaykumar S. Malimath
328. Late Shri Murasoli Maran
329. Shri Anantrao Pashte
330. Shri Pradeep Kumar Saxena
331. Shri Hira Lall Sibal
332. Dr. Yalamanchili Sivaji
333. Shri Harbans Lal Bajaj
334. Shri Radhey Shyam Bharti
335. Dr. Surendra Singh Bhatti
336. Prof. Dilip K. Biswas
337. Dr. Norman E. Bolraug
338. Prof. Samir K. Brahmachari
339. Dr. K.L. Chadha
340. Prof. Virander Singh Chauhan
341. Prof. Asis Datta
342. Prof. Sanjay Govind Dhande
343. Dr. Vijay Prasad Dimri
344. Dr. Venkataraman Ganapathy
345. Prof. (Dr.) H.P. Garg
346. Shri P.K. Goel
347. Dr. Rajesh Sudhir Gokhale
348. Dr. Vasant Ranchhod Gowariker

349. Dr. Harsh Kumar Gupta
350. Prof. Anandapran Gupta
351. Shri Shailendra Kumar Hajela
352. Dr. Seyed Ehtesham Hasnain
353. Prof. Syed Iqbal Hasnain
354. Dr. Chitta Ranjan Hazra
355. Dr. Narayan G. Hegde
356. Dr. Yezadi Maneksha Italiya
357. Shri Shreyans Kumar Jain
358. Shri Thyagarajan Kandaswamy
359. Prof. (Dr.) Sarvagya Singh Katiyar
360. Shri Haji Kaleemu Ullah Khan
361. Prof. Dr. (Ms.) Pushpa Khanna
362. Dr. Alex Thekkethil Kochandy
363. Dr. Ashok Sadanand Kolaskar
364. Prof. Narendra Kumar
365. Shri Asish Kumar Majumdar
366. Prof. C. Manoharachary
367. Shri Feroze Noshir Masani
368. Dr. Raghunath Anant Mashelkar
369. Prof. Goverdhan Mehta
370. Dr. Jagdis Chandra Misra
371. Prof. (Dr.) K. Muniyappa
372. Dr. Ranganath Navaigund
373. Dr. Bonbehari Vishnu Nimbkar
374. Prof. Ram Kripal Pathak
375. Prof. Lalit Mohan Patnaik
376. Dr. Apathukatha Sivathanu Pillai
377. Shri Prahlada
378. Shri Shiban Raina
379. Dr. Baldev Raj
380. Prof. M.R. Satyanarayana Rao
381. Dr. Vinod Chandra Sahni
382. Prof. Lakshmidhar Satpathy
383. Dr. William Selvamurthy
384. Dr. (Smt.) Manju Sharma
385. Dr. Ravendra Kumar Singh
386. Prof. Bikash Chandra Sinha
387. Dr. Swaminathan Sivaram
388. Prof. Ajay Kumar Sood
389. Shri E. Sreedharan
390. Dr. M.R. Srinivasan
391. Dr. G. Sundararajan
392. Shri Nagabathula Suryanarayana
393. Prof. D. Swaminadhan
394. Dr. Rajani Kant Tewari
395. Dr. S.P. Thyagarajan
396. Prof. (Dr.) Amar Dev Uniyal
397. Prof. Kharak Singh Valdiya
398. Shri Manas Bihari Verma
399. Dr. Mahendra Pal Yadav
400. Shri Anil D. Ambani
401. Dr. Dasarathi Banerjee
402. Shri Bhuvneshwar Swarup Bhatnagar
403. Shri Vishwasrao Dattajirao Chowgule
404. Shri Tarun Das
405. Shri Jeevan Lal Devangan
406. Shri Ramgopal Dujodwala

407. Smt. Shahnaz Husain
408. Shri Chandra Prakash Jain
409. Shri Vijay Goverdhanes Kalantri
410. Shri Atul Jagdish Khanna
411. Dr. Gunter Kruger
412. Dr. N. Mahalingam
413. Shri Kurian John Melampambil
414. Shri Irshad Mirza
415. Dr. Annamalai Chidambaram Muthiah
416. Shri Karsanbhai Khodidas Patel
417. Dr. Mohan I. Patel
418. Dr. Laxman Ramchandra Patil
419. Shri Ashok Patil
420. Shri Pravin Raupal
421. Dr. A.V.S. Raju
422. Shri A. Sakthivel
423. Dr. Bidhubhusan Samal
424. Dr. J.P. Semwal
425. Dr. Sadanand A. Shetty
426. Dr. Shailendra Kumar Tamotia
427. Shri E.T. Varghese
428. Dr. Kiritkumar Mansukhtal Acharya
429. Dr. Jaiveer Agarwal
430. Dr. Satya Pal Agarwal
431. Dr. Krishan Kumar Aggarwal
432. Prof. Hakim Anwar Ahmad
433. Dr. Madanur Ahmed Ali
434. Dr. Asana Andiappan
435. Dr. Sanjeev Bagal
436. Dr. Ravinder Kumar Ball
437. Dr. Ravindra D. Bapat
438. Prof. (Dr.) Surya Bhan
439. Dr. C.H. Umesh Chandra
440. Prof. (Dr.) Harpinder Singh Chawla
441. Dr. Devappagowda Chinnahalli
442. Dr. Ganga Singh Chouhan
443. Dr. Mahesh R. Desai
444. Dr. Sahebrao Marotrao Fusey
445. Prof. (Dr.) Daljeet Singh Gambhir
446. Dr. A. Gopalakrishna
447. Dr. Alampur Salbaba Goud
448. Dr. Manga Shivlingam Gowd
449. Prof. Narmada Prasad Gupta
450. Dr. Joginder Lal Gupta
451. Dr. Pratap Singh Hardia
452. Prof. Mahdi Hasan
453. Dr. Vivek Jawali
454. Dr. H.R. Jhunjhunwala
455. Dr. Mahipati Madhwaracharya Joshi
456. Prof. (Dr.) Mohan Kameswaran
457. Prof. Dr. (Miss) Tanjore Sathyanakrishna Kanaka
458. Prof. (Dr.) J.G. Kannappan
459. Prof. (Dr.) Upendra Kaul
460. Dr. (Smt.) Neelam Kler
461. Prof. (Dr.) Vijay Kohli
462. Dr. J. Ramaswami Krishnamoorthy
463. Dr. Tatyrao Pundkrac Lahane
464. Dr. Arvind Lal

465. Dr. Sanjiv K.S. Marya
466. Dr. M.P. Mehrotra
467. Prof. J.N. Mishra
468. Dr. V. Mohan
469. Dr. M.K. Moosakunhi
470. Shri Hakim Mohd. Sharfuddin Quadri Mujibi
471. Prof. (Dr.) Perumalsamy Namperumalsamy
472. Prof. Dr. (Smt.) Anita Panda
473. Prof. Subrat Kumar Panda
474. Prof. Chandrakant Sambhaji Pandav
475. Dr. T.M.R. Panicker
476. Dr. Lalit Mohan Pant
477. Dr. Radhe Shyam Pareek
478. Dr. Devendra Dahyabhai Patel
479. Dr. Kirti Patel
480. Prof. (Dr.) Smt. Lekha Adik Pathak
481. Late Dr. Munishwar Pathak
482. Shri Ashok Rajgopal
483. Prof. (Smt.) Karimpati Mathangi Ramakrishnan
484. Dr. Premanand Shantaram Ramani
485. Dr. Kuttikuppala Surya Rao
486. Dr. (Ms.) Kamini A. Rao
487. Dr. G. Nageswar Rao
488. Dr. A. Venkoba Rao
489. Dr. Pratap Chandra Rath
490. Dr. Duvvuru Nageswar Reddy
491. Dr. Pushpendra Nath Ranjan
492. Dr. Sundara Nadar Arul Raja
493. Dr. Harbhajan Singh Rissam
494. Dr. S.N.A. Rizvi
495. Dr. Belavadi Thippeswamy Rudresh
496. Dr. Hans Raj Prem Sachdev
497. Dr. Hira Lal Saha
498. Dr. Gurmukh Sajjanmal Sainani
499. Prof. (Dr.) Bhupendra Kumar Singh Sanjay
500. Dr. Murarilal N. Saraf
501. Dr. Virendra Nath Sehgal
502. Prof. (Dr.) Kamal Kumar Sethi
503. Dr. (Smt.) V. Shanta
504. Dr. Parnanand Sharma
505. Prof. Veidya Shriram Sharma
506. Dr. Om Prakash Sharma
507. Shri Lakshmi Kant Sharma
508. Dr. Rajeev Sharma
509. Prof. (Dr.) Dhananjaya Sharma
510. Dr. Kananjar Raghurama Shetty
511. Prof. (Dr.) M.P. Shrivastava
512. Dr. (Smt.) Geeta Barthakur Shroff
513. Dr. Satya Prakash Singh
514. Shri Laishram Nabakishore Singh
515. Dr. (Smt.) Janaki Sivaramakrishna
516. Dr. Kailash Prasad Srivastava
517. Dr. Alok Kumar Srivastava
518. Prof. (Dr.) S. Subramanian
519. Dr. Gangapatnam Subramanyam
520. Prof. (Dr.) Kewal Kishan Talwar
521. Dr. Anurag Tandon
522. Prof. Prakash Narain Tandon

523. Prof. (Dr.) Krishna Varadachari Thiruvengadam
524. Dr. Hargovind Trivedi
525. Prof. (Dr.) Sanjay Tyagi
526. Dr. Kandala Venk
527. Dr. Govindan Vijayaraghavan
528. Dr. Mohsin Wali
529. Dr. Gopal Narayan Aavte
530. Shri P.T. Abraham
531. Prof. K.S. Nissar Ahmed
532. Dr. Dayal Kotumal Dhameja Asha
533. Ms. Brahmacharini Kamla Bai
534. Prof. Viswanadhuni Balamohandas
535. Dr. Asif Barelvi
536. Shri Gregory Maximovich Bongard-Levin
537. Prof. H.S. Brahmananda
538. Shri Ashok Chakradhar
539. Dr. Sansar Chandra
540. Dr. Ashok K. Chauhan
541. Prof. (Dr.) M.P. Chowdiah
542. Ms. Ajeet Cour
543. Ms. Dinesh Nandini Dalmia
544. Shri Manoj Das
545. Dr. Birendranath Datta
546. Shri Narendra Nath Deka
547. Shri Jitamitra Prasad Singh Deo
548. Shri Chandrakant Deotale
549. Shri Vijaydan Detha
550. Ms. Mahasveta Devi
551. Dr. Virendra Kumar Dubey
552. Shri Jagdish Gandhi
553. Shri Nabendu Ghosh
554. Shri Sankha Ghosh
555. Prof. Ram Prakash Goel
556. Shri Chamarajanagar Venkatakrishnaiah Gopinath
557. Dr. Vagish Kumar Goswami
558. Shri Kailash Puri Goswami
559. Dr. Vidya Vinod Gupt
560. Dr. Laxmi Chand Gupta
561. Shri Udai Bhanu Hans
562. Shri Mohammad Iqrar Hussain
563. Shri Mujtaba Hussain
564. Shri Mathew Jahani Jarjar
565. Dr. Prabodh Kumar Jha
566. Shri Durga Charan Kala
567. Shri Yusufali Kecheri
568. Prof. Mohd. Israil Khan
569. Dr. Lalthuagliana Khlangte
570. Shri Giriraj Kishore
571. Dr. Narendra Kohli
572. Dr. Sripal Singh Kshem
573. Dr. Balaram Kumar
574. Shri Ravinder Kumar
575. Dr. (Smt.) Kamal Kumar
576. Prof. Krishna Kumar
577. Dr. Shanti Swarup Kusum
578. Shri B. Lalthangliana
579. Shri Devanooru Mahadev

580. Shri Laxman Bapurao Mane
581. Shri M.S. Mani
582. Smt. Cynthia Manoharan
583. Prof. Agam Prasad Mathur
584. Dr. Chandrakant H. Mehta
585. Dr. (Smt.) Mithileshkumari Mishra
586. Prof. Adya Prasad Mishra
587. Prof. Siba Prasad Mishra
588. Shri Krishna Nand Misra 'Suman'
589. Shri Bijaya Prasad Mohapatra
590. Dr. Gajanan Shastri Musalgaonkar
591. Prof. S. Guptan Nair
592. Late Shri H. Narasimhaiah
593. Smt. Saraswathi Narayanaswami
594. Dr. Ramesh Pokhariyal Nishank
595. Dr. George Oonakoor
596. Smt. Maitreyi Padmanabhan
597. Dr. Bhrigu Nath Pandey
598. Prof. Shekhar Pathak
599. Dr. Sri Nandan Prasad
600. Dr. Yogesh Praveen
601. Prof. Moolamattom Varkey Pylee
602. Shri Madan Mohan Rajendra
603. Shri Vitthalsing Mahipatsing Rajput
604. Prof. Baraguru Ramchandrapa
605. Prof. Som Parkash Ranchan
606. Prof. Saligrama Krishna Ramchandra Rao
607. Shri Ramakanta Rath
608. Dr. N. Subbu Reddiar
609. Shri Naresh Kumar Sachdeva
610. Shri Achyutananda Samanta
611. Dr. Krovi Partha Sarathi
612. Shri Arun Sarma
613. Shri Seshandra Sarma
614. Shri Kunwar Bahadur Saxena
615. Shri Kamleshwar Prasad Saxena
616. Shri Kanhiya Lal Sethia
617. Shri Madhukar Shaldai
618. Dr. Bhagwatikumar Hargovind Sharma
619. Dr. Sreenivasa Chandramouliswara Sharma
620. Shri Keshavram Kashiram Shastri
621. Dr. G.S. Shivarudrappa
622. Shri Vijay Dutt Shridhar
623. Shri Ishrat Ali Siddiqui
624. Dr. Amar Bahadur Singh
625. Dr. Amar Jyoti Singh
626. Dr. Amar Nath Singh
627. Smt. Sivasankari
628. Smt. Chandra Kiran Sonrexa
629. Prof. V.I. Subramoniam
630. Smt. Sugathakumari
631. Haji Mohsin Ali Suhail
632. Shri Quazi Tanvir
633. Dr. Harivansh Tarun
634. Dr. Panzhonayil Chacko Thomas
635. Shri Mutua Tomba
636. Shri Shivshanker Tripathi
637. Acharya Purna Chandra Upadhyay

638. **Bekal Mohammed Shafi Khan alias Bekal Utsahi**
639. **Shri Mullapudi Venkateswara**
640. **Shri Gajanan Verma**
641. **Dr. Chandra B. Verma**
642. **Dr. Akondi Viswanadham**
643. **Dr. Yejasuddin**
644. **Smt. Fatma Rafiq Zakaria**
645. **Shri Kashmiri Lal Zakir**
646. **Shri Dusan Zbavitel**
647. **Shri Manuel Aaron**
648. **Shri Desh Prem Azad**
649. **Shri Dipankar Bhattacharjee**
650. **Shri Mahesh Srinivas Bhupathi**
651. **Smt. Madhumita Bisht**
652. **Ms. Anuradha Biswal**
653. **Smt. Bula Chowdhury**
654. **Shri Rahul Dravid**
655. **Shri Mohan Singh Gunjyal**
656. **Ms. Sita Gusain**
657. **Shri Shaik Abdul Hameed**
658. **Late Shri Khashaba K.D. Jadhav**
659. **Ms. Mangte Chungneijang Mary Kom**
660. **Shri Sudesh Kumar**
661. **Shri Anil Kumble**
662. **Smt. Rachita Mistry**
663. **Shri Parashuram Pakirappa**
664. **Shri B. Ahesan Pasha**
665. **Kum. Ambuja S.R.**
666. **Ms. Sradhanjali Samantray**
667. **Shri Rajkumar Sangwan**
668. **Ms. Kavitha Sanil**
669. **Shri Amulya Sen**
670. **Shri S. Randhir Singh**
671. **Shri Ignace Tirkey**
672. **Shri Polly R. Umrigar**
673. **Shri Pappu Yadav**
674. **Dr. Indu Prakash Aron**
675. **Shri Peter James Bazeley**
676. **Smt. Nirmala Buch**
677. **Late Shri Tateng Sherab Gyaltshen**
678. **Shri Devi Prasad Hazarika**
679. **Dr. Mohan Kanda**
680. **Late Shri Rameshwar Nath Kao**
681. **Shri Gautam Kaul**
682. **Dr. M.M. Oberoi**
683. **Shri Gulabrao Dharmu Pol**
684. **Shri A.K. Roy**
685. **Shri S.R. Sankaran**
686. **Shri A.P.V.N. Sarma**
687. **Shri Girish Chandra Saxena**
688. **Shri Hasrugh Shah**
689. **Shri Ajai Raj Sharma**
690. **Miss Parveen Talha**
691. **Gen. N.C. Vij**
692. **Shri Subhash Chandra Agrawal**
693. **Smt. Madhu Agrawal**
694. **Shri Habib Ahmed**
695. **Smt. Rupan Deol Bajaj**



696. Dr. Udaya Narayan Dev  
697. Shri Abhishek Jain  
698. Shri Lalit Kumar Joshi  
699. Prof. (Dr.) Vishwanath D. Karad  
700. Shri G. Sultan Mohideen  
701. Dr. Lalit Pande  
702. Dr. Khushalsingh Purohit  
703. Dr. P.G. Sastry  
704. Dr. Lalji Singh  
705. Shri Kunwar Narender Singh  
706. Shri Billy Arjan Singh  
707. Shri Satya Singh Tadiyal  
708. Shri Ghanshyam J. Vyas  
709. Shri Mohan Chandrasekaran  
710. Dr. Chaturbhuj  
711. Shri Harsh Chhajed  
712. Shri Jogen Chowdhury  
713. Shri Prashant Puroshottam Damle  
714. Shri Buddhadeb Dasgupta  
715. Shri K. Deep  
716. Shri Anand Deode  
717. Dr. Laxman Narsinh Deshpande  
718. Shri Ram Bahadur Dwivedi  
719. Smt. Gayathri Echampati  
720. Ms. Rekha Ganeshan  
721. Shri Subhash Ghai  
722. Shri Nema Ghosh  
723. Shri Adoor Gopalakrishnan  
724. Ms. Priyadarshini Govind  
725. Shri Ashutosh Gowarikar  
726. Shri Ilayaraja  
727. Dr. (Smt.) Ananda Shankar Jayant  
728. Shri Shreehari Joshi  
729. Pandit Prabhakar Karekar  
730. Pandit Bhawani Shankar Kathak  
731. Smt. Surinder Kaur  
732. Ustad Rashid Khan  
733. Shri Kuzhur Narayana Marat  
734. Ms. Charu Sija Mathur  
735. Pandit Chhannulal Mishra  
736. Shri Mehar Chand Mittal  
737. Shri Omkar Prasad Nayyar  
738. Pandit Nathrao Neralkar  
739. Shri Piyush Pandey  
740. Shri V.S. Mahadeva Panicker  
741. Ms. Sai Paranjpye  
742. Guru Shyama Charan Pati  
743. Shri Anand Patwardhan  
744. Pandit Ajay Pohankar  
745. Shri Babasaheb Purandare  
746. Smt. Malini Rajurkar  
747. Shri Kuzhalmamnam G. Ramakrishnan  
748. Smt. Phulan Rani  
749. Smt. Radha Reddy  
750. Shri Raja Reddy  
751. Ms. Asha Menan alias Revathy  
752. Pandit Samar Saha  
753. Ms. Sailaja

754. Dr. (Smt.) Shashi Sankhla  
755. Pandit Prabhudev Sardar  
756. Ms. Margi Sathi  
757. Dr. Nookala Chinna Satyanarayana  
758. Shri Aribam Shyam Sharma  
759. Shri Ravi Shankar Sharma  
760. Shri Dwarka Prasad Sharma  
761. Shri Paramjit Singh Sidhu  
762. Shri Pran Sikand  
763. Shri Shiv Singh  
764. Shri Gajendra Narain Singh  
765. Shri Virendra Singh 'Rahi'  
766. Shri Pankaj Udhas  
767. Shri Vithal Umap  
768. Shri V. Venkatesan  
769. Shri Om Vyas  
770. Shri Suresh Wadkar  
771. Shri Radha Saran Agrawal  
772. Shri Bala Ram Ahirwar  
773. Dr. Ujwala D. Andrews  
774. Dr. Anil Awachat  
775. Shri Nand Kishore Bagrodia  
776. Shri Hazari Lal Bansal  
777. Shri Ramkrishna Motiramji Belurkar  
778. Shri Harish Kumar Bhartiya  
779. Shri Ravishankar B. Bhooplapur  
780. Shri Rajinder Singh Bindra  
781. Shri Jaspal Bindra  
782. Smt. Shanti Devi Brahman  
783. Shri Deen Bandhu Chaudhary  
784. Shri Prabhakar Tukaram Chavan  
785. Dr. Nemichand Bhikchand Chhajed  
786. Dr. A.K. Banerjee Choudhury  
787. Shri Ronald Colaco  
788. Sister S.M. Cyril  
789. Shri Narayan Vishnu Dharmadhikari  
790. Shri Bellur Shankaranarayana Dwarkanath  
791. Dr. (Smt.) V. Mohini Giri  
792. Shri Ram Kumar Goel  
793. Shri Kewal Krishan Goyal  
794. Ms. Devaki Jain  
795. Shri Suryakant Jog  
796. Shri Prabhakar Kashinath Kunte  
797. Shri Alamjit Singh Mann  
798. Dr. (Smt.) Vina Mazumdar  
799. Shri Jagan Nath Kapur  
800. Sheikh Vazir Patel  
801. Shri Zulal Patil  
802. Ms. Medha Patkar  
803. Dr. Narotam Chand Puri  
804. Dr. Pasupuleti Hanumantha Rao  
805. Dr. H.K. Rawal  
806. Father Abraham S.J.  
807. Sant Baba Balbir Singh Seechewal  
808. Dr. Vijaykumar Swarupchand Shah  
809. Shri Dayal Singh  
810. Shri P. Kalyana Sundaram  
811. Shri Veerabhadra Channamalla Swamiji

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|---|--|
| 812. Smt. Jyotsna Tribhuvan             | 841. Prof. Girijesh Kumar Mehta              |
| 813. Shri Bhupatrai J. Trivedi          | 842. Prof. Rajaram Nityanand                 |
| 814. Sister Sudha Varghese              | 843. Dr. Rajendra K. Pachauri                |
| 815. Shri Bishwanath Prasad Vishwakarma | 844. Dr. Thanu Padmanabhan                   |
| 816. Shri Hasim Abdul Halim             | 845. Shri N. Pant                            |
| 817. Sheikh Abdul Rahman Al-Mahmoud     | 846. Prof. (Dr.) Kare Narain Pathak          |
| 818. Dr. Justice Adarsh Sein Anand      | 847. Prof. Tushar Purushotham Prabhu         |
| 819. Shri Asghar Ali Engineer           | 848. Prof. Venkataraman Radhakrishnan        |
| 820. Shri Shivajirao Patil              | 849. Prof. Madabusi Santanam Raghunathan     |
| 821. Shri R. Chenga Reddy               | 850. Dr. S. Rajasekaran                      |
| 822. Shri Julio Francis Ribeiro         | 851. Dr. P. Venkat Rangan                    |
| 823. Justice K. Jagannatha Shetty       | 852. Prof. Gitendra Saran Sanyal             |
| 824. Justice K.T. Thomas                | 853. Dr. P.K. Seth                           |
| 825. Late S. Gurcharan Singh Tohra      | 854. Prof. Jamuna Sharan Singh               |
| 826. Shri K.T.S. Tulse                  | 855. Shri Dinesh Prasad Verma                |
| 827. Dr. Kirpal Singh Aulakh            | 856. Prof. (Dr.) Hebbalalu Ramarao Viswanath |
| 828. Prof. Cherukuri Raghavendra Babu   | 857. Smt. Rama Anand                         |
| 829. Dr. R. Balasubramanian             | 858. Shri Kanwaljit Singh Bakshi             |
| 830. Dr. Ravi Bastia                    | 859. Smt. Rajni Bector                       |
| 831. Prof. Sabyasachi Bhattacharya      | 860. Shri Pralhad Chhabria                   |
| 832. Shri Madhavrao Atmaram Chitale     | 861. Smt. Anuradha Desai                     |
| 833. Prof. (Dr.) Raghavendra Gadagkar   | 862. Shri Jose Dominic                       |
| 834. Dr. Madhav Gadgil                  | 863. Shri Swapan Guha                        |
| 835. Shri Achyut Godbole                | 864. Dr. Jamshed Jiji Irani                  |
| 836. Dr. Joseph H. Hulse                | 865. Shri Vithal Venkatesh Kamat             |
| 837. Shri Bhavarlal Jain                | 866. Shri Pradeep Kumar Jain                 |
| 838. Prof. Surendra Kumar Kaushik       | 867. Shri Sunil Bharti Mittal                |
| 839. Dr. Raghbir Singh Khandpur         | 868. Shri Nandan M. Nilekani                 |
| 840. Dr. Jugal Bihari Lal               | 869. Shri S.P. Oswal                         |

870. Shri Deepak Parikh
871. Dr. Jacob Placka
872. Shri S. Ramadorai
873. Dr. G.S. Randhawa
874. Shri R.N. Shetty
875. Shri M.K. Panduranga Shetty
876. Shri Ratan Tata
877. Dr. Suresh H. Advani
878. Dr. (Prof.) Virendra Kumar Agarwal
879. Dr. Iqbal Singh Ahuja
880. Dr. (Mrs.) Asha A. Andyal
881. Dr. Kalyan Bagchi
882. Dr. Dinesh K. Bhargava
883. Dr. Yash Paul Bhatia
884. Dr. Rajinder Pal Singh Boparai
885. Dr. Diwan Harish Chand
886. Dr. Rajiv K. Chugh
887. Dr. Suresh Chandra Dash
888. Dr. Lovelin Kumar Gandhi
889. Dr. Atul Goel
890. Dr. Ahok Kumar Gupta
891. Dr. Lakhmal Hiranand Hiranandani
892. Dr. R.N. Kalra
893. Dr. (Smt.) Gira Kasturi
894. Prof. Hakim Syed Khaleefathullah
895. Dr. K.M. Mahendranath
896. Dr. Anand N. Malaviya
897. Dr. Ram Kumar Marwaha
898. Dr. Yatin Mehta
899. Dr. Ghanshyama Mishra
900. Dr. Anoop Misra
901. Prof. Mahesh Chandra Misra
902. Dr. Narendra Prasad Misra
903. Prof. (Dr.) Venkataraman Nagarajan
904. Dr. H.R. Nagesh
905. Prof. (Dr.) Bhuvanaghan Palaniappan
906. Dr. Ramakanta Panda
907. Dr. Narendra Jivanlal Pandya
908. Dr. (Col.) C.S. Pant
909. Prof. (Dr.) Mohan Chandra Pant
910. Dr. Bindumadha D. Pujari
911. Prof. Hakeem Syed Zilur Rahman
912. Prof. A. Rajasekaran
913. Dr. Middollu Ramakrishna Reddy
914. Dr. Shiv Kumar Sarin
915. Km. Savita Satakopani
916. Dr. N. Sethuraman
917. Prof. Hari Shankar Shukla
918. Dr. Anupam Sibal
919. Dr. Sukhdeep Singh
920. Dr. Virendra Singh
921. Dr. Ksheterimayum Chourajit Singh
922. Dr. A.P. Singhal
923. Dr. Ram Sharan Sinha
924. Prof. Suresh Chandra Tiwari
925. Dr. Tehemton Erach Udwadia
926. Prof. Shriram Sharma Vaidya
927. Dr. Hukim Chand Bhardil

928. Shri Madhukar Bhave
929. Prof. Lokesh Chandra
930. Prof. Partha Chatterjee
931. Ms. Sucheta Dalal
932. Sardar Jagjit Singh Dardi
933. Shri Keki N. Daruwalla
934. Prof. Jayantkrishna Harkrishna Dave
935. Shri H.P. Dikshit
936. Dr. Jean Dreze
937. Dr. Ganesh Dutt
938. Dr. Govind M. Gare
939. Shri Manik Godghate
940. Shri Barjinder Singh Hamdard
941. Prof. Kuntinath Devendra Karake-Patil
942. Shri Awadh Bihari Kavi
943. Prof. Bhadriraju Krishnamurthy
944. Acharya Bhaskeranand Lohani
945. Dr. Lothar Lutze
946. Shri Jayanta Mahapatra
947. Shri Chandra Shekhar Misra
948. Dr. Kunwar Singh Negi
949. Shri T.N. Ninan
950. Dr. Ramdas Madhav Pai
951. Smt. Mrinal Pande
952. Dr. Gangadhar Pantawanne
953. Shri Surjit Patar
954. Dr. Yusufkhan Mohamadkhan Pathan
955. Prof. (Dr.) Nirmalkumar J. Phadkule
956. Prof. N.N. Pillai (Omchery)
957. Shri Pradip Prabhu
958. Shri Baburao Rajshri Bagul
959. Shri Narasimhan Ram
960. Dr. Vundela Malakonda Reddy
961. Shri Prannoy Roy
962. Shri Suresh C. Shah
963. Dr. Hari Dutt Bhatt Shailesh
964. Dr. Ram Murti Sharma
965. Dr. Anand Sharma
966. Prof. Fakirrao Munjaji Shinde
967. Prof. Kirpal Singh
968. Late Dr. (Ms.) Esther Abraham Solomon
969. Dr. Aroon Tikekar
970. Prof. Sitanshu Yashaschandra
971. Shri Dibyendu Barua
972. Shri Abhinav Bindra
973. Shri Harishchandra Madhavrao Birajdar
974. Prof. Ravindra Nath Chaturvedi
975. Shri Baljit Singh Dhillon
976. Shri Ramesh Kusale
977. Kumari Yadlapati Sai Lakshmi
978. Shri Yasin Merchant
979. Shri Harbhajan Singh Palaha
980. Shri Mangal Pande
981. Ms. Shantha Rangaswamy
982. Shri. L. Nageshwar Rao
983. Shri Bahadur Singh
984. Shri Ramesh Tikaram
985. Ms. Santosh Yadav

986. Shri Shankar Mahadev Bidari  
 987. Shri J.N. Chaudhry  
 988. Shri Mohan Meena  
 989. Shri Beladamadu Gangadhar Jyothiprakash Mirji  
 990. Prof. Ashok Parthasarathi  
 991. Shri Krishnan Reghunath  
 992. Prof. Vijay Shankar Vyas  
 993. Shri Om Prakash Agrawal  
 994. Km. Alka Madhukar Chandragiriwar  
 995. Shri Wamanrao Pai  
 996. Shri Jasdev Singh  
 997. Dr. Narinder Singh Tiwana  
 998. Smt. Gayatri Sankaran  
 999. Dr. (Smt.) Vidushi Shanno Khurana  
 1000. Ms. Veena Sahasrabudhe  
 1001. Air Commodore Jasjit Singh  
 1002. Shri P.P. Rao  
 1003. Shri Charles Correa  
 1004. Shri Suresh Krishna  
 1005. Dr. Vijaypat Singhania  
 1006. Shri Kunnath Puthiyaveetil Padmanabhan Nambiar  
 1007. Shri Shashi Bhushan  
 1008. Shri P.S. Appu  
 1009. Shri C.R. Krishnaswamy Rao Sahib  
 1010. Shri Scott R. Bayman  
 1011. Smt. Colette Mathur  
 1012. Smt. Shantha Sinha  
 1013. Prof. Obaid Siddiqui

1014. Ms. Sania Mirza  
 1015. Dr. (Smt.) Tsering Landol  
 1016. Dr. (Smt.) Mehmooda Ali Shah  
 1017. Late Shri Sarwanand Kaul Premi  
 1018. Justice (Retd.) Visheshwar Nath Khare

*[English]*

**Construction of Road on Kutch Border**

1714. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM:  
 Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to lay metallic road on Kutch-Pakistan border for B.S.F. and other security agencies; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) Construction of roads along the International Borders, including Kutch-Pakistan border, for effective border management is an ongoing process.

**Sex Ratio**

1715. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU:

SHRI K.S. RAO:

SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the present sex ratio in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the national sex ratio has dropped from 945 in 1991 to 927 in 2001;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to increase the sex ratio in the country;

(e) whether the Government proposes to review policy to save the girl child; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

**Statement**

*State-wise Sex Ratio of Total Population in 2001*

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Present sex ratio of population in 2001 in the country is 933 females per 1000 males. State-wise sex ratio for 2001 Census is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) As per information furnished by Registrar General, India, National sex ratio has not declined. In fact, it has improved from 927 in 1991 to 933 in 2001.

(d) A number of steps have been taken by the Government like:—(i) Setting up of National Inspection and Monitoring Committee; (ii) Setting up of National Support and Monitoring Cell; (iii) Sensitization of the Appropriate Authorities; (iv) Sensitization of the Medical Community; (v) Instruction on sale of Ultrasound Machines; (vi) Awareness Generation against the practice of pre-natal determination of sex and female foeticide through Print and Electronic media; (vii) Training of Judiciary; and (viii) Involvement of District Magistrates to review the implementation of the PC and PNDT Act.

(e) and (f) A 'Save the Girl Child' campaign with a view to lessen son preference by highlighting achievements of young girls has been launched by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. District Magistrates have also been requested to regularly review the implementation of the PC and PNDT Act alongwith other programmes in their district. Government of India has also formulated a detailed Media Campaign using TV, Radio and Print. Apart from this both Governments and NGOs are mobilizing social change through advocacy and community participation in programmes. A fifteen minute duration sponsored radio programme 'Akash Hamara Hai' is being aired which highlights issues concerning to women and children including declining sex ratio and its adverse impact on society. A 30 seconds duration spot on female foeticide, falling female sex ratio, is being telecasted from Doordarshan. A special campaign on female foeticide was telecasted from Doordarshan during September, October and November, 2005 before Cricket test Match Series.

State/ UT Code	India/State/Union Territory	Sex ration (Females per, 1,000 males)
1	2	3
	INDIA	933
1.	Jammu and Kashmir	892
2.	Himachal Pradesh	968
3.	Punjab	876
4.	Chandigarh	777
5.	Uttaranchal	962
6.	Haryana	861
7.	Delhi	821
8.	Rajasthan	921
9.	Uttar Pradesh	898
10.	Bihar	919
11.	Sikkim	875
12.	Arunachal Pradesh	893
13.	Nagaland	900
14.	Manipur	978
15.	Mizoram	935
16.	Tripura	948
17.	Meghalaya	972
18.	Assam	935
19.	West Bengal	934
20.	Jharkhand	941

1	2	3
21.	Orissa	972
22.	Chhattisgarh	989
23.	Madhya Pradesh	919
24.	Gujarat	920
25.	Daman and Diu	710
26.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	812
27.	Maharashtra	922
28.	Andhra Pradesh	978
29.	Karnataka	965
30.	Goa	961
31.	Lakshadweep	948
32.	Kerala	1,058
33.	Tamil Nadu	987
34.	Pondicherry	1,001
35.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	846

Sources: Census 1991 and 2001, O/O Registrar General of India.

#### **Investment by Czech Republic**

1716. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Czech Republic has recently offered to make investment in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the areas specified;

(c) whether the Memorandum of Understanding has been signed in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (d) In the liberalized economic

environment, investment decisions, including the choice of location, are taken by the entrepreneurs based on their techno-economic assessment. Under the existing policy, FDI upto 100% is allowed under the automatic route in most sector/activities, which does not require prior approval of the Government. From August 1991 till December 2005, 16 proposals from the Czech Republic envisaging a total investment of Rs. 295.19 crore have been approved. Government of India has no authentic information regarding the investment proposals in Andhra Pradesh from the Czech Republic. No approval for FDI from Czech Republic in the State of Andhra Pradesh has been given from Government of India.

#### **Operation against Ulfa**

1717. SHRI TAPIR GAO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the army surrounded large number of ulfa top leaders in Tinsukia district of Assam in 2005;

(b) if so, whether the Government directed the army to withdraw the operation;

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

(d) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) In operations launched by the Army in Tinsukia district between 25th August-25th September, 2005, six Ulfa cadres were killed and five cadres were apprehended alongwith a number of weapons, large quantity of explosives, incrimination documents and communication equipment.

(b) to (d) The operation was called off after it was known that the Ulfa insurgents hiding in the reserve forest had been neutralised.

#### **Use of PETN Explosives by Militants**

1718. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether PETN explosives recently seized from militants indicates that the militants in the country are frequently changing explosives, as reported in the Hindu dated January 27, 2006;



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

(c) whether the Government has since contemplated any steps to counter such militants who are in possession of dangerous explosives; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) As per available information, on 24-1-2006, two Bangladeshis belonging to Harkat-ul-Jahad-al-Islami, which is linked to Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM), were arrested and 1.42 kg. PETN was recovered from their possession. There have been some terrorist incidents in recent years involving use of PETN.

(c) and (d) The State police forces and Central armed forces are sensitized about the changing modus operandi of terrorists and appropriate counter measures taken from time to time.

[Translation]

#### Revival of Traditional Industries

1719. MOHD. MUKEEM: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding the present status of the schemes submitted by the Government of Uttar Pradesh for the revival of traditional industries in the state; and

(b) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The Central Government has approved the Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) for development of a specified number of clusters of traditional industries throughout the country, including Uttar Pradesh. The Government has received four proposals for the development of khadi clusters in Uttar Pradesh.

The time frame for taking a decision on these proposals depends on whether they are found on examination, to be in accordance with the guidelines of

this Scheme and the relative merits of the proposals in relation to similar proposals received from all other States, because the total number of khadi clusters under the Scheme is limited to 25 for the whole country.

[English]

#### Export of Basmati Rice

1720. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH:  
SHRI MOHAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the export of Basmati Rice during 2005-06 alongwith foreign exchange earned therefrom;

(b) the India's share of export of Basmati Rice in world market;

(c) whether exporters have requested the Government to notify Basmati as "Super Quality" in order to boost rice exports and counter Pakistan in international market;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to increase export of Basmati Rice and its share in world market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) During 2005-06 (April-November), Basmati rice exports were 6.5 lakh tonnes and the foreign exchange earned was US \$ 396 million.

(b) India's share in world market for basmati rice is about 53%.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The rice exporters have requested the Government for notification of 'Super' variety of rice as 'Basmati' rice. The request has been examined and recommended to Department of Agriculture and Cooperation for necessary Notification under the Seeds Act 1966.

(e) The steps being taken by the Government to increase export of Basmati rice include providing

assistance to Indian exporters for undertaking publicity campaign, mounting trade delegations abroad, participation in international fairs, buyer-seller meets and providing financial assistance to exporters for improving quality, packaging and brand promotion.

#### **Scholarship to Girls**

1721. SHRI PANNIAN RAVINDRAN:

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the first installment of scholarship for the students selected under the Indira Gandhi Scholarship for the single girl child started by the University Grants Commission has not yet been disbursed;

(b) if so, the number of students selected under this scholarship scheme and the amount of scholarship sanctioned; and

(c) the reaction for delay in disbursement of the scholarship?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the UGC has selected 1613 candidates under the Indira Gandhi Post Graduate Scholarship for Girl Child so far. The scholarship amount is Rs. 2,000/- per month for a period of two years for each awardee. Scholarships have not been released so far due to the non verification of relevant documents by the institutions.

#### **More Central Aid for Mid-Day Meal Scheme**

1722. SHRI P.C. THOMAS:

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the various State Governments have requested the Union Government for more central aid for the implementation on Mid-Day Meal Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) A few State Governments had requested for more Central aid in the recent past for cooking costs, kitchen sheds and extension of the programme to Upper Primary stage.

(c) The request from the State Governments could not be agreed to, being outside the ambit of the approved Scheme.

#### **Import of Sports Utility Vehicles**

1723. SHRI UDAY SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the imports of Sports Utility Vehicles (SUVs) and Luxury cars have increased as reported in the 'Times of India' dated January 26, 2006;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to make necessary changes in the foreign trade policy to check imports of Sports Utility Vehicles and cars; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Import of vehicles at concessional rate of customs duty under the Export Promotion of Capital Goods Scheme has witnessed an increase as follows:—

Year	No. of Vehicles
2002-03	111
2003-04	127
2004-05	236

(c) and (d) A Notification No. 39 (Re-2005)/2004-09 dated 17-1-2006 has been issued amending the provision for import of cars under EPCG Scheme. Henceforth, the 'duty saved' amount on all EPCG licences issued in a

licensing year for import of motor cars, Sports Utility Vehicles/all purpose vehicles shall not exceed 50% of the average foreign exchange earnings from the hotel, travel and tourism and golf tourism sectors in the preceding three licensing years. However, the parts of motor cars, sports utility vehicles/all purpose vehicles such as chassis etc. cannot be imported under the EPCG Scheme.

#### **Harassment of Women in KVS and NVS**

1724. SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of violation of guidelines

#### **Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan:**

Year	State	No. of cases
2003	1. Uttar Pradesh	01
	2. Sikkim	01
	3. Bihar	01
2004	1. Madhya Pradesh	02
	2. Goa	01
	3. Uttaranchal	01
	4. Punjab	01
	5. Chhattisgarh	01
2005	1. Orissa	01
	2. Uttaranchal	01
2006 (upto 1-3-06)	1. Gujarat	02
	2. Uttar Pradesh	01

#### **Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti:**

Year	State	No. of cases
1	2	3
2003	1. Madhya Pradesh	01

issued by the Supreme Court in Visakha case in regard to harassment of Women at work places has been reported from Kendriya Vidyalayas and Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas to the Government during the last three years and till date, State-wise; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to ensure adherence to the said guide-lines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) The details of cases reported to Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan and Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti by Kendriya Vidyalayas and Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas respectively are as under:—

1	2	3
2004	1. Uttar Pradesh	01
	2. Rajasthan	01
2005	1. Andhra Pradesh	01
	2. Rajasthan	01
	3. West Bengal	01
	4. Uttar Pradesh	01

(b) Complaint Redressal Committees have been constituted at the Headquarters and Regional Office level of KVS and NVS for redressal of complaints of gender harassment of women employees as per directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in the Vishakha Case. Complaints received from women employees are immediately got inquired into by these committees and appropriate action is taken based on the findings of the report.

#### Export/Import Policy

1725. SHRI SUBRATA BOSE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any export and import Policy relating to chemicals and fertilizers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Export and Import Policy for chemicals and fertilizers is laid down in the ITC (HS) Classification of Export and Import Items, 2004-2009. Except urea, which is under State Trading Enterprise (STE), fertilizers are freely importable. Restriction on import and export of chemicals is maintained in terms of the Montreal Protocol of which India is a signatory. Import of Hazardous Chemicals is allowed in terms of the Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemicals Rules, 1986 [(made under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986)]

Export of certain types of Straight Potassic Fertilizers, N.P. Complex Fertilizers, chemical fertilizers fortified with zinc or boron, Micronutrient fertilizers are restricted for import.

Export of certain specified chemicals is restricted or prohibited for export as per the chemical weapons convention. This export policy is continued under the SCOMET list notified in Schedule 2 of the ITC (HS).

#### Leather Industry

1726. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether allocation of Rs. 400 crores for modernization of Leather Industry has been utilized;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) the export share of leather in the world market at present;

(e) whether the industry is losing its business in China;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor;

(g) the steps taken by the Government to enhance the export potential of leather;

(h) whether the Leather Industry is demanding similar status as given to Textile Industry; and

(i) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (c) The Union Government is implementing a plan Scheme, namely, the "Indian Leather Development Programme" (ILDLP) with 10th Plan outlay of Rs. 400 crore. The ILDP consists of two programmes, viz., "Integrated Development of Leather Sector" (IDLS) and "Infrastructure Strengthening of Leather Sector" (ISLS) with outlays of Rs. 290 crore and Rs. 110 crore respectively. The IDLS is a comprehensive scheme for modernization and technology up gradation in all the segments of the Leather Industry, namely tanneries, footwear, footwear components, saddlery, leather goods and garments and it has become operational with effect from 3rd November, 2005. In order to bring about awareness of the Scheme road shows and seminars are being organized at different places. The Project Implementing Agencies, viz., Central Leather Research Institute and Footwear Design and Development Institute have so far received and are processing 58 applications for assistance under the scheme.

(d) As per the World Trade Statistics published by International Trade Centre, Geneva, India's export of leather and leather products during the year 2003 was US\$ 2216.45 million, accounting for 2.51% in the global leather trade.

(e) and (f) No Sir, Indian exports in leather and leather goods to China has been 16.57 million US\$ in 2002-03, 22.87 million US\$ in 2003-04 and 32.59 million US\$ in 2004-05.

(g) The Government of India has announced special focus initiatives under the National Foreign Trade Policy 2004-09. The Government has also launched the IDLS Scheme on November 3, 2005 for modernization and technology up gradation in the Leather Industry for increasing the competitiveness in export market.

(h) No, Sir.

(i) Not applicable.

#### **India-UK Trade**

1727. SHRI DHANUSKODI R. ATHITHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of trade issues discussed during the recent visit of U.K. Prime Minister to India;

(b) whether trade of U.K. with India is less in comparison to China;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government has signed any agreement with U.K.;

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

(f) the extent to which these agreements will be helpful in improving the present trade status?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) During the recent visit of British Prime Minister to India in September 2005, trade issues discussed by the two sides included matters relating to health sector, services, food processing sector, etc.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Bilateral trade between countries depends on a variety of factors including inter-alia size and composition of the economy, competitiveness of the product, marketing strategies etc.

(d) to (f) The agreement on setting up of the India-UK Joint Economic and Trade Committee (JETCO) has been signed between India and U.K. in January 2005. The mandate of the JETCO is to review developments of mutual concern and interest in the field of bilateral economic and trade relations and identify ways and means for increasing the scope of economic cooperation, including expansion of bilateral trade and investment. The Committee seeks to promote its mandate primarily by encouraging private sector initiatives.

#### **Seasonal Changes in Mid-Day Meal**

1728. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether no seasonal changes are made in the mid day meals served in the schools all over the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the kinds of schools, aided, non-aided etc., where the mid day meals are being served in Delhi;

(d) whether only rice is being served in the schools run by MCD and NDMC in Delhi; and

(e) if so, the reasons for serving rice in winter and the action proposed to be taken to serve seasonal and more nutritional diet in these schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Guidelines of Mid-Day

Meal Scheme stipulate, inter-alia, that menu of the mid-day meal should, as far as, possible vary from day-to-day. Many States are already providing varied mid-day meal. States are constantly being exhorted to make the meal balanced, varied, wholesome, and hygienic.

(c) As per the information furnished by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi, the position regarding number of schools covered in 2005-06 is as under:—

**Schools covered in NCT of Delhi in 2005-06**

	Government of NCT of Delhi	Local Body		Total
		MCD	NDMC	
Government Schools	363	1853	52	2268
Government Aided Schools	116	44	4	164
<b>Total</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>1897</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>2432</b>

The Mid-Day Meal Scheme does not apply to non aided private schools.

(d) and (e) MCD and NDMC have informed that meals are based on a weekly menu with variety, comprising of both wheat and rice preparations.

**Construction of Swadhar Project Building**

1729. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of construction of Shelter homes under Mahila Swadhar Yojana in the country particularly in Andhra Pradesh, State-wise;

(b) the details of amount spent under this project particularly in Andhra Pradesh, State-wise; and

(c) the time by which the construction work of these homes is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) The present status of construction under the Swadhar scheme is as given in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) As given in the enclosed statement.

**Statement**

*Details regarding status of Construction of Shelter Homes under Swadhar Scheme in the country*

Name of the State	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in Lakhs)	Status
Andhra Pradesh	52.38	Construction completed
Maharashtra	50.00	Construction likely to be completed shortly
Uttar Pradesh	82.87	Construction of Phase I completed
Mizoram	30.00	Construction of commence shortly.

[Translation]

**Assistance to Visually Impaired  
Teachers and Employees**

1730. SHRI TEK LAL MAHTO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched any schemes through the University Grants Commission (UGC) for providing financial assistance to the visually impaired teachers, female teachers and other employees; and

(b) if so, the details of such schemes alongwith the implementation status?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the UGC is implementing the following specific schemes for the visually impaired teachers, female teachers and other employees.

**(I) Financial Assistance to teachers who are visually handicapped. (Blind)**

Under the scheme a grant of Rs. 12,000/- p.a. for visually handicapped (blind) permanent teachers working in the universities and colleges is provided towards Reader Allowance, for purchase of Braille Books, recorded materials etc. During the year 2004-05, an amount of Rs. 16.79 lakhs was paid to visually handicapped teachers.

**(II) Day care centers in Universities**

The Objective of the scheme is to provide day care facilities within the university on payment basis for children of around three months to 6 years of age, when their parents (University employees/students/scholars) are away from home during day time. During the year 2004-05, the UGC provided Rs. 3.00 lakhs to one Central University and Rs. 30.00 lakhs to 10 State Universities.

**(III) Infrastructure for women Students, Teachers and Non-Teaching Staff**

The objective of the scheme is to provide assistance

for creating and strengthening infrastructure for women students, teachers and non-teaching staff in universities. All eligible universities are considered for assistance. Only one time grant of Rs. 10.00 lakhs is made available to a university/institution. During the year 2004-05, a grant amounting to Rs. 35.00 lakhs was paid to universities.

[English]

**Additional Classroom for Children**

1731. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted to know the number of additional classrooms that would be required to accommodate all children in the age group of 6-14 years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) On the basis of district specific data available, the Government of India has estimated the additional classroom requirement in primary and upper primary schools at 9.98 lakhs. The States/UTs have been advised to provide for the requisite infrastructure in their Annual Work Plans and Budgets.

**New Curriculum for Teacher Education**

1732. SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Council for Teachers Education (NCTE) proposes to introduce a new curriculum for quality teacher education;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The National Council for Teacher

Education (NCTE), which is an apex body for planned and coordinated development of Teacher Education in the Country has prepared a Draft Curriculum Framework for Quality Teacher Education.

(b) The draft Curriculum Framework deals with background of teacher education in India; context, concern and challenges of teacher education; pre-service/in-service teacher education; education of teacher educators; management of teacher education and research in teacher education.

(c) The National Curriculum Framework can be finalized only after consultations with all stake holders are concluded.

#### **Mines in Karnataka**

1733. SHRI M. SHIVANNA:

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Mines in operation in Karnataka, mineral-wise;

(b) the names of mines which have been closed, mineral-wise;

(c) whether all the displaced employees have been provided with alternate employment;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the annual quantity of mineral permitted to be exported and actually exported from each mining area during each of the last three years;

(f) whether ore is being exploited and exported flouting by all the norms;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) Mineral concessions including reconnaissance permit, prospecting licence and mining lease are granted by the State

Governments. In case of the minerals specified in the First Schedule of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR Act), prior approval of the Central Government is required for grant of mineral concessions by the State Governments. Details of mines in respect of scheduled minerals in operation in Karnataka as on 1-4-2005, are given below:—

Name of Minerals	Number of Mines in operation
Iron	70
Manganese	15
Chromite	2
Gold	2

(b) The names of mines closed in Karnataka in respect of scheduled minerals as on 1-4-2005 are given below:—

Name of Minerals	Name of closed mines
Iron	Sankalapuram, RM Block, Rajapur, Jaisinghpur, NHP, Venkatagiri, SVK (Vyasankere), Kadalegudda, Karekuruchi and Mookambika
Manganese	Jammapura, Chikkaby Lanakere, Sadarahalli, Mahadevpura, Raj Minerals, Seerankette, Kondli, Gullenahalli, Honnehalli, ML 2319 and Kattimatti
Chromite	Aladahalli
Gold	Ajjanahalli

(c) and (d) Details not centrally maintained.

(e) The details of scheduled minerals despatched for exports from Karnataka during the last three years are indicated below:—



(in tonnes)			
Name of Minerals	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Chromite	—	11336	—
Iron Ore	15386714	16948414	22181637
Manganese	76255	131130	142006

(f) No, Sir. as per MMDR Act, a person is allowed to mine only after obtaining mining lease from the State Government. Export of minerals is guided by the Export-Import Policy.

(g) and (h) Does not arise.

#### Coir Industry

1734. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to provide special export assistance to coir industry particularly to promote geo-textiles export to Europe;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any of the State Governments has submitted any representation to the Union Government seeking Central assistance for the coir industry in their respective States particularly Kerala; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) With the objective of promoting export of coir products, including geotextiles, the Government extends assistance for various activities like participation in exhibitions abroad, conduct of study of the export markets, sponsoring trade delegations abroad, release of product specific advertisements in foreign trade magazines, etc.

(c) and (d) The Government of Kerala had sent a request for higher allocation of funds under the Mahila

Coir Yojana and Market Development Assistance Scheme. Accordingly, an additional provision of Rs. 12.5 crore has been proposed in the revised Estimates for 2005-06.

#### Agri Export Zones

1735. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the annual production of exportable agro products, State-wise;

(b) the number of Agri Export zones in the country alongwith the nodal agency authorised to set up the Agri Export Zones;

(c) whether the Government has fixed any target for export from these Agri Export Zones (AEZs).

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the number of proposals for setting up Agri Export Zones are pending with the Government at present State-wise; and

(f) the time by which these are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Information is being collected from the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) to (d) There are 60 Agri Export Zones (AEZs) in the country. Their location and the anticipated value of exports from the same in 5 years is given below:—

(Rupees in crores)

State	AEZ Project	Value of Export
1	2	3
West Bengal	Pineapple	127.00
	Lychee	27.85
	Potatoes	381.00
	Mango	103.15
	Vegetables	152.00
	Darjeeling Tea	673.75
Tripura	Pineapple	31.64
Uttaranchal	Lychees	38.20
	Flowers	28.28
	Basmati Rice	14.54
	Medicinal and Aromatic Plants	43.57
Karnataka	Gherkins	35.25
	Rose Onion	50.00
	Flowers	312.50
	Vanilla	222.13
Punjab	Vegetables	129.00
	Potatoes	393.75
	Basmati Rice	2340.90
Uttar Pradesh	Potatoes	555.50
	Mangoes and Vegetables	170.82
	Mangoes	71.00
	Basmati Rice	510.00
Maharashtra	Grape and Grapevine	68.47

1	2	3
	Mangoes	145.59
	Kesar Mango	44.19
	Flowers	75.00
	Onion	154.49
	Pomegranate	48.00
	Banana	52.55
	Oranges	77.28
Jammu and Kashmir	Apples	292.74
	Walnut	90.40
Madhya Pradesh	Potatoes, Onion and Garlic	126.19
	Seed Spices	85.10
	Wheat	1155.00
	Lentil and Grams	235.75
	Oranges	29.91
Bihar	Lychee, Vegetables and Honey	154.00
Himachal Pradesh	Apples	170.00
Kerala	Horticulture Products	163.00
	Medicinal Plant	157.00
Andhra Pradesh	Mango Pulp and fresh vegetables	252
	Mango and Grapes	59.69
	Mangoes	48.59
	Gherkins	313.00
	Chilli	93.75
Gujarat	Mangoes and Vegetables	92.64

1	2	3
	Value Added Onion	234.25
	Seasame Seeds	381.50
Jharkhand	Vegetables	81.70
Assam	Ginger	40.83
Tamil Nadu	Cut Flowers	158.76
	Flowers	109.88
	Mangoes	85.00
	Cashewnut	75.00
Sikkim	Flowers and Cherry Pepper	45.08

1	2	3
	Ginger	76.60
Orissa	Ginger and Turmeric	143.97
Rajasthan	Coriander	55.20
	Cumin	161.50

APEDA is the nodal agency for setting up of the AEZs.

(e) Proposals for setting up of 34 Agri Export Zones (AEZs) from 19 states are pending consideration of the government. State-wise figures of pending proposals (given in brackets) are as under:—

Andhra Pradesh	Kerala (1)	Karnataka (6)	Nagaland (1)	Gujarat (2)	Bihar (1)	West Bengal (1)
Arunachal Pradesh (1)	Manipur (1)	Punjab (1)	Tamil Nadu (2)	Jharkhand (1)	Maharashtra (1)	
Assam (1)	Madhya Pradesh (1)	Sikkim (1)	Rajasthan (1)	Mizoram (1)	Uttar Pradesh (7)	

(f) A peer evaluation of the performance of the existing AEZs, with a view to ascertain the reasons for shortfall in achievement of targets and suggest remedial action has been undertaken. The proposals for setting up of new AEZs will be taken up for consideration after the evaluation is completed.

#### Import of Tiles

1736. DR. VALLABHABHAI KATHIRIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the vitrified tiles imported during the last three years, country-wise;

(b) whether increasing import of such tiles especially from China at low prices is hurting the domestic industry;

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

(d) whether the manufacturers of tiles in these countries have been exempted from Anti-Dumping Duty imposed by the Government on vitrified tiles; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to save the domestic industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The information is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) to (e) The Directorate General of Anti-dumping and Allied Duties (DGAD) had received an application from M/s. H.R. Johnson India Limited, Maharashtra alleging dumping of vitrified porcelain tiles from People's

Republic of China and UAE. Definitive anti-dumping duty was levied in the range of US\$ 0.74 to US\$ 8.28 per sq. meter by the Government vide customs notification dated 1-5-2003.

In two cases the DGAD found that exports were at above normal value and hence anti-dumping duty was not applicable.

**Statement**

*Commodity: 69071010 Vitrified Tiles, Whether Polished or Not*

(Value in Rs. Lakhs)

Country	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006
1	2	3	4
Brazil			54.91
Chile	4.23	5.32	Nil
Taiwan	30.68	8.82	Nil
China PRP	79.02	128.97	359.35
Germany	0.03	0.04	Nil
Indonesia	268.26	43.17	12.09
Italy	15.23	87.36	13.54
Korea RP	5.83	Nil	Nil
Malaysia	8.39	254.15	92.26
Oman	Nil	Nil	14.8
Spain	39	63.33	96.04
Sri Lanka DSR	8.75	110.33	89.19
Switzerland	8.86	Nil	Nil
Thailand	5.43	7.26	Nil
Turkey	Nil	Nil	9.64
U Arab Emts	13.84	559.26	773.02
Vietnam SOC Rep	Nil	21.85	48.43
<b>Total</b>	<b>487.54</b>	<b>1,289.88</b>	<b>1,563.28</b>

[Translation]

### Review of Citizenship Law

1737. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the citizenship laws prevailing in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Citizenship Act, 1955 was amended by the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2003 notified in the Official Gazette on 08-01-2004 and came into force on 03-12-2004. Citizenship Act was further amended by the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2005 notified in this Official Gazette on 25-08-2005 and came into force on 28-06-2005, from the date of notification of the Citizenship (Amendment) Ordinance, 2005.

[English]

### Guidelines to NHRC

1738. SHRI P. MOHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has ratified the Paris Principles adopted by the United National General Assembly on Human Rights Institution in 1993;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any new guidelines have been issued to NHRC in pursuance of 3 days Round Table Conference organized recently by National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) at Delhi; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The Principles relating to the status of National Institutions, which are commonly known as the Paris Principles and form an annex to the General Assembly resolution adopted on 20th December, 1993, do not require to be ratified.

(c) and (d) No guidelines have been issued to the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) in pursuance of the three days Round Table Conference organized recently by the NHRC at Delhi.

### Banning of Lotteries

1739. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA:

DR. RATTAN SINGH AJNALA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Punjab Government has urged the Union Government to withdraw a Bill from Parliament regarding banning of lotteries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of Punjab has supported withdrawal of the Lotteries (Prohibition) Bill, 1999 on the ground that Punjab State is earning substantial revenue from lotteries.

(c) An all party meeting was held on 6-2-2006 to elicit their view on the Lotteries (Prohibition) bill, 1999. The representatives of the State Governments organizing lotteries were also invited to express their views. The overwhelming view in the meeting was that lotteries should not be prohibited but there should be stronger and more effective regulation of lotteries and various suggestions were made in this regard. In pursuance of decision taken at the meeting, a Committee headed by the Union Home Secretary and consisting of State Finance Secretaries as members has been set up to examine the suggestions made by the political parties and the State Governments and make suitable recommendations thereon.

### Rejuvenation of Rural Industries

1740. SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the communities throughout the country like potters, blacksmiths rural artisans which are below the poverty line in the country;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to rejuvenate sectors which come under Khadi and Village Industries Commission; and

(c) the industries identified under KVIC throughout the country for the purpose, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) Government in the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries does not compile or analyse data/information on estimates of poverty among artisanal communities or any other economic group in India.

(b) and (c) The Government has approved the Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI). This Scheme envisages the development, inter alia, of 25 clusters of khadi and 50 clusters of village industries, over five years beginning 2005-06. The guidelines of SFURTI are available on the website of Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries at <http://ari.nic.in>. The process of State-wise selection of these clusters has been taken up recently and final selection has not been completed.

#### Higher Education

1741. SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount set apart for Higher Education in the Budget for the year 2005-06; and

(b) the amount spent particularly on professional education till the end of December 2005, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) At Revised Estimates stage under Plan and Non-Plan, an amount of Rs. 1516.94 crore and Rs. 2323.51 crore respectively, has been allocated for higher and Technical Education during the year 2005-06.

(b) The allocation for professional education is made to Institutions and Schemes and not state-wise. In so far

as Professional Education (Technical Education) is concerned, an amount of Rs. 1013.64 crore has been expended till 30-12-2005.

#### Bodo Accord

1742. SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any initiative to implement the New Bodo Accord signed between the Union Government, State Government of Assam and Bodo Liberation Tigers (BLT) on 10th February, 2003;

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken alongwith the progress made so far in this regard, clause-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) Details of action taken to implement the Memorandum of Settlement (MoS) signed between the Central Government, Government of Assam and the Bodo Liberation Tiger (BLT) on 10-2-2003 are as follows:—

(i) General Election to the Council held on 13-5-2005 and Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) took office.

(ii) Scheduled Tribe (list) of Assam has been revised by amending the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes), Order 1950 to protect the interest of Bodo Tribe.

(iii) Bodo Language has been included into the Eighth schedule of the Constitution of India.

(iv) Article 332 (6) of the Constitution of India has been amended by enacting Constitution (Ninetyeth) Amendment Act, 2003 for ensuring the existing representation of the Scheduled Tribes and non-Scheduled Tribes in the Legislative Assembly of the State of Assam from Bodoland Territorial Area district (BTAD).

2. Financial assistance provided to BTC/State Government:—

(v) Rs. 41.70 crore have been released to the

Council during the last three years for development of administrative infrastructure in BTAD.

- (vi) As per MoS, the Government is committed to provide financial assistance of Rs. 100 crore per annum for development of socio-economic infrastructure in BTAD area for 5 years, over and above the normal plan assistance to the State of Assam. The Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) had released Rs. 100 crore to the State Government for implementation of 18 projects in BTAD area during the financial year 2004-05. Under the current financial year project worth Rs. 78.72 crore have been sanctioned and released.
- (vii) Rs. 10 crore and Rs. 7.50 crore have also been released to the State Government of Assam in the year 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 respectively for rehabilitation of refugees families affected by ethnic violence who are staying in relief camps in BTAD.
3. Rehabilitation of surrendered ex-BLT cadres:—
- (viii) Rs. 11 crore was advanced during 2003-04 and 2004-05 to the State Government for rehabilitation of surrendered BLT cadres.
- (ix) The Government has also agreed to recruit 1000 ex-BLT cadres in the Central Police Forces (CPFs). 667 ex-BLT cadres have already been recruited in the CPFs so far.
- (x) Approval has been granted for appointment of 400 ex-BLT cadres as Special Police Officer (SPOs) in BTAD.
4. The establishment of Central Institute of Technology (CIT) at Kokrajhar is in advanced stage.
5. Implementation status of MoS is being reviewed from time to time. Last review meeting was held on 16-2-2006 at New Delhi.

(c) In view of (a) and (b) above, does not arise.

*[Translation]*

**Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana**

1743. SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana has been reviewed recently;

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

(c) whether any suggestions have been received by the Union Government from the various States for amending the said scheme; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The third round of evaluation of the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana for the programme years 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-01 has been conducted in 2004-05, covering the States of Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, West Bengal, Gujarat, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh. The report of this evaluation is in draft stage.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Some of the important suggestions received from States including raising of the permissible family income ceiling of the applicant, upward revision of project cost, revision of the minimum educational qualification of applicants, enhancement of subsidy permissible under the scheme, enhancement of contingency funds per sanctioned case provided to State Government, etc. An inter-Ministerial group has been set upto examine the suggestions received from the States and make recommendations.

**Bilateral Trade with Iran**

1744. SHRI SITA RAM SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has signed Bilateral Trade Agreements with Iran;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the sector identified; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve trade relations between the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) An Agreement on Trade and Economic Cooperation, a facilitation mechanism aimed at expanding, strengthening and diversifying the trade relations and economic cooperation between the two countries, was signed between India and Iran on 10th April, 2001.

(c) Steps such as exchange of high level visits, and the visits of trade delegations have been taken to further improve the trade relations.

[English]

#### **Rating of Management Institutions**

1745. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards conducting the rating of various management institutions;

(b) if so, whether higher rating has been given to the institutions having no facilities;

(c) if so, the facts in this regard;

(d) whether the students and teachers have requested the Government to conduct an inquiry into this matter; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (e) According to AICTE and UGC, some private agencies appear to have engaged in conducting ratings of management institutions. These ratings are

neither official nor recognized by any government agency or statutory body like UGC, AICTE and NAAC. The National Board of Accreditation of the AICTE has an elaborate system of evaluation of programmes and the AICTE periodically publishes the list of approved and accredited management institutions on their website. The stakeholders are expected to refer them before deciding to join such institution.

#### **Deposits of Platinum**

1746. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the approximate estimated deposits of Platinum at Boula and other areas in Orissa;

(b) the steps taken to exploit the minerals in these areas; and

(c) the details of public/private and joint venture companies given lease to extract platinum from these areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) As per information received from Government of Orissa, 36.4 million tonnes of deposits of platinum group of elements have been estimated in Boula area of Keonjhar district. Occurrence of platinum has not been identified in any other area of the State.

(b) and (c) Prior approval to M/s. Ferro Alloys Corporation Limited for inclusion of platinum group of elements in their existing mining leases has been given by the Central Government.

#### **Setting up of Bal Bhavans**

1747. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Bal Bhavans set up under "National Bal Bhavan" programme in different States as on the 31st December, 2005;

(b) the target fixed for setting up of more Bal Bhavans in each State during the Tenth Five Year Plan;



(c) whether any Expert committee/study group has been appointed to evaluate the functioning of Bal Bhavans;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the amount sanctioned and spent under the scheme during each of the last three years, till date, State-wise?

Andhra Pradesh	222
Karnataka	210
Kerala	15
Tamil nadu	130
Pondicherry	25

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) There is, at present, no scheme of National Bal Bhavan under which assistance is provided for setting up of State Bal Bhavans. However, 73 State Bal Bhavans have so far been affiliated to National Bal Bhavan on the basis of their applications.

(b) to (e) do not arise.

#### **D.Ed. Courses**

1748. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of educational institutions in Andhra Pradesh have submitted application to the South Regional Committee, NCTE for starting D.Ed course for the academic year 2005-06;

(b) the number of Teachers' Training Institutes in Andhra Pradesh in particular and other southern States in general have been inspected;

(c) the time by when grant or recognition likely to be provided to these educational institutions for starting D.Ed course for the academic year 2005-06; and

(d) the reasons for delay in giving recognition to these institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) 305 educational institutions in Andhra Pradesh submitted applications for starting D.Ed. Course for the year 2005-06 to the Southern Regional Committee of NCTE.

(b) NCTE has inspected the following number of TTIs in the Southern States:—

(c) Out of 305 applications received from the State of Andhra Pradesh, 222 inspections were carried out and recognition granted to 167 institutions. Recognition orders to respective institutions have been issued by the Southern Regional Committee of NCTE during August, 2005.

Subsequently in view of writ petition filed by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh before the Hon'ble High Court of Andhra Pradesh against NCTE Regulation dated 1-1-2004, stipulating grant of recognition of D.Ed. to a recognized B.Ed. Institution without NOC from the State Government, the court disposed off the petition on 24-01-2006 directing that NOC from the State Government is necessary for considering application for grant of recognition even for D.Ed. Course. In view of court's direction in the matter, further processing of applications pertaining to Andhra Pradesh D.Ed. institutions has been put on hold.

(d) No avoidable delay has been caused by NCTE in processing of the applications received from the State of Andhra Pradesh and in giving recognition to these institutions.

#### **Multi-level Parking LOTs in NDMC**

1749. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the ongoing multi-level parking lots in NDMC areas is far behind the schedule and the general public are facing huge hardships;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, case-wise;

(c) the estimated cost of the project and the share of various agencies, project-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for the timely completion of the above projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The three ongoing projects for construction of multi-level parking lots at Baba Kharak Singh Marg, Sarojini Nagar and behind Hindustan Times Building on Kasturba Gandhi Marg in New Delhi Municipal Council Area are progressing as per schedule.

(c) The estimated cost of each multi-level parking of conventional type is Rs. 25.5 crore. However, since the parking facilities are proposed to be developed on Build-Own-Transfer (BOT) basis, the land will be provided by New Delhi Municipal Council and capital investment and maintenance will be done by the developer.

(d) Sites for the parking lots have been allotted by the Land and Development Officer, feasibility study conducted, consultant appointed for development of the sites and bids for qualification have been invited and received. It is the endeavour of New Delhi Municipal Council to complete the projects by the end of 2008 as per schedule.

#### **Mining Lease by Posco**

1750. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the South Korean steel major Posco has sought the permission of Union Government for mining lease to set up its steel plant in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) No, Sir.

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

[Translation]

#### **Development of Khadi and Rural Industries**

1751. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the amount released by the Union Government for development of Khadi and Rural Industries in Rajasthan during the last one year i.e. from April 01, 2004 to March 31, 2005; and

(b) the details of the amount utilized during this period out of the amount released by the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Government (in the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries) provides grant assistance to the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) for development of khadi and village industries throughout the country, including Rajasthan. The details of the amounts released and utilised by the KVIC for the development of khadi and village industries (KVI) in Rajasthan during 2004-05 are as under:—

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	Purpose	Amount Released	Amount Utilised
1	2	3	4
<b>Khadi</b>			
1.	Rebate on sale of Khadi	573.33	573.33
2.	Product Development, Design Intervention and Packaging (PRODIP) Scheme	15.77	15.77

1	2	3	4
3.	Science and Technology (S and T) Scheme	7.98	7.98
4.	Interest subsidy under Interest Subsidy Eligibility Certificate (ISEC) Scheme	9.24	9.24
<b>Village Industries</b>			
1.	Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP)	2505.95	2064.33*
2.	Handmade paper	57.83	57.83
3.	Polymer and chemical based industry	1.07	1.07
4.	Other Schemes on S and T, HRD, Publicity, Exhibitions, etc.	219.24	219.24

\*Depending on the need, State offices of KVIC are permitted to use the balance funds in the next financial year.

#### **Cottage Industry in Poor State**

1752. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cottage industries in Uttar Pradesh at present;

(b) whether the cottage industry in Uttar Pradesh is in a poor state;

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

(d) the steps taken by the Union Government to

improve the condition of this industry and to set up cottage industries in backward areas of Uttar Pradesh also?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) The number of village industry units set up in Uttar Pradesh under the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) during 01-04-1995 and 31-01-2006 is 18870.

(b) and (c) The performance of the khadi and village industries in terms of production, sales and employment in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years is as under:—

Year	Production (Rs. crore)	Sales (Rs. crore)	Employment (lakh persons)
2002-03	1167.80	1531.73	12.46
2003-04	1366.36	1774.19	13.11
2004-05	1547.97	2027.52	13.86

Overall, these data do not reflect poor state of these industries.

(d) The Government has been implementing the REGP through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), to help eligible entrepreneurs set up village industry units and thus create employment opportunities in village and small towns with population upto 20,000, throughout the country, including Uttar Pradesh. Under this programme, entrepreneurs can establish village industries by availing of margin money assistance from the KVIC and loans from public sector scheduled commercial banks, selected regional rural banks, cooperative banks etc., for projects with a maximum cost of Rs. 25 lakh.

The other steps taken for the promotion and development of village industries throughout the country, including the backward areas of Uttar Pradesh, include:—

(i) Rural Industries Service Centres Scheme (RISC) for setting up of common facility centers (CFCs) to provide infrastructural support and services to such industries;

(ii) Product Development, Design Intervention and Packaging Programme (PRODIP) for improved design and packaging of village industry products; and

(iii) Various types of subsidies for cluster-based development in khadi and village industries under the recently approved Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI).

#### **National Eligibility Test**

1753. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mungekar Committee constituted by the University Grants Commission to review the 'National Eligibility Test (NET)' examination has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details of its main recommendations; and

(c) the action taken or being taken to accept and implement the recommendations made by the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Unified Posts on Indo-Bangladesh Border**

1754. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to construct unified posts having facility of immigration, custom duty, security including banking, parking and godown on Indo-Bangladesh border;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether necessary action has been taken for setting up such posts;

(d) if not, the reasons thereof;

(e) the time by which these posts are likely to be set up; and

(f) the advantage of setting up of such posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (f) The Government of India has proposed to develop seven (7) ICPs along Indo-Bangladesh border. The Rail India Technology and Economical Services (RITES) Limited has been entrusted with the task of preparing Detailed Project Report (DPR) and Detailed Engineering Report (DER) including the additional facilities required to develop these Check posts. These ICPs would be developed in a time bound manner. Improved infrastructure/facilities of ICPs would lead to growth in trade-business besides control on Customs/Immigration.

*[English]*

#### **Birth and Death Registration**

1755. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether birth and death registration records are regularly received from the State Governments;

(b) if not, the details of such States alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT):

(a) to (c) The States submit Annual Statistical Report (ASR) containing data on registration of births and deaths. Of the 18 major States, 6 States have submitted ASR upto 2004, 5 States upto 2003, 2 States upto 2002 and another 2 States upto 2001. 3 States have not submitted ASRs for any of these years.

The reasons for delay in submission of Annual Statistical Report inter-alia include time taken in compilation of data on registration of births and deaths as well as the priority accorded to this work.

Besides reminding the States for timely submission of ASRs, the Central Government reviews the position with the State Governments from time to time and provides them assistance for computerisation for speedy processing of registration data.

### Import of Edible Oils

1756. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of edible oils imported during each of the last three years and thereafter variety-wise and foreign exchange incurred thereon, Country-wise;

(b) the bound rates of duty and applied rates of duty for each oil imported during the above period;

(c) whether the bound duty on Soyabean oil has been kept at a low level;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to revive the bound duty on Soyabean oil in order to bring it at par with other edible oils?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The quantity of edible oils imported is given as under:—

(Quantity in Tonnes)

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06 (Apr.-Sep.)
Edible oil	4366159.62	5292878.45	4676469.19	2270384.88

The category-wise and country-wise details of quantity and value of edible oils imported is given in the publication 'Monthly Statistics of Foreign Trade of India; Volume-II (Imports) Annual number' published by

Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, which is available in the library of the Parliament.

(b) The bound and applied rates of duty on edible oils is as under:—

Item Description	WTO Binding	Current rates of duty on Crude Edible oil	Current rates of duty on Refined Edible oil
1	2	3	4
Soyabean Oil	45%	45%	45%
Palmolein	300%	80%	90%
Palm Oil	300%	80%	90%

1	2	3	4
Groundnut Oil	300%	85%	85%
Sunflower/Safflower Oil	300%	75%	85%
Coconut Oil	300%	85%	85%
Rapeseed/Mustard Oil	75%	75%	75%

(c) to (e) The rate of duty on soyabean oil was bound at 45% during negotiations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, 1947. The rates of import duty between different edible oils are calibrated keeping in view the protection of oilseed farmers from import surge and the balance between the interests of producers and consumers.

### **Speedy Trial of Convicts**

1757. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the crime against women is increasing and loopholes in the existing relevant laws help the culprits to go scot-free in the courts of law;

(b) if so, whether the rate of conviction has gone up and humiliation of the victim in courts has considerably come down;

(c) if so, the percentage of conviction in such cases;

(d) whether any study has made by the government or social organizations to get speedy time-bound trials; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT):

(a) to (c) As per statistics compiled by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), 1,43,034, 1,40,601 and 1,54,333 cases of crimes committed against women were reported in the country during 2002, 2003 and 2004 respectively. Conviction rates of crime committed against women during the same period were 36.5, 32.9 and 33.1 per cent respectively which shows a mixed trend.

Amendment to the Code of Criminal Procedure and the Indian Penal Code is a continuous process. Whenever any lacunae in these laws is brought to notice, necessary action to amend the laws is taken.

(d) and (e) The Law Commission of India which comprehensively reviewed the Code of Criminal Procedure and submitted its 154th report has, inter-alia, recommended that—(i) the investigation of child rape offences shall be completed within three months from the date on which the information was first recorded by the officer in-charge of the police station, (ii) when the inquiry of trial is related to an offence under section 376 to 376 D of the Indian Penal Code, judgement shall, as far as possible, be delivered within a period of two months from the date of commencement of the examination of witnesses, (iii) to combat the problem of adjournment, measures similar to those laid down under Order XVII of the Code of Civil Procedure introduced with effect from February 1, 1977 by Act 104 of 1976 may be adopted for the Code of Criminal Procedure also.

The Malimath Committee in its Report made, inter-alia, the following recommendations:—

- (i) A suitable provision should be made requiring the officer investigating to complete investigation of cases of rape and other sexual offences on priority basis and requiring the court to dispose of such cases expeditiously within a period of four months.
- (ii) Provisions should be made in the Code permitting filing of F.I.Rs in respect of offences under Sections 376, 376-A, 376-B, 376-C, 376-D and 377 of IPC within a reasonable time.

The implementation of the recommendations of the

Law Commission in its 154th report and the recommendations of the Malimath Committee is subject to the Government taking a final view on the recommendations, introduction and passage of an amendment Bill in Parliament for which no time frame can be fixed.

### **Refugee Influx from Sri Lanka**

1758. SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a sudden influx of refugees from Sri Lanka to India recently, as reported in the Hindustan Times dated January 17, 2006;

(b) if so, the number of Sri Lankan refugees recently crossed over to India; and

(c) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 497 persons (337 adults and 160 children) have arrived at Rameswaram in Tamil Nadu from 12th January 2006 to 26th February 2006.

(c) Government of India's approach is to discourage their movement but if any refugees do come, they are granted relief on humanitarian grounds (with the ultimate object of repatriation back to Sri Lanka). The refugees are screened by the State Government's 'Q' Branch officials and Revenue officials. They are photographed and issued identity cards. They are accommodated in the transit camp at Mandapam, Ramanathapuram District, for a period of one month. In due course they are shifted to regular camps. Militants, if any, identified, are segregated and lodged in special camps.

### **Renewal of Export Licences**

1759. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps to ease the process of renewing export licences; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Sir, the Government has not taken any steps recently to ease the process of renewing export licences. The procedure adopted for revalidation of import and export licences as laid down in paragraph 2.13 of the Handbook of Procedures (Vol-I) 2004-2009, published by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade is considered adequate.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

### **Effect of Tsunami on Sea Food Industry**

1760. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:

SHRI P. RAJENDRAN:

SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:

SHRI SHISHUPAL PATLE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made any assessment of the effects of Tsunami on sea food industry in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total export of sea food made during each of the last two years and the current year;

(d) the percentage decrease in exports as compared to the previous years; and

(e) the action taken by the Government to increase export and to revoke anti-dumping duties imposed on sea food?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) An expert Committee was constituted to study and review the long term impact of Tsunami on the ocean eco-system and its resources. The effects of Tsunami on coastal aquaculture have also been assessed by MPEDA. The findings of the Committee and MPEDA indicate that

marine fisheries have suffered the loss of infrastructure, craft and gear due to Tsunami. Shrimp hatcheries and aquaculture farms have also suffered damages.

(c) and (d) As per the export figures compiled by MPEDA, on the basis of shipping bills and invoices, the export of marine products during the last two years and the current year (upto December, 2005) have been as follows:—

Year	Exports (In US \$ Million)	Percentage Growth
2003-04	1330.76	(-) 6.61
2004-05	1478.48	11.10
2005-06 (Provisional) (Upto Dec., 2005)	1190.44	5.63

(e) Steps taken to increase the export of marine products include the schemes for extending financial assistance for upgrading processing facilities, expansion of aquaculture, imparting of training to aquaculture farmers, assistance for production of value-added products and marketing support. The Marine Products Export Development Authority and the Seafood Exporters Association of India have been defending the interests of the Indian Shrimp industry in the matter of anti-dumping duties.

[English]

#### **Regional Imbalance in setting up of Projects**

1761. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is regional imbalance in setting up of heavy investment projects in the backward regions;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government for upliftment of the backward regions by establishing heavy investment projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (c) The list of industrially backward districts notified for income tax purposes is given in the Statement enclosed. Under the liberalised economic environment, investment decisions are taken by entrepreneurs based on techno-economic considerations which in turn depend on the initiatives of the State Governments in creating conducive environment by way of providing infrastructure facilities and other incentives. Central Government supplements their efforts to the extent possible. Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion is implementing the Growth Centre Scheme, Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme, North-East Industrial Policy Package, Special Category States Package and Industrial Parks Scheme in this regard with a view to giving a boost to industrial activity in the States concerned.

#### **Statement**

##### *List of Industrially Backward Districts Notified for Income Tax Purposes*

#### **A. CATEGORY "A" INDUSTRIALLY BACKWARD DISTRICTS:**

1. Godda Bihar
2. Gumla Bihar
3. Araria Bihar
4. Gadchiroli Maharashtra
5. Madhepura Bihar
6. Sidharthnagar Uttar Pradesh
7. Dumka Bihar
8. Mandla Madhya Pradesh
9. Khagaria Bihar
10. Kishanganj Bihar
11. Malda West Bengal
12. Palamau Bihar
13. Phulbani Orissa
14. Madhubani Bihar
15. Kalahandi Orissa
16. Jehanabad Bihar
17. Saharsa Bihar
18. West Dinajpur West Bengal
19. Nawadah Bihar
20. Bahraich Uttar Pradesh
21. Sitamarhi Bihar
22. Sahebganj Bihar
23. Murshidabad West Bengal
24. Cooch Behar West Bengal
25. Bankura West Bengal
26. Panna Madhya Pradesh
27. Pratapgarh Uttar Pradesh
28. Maharajganj Uttar Pradesh
29. Jalore Rajasthan
30. Aurangabad Bihar
31. East Champaran Bihar
32. Banda Uttar Pradesh
33. Barmer Rajasthan
34. Purnia Bihar
35. Bastar Madhya Pradesh
36. Siwan Bihar
37. Vaishali Bihar
38. Basti Uttar Pradesh
39. Sarguja Madhya Pradesh
40. Chamoli Uttaranchal
41. Jaisalmer Rajasthan
42. Lohardagga Bihar
43. Chhatarpur Madhya Pradesh
44. Uttarkashi Uttaranchal
45. Churu Rajasthan
46. Wayanad Kerala
47. Idukki Kerala



48. Jalpaiguri West bengal 49. Almora Uttaranchal 50. Pithoragarh Uttaranchal 51. Tehri Garhwal Uttaranchal 52. The Dangs Gujarat 53. Banswara Rajasthan.

**B. CATEGORY "B" INDUSTRIALLY BACKWARD DISTRICTS:**

1. Srikakulam Andhra Pradesh 2. Mahbubnagar Andhra Pradesh 3. Katiyar Bihar 4. Bhagalpur Bihar 5. Gopalganj Bihar 6. Darbhanga Bihar 7. West Champaran Bihar 8. Saran Bihar 9. Bhojpur Bihar 10. Samastipur Bihar 11. Deoghar Bihar 12. Nalanda Bihar 13. Gaya Bihar 14. Muzaffarpur Bihar 15. Rohtas Bihar 16. Banaskantha Gujarat 17. Sabarkantha Gujarat 18. Bidar Karnataka 19. Seoni Madhya Pradesh 20. Tikamgarh Madhya Pradesh 21. Shivpuri Madhya Pradesh 22. Balaghat Madhya Pradesh 23. Jhabua Madhya Pradesh 24. Sidhi Madhya Pradesh 25. Vidisha Madhya Pradesh 26. Raigarh Madhya Pradesh 27. Morena Madhya Pradesh 28. Betul Madhya Pradesh 29. Rajgarh Madhya Pradesh 30. Rajnandgaon Madhya Pradesh 31. Sagar Madhya Pradesh 32. Beed Maharashtra 33. Bolangir Orissa 34. Mayurbhanj Orissa 35. Balasore Orissa 36. Ganjam Orissa 37. Dungarpur Rajasthan 38. Dholpur Rajasthan 39. Sawai Madhopur Rajasthan 40. Tonk Rajasthan 41. Nagaur Rajasthan 42. Jhalawar Rajasthan 43. Sikar Rajasthan 44. Hardoi Uttar Pradesh 45. Lalitpur Uttar Pradesh 46. Hamirpur Uttar Pradesh 47. Badaun Uttar Pradesh 48. Fatehpur Uttar Pradesh 49. Azamgarh Uttar Pradesh 50. Etah Uttar Pradesh 51. Barabanki Uttar Pradesh 52. Etawah Uttar Pradesh 53. Deoria Uttar Pradesh 54. Ghazipur Uttar Pradesh 55. Ballia Uttar Pradesh 56. Jaunpur Uttar Pradesh 57. Sitapur Uttar Pradesh 58. Jalaun Uttar Pradesh 59. Unnao Uttar Pradesh 60. Faizabad Uttar Pradesh 61. Kanpur Dehat Uttar Pradesh 62. Mainpuri Uttar Pradesh 63. Gonda Uttar Pradesh 64. Farukhabad Uttar Pradesh 65. Sultanpur Uttar Pradesh 66. Mirzapur Uttar Pradesh 67. Mau Uttar Pradesh 68. Purulia West Bengal 69. Birbhum West Bengal 70. Midnapore West Bengal.

Explanation—For the purpose of this notification, the districts correspond to the districts mentioned in the report of the study group on Identification of backward districts dated 4th October, 1994, and are based on

districts as they stood in the Census Report of 1991. Where a district specified as an industrially backward district for the purpose of section 80-IA is reorganised, either by split or otherwise, after the Census Report of 1991, all the areas comprised in the district as it existed in the Census Report of 1991 will qualify for the purpose of this rule.

Source: Notification No. S.O. 714 (E) dated 7-10-1997 of the Government of India, Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue (Central Board of Direct Taxes).

**Trade Agreements**

1762. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Trade Agreements signed with various countries during each of the last 5 years and thereafter, country-wise; and

(b) the details of safeguards taken to save the domestic market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The details of Trade Agreements signed with various countries during each of the last 5 years and thereafter, country-wise are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) The objective of the Regional/Bilateral trade agreements is to provide preferential access to imports and seek preferential access for our exports on only such products which are produced or manufactured in the Signatory countries. The coverage of products are finalized after due consultation with domestic stakeholders. The Trade Agreements, where concluded, are subject to fulfillment of certain qualifying criteria under the Rules of Origin, maintenance or negative list of items on which no tariff concessions are granted and process of consultation to resolve issues arising out of their implementation. In case of a surge in imports and injury to the domestic industry, recourse to measures such as anti-dumping and safeguards can also be taken.

**Statement**

Sl. No.	Trade Agreement	Date on which signed
1	2	3
1.	Trade and Economic Cooperation Agreement between India and Iran	10-4-2001
2.	Trade Agreement with Botswana	12-1-2001
3.	Trade Agreement between India and Bosnia and Herzegovina	23-4-2002
4.	Treaty of Trade with Nepal	Renewed on 6-3-2003
5.	Framework Agreement with MERCOSUR (a trade block of Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay)	17-6-2003
6.	Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation between India and ASEAN	8-10-2003
7.	Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation between India and Thailand	9-10-2003
8.	Preferential Trade Agreement with MERCOSUR (a trade block of Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay)	25-1-2004
9.	Agreement on South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) of which India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka are signatories.	6-1-2004
10.	Framework Agreement on the BIMSTEC FTA (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation Free Trade Area) signed in Thailand by Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand	8-2-2004
11.	Framework Agreement between India and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) consisting of Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates	25-8-2004
12.	Agreement on Economic Cooperation between the Ministry of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of India and Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic	13-12-2004
13.	Agreement between India and United Kingdom for establishment of a Joint Economic and Trade Committee	13-1-2005
14.	Framework Agreement to Promote Economic Cooperation with Chile	20-1-2005

1	2	3
15.	India-Singapore Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA)	29-6-2005
16.	Asia Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA), a Preferential Trading Arrangement (PTA) between the member countries (Bangladesh, China, India, Republic of Korea, Lao People's Democratic Republic (PDR) and Sri Lanka)	2-11-2005
17.	Agreement on Trade and Economic Cooperation between the Government of Republic of India and Council of Ministers of Serbia and Montenegro	7-2-2006

[Translation]

**Misuse of Schemes by Exporting Firms**

1763. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:  
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:  
SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:  
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of firms found to be misusing the schemes intended to promote exports during the last three years; and

(b) the names of the exporting firms against which enquiry was conducted during the said period and found guilty of misusing the said schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) 121 firms.

(b) Names are given in the enclosed statement.

**Statement**

1. M/s. Ceean Commerce Pvt. Ltd.
2. M/s. Sephali Marketing Ltd.
3. M/s. Nishan Exports
4. M/s. R.A. International

5. M/s. Sandip Exports Ltd.
6. M/s. Scandia Investments
7. M/s. R.G. Sales
8. M/s. Greencorp Impex Pvt. Ltd.
9. M/s. Anuj Exim Pvt. Ltd.
10. M/s. Anuj International Pvt. Ltd.
11. M/s. Santosh Overseas Trade Corpn.
12. M/s. Varnali Synthetics Pvt. Ltd.
13. M/s. B.G. Overseas
14. M/s. Indian Foundry Services
15. M/s. R.B. Overseas Pvt. Ltd.
16. M/s. Ideal Overseas Inc.
17. M/s. Marksman and Co.
18. M/s. Aminuzzaman International
19. M/s. Arun Kumar Dhar
20. M/s. Beauty Enterprise
21. M/s. Classic Export International
22. M/s. Gour Enterprise
23. M/s. Indo Expo
24. M/s. M.R. Enterprise

25. M/s. Megha International
26. M/s. Onkar Carrier
27. M/s. Raj Enterprises
28. M/s. Tam Exports
29. M/s. Tousif Silktex
30. M/s. Ilaxi Textiles Industries
31. M/s. Bittira International
32. M/s. Tahira International
33. M/s. Angana Exports
34. M/s. Friends Cycles Ltd.
35. M/s. Shaleja Enterprises
36. M/s. Shivalik Exports
37. M/s. Bhoday International
38. M/s. Bhupinder Exports
39. M/s. P.S. Impex
40. M/s. P.T.M. Impex
41. M/s. Simran Impex
42. M/s. Geothar Exports
43. M/s. Accent Exports
44. M/s. Ceres India Pvt. Ltd.

#### **Fire Safety Measures in Schools and Colleges**

1764. KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH:

SHRI GANESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fighting equipments have been installed in schools and colleges;

(b) if not, whether the Government has conducted any State-wise survey in this regard;

(c) if so, the details of those schools and colleges where fire fighting equipments are to be installed; and

(d) the steps being taken/have been taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (d) No such database regarding fire safety measures in schools and colleges is maintained by the Central Govt. However, as far as Schools affiliated with the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) are concerned, the Board has stipulated certain conditions in the Byelaws of Affiliation with regard to the nature and housing of the building and safety measures to be taken in the school which inter-alia includes provision for adequate fire fighting equipments to meet emergent situations.

[English]

#### **Autonomous Colleges**

1765. SHRI D.V. SADANAND GOWDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of autonomous colleges in the country as on date, State-wise and university-wise;

(b) whether there is any proposal to convert Government institutions into autonomous institutions by cutting off their financial aid, particularly in the State of Karnataka; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the number of autonomous colleges in the country as on date is 214. A Statement indicating State-wise and University-wise break up of these colleges is enclosed.

(b) and (c) Conferment of autonomous status on Government colleges/institutions does not reduce their grants. It rather enhances their funding as the UGC provides financial assistance upto Rs. 12.00 lakh per annum to an autonomous college for academic and infrastructural development.

**Statement*****State-wise/University-wise Break up of Autonomous Colleges***

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Name of the University	Number of autonomous colleges
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	(i) Andhra University	9
		(ii) Nagarjuna University	9
		(iii) Osmania University	10
		(iv) Sri Krishnadevaraya University	4
2.	Chhattisgarh	(i) Guru Ghasidas University	4
		(ii) Pandit Ravishankar University	6
3.	Gujarat	(i) Bhavnagar University	1
4.	Himachal Pradesh	(i) Himachal Pradesh University	5
5.	Jharkhand	(i) Ranchi University	1
6.	Karnataka	(i) Banglore University	10
		(ii) Gulbarga University	3
		(iii) Mangalore University	7
		(iv) Mysore University	6
		(v) Kamataka University	2
		(vi) Kuvempu University	3
7.	Madhya Pradesh	(i) Awadhesh Pratap Singh University	4
		(ii) Barkatullah University	2
		(iii) Devi Ahilya Vishwavidyalaya	6
		(iv) Dr. Harisingh Gaur University	4
		(v) Jiwaji University	3
		(vi) Rani Durgavati Vishwavidyalaya	5
		(vii) Vikram University	2

1	2	3	4
8.	Maharashtra	(i) Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University	1
		(ii) Shivaji University	1
		(iii) S.N.D.T. Women's University	1
		(iv) Swami Ramanand Theerth Marathwada University	1
		(v) University of Pune	1
9.	Nagaland	(i) Nagaland University	1
10.	Orissa	(i) Berhampur University	4
		(ii) Fakir Mohan University	1
		(iii) North Orissa University	1
		(iv) Sambalpur University	5
		(v) Utkal University	13
11.	Pondicherry	(i) Pondicherry University	1
12.	Tamil Nadu	(i) Alagappa University	1
		(ii) Anna University	2
		(iii) Bharathiar University	15
		(iv) Bharathidasan University	16
		(v) University of Madras	19
		(vi) Madurai Kamaraj University	10
		(vii) Manonmaniam Sundaranar University	3
		(viii) Mother Teresa Women's University	3
		(ix) Periyar University	2
		(x) Thiruvalluvar University	3
13.	Uttar Pradesh	(i) University of Allahabad	1
		(ii) Kanpur University	1
		(iii) Purvanchal University	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>		<b>47</b>
			<b>214</b>

[Translation]

### National Competition Programme

1766. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to finalise National Competition Programme for small and medium industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the time by which it is likely to be finalized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (c) the National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme (NMCP) for the manufacturing sector, particularly the Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), has already been formulated. The NMCP inter-alia includes a number of schemes to assist SMEs in improving their competitiveness by adopting lean manufacturing technology, improved design of products, information and communication technology, quality management standards, quality technology tools etc.

[English]

### Standard of Education

1767. DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any criterion or yardstick to measure the quality of education in the IITs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the IIT, Guwahati is maintaining the required quality/standard of education; and

(d) if not, the steps taken/likely to be taken by the Government to improve it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) The Quality and Standard of Education in IITs are governed by rules and regulations

approved by the statutory bodies of the institute which includes continued review of curricula, acceptance of IIT graduates by top ranking Industries, Commercial, Research and Development Centres. The Educational performance is evaluated in grading system and degree are awarded at the end of the programme after securing minimum credits prescribe for each programme.

(c) Survey about the quality of education in standard proforma are made at the end of every semester. Students evaluate every course (subjects) and instructions and the data so obtained are analyzed in the concerned department. Compiled information is reported in the Senate (the committee which governs academic activity in an IIT). Corrective measures, if required are taken at the department level as well as at the Senate level.

(d) Does not arise.

### Industrial Development Centres

1768. SHRI RANEN BARMAN:

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV:

SHRIMATI JYOTIRMOYEE SIKDAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of capital investment made by Government under the Industrial Development Centres during each of the last three years and thereafter, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) whether the State Governments have requested the Union Government for setting up of more such centres during the last three years; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (c) State-wise and Year-wise information of Central Grant released under Growth Centre Scheme is given in the enclosed statement. No request for setting up any new Growth Centre is pending for consideration of the Government.

**Statement***Central Release to various Growth Centres during the last three years*

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	110	100	295
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	320	200	Nil
3.	Assam	900	566	200
4.	Bihar	200	Nil	Nil
5.	Chhattisgarh	100	107	Nil
6.	Goa	Nil	176	Nil
7.	Gujarat	300	Nil	Nil
8.	Haryana	450	Nil	Nil
9.	Himachal Pradesh	153	500	Nil
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	275	1000	Nil
11.	Jharkhand	Nil	200	Nil
12.	Karnataka	Nil	Nil	Nil
13.	Kerala	Nil	Nil	Nil
14.	Madhya Pradesh	250	365	300
15.	Maharashtra	Nil	290	Nil
16.	Manipur	Nil	Nil	Nil
17.	Meghalaya	Nil	500	Nil
18.	Mizoram	180	400	Nil
19.	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	Nil
20.	Orissa	240	228	150
21.	Pondicherry	250	Nil	Nil



1	2	3	4	5
22.	Punjab	Nil	Nil	Nil
23.	Rajasthan	850	Nil	800
24.	Sikkim	Nil	500	Nil
25.	Tamil Nadu	Nil	Nil	Nil
26.	Tripura	500	430	Nil
27.	Uttaranchal	Nil	1000	Nil
28.	Uttar Pradesh	250	150	650
29.	West Bengal	300	Nil	400

**Rural Craft Industry**

1769. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the craft industry in rural areas is finding it difficult to meet the challenges posed by the big manufacturers/importers particularly in respect of children's toys and games;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to provide subsidy to the craft industry in rural areas and setting up of Government marketing outlets; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) In respect of craft industry units established under the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP), implemented through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), there are no reports suggesting such challenges before these units.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**Export Share of SSI**

1770. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN:

SHRI K.S. RAO:

SHRI PANNIAN RAVINDRAN:

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the present share of handloom and handicrafts export in the International market;

(b) the difficulties being faced by the sector in enhancing its share in international export;

(c) the effect of free trade Agreements held with neighbouring countries on indigenous industry and on export of handicrafts and handlooms;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to review the present policy to provide financial support to the cottage industries; and

(e) the other steps taken/to be taken by the Government to make the handlooms and handicraft sector competitive in the World Market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The share of

handicrafts exports from India in the world market was 1.27% in the year 2005. However, the present share of Handlooms items is not available due to some technical difficulties in generation of export data.

(b) Lack of Brand image, marketing competition from some countries, severe competition from powerloom and mill sector and lack of flexibility in Labour Laws are some difficulties faced by these sectors.

(c) The Free Trade Agreements with neighbouring countries do not have any significant effect on indigenous industry and on export of handicrafts and handlooms as export to these countries is negligible and bilateral trade with these countries has been growing steadily.

(d) The Government has provided financial support to the handicraft sector in setting up common facility centres for design development at Saharanpur, Jodhpur and also for aggressive international marketing project of development of North-Eastern Crafts. The office of Development Commissioner (Handlooms), Ministry of Textiles has been implementing a scheme under the name "Handloom Export Scheme". This scheme provides financial assistance to the eligible agencies for development of exportable range of handloom products and international marketing thereof. As present there is no proposal to review the guidelines of the scheme.

(e) The Government has taken the following steps:—

- In the Foreign Trade Policy (2004-09) handloom and handicraft sectors have been identified as thrust areas for special focus initiatives.
- The Government has decided to develop a trademark for handloom on the lines of "Woolmark" and "Silkmark".
- New towns of excellence in handloom sector with a threshold value of Rs. 250 crore have been notified at Kannur, Kerkra, Karur and Madurai.
- Financial assistance has been provided to the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts for

setting up of Common Facility Centres for design development.

- Assistance to the Handloom Export Promotion Council and the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts is provided for participation in International trade fairs and organising Reverse Buyer-Seller Meets in India.

#### **Projects/Schemes Sanctioned**

1771. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of projects/schemes pertaining to Agro and Rural Industries received by the Union Government from various States especially from Maharashtra during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details on the estimated cost of these projects/schemes alongwith the Central aid sought for the projects/schemes;

(c) the details of projects/schemes out of those cleared by the Government till December 31, 2005, State-wise;

(d) the projects and schemes which are still pending for clearance alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Union Government to clear the pending projects/schemes expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) The Government (in the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries) does not receive and approve project/scheme proposals from State Governments as per the schemes/programmes for development of khadi, village and coir industries dealt with by this Ministry are all in the Central sector. There is, however, only one Centrally-sponsored scheme of Cooperativisation of workers in the coir sector, which is implemented by the Coir Board under this Ministry. It has been decided to phase out this scheme on account of lack of response of the States.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

[Translation]

**B.Ed. Courses by N.C.T.E.**

1772. SHRI ILYAS AZMI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of teaching institutions permitted by N.C.T.E. to conduct B.Ed. courses in the country as on date;

(b) the number of teachers required in all these institutions for running B.Ed. courses; and

(c) the number of teachers at present in the country eligible for teaching B.Ed. classes as per U.G.C. norms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) NCTE has granted recognition to 3209 institutions for conducting B.Ed. Course in the Country as on 28-2-2006.

(b) and (c) As per norms and standards prescribed by NCTE for Secondary Teacher Education Programme (B.Ed.) for an intake of 100 students or less, the teaching faculty shall comprise Principal/Head and at least seven lecturers. No Central data is maintained on total requirement and availability of teachers eligible to teach B.Ed.

[English]

**Upgradation of Infrastructure**

1773. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to give special assistance to upgrade the expand infrastructure to tackle the problem of militancy and insurgency in various parts of the country and especially in the North-Eastern States;

(b) if so, the details of assistance provided to various States during each of the last three years;

(c) the details of development work implemented in various States during the said period; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to expedite the developmental works?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) Government of India already has different Schemes for special assistance to States affected by militancy. The States of Jammu and Kashmir and those in North-Eastern Region affected by insurgency/militancy/terrorism have been included in Category "A" with 100% Central funding and the rest of the States have been included in Category "B" with 75% Central funding for the Scheme for Modernization of Police Forces. A special component for strengthening police infrastructure in the Naxal affected districts has been provided by making a provision of Rs. 2.00 crore per affected district per year initially for a period of 5 years. Similarly, provision has been made for providing Rs. 1.00 crore per district per year initially for a period of 5 years for the 30 districts situated on the Indo-Nepal and Indo-Bhutan borders.

Further, Government of India is implementing the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme for six North Eastern States affected by insurgency and nine States affected by naxalism or militancy and the State of Jammu and Kashmir. Under the Scheme, expenditure incurred by the States for combating insurgency, naxalism is reimbursed in the manner specified under the Scheme.

In addition to the assistance provided under the Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces and the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) scheme, States affected by militancy are also provided assistance under the backward districts initiative (BDI) scheme and the border area development programme (BADP) for various development programmes such as construction of roads, education, health facility and other social a infrastructural projects. State-wise details of Central funds released in the last two/three years for modernization of police forces, SRE scheme, BADP scheme and BDI scheme are given in the enclosed Statements-I, II III and IV respectively.

(d) Government of India has been exhorting the concerned State governments to speed up the developmental expenditure under these schemes.

**Statement-I****Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces**

(Rs. in crore)

Name of State	Central funds released during		
	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	81.32	69.46	79.93
Arunachal Pradesh	5.20	7.24	9.13
Assam	16.50	36.52	41.37
Bihar	11.50	0.43	45.25
Chhattisgarh	16.70	17.57	32.72
Goa	2.00	1.40	0.28
Gujarat	50.00	42.21	39.54
Haryana	22.10	20.00	22.13
Himachal Pradesh	6.20	0.69	2.57
Jammu and Kashmir	28.50	25.00	110.89
Jharkhand	12.73	8.50	22.33
Karnataka	75.00	69.31	58.87
Kerala	25.13	22.00	26.55
Madhya Pradesh	51.33	48.24	42.27
Maharashtra	67.94	62.84	71.00
Manipur	0.73	11.50	15.24
Meghalaya	0.55	5.29	7.58
Mizoram	5.50	8.47	7.45
Nagaland	9.95	21.00	13.09
Orissa	16.76	21.91	27.76
Punjab	32.10	19.34	21.79
Rajasthan	16.17	43.10	42.67

1	2	3	4
Sikkim	0.09	00.94	5.90
Tamil Nadu	68.10	54.98	56.78
Tripura	5.60	12.83	11.17
Uttar Pradesh	60.39	65.02	108.55
Uttaranchal	6.58	7.41	7.99
West Bengal	0.33	2.17	29.20
<b>Total</b>	<b>695.00</b>	<b>705.27</b>	<b>960.00</b>

**Statement-II****Security Related Expenditure Scheme in North East States**

(Rs. in crore)

Name of State	Central funds released during		
	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Assam	68.01	50.80	75.40
Nagaland	22.42	19.17	26.49
Manipur	7.75	4.00	9.44
Tripura	29.85	34.33	36.17
Arunachal Pradesh	0.95	2.47	1.35
Meghalaya	8.35	1.92	1.96
<b>Total</b>	<b>137.22</b>	<b>112.69</b>	<b>150.41</b>

**Security Related Expenditure Scheme in naxal affected States**

(Rs. in crore)

Name of State	Central funds released during		
	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	217.35	221.00	282.00

1	2	3	4
Bihar	180.00	43.68	60.41
Madhya Pradesh	82.37	139.82	23.52
Maharashtra	—	81.42	125.55
Orissa	168.00	86.85	65.77
Chhattisgarh	36.83 (2000-01) 186.66 (2001-02)	160.87	200.00
Jharkhand	54.00	98.07	341.27
Uttar Pradesh	29.17	—	—
West Bengal	—	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>954.38</b>	<b>831.71</b>	<b>1098.52</b>

*Security Related Expenditure Scheme in Jammu and Kashmir*

(Rs. in crore)

Name of State	Central funds released during		
	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Jammu and Kashmir	193.65	212.39	132.68

**Statement-III**

*Border Area Development Programme*

(Rs. in crore)

Name of State	Central funds released during		1	2	3
	2004-05	2005-06			
1	2	3	Assam	9.98	10.81
Arunachal Pradesh	13.51	16.81	Bihar	7.28	16.93
			Gujarat	13.13	10.88
			Himachal Pradesh	11.48	5.53
			Jammu and Kashmir	86.95	75.00
			Manipur	5.55	5.27
			Meghalaya	9.00	4.94

1	2	3
Mizoram	15.56	8.71
Nagaland	4.16	4.16
Punjab	9.92	10.08
Rajasthan	36.95	36.87
Sikkim	12.56	3.42
Tripura	21.09	12.69
Uttar Pradesh	16.54	10.75
Uttaranchal	13.89	9.27
West Bengal	37.39	37.58
Total	324.94	279.70

**Statement-IV***Backward Districts Initiative (BDI)*

The Planning Commission has sanctioned Rs. 2475 crore (Rs. 15 crore per District per year for three years starting from 2003-04) to the naxal affected States under BDI component of Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana (RSVY) to fill in the critical gaps in social and physical infrastructure in the naxal affected districts. Details of the funds released to the naxal affected States under this Scheme during the years 2004-05 and 2005-06 are as under:—

(Rs. in crore)

State	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3
Arunachal Pradesh	62.50	7.50
Bihar	60.00	30.00
Jharkhand	97.50	105.00
Madhya Pradesh	22.50	22.50
Chhattisgarh	50.00	67.50

1	2	3
Maharashtra	30.00	22.50
Orissa	27.50	30.00
Uttar Pradesh	25.00	22.50
West Bengal	20.00	15.00

The Central Government regularly monitors the progress of utilization of funds by the States and has asked them to improve delivery mechanisms to speed up the pace of development and ensure full utilization of the assistance being provided by the Central Government.

**Computer Training to ST Students**

1774. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM:  
Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is considering to provide computer education/training to the students belonging to Scheduled Tribes particularly those residing in tribal areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) to (c) Under the ongoing scheme 'Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organizations for the Welfare of Scheduled Tribes', grant-in-aid is provided to voluntary organizations for establishment of Computer Training Centres for ST youths. Forty six projects of 35 organizations have been assisted by the Ministry in 2004-05 benefiting 1350 students annually.

**Fencing/Flood Lighting on Borders**

1775. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of progress made in fencing and flood lighting of various borders as on date;

(b) the details of expenditure incurred so far, border-wise;

(c) whether the Government has installed new apparatus for fencing of Indo-Pak border;

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

(e) whether any central team has recently visited the Indo-Pak border to review the installation of said apparatus;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the expenditure incurred/likely to be incurred in installation of said equipment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) Details are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) and (g) Does not arise.

#### **Statement**

Border	Total length of Border Fenced in kms. (as on 31-1-06)	Total length of the border floodlit in kms. (as on 31-1-06)	Total Expenditure incurred in Rs. crores (as on 31-1-06)
Indo-Pakistan Border	1787.72	1668.52	981.00
Indo-Bangladesh Border	2129.649	123.60	2336.42

#### **Illiterates Rate**

1776. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

DR. M. JAGANNATH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a panel discussion was organized in Delhi by educational experts from National Coalition for Education, ASPBAE, GCE and JNU in December, 2005;

(b) if so, whether according to International Benchmark Study on Quality, 34% adult illiterates are in India;

(c) if so, whether official figures reveal that 872 million adults in the world are classified as illiterates of which 2/3rd are women; and

(d) if so, the steps Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) A panel discussion was jointly organised by Asian South Pacific Bureau of Adult Education (ASPBAE) and Global Campaign for Education (GCE) in December, 2005 on the study 'The International Benchmarks on Adult Literacy.'

(b) and (c) As per Education For All (EFA) Global Monitoring Report 2006, there are 771 million illiterates in the 15+ age group in the world, of which 34.6% are in India. As per Census 2001, there are 260 million illiterates in the country in the 15+ age group of which 168 million, or about 64% are women.

(d) The Universalisation of Elementary Education and eradication of adult illiteracy form the two-pronged strategy for improving the literacy rate of the country. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is a comprehensive programme for universalising quality elementary education by 2010. The National Literacy Mission (NLM) is entrusted



with the target of achieving a sustainable threshold level of 75% literacy by 2007. The thrust areas of NLM are improving female literacy in low female literacy areas, organizing projects for residual illiteracy in districts which have substantial number of illiterates, setting up of continuing education centres for providing opportunities for life long learning to the neo-literates and imparting vocational training to neo-literates through Jan Shikshan Sansthan. Special Programmes of residual illiteracy have been taken up in low female literacy districts of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa and Jharkhand. In addition, the launching of a special literacy drive for eradication of residual illiteracy in 150 districts, which have the lowest literacy rates, has been approved.

#### **Abroad Training to National Security Guard**

1777. DR. M. JAGANNATH; Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is sending the National Security Guards Commandos/Black Cats abroad for training;

(b) if so, the names of the countries where they are sent for training;

(c) the total expenditure incurred by the Government on such training;

(d) whether the facilities to impart specialized training is not available within the country; and

(e) if so, the efforts being made by the Government to make available specialized training within the country for which they are sent abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) Training to all personnel of NSG Commandos and Black Cats is being given through in-house training facilities of NSG. Under bilateral arrangements some countries offer slots in their training programmes funded by the host Government and personnel from Police and Para-military Forces including NSG are nominated against those slots. There is no specific training programme organized especially for NSG personnel abroad.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

#### **Vacancies of Advisor in NEC**

1778. SHRI TAPIR GAO: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of vacancies of Advisors in North Eastern Council lying vacant as on date;

(b) the specific reasons for not filling up these vacant posts; and

(c) the time by which the above vacant posts are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) Four.

(b) and (c) The post of Adviser (Planning) is covered under the Central Staffing Scheme. The Establishment Officer has been requested to fill up the post of Adviser (Planning) at the earliest. The other three posts are filled up through the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC). Out of these, for the post of Adviser (Transport and Communication), even though the officer was selected, he could not be appointed since the parent organization did not relieve the officer as disciplinary action was contemplated against him. For the post of the Adviser (Irrigation and Flood Control) the appointment letter has been issued by the North Eastern Council after receiving advice from the UPSC. For the post of Adviser (Health), UPSC has since informed that the Selection Committee meeting (Personal Talk) is likely to be held within 3 months of receipt of complete information/documents.

#### **Promotion of Agro and Rural Industries**

1779. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to promote Agro and Rural Industries in the scheduled areas of the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government has analysed the scope of promoting of such Industries in the scheduled districts in Orissa; and

(d) if so, the specific steps proposed to be taken in this regard during the Tenth and Eleventh Plan Periods?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) For over ten years, the Government has been implementing two credit-linked subsidy schemes of employment generation, throughout the country, including the scheduled areas. These are (i) Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) under which entrepreneurs are assisted in setting up village industries, in rural areas and small towns with population upto 20,000 and (ii) Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) under which the educated unemployed youth in the rural as well as urban areas are assisted in setting up self-employment ventures. Subsidy admissible to the beneficiaries of both these schemes is released through banks in combination with the loans provided by these banks. The PMRY is implemented by the States while the REGP is implemented by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) and State Khadi and Village Industries Boards.

The other steps taken for the promotion and development of village industries throughout the country, including the scheduled areas, include:—

- (i) Rural Industries Service Centres Scheme (RISC) for setting up of common facility centers (CFCs) to provide infrastructural support and services to such industries;
- (ii) Product Development, Design Intervention and Packaging Programme (PRODIP) for improved design and packaging of village industry products; and
- (iii) Various types of assistance for cluster-based development of khadi and village industries under the recently approved Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI).

(c) and (d) The primary responsibility of promoting such industries, including those in the scheduled districts of Orissa, rests with the State Governments. The Central Government, however, supports and supplements the efforts of the State Governments by implementing various

schemes and programmes throughout the country. Some of the important schemes included in the Tenth Plan have been mentioned in reply to parts (a) and (b) of the question. The exercise of preparing schemes and programmes for the Eleventh Plan can start only after receipt of necessary guidelines for this purpose from the Planning Commission.

#### Merchandise Export

1780. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the performance in the merchandise exports during the last three years and thereafter; and

(b) the names of leading countries which imported the merchandise during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) As per data available with the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, growth of India's merchandise exports during the last three years and thereafter is as follows:—

#### India's Merchandise Exports

Year	Value in US \$ million	% growth over previous year
2002-03	52719	20.29
2003-04	63843	21.10
2004-05	80540	26.15
2005-06(P) (April-January)	74978	18.87

(P) Provisional Data.

(b) The leading countries that imported merchandise from India during the last three years were the USA, the United Arab Emirates, China PR, Singapore, Hong Kong and the United Kingdom.

**Vidyalaya Vikas Nidhi**

1781. SHRI PANNIAN RAVINDRAN:

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Vidyalaya Vikas Nidhi (VVN) is being levied on student's of Kendriya Vidyalayas;

(b) if so, its details thereof;

(c) whether its collection/use is not audited by CAG;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) Fee under Vidyalaya Vikas Nidhi (VVN) is being charged at the rate of Rs. 160/- per student per month from students of class XI and XII who do not belong to Science Stream and from students of classes I to X. In respect of students of Science Stream of classes XI and XII, the fee is charged at the rate of Rs. 200/- per student per month. The fee is not being charged from girl children of class VI to XII, who happen to be the only children of their parents, from 1st January, 2006.

(c) The collection and use of fee under VVN are subject to audit by Comptroller and Auditor General.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

**Indian Trade Organisation**

1782. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR:

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL:

DR. RAJESH MISHRA:

SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission on Farmers

in its report "Serving Farmers and Saving Farmers-2006; Year of Agriculture Renewal" has recommended for setting up of an Indian Trade Organisation setting (ITO) on the model of the World Trade Organisation;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The Government has received a recommendation from the National Commission on Farmers in its third interim report in January, 2006 for the establishment of an Indian Trade Organisation (ITO). It is, inter alia, envisaged to serve as a brain and information bank for enabling Government to take informed and proactive decisions and providing timely advice on potential surpluses and shortages of major agriculture commodities by maintaining a trade watch.

(c) The recommendations are being examined by the Government and a decision will be taken in due course.

**Jladhal River**

1783. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the execution work of the scheme 'Controlling of Jladhal river in Dhemaji District Ph-I, Assam' has started after getting clearance from Standing Finance Committee (SFC);

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the annual allocation and utilization made so far;

(c) if not, reasons for delay; and

(d) the manner in which the Government proposes to ensure its early execution?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The

approval to the recommendation made by the SFC was conveyed to NEC Secretariat on 21-02-2006.

(c) NEC has accorded administrative approval on 27-02-2006 and Rs. 45.00 lakhs have been released towards first installment.

(d) The State Government's implementing agency shall be responsible for timely completion of the scheme.

#### **Detective Training School in Kerala**

1784. SHRI P.C. THOMAS:

SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has established specialised police research/training agencies in the country;

(b) if so, the details on the functioning of these agencies alongwith the States wherein offices of each of these institutions are located;

(c) whether the Government has received any request from the state of Kerala for establishing a Central Detective Training School in Kerala;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) A list of Specialised Police research/training institutions established by the Central Government is enclosed as statement.

These institutions impart basic as well as specialised training to Police Personnel in weapons and tactics, counter insurgency, communications, internal security, industrial security, intelligence and other professional requirements.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

#### **Statement**

##### *Police Research*

Organisation	Sl. No.	Location	State
Bureau of Police research and development	1	C.G.O. Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-03	Delhi

##### *List of Central Training Institutes*

Organisation	Sl. No.	Name of the Training Institute	State where located
1	2	3	4
Border Security Force (BSF)	1.	BSF Academy, Tekanpur, Gwalior-475 005.	Madhya Pradesh
	2.	CSWT BSF, Indore, Bijasan Road, Indore-452 005.	Madhya Pradesh
	3.	TC and S, BSF, P.O. Meru Camp. Hazaribagh-825 317.	Bihar

1	2	3	4
	4.	HQ, STC, BSF, Tekanpur, Gwalior-475 005.	Madhya Pradesh
	5.	STC, BSF, Kharkan Camp, Hoshiarpur-146 001.	Punjab
	6.	STC, BSF, Mandore Road, Jodhpur-342 026.	Rajasthan
	7.	STC, BSF, North Bengal, PO Salugara, (Siliguri) Distt. Jalpaiguri-734 318.	West Bengal
	8.	STC, BSF, Charchandrapur-795 128.	Manipur
	9.	STC, BSF, KMR Near New Airport, Srinagar.	Jammu and Kashmir
	10.	Subsidiary Training Centre, BSF, P.O. Air Force Station, Yelahanka, Bangalore-560 063.	Karnataka
	11.	CTS, BSF, Dhar Road, P.O. ROAN, Udhampur-182 126.	Jammu and Kashmir
	12.	BSF, Signal Training School-I, Tigri Camp, New Delhi-62.	Delhi
	13.	STS-II, BSF, P.O. AFS Yelahanka, Bangalore-560 063.	Karnataka
	14.	BSF 'G' Training School, C-Block 1st Floor, Pushp Bhawan. Madangir Road, New Delhi-110 062.	Delhi
Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR and D)	15.	Central Detective Training School, Calcutta-700 014.	West Bengal
	16.	Central Detective Training School, Hyderabad-500 013.	Andhra Pradesh
	17.	Central Detective Training School, Chandigarh-160 036.	Punjab
Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)	18.	CBI Academy, Kamla Nagar, Ghaziabad-201 001.	Uttar Pradesh

1	2	3	4
Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)	19.	National Industrial Security Academy, Hyderabad-500 078.	Andhra Pradesh
	20.	Recruit Training Centre, CISF RTC, Arakkonam, Post Suraksha Campus, Distt. North Arkot, Ambedkar-631 152.	Tamil Nadu
	21.	PO, Dariamahal Barwaha, Distt. Khargone-451 115.	Madhya Pradesh
	22.	CISF RTC Deoli, Post CRP Lines, Distt, Tonk-304 804.	Rajasthan
	23.	CISF RTC Paradip, PO Paradip Port, Distt. Jagatsinghpur-754 142.	Orissa
	24.	CISF RTC Bhilai, Uttai Complex, P.O. Uttai (Bhilai), Distt. Durg-491 107.	Madhya Pradesh
Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)	25.	CISF RTC Sidhabari, P.O. B, Jemahari, Distt. Bardawan-713 335.	West Bengal
	26.	Internal Security Academy, CRPF, Mount Abu-307 501.	Rajasthan
	27.	Central Training College-II, CRPF, Avadi, Chennai-600 065.	Tamil Nadu
	28.	Central Training College-I, CRPF, Neemuch-458 441.	Madhya Pradesh
	29.	Central Training College-III, CRPF, Post Mudh Khed, Distt, Nanded-431 806.	Maharashtra
	30.	Recruit Training College-I, CRPF, Neemuch-458 445.	Madhya Pradesh
	31.	Recruit Training Centre-II, CRPF Avadi, Chennai-600 065.	Tamil Nadu
	32.	Recruit Training Centre-IV, CRPF, Srinagar.	Jammu and Kashmir
	33.	Recruit Training Centre-III, CRPF, Pallipuram (Kerala) Trivandrum-695 316,	Kerala

1	2	3	4
National Institute of Criminology and Forensic Science, New Delhi (NICFS)	34.	LNJN National Institute of Criminology and Forensic Science, Outer Ring Road, Institutional Area, Sector-III, Rohini, New Delhi-110 085.	Delhi
Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)	35.	ITBP Academy, P.O. Mussoorie Distt. Dehradun-248 179.	Uttaranchal
	36.	ITBP Mountaineering and Skiing Institution, ITBP Auli, P.O. Joshimath, Distt. Chamoli-246 443.	Uttaranchal
	37.	Combat Wing, Care ITBP Academy, Astel Estate, Mussoorie-248 179.	Uttaranchal
	38.	Basic Training Centre, ITBP Campus, Bhanu, Distt. Panchkula-134 103.	Haryana
	39.	Transport Battalion II B Police, Seema Nagar, ITBP, P.O. Airport, Chandigarh-160 003.	Punjab
	40.	Support Battalion, ITBP, P.O. Karera (TC) Distt. Shivpuri-473 662.	Madhya Pradesh
	41.	Telecommunication Training School, Telecom Battalion, ITBP, Distt. Shivpuri-473 551.	Madhya Pradesh
National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)	42.	Training School Base Hospital ITBP Tigri Camp, Madangir, New Delhi-110 062.	Delhi
	43.	Clerical School ITBP, Block No. 2, K.K. Parisar, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-3.	Delhi
	44.	National Crime Records Bureau, East Block No. IX, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-66.	Delhi
North Eastern Police Academy (NEPA)	45.	North Eastern Police Academy, Umsaw Barapani-793 123.	Meghalaya
SVP National Police Academy SVP (NPA)	46.	SVP National Police Academy, Shivrampalli, Hyderabad-500 052.	Andhra Pradesh

1	2	3	4
Railway Police Force (RPF)	47.	RPF Training Centre, Central Railway, Chinkhill, P.O. Kurduwadi, Tehsil Madha, Distt. Solapur.	Maharashtra
	48.	RPF Training Centre, Eastern Rly., Dhanbad-826 001.	Bihar
	49.	RPF Trg. Centre, Northern Eastern Rly., Kuraghat Mahaddipur, Gorakhpur-273 001.	Uttar Pradesh
	50.	RPF Training Centre, North-East Rly., Damohani Distt. Jalpaiguri-735 302.	West Bengal
	51.	RPF Training Centre, Kimber Garden, Southern Rly., Post-Kajamalai, Tiruchechirappalli (Chennai)-620 023.	Tamil Nadu
	52.	RPF Training Centre, Central Rly., Moula Ali, Hyderabad-500 040.	Andhra Pradesh
	53.	RPF Trg. Centre, South-I, Eastern Rly., Kharagpur.	West Bengal —
	54.	RPF Training Institute, Western Railway, Valsad-396 001.	Gujarat
55.	Jagjivan Ram RPF Training Academy, Post Manak Nagar, Talkatora Road, Lucknow-226 011.	Uttar Pradesh	
Directorate of Coordination Police Wireless (DCPW)	56.	Central Police Radio Training Institute, Rabindra Rangshala Marg, Upper Ridge Road, New Delhi-110 060.	Delhi
Directorate General Assam Rifels, Shillong	57.	Assam Rifles Training Centre and School, Dimapur-797 115.	Nagaland
SSB	58.	Frontier Academy, SSBG Waldam, Via, Almora-246 441.	Uttar Pradesh
	59.	Training Centre, SSB Salonibari, Salonibari-784 104.	
	60.	Training Centre, SSB Samba Post Box No. 56, Gandhi Nagar Jammu-180 004.	Jammu and Kashmir
	61.	Training Centre, SSB Kumarsain PO: Shrambal Camp-172 029 Distt. Shimla	Himachal Pradesh



**NCERT Books**

1785. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether NCERT published text books are studied exclusively by the students of CBSE affiliated schools; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the subjects in which NCERT books are exclusively prescribed and since when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) The textbooks prepared and published by National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) are used mainly in schools affiliated to Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE). For classes I to VIII, these schools are free to choose textual materials prepared on NCERT Curriculum including books published by private publishers. For classes IX and X, CBSE recommends NCERT textual material for all subjects except for those for which CBSE publishes its own textual material. For classes XI and XII, CBSE recommends a list of private publications alongwith NCERT books. A few States also use NCERT textbooks with or without adaptation. NCERT textbooks were first used in CBSE-affiliated schools in 1964-65.

**Universalization of Elementary Education**

1786. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Universalization of elementary education through Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan has not percolated to the marginal social groups like SCs/STs/OBCs, Muslims and disabled children as reported in the Times of India dated January 27, 2006;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details with regard to targets fixed and SCs/STs/OBCs disabled and minorities benefited by the SSA during each of the last three years and thereafter till date, State-wise;

(d) the expenditure incurred and the number of boys and girls benefited thereby during the said period, State-wise;

(e) whether the States have not utilized the funds released by the Union Government during the year 2005-06; and

(f) if so, the detailed strategy chalked out by the Union Government in consultation with State Government for better implementation of SSA scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (f) An independent survey commissioned by the Ministry of Human Resource Development and conducted by Social and Rural Research Institute (SRI-a Unit of IMRB International) has estimated that 6.94% children in 6-14 years age group are presently out of school. This proportion for Scheduled Caste (SC) children is 8.17%, for Scheduled Tribe (ST) children 9.54% and for Muslims 9.97%.

There has been a decline in the number and proportion of out of school children since 2001 when Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) was initiated. The percentage of out of school children has come down from 28.50% to 6.94% in 2005.

For Scheduled Caste children, this percentage has declined from 31.87% in 2001 to 8.17% in 2005. The percentage of Scheduled Tribe out of school children has reduced from 40.01% in 2001 to 9.54% in 2005. Dropout rates at the primary stage for SC students declined from 45.18% in 2001-02 to 36.56% in 2003-04. During the same period, dropout rates for ST students declined from 52.34% to 48.93%.

In order to ensure equitable benefits for all social groups, the framework of SSA stipulates need-based district Annual Work Plans and Budgets. These plans include provisions for enhancing access to socially disadvantage groups like girls, SC/ST children through opening of new schools, Education Guarantee Scheme/ Alternative and Innovative Education Centres, incentives like free text-book distribution and several interventions for quality improvement.

For children with special needs several interventions including medical assessment, supply of aids and appliances, sensitization of teachers, appointment of resource teachers, bridge courses and home based education programmes are undertaken under SSA.

The State-wise details of expenditure during the last three years are given in the enclosed statement. During 2005-06 the States/UTs had utilized Rs. 6180.40 crores (65% of the funds available) which can be considered satisfactory.

**Statement**

*Universalization of Elementary Education*

Name of State	2003-04 Expenditure	2004-05 Expenditure	2005-06 Expenditure as on 31 Dec. 2005
1	2	3	4
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	221.73	272.08	204.72
Andhra Pradesh	14912.16	33757.22	24635.35
Arunachal Pradesh	1188.15	1812.5	1223.28
Assam	18394.84	22399.8	14919.51
Bihar	7979.59	34131.87	26155.43
Chandigarh	166.42	604	125.81
Chhattisgarh	4894.99	29565.55	23342.15
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	10.45	239.54
Daman and Diu	0	0	145.91
Delhi	521.31	854.67	918.53
Goa	0	0	0.00
Gujarat	14717.12	18632.5	16774.66
Haryana	9118.42	11359.11	12110.23
Himachal Pradesh	6331.75	8418.94	6124.06
Jammu and Kashmir	3606.78	8160.52	16868.81
Jharkhand	7095.96	29250.33	25072.43
Karnataka	16050.39	34456.15	34127.54
Kerala	6078.02	9383.78	5217.98

1	2	3	4
Lakshadweep	0	0	0.91
Madhya Pradesh	29202.45	60513.28	71005.88
Maharashtra	33363.91	38955.71	34447.58
Manipur	0	1354.93	1513.47
Meghalaya	627.25	2150.33	1599.53
Mizoram	875.89	4478.66	2103.72
Nagaland	1015.18	2751.24	1049.01
Orissa	15792.79	28060.7	19460.13
Pondicherry	140.61	265.85	384.07
Punjab	4440.99	9636.55	11041.12
Rajasthan	21357.3	39590.66	43702.66
Sikkim	213.5	723.72	394.00
Tamil Nadu	23658.86	36638.68	24043.34
Tripura	2564.37	5113.2	4172.61
Uttar Pradesh	47649.06	125166.08	149056.16
Uttaranchal	6628.93	9695.48	10878.95
West Bengal	6582.62	50950.4	34981.69
<b>Total</b>	<b>305391.34</b>	<b>659114.94</b>	<b>618040.77</b>

### Genetically Modified Organisms

1787. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to bring comprehensive norms for export and import of genetically modified organisms;

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

(c) whether the Government has consulted concerned Departments/Ministries in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of such Departments/Ministries thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) Regulations and guidelines are being framed in different Ministries/Departments for regulation of genetically modified products, under their charge. Since the Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992 seeks to regulate all imports, it was decided in an Inter-Ministerial Committee to notify the existing regulations/domestic laws

relating to the genetically modified organisms and genetically modified foods, in the Foreign Trade Policy. A meeting of the Inter-Ministerial group was held on 16th February, 2006 to collate and bring together the current regulations. Based on the views of the various Ministries/ Departments in the meeting, a draft Notification has been circulated by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade for vetting and comments thereon.

[Translation]

#### **Uniform Fee Structure in Colleges**

1788. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the fee and other charges being collected every month from the students studying in the University of Delhi affiliated colleges;

(b) whether the rules of the University Grants Commission are applicable to the colleges affiliated to the University of Delhi;

(c) if so, the reasons for disparity in the fee structure of these colleges;

(d) whether the Government propose to introduce uniform fee in all the colleges of the Universities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Price of Tea in International Market**

1789. SHRI SHISHUPAL PATLE:

SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:

SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of tea has been declining in the international market during the last two years and thereafter;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the loss suffered by the tea industry; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the Indian tea industry maintain their position in the International Market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The average prices of tea sold internationally at some auction centers registered a decline in 2005 over 2004 but registered an increase at some other auction centers. The average tea auction prices in India have shown improvement towards end of 2005 and early 2006.

(c) A number of steps have been taken by the Government to ensure that the Indian tea industry maintains its position in the international market. These include sanctioning of a new scheme for providing incentives for production of orthodox teas for ensuring the availability of export quality orthodox teas, implementation of scheme for grant of subsidy @ Rs. 1.50 per kg. for export of tea through ICD (Inland Container Depot) Amingaon, securing statutory recognition of Darjeeling tea in various important jurisdictions as certification or collective marks, declaring Darjeeling tea as a Geographical Indication (GI) with effect from October 2004, reducing the import duty on tea bagging and packaging machinery to a rate of 5% etc. Government have also issued a new Tea (Distribution and Export) Control Order, 2005 on 01-04-2005 prescribing strict norms for tea with a view to maintaining quality and retaining the brand equity of Indian teas. Besides, Tea Board is also conducting promotional activities in foreign markets and lending promotional support to Indian tea exporters in their marketing efforts.

[English]

#### **Candle Manufacturing**

1790. SHRI P. MOHAN: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the States wherein Candles are being manufactured;

(b) the number of Candle manufacturing units functioning in each of the States particularly in Tamil Nadu;

(c) the total number of workers employed in this sector, State-wise;

(d) whether there has been sharp increase in the price of the paraffin wax since July 2005;

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith action taken to check this trend;

(f) the reasons for the periodical increase in the price of the paraffin wax, used in candle manufacturing;

(g) whether the quantity of paraffin wax supplied by Chennai Petroleum Industry has been gradually going down from year to year; and

(h) if so, the manner in which the Government is going to ensure the supply of requisite amount of paraffin wax to candle manufacturers?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) to (c) Wax candles are being manufactured in 30 States and Union Territories of India. There are 1881 candle manufacturing units in the State of Tamil Nadu. The State-wise number of units and employees is given in the enclosed Annexure.

(d) to (f) Paraffin wax is a free trade petroleum speciality product and periodical price changes are effected in line with import parity price. The increase in the price of paraffin wax since July, 2005 varies from Rs. 3,700/- to Rs. 7,800/- per metric tonne.

(g) As reported by the Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited, the production and supply of wax by this company during the last five years are as follows:—

Year	Quantity (In Metric Tonnes)
2001-02	18560
2002-03	22155
2003-04	25741
2004-05	26751
2005-06	24650 (estimated)

(h) Paraffin wax can be imported under Open General Licence.

[Translation]

#### Norms for Recruitment in PMF

1791. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the norms prescribed for the recruitment in Central para-military forces;

(b) the details of posts for which recruitment was made in various central para-military forces during each of the last three years;

(c) the provisions made in the recruitment procedure of para-military forces for giving adequate representation to the various States in para-military forces;

(d) whether several irregularities in the recruitment to various central para-military forces have taken place during the last three years;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(g) the measures being taken by the Government for ensuring transparency in recruitment process of central para-military forces in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Recruitment for various posts in Central Para Military Forces (CPMFs) are being conducted as per their respective recruitment rules (RRs).

(b) 1. Assistant Commandant 2. Medical Officer 3. Specialist Medical Officer 4. Assistant Veterinary Surgeon 5. Jr. Engineer 6. Staff Nurse 7. Inspector 8. Sub Inspector 9. Assistant Sub Inspector 10. Head Constable/Driver 11. Constable/Driver 12. Follower.

(c) Recruitment to officer level posts is done on all India basis by UPSC/SSC/Special Recruitment Board after public publication of advertisement in leading newspapers and in the Employment News. Vacancies of

Constables (GD) are allotted to the States based on population ratio as per Government of India guidelines.

(d) and (e) Some irregularities have come to the notice involving leakage of question papers of Constable (GD) written examination in CRPF, manipulation in marks in recruitment of Constable (GD) in CRPF, and allegations of malpractices against one recruitment board in SSB.

(f) and (g) Besides taking disciplinary action against those responsible, the forces have tightened the supervisory mechanism to prevent recurrence of such incidents. The process of recruitment is well publicized and there is provision for appeal against the decision of the board assessing the physical fitness and efficiency. Presiding officers and members of selection boards are detailed from outside the state. Vigilance agencies deploy special teams to keep a watch on the recruitment process.

[English]

#### **Issuance of Notices by Delhi Traffic Police**

1792. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA": Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the notices are being sent by Delhi Traffic Police to alleged violators of traffic rules under the Motor Vehicles Act;

(b) if so, the procedure followed by the Delhi Traffic Police to issue notices of traffic violations;

(c) whether such notices are accompanied by any documentary proof in support of violation of traffic rules alleged to have been committed by the driver of the vehicle;

(d) if so, the nature of such documentary proof;

(e) if not, the remedy available to the person to prove himself not guilty;

(f) whether any action has been taken by the Government against the officials of the Traffic Police Deptt. who issued notices in contravention to rules; and

(g) if so, the details thereof including number of such notices issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Traffic violations on roads and traffic intersections noted by traffic officials are scanned and edited by Computer Centre of Traffic Police after its receipt in the prescribed performa and notices are issued to registered owners of vehicles after matching the data with ownership records of databank.

(c) to (e) In cases where traffic violations are recorded by red light and speed check cameras or other speed checking devices, photo copy of recorded violation is sent with the notice. In other cases, only registration number, colour and make of the vehicles alongwith place and time of violation of traffic rules are mentioned in the notices. The defaulter is given 15 days' time to furnish required information or pay compounding amount at designated centers. He/she is given option to pay the compounding fine or contest the challan in the court of Metropolitan Magistrate or make representation to senior officers. On receipt of complaint, if it is found after enquiry that the notices have been issued erroneously, the same is withdrawn.

(f) and (g) Sometimes traffic officials are not able to record correctly the make, colour or registration number of the vehicle involved in violation of traffic rules due to poor light, defective number plate, mixing of various types of vehicles, etc. To deal with such cases. A grievance redressal system is in place and if complainant's version is found to be correct, the notices are withdrawn. If any official is found to be guilty of deliberately issuing wrong notices, necessary disciplinary action is taken against such officials. Out of 18756 such complaints received during 2004, 2005 and 2006 (upto 15th February), only 6421 notices, where it was found after enquiry that they had been issued erroneously, were withdrawn. Complaint of issuing wrong challan against one official was substantiated in 2004 and he was awarded the penalty of forfeiture of two years of approved service permanently.

#### **Capital Investment in SSI**

1793. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of capital invested in the small scale industries during the last three years, till date, year-wise;

(b) whether the export of goods manufactured by the small scale industries has recorded a remarkable increase;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the incentives contemplated by the Government to be given to the small scale industries; and

(e) the number of new small scale industries proposed to be set up during 2006-07?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) The details of estimated fixed investment made by the small scale industries (SSI) during 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 (latest available) are given in the table below:—

Year	Estimated fixed investment made by SSI
2002-03	Rs. 162317 crore
2003-04	Rs. 170219 crore
2004-05	Rs. 178699 crore

(b) and (c) The estimated value of exports made by SSI units during 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04 (latest available) is given below:—

Year	Estimated fixed investment made by SSI
2001-02	Rs. 71244 crore
2002-03	Rs. 86013 crore
2003-04	Rs. 97644 crore

(d) The State Governments/Union Territory administrations are primarily responsible for the promotion and development of SSI. The Central Government, however, implements a number of schemes and

programmes throughout the country to assist the SSI for accessing credit, technological upgradation, infrastructural support, marketing assistance, etc.

(e) SSI are set up by private entrepreneurs. The Central Government does not set any target for setting up these industries in the country.

#### Peace Talks with NDFB

1794. SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has started political dialogue/peace talks with the National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB) on various Bodo Political Tangle and issues;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to start discussion with the NDFB on their demand for a sovereign Bodoland;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps so far taken to solve the Bodoland issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) The National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB) has not yet submitted its demands to the Government.

(b) to (e) In view of (a) above, do not arise.

#### District Primary Education Programme

1795. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the various State Governments particularly from the Government of Gujarat for development and growth of District Primary Education Programme (DPEP);

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

(c) the steps being taken by the Union Government in this regard;

(d) the assistance provided under this programme during each of the last three years, till date, State-wise;

(e) whether the DPEP has been expanded in the districts having low female literacy; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (f) All districts in the country are eligible under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme of the Government of India. As District Primary Education Projects end, the districts are covered under the SSA. The assistance provided under DPEP during each of the last three years, till date, State-wise is enclosed as statement.

**Statement**

*The Assistance Provided under DPEP during each of the last three years, State-wise till date*

(Rupees in crores)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	2003-04 Fund Released (GOI Share)	2004-05 Fund Released (GOI Share)	2005-06 Fund Released (GOI Share)
1.	Uttar Pradesh	119.60	94.69	178.42
2.	Uttaranchal	11.52	13.10	56.51
3.	Bihar	128.33	37.00	60.00
4.	Jharkhand	71.50	77.51	61.45
5.	Andhra Pradesh	90.00	155.00	10.00
6.	Rajasthan	185.00	105.00	125.52
7.	West Bengal	81.40	62.91	37.90
8.	Orissa	61.38	29.91	27.06
9.	Gujarat	28.88	22.97	7.95
Total		777.61	597.91	564.82

**List of Sensitive Items for WTO**

1796. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR:

SHRI P.C. THOMAS:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the list of sensitive items for consideration

by World Trade Organisation (WTO) in order to protect agricultural and sea food products has been finalised;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the items included in this list;

(c) whether the concerned sector were consulted prior to finalisation of the list; and

(d) if so, the details of the meetings held in this regard



alongwith the details of the representatives participated in these meetings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) The list of sensitive items of agricultural and seafood products has not yet been finalised. Towards evolving India's negotiating strategies and position on all aspects of the negotiations underway on the Agreement on Agriculture of the WTO, including listing of sensitive items, the Government has been holding consultations with stakeholders and concerned sectors from time to time since the year 2000. In many of these consultations, open notices were issued to invite information and participation from agri-economists, farmers' associations, research institutions, consumer organisations, and any other interested party. Further, Department of Agriculture and Co-operation, Ministry of Agriculture, organises consultations with Governments of States/Union Territories on agriculture-related issues two times in a year, before the Rabi season and the Kharif season. In the last three years during all these meetings, the Governments of States/Union Territories were sensitised and consulted on the important issues relating to WTO negotiations. Agriculture Minister and Commerce and Industry Minister have also jointly met representatives of a number of farmers' organisations/associations, the last meeting in respect of which was on 8 December, 2005 for consultations on agri-related WTO issues.

### Bilateral Trade between India and Saudi Arabia

1797. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity vis-a-vis value of items imported from and exported to Saudi Arabia during each of the last three years;

(b) whether there has been steep rise in bilateral trade;

(c) if so, the percentage increase during the above period;

(d) the details of trade issues discussed during the recent visit of King of Saudi Arabia;

(e) whether the Government has signed any agreement with Saudi Arabia;

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

(g) the extent to which these agreements will further help in improving the present status?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Bilateral trade with Saudi Arabia during the last three years has shown an upward trend as indicated here under:—

	Value (in mn. US\$)		
	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005
Export	940.74	1123.31	1369.76
Import (non-oil)	504.72	737.77	1260.88

Source: DGC and IS, Kolkata.

(c) The percentage growth in exports to Saudi Arabia during 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 was 13.83%, 19.41% and 21.94% respectively, while imports during the same period grew by 8.78%, 46.17% and 70.90% respectively.

(d) A special session of the India-Saudi Arabia Joint Business Council and a Business Meet were organised to discuss the issues relating to promotion of trade between the two countries.

(e) to (g) Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (BIPPA) and Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) aimed at providing a favourable legal and institutional framework for promotion of bilateral investments have been signed with Saudi Arabia.

#### **Resettlement Policy for Tribals**

1798. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY:

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS:

DR. BABU RAO MEDIYAM:

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the existing displacement and resettlement policy of the Government;

(b) whether the Government is aware that Tribals in many parts of the country particularly Orissa and Andhra Pradesh have been agitating due to the lack of proper resettlement policy for them;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reactions of the Government thereto;

(d) whether the Government is considering to enact a law to ensure that tribal people may not be forcibly evicted from their homes and agricultural land; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) Government of India in the Ministry of Rural Development has formulated and notified a comprehensive National Policy on Resettlement and Rehabilitation, 2003, on 17-2-2004 for Project Affected Families, including tribals. The guiding principles as enshrined in this policy are required to be followed by various State/UT Governments and project authorities while preparing the R and R Plans. The policy, inter-alia provides a special package for R and R benefits for the Scheduled Tribes in addition. Further, the policy also

emphasizes that the compensation package proposed in the policy would be minimum, and States where Resettlements and Rehabilitation packages are higher than proposed in the said policy, are free to adopt their own packages.

(b) and (c) Government of India is aware that some dissatisfaction has been expressed in Orissa and Andhra Pradesh regarding the resettlement and rehabilitation policy followed by the State Governments in Kalinganagar (Orissa) and Polavaram (Andhra Pradesh). As regards Kalinganagar, the Government of India has offered to extend assistance to the displaced tribals. As regards the Polavaram project, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has approached the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for clearance of their R and R Plan. The State Government has been asked to follow the Constitutional provisions and provisions of Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996.

(d) and (e) No separate law is under contemplation at present. Safeguards exist in the Constitution as well as in State laws in respect of transfer of land belonging to tribals in scheduled areas. In addition, this Ministry has already introduced the Scheduled Tribes (Recognition of Forest Rights) Bill, 2005 in the Parliament for the protection of rights of tribals on forest land which they have been occupying for generations.

#### **Export Inspection Council**

1799. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is intending to get organic products manufactured in India certified by the Export Inspection Council of India;

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

(c) the extent to which the export of these products is likely to be affected by this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Export

Inspection Council of India, an autonomous body set up under the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963, is presently seized of a project to develop a scheme for certification of organic products from India under the technical assistance of the European Commission. The project is coordinated by Agricultural and Processed Products Development Authority, a statutory body entrusted with the tasks of agricultural exports, including the export of processed foods in value added form.

The scope of the project is to develop internationally acceptable scheme for organic certification and training of personnel in the area.

(c) As there is a growing demand for organic products from the developed world, the certification of organic products accordingly to internationally accepted standards by the Export Inspection of India and other such agencies would possibly increase exports of such products from India and thereby benefit the producers and the economy.

#### **Insurance Cover to Anganwadi Workers**

1800. SHRI D.V. SADANAND GOWDA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the share to be contributed by the Union Government in 'Anganwadi Karyakarthe Bima Yojana' meant for life insurance cover to Anganwadi workers and helpers has yet not been released;

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

(c) the time by which the share is likely to be released by Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

#### **Crime against SC/ST**

1801. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:  
DR. BABU RAO MEDIYAM:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of cases of atrocities registered under SC/ST Atrocities Act, 1989 during each of the last three years; State-wise;

(b) whether the Government has reviewed the position of crimes committed against the people belonging to SCs/STs communities in various States;

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

(d) the details of action taken/proposed to be taken to deal with the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT):

(a) As per information compiled by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), a statement containing details of cases of atrocities against Scheduled Casts and Scheduled Tribes respectively registered under Scheduled Casts and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 during 2002 to 2004, State-wise, is enclosed.

(b) and (c) The analysis of the statement at Annexure-I indicates that a total of 10770, 8048 and 8891 cases of crime committed against Scheduled Castes were reported under SC/ST (POA) Act, 1989 during 2002, 2003 and 2004 respectively thereby showing a mixed trend during this period. Whereas, 1800, 1340 and 1175 cases of crime committed against Scheduled Tribes were reported during the same period under SC/ST (POA) Act, 1989 which shows a declining trend.

(d) As per the seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, 'Police' and 'Public Order' are state subjects and, as such detection, registration, investigation and prevention of crime are primarily the responsibilities of the State Governments. However, the Government of India has from time to time been issuing advisories to State Governments and Union Territories to make concerted efforts to improve the administration of Criminal Justice System and to take effective measures to control crimes against all vulnerable sections of the society, including the SCs/STs.

**Statement**

Sl.	Name of the State	Total number of cases of atrocities registered under SC/ST (POA) Act 1989 during 2002 to 2004					
		Scheduled Castes			Scheduled Tribes		
		2002	2003	2004	2002	2003	2004
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	830	1234	1319	134	150	147
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Assam	0	0	0	0	0	0
4.	Bihar	715	904	1813	6	19	25
5.	Chhattisgarh	77	155	138	101	221	201
6.	Goa	1	1	0	0	0	0
7.	Gujarat	332	320	411	97	69	59
8.	Haryana	32	36	31	0	0	0
9.	Himachal Pradesh	32	36	40	0	1	2
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0	0	0	0
11.	Jharkhand	53	36	53	40	5	40
12.	Karnataka	1099	1155	1061	134	108	118
13.	Kerala	229	173	162	35	10	11
14.	Madhya Pradesh	570	445	357	310	252	212
15.	Maharashtra	136	216	219	53	50	40
16.	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0
18.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0
19.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Orissa	466	435	574	189	168	159
21.	Punjab	53	51	61	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
22.	Rajasthan	2384	867	579	667	279	147
23.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	685	776	691	3	6	7
25.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0
26.	Uttar Pradesh	2974	1128	1264	23	0	0
27.	Uttaranchal	85	66	112	2	1	3
28.	West Bengal	2	1	2	6	1	4
Total (States)		10755	8035	8887	1800	1340	1175
29.	Andamand and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0
30.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Delhi	15	12	4	0	0	0
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Pondicherry	0	1	0	0	0	0
Total (UTs)		15	13	4	0	0	0
Total (All India)		10770	8048	8891	1800	1340	1175

#### Demand of Tobacco Growers

1802. SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the request from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has been recently received by the Union Government for a favourable settlement of the long pending grievances of Tobacco producers of the State;

(b) if so, the main grievances of the tobacco growers of the State; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to redress their grievances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No, Sir. No request relating to grievances of tobacco producers has been received from Government of Andhra Pradesh recently.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

**Implementation of Official Language Act**

1803. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the programmes launched by the Government of effectively implement the provisions laid down in the Official Language Act have not been successful as desired;

(b) if so, the details of such programmes alongwith the reasons for their being unsuccessful.

(c) the steps further being taken to ensure the effective implementation of the Official Language Act by Government Departments;

(d) whether the Government proposes to constitute an Official Language Commission to monitor the implementation of the said Act;

(e) if so, the main features of the said Commission; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT):

(a) No, Sir. Implementation of Official Language Policy of Union is done through motivation, incentives and goodwill. Accordingly, all Ministries/Depts. are implementing the provisions of Official Language Act and Official Language Rules.

(b) Does not apply.

(c) Hindi Salahkar Samities under the Chairmanship of Ministers concerned of various Ministries/Depts. review the implementation of Official Language Policy in their respective Ministries/Depts. and suggest measures to increase the use of Hindi in official work and for compliance of Official Language Policy. Departmental Implementation Committees have also been constituted to review quarterly progress reports of Official Language and to suggest measures to achieve the targets fixed in Annual

Programme. Various awards and incentives schemes are being run for implementation of Official Language Policy.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Does not arise.

[English]

**India-Pakistan Marine Export**

1804. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY:

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

PROF. M. RAMADASS:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan is bestowing Most Favoured Nation Status (MFN) on India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the joint Study Group has held any discussion to enhance trade between India and Pakistan;

(d) if so, the agreement reached between the two countries;

(e) whether Pakistan marine delegation has agreed to visit India;

(f) if so, details thereof and the extent to which marine trade is likely to be increased with Pakistan;

(g) the quantity of sugar exported to Pakistan during the current year; and

(h) the steps taken by the Government to save the domestic sugar industry and to keep the sugar price stable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Pakistan has so far not granted Most Favoured Nation (MFN) status to India despite its obligations, including under the WTO, and has cited extraneous political, economic and other reasons for this.

(c) and (d) The first meeting of the India-Pakistan Joint Study Group (JSG) at Commerce Secretary Level was held in New Delhi on February 22-23, 2005, and it had detailed discussions on promotion of trade and economic cooperation for the mutual benefit of both countries. The JSG constituted two Working/Sub Groups, on Customs Cooperation and Trade Facilitation Measures and Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs). The Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Sub Groups were mutually agreed upon.

(e) As of now there has been no proposal for the visit of Pakistan marine delegation to India.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) As per the available data, during April to November, 2005, sugar valued at 0.67 US \$ million has been exported from India to Pakistan.

(h) There was a glut of sugar in the country due to high sugar production and carry-over stocks till sugar year 2002-03, followed by years of lower production during the sugar season, 2003-04 and 2004-05. Thus, high inventory of sugar stocks led to low open market realization resulting into high cane arrears in those years. Subsequently, in 2003-04 and 2004-05, the open market realization firmed upon account of low production and realistic cost of production. The Government also facilitated the import of sugar under Advance License Scheme to augment the domestic stocks and enabling the mills to utilize their idle capacity. Carry-over cost to the tune of Rs. 462 crores were also defrayed to the sugar mills for liquidation of cane arrears.

The Government have inter alia decided to take the following steps to stabilize the prices:—

- (i) Mandatory sale of free sale quota released for a particular month within the stipulated period.
- (ii) Convert the unsold/undespatched quantity of free sale sugar into levy sugar.
- (iii) Activate the enforcement/checks of the sugar mill on a random basis.
- (iv) Assess the possibility of facilitating imports through Tariff Rate Quota mechanism of sugar in long term, notwithstanding the extant operational scheme of raw sugar imports under Advance License Scheme.

(v) Resort to adequate additional release of free sale quota into the open market to tame prices.

(vi) Closely and constantly monitor the price of sugar in the country for taking necessary fiscal/non-fiscal measures as warranted.

#### Trade with CIS

1805. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a vast scope to promote the country's trade with Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS); and

(b) if so, the initiative taken by the Government with the CIS in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) With a view to enhance India's trade with countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States, a programme 'Focus: CIS' was launched on 31st March, 2003 at the time of announcement of EXIM Policy for the year 2003-2004. In the first phase, emphasis of the Programme was on seven countries, viz. Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Azerbaijan and Ukraine. The scope of the Programme has been extended w.e.f. April 2004, to cover all the 12 CIS countries i.e. Russian Federation, Armenia, Georgia, Belarus and Moldova alongwith Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Azerbaijan and Ukraine. Details of the programme are available on Department's website, [www.commerce.nic.in](http://www.commerce.nic.in) under the head 'Trade Promotion Programme'.

Other steps taken by Government of India inter-alia include:—

- Promotion of dialogue including discussions at the highest level;
- Constant review of bilateral trade at the Government Level through Joint Commission/ Sub-Group meetings.
- Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on 6th February 2006 for further enhancing

Indo-Russian bilateral trade and economic relations.

### **Restructuring of KGUC**

1806. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to restructure Khadi and Gram Udyog Commission (KGUC);

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

(c) the name of new schemes likely to be introduced in Khadi and Gram Udyog Commission (KGUC)?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) In the National Common Minimum Programme, the Government has declared to revamp the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC). This has been necessitated mainly because of the decline in employment in the khadi sector and nearly stagnant sales of khadi over the years. Towards this objective, "The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (Amendment) Bill, 2005" to amend the Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act, 1956 was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 22 August, 2005. The Bill has been considered and passed by the Sabha on 27 February, 2006.

(c) The Government has approved the Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI), for development of 100 clusters, including 75 for the khadi and village industries, over five years beginning 2005-06.

### **Education Cess**

(Rs. in crores)

1807. SHRI PANNIAN RAVINDRAN:

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA":

SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total fund collected so far on account of education cess;

(b) the amount spent on funding primary education schemes, scheme-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether the Planning Commission has suggested to spend a part of the fund on secondary education also;

(d) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;

(e) the reasons for not utilizing the amount for eradicating illiteracy;

(f) whether the funds collected by levy of education are adequate to meet the funding of Primary Education Schemes;

(g) if so, the details thereof;

(h) whether the Centre's contribution to Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is going to decrease by 25% and same is likely to be increased by 25% by 2007-08;

(i) if so, whether more stress is likely to be on State resources for SSA;

(j) whether the funds collected are not being spent properly; and

(k) if so, the reasons therefor and steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Receipts on account of Education Cess as reflected in the Receipts Budget 2005-06 and Expenditure Budget 2006-07 of the Ministry of Finance are as under:—

Year	Budget Estimate	Revised Estimate
2004-05	Rs. 4,910.00	Rs. 5,010.00
2005-06	Rs. 6,975.00	—
2006-07	Rs. 8,746.00	—



(b) A Statement showing the amount spent on funding elementary education during 2005-06, scheme-wise and state-wise is enclosed.

(Rs. in crores)

(c) and (d) After taking into consideration the views of all concerned, including that of Planning Commission, Government has decided to utilize the proceeds of Education Cess exclusively for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and Mid Day Meal (MDM) Schemes.

(e) Funds for schemes for eradication of illiteracy are being provided from the general budgetary resources.

(f) and (g) As against the proceeds of Education Cess indicated in part (a) above, funds provided for Elementary Education are as under:—

Year	Budget Estimate	Revised Estimate
2004-05	Rs. 5,750.00	Rs. 7,750.00
2005-06	Rs. 11,217.26	Rs. 11,217.26
2006-07	Rs. 16,892.50	—

(h) and (i) SSA Framework for Implementation envisages funding between Center and State in 75:25 ratio during 10th Plan period (2002-2007) and 50:50 thereafter.

(k) No, Sir.

(k) Does not arise.

**Statement***State-wise funds released under various Schemes during 2005-06*

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Funds released					
		Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) (Upto Dec. 2005)	Mid-Day Meal (MDM) # (Upto Feb. 2006)	District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) (Upto Feb. 2006)	Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) (Upto Dec. 2005)	Mahila Samakhya (MS) (Upto Feb. 2006)	Teacher Education (TE) (Upto Feb. 2006)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	386.00	125.81	10.00	0.00	3.50	0.87
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	41.00	3.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.20
3.	Assam	138.57	55.60	0.00	0.00	2.48	6.01
4.	Bihar	319.71	122.47	60.00	11.11	0.00	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	291.84	52.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Goa	4.52	1.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Gujarat	150.85	72.31	7.95	0.00	1.80	0.02
8.	Haryana	101.97	34.78	0.00	0.12	3.75	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9.	Himachal Pradesh	76.15	14.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	185.31	12.82	0.00	1.86	0.00	0.00
11.	Jharkhand	279.98	72.69	61.45	13.31	0.00	0.00
12.	Karnataka	283.04	108.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	16.45
13.	Kerala	59.39	29.22	0.00	0.00	0.85	0.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	772.67	188.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	18.40
15.	Maharashtra	502.35	39.59	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50
16.	Manipur	13.27	2.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.02
17.	Meghalaya	19.26	7.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.69
18.	Mizoram	16.54	1.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.40
19.	Nagaland	23.23	4.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.92
20.	Orissa	328.09	9.34	27.06	0.00	0.00	3.42
21.	Punjab	146.84	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	16.44
22.	Rajasthan	603.13	116.87	125.52	0.00	0.00	24.35
23.	Sikkim	6.00	2.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	353.30	90.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
25.	Tripura	70.70	10.76	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.06
26.	Uttar Pradesh	1827.99	219.41	178.42	1.19	4.75	49.71
27.	Uttaranchal	100.66	15.68	56.51	0.00	1.80	16.17
28.	West Bengal	310.24	229.85	37.90	0.34	0.00	6.30
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.63	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
30.	Chandigarh	4.50	0.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
32.	Daman and Diu	1.12	0.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
33.	Delhi	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
34.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	5.29	0.61	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

# In so far as MDM is concerned, state-wise Central Assistance released towards cooking cost and Management, Monitoring and Evaluation as on 15-2-2006.

### Construction of Bridge over Brahmaputra

1808. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the North Eastern Council (NEC) has completed its Feasibility Study for the construction of a bridge over Brahmaputra at Sadiya connecting Dhola, Assam;

(b) if so, the details of the study; and

(c) the time by which the construction is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

### Opening of Creches

1809. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:

SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:

SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI:

SHRI ASHOK ARGAL:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of creches opened in the country as on date, State-wise;

(b) the total amount released and utilized during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has received any proposal from various States particularly from Madhya

Pradesh regarding sanctioning of more creches under National Creche Fund Scheme, State-wise;

(d) if so, the names of the organizations for which said proposals have been sent;

(e) the status of the said proposal and amount likely to be spent on them, State-wise;

(f) whether the Union Government is monitoring the functioning of creches;

(g) if so, the details thereof;

(h) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding misutilisation of funds; and

(i) if so, the action taken by the government against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Under the Scheme 22,038 creches are functioning across the country. State-wise location of the creches is available on our website [www.wcd.nic.in](http://www.wcd.nic.in).

(b) Statement is enclosed.

(c) to (e) National creche fund has been merged with the Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organization for running creches for the children of Working/Ailing mothers, a revised scheme has been launched namely Fajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme for the children of Working Mothers w.e.f. 1-1-2006.

(f) and (g) The monitoring of the creches would be conducted through independent monitoring agencies, which could ensure that each creche is visited at least once in two years.

(h) No, Sir.

(i) Does not arise.

## Statement

State-wise funds released and utilized for running creches during the last three years

Sl. No.	State/UT	NCF			ICCW			CSWB			BAJSS		
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	83.91	88.19	176		41.9	33.15	145.74	174.53	160.12	23.05	23.03	20.78
2.	Arunachal Pradesh				0.69	1.18	0.77	11.51	10.86	6.06	3.21	3.11	2.31
3.	Assam	42.9	20.97	36.02	4.71	8.01	3.57	12.81	15.38	11.54	11.68	11.52	11.74
4.	Bihar	11.24			0.86	1.61	0.37	1.97	26.86	22.12	5.91	3.14	2.97
5.	Chhattisgarh					12.32	2.9	0.01	12.91	23.63	3.68	6.42	6.3
6.	Delhi		24.02		6.93	11.78	7.7	25.75	27.68	26.79	6.16	6.11	5.79
7.	Goa							3.9	3.86	5.09			
8.	Gujarat	2.8	3.69	3.08	13.18	12.21	2.86	129.93	140.34	115.04	3.69	3.69	3.32
9.	Haryana	35.97	5.72	29.43	33.92	60.55	36.9	24.68	27.57	16.09	1.48	1.48	1.48
10.	Himachal Pradesh				0.73	18.84	0	55.65	73.51	56.01			3.58
11.	Jammu and Kashmir				6.45			156.12	15.98	10.85	5.36	5.36	5.36
12.	Jharkhand			6.46	0.69	0.95	0.31				9.03	11.78	11.78
13.	Karnataka	11.3	2.77		6.45	11.58	6.91	86.56	89.95	78.27	9.08	9.23	8.08
14.	Kerala				7.5	13.69	5.39	95.43	103.39	88.45	7.02	7.02	7.02
15.	Madhya Pradesh	9.86	1.84	2.08	7.43	24.59	33.98	190.72	163.87	184.4	17.17	14.4	14.4

16. Maharashtra	21.17	13.08	11.83	12.88	14.58	10.85	150	165.15	142.09	21.62	21.32	21.24
17. Manipur		6.8	2.95	0.97	1.65	1.08	32.71	41.44	99.46	1.11	1.11	1.11
18. Meghalaya							28.4	26.78	23.49	0.91	0.9	0.92
19. Mizoram							22.11	23.32	26.42			
20. Nagaland							3.81	3.22		0.55	0.55	
21. Orissa	5.82	1.84	3.69	4.8	8.33	9	49.87	50.97	53.95	13.54	13.6	12.51
22. Punjab				3.89	6.95		17.75	15.08	9.61			
23. Rajasthan	0.74			0.23	1.53	1.05	46.89	48.27	41.52	8.67	8.61	8.67
24. Sikkim							20.39	20.39	18.14			
25. Tamil Nadu	22.81	17.72	21.7	14.18	24.97	16.68	160.15	152.65	155.23	2.59	2.59	1.67
26. Tripura				0.83	1.41	0.28	23.45	22.3	22.93	3.8	3.8	3.69
27. Uttaranchal	33.72	9.24	38.8					14.02	10.89	10.86	10.86	10.89
28. Uttar Pradesh	21.22	9.98	8.31	2.08	3.53	0.69	98.85	109.33	74.05	17.79	20.03	20.07
29. West Bengal	103.68	47.12	29.61	9.29	15.79	9.82	100.25	105.63	88.01	9.58	9.5	9.17
30. Andaman and Nicobar Islands							13.94	15.54	12.58			
31. Chandigarh				2.38	3.15	2.83	5.21	4.5	3.2			
32. Dadra and Nagar Haveli										1.66	1.65	1.64
33. Daman and Diu												
34. Lakshadweep				0.88	1.39							
35. Pondichery				0.14	0.24	4.35	<del>10.79</del> 18.48	15.86	3.69	3.65	3.65	4.13
Total	407.14	252.98	369.96	141.21	302.22	192.83	1585.35	1709.74	1605.02	202.92	204.46	200.62

[English]

### Trade between India and South Korea

1810. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAIISI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of trade with South Korea;
- (b) whether any Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) has been signed during the recent visit of President of India to South Korea to increase the trade;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether any Joint Task Force (JTF) has been set upto identify the areas;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the time by which Joint Task Force is likely to come out with concrete proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The present status of trade between India and South Korea is as under:—

(Value in US\$ Million)

	2004-05	2005-06 (April November) (P)
Exports to Korea	962.76	884.43
Imports from Korea	3194.09	2494.94
Total trade	4156.85	3379.37

(Source: DGCI and S)

(P: Provisional)

- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) Does not arise.
- (d) to (f) A Joint Task Force composed of Government officials has been constituted to work on realizing benefits

that may be derived from Korea-India Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement. The first meeting of the Joint Task Force is scheduled to be held on 23 and 24 March, 2006. The Joint Task Force will aim at concluding its work for adoption by the two Governments by the end of 2007.

### Foreign Export Oriented Industries

1811. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps for setting up of 100% export oriented foreign industries and promote India as a manufacturing hub; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) To promote Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in export oriented industries and to promote India as a manufacturing hub, FDI upto 100% is permissible for all manufacturing activities in the Export Oriented Units barring few sectors such as arms and ammunition, atomic substances, narcotics and psychotropic substances etc. Further, to promote foreign as well as domestic investment in the manufacturing and services sector, the Special Economic Zones Act, 2005 has been enacted and has been put into effect alongwith the Special Economic Zones Rules, 2006, on 10th February, 2006.

[Translation]

### Committee to Strengthen Internal Security

1812. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to constitute any Committee to counter terrorism, strengthen the internal security arrangements and to improve the standards of the State Police and other police organisation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the said Committee has since been constituted; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) There is no such proposal under the consideration of the Government.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

#### **Use of Explosives by Terrorists**

1813. SHRI P. MOHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the terrorists were using explosives manufactured by Tamil Nadu Explosive Ltd. (TEL), Vellore;

(b) if so, the details of preventive action taken by the Union Government to plug the loopholes;

(c) whether strict adherence to guidelines prescribed by Explosive Regulatory Authority was enforced in Tamil Nadu Explosive Ltd. (TEL) with regard to sales of explosive through authorized distributors and disposal of wastes;

(d) if so, the manner in which large scale purchase of powerful explosive and sale of explosive wastes went in the hands of extremists in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(e) whether ten-member committee deputed by the Explosive Regulatory Authority to Vellore for the probe has submitted its report to Government;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the time by which report is likely to be submitted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Available inputs suggest that terrorists/naxalites have been using explosives in committing acts of violence. However, there is no specific information to indicate that terrorist are using explosives manufactured by M/s. Tamil Nadu Explosives Ltd. (TEL), Vellore.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) M/s. Tamil Nadu Explosives Ltd. has informed that the guidelines prescribed under the Explosives Rules, 1983 for sale of explosives through authorized distributors are strictly adhered to. Further, M/s. Tamil Nadu Explosives Ltd. has confirmed that waste explosives generated during production are disposed off by burning in the factory itself.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organisation has informed that no such Committee was deputed to Vellore.

(f) and (g) Do not arise.

#### **Dumping of Goods after Free Trade Agreement**

1814. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether several countries such as Philippines, Malaysia, China, Indonesia and Taiwan, after entering into Free Trade Agreement, are using Thailand as a preferred destination to dump their products in India;

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

(c) the names of countries with whom Free Trade Agreement has so far been signed by the Government Agreement alongwith the percentage of imports increased consequent of these Agreements; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check dumping of such products and protect Indian Industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Rules of Origin devised under the India-Thailand Framework Agreement require that goods to qualify for imports at preferential duty should be produced or manufactured in India or in Thailand. No incident of dumping of products under preferential duty from Philippines, Malaysia, China, Indonesia and Taiwan through Thailand has been brought to the notice of the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) India has a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with Sri Lanka, and Agreement on Trade and Commerce with Bhutan and a Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) with Singapore. Framework Agreement for India-Thailand FTA allows imports of 82 products from Thailand at preferential tariff under the Early Harvest Scheme (EHS).

Bilateral trade depends on a variety of factors which inter alia include agreements such as FTAs, infrastructure, trade with other countries etc. An abstract of data on imports from Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Singapore and Thailand as growth %age over the previous year is indicated below:—

Year	2003-04	2004-05
Bhutan	62.8	-4.26
Sri Lanka	114.41	87.05
Singapore	45.34	23.82
Thailand	60.70	36.85

(Source: DGCI and S)

(d) Provisions to take trade defence measures are provided in the Free Trade Agreements which would allow India to take anti-dumping actions in cases where dumping of goods take place or initiate safeguard actions where surge in imports due to preference in duty causes injury or threatens to cause injury to the domestic industry.

#### Growth Rate

1815. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has framed a strategy to achieve 12 per cent growth rate in small scale industry during the Tenth Plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether growth rate targeted for SSI sector during the first three years has been achieved;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the jobs created through it; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefore alongwith the steps taken by the Government to achieve the targeted growth?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) For the 10th Plan period, a target of 12 per cent rate of growth for the small scale industries (SSI) sector was fixed.

(b) The State Governments/Union Territory (UTs) Administrations are primarily responsible for the promotion and development of the SSI. However, to supplement the efforts of States/UTs, the Central Government has been implementing a number of schemes and programmes to enhance the productivity, employment and competitiveness of this sector, in consonance with the strategy envisaged in the 10th Plan document for the SSI sector. These schemes/programmes include, among other things, assistance for improving/facilitating credit flow, infrastructure, technological upgradation, marketing support, etc., as these areas are considered important for the SSIs.

(c) and (d) During the first three years of the Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-2007), the estimated growth rates achieved in the SSI sector and estimates of employment generated are given in the table below:—

Year	Growth rate in SSI sector (per cent)	Employment generated (lakh persons)
2002-03	7.68	260.21
2003-04	8.59	271.42
2004-05	9.96	282.57

Continuing constraints in the important areas mentioned in reply to part (b) constitute the main reasons for the targeted overall growth rate not being achieved, though the rate of growth mentioned above has increased consistently during the Plan period.

(e) In respect of credit, the Central Government



has announced a "Policy package for Stepping up Credit to Small and Medium Enterprises (SME)" on 10 August, 2005, based on which the Reserve Bank of India has issued detailed guidelines to the public sector banks. Among other things, this Policy Package advises the public sector banks to enhance the flow of credit to the SME (including SSI) so as to achieve a minimum 20 per cent growth in the flow of credit every year over the next 5 years.

Further, a new scheme of assisting the SSI in obtaining performance and credit rating from reputed credit rating agencies has been introduced in April 2005. The Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme for Technological upgradation of the SSI has also been recently (September, 2005) improved to enhance the permissible project loan ceiling to Rs. 1 crore (from Rs. 40 lakh) and subsidy to 15 per cent (from 12 per cent) so as to make the Scheme more attractive.

#### **Registration of Marriages**

1816. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:  
SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:  
MS. INGRID MCLEOD:  
SHRI M. APPADURAI:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to enact a special law making registration of marriage mandatory in view of recent Supreme Court's ruling in this regard;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether discussion has been held with various sections of the people before bringing in the said law; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

#### **Proposals under Foreign Direct Investment**

1817. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:  
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:  
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:  
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:  
SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID:  
SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:  
SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposal of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in various sectors pending with the Government as on date;

(b) the time by which these are likely to be cleared;

(c) the country from which maximum Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) has been received during the last five years, State-wise, alongwith the target find by the Government during the current year;

(d) the criteria laid down to approve the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) proposals;

(e) whether the said criteria is not being followed properly;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor;

(g) the difference between the sanction of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) proposal and actual investment in the country;

(h) the manner in which the Foreign Investment Promotion Board monitor the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI); and

(i) the steps taken by the Government for materialising cent per cent investment of sanctioned Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) proposals, seeking prior approval of the Government, are considered by the Foreign Investment Promotion Board

(FIPB) in a time-bound manner and decisions on proposals with complete information are normally conveyed in 6-8 weeks. 35 proposals seeking Government approval are pending. Receipt of such proposals and decision thereon is a continuing process.

(c) No target is fixed for FDI. Details of the FDI from top ten countries and as reported to the Regional Offices of the Reserve Bank of India during the last 5 years are given in the Statement-I and II respectively.

(d) to (f) Decisions on the FDI proposals seeking Government approval are taken in accordance with the policy notified from time to time.

(g) During the period August 1991 till December 2005, approval for FDI amounting to Rs. 2,58,319 crore has been given. The FDI inflow in equity during this period has been Rs. 1,53,192 crore. Under the extant policy, FDI upto 100% is allowed in most sectors/activities on the automatic route, which does not require approval of the Government.

(h) Foreign Investment Promotion Board considers the FDI proposals seeking prior approval of the Government.

(i) Under the liberalized economic environment, investment decisions, including the choice of location are taken by the entrepreneurs, based on their techno-economic assessment. The economic environment in other parts of the world and policies of the transnational corporations are other important determinants. The Government of India has put in place an investor-friendly policy. The FDI policy and associated procedures are reviewed on a continuing basis to make the investment

climate attractive, consistent with the overall economic policies. Initiatives have also been taken for procedural simplification, including e-governance, to make the operating environment investor-friendly. The FDI in equity during the period April-December 2005 has been Rs. 16,394 crore, representing an increase of 39.5% over the FDI in the corresponding period last year.

**Statement-I**

*Country-wise Break-up for FDI inflows from January 2001 to December 2005*

(Amount in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the Country	Amount of Foreign Direct Investment Inflows (In Rs.)
1.	Mauritius	31398.05
2.	U.S.A.	9964.55
3.	Netherlands	5746.66
4.	U.K.	5462.07
5.	Japan	4690.08
6.	Germany	2719.96
7.	Singapore	2257.33
8.	France	1947.29
9.	Switzerland	1541.31
10.	Sweden	1228.22

**Statement-II**

*Region-wise Break-up of FDI inflows from January 2001 to December 2005  
(as Reported to Regional Offices of RBI)*

(Amount in crore)

Sl. No.	Regional Offices of RBI	States Covered	Amount of FDI Inflows
1	2	3	4
1.	New Delhi	Delhi, Part of Uttar Pradesh and Haryana	19618.52

1	2	3	4
2.	Mumbai	Maharashtra, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu	14399.67
3.	Bangalore	Karnataka	5873.56
4.	Chennai	Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry	4651.22
5.	Ahmedabad	Gujarat	2764.14
6.	Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	2485.67
7.	Chandigarh	Chandigarh, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh	1314.37
8.	Kolkata	West Bengal, Sikkim, Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1210.82
9.	Panaji	Goa	450.18
10.	Bhubaneswar	Orissa	261.66
11.	Kochi	Kerala, Lakshadweep	245.24
12.	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh	160.07
13.	Guwahati	Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura	41.03
14.	Jaipur	Rajasthan	16.80
15.	Patna	Bihar, Jharkhand	1.13
16.	Kanpur	Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal	0.03
17.	State not Indicated		22087.24
18.	Advance of inflow		7049.64
19.	Stock Swapped		284.87
20.	NRI-RBI Schemes		240.33
Grand Total			83,156.19

Foot Note: 1. Includes 'equity capital component' only.

2. The above State-wise inflows are classified as per RBI's Region-wise inflows furnished by RBI, Mumbai.

### **Centres of National Institute of Design**

1818. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of National Institute of Design's Centres at present, State-wise;

(b) whether such centres have been set up in all the States; and

(c) if not, the steps taken by the Government to set up such centres in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) National Institute of Design (NID), Paldi, Ahmedabad (Gujarat), has liaison offices in Delhi and project cells at Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh), Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh), Chennai (Tamil Nady) and Kochi (Kerala) for specific outreach/consultancy projects. Construction of a Research and Development Centre at Bangalore (Karnataka) has been completed.

(b) and (c) As at present, there is no proposal to set up NID Centres in all States. Setting up of such Centres depends amongst others on their viability and utility considering the over all priority of States and the available financial resources.

### **Disbursement of Market Development Assistance**

1819. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Market Development Assistance has not been disbursed by various export promotion councils for the year 2004-05;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure timely disbursement of such grants to exporter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Under MDA

Scheme, various Export Promotion Councils have disbursed amounts towards reimbursement of individual exporters for the year 2004-05.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) Export Promotion Councils have been further directed to ensure timely disbursement of MDA grant to exporters.

### **Increase in Nutrition Cost**

1820. SHRI JASHUBHAI DAHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has revised the norms for grant-in-aid meant for Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) by increasing the supplementary nutrition cost per child from 95 paise to Rs. 2;

(b) if so, the Centre's share in this scheme;

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred under the Scheme during the year 2005-06; and

(d) the estimated requirement for the year 2006-07?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Financial norms for supplementary nutrition under ICDS Scheme were revised vide order dated 19-10-2004. As per grant-in-aid pattern of the Scheme, cost of supplementary nutrition was to be borne by the States/UTs till 2004-05. However, from the year 2005-06, the Government of India has decided to provide grant-in-aid to the States/UTs for supplementary nutrition also, to the extent of 50% of financial norms or 50% of the actual expenditure incurred by the State, whichever is less.

(c) For 2005-06, the share of Government of India @ 50% of the financial norms for supplementary nutrition and number of beneficiaries as on 31-3-2005 is estimated at Rs. 1508.00 crore. However, release of funds to States/UTs will depend upon the actual expenditure incurred by them.

(d) The requirement of Government of India's share for the year 2006-07, is estimated at Rs. 1700.00 crore.

**Utilization of Funds under SSA**

1821. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:  
 SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH:  
 SHRI KRISHNA MURAI MOGHE:  
 SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:  
 DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH:  
 SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:  
 SHRI SHISHUPAL PATLE:  
 SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:

(c) if so, the reasons thereof;

(d) the action taken by the Union Government in this regard;

(e) whether the Union Government proposes to allocate more funds for elementary education and SSA respectively in the coming fiscal year; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the funds utilized by the State Governments out of the funds allocated under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan during each of the last three years and thereafter till date, activity-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether the State Governments have spent only 64% funds under the scheme in the current year;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) A Statement showing the utilisation of funds by the States/UTs during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 is enclosed. The expenditure reported for 2005-06 is till 31st December, 2005.

(e) and (f) An allocation of Rs. 11000 crores has been proposed in the Finance Bill on 28th February 2006 to the Parliament.

**Statement**

Rs. in lakhs

Name of State	2003-04		2004-05		2005-06	
	Funds Available during 2003-04	Expenditure	Funds Available during 2004-05	Expenditure	Funds Available	Expenditure as on 31 Dec. 2005
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	497.96	221.73	542.02	272.08	439.64	204.72
Andhra Pradesh	20160.57	14912.16	43370.33	33757.22	32266.19	24635.35
Arunachal Pradesh	2591.37	1188.15	4376.28	1812.5	1689.41	1223.28
Assam	18615.04	18394.84	26864.42	22399.8	21677.34	14919.51
Bihar	41386.49	7979.59	56017.85	34131.87	61219.84	26155.43
Chandigarh	273.54	166.42	759.62	604	727.26	125.81
Chhattisgarh	12937.14	4894.99	32611.31	29565.55	28397.99	23342.15

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	448.63	0	784.42	10.45	669.01	239.54
Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	257.82	145.91
Delhi	2267.18	521.31	1905	854.67	2068.59	918.53
Goa	0	0	0	0	652.42	0.00
Gujarat	16906.21	14717.21	28029.32	18632.5	23783.45	16774.66
Haryana	10341.71	9118.42	18498.09	11359.11	21525.39	12110.23
Himachal Pradesh	7601.89	6331.75	9622.85	8418.94	10765.77	6124.06
Jammu and Kashmir	8282	3606.78	10828.68	8160.52	24758.74	16868.81
Jharkhand	19317.74	7095.96	33088.83	29250.33	33784.50	25072.43
Karnataka	17962	16050.39	39451.7	34456.15	43167.31	34127.54
Kerala	7638.61	6078.02	12255.72	9383.78	9346.95	5217.98
Lakshadweep	0	0	12.03	0	70.20	0.91
Madhya Pradesh	62200.68	29202.45	69967.919	60513.28	117682.90	71005.88
Maharashtra	37198.37	33363.91	47887.07	38955.71	68603.29	34447.58
Manipur	500	0	2093	1354.93	2065.51	1513.47
Meghalaya	1867.25	627.25	3634.33	2150.33	1903.27	1599.53
Mizoram	1491.73	875.89	4793.23	4478.66	2663.77	2103.72
Nagaland	1334.85	1015.18	3039.02	2751.24	1614.37	1049.01
Orissa	20662.42	15792.79	36382.84	28060.7	34307.05	19460.13
Pondicherry	178.04	140.61	513.9	265.85	643.22	384.07
Punjab	12439.85	4440.99	12623.46	9636.55	20186.10	11041.12
Rajasthan	26415.97	21357.3	23298.517	39590.66	71529.12	43702.66
Sikkim	640.23	213.5	1626.98	723.72	427.00	394.00
Tamil Nadu	26121.16	23658.86	37820.63	36638.68	37163.22	24043.34
Tripura	4608.22	2564.37	5741.96	5113.2	5488.29	4172.61
Uttar Pradesh	59234.39	47649.06	129372.15	125166.08	201413.47	149056.16
Uttaranchal	7351.48	6628.93	13018.98	9695.48	16754.29	10878.95
West Bengal	45321.62	6582.62	61514.35	50950.4	53429.27	34981.69

\*Funds available include releases by Central Government, State Government and opening balance at the beginning of the year.

[Translation]

**Auto-Cluster Scheme**

1822. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States where auto-cluster scheme has been implemented alongwith the funds released under the scheme during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government has received any proposal for setting up of auto-cluster from State Governments during the last three years;

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

(d) the number of proposals for auto-clusters pending

with the Union Government, especially from Maharashtra State-wise; and

(e) the time by which these are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) Details concerning sanction of auto-clusters under the Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme are given in the Statement-I enclosed.

(b) to (e) Yes, Sir. Under the Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme 9 proposals for auto-clusters have been received during the last 3 years. Details of these are given in the enclosed Statement-II. Since the 10th Plan allocation of Rs. 675 crores has already been committed, no new proposals are being sanctioned.

**Statement-I****Auto-Clusters Sanctioned under the Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme during the Tenth Plan**

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	State	Name of cluster	Project Cost	Sanctioned central grant	Central grant Released upto Feb. 2006
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Auto Cluster, Vijaywada	31.08	23.50	7.80
2.	Tamil Nadu	Auto Ancillary Cluster, Chennai	47.20	35.00	11.70
3.	Maharashtra	Auto Components Cluster, Pune	59.99	44.99	15.00
4.	Madhya Pradesh	Auto Cluster, Pithampur	73.29	49.94	16.65

**Statement-II****Proposals received for Auto-Clusters under the Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme**

State	No. of proposals received	No. of proposals sanctioned	No. of proposals rejected
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	1	1	0
Chhattisgarh	1	0	1

1	2	3	4
Haryana	1	0	0
Jharkhand	1	0	0
Karnataka	1	0	0
Madhya Pradesh	1	1	0
Maharashtra	2	1	1
Tamil Nadu	1	1	0

### Reservation to OBC in KVS/NVS

1823. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision of reservation in admissions for the students belonging to OBC in the Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide reservation in admissions to the students belonging to OBC category in the said Vidyalayas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Admission Policy of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) and Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS) does not provide for reservation in admission to OBC category.

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

[English]

### Core Group on Non-Agriculture Market

1824. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formed a Core Group on Non-Agriculture Market' with developing countries;

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

(c) the extent to which this group would help in evolving a common programme on agriculture marketing access;

(d) whether this group has already submitted its report; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) At the 6th WTO Ministerial Conference at Hong Kong, a Group of 11 developing countries came together on the issues being discussed in the non-agricultural market access (NAMA) negotiations. The Group has submitted joint papers and taken common negotiating positions on the issues of concern for developing countries in NAMA with an objective of ensuring development friendly results from the entire Doha Round of negotiations.

(c) The Group of countries are consulting each other only on various NAMA issues of their Mutual interest to forge common negotiating positions.

(d) and (e) Since the negotiations are ongoing the process of formulating common positions is dynamic and there is no static position or report of the Group.



### Import of Tobacco Products

1825. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Gambier is being freely imported in the country despite imposition of ban on the import of tobacco products;

(b) If so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to strictly impose the ban on the import of gambier?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Gambier is a vegetable based tanning material and is used for dyeing purposes by the leather industry. Gambier is classified under Chapter 14 of the ITC(HS) Classification of Export and Import Items, 2004-2009 relating to 'Vegetable Plating Materials; Vegetable Products not elsewhere specified or included' and is freely importable. Tobacco products on the other hand are classified under the Chapter 24 and are also freely importable.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Since the basic objective of the Foreign Trade Policy is to provide raw materials at international prices it may not be possible to restrict import of Gambier as it may have an adverse impact on export of leather goods from India.

### Conference on Smuggling of Narcotics

1826. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a conference to check the smuggling of Narcotic Drugs was held in India during January 2006;

(b) if so, the details of the issues discussed in the said conference alongwith the countries participated therein;

(c) the details of decision taken after the said conference;

(d) whether the large amount of earnings from smuggling of Narcotic Drugs go in the hands of terrorist organizations;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) 3rd Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) of the Pentalateral Group comprising China, India, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Thailand was held at New Delhi from 11-13 January, 2006 to discuss precursor chemical control and alternative development programmes in the region. The decisions taken therein, *inter alia* include scrupulous observance of the Pre Export Notification (PEN) regime; designating a nodal officer to act as a focal point for exchange of information/dissemination of intelligence; periodical review of Watch-List of various chemicals and legislative control and sharing of best practices and training material and work towards capacity building and capacity sharing to identify the sources of precursor chemicals and stop their diversion.

(d) Available inputs suggest that terrorist organisations have been using funds obtained mainly through covert means. Drug trafficking is also suspected to be among the sources of such funds. No specific instance in this regard has, however, come to the notice of the Government.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

[Translation]

### Opening of Schools under KGBV

1827. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:

SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has formulated

any scheme to open additional "Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas" to provide primary education in inaccessible States so as to educate girl children of backward and minority communities;

(b) if so, whether the schools have been opened with the funds allocated for Tenth Plan;

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

(d) whether additional funds have been allocated for opening new schools; and

(e) if so, the States chosen for opening such schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) Government of India has approved 430 additional Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBV) on 1st February, 2006, within the total allocation for the KGBV Scheme for the Tenth Plan. The KGBV schools are sanctioned to eligible educationally backward blocks. The States and number of additional KGBVs sanctioned to them, is given in the enclosed statement.

#### **Statement**

##### *Allocation of 430 additional KGBVs*

Sl. No.	State	No. of KGBVs
1	2	3
1.	Assam	15
2.	Manipur	1
3.	Mizoram	1
4.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1
5.	Tripura	5
6.	Arunachal Pradesh	5
7.	Uttar Pradesh	93
8.	Jharkhand	81
9.	Bihar	66

1	2	3
10.	Orissa	65
11.	Gujarat	14
12.	Haryana	5
13.	Karnataka	3
14.	Andhra Pradesh	40
15.	Madhya Pradesh	35
Total		430

[English]

#### **Bilateral Agreements**

1828. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India can transcend World Trade Organisation and enter into Bilateral Agreements with Western European countries and America to boost India's agricultural exports to these regions; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Under Article 24 of GATT, India can enter into bilateral agreements with Western European countries and America to boost its agriculture exports.

No such bilateral agreement has as yet been negotiated with Western European countries and US.

#### **Issuance of Caste Certificates to STs**

1829. SHRI P. MOHAN: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any concrete plan to evolve a National Policy for Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Scheduled Tribe list has been updated by incorporating the castes recommended by State Governments;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether Government is aware that most of the State Governments do not issue caste certificates to Scheduled Tribe people;

(g) if so, the details and facts thereof alongwith the reactions of the Government thereto;

(h) whether a National Commission on Scheduled Tribes could be pressed into service as to probe specific allegations with regard to denial of caste certificates to Malaivedan, Adhiyan, Kattunaickan, Kurumbans etc., in Tamil Nadu for more than a decade; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) A National Policy for tribals is in the process of being finalised.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) In order to ensure that only genuine cases are taken up for inclusion in the list of Scheduled Tribes, reports from three independent agencies namely, the concerned State Government/UT administration, the Registrar General of India and the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, are obtained about the fulfillment of the stipulated criteria by the community concerned. Only those proposals which have been agreed to by all the above three agencies are taken up for inclusion through amending legislation. Following this procedure several modifications have been carried out to the list of Scheduled Tribes of different States, the most recent ones being contained in the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Act, 2002, by which 142 modifications in the list of Scheduled Tribes of 20 States have been carried out. The remaining proposals are being processed as per the modalities approved for deciding such claims.

(f) to (i) ST Certificates can be issued only to those communities who are notified as Scheduled Tribes under Article 342 of the Constitution. There is no information in the Ministry regarding non issuance of ST certificates to notified ST communities. The STs Order must be read as it is. No claim for Scheduled.

Tribes status can be made for any person indicating that he or she belongs to a tribe, sub-tribe, part of, or group of any other tribe or tribal community, or that his/her community is synonymous with a Scheduled Tribe mentioned in the Order, unless the Scheduled Tribe is specifically mentioned in the Order. Some of the communities mentioned, viz-Kurumbans, Kattunaickan, Adhiyan, etc. are not notified as Scheduled Tribes in the State of Tamil Nadu. However proposals for inclusion of Kurumbans and Kattunaickan communities in the list of ST of Tamil Nadu have been received and are being processed as per approved modalities.

#### **Setting up of Agro and Rural Industries**

1830. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has drawn up any plan to set up Agro and Rural Industries in the rural and tribal regions;

(b) if so, the details of the plan with regard to the remaining period of Tenth Five Year Plan, State-wise, area-wise and product-wise;

(c) whether the Union Government has prepared any scheme and spent any amount to encourage agro and rural industries to open new units in the hinterland of the country particularly in the border areas of Uttar Pradesh in order to save the perishable food items (vegetables and fruits) from getting rotten; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The Government,

has no plans to set up any agro or rural industry by itself, which are set up by individual entrepreneurs. However, the Government has been implementing the rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP), through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), to help eligible entrepreneurs to set up village industry units and thus create employment opportunities in village and small towns with population upto 20,000, throughout the country, including tribal areas. Under this programme, entrepreneurs can establish village industries by availing of margin money assistance from the KVIC and loans from public sector scheduled commercial banks, selected regional rural banks, cooperative banks, etc., for projects with a maximum cost of Rs. 25 lakh.

State/Union Territory (UT)-wise targets of village industry units to be assisted during the remaining period of Tenth Five Year Plan, i.e., 2005-06 and 2006-07 under the REGP are given in the enclosed statement. Product-wise plan is not drawn up under the REGP.

(c) The Central Government (in the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries) has not prepared any such scheme. However, eligible entrepreneurs in the country, including the border areas of Uttar Pradesh, are encouraged to set up village industry units (including units for processing perishable agricultural produce) under the REGP.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Statement**

*State-wise targets of new village industry units to be set up under REGP during 2005-06 and 2006-07*

(Number of units/projects)

Sl No.	State/Union Territory	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4
<b>I. Northern Zone</b>			
1.	Chandigarh	4	5
2.	Delhi	29	15

1	2	3	4
3.	Haryana	1078	1193
4.	Himachal Pradesh	689	760
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	550	724
6.	Punjab	1351	1493
7.	Rajasthan	2085	2769
<b>II. Eastern Zone</b>			
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	138	152
2.	Bihar	450	638
3.	Jharkhand	875	745
4.	Orissa	801	885
5.	West Bengal	2052	2268
<b>III. North Eastern Zone</b>			
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	94	103
2.	Assam	1381	1526
3.	Manipur	275	185
4.	Meghalaya	275	304
5.	Mizoram	411	455
6.	Nagaland	157	173
7.	Sikkim	98	108
8.	Tripura	198	219
<b>IV. Southern Zone</b>			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3097	2940
2.	Karnataka	1819	2011
3.	Kerala	1151	1389
4.	Lakshadweep	1	2
5.	Pondicherry	56	64

1	2	3	4
6.	Tamil Nadu	1096	1212
<b>V. Western Zone</b>			
1.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0
2.	Daman and Diu	0	0
3.	Goa	275	304
4.	Gujarat	554	613
5.	Maharashtra	1726	1908
<b>VI. Central Zone</b>			
1.	Chhattisgarh	826	914
2.	Madhya Pradesh	1167	1291
3.	Uttaranchal	550	608
4.	Uttar Pradesh	3614	3784
Grand Total		28923	31760

#### **Innovation Policy for SME Sector**

1831. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering an innovation policy for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) sector;

(b) if so, whether the Government has set up an expert committee to work out the modalities in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there is any proposal to set up an SME innovation fund; and

(e) if so, the main objectives of setting up of SME innovations fund?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) No such proposal is under

consideration of the Government (in the Ministry of Small Scale Industries).

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

#### **Allocation of Funds to Universities**

1832. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:

SHRI SURESH KURUP:

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any reduction in the expenditure incurred on each student in Universities during last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is aware that about 16000 teaching posts are lying vacant in various Universities and colleges due to paucity of funds;

(d) if so, whether Government has decided to chalk out a strategy in this regard alongwith the funds sanctioned to the Universities;

(e) the details of non-recurring assistance sanctioned to the Colleges of Teacher education during the last three years and till date;

(f) whether the Government has any mechanism to monitor the functioning of these colleges; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) No centralized database of expenditure in respect of all the educational institutions in the country is being maintained. However, the grants paid by the Central Government to the University Grants Commission (UGC) for disbursement to eligible universities and colleges have been steadily increasing over the years.

(c) and (d) No centralized data is being maintained in regard to State Universities/Colleges. As regards Central Universities, 1056 posts of lectures are lying

vacant in 16 Central Universities as on 31-3-2005. These vacancies are attributed to administrative reasons rather than lack of funds.

(e) to (g) Under teacher education scheme, the details of non-recurring grant sanctioned for various colleges of teacher education (CTEs) during the last three years and till date are as under:—

Year	Rs. in Lakhs
2002-03	108.80
2003-04	106.75
2004-05	257.55
2005-06	183.00

Monitoring of CTEs is done through half-yearly progress reports. Under the revised guidelines of the 10th plan there is also a provision for mid-term Appraisal by Teacher Education Resource Group.

#### Fake Currency

1833. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:  
SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL:  
SHRI D.B. PATIL:  
SHRIMATI RUPATAI D. PATIL:  
SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:  
SHRI DHANUSKODI R. ATHITHAN:

SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:

SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI:

SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of unearthed counterfeit currency racket alongwith the fake notes seized in the denominations of Rs. 500, Rs. 100 and Rs. 50 for the last three years;

(b) whether the Government has taken any action to stop this manace;

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

(d) details of the action taken against each of the counterfeit currency racket unearthed during the last six months;

(e) whether there is any mechanism in the Ministry to trace such rackets;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT):

(a) As per information compiled by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), the denomination-wise details of counterfeit currency notes detected and the cases registered during the calendar years 2002 to 2004 and 2005 (upto June) are as follows:—

Year	Number of pieces of counterfeit notes detected				No. of cases registered
	Rs. 500	Rs. 100	Rs. 50	Total	
2002	84794	221856	19104	325754	829
2003	43789	306961	30510	381260	1464
2004	58219	331916	20032	410167	1175
2005* (upto June)	20037	131541	14873	166451	985

\*Figures of 2005 are provisional.

(b) and (c) The Government has taken a number of steps to curb circulation of Fake Indian Currency Notes (FICN) in the country. These *inter alia* include shoring up of vigilance by the Border Security Force/Customs authorities to prevent smuggling of FICN into the country and dissemination of information on security features through print and electronic media for the benefit of public. Further, based on the recommendations of a High-level Committee set up by the Ministry of Finance, some additional security features have been incorporated in Indian bank notes making counterfeiting extremely difficult.

(d) to (g) "Police" and "Public Order" are State Subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and therefore, State Governments are primarily responsible for prevention, detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of crimes including the crime of counterfeiting of Indian currency. However, Union Government has issued advisories to all the State Governments, Union Territory Administrations and the concerned law enforcement agencies to effectively tackle the menace of FICN. The Union Government has also advised the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to consider handing over to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) the cases of FICN where there are suspected links of organized criminal gangs and which have inter-State/international ramifications. As per available information, during the years 2003, 2004 and 2005 (upto 2006), CBI has registered nine cases relating to seizure of fake currency notes.

#### **Misuse of Grants by Universities**

1834. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:  
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:  
SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria followed by University Grants Commission for allocation of grants to the various universities in the country;

(b) the total funds released by the UGC and utilised

by the various universities during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding misuse of funds;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government against those universities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) The University Grants Commission (UGC) provides financial assistance to the eligible universities which are included under Section 2(f) and have been declared fit to receive Central assistance under Section 12 (B) of the UGC Act.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) to (e) UGC takes action on such complaints as and when received. At present, no complaints are pending with the UGC.

#### **Import/Export of Cash Crops**

1835. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of cash crops imported from and exported to during each of the last three years, country-wise;

(b) whether the Government has taken any steps to modernize the industry by introducing new technology in order to increase the export of cash crops;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to increase export of cash crops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Export/import data of some of the major cash crops for the last three years is given below:—

**Export:**

(Quantity: Metric Tonne/Value: Rupees crores)

Commodity	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Cashew kernels	104137	1932.02	100828	1804.43	126667	2709.24
Spices	264107	2086.71	254382	1911.60	335488	2200.00
Tea	184400	1665.04	183070	1636.99	205820	1924.71
Coffee	207333	1051.45	232684	1158.45	211765*	1224.67
Tobacco and its products	127557	1095.95	150962	1175.63	162933	1362.18

\*including re-exports.

**Import:**

(Quantity: Metric Tonne/Value: Rupees crores)

Commodity	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Cashew kernels	400659	1236.57	452399	1400.93	578884	2183.26
Spices	121365	588.73	126234	563.63	97258	520.46
Tea	22490	105.32	11100	66.96	32480	144.95
Coffee	5613	16.10	8886	25.19	21035	63.18
Tobacco and its products	1487	42.50	1402	56.94	3684	108.24

(Source: Commodity Boards/Cashew Export Promotion Council).

Country-wise details of exports/imports are available in the "Foreign Trade Statistics of India" compiled by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI and S), Kolkata and in the Annual Reports of the Commodity Boards.

(b) and (c) Some of the commodity-specific steps taken by the Government in this regard are:

To improve the quality of the cashew kernels to meet requirements of international standards, the Department of Commerce through the Cashew Export Promotion Council is implementing on a continuing basis an integrated scheme for improving cashew kernel quality which includes setting up/improving the facilities for Cashew Kernels in Value Added Form/Consumer Packs, Quality Upgradation by Process Improvement,



Implementation of Internationally accepted Certification Scheme and Introduction of Flexi Pouch Vacuum Packing System.

Tobacco Board is making efforts to re-orient the production of tobacco to meet changing international demands and also to enhance the quality and productivity of tobacco grown in India by implementing several extension and developmental programmes, such as model project areas, integrated pest management etc. The Board is also making a focused approach to address concerns of customers regarding elimination of non-tobacco related matters, product integrity and traceability, to meet the global standards by education and awareness programmes for farmers.

Spices Board is implementing a scheme namely "Adopting of High Tech and Technology Upgradation" to infuse latest technologies into the Indian spice processing industry to enable the exporters to produce quality products meeting international standards.

Various steps taken include the sanctioning of a new scheme for providing incentives for production of orthodox teas, grant of subsidy @ Rs. 1.50 per kg. for export of tea through ICD (Inland Container Depot) Amingaon, securing statutory recognition of Darjeeling tea in various important jurisdictions as certification or collective marks, declaring Darjeeling tea as a Geographical Indication (GI) with effect from October 2004, reducing the import duty on tea bagging and packaging machinery used to add value to Indian tea to a rate of 5% and issuing a new Tea (Distribution and Export) Control Order, 2005 on 01-04-2005 prescribing strict norms for tea with a view to maintaining quality and retaining the brand equity of Indian teas etc.

Coffee Board is implementing a medium-term export strategy to sustain and gain market share in the key markets and also to improve the competitiveness of Indian Coffee in the global markets over the next few years. The strategy includes shifting the product mix in favour of Arabica from the present emphasis on Robusta, ensuring competitive landed price of Indian Coffee by reducing growing costs by improving yields, improving consistency in the quality of exported coffee, improving awareness of Indian Coffee in target markets through communication efforts and integrating India with the global

coffee trade by encouraging large buyers to set up offices in India.

(d) In order to ensure growth of export of agro-products including cash crops, the Government, through the Commodity Boards/Authorities and Export Promotion Councils has been providing assistance for conducting publicity campaigns, market surveys, sending delegations abroad, participating in international trade fairs, inviting potential buyers besides providing financial assistance for improving quality, packaging, brand promotion of the products etc.

### **Jungle Warfare Training**

1836. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to provide jungle warfare training to police force;

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

(c) whether the Government provide any assistance to States for such special training; and

(d) if so, the details alongwith the criteria fixed for such assistance to States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The Naxal affected States have been asked to take immediate steps for imparting training to the police personnel engaged in anti-Naxalite operation in Counter Insurgency and Jungle Warfare. A sizeable section of new India Reserve Battalions sanctioned to States is also to be trained on these lines. For this purpose training facilities/expertise of Central Police Organisations are made available to the States.

(c) and (d) The expenditure incurred on training to the eligible States is covered under Security Related Expenditure (SRE) and IR Bn. Scheme of the Central Government.

*[Translation]*

### **India Philippines Trade Agreement**

1837. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment of import/export has been made between India and Philippines during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has signed any trade agreements with Philippines recently; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which Indian Industries would be benefited therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) India's bilateral trade figures with Philippines for the last three years are as under:—

(Value in US\$ Million)

Year	Exports	Imports	Total Trade	Balance of Trade
2002-03	472.00	123.77	595.77	348.23
2003-04	321.53	122.11	443.64	199.42
2004-05	393.88	181.87	575.75	212.01

(Source: DGCI and S).

(c) Government has not signed any trade agreement with Philippines recently.

(d) Does not arise.

Government has also not made projections for total imports for the next five years.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Trade Balance

1838. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps to achieve a trade balance between its imports and exports and imports projected for the next 5 years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Whereas promotion of exports is an important objective of the Government's trade policy, imports are largely governed by the emerging needs of the economy and international prices of commodities. With comfortable foreign exchange reserves no steps are presently being taken to achieve a trade balance between imports and exports. The

#### District Primary Education Programme

1839. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of districts covered under District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) in the country particularly in Uttar Pradesh, State-wise;

(b) whether the Union Government proposes to expand these projects to other poor and educationally backward districts; and

(c) if so, the details of programme of the Union Government in this regard during 2005-06 and 2006-07, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The number of districts in which the District Primary Education Programme is presently operational are 93. The State-wise coverage is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) No, Sir. Now all districts in the country are eligible under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme of the Government of India.

(c) Does not arise.

**Statement**

Sl. No.	Name of State	No. of districts covered under DPEP
1.	Orissa	8
2.	West Bengal	5
3.	Uttar Pradesh (Phase III)	36
4.	Uttaranchal	6
5.	Bihar	20
6.	Jharkhand	9
7.	Rajasthan	9
Total districts covered		93

12.00 hrs.

**PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**

*[Translation]*

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay the following papers on the Table of the House—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Jawaharlal Nehru Aluminium Research Development and Design Centre, Nagpur, 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 Jawaharlal Nehru Aluminium

Research Development and Design Centre, Nagpur, 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-3753/2006]

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay the following papers on the Table of the House—

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Small Industries, Mumbai, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (2) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Small Industries, Mumbai, for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3754/2006]

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (2) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3755/2006]

*[Translation]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Presidential Special Order (Hindi and English versions) authorizing Governor of Goa for additional expenses

[Shri Manikrao Hodlya Gavit]

under 'Tour Expenses' of Schedule-II to the Governors (Allowances and Privileges) Rules, 1987, under sub-section (3) of section 12 of the Governors (Emoluments, Allowances and Privileges) Act, 1982.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3756/2006]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT):  
Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of Shri Shriprakash Jaiswal I beg to lay the following papers on the Table of the House—

- (1) A copy of the Registration of Foreigners (Amendment) Rules, 2005 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 737(E) Gazette of India dated the 22nd December, 2005 under sub-section (2) of section 3 of the Registration of Foreigners Act, 1939.
- (2) A copy of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Tailor Cadre Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2006 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 5(E) Gazette of India dated the 6th January, 2006 under sub-section (3) of section 156 of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force Act, 1992.
- (3) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 20 of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993:—
  - (i) Annual Report of the National Human Rights Commission, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004.
  - (ii) Memorandum of Action Taken on the Annual Report of the National Human Rights Commission, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3759/2006]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, for the year 2004-2005.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, for the year 2004-2005, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3760/2006]

- (2) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Information Technology, Allahabad, for the year 2003-2004, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3761/2006]

- (4) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council of Educational Research and Training, New Delhi for the year 2003-2004, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3762/2006]

- (6) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Industrial Engineering, Mumbai, for the year 2004-2005, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (7) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing

reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (6) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3763/2006]

- (8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Pondicherry University, Pondicherry, for the year 2004-2005.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Pondicherry University, Pondicherry, 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 Pondicherry University, Pondicherry, for the year 2004-2005.
- (9) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (8) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3764/2006]

- (10) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002 alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002.
- (11) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (10) above.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3765/2006]
- (12) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003 alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003.

- (13) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (12) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3766/2006]

- (14) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004.

- (15) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (14) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3767/2006]

- (16) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tezpur University, Tezpur, for the year 2004-2005.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Tezpur University, Tezpur, for the year 2004-2005.

- (17) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (16) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3768/2006]

- (18) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, for the year 2004-2005.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, for the year 2004-2005.

- (19) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (18) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3769/2006]

[Shri M.A.A. Fatmi]

- (20) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Visva Bharati, Santiniketan, for the year 2003-2004, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (21) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (20) above.
- (22) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, for the year 2004-2005, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (23) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (22) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3770/2006]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Shellac Export Promotion Council, Kolkata, for the year 2004-2005.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Shellac Export Promotion Council, Kolkata, 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 Shellac Export Promotion Council, Kolkata, 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-3771/2006]
- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Chemexcil (Basic

Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals and Cosmetics Export Promotion Council), Mumbai, 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 Chemexcil (Basic Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals and Cosmetics Export Promotion Council), Mumbai, 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-3772/2006]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Plexconcil (The Plastics Export Promotion Council), Mumbai, 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 Plexconcil (The Plastics Export Promotion Council), Mumbai, 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-3773/2006]
- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Pharmexcil (Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council), Hyderabad, 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 Pharmexcil (Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council), Hyderabad, for the year 2004-2005.
- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing

reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3774/2006]

- (9) A copy of the Special Economic Zones Rules, 2006 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 54 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2006 under sub-section (3) of section 55 of the Special Economic Zones Act, 2005.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3775/2006]

MR. SPEAKER: This is your maiden intervention. Thank you.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Notification No. S.O. 1785 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th December, 2005, containing Order making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1105 (E) dated the 11th October, 2004 issued under section 18G of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3776/2006]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Haryana Prathamik Shiksha Pariyojna Parishad, Chandigarh, for the year 2003-2004, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Haryana Prathamik Shiksha Pariyojna Parishad, Chandigarh, for the year 2003-2004.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3777/2006]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Universalisation of Elementary Education Mission, Delhi, for the year 2003-2004, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Universalisation of Elementary Education Mission, Delhi, for the year 2003-2004.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3778/2006]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Sarva Siksha Abhiyan Rajya Mission Tripura, Agartala, for the year 2003-2004, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Sarva Siksha Abhiyan Rajya Mission Tripura, Agartala, for the year 2003-2004.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3779/2006]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the District Primary Education Programme-III (U.P. Education for all Project Board), Lucknow, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Primary Education Programme-III (U.P. Education for All Project Board), Lucknow, for the year 2004-2005.

[Shrimati D. Purandeswari]

- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3780/2006]

- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the State Mission Authority (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Nagaland, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the State Mission Authority (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Nagaland, for the year 2004-2005.

- (10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3781/2006]

- (11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the State Mission Authority (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Dadra Nagar Haveli, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the State Mission Authority (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Dadra Nagar Haveli, for the year 2004-2005.

- (12) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (11) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3782/2006]

- (13) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the U.P. Education for All Project Board (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Lucknow, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the U.P. Education for All Project Board (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Lucknow, for the year 2004-2005.

- (14) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (13) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3783/2006]

- (15) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Axom Sarva Shiksha Abhijan Mission, Guwahati, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Axom Sarva Shiksha Abhijan Mission, Guwahati, for the year 2004-2005.

- (16) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (15) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3784/2006]

- (17) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Samithi-Karnataka, Bangalore, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Samithi-Karnataka, Bangalore, for the year 2003-2004. alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (iii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Samithi-Karnataka, Bangalore, for the year 2002-2003 and 2003-2004.

- (18) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing



reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (17) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3785/2006]

(19) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Assam Mahila Samata Society, Guwahati, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Assam Mahila Samata Society, Guwahati, for the year 2004-2005.

(20) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (19) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3786/2006]

(21) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the State Mission Authority (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Dadra Nagar Haveli, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the State Mission Authority (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Dadra Nagar Haveli, for the year 2004-2005.

(22) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (21) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3787/2006]

12.02 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA  
AND  
BILL AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following 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 Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board Bill, 2006 which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 2nd March, 2006."

(ii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha. I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting 3rd March, 2006 agreed without any amendment to the Contempt of Courts (Amendment) Bill, 2006 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 21st February, 2006."

Sir, I also lay on the Table the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board Bill, 2005, as passed by Rajya Sabha on the 2nd March, 2006.

12.03 hrs.

OBSERVATION BY THE SPEAKER

**Re: Business transacted during the previous week**

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, for your information, I want to briefly recapitulate the main items of business transacted by the House during the last week.

Out of the 80 Starred Questions admitted, only 10 could be answered orally. Replies to the remaining Starred Questions alongwith the replies to 628 Unstarred Questions were laid on the Table.

The House discussed for about four hours and nineteen minutes one Short Duration Discussion under Rule 193 on the "Statement made by the hon. Prime Minister on 17-2-2006 regarding India's vote in the IAEA on the issue of Iran's nuclear programme" raised by Shri C.K. Chandrappan. The discussion was not concluded.

During the period, as many as 38 matters of urgent

[Mr. Speaker]

public importance were raised after the Question Hour. Also, 60 matters were raised under Rule 377.

As regards the Legislative Business, the House discussed the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (Amendment) Bill, 2005 for about one hour and five minutes before the Bill, as amended, was passed. The House also discussed the Government of Union Territories and the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Bill, 2006 as passed by Rajya Sabha for about 39 minutes before it was passed.

The amendments made by Rajya Sabha to the Chartered Accountants (Amendment) Bill, 2005, the Cost and Works Accountants (Amendment) Bill, 2005 and the Company Secretaries (Amendment) Bill, 2005 were also agreed to by the House during the above period.

During this period, the Budget (General) for 2006-2007 was also presented to the House.

We spent over 14 hours and 57 minutes on the General Discussion on the Budget (Railways) for 2006-07, the Demands for Grants on account (Railways) for 2006-07, Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2005-06, Demands for Excess Grants (Railways) for 2003-04 before passing the same alongwith the related Appropriation Bills.

As regards the Private Members' Business, four Bills were introduced and one Bill, namely, the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2004 (insertion of new article 45A) with a view to providing nutritious food to all children who have been provided free and compulsory education by the States, moved by Shri Suravaram Sudhakar Reddy, was discussed for about one hour and 48 minutes. However, the discussion was not concluded. During this period two Reports and seven Action Taken Reports were also presented.

During the last week, we lost two hours and 52 minutes of valuable time due to interruptions and adjournments. The House, however, sat late and worked extra for as many as eight hours and 51 minutes to transact essential items of business. Out of the eight hours and 51 minutes for which the House sat late, 17 minutes

were devoted to raising matters of urgent public importance after the normal business of the House was over.

I wish to convey my thanks to the hon. Members for their co-operation in the conduct of the proceedings.

[Translation]

PROF VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker, the ruling party forced the house to adjourn for four-five hours. This should at least be condemned ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

It has never happened that the ruling Party Members have stalled the proceedings of the House....*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

Ruling party stalls and interrupts the proceedings ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri P.R. Kyndiah.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, the Justice Banerjee Committee Report has already been submitted....*(Interruptions)* Please allow us to speak on this issue....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Everyone has to introspect.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. I am on my legs so you should sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Everyone of us should introspect because this is your House, and the country's House. Therefore, let us utilise all the time for fruitful discussions. This is my appeal to all of you. Every issue will be allowed to be raised subject to certain restrictions of rules and time. There is no difficulty in allowing issues to be raised in the House, and certainly it will be raised.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Panskura): Sir, will you allow us to raise this issue?

MR. SPEAKER: I will not allow it now. Nothing will be allowed to be raised now.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am already thanking you for your cooperation. Please sit down. Yes, Mr. Minister.

...(Interruptions)

12.07 hrs.

#### STATEMENT BY MINISTER\*

##### **Re: Status of Implementation of Recommendations Contained in the 113th Report of Standing Committee on Home Affairs**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table of the House a statement on the status of the implementation of recommendations contained in the 113th report of the Departmentally related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs pertaining to consideration of Demands for Grants (2005-2006) of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region in pursuance of direction 73A of the hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha *vide* Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated 1-9-2004. ... (Interruptions)

The Standing Committee on Home Affairs (dealing with Ministry of Development of North Eastern) examined

\*Laid on the Table of the House and also Placed in Library. See No. LT-3789/2006.

the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern region for the year 2005-2006, and presented their 113th Report in this regard on 20-4-2005 in the Lok Sabha.

Action Taken Statements on the recommendations/ observations contained in the report of the Committee had been sent to the Standing Committee on Home Affairs on 26-7-2005.

There are 17 recommendations made by the Committee in the said Report where action is called for on the part of the Government. These recommendations mainly pertain to the issues like augmentation of budgetary resources, to evolve an effective mechanism for proper utilisation of funds released for implementation of projects and for ensuring timely completion of projects, allocation of funds in an equitable manner, revitalisation of NEC, improving tele-density, connectivity—both road and air, and development of tourism and expansion of trade with the neighbouring countries.

The status of implementation of the various recommendations made by the Committee is indicated in the Annexure to my Statement, which is laid on the Table of the House. I would not like to take the valuable time of the House to read out all the contents of this Annexure. I would request that this may be considered as read.

[Translation]

MD. SALIM (Calcutta-North East): Mr. Speaker, we had agitated... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Prime Minister is here.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Prime Minister is here, and he is to make a statement in the House. Therefore, I will now call the hon. Prime Minister.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, what will happen to the issue, which I am to raise in the House?

MR. SPEAKER: I will come to that issue also.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, we could not raise it yesterday....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): This should not be recorded....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have not allowed them.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is being recorded. Now, the hon. Prime Minister to make his statement.

(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER: Please maintain silence in the House. This is a very important matter.

...(Interruptions)

12.08 hrs.

#### STATEMENT BY PRIME MINISTER

##### Re: Discussions on Civil Nuclear Energy Cooperation with the United States in the context of recent visit of the President of the USA

[English]

\*\*THE PRIME MINISTER (DR. MANMOHAN SINGH): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in my statement on 27th February, 2006 I had provided an assurance that this august House will be informed of developments in our discussions with the United States on separation of our civilian and military nuclear facilities. I now inform this august House of developments since my *suo motu* statement of 27th February.

The President of the United States. His Excellency, Mr. George W. Bush visited India between 1 March 2006-3 March 2006....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please maintain silence in the House.

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: His visit provided our two countries an opportunity to review progress made in deepening our strategic partnership since the Joint Statement issued during my visit to Washington last July. Our discussions covered the expansion of our ties in the field of agriculture, economic and trade cooperation, energy security and clean environment, strengthening innovation and the knowledge economy, issues relating to global safety and security and on deepening democracy. Expanded cooperation in each of these areas will have a significant impact on India's social and economic development. The full text of the Joint Statement issued during President Bush's visit is placed on the Table of the House.

Sir, I have pleasure in informing the House that during President Bush's visit, as part of the process of promoting cooperation in civilian nuclear energy, agreement was reached between India and the United States on a Separation Plan. Accordingly, India will identify and separate its civilian and military nuclear facilities, and place its civilian nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards.

Sir, I place on the Table of the House the Separation Plan that has been drawn up by India, and agreed between India and the United States in implementation of the India-United States Joint Statement of July 18, 2005....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Those of you who have urgent issues to discuss, please go outside and discuss.

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Sir, I would like to outline some salient elements of the Separation Plan:—

- (i) India will identify and offer for IAEA safeguards 14 thermal power reactors between 2006-14. There are 22 thermal power reactors in operation or currently under construction in the country. Fourteen of these will be placed under safeguards by 2014 in a phased manner. This would raise the total installed thermal power capacity in Megawatts under safeguards from 19 per cent at present to 65 per cent by 2014.

\*Not recorded.

\*\*Also Place in Library. See No. LT-3788/2006.

I wish to emphasise that the choice of specific nuclear reactors and the phases in which they would be placed under safeguards is an Indian decision. We are preparing a list of 14 reactors that would be offered for safeguards between the years 2006-14.

- (ii) Sir, we have conveyed that India will not accept safeguards on the Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) and the Fast Breeder Test Reactor (FBTR), both located at Kalpakkam. The Fast Breeder Programme is at the R and D stage. This technology will take time to mature and reach an advanced stage of development. We do not wish to place any encumbrances on our Fast Breeder programme, and this has been fully ensured in the Separation Plan.
- (iii) India has decided to place under safeguards all future civilian thermal power reactors and civilian breeder reactors, and the Government of India retains the sole right to determine such reactors as civilian. This means that India will not be constrained in any way in building future nuclear facilities, whether civilian or military, as per our national requirements.
- (iv) Sir, India has decided to permanently shut down the CIRUS reactor, in the year 2010. The fuel core of the Apsara reactor was purchased from France, and we are prepared to shift it from its present location and make it available for placing under safeguards in the year 2010. Both CIRUS and Apsara are located at the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre. We have decided to take these steps rather than allow intrusive inspections in a nuclear facility of high national security importance. We are determined that such steps will not hinder ongoing Research and Development.
- (v) Reprocessing and enrichment capabilities and other facilities associated with the fuel cycle for our strategic programme have been kept out of the Separation Plan.
- (vi) One of the major points addressed in the

Separation Plan was the need to ensure reliability of fuel supplies, given our unfortunate past experience with regard to interruption in supply of fuel for Tarapur. We have received commitments from the United States for the reliable supply of fuel to India for reactors that will be offered for safeguards. The United States has also reaffirmed its assurance to create the necessary conditions for India to have assured and full access to fuel for such reactors. Under the July 18 Joint Statement, the United States is committed to seeking agreement from its Congress to amend domestic laws and to work with friends and allies to adjust the practices of the Nuclear Suppliers Group to create the necessary conditions for India to obtain full access to the international market for nuclear fuel, including reliable, uninterrupted and continual access to fuel supplies from firms in several nations. This has been reflected in the formal understandings reached during the visit and included in the Separation Plan.

- (vii) To further guard against any disruption of fuel supplies for India, the United States is prepared to take other additional steps such as:—
  - (a) incorporating assurances regarding fuel supply in a bilateral U.S.-India agreement on peaceful uses of nuclear energy which would be negotiated.
  - (b) The United States will join India in seeking to negotiate with the International Atomic Energy Agency an India-specific fuel supply agreement.
  - (c) The United States will also support an Indian effort to develop a strategic reserve of nuclear fuel to guard against any disruption of supply over the lifetime of India's reactors.
  - (d) If despite these arrangements, a disruption of fuel supplies to India occurs, the United States and India would jointly convene a group of friendly supplier countries to

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include countries such as Russia, France and the United Kingdom to pursue such measures as would restore fuel supply to India.

Sir, in light of the above understandings with the United States, an India-specific safeguards agreements will be negotiated between India and the International Atomic Energy Agency. In essence, an India-specific safeguards agreement would provide: on the one hand safeguards against withdrawal of safeguarded nuclear material from civilian use at any time, and on the other, permit India to take corrective measures to ensure uninterrupted operation of its civilian nuclear reactors in the event of disruption of foreign fuel supplies. Taking this into account, India will place its civilian nuclear facilities under India-specific safeguards in perpetuity and negotiate an appropriate safeguards agreement to this end with the International Atomic Energy Agency. In the terms of the separation plan, there is hence assurance of uninterrupted supply of fuel to reactors that would be placed under safeguards together with India's right to take corrective measures in the event fuel supplies are interrupted. The House can rest assured that India retains its sovereign right to take all appropriate measures to fully safeguard its interests.

During my *suo motu* statements on this subject made on July 29, 2005 and on February 27, 2006. I had given a solemn assurance to this august House, and through the hon. Members to the country, that the separation plan will not adversely affect our country's national security. I am in a position to assure the Members that that is indeed the case. I might mention:—

- (i) That the separation plan will not adversely affect our strategic programme. There will be no capping of our strategic programme, and the separation plan ensures adequacy of fissile material and other inputs to meet the current and future requirements of our strategic programme, based on our assessment of the threat scenarios. No constraint has been placed on our right to construct new facilities for strategic purposes. The integrity of our nuclear doctrine and our ability to sustain a minimum

credible nuclear deterrent is adequately protected. Our nuclear policy will continue to be guided by the principles of restraint and responsibility.

- (ii) The separation plan does not come in the way of the integrity of our three-stage nuclear programme, including the future use of our thorium reserves. Sir, the autonomy of our research and development activities in the nuclear field will remain unaffected. The Fast Breeder Test Reactor and the Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor remain outside safeguards. We have agreed, however, that future civilian thermal power reactors and civilian fast breeder reactors would be placed under safeguards, but the determination of what is civilian is solely an Indian decision.

As I mentioned in my Statement on February 27, the Separation Plan has been very carefully drawn up after an intensive internal consultation process overseen by my Office. The Department of Atomic Energy and our nuclear scientific community have been associated with the preparation of the Separation Plan. The Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission and the Principal Scientific Adviser to the government of India were actively involved closely at every stage. I am in a position to assure the hon. Members that we have not permitted information of national security significance to be compromised in any way during the negotiations.

Sir, I believe that the significance of the July 18, 2005 Statement is the prospect it offers for ending India's nuclear isolation. It will open up prospects for cooperation not only with the United States but with countries like Russia, France and other countries with advanced nuclear capabilities, including those from the Nuclear Suppliers Group. The scope for cooperation in the energy related research will vastly expand, so will cooperation in nuclear research activities. India will be able to join the international mainstream and occupy its rightful place among the top countries of the nuclear community. There would be a quantum jump in our energy generating capacity with a consequential impact on our GDP growth. It also ensures India's participation as a full partner in cutting edge multilateral scientific effort in the nuclear field such as ITER and Generation IV Initiative.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, successful implementation of the July 18 Joint Statement requires reciprocal actions by the United States as well as India. Steps to be taken by India will be contingent upon actions taken by the United States. For our part, we have prepared a Separation Plan that identifies those civilian facilities that we are willing to offer for safeguards. The United States Government has accepted this Separation Plan. It now intends to approach the US Congress for amending its laws and the Nuclear Suppliers Group for adapting its guidelines to enable full civilian cooperation between India and the international community. At the appropriate stage, India will approach the IAA to discuss and fashion an India-specific safeguards agreement, which will reflect the unique character of this arrangement. Since such a safeguards agreement is yet to be negotiated it will be difficult to predict its content, but I can assure the House that we will not accept any provisions that go beyond the parameters of the July 19, 2005 Statement and the Separation Plan agreed between India and the United States, on March 2, 2006. We are hopeful that this process will move forward in the coming weeks and months.

I would request the hon. Members to look at this matter through the larger perspective of energy security. Currently, nuclear energy provides only three per cent of our total energy mix. Rising costs and reliability of imported hydrocarbon supplies constitute a major uncertainty at a time when we are accelerating our growth rate. We must endeavour to expand our capabilities across the entire energy spectrum—from clean coal and coal-bed methane, to gas hydrates and wind and solar power. We are actively seeking international partnerships across the board and members of many international initiatives dedicated to energy.

Indeed at the end of my talks with President Bush, we announced Indian participation in two more programmes: the Future-Generation Programme for Zero Emission Thermal Power Plants and the Integrated Ocean Drilling Programme for gas hydrates.

The House will appreciate that the search for an integrated policy with an appropriate mix of energy supplies is central to the achievement of our broader economic or social objectives. Energy is the lifeblood of

our economy. without sufficient and predictable access, our aspirations in the social sector cannot be realized. Inadequate power has a deleterious effect in building a modern infrastructure. It has a direct impact on the optimal usage of increasingly scarce water resources. Power shortage is thus not just a handicap in one sector but a drag on the entire economy.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I believe that the needs of the people of India must become the central agenda for our international cooperation. It is precisely this approach that has guided our growing partnership with the United States. I would, in particular, draw attention to the launching of the knowledge Initiative in Agriculture with a three year financial commitment to link our universities and technical institutions and businesses to support agricultural education, research, capacity building, including in the field of bio-technology. Our first Green Revolution benefited in substantial measure from assistance provided by the United States. We are hopeful that the Knowledge Initiative on Agriculture will become the harbinger of a second Green Revolution in our country.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, India and the United States have much to gain from this new partnership. This was the main underlying theme of our discussions during the visit of President Bush. The resumption of civilian nuclear energy cooperation would demonstrate that we have entered a new and more positive phase of our ties, so that we can finally put behind us years of troubled relations in the nuclear field. I am confident that this is a worthy objective that will receive the full support of this House.

#### **Text of India-US Joint Statement (02-03-06) Issued during President Bush's Visit**

President George W. Bush and Prime Minister Manmohan Singh today expressed satisfaction with the great progress the United States and India have made in advancing our strategic partnership to meet the global challenges of the 21st century. Both our countries are linked by a deep commitment to freedom and democracy; a celebration of national diversity, human creativity and innovation; a quest to expand prosperity and economic opportunity worldwide; and a desire to increase mutual security against the common threats posed by intolerance,

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terrorism, and the spread of weapons of mass destruction. The successful transformation of the U.S.-India relationship will have a decisive and positive influence on the future international system as it evolves in this new century.

Reviewing the progress made in deepening the global partnership between the United States and India since their Joint Statement of July 18, 2005, the President and the Prime Minister reaffirm their commitment to expand even further the growing ties between their two countries. Consistent with this objective, the two leaders wish to highlight efforts the United States and India are making together in the following areas; where they have:—

#### **For Economic Prosperity and Trade**

(1) Agreed to intensify efforts to develop a bilateral Business climate supportive of trade and investment by:—

1. Welcoming the report of the U.S.-India CEO Forum, agreeing to consider its recommendations aimed at substantially broadening our bilateral economic relations, and directing the Chairs of the Indo-U.S. Economic Dialogue to follow up expeditiously with the CEO Forum;
2. Endorsing the efforts of the U.S.-India Trade Policy Forum to reduce barriers to trade and investment with the goal of doubling bilateral trade in three years;
3. Agreeing to advance mutually beneficial bilateral trade and investment flows by holding a high-level public-private investment summit in 2006, continuing efforts to facilitate and promote foreign direct investment and eliminate impediments to it, and enhancing bilateral consultations on various issues including tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade in goods and services, and preventing the illicit use of the financial system.

(2) Sought to expand cooperation in agriculture by:—

1. Launching the Knowledge Initiative on

Agriculture with a three-year financial commitment to link our universities, technical institutions, and businesses to support agriculture education, joint research, and capacity building projects including in the area of biotechnology.

2. Endorsing an agreed workplan to promote bilateral trade in agriculture through agreements that: lay out a path to open the U.S. market to Indian mangoes, recognize India as having the authority to certify that shipments of Indian products to the United States meet USDA organic standards, and provide for discussions on current regulations affecting trade in fresh fruits and vegetables, poultry and dairy, and almonds.

(3) Reaffirmed their shared commitment to completing the WTO Doha Development Agenda (DDA) before the end of 2006, and agreed to work together to help achieve this outcome.

#### **For Energy Security and a Clean Environment**

(1) Welcomed the successful completion of discussions on India's separation plan and looked forward to the full implementation of the commitments in the July 18, 2005 Joint Statement on nuclear cooperation. This historic accomplishment will permit our countries to move forward towards our common objective of full civil nuclear energy cooperation between India and the United States and between India and the international community as a whole.

(2) Welcomed the participation of India in the ITER initiative on fusion energy as an important further step towards the common goal of full nuclear energy cooperation.

(3) Agreed on India's participation in Future Gen, an international public-private partnership to develop new, commercially viable technology for a clean coal near-zero emission power project. India will contribute funding to the project and participate in the Government Steering Committee of this initiative.

- (4) Welcomed the creation of the Asia Pacific



Partnership on Clean Development and Climate, which will enable India and the U.S. to work together with other countries in the region to pursue sustainable development and meet increased energy needs while addressing concerns of energy security and climate change. The Partnership will collaborate to promote the development, diffusion, deployment and transfer of cleaner, cost-effective and more efficient technologies and practices.

(5) Welcomed India's interest in the Integrated Ocean Drilling Program, an international marine research endeavour that will contribute to long-term energy solutions such as gas hydrates.

(6) Noting the position cooperation under the Indo-U.S. Energy Dialogue, highlighted plans to hold joint conferences on topics such as energy efficiency and natural gas, to conduct study missions on renewable energy, to establish a clearing house in India for coal-bed methane/coal-mine methane, and to exchange energy market information.

#### **For Innovation and the Knowledge Economy**

(1) Emphasizing the importance of knowledge partnerships, announced the establishment of a Bi-National Science and Technology Commission which the U.S. and India will co-fund. It will generate collaborative partnerships in science and technology and promote industrial research and development.

(2) Agreed that the United States and India would work together to promote innovation, creativity and technological advancement by providing a vibrant intellectual property rights regime, and to cooperate in the field of intellectual property rights to include capacity building activities, human resource development and public awareness programs.

(3) Agreed to continue exploring further cooperation in civil space, including areas such as space exploration, satellite navigation, and earth science. The United States and India committed to move forward with agreements that will permit the launch of U.S. satellites and satellites containing U.S. components by Indian space launch vehicles, opening up new opportunities for commercial space cooperation between the two countries.

(4) Welcomed the inclusion of two U.S. instruments

in the Indian lunar mission Chandrayaan-1. They noted that memoranda of understanding to be signed by ISRO and NASA would be significant steps forward in this area.

(5) Welcomed the U.S. Department of Commerce's plan to create a license exception for items that would otherwise require an export license to end-users in India engaged solely in civilian activities.

#### **For Global Safety and Security**

(1) Noted the enhanced counter-terrorism cooperation between the two countries and stressed that terrorism is a global scourge that must be fought and rooted out in every part of the world.

(2) Welcomed the increased cooperation between the United States and India in the defense area, since the New Framework for the U.S. India Defence Relationship was signed on June 28, 2005, as evidenced by successful joint exercises, expanded defence cooperation and information sharing, and greater opportunities to jointly develop technologies and address security and humanitarian issues.

(3) Reaffirmed their commitment to the protection of the free flow of commerce and to the safety of navigation, and agreed to the conclusion of a Maritime Cooperation Framework to enhance security in the maritime domain, to prevent piracy and other transnational crimes at sea, carry out search and rescue operations, combat marine pollution, respond to natural disasters, address emergent threats and enhance cooperative capabilities, including through logistics support. Both sides are working to finalize a Logistics Support Agreement at the earliest.

(4) Welcomed India's intention to join the Container Security Initiative aimed at making global maritime trade and infrastructure more secure and reducing the risk of shipping containers being used to conceal weapons of mass destruction.

(5) Reiterated their commitment to international efforts to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

(6) Building on the July 2005 Disaster Relief Initiative, noted the important disaster management

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cooperation and their improved capabilities to respond to disaster situations.

(7) Recognized the importance of capacity building in cyber security and greater cooperation to secure their growing electronic interdependencies, including to protect electronic transactions and critical infrastructure from cybercrime, terrorism and other malicious threats.

### **Deepening Democracy and Meeting International Challenges**

(1) Recalled their joint launch of the UN Democracy Fund in September 2005 and offered the experience and expertise of both Governments for capacity building, training and exchanges to third countries that request such assistance to strengthen democratic institutions.

(2) Welcomed the decision of India and the United States to designate a representative to the Government Advisory Board of the International Centre for Democratic Transition (ICDT) located in Budapest to facilitate cooperative activities with ICDT.

(3) Agreed that the Virtual Coordination and Information Centres set up in September 2005 should be further strengthened and a bilateral meeting aimed at developing a practical programme for utilization of its services be held soon.

(4) Expressed satisfaction at the expedited USFDA drug approval processes that strengthen the combat against HIV/AIDS at the global level and encourage greater corporate participation to meet this challenge, including the establishment of the Indo-U.S. Corporate Fund for HIV/AIDS.

(5) Agreed to expand bilateral efforts and continue cooperation in the area of medical research and strengthen technical capacity in food and drug regulation in India as well as address the concern on avian influenza, including agreement to reach out to the private sector, develop regional communications strategies, and plan an in-region containment and response exercise. The President welcomed India's offer to host the International Partnership on Avian and Pandemic Influenza meeting in 2007.

(6) Welcomed India's membership in the Coalition Against Wildlife Trafficking, a partnership through which we will collaborate in the fight against illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife parts; we also welcome the opportunity to strengthen longstanding work together on the conservation of wildlife through cooperation on park management and ecotourism.

President Bush thanked Prime Minister Singh and the people of India for the warmth of their reception and the generosity of their hospitality.

### **Implementation of the India—United States Joint Statement of July 18, 2005: India's Separation Plan**

The resumption of full civilian nuclear energy cooperation between India and the United States arose in the context of India's requirement for adequate and affordable energy supplies to sustain its accelerating economic growth rate and as recognition of its growing technological prowess. It was preceded by discussions between the two Governments, particularly between President Bush and Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, of the global energy scenario and the longterm implications of increasing pressure on hydrocarbon resources and rising oil prices. These developments led to the announcement in April 2005 of an Indo-US Energy Dialogue that encompassed the entire spectrum of energy options ranging from oil and gas to coal, alternative fuels and civilian nuclear energy. Through the initiation of a sustained dialogue to address energy security concerns, the two countries sought to promote stable, efficient, predictable and cost effective solutions for India's growing requirements. At the same time, they also agreed on the need to develop and deploy cleaner, more efficient, affordable and diversified energy technologies to deal with the environmental implications of energy consumption. India had developed proven and wide-ranging capabilities in the nuclear sector, including over the entire nuclear fuel cycle. It is internationally recognized that India has unique contributions to make to international efforts towards meeting these objectives. India has become a full partner in ITER, with the full support of the US and other partners. India also accepted the US invitation to join the initiative on Clean Development Partnership.

2. Noting the centrality of civilian nuclear energy to the twin challenges of energy security and safeguarding the environment, the two Governments agreed on 18 July, 2005 to undertake reciprocal commitments and responsibilities that would create a framework for the resumption of full cooperation in this field. On its part, the United States undertook to:—

- Seek agreement from the Congress to adjust US laws and policies to achieve full civil nuclear energy cooperation.
- Work with friends and allies to adjust international regimes to enable full civil nuclear energy cooperation and trade with India, including but not limited to expeditious consideration of fuel supplies for safeguarded nuclear reactors at Tarapur.
- In the meantime, encourage its partners to consider fuel supply to Tarapur expeditiously.
- To consult with its partners to consider India's participation in ITER.
- To consult with other participants in the Generation-IV International Forum with a view towards India's inclusion.

3. India had conveyed its readiness to assume the same responsibilities and practices and acquire the same benefits and advantages as other leading countries with advanced nuclear technology, such as the United States. Accordingly, India for its part undertook the following commitments:—

- Identifying and separating civilian and military nuclear facilities and programmes in a phased manner.
- Filing a declaration regarding its civilian facilities with the IAEA.
- Taking a decision to place voluntarily its civilian nuclear facilities under IAEA safeguards; and
- Signing and adhering to an Additional Protocol with respect to civilian nuclear facilities.

4. Other commitments undertaken by India have already been fulfilled in the last year. Among them are:—

- India's responsible non-proliferation record, recognized by the US, continues and is reflected in its policies and actions.
- The harmonization of India's export controls with NSG and MTCR Guidelines even though India is not a member of either group. These guidelines and control lists have been notified and are being implemented.
- A significant upgrading of India's non-proliferation regulations and export controls has taken place as a result of the Weapons of Mass Destruction Act of May, 2005. Inter-Ministerial consultations are ongoing to examine and amend other relevant Acts as well as framing appropriate rules and regulations.
- Refrain from transfer of enrichment and reprocessing technologies to states that do not have them and supporting international efforts to limit their spread. This has guided our policy on non-proliferation.
- Continued unilateral moratorium on nuclear testing; and
- Willingness to work with the United States for the conclusion of a multilateral Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty.

5. The Joint Statement of July 18, 2005, recognized that India is ready to assume the same responsibilities and practices as other leading countries with advanced nuclear technology, such as the United States. India has an impeccable record in non-proliferation. The Joint Statement acknowledges that India's nuclear programme has both a military and a civilian component. Both sides had agreed that the purpose was not to constrain India's strategic programme but to enable resumption of full civil nuclear energy cooperation in order to enhance global energy and environmental security. Such cooperation was predicated on the assumption that any international civil nuclear energy cooperation (including by the US) offered to India in the civilian sector should, firstly, not be diverted

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away from civilian purposes, and secondly, should not be transferred from India to third countries without safeguards. These concepts will be reflected in the Safeguards Agreement to be negotiated by India with IAEA.

6. India's nuclear programme is unique as it is the only state with nuclear weapons not to have begun with a dedicated military programme. It must be appreciated that the strategic programme is an offshoot of research on nuclear power programme and consequently, it is embedded in a larger undifferentiated programme. Identification of purely civilian facilities and programmes that have no strategic implications poses a particular challenge. Therefore, facilities identified as civilian in the Separation Plan will be offered for safeguards in phases to be decided by India. The nature of the facility concerned, the activities undertaken in it, the national security significance of materials and the location of the facilities are factors taken into account in undertaking the separation process. This is solely an Indian determination.

7. The nuclear establishment in India not only built nuclear reactors but promoted the growth of a national industrial infrastructure. Nuclear power generation was envisaged as a three-stage programme with PHWRs chosen for deployment in the first stage. As indigenous

reactors were set up, several innovative design improvements were carried out based on Indian R and D and a standardized design was evolved. The research and technology development spanned the entire spectrum of the nuclear fuel cycle including the front end and the back end. Success in the technologies for the back end of the fuel cycle allowed us to launch the second stage of the programme by constructing a Fast Breeder Test Reactor. This reactor has operated for 20 years based on a unique carbide fuel and has achieved all technology objectives. We have now proceeded further and are constructing a 500 MWe Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor. Simultaneously, we have launched design and development of reactors aimed at thorium utilization and incorporating inherent safety features.

8. Concepts such as grid connectivity are not relevant to the separation exercise. Issues related to fuel resource sustainability, technical design and economic viability, as well as smooth operation of reactors are relevant factors. This would necessitate grid connectivity irrespective of whether the reactor concerned is civilian or not civilian.

9. It must be recognized that the Indian nuclear programme still has a relatively narrow base and cannot be expected to adopt solutions that might be deemed viable by much larger programmes. A comparison of the number of reactors and the total installed capacity between India and the P-5 brings this out graphically:—

Country	Number of reactors	Total installed capacity
India	15	3.04 GWe (2.8% of the total production)
USA	104 (103 operational)	99.21 GWe (199.9% of the total production)
France	59	63.36 GWe (78.1% of the total production)
UK	23	11.85 GWe (19.4% of the total production)
Russia	31	21.74 GWe (15.6% of the total production)
China	9	6.602 GWe (2.2% of the total production)

Source: Nuclear Energy Institute, Washington DC.

10. Another factor to be taken into account is the small capacity of the reactors produced indigenously by India, some of which would remain outside safeguards. Therefore, in assessing the extent of safeguards coverage, it would be important to look at both the

number of reactors and the percentage of installed capacity covered. An average Indian reactor is of 220 MW and its output is significantly smaller than the standard reactor in a P-5 economy. The chart below illustrates this aspect:—

Country	Most Common reactor	No. of such reactors
India	PHWRs 220 MWe	12
USA	69 PWRs and 34 BWRs. Most plants are in the range of 1000-1250 MWe	51 Reactors in the range of 100 MWe to 1250 MWe
France	PWRs of 900 MWe and 1300 MWe size	34 PWRs of 900 MWe and 20 PWRs of 1300 MWe
UK	No standard size. AGR is the most common in the range of 600-700 MWe	14 AGRs
Russia	3rd Generation VVER-1000 PWRs and RBMK 1000 Light Water Graphite Reactors	9 third Generation VVER-1000 PWRs and 11 RBMK 1000 Light Water Graphite Reactors
China	PWRs 984 MWe	Four

Source: Uranium Information Centre, Melbourne.

11. The complexity of the separation process is further enhanced by the limited resources that India has devoted to its nuclear programme as compared to P-5 nations. Moreover, as India expands international cooperation, the percentage of its thermal power reactor installed capacity under safeguards would rise significantly as fresh capacity is added through such cooperation.

12. India's approach to the separation of its civilian nuclear facilities is guided by the following principles:—

- Credible, feasible and implementable in a transparent manner;
- Consistent with the understandings of the 18 July Statement;
- Consistent with India's national security and R and D requirements as well as not prejudicial to the three-stage nuclear programme in India;
- Must be cost effective in its implementation; and

— Must be acceptable to Parliament and public opinion.

13. Based on these principles, India will:—

- Include in the civilian list only those facilities offered for safeguards that, after separation, will no longer be engaged in activities of strategic significance.
- The overarching criterion would be a judgment whether subjecting a facility to IAEA safeguards would impact adversely on India's national security.
- However, a facility will be excluded from the civilian list if it is located in a larger hub of strategic significance, notwithstanding the fact that it may not be normally engaged in activities of strategic significance.
- A civilian facility would, therefore, be one that

[Dr. Manmohan Singh]

India has determined not to be relevant to its strategic programme.

14. Taking the above into account, India, on the basis of reciprocal actions by the US, will adopt the following approach:—

(i) **Thermal Power Reactors:** India will identify and offer for safeguards 14 thermal power reactors between 2006 and 2014. This will include the 4 presently safeguarded reactors (TAPS 1 and 2, RA:PS 1 and 2) and in addition KK 1 and 2 that are under construction. 8 other PHWRs, each of a capacity of 220 MW, will also be offered. Phasing of specific thermal power reactors, being offered for safeguards would be indicated separately by India. Such an offer would, in effect, cover 14 out of the 22 thermal power reactors in operation or currently under construction to be placed under safeguards, and would raise the total installed Thermal Power capacity by MWs under safeguards from the present 19% to 65% by 2014.

(ii) **Fast Breeder Reactors:** India is not in a position to accept safeguards on the Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) and the Fast Breeder Test Reactor (FBTR), both located at Kalpakkam. The Fast Breeder Programme is at the R and D stage and its technology will take time to mature and reach an advanced stage of development.

(iii) **Future Reactors:** India has decided to place under safeguards all future civilian thermal power reactors and civilian breeder reactors, and the Government of India retains the sole right to determine such reactors as civilian.

(iv) **Research Reactors:** India will permanently shut down the CIRUS reactor, in 2010. It will also be prepared to shift the fuel core of the APSARA reactor that was purchased from France outside BARC and make the fuel core available to be placed under safeguards in 2010.

(v) **Upstream Facilities:** The following upstream facilities would be identified and separated as civilian:—

- List of those specific facilities in the Nuclear

Fuel Complex, which will be offered for safeguards by 2008 will be indicated separately.

- The Heavy Water Production plants at Thal, Tuticorin and Hazira are proposed to be designated for civilian use between 2006-2009. We do not consider these plants as relevant for safeguards purposes.

(vi) **Downstream Facilities:** The following downstream facilities would be identified and separated as civilian:—

- India is willing to accept safeguards in the 'campaign' mode after 2010 in respect of the Tarapur Power Reactor Fuel Reprocessing Plant.
- The Tarapur and Rajasthan 'Away From Reactors' spent fuel storage pools would be made available for safeguards with appropriate phasing between 2006-2009.

(vii) **Research Facilities:** India will declare the following facilities as civilian:—

- (a) Tata Institute of Fundamental Research
- (b) Variable Energy Cyclotron Centre
- (c) Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics
- (d) Institute for Plasma Research
- (e) Institute of Mathematics Sciences
- (f) Institute of Physics
- (g) Tata Memorial Centre
- (h) Board of Radiation and Isotope Technology
- (i) Harish Chandra Research Institute

These facilities are safeguards-irrelevant. It is our expectation that they will play a prominent role in international cooperation.

15. Safeguards:—

- (a) The United States has conveyed its commitment to the reliable supply of fuel to India. Consistent with the

July 18, 2005, Joint Statement, the United States has also reaffirmed its assurance to create the necessary conditions for India to have assured and full access to fuel for its reactors. As part of its implementation of the July 18, 2005, Joint Statement the United States is committed to seeking agreement from the U.S. Congress to amend its domestic laws and to work with friends and allies to adjust the practices of the Nuclear Suppliers Group to create the necessary conditions for India to obtain full access to the international fuel market, including reliable, uninterrupted and continual access to fuel supplies from firms in several nations.

(b) To further guard against any disruption of fuel supplies, the United States is prepared to take the following additional steps:—

- (i) The United States is willing to incorporate assurances regarding fuel supply in the bilateral U.S.-India agreement on peaceful uses of nuclear energy under Section 123 of the U.S. Atomic Energy Act, which would be submitted to the U.S. Congress.
- (ii) The United States will join India in seeking to negotiate with the IAEA an India-specific fuel supply agreement.
- (iii) The United States will support an Indian effort to develop a strategic reserve of nuclear fuel to guard against any disruption of supply over the lifetime of India's reactors.
- (iv) If despite these arrangements, a disruption of fuel supplies to India occurs, the United States and India would jointly convene a group of friendly supplier countries to include countries such as Russia, France and the United Kingdom to pursue such measures as would restore fuel supply to India.

(c) In light of the above understandings with the United States, an India-specific safeguards agreement will be negotiated between India and the IAEA providing for safeguards to guard against withdrawal of safeguarded nuclear material from civilian use at any time as well as providing for corrective measures that India may take to ensure uninterrupted operation of its civilian nuclear

reactors in the event of disruption of foreign fuel supplies. Taking this into account, India will place its civilian nuclear facilities under India-specific safeguards in perpetuity and negotiate an appropriate safeguards agreement to this end with the IAEA.

16. This plan is in conformity with the commitments made to Parliament by the Government.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Sir, he has said that the Separation Plan will be placed before the American Congress. But he is not placing it before us. It is not being placed before us but it will be placed before the American Congress....(Interruptions) If it is being placed before the American Congress, why is he not taking the Indian Parliament into confidence?... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is placed on the Table of the House.

...(Interruptions)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Only the statement is laid. He has said that it cannot be done....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: He has mentioned about the Separation Plan.

...(Interruptions)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: He has said that it will not be done at the moment because it is yet to be negotiated. It cannot be placed here. When it is going to be placed before the American Congress, why should it not be placed before us?... (Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): We want a discussion...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This will be discussed, no doubt. You give notice, we shall certainly discuss it. This is an important matter and obviously it will be discussed.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Panskura): Sir, I would like the Government to get the approval of the House particularly the Parliament with regard to the Agreement....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: He has laid it on the Table of the House.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: There should be a discussion on this.

MR. SPEAKER: We shall certainly allow a discussion.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, there is a method of discussion. You give notice and we shall discuss it. We shall find time to discuss it.

...(Interruptions)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: In the Statement, it has been mentioned that since the Safeguard Agreement is yet to be negotiated, it will be difficult to predict its content....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: May I request the hon. Members to give notices and I shall allow a discussion on this important matter.

...(Interruptions)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: When it is going to be placed before the American Congress, why not before us? The American Congress will know it much earlier than us. The Parliament must be taken into confidence....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You give a notice. Shri Yerrannaidu to speak.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, I am making a submission that this Parliament should know about it....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: We shall find time to discuss this important issue. You give notice for this.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri K. Yerrannaidu.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam): Sir, the House is not in order....(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, before that, it should be placed on the Table of the House so that we would be able to discuss it. It is not only about the statement....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Panskura): Mr. Speaker, Sir, my submission is that the Parliament should be allowed to approve the agreement....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There is no such law in this country; Mr. Dasgupta, you are fully aware. It is entirely the discretion of the Government. I cannot impose a constitutional obligation which does not exist.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ILYAS AZMI (Shahabad): Mr. Speaker, I have given a notice....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, do you think that you are doing justice? If you feel strongly about it, you are entitled to feel it. But is this the way? Are you doing justice to your point or submission? I am saying to you, give notice; I shall allow it. I have already said that. How can I prevent you from discussing it? It should be discussed on the floor of the House. But please follow the usual methods of giving a notice. I shall allow it.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Sir, this is quite ambiguous. It is not clarified. You have told that it is already tabled. But it is not already tabled.

MR. SPEAKER: They are ready for discussion.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Let us be clarified as to what is the real position.



MR. SPEAKER: No clarification is permitted now.

Mr. Yerrannaïdu, are you making your submission or not?

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the House is not in order....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I shall allow a discussion. I have announced it to the country. But the only thing is that you have to give some notice.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, I have already given a notice.

MR. SPEAKER: Very well; it will be considered. It cannot be done immediately, Mr Acharia. you know it very well.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government of Andhra Pradesh is involved in a large-scale corruption in the tendering process of irrigation projects in Andhra Pradesh. What has happened in Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly is nothing but murder of democracy...(*Interruptions*) within 24 hours. They have increased the estimates by nearly Rs. 400 crore for Annapalli Irrigation Project under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme....(*Interruptions*)

The Government of India is financing the State of Andhra Pradesh, and the Government of Andhra Pradesh is also taking money through externally aided projects. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: It is an Assembly matter; you cannot raise it here.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Such a large-scale corruption has never happened in India. They are swindling the money....(*Interruptions*) We demand a CBI inquiry...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Yerrannaïdu, I cannot allow an

Assembly matter to be raised here. Your notice is on the irrigation projects.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 12.45 hours.

12.33 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till forty-five minutes past Twelve of the Clock.*

12.46 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at forty-six minutes past Twelve of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: We shall start discussion on the General Budget at 2.00 o'clock. All Leaders have kindly agreed to it. It is a very important discussion. Therefore, let us start it at 2.00 o'clock.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Panskura): What about the Report of Banerjee Commission?...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You have to wait for my decision.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I request you to please take your seats. Let me conduct the proceedings of the House.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, attempting to save those who sat the train on fire and burnt the people and also trying to use this august House in order to save the terrorists.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI (Garhwal): Sir, what about Matters under Rule 377? Will they be laid on the Table of the House or they will be taken up later on?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Matters under Rule 377 will be laid on the Table of the House.

Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy—Not present.

**SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack):** I would like to draw the attention of the House to an important matter regarding the inter-state river dispute, which has created tension both in Orissa and Andhra Pradesh. It relates to Bansadhara River, which originates from Tentuli Padar, better known as Lanjigarh. It goes through Orissa and then around 23 km. is in border. It converges there and then passes on to Andhra Pradesh. It again goes into Orissa and then again to Andhra Pradesh and meets the Bay of Bengal. The problem here is, since 1956 an agreement was arrived at between both the State Governments to share Bansadhara river water in the ratio of 50:50. Subsequently, in sixties a barrage named as Gotta Barrage was constructed. Subsequently another barrage named as Neradi Barrage was constructed both by Andhra Pradesh Government. The second phase of Neradi Barrage also came into existence but the dispute has arisen since 1980. Recently, another right canal, Katraguda, is being constructed without taking the approval of either CWC or the Forest and Environment Ministry of Government of India.

The Andhra Pradesh Government is going ahead with the project. The Orissa Government has objected to it. All Members belonging to Orissa had met Shri Dasmunsi, who was then the Water Resource Minister. Subsequently, the CWC was asked to visit Hyderabad and a three-phase discussion was chalked out but nothing happened. Andhra Pradesh Government neither attended those meetings nor did it provide any technical knowhow in what manner the project is continuing.

My contention to raise the matter before the House here, is that without the approval of CWC how a project is being constructed by a State Government.

How is a project being constructed without the approval of the Ministry of Environment and Forest? This is my contention. I would like to request the Government to impress upon the Government of Andhra Pradesh to provide all the details. The Orissa Government has repeatedly been insisting to provide all the details. Otherwise, we would have no other option but to go to

the court of law. This has created serious problems both in Andhra Pradesh and Orissa. Unnecessarily people are being compelled to agitate....(*Interruptions*)

**MR. SPEAKER:** Shri Tripathy, I called your name but you were not present. Now, you associate yourself.

**SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri):** Sir, please allow me to speak for a minute.

On 13th February, the Government of Orissa has filed a complaint under Section 3 of the Inter-State River Water Disputes Act, 1966 seeking constitution of an Inter-State tribunal to adjudicate the water disputes between the States of Orissa and Andhra Pradesh concerning the water of the inter-State river of Bansadhara and its valley. The hon. Chief Minister of Orissa has also written a letter to the hon. Prime Minister seeking his immediate intervention in the matter. As you know, undivided Koraput district is a very naxal prone area and the socio-economic and political situation is very much alarming in that part of the State. So, the Government of India and the Government of Andhra Pradesh should not allow any aggravation of the situation in that part of Orissa. That is why, the immediate intervention of the Government of India is necessary. The Government of Andhra Pradesh is unilaterally going ahead with the project. It is an inter-State river. Therefore, my request to the Government of India would be to immediately intervene in the matter. They should immediately take a decision to set up a water dispute tribunal for this purpose....(*Interruptions*)

**MR. SPEAKER:** All the hon. Members from Orissa Associated themselves with this matter.

...(*Interruptions*)

**SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore):** Sir, is Mr. Giridhar Gamang dissociating himself from this?...(*Interruptions*)

**MR. SPEAKER:** He is keeping himself neutral for the time being.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, Honorable Minister of Railways has left at the moment, I, therefore, through you would like to draw the attention of the Government....(*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: If you please cooperate, almost all the hon. Members can be accommodated. The only thing is that you should be brief.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: I, through you, would like to draw the attention of the Government to the sad incident that occurred on 5th March, 2006 wherein the passengers had gone to the railway station to board the Swatantrata Senani Express leaving Darbhanga from Delhi to 10.00 O'clock in the night. Some sort of stampede took place at the railway station owing to lack of necessary arrangements by Railway Department. As per the newspaper reports, as many as four persons have died so far and another three four are still in the hospital.

Sir, this is not a first incident of this kind. Such incidents have occurred at the railway stations in the past as well. Railway department is not able to make adequate arrangements to check reoccurrence of such incidents owing to which poor labourers of Bihar going to their native places in Bihar fall victims to such accidents. It has been reported in the announcement made by the Ministry of Railways which we have also gone through in the newspapers that those injured would be given Rs. 5000/- as compensation for treatment but there is no mention about those who died in the accident. Also a committee has been set up under the Chairmanship of DRM to probe this accident. Since officers are always responsible for such accidents and DRM is their boss, therefore entrusting the probe to those against whom responsibility is to be fixed, does not make any sense. I, therefore, through you, would like to tell the Hon. Railway Minister that the dependents of those killed in this accident should be given a compensation of Rs. 5 lakh each and a Parliamentary Committee set upto probe this accident. Necessary inquiry should immediately be initiated, guilty identified and punished so as to check recurrence of such accidents in future. I would also like to say that in case Railway Minister is not able to check such incidents, he should quit his post following the example set by former Prime Minister and Railway Minister Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri....(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM KIRPAL YADAV (Patna): Please also

make a mention of the rail accidents that occurred during the NDA regime....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You should not be so touchy. Yes, Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Except the submission of Prof. Malhotra, nothing else will be recorded.

(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER: Please co-operate with the Chair.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this was a very unfortunate and tragic accident which occurred at the New Delhi railway station. The Swatantrata Senani Express was to depart from the railway station. People rushed to get into the unreserved coaches. Then it turned into a stampede due to passengers falling on one another after knocked down by the railway boxes kept at the platform killing four passengers and injuring at least 20.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: No running commentary please.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: At the time of presenting rail budget Shri Lalu Prasad had announced with pomp and show that New Delhi railway station will be upgraded to the level of international level. Email, cyber cafe will be made available there. When Shri Lalu Prasadji had gone to inaugurate there. Five persons had died due to falling from stairs. Vending machines are being installed by ignoring safety of railway stations and trains Modernization of all the railway stations is being talked about. But assurances given in this regard are not

\*Not recorded.

[Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra]

being fulfilled. I being demand that a dependent of the each deceased should be given a compensation of Rs. 5 lakh and Shri Lalu Prasad Yadavji should own up the responsibility.

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK (Unnao): We have also given notices....(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, when would my turn come?

MR. SPEAKER: I have here a list of 44 Members who have given notice. Everybody has given notice and please tell me as to how I can call all the 44 Members together. Please show me the way.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the condition as prevailing in the Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute, Kolkata. This institute is now afflicted with serious problems. This was established with a view to training film and television personalities, especially in Eastern India. The objective is not being fulfilled because of serious problems afflicting this institute.

I happened to visit this institute recently and on holding discussions with a cross-section of people I found that there is lack of accountability on the part of the management and administration as a result of which the purpose for which this institute was created is not being served. The Government should take immediate steps to set things right in this institute. I think, a person with a background in film-making should head this Institute and the other problems faced by it should also be taken care of immediately. If you happen to visit the place you would find that it wears the deserted look of a jungle and that of a closed factory. It is very unfortunate that an institute established in the name of a great personality should lie in this condition without achieving the objectives for which it was meant.

I would like to request the Government in general and the hon. Minister for Information and Broadcasting

in particular to take note of this and make efforts to set things right in this institute and help in regaining its glory so that it fulfils its stated objectives....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, what about our notices?...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Acharia, I know you very well.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, we had not been allowed yesterday to raise this issue. This is a very important matter. The report has been submitted. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: You are trying to exert. Pressure on the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no pressure.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You will also get the opportunity, have patience.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: My Hindi has improved.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Only the statement of Dr. Thokchom Meinya would be recorded.

(*Interruptions*)\*...

MR. SPEAKER: Please hold patience. Importance of a matter does not depend on when you rise to speak.

...(*Interruptions*)

DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA (Inner Manipur): Sir, I rise to raise an urgent matter of public importance. This is regarding the repeal of the infamous Armed Forces Special Power Act, 1958 now in force in North-Eastern India. In this connection one Miss Irom Chanu Sharmila has been on indefinite hunger strike since 2000. On

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\*Not recorded.

November 02, 2000 there was a bomb blast at a bus stop a Malom on the State Highway. Tiadim Road, killing ten innocent persons on the spot. She blamed that the unwanted and unwarranted acts of atrocities, killings, fake encounters, custodian deaths of many innocent people in the State were the consequences of the unnecessarily long application of this Armed Forces Special Power Act in the North-Eastern India. She has undertaken her fast unto death hunger strike from that particular day.

13.00 hrs.

The Government of India, having seen this Act, has constituted a Review Committee under Justice Reddy. Since the Report of the Review Committee is with the Government, it should look into it immediately and take further necessary action. We can go in for the proposed repeal or continue with the Act by providing human values to it.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, I have also given notice.

MR. SPEAKER: You are such a senior Member, you should not restrict yourself to Zero Hour. Zero Hour is meant for other Members.

DR. SUJAN CHAKRABORTY (Jadavpur): Sir, thousands of transport workers from different parts of the country have assembled in Delhi. The transport workers are representing all modes of transport like bus, truck, etc. They are demonstrating here for a very important cause.

Sir, you know that the road conditions in different parts of the country are very bad. In spite of the imposition of cess, the condition of roads is very bad. Thereby, the cost of transport is also increasing and no proper planning is being done. You also know that the public sector transport which was the backbone of our road transport is now on the verge of ruin in almost all parts of the country. Road transport is important for the people and that is not being maintained properly. The conditions of thousands of workers in the transport sector are very bad. They do not have facilities like provident fund and other social security schemes. So, they are demanding and I also demand that the Government should look into the issues of those workers and frame a very

comprehensive National Transport Policy in the interest of the country. I would request you, Sir, to kindly instruct the concerned Ministry in this regard.

SHRI SUNIL KHAN (Durgapur): Sir, I would like to associate with what he has said....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Sunil Khan, Km. Susmita Bauri and Shri Santasri Chatterjee are allowed to associate with Dr. Chakraborty.

[*Translation*]

YOGI ADITYA NATH (Gorakhpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Set up in the year 1984, Gorakhpur Doordarshan Kendra is situated on Indo-Nepal border and is of great cultural and strategic importance. Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards corruption prevailing there. Gorakhpur Doordarshan Kendra has distracted from its objective and become a center for exploitation of artists. The artist and programme producers had produced programmes for Doordarshan Kendra, their payment has not been cleared till 2002. An estimated amount of Rs. 60-70 lakh are due to artists, writers and litterateurs against Doordarshan but the dues are not being cleared. The Station Director and other officers are clearing fake dues in the name of fake agencies to the non existant make up men, cameramen and video editor. Local artists and programme producers are being exploited. I, through you, would like to draw the attention of the Government to the chaotic situation prevailing in Gorakhpur Doordarshan Kendra which is of great cultural and strategic importance and could have made its contribution in preserving and advancing the culture of this region. I would request you to kindly instruct the Government to constitute a high powered committee, probe into it and take stringent action against the guilty officers and also ensure releasing the dues of the artists, writers and litterateurs.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I am so encouraged to find that many hon. Members are keen to raise important issues. If you kindly allow me to regulate the House, then almost all the Members can raise their issues. But if you all speak together and take a very long time to speak, then you cannot raise your points. This is the vibrancy of this House and so, I want to encourage it.

Shri P.C. Thomas, be brief now.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of the Government a very serious national issue. It is regarding the increase in the prices of petroleum products. The Rangarajan Committee was appointed to look into the price rise. It had recommended that the price of LPG should be increased by Rs. 75 per cylinder. It had also recommended that the price of petrol and diesel should be increased by Rs. 1.29 and Rs. 1.98 respectively. This is a very serious issue because in the past one or two years we have been suffering from increase in the prices of petroleum products several times. The prices may be increased again.

I would like to draw the attention of the Minister and the Government to take immediate action and bring a statement denouncing this Report. The price rise has affected the farmers and the poor labourers in a very great way.\*...

MR. SPEAKER: Sorry, that will not be recorded. Do not misuse the opportunity.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: ...\*That is what I was trying to submit....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Do not misuse the opportunity. That is an important matter. But we have to follow some rules.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Sir, I urge upon the Minister, through you, to bring forth a statement before the hon. House so that this issue can be dealt with....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I delete the last portion.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Sir, very often I get the opportunity and I am very fortunate to occupy the Chair. Even during late nights, I get opportunities to occupy the Chair enabling the House to do the business. So, I lose the opportunity to raise matters during 'Zero Hour'. Today, I got that rare opportunity of being able to raise an important matter during 'Zero Hour'.

MR. SPEAKER: There is nothing called 'Zero Hour'.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Now, the Government of India have taken a decision, a wrong decision in my view, to close down the Marine Fisheries

Research Institutes functioning in coastal areas of Kerala, namely Kozhikode, Alleppey, and Vizhinjam. All these Research Institutes have been closed down on the pretext that the Expenditure Committee had recommended their closing down. It is very unfortunate and highly objectionable that these institutes which are functioning for decades are being closed down. The Vizhinjam Institute is functioning from 1951 onwards, doing commendable service in the matter of research. Very rare fishes are available near Vizhinjam, Trivandrum. Unfortunately, the Ministry has taken a decision to close it down. An agitation is going on.

I would request the Central Government to reverse the decision and take a proper corrective decision so that the people's agitation can be prevented. We are representing the State of Kerala. The people of Kerala are being put to great hardship. We are supporting the UPA Government. The Government is closing down many of these Institutes. How can we face the angry people?

With full responsibility I remind the Chairperson of the UPA, who is present here now, that it is an anti-people decision. This decision was taken by the previous NDA Government. You must correct it. It was decision taken by the NDA Government. The UPA Government must correct the decision. It should reverse the decision.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Radhakrishnan, please address the Chair. Do not threaten any hon. Members. Threaten me only!

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No Member is allowed to threaten any other Member. You can threaten the Chair. It is because the Chair is impervious now!

[Translation]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI (Jodhpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, about eighteen thousand villages in Rajasthan are in the grip of severe famine. There is acute shortage of fodder, water and foodgrains there.

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude early.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: There was no

\*Not recorded.

shortage of foodgrains during N.D.A. regime. The Union Government provides as much foodgrains as demanded by the Government of Rajasthan. A central team has visited Rajasthan but even a single bag of foodgrains has not been provided to Rajasthan so far. Due to this famine relief work has not been started there. Funds have not been allocated to provide potable water. Political discrimination is being done against Rajasthan. One-third population of Rajasthan is famine affected for the last several years. The state is in the grip of severe famine. Arrangements should be made to provide foodgrains and drinking water to people and fodder for their cattle in the state immediately....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have called Chaudhary Lal Singh.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Repetition does not help.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded except the speech of Choudhary Lal Singh.

...(Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH (Udhampur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards Jammu and Kashmir. Everbody is aware that our state had to pass through three sorts of difficulties. After militancy avalanches took place in the state. It was followed by earthquake in which lots of people lost their lives. They don't have houses to live in, electricity supply is held up and in several areas there is no supply of drinking water. The hon'ble Prime Minister visited that area and announced Rs. 600 crore for relief work in the state out of which only Rs. 300 crore have been provided and that too for a particular area. Most of the people there passed winter under the open sky. The people here are facing difficulties. Earlier if anyone's hous got damaged that person was given financial assistance under MPLADS or Indira Housing Scheme but that is not being given now.

\*Not recorded.

The guidelines in this regard should be changed. I request that houses should be provided to the people who are compelled to sleep in the open. An announcement has been made to provide 10 lakh houses all over the country. I would like to say that priority should be given to those whose houses have been damaged and special care should be taken about suh people.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, the final report of Justice U.C. Banerjee Commission nails the false propaganda of BJP, RSS combine and the Modi Government....(Interruptions)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: There is a point of order....(Interruptions) There is a point of order.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: ...(Interruptions) about the reasons for Godhra fire which had claimed 59 lives and which was used to organize the worst propaganda, the country has ever witnessed....(Interruptions)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: There is a point of order....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Go to your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will come to your point of order. Just a minute.

...(Interruptions)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Sir, I am raising a point or order....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

Sir, I am on a point of order...(Interruptions)...It is not proper to leak the contents of any report before it is laid in the Parliament....(Interruptions) The first thing is that this report\*...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Do not give such comments. That will be deleted.

(Interruptions)\* ...

\*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: That will be deleted.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have even not started my speech....(Interruptions)  
What objection he has....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You also cannot refer to it. He is entitled to raise the matter.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You do not agree to that. But let him raise it.

...(Interruptions)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: He cannot raise the matter until and unless....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us hear what he wants to say.

...(Interruptions)

13.13 hrs.

*(At this stage, Shri Suresh Angadi, Shri Ratilal Kalidas Varma and some other hon. Members came and stood near the Table.)*

MR. SPEAKER: You are not allowing me even to listen what he is saying. How can I decide?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Only Mr. Acharia's statement will be recorded.

(Interruptions)\*...

[Translation]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government of India had constituted a high level committee on 4-9-2004 to investigate certain aspects of incident of fire at Godhra station in train number 9166, Sabarmati Express on 27-2-2002....(Interruptions)...In the

\*Not recorded.

report of the said Committee it has been stated that there are adequate evidences which indicate that fire in coach No. S-6 broke out inside the coach and the coach was not set on fire from outside....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please let me listen to him, don't disturb.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will listen to your point. I have not denied you, you also speak.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Besides no evidence of use of inflammable substance has been established.  
...(Interruptions)

[English]

For three years, what had they propagated? What has Shri Narendra Modi, the Chief Minister of Gujarat been saying all along? Sir, 59 passengers were killed because of accident. But from 28th February onwards after that incident, 2000 people were killed. So, he should resign on moral grounds....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2 p.m. The Budget Discussion will start.

13.15 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.30 hrs.

*(The Lok Sabha re-assembled at three minutes past fourteen of the clock)*

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have given a notice regarding Banerjee Commission Report for Zero Hour....(Interruptions) This is a serious issue.



[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, I would request the Secretary General to read the message.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: After this report Shri Narendra Modi has no to remain on the post of Chief Minister...(Interruptions)

14.03½ 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 National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (Amendment) Bill, 2006 which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 1st March, 2006."

2. Sir, I lay on the Table the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (Amendment) Bill, 2006, as passed by Rajya Sabha on the 1st March, 2006.

...(Interruptions)

14.04 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377\*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: As decided by hon.

\*Treated as laid on the Table of the House.

Speaker, Matters under Rule 377 listed for the day are laid on the Table of the House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It was decided in the party meeting that this issue should not be raised.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing is going to be recorded.

(Interruptions)\*...

14.05 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Shailendra Kumar and some other hon. Members left the House.)

(I) **Need to revive Buckingham Canal In Andhra Pradesh so as to provide easy and cheap water transport system to the local people**

SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY (Ongole): I would like to bring to the notice of this house about the necessity to revive the Buckingham Canal so as to provide easy and cheap water transport system to the people living on the banks of this canal.

Buckingham Canal was constructed during the British regime from Itchapuram in Srikakulam district in Andhra Pradesh to Chennai to provide cheap transport facility for transporting agricultural produce, vegetables, fruits etc. It was a very useful channel of transport especially to small farmers and traders. But due to efflux of time and development of other modes of surface transport, this canal has fallen into disuses and is not available for transport. But there is a need to revive this canal to provide easy and cheap water transport system for the people, on the lines of Kerala Water Transport System. Further it would release pressure on the National Highway being a most important highway linking the states of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and West Bengal, thereby also reducing pollution and accidents. It would also result in saving of foreign exchange on and diesel.

\*Not recorded.

[Shri M. Sreenivasulu Reddy]

I would therefore request the Government to take necessary steps immediately for the revival of Buckingham Canal as a means of easy and cheap water transport system.

**(ii) Need to accord approval to the three pending Irrigation Projects submitted by the Government of Andhra Pradesh for environmental clearance**

SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO (Guntur): Following three proposals sent by the Government of Andhra Pradesh are pending with the Government of India for Environment and Forest Clearance.

Dummugudem Lift Irrigation Scheme to lift 10 TMC of water from 6.5 KM down stream of Bhadrachalam town and 1.5 KM upstream of Dummugudem anicut on the right bank of Godavari River in Khammam District to irrigate 1.63 lakhs acres at an estimated cost of Rs. 1550 crores in Phase-I.

Veligonda Project in Prakasam District is proposed in two phases with a total expenditure of Rs. 3000 crores to irrigate 4.38 lakh acres in 29 Mandals of Prakasam, Nellore, Kadapa districts. The projects will provide drinking water facilities to 15 lakh people. In stage one, the expenditure is estimated to be Rs. 1,142 crore and will irrigate 1.19 lakh acres and provide drinking water to 4.0 lakh people.

Galeru-Nagari Sujala Sravanthi project envisages drawal of 38 TMC of flood water from Krishna river from the foreshore of Srisailem Reservoir through SRBC system upto Gorakallu Reservoir and thereafter through an independent flood flow canal to feed nine storage reservoirs and utilize the water for irrigating 3.25 lakh acres in Kadapa, Nellore and Chittoor Districts. The project involves two phases with the first phase accounting for Rs. 1888 crore and irrigation potential of 35,000 acres. Second phase involves expenditure 2112 crores and irrigation potential of 290,000 acres.

I request the Government to clear these pending projects at an early date.

**(iii) Need to appoint a gateman during night at Railway Gate No. 20, Alwar Rajasthan**

[Translation]

DR. KARAN SINGH YADAV (Alwar): Gate No. 20 on Rewari-Narnaul-Phulera line under North-Western Railway in my Lok Sabha Constituency, Alwar remains open only during day time. During night this gate remains closed due to which nearby rural people, farmers and patients face lots of difficulties. I request the hon'ble Minister of Railways to kindly deploy one more gateman during night at this gate near Kadhuwas railway station.

**(iv) Need for construction of an overbridge on National Highway at Disha town in Banaskantha Parliamentary Constituency, Gujarat**

SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA (Banaskantha): Sir, an over-bridge is being constructed at Akhol crossing on the Palanpur-Radhanpur National Highway via Disha under my parliamentary constituency in Banaskantha on which crores of rupees are being spent. Actually there is no need of this bridge at that place. I personally met the Hon. Minister of Road Transport and Highways and requested him not to spend money unnecessarily on the said bridge. An overbridge is urgently needed four km. away from Disha town on this National Highway itself. The traffic flow is very huge and heavy, vehicles ply on this route, frequently traffic jam occurs there and people face lots of difficulties due to traffic jam and accidents take place there. Money is being spent unnecessarily on the construction of bridge at the Akhol crossing instead of constructing an overbridge at the said place near Disha town and thus crores of rupees are being spent unnecessarily. The bridge is not being constructed at the place where it should have been constructed and what the local Member of Parliament is saying and suggesting is being ignored which is against the democratic norms.

I request, through this House, particularly the Prime Minister to kindly get the necessity of the above bridge ascertained and arrange construction of an overbridge at Disha town situated on the national highway, in the public interest.

**(v) Need to introduce a new express train between Amreli and Valsad in Gujarat**

SHRI V.K. THUMMAR (Amreli): Sir, a train plies in Saurashtra from Mahuwa to Dhaula via Rajula, Sawarkundla Damnagar. Diamond traders and artisans of nearby districts of my parliamentary constituency, Amreli travel to Dhaula and from there they go to Ahmedabad, Surat and Mumbai. One AC 2 Tier Coach should be attached to this train and this should be connected from Bhavnagar to Banda so that the diamond traders and artisans of nearby districts of my parliamentary constituency, Amreli could travel directly to Ahmedabad, Surat and Mumbai. Besides, a new train service named the Diamond Nagri should be introduced between Amreli to Valsad via Mahua, Rajula and Sabarkudla because meter-gauge line between Amreli and Ahmedabad has since been converted into broadgauge line and no long distance train has been introduced on it.

I request the Government, through this House, that new train service namely the Diamond Nagri be introduced between Mahua to Valsad under Amreli Parliamentary constituency and a second AC, a sleeper class and a general bogey should be attached to the train which plies from Mahua to Dhaula via Rajula and Sabarkundla and from Dhaula railway station it should be connected to Bhavnagar-Banda train.

**(vi) Need to provide financial assistance to the farmers in Mehsana Parliamentary Constituency, Gujarat with a view to compensate the losses suffered by them due to exploration of petroleum and natural gas in the region**

SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL (Mehsana): Sir, the nature has given 1208 oil and natural gas wells in the villages under my parliamentary constituency, Mehsana and the Government has taken the land in its possession where the oil and natural gas reserves were found by giving nominal compensation to the farmers and giving less rentals to them as. As result of this the farmers are facing difficulty in earning their livelihood for their families because the Government has acquired their cultivable land which was the main source of their income. On the other hand, the water level of the fields of other farmers

has gone down from 1200 to 1500 feet as a result of which they have to use a 65 horse power pump for irrigation of their fields. Nowadays electricity has become costlier and moreover, its supply is far below the requirement. The farmers in whose fields oil and gas wells were found are facing starvation and Government deducts tax at source over the rent that it pays for their fields whereas that is an agriculture land.

I request the Government, through this House, that the Government should provide financial assistance to Mehsana district as a package every year so as to compensate the farmers for the losses they suffered on account of acquisition of their land for extracting oil and gas so that they can earn a livelihood for their families and development of that area could take place.

**(vii) Need to clear 'The Gujarat Control of Organised Crime Bill, 2003'**

*[English]*

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI (Kutch): Sir, The Gujarat State Legislature has passed a Bill entitled "THE GUJARAT CONTROL OF ORGANISED CRIME BILL, 2003" and later on amendments in this Act were passed on 2-6-2004. This Bill is pending for the assent of His Excellency President of India.

Similar Act is in force in Maharashtra and other States. In the absence of such Act, it is very much difficult to control organized crime by terrorists supported by ISI (Pakistan) in the State.

Very recently, such criminal elements committed RDX-Bomb Blast at Ahmedabad Railway Station. Gujarat is the target of such criminal elements who want to disturb the peace in India and particularly in Gujarat.

I, therefore, urge upon the government of India to see that assent of His Excellency president be accorded to the said Bill as expeditiously as possible.

**(viii) Need to send a Central Team to Uttaranchal to assess the damage caused due to drought and release funds for providing help to the affected people in the region**

*[Translation]*

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI (Garhwal): Sir, Uttaranchal reels, under severe drought this year

[Maj. Gen. (Retd.) B.C. Khanduri]

and snow fall was also less there. As a result of this 11 out of 13 districts are entirely affected by drought and this drought condition is likely to be severe in future also. The farmers have suffered huge losses due to drought and damage it caused to the Rabi crop. Moreover, most of the areas in this hilly state is dependent on rain. Drought has led to substantial fall in the ground water table and this has created drinking water and irrigation crises before the people of the entire state. Drought has damaged about 50-60 per cent of the Rabi crops and if it does not rain this month, 80 per cent of the Rabi crops would be damaged and that would further aggravate the situation. The Agriculture Department has also sent its report to the Government wherein 11 districts have been shown as drought affected but the state Government has not taken any action so far.

I, therefore, urge the Union Government to declare the affected districts of Uttaranchal as drought hit districts. A central team should be sent there for an assessment and the farmers should be given reasonable amount of compensation soon.

**(ix) Need to protect the interests of labourers while implementing labour reforms**

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR (Chandrapur): Sir, new labour reform laws in the country are being made in the wake of globalisation and under WTO pressure. In the wake of demand of I.T. industry for not allowing setting up of labour unions, the Government has to take steps to safeguard the interests of the labourers. Reduction in EPF interest rate is a blow to the labourers. EPF is important in securing future of the labourers and reduction in interest rate on EPF is not in the interest of the labourers.

Indigenous industries in the country are becoming sick and facing closure. Employees of these industries which could not withstand competition with the multinational companies have been rendered jobless. The Government should think about their livelihood as well. Allowing multinational companies in consumer and retail sectors is likely to further worsen the situation. The workers can be rendered jobless in these sectors also by adopting latest technology and employing machines

instead of workmen. The employees in retail sector are unorganized. The Government should formulate a policy for their protection. Multinational companies are causing unemployment by ignoring labour laws. Therefore, it is mandatory to ensure strict implementation of labour laws and taking care of interests of the labourers while making new labour laws.

**(x) Need to take steps for promotion of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in Madhya Pradesh**

SHRI CHANDRABHAN SINGH (Damoh): Sir, how many school buildings have been sanctioned for construction in Madhya Pradesh under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan during the year 2000-2001 and 2004-2005 and which out of the above have been constructed?

The Union Government should take steps to boost Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in Madhya Pradesh.

**(xi) Need to set up an Agro-Rural Park at Jasdan in Rajkot district, Gujarat**

[English]

DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA (Rajkot): Jasdan is a small town and a backward area of Rajkot district. About 100 villages are having 20 industries as major income source. People's livelihood is on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and artisans work. The Population of this tehsil is of mostly SCs and OBCs (economically backward class). I, therefore, request the Government to set up an Agro-Rural Park at Jasdan. The Government of Gujarat will provide land for the same and cooperate for setting up the park.

**(xii) Need to stop downsizing of Foreign Department of State Bank of India in Kolkata**

SHRI SANTASRI CHATTERJEE (Serampore): It is a matter of grave concern that the authorities of the State Bank of India have been downsizing the foreign dept. in Kolkata. It is reported that only 5 to 10% of the total forex reportings are being handled by foreign dept. in Kolkata. Dealers posted at Foreign Department are being withdrawn gradually for placing them at Treasury, Mumbai. Interbank Dealing has been completely withdrawn from foreign Dept. Kolkata and entrusted with Treasury, Mumbai.

I would request the Hon'ble Finance Minister to see that "Mercury FX" is installed in Kolkata which with its well equipped and all modern facilities can render useful services to the customers.

I am afraid, Sir, that violating all agreements if this process is allowed to continue, West Bengal will lose its importance in Forex Market rendering a good number of people jobless.

I seek immediate and kind intervention of the Hon'ble Finance Minister.

**(xiii) Need to address the grievances of Executives of Burn Standard Company Limited (Refractory Division) at Salem, Tamil Nadu**

SHRI A.V. BELLARMIN (Nagercoil): Burn Standard Company Limited is one of the Eight Subsidiaries of the Bharat Bhari Udyog Nigam Limited. The Burn Standard Company Limited is having three divisions, two of which are Engineering divisions in the state of West Bengal and the other one is the Refractory Division at Salem in Tamil Nadu. The Refractory Division at Salem is consistently making profit whereas the other two are making recurring losses. However, due to single Balance sheet for all the three divisions projecting loss, the company was declared sick and referred to BIFR in the year 1994. But the chart given below shown that the Refractory Division of BSCCL Salem is making profits for the past so many years whereas the man power of the unit is going drastically depleted to 466 in 2005.

Since the company was referred to the BIFR in 1994, the officers of the Refractory Division of Salem were denied the benefits compared to their counterparts in other PSUs 1992 pay scale revision was given to them after much persuasion but w.e.f. 1-1-2000. Arrears were not paid.

1997 pay scale revision is to be made applicable to them whereas it is made available to other workers despite the company remains in BIFR. It is regrettably represented the Executives whose counterparts in similar CPSUs in the country are enjoying the benefits of 1992, 1997 and even 2002 wage revisions, these executives

are deprived lot, not even availing the benefits of arrears arising out of 1992 wage revision despite the fact the company they are working is earning profits consistently and workers of the company are enjoying the fruits of both the wage revisions.

I request the Government to look into the matter.

**(xiv) Need to review the Implementation of rural development projects in Banda Parliament constituency, Uttar Pradesh**

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHYAMA CHARAN GUPTA (Banda): Sir, funds to the tune of Rs. 15 crore have been allocated for my Lok Sabha constituency Banda in Uttar Pradesh under the scheme of Ministry of Rural Development. Uttar Pradesh Soil Conservation Department has constructed check dams under Samvikas Yojana which are of very low capacity. At places contracts were awarded without inviting tenders and payment made without execution of such work. Similarly, the forest department bungled the allotted funds while no plantation was done. RES department has not even repaired the roads and has misappropriated the funds by showing new works. All these cases need to be examined in detail.

**(xv) Need to clear the proposal of the Government of Uttar Pradesh for inclusion of certain castes in the list of Scheduled Castes**

SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD (Salempur): Sir, the Government of Uttar Pradesh has sent a proposal to include nishad, mallah, bind, prajapati, rajbhar and other 18 poor and backward castes in the list of Scheduled Castes which is still pending with the Central Government. Notification to include these castes in the list of Scheduled Castes has been issued and implemented. These castes are backward for various reasons and it is necessary to include them in the list of scheduled castes in order to bring them forward like other castes so that they can avail themselves of the benefit of reservation like other castes and develop.

I urge the Government to sanction the said proposal of the Uttar Pradesh Government at the earliest.

**(xvi) Need to repair a segment of Pradhan Mantri Golden Quadrilateral Project at Sherghati in Gaya Parliamentary Constituency, Bihar**

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR MANJHI (Gaya): Sir, a segment of Pradhan Mantri Golden Quadrilateral Project passes through Sherghati in my constituency Gaya, Bihar which has been damaged. Due to this speed of vehicles is affected, accidents increased and vehicles damaged. This is happening despite the project being so much important. It is clear that substandard material has been used in this segment.

I demand from the Government that the damaged segment be repaired at the earliest and an inquiry instituted and the guilty engineers, employees and contractors sued under the provisions of law.

**(xvii) Need to provide funds to solve the acute drinking water problem in rural areas of Unnao Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh**

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK (Unnao): Sir, there is acute shortage of drinking water in rural areas especially in district Unnao in Uttar Pradesh. People are forced to drink contaminated water in absence of safe water and due to this they suffer from various diseases. Unnao district is very a backward area. Although the Government has made provisions for installing "India Mark" hand pumps in Unnao Parliamentary constituency but given the scarcity of water in the area, their number is negligible and the quality substandard. The norms set in this regard are also not being followed.

Therefore, through this House, I urge the Government to provide central funds to install "India Mark" hand pumps of good quality keeping in view the scarcity of water in Unnao Parliamentary constituency in Uttar Pradesh.

**(xviii) Need to bring forth a comprehensive legislation for the welfare of agricultural workers**

*[English]*

SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY (Basirhat): Almost

30% of the rural work force of India are agricultural workers and most of them belong to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe and are the poorest of poor of our country.

Though the entire agricultural operation of the country is totally dependent on these agricultural workers, but it is surprising that many years have elapsed after our independence we could not legislate a comprehensive Central Bill to protect these hapless agricultural workers.

These workers hardly get a job in the lean period, i.e., after the seasonal work in the field is over. They lack in facilities of the life be it housing, health, children education or women health. Then there are wide disparities in their wages from the State to State guaranteeing 100 days work is a welcome step, but until and unless a Central Comprehensive legislation improved is enacted the lot of these poor agricultural workers cannot be raised.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to bring in a suitable legislation in this regard.

**(xix) Need to take steps for expansion of rail network in Jharkhand**

*[Translation]*

SHRI HEMMAL MURMU (Rajmahal): Sir, there is a need for doubling of Badharwa-Bhagaipur rail line, linking district Godda with rail line, cancellation of the decision to shift the loco shed at Sahibganj to Malda, construction of bridge over river Ganga from Sahibganj Manihari and Rajmahal to Kaliyachak to link Jharkhand and Bihar for expansion of railway network in Jharkhand. The basic objective behind creation of a separate state of Jharkhand was to develop the tribal area but the Government did not take proper steps to develop rail network in Jharkhand and that is the reason the people of Jharkhand have a lot of expectations from the present Government.

Therefore, I demand and request the Government to issue necessary directions for execution of the above mentioned developmental works on priority basis.

**(xx) Need to grant pension to the personnel of Armed forces who have rendered service**

**shorter than the prescribed period of eligibility**

[English]

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR (Calicut): Under the present dispensation, minimum period of qualifying service for earning pension is 20 years for commissioned officers and 15 years for personnel below officer's rank. However, there are thousands of armed forces personnel who served in the armed force in the golden years of their life, but could not continue to complete qualifying service for pension and other benefits. Because of their unfavourable circumstances like climatic conditions, disease or family conditions they had to perforce leave after rendering many years of service and in many cases, a couple of months/years earlier before completing the qualifying period. The life of these people is quite miserable and pathetic.

In the present context when almost every body is granted pension and other benefits in the organised sector and pensions regulatory Authority is considering introduction of pension schemes for workers in the unorganised sector, I request the Government to consider the case of pension less personnel of armed forces for grant of pension. After all, these people had rendered service to the nation in most difficult conditions and defended border of our country even though for a period shorter than that prescribed by the authorities.

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY (Visakhapatnam): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am on a joint of order.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: *Under what Rule?*

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY: Under Rule 353. According to this rule, no allegation of a defamatory or incriminatory nature shall be made by a Member against any person unless the Member has given adequate advance notice to the Speaker. Today, in 'Zero Hour', our hon. Member Shri Yerrannaidu has made horribly derogatory remark against the Government of Andhra Pradesh and said that the State Government has misused, swindled and indulged in corruption to the tune of thousands of crores of rupees. This kind of remarks

should not be made without the permission of the Speaker....(Interruptions)

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, he has not taken any name. He has referred to the State Government. It is permissible. ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The hon. Speaker was in the Chair.

[Translation]

I cannot decide now.

[English]

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY: The rule is there. You are guided by the rule.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Hon. Speaker can decide in this regard. You can give it in writing.

[English]

If there is anything objectionable, I will see.

14.06 hrs.

GENERAL BUDGET—GENERAL DISCUSSION,  
2006-2007

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS—  
(GENERAL), 2005-2006

DEMANDS FOR EXCESS GRANTS—  
(GENERAL), 2003-2004

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, we will take up item nos. 15 to 17 together for discussion. The time recommended by the BAC for all these items is 12 hours. I request hon. Members to give only suggestions during the debate. Otherwise, we will have to sit late in the night also.

Motions moved:

"That the respective supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the third column

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

of the Order Paper be granted to the President of India, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2006, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 1 to 10, 12 to 15, 17 to 22, 24 to 26, 29 to 31, 34, 36, 40, 41, 43, 46 to 51, 53, 54, 56 to 62, 65, 71 to 73, 76, 78, 79, 81 to 88, 90 to 101, 103 and 105."

"That the respective excess sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President of India, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to make good the excess on the respective grants during the year ended the 31st day of March, 2004, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 15, 16, 24, 27 and 67."

Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan will speak now.

*Supplementary Demands for Grants-Third Batch (General) for 2005-06  
submitted to the Vote of Lok Sabha*

No. and Title of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant submitted to the Vote of the House	
	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1	2	3
1. Department of Agriculture and Cooperation	3,00,000	22,16,00,000
2. Department of Agricultural Research and Education	1,00,000	—
3. Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying	1,00,000	—
4. Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries	12,53,00,000	—
5. Atomic Energy	86,35,00,000	2,00,000
6. Nuclear Power Schemes	95,18,00,000	—
7. Department of Chemicals and Petro Chemicals	—	10,00,00,000
8. Department of Fertilisers	1200,00,00,000	16,00,00,000
9. Ministry of Civil Aviation	56,04,00,000	—
10. Ministry of Coal	—	43,00,00,000
12. Department of Commerce	86,26,00,000	—
13. Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion	1,00,000	1,65,00,000
14. Department of Posts	51,62,00,000	48,90,00,000
15. Department of Telecommunications	513,20,00,000	—



1	2	3
17. Ministry of Company Affairs	—	3,60,00,000
18. Department of Consumer Affairs	—	1,00,000
19. Department of Food and Public Distribution	—	1,00,000
20. Ministry of Culture	2,00,000	—
21. Ministry of Defence	—	1,00,000
22. Defence Pensions	263,01,00,000	—
24. Defence Services—Navy	316,83,00,000	—
25. Defence Services—Air Force	157,59,00,000	—
26. Defence Ordnance Factories	66,80,00,000	—
29. Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region	89,75,00,000	—
30. Ministry of Environment and Forests	2,00,000	—
31. Ministry of External Affairs	260,00,00,000	—
34. Payments to Financial Institutions	1759,70,00,000	1,00,000
36. Transfers to State and Union Territory Governments	437,34,00,000	—
40. Pensions	382,31,00,000	—
41. Indian Audit and Accounts Department	4,14,00,000	1,58,00,000
43. Direct Taxes	39,54,00,000	—
46. Ministry of Food Processing Industries	1,00,000	—
47. Department of Health	2,00,000	—
48. Department of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH)	1,00,000	—
49. Department of Family Welfare	1,00,000	—
50. Department of Heavy Industry	1499,55,00,000	20,01,00,000
51. Department of Public Enterprises	23,00,000	—
53. Cabinet	40,48,00,000	—
54. Police	287,68,00,000	—

1	2	3
56. Transfers to Union Territory Governments	139,10,00,000	74,99,00,000
57. Department of Elementary Education and Literacy	1,00,000	—
58. Department of Secondary Education and Higher Education	56,05,00,000	—
59. Department of Women and Child Development	23,00,000	—
60. Ministry of Information and Broadcasting	99,42,00,000	1,00,000
61. Ministry of Labour and Employment	22,90,00,000	—
62. Election Commission	56,00,000	—
65. Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources	1,00,000	—
71. Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	5750,00,00,000	—
72. Ministry of Planning	11,25,00,000	—
73. Ministry of Power	10,34,00,000	1,00,000
76. Rajya Sabha	2,73,00,000	—
78. Secretariat of the Vice-President	67,00,000	—
79. Department of Rural Development	3005,21,00,000	—
81. Department of Drinking Water Supply	10,11,00,000	—
82. Department of Science and Technology	1,00,000	1,00,000
83. Department of Scientific and Industrial Research	1,00,000	—
84. Department of Biotechnology	1,00,000	—
85. Department of Shipping	49,32,00,000	2,00,000
86. Department of Road Transport and Highways	132,74,00,000	—
87. Ministry of Small Scale Industries	85,00,000	9,47,00,000
88. Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment	100,00,00,000	—
90. Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation	1,00,000	—
91. Ministry of Steel	9,98,00,000	—
92. Ministry of Textiles	3,00,000	1,00,000
93. Ministry of Tourism	—	12,01,00,000

1	2	3
94. Ministry of Tribal Affairs	1,00,000	—
95. Andaman and Nicobar Islands	6,00,000	—
96. Chandigarh	42,38,00,000	17,34,00,000
97. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	103,31,00,000	—
98. Daman and Diu	50,00,000	—
99. Lakshadweep	12,22,00,000	1,00,000
100. Department of Urban Development	6,51,00,000	250,01,00,000
101. Public Works	6,30,00,000	—
103. Ministry of Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation	1,00,000	—
105. Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports	1,00,000	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>17279,14,00,000</b>	<b>530,85,00,000</b>

*Demands for Excess Grants (General) for 2003-04 submitted to the Vote of Lok Sabha*

No. and Name of Demand	Amount of Demand Submitted to the Vote of the House	
	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
15. Department of Telecommunications	3,97,85,153	—
16. Department of Information Technology	—	1,28,59,171
24. Defence Ordnance Factories	37,50,20,533	—
27. Department of Development of North Eastern Region	—	11,95,395
67. Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions	—	2,48,086
<b>Total</b>	<b>41,48,12,686</b>	<b>1,43,02,652</b>

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to discuss the General Budget today. I have gone through the whole budget. The hon.

Finance Minister is quite an expert in the numbers game but I am an ordinary women and a housewife. In the beginning of the Budget the hon. Finance Minister had praised the growth rate. Today, the growth rate is being discussed with much fervour all over the country. Looking

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at the Budget from that viewpoint, it seems that the Budget is filled with missed opportunities. The NDA Government had provided them a good opportunity. It had set a good tradition and had left a healthy growth rate too. The weather was also good thereafter and despite all this, they could have provided same good policy direction for long term sustainable growth. Let me cite an example. There are Mogra flowers and it could have been better if acent was made after extracting the fragrance from them and distributed to the last corner. The situation of the Budget is like this. A small Gajra was made or after making it the flowers were thrown here and there and they dried up. Same is the situation of this Budget. The hon. Finance Minister has treated it like that. He has shown a narrow psyche in his speech. I believe that there is possibility of elections and the policy of appeasement of minorities is deeply rooted in the psyche of the other party. Therefore, it does not surprise us. There is nothing wrong in providing for minorities, like Rs. 3 crore were given for the Urdu language. But it could have been better had attention been also paid towards the Central Institute for Promotion of Indian Languages or Sindhi language. But it was not done.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to say a small thing that this whole Budget is full of rhetoric and populism as elections are a round the corner. But, it would have been better if some concrete measures had been taken in this regard but they do not understand it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, our mindset has become such that we give more credence to anything stated by a foreigner. Therefore, it is worth nothing what is said in the report of the International Herald Institute and UN Development Programme. I want to quote a sentence from it. It says—"A hundred Bangalore will not solve India's tenacious poverty problem." It is all right what you have said highly about technology and the resultant increase in the employment through it. But there is one such problem in India which need immediate solution and that is malnourishment. Every third child is malnourished. More and more children in the forth-coming population will be victim of malnourishment. As it is related to the future citizens of the country, it is a matter of great concern.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it is difficult for me to speak on the whole of Budget. Since I had been a Minister in the Ministry of Women and Child Development, I want to say a small thing which has come to my notice. Hon. Minister had spoken with fervour about universalization of ICDS in the Budget. Nutrition is provided under the ICDS programme and the health of women is also taken care of. He has said to promote the programme and stated with much fanfare that he has increased the amount. I want to say how much funds he has given and how much he has increased. Earlier, there were Rs. 3315 crore under this head and now he has allocated Rs. 4087 crore. Thus, only Rs. 772 crore have been increased. Here, I want to ask a question that ICDS Programme is run with the World Bank assistance and what will he do when this assistance will come to an end in 2006 and the burden of the whole of the project will fall on our heads? He cannot withdraw this project as it is related to the health of the women and children. He will have to continue it but he will face much difficulty in doing so. He has said that they are going to increase the number of Anganwadi centres and further expand this project—it is good. It is also good that the concerned Minister in the Ministry of Women and Child Development has also arrived. He has increased the Budget amount but it is very meagre. It will not help anything.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, this Government talks about the common man and it has spoken about him in the Budget with much fanfare. But, if I start with children and ask what they have done for them, which schemes have been introduced, then I cannot see something, which is likely to benefit the children greatly. He said that funds have been increased for the children's food and nutrition. I can say that he has increased the funds a little in the ICDS programme. But, will it fulfill his target? I will tell about it later.

Sir, let us leave aside the smaller things. The galloping rate of inflation and its impact on the common man are such which cannot be explained. Today, the price of each commodity is increasing. I would like to give a small example. Whenever I visit my constituency I am informed that prices of gas used to be increased even when my party was in power and when I was Minister of Petroleum and natural Gas, but then the prices used to come down too. A balance was maintained and gas was

available in ample quantity. But during the reign of this Government the prices see only an upward trend. They never come down and the gas cylinders are now in short supply. The price of gas increases and the supply is inadequate.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to say, through you, that the people of the country have become used to bearing the brunt of price rise and take it for granted that if the Congress Party comes to power, price rise is a must. The Finance Minister keeps on talking about common man. The common man lives in the villages of the country. Farmers in the country are also a part of the general public. We are put on guard wherever our friends from the Congress raise a slogan, because the '*Garibi hatao*' slogan was also coined by them but their reign ensured removal of the poor rather than of poverty. The common man...*(Interruptions)*. I will expound what the NDA has done, at the end of my speech.

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Silence please.

*[Translation]*

You can speak when your party's turn comes.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Now they are raising a slogan about the common man...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please do not disturb. Your party's turn has not come yet.

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: They are, in a way, pushing the farmers towards committing suicide and all the while claiming to be on the side of the common man. If we talk about the farmers, what we are giving for them? May be he visits the villages but I do not think he gives any serious consideration to these issues. He makes big claims. He has also talked of Sant Thiru Valluvar. "The world is his who does his job with compassion". What compassion has he shown? He said, 'I am prepared to go the extra mile to come to the aid of our farmers.' Let alone an extra mile, you have not gone

even an extra inch to help them. I am saying this because he has given a concession of upto merely 2 per cent of interest on a loan of Rs. One lakh. Would you pay the rest of the interest? Merely decreasing the percentage of interest would not do. He has left them at the mercy of the banks. Has he ever gone to the villages to learn the actual condition of the farmers, to learn as to what the farmers actually need? Development does not take place merely by offering loans. If he wants to teach them, "Yavat Jivet, Sukham Jivet, Rinam Kritya, Gritam Pivet," it would not do. The farmer does not have that option. He would not be able to partake of ghee even if he gets loan. His only option is to die. The need of the hour for the farmers is advanced farming technology, new technology. When we talk of globalisation, of shrinking distances, of lessening the import duties and of filling up the market with imported goods we should also talk of utilizing new technology to make our farmers competent enough to survive in the international market, to enable them to export their produce. I would like to give a small example. I do not have to go far to cite this example. Our market is full of Australian apples today. The general public would naturally prefer to buy the cheaper and seemingly better product. But what are we doing to protect the interests of the apple growers in our country? He is suffering. Are we teaching them any new technology to improve the quality of their apples to make them export worthy? I would like to give the example of red chilli. Red chillies from our country were exported to European Countries. Those countries declared that the Indian red chillies contained high quantity of pesticides. Although the consignments were not returned but the chillies were not consumed either. They were just thrown away. This has harmed the interest of the country and the harmful impact of the incident would finally percolate down to the farmers because their produce would not be exported. Have we tried to teach the farmers methods to improve the quality of their produce so as to make it export worthy? What is the export quality? This is what I would like to talk about. Peanuts are exported from Gujarat. It has been alleged that apestoxin content in it is higher than the permissible limit and they used this as an excuse to say that they would not use those peanuts and rejected them. Such are the tactics used to block exports from our country. I would like to give another such example. There was a lot of talk about floriculture sometime back

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and the farmers has also started growing flowers in the hope that those flowers would be exported to foreign countries and would earn profits for the farmers. In this case, the excuse given was that the flowers were not fumigated. Hence, export of flowers to other countries has come down drastically. There is one more point here. There is something called SPS about which our farmers are totally unaware. The farmers are not aware about the sanitary and phito sanitary measures. Farmers do not know about Indigenous Knowledge Protection in the agricultural sector. Our exporters are also unaware about such things. This has happened many times. In the floriculture sector this incident has occurred. Two rose farmers, who had exported their rose, went to France to put up an exhibition and they were put into jail. This happened because someone else was holding the Intellectual Property Rights title for the same breed of roses. The question arises, why did these two people then take their rose to this exhibition? The answer is that our farmers were not aware of it.

I would like to tell the Finance Minister that emphasis on the agricultural sector is the need of the hour. We have a National Agricultural Technology Mission. If my information is correct then it is funded entirely by the World Bank. Why? Why can't we nourish it ourselves? Why don't we fund it so that we are able to run it in our way and help our people get access to the latest technology?

You have enhanced the budget of Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore but merely the act of enhancing the budget of IIS, Bangalore would not suffice. The whole of the Northern India suffers from lack of funds. No one pays attention to this region. We have many such technical institutions. We had created a National Innovation Fund. Would the Finance Minister care to tell us the status of this fund and give the details of the work undertaken through it. The budget of the National Technology Board is not going beyond one hundred crore rupees. Our farmers should have the technical know-how so that they get to know what is needed to be done if they wish to export their produce to other countries or to bring qualitative improvement in their produce. This knowledge should reach the farmers. Merely running a Technology

Mission would not do. Agriculture know-how has to be imparted to ensure a good harvest, Just irrigating the fields is not enough. We talk about moving forward into the 21st Century. I would like to say that the farmers should be taught how to raise cash crops, how to prepare them, how can the procedure in this regard be streamlined. The procedure for granting loans, ways and means of marketing the produce should be taught to them. When the big MNCs come to buy the produce of the farmers, they set up large mandies. The farmers come to these mandis to sell wheat but since the foreign companies put up markets in such places, the farmers buy things from there and return home as empty handed as they had come. This is the situation today. I would like to say that simply providing loans or lowering the rate of interest is not enough. What are you doing to impart knowledge to our farmers, to make them aware about global trends? Your budget shows no efforts in this direction which is a very sad situation.

Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme was introduced with a lot of fanfare. The Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme has been implemented and budgetary provision for the same has also been made. But I would like to ask if this provision is sufficient. Have you ever thought about it? You have made a provision of Rs. 14,300 crore but the economic survey has reported that 77 lakh people have applied for employment since the declaration of the scheme. Economic Survey says that employment needs are continually on the rise. Employment requirement in the rural areas has reached upto 8 per cent and a similar percentage exists in the cities. Employment requirement in the villages is 5-7 per cent. The scheme is meant only for the rural areas. But would it truly open avenues of employment for the rural denizens. The promise of 100 days' of employment is mere eyewash because nuclear families do not exist in villages. They do not have small families as in cities, which comprise of parents, a son and a daughter. Villagers live in extended families. You know that in villages if a family has five brothers they all stay together: You would not be able to provide 100 days of employment to even one member of family comprising of 20-25 members on the basis of such a small fund. Even if you try hard, you would only be able to give employment for 20-25 days. Would this solve the problem of unemployment. This is why the economic survey has expressed concern over

the fact that although the GDP is on the rise, unemployment is increasing in equal proportions. I would contend that you have merely offered a sop to the villagers by initiating this kind of employment scheme.

When we talk of employment we should also keep other factors in mind. As I said in the beginning that some policy changes should also be brought about with the increase in GDP. In the organized sector, there are daily instances of factories closing down because he wishes to turn us into a service industry. He wants to import goods and sell them in the country, in short, to act as an agency. The way in which they are signing agreements with other countries, the day is not far when India will turn into one huge agency. Almost ten lakh people working in organized sectors have lost their jobs in the last three or four years as a result of such policies. Have we ever thought how we would rid ourselves of the problems of unemployment? He has made a very small budget provision for this purpose. There is no role for the small-scale industries. Small-scale industries provide employment to large number of people. When in power, we had demarcated a whole Ministry for promoting small-scale industries. We had also fixed a ceiling of Rs. Five lakh to Rs. One crore for small-scale industries. What have you decided in this regard?

The budget for Khadi Gramodyog Commission was presented a while ago. I was going through that Bill. I had thought that perhaps he was talking of promoting the Khadi Commission. He is opening various zonal offices, zonal committees in which some people of your party would be included as non-governmental members. All this is very well. But what provision has he made in the budget for promotion of Khadi. He has made no provision at all. He has done nothing in the one sector, which could have provided employment to the people.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Minister has talked of Bharat Nirman. This is a very good phrase. You talk of Bharat Nirman but the structure of the budget makes me feel that this budget is directionless. The total receipts in this budget are Rs. 5.6 lakhs crore out of which Rs. 4.88 lakh crore have been placed in revenue account and Rs. 0.3 lakh in capital account. It is to be noted that such a meagre amount has been put in capital account. You talk of the productive nature of this budget even though such

meagre funds have been put at the disposal of capital account which has potential for revenue generation. How can you expect this to be a good budget? What kind of Bharat Nirman would take place? They have made tall claims while talking about Bharat Nirman. They have written that they would be undertaking many works. *[English]* The hon'ble Finance Minister is trying to take pride in the various steps *[Translation]* All these steps had been taken by us when the NDA was in power. I would like to tell the Finance Minister that the public is not a fool. You have made big claims. You have talked about...*(Interruptions)* bringing one crore hectares of agricultural land under irrigation...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You may speak when your turn arrives. Please listen to her now.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH (Karol Bagh): Sumitra Mahajanji, when you are revealing all this, why don't you tell us about the previous Government too...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Ajmiji, the time allotted to your party is about start. You will also get time.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Sir, thing stated by him regarding Bharat Nirman include bringing one crore hectare land into irrigation area, connecting villages with roads which was initiated during the tenure of NDA Government.

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There should be no running commentary....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Silence Please. ....*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Construction of 60 lakh additional houses. making drinking water available to 74 thousand habitats, making power available to 1.25 lakh villages and providing electricity connections to 2.3 crore houses have been envisaged therein. Tall claims have been made in it, but there must be some action-plan to implement these things. I am saying all this being a house wife. When we want to do something in our

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house, we prepare an action plan and act accordingly. But there is no such action plan in this budget, nor there is any direction in it for its implementation. All the things are only on paper. On the other hand, only Rs. 18,696 crore have been provided for implementation of this plan. Mr. Finance Minister, I am unable to understand as to how Bharat Nirman will be done with it? Bharat Nirman will be possible only when every youth will be employed, when farmers will actually be free from the interest trap of money lenders, when the farmers will prosper and technology will have access to every village. Together with this, if golden quadrilateral project targeted to be completed by 2007 but extended upto 2008, is completed then mutual trade will grow and help in Bharat Nirman. NDA Government also wanted to do this. I am unable to understand that you talk of Bharat Nirman, but you do not have money for that. How will the Bharat Nirman be done out of the paltry money? Apart from this how can we think of Bharat Nirman by keeping the public aloof from it?

An environment for sustainable development should be created. We had started sustainable development about which it can be said that it does not have any adverse effect. We had taken up the issue of bio-fuel when I was Petroleum Minister. It appeared to us that he will take the things forward but no attention has been paid to it. We had contemplated that 5% ethanol will be mixed with petrol, since a lot of money is being spent on petrol and diesel and therefore keeping this in view we had made it compulsory to mix 5% ethanol with petrol. If ethanol is mixed with petrol, then not only the expenditure on the petrol and diesel being imported will come down, the farmer producing sugarcane and sugarcane mills will also benefit from it. But no attention has been paid to it. Nothing has been thought of bio-diesel. Had we been informed of cultivation of *Jatropha*, then there was also a possibility of employment for youths in this sector.

If I talk of power sector, it will be a lengthy talk, hence without saying much about it; I would like to say that it has been stated in Economic Survey that we are incurring a loss of Rs. 3 lakh crore as on date due to scarcity of power. Today we need 100 thousand megawatts of power, which will further increase to 200

thousand megawatts in the coming days, but the govt. has launched no scheme to deal with it. Although it has been said that a project is being started in Madhya Pradesh, but the work should have been done on a war footing. It should be examined as to which scheme has to be completed at the earliest we had done in this regard. The Congress Government was in power in Madhya Pradesh. Indira Sagar Project had been continuing since long but Atalji told that people will be benefited if the project is completed soon. He had sanctioned Rs. 500 crore for it at that time and he had said that the project should be completed in two years. This step was taken by us at that time, but no such step has been taken by the present government.

We had initiated many things in water management. Women have to face great difficulty because they have to bring water from distant places even today. In the last budget there was a mention about the repairing and renovation of water bodies but what happened to that. There is no mention of it in this budget. If we want to have an example in this regard we will have to go to Gujarat and see what Narendra Modiji is doing there. He has started a programme in Gujarat, namely, Khet Talavadi. The government is helping the farmers in digging smalls ponds in fields there under this scheme. Thus more than one lakh Khet Talawadiyas have been dug in Gujarat. As a result of this farmers are getting water for irrigation and it is also helping in recharging the water tables simultaneously. It is not proper to criticize in the name of Narendra Modiji. The good work done by him should also be kept in view. This government should also act in the same way. We expected it from them, but they did not do so.

I want to say certain thing about service tax. If we talk of service there comes an idea of serving but you have imposed tax on it also. Actually this tax will have to be borne by common man. The government has imposed service tax on providing tuition, on providing coaching. Why do our children go to tuition and coaching classes? It reveals that there is some fault in our education system, there is some loopholes in teaching in schools. The children of the rich do not go to tuition and coaching classes, but the children of middle class or lower class people go there. Their parent think that if the children are educated, then they will be able to earn some money.



Therefore they send their children there for their better future, but tax has been imposed even on that. This also will have to be met from the pocket of the parents of the children, because the people running tuition and coaching centre will not pay it.

Beside this, you have imposed tax on ATM service also. The day on which you mentioned it in your budget, a confusion was created among the people from that very day. Three-four pensioners telephoned me from my parliamentary constituency. They told me that old-aged people cannot stand in queue in banks hence they withdraw their pension from the nearby ATM centre, but the Finance Minister has imposed service tax on that also. I could not understand the reason for imposing tax on ATM service. No bank invests its own money in banking business, the cost of operation/management is borne from the money deposited by us and from the interest earned thereon. Tax has been imposed on that, and that also will be spent from the pockets of common man.

I am unable to understand what harm the chartered-accountants have done to him due to which tax has been imposed on the services given by them. I can only understand that this service tax will immensely affect the common man.

At the end, I want to say one more thing. Gender budgeting is being discussed here with vigour and zeal. It was started by the NDA Government only. I was minister of women development at that time and I wrote a letter to the then finance minister that there should be something in our budget on this basis. Therefore, this concept had begun at that time. I hope that this government will also take up gender budgeting and will do something concrete in this regard or frame a policy for women. Only allocating funds to departments will not do. There should be some policy like ICDC about which I have mentioned in the beginning. To make a provision for gender budgeting is to strengthen the woman. We had talked of providing Stri-Shakti Award to create self-confidence among them and five women used to be selected for the award who had done something exemplary. This Government not distributed any award so far in these four years and neither has taken up this matter forward. I want to say here some other thing. We visualized in gender budgeting

that latest technology will have access to women. It can be seen that if there are 80 per cent agricultural labourer in the entire country, 60 per cent of them are women. Women have to stay away from home upto the extent of six months as they have to work as a labourer. Women being engaged as labourers are the women working in different areas. Women friendly technology or women friendly tools need to be developed for them. If they handle small weeding hook and if small weeding hooks are made/designed as per their requirement, they will be able to work in a better way. We set up women technology park in Mumbai for that. I want to know as to what happened to that? Upto what extent the work has been completed on that? How much attention has been paid for setting up women friendly park? This also comes under gender budgeting.

The matter of national funds for women also comes in this context. We had thought at that time that we will gradually provide a sum of rupees one hundred crore to the corpus of national fund for women. We had also initiated that. I was a minister at that time. Therefore, I had brought it forward but it did not make any progress in the present. Only in speeches it has been said that the said work will be carried forward but that has not been carried forward so far even after a lapse of 30 many years. It should be utilized to the maximum. I would like to say that when we talk of gender budgeting, allocating funds in a scattered way will not do. It will have to be viewed keeping in mind as to how women can be strengthened, how to empower them, how will they have access to the knowledge of technology at the place of their work. If our Finance Minister speaks something for me, being a woman it takes time to comprehend. The Finance Minister has said that "Quality of Government expenditure has increased". When I went through this sentence, I began to search for the meaning and wanted to know as to what is called quality of government expenditure? I am sorry that I beg to differ because if you have to see quality of expenditure, then see it during the regime of NDA. Work done by us at that time was initiation of gender budgeting. We took up the issue of nuclear test, took initiative for power generation. We had brought down the rate of interest on crop loan to 9 per cent which was 14 to 18 per cent. We had set up an Independent Ministry for small scale industry, provided concession to

[Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan]

small scale industry, started work on roads—I want to tell the Finance Minister that this is what is called quality of expenditure.

At last, I would like to have a clarification from hon'ble Finance Minister regarding something which I have read somewhere and am unable to comprehend that. The 81% per cent part of the total income of the country is spent on paying interest to our debt. At the same time it is also said that it is possible to pay our debt from the total foreign exchange reserve available with us. But we are not doing so. We have invested our foreign exchange in American securities. I want to know whether we get sufficient interest from that? Why have we done so? You talk of eating pasta, and say that water is not available, therefore drink coca-cola. This is why you have reduced tax on them. I want to ask as to why have you done so? The Prime Minister said a thing that [English] I believe that the needs of the people of India must become the central agenda for international co-operation "Why international" [Translation] Please also talk about national co-operation too. It is international cooperation due to which you have invested money in such securities. Mr. Minister, I want to say that while preparing the budget only the game of figures will not do. One has to keep figures in mind but at the same time one should also keep the situation of the country in mind. This is not the budget of the country, the interest of Bush has been kept in mind while preparing it. This budget somehow gives such an impression. Therefore, I request that please pay attention to these things.

[English]

SHRI K.S. RAO (Eluru): Sir, if you permit me, then I will speak from here itself.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Yes, you can speak from there.

SHRI K.S. RAO: Thank you. Sir, I rise to support the Budget presented by our hon. Finance Minister Shri P. Chidambaram. The reason being that without increasing the taxes and by just widening the tax-base he could present an excellent Budget.

I heard with rapt attention the speech given by the

hon. Member Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan. I definitely understand that by virtue of her belonging to the BJP, an Opposition Party, her duty is to criticise the Ruling Party and the Government Budget. Therefore, she can never support it. If I were to be in that seat, then I might also have done the same thing. The only point that I wish to make here is that she possible chose the areas to criticise without any strength, and without any base. I will give you the statistics to support this view.

Sir, kindly allow me to begin with what she was telling about the Congress Government adopting only the populist policy like *garibi hatao*. I agree that the Congress Party adopted the policy of populism. The Congress Party made a slogan, and then tried to implement the slogan of *garibi hatao*. On the other hand, I would like to ask this from them. Is there one instance where the BJP has ever said anything about the poor people. Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, minorities or even the disadvantaged persons in the society? The only slogan, which was very-very popular with them time and again and day in and day out was the *rath yatra*, construction of temple at Ayodhya, etc.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): They also talked about India shining.

SHRI K.S. RAO: These are the issues on which they made slogans, and there is a party, which speaks about the poor, I would have understood if she were to make criticism on the issue of doing something more for the poor than what is being done today. I would also have appreciated it, but it is not the case.

Please allow me to once again give a comparison between how the Congress Party thinks and how the BJP thinks. The Congress Party and the UPA Government thinks in terms of secularism. On the other hand, they think on the basis of Hindu gods even on a issue like securing votes. We try to secular votes by serving the poor people of the society, and they try to get votes on the basis of provoking Hinduism. What amount of difference is there between the two Parties? The basic differences is in the method of thinking and concepts itself.

Similarly, they think about corporate sector only, and never about the farmers. Today, she did touch upon the issue of farmers, and the agriculture sector. She did speak

about the farmers, but it was not in depth. She only referred about the matter of farmers. Did they ever speak anything about the farmers, poor people living below the poverty line, etc. during their tenure in the Government? Every time, they used to speak only about disinvestment, exports, corporate sectors, shares, etc. Was there anything beyond these issues?

Today, we are speaking about reviving the public sector undertakings. What was their thinking on this issue? They were thinking of closing the public sector undertakings, disinvestment, selling, etc. This is how they were thinking with regard to this issue.

I would like to share some more statistics with the august House. If they were to think of packages, then they would think of giving packages only to the rich, and never about giving packages to the farmers.

It is the Congress Government which is thinking in terms of giving a package to the farmers and settling the things. They have already given directions to the banks that in regard to the arrears of farmers, a similar package must be applied in the case of farmers. Have they ever thought of the rural areas? They only think about the urban areas, be it Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai or something of that kind. In their history, they never thought of the rural areas. It is here that this Government has thought of the rural areas, and the people who are below the poverty line. Have they ever thought of the poor people who are below the poverty line? Did they bring one scheme in their lifetime?

Today, this Government has thought of giving pension of Rs. 200 per month for all those unfortunate people. If the people in privilege positions drawing about Rs. 50,000 per month can deserve pension throughout their lifetime, what happens to the poor people living in the villages who start working from the age of 10 and upto 60 years? If you go to the villages, you can see umpteen number of poor people who are below the poverty line living in huts. Even their children are not in a position to look after them. They are living like orphans. This Government has thought of them and they came out with a policy or declaration that they will pay Rs. 200 per month directly to all these poor people through the banks and post offices. Do you think of them any time? Did she even mention this? The answer is, 'no.'

They think of the organized sector, but they never thought of the unorganised sector. There are 28 million people in the organised sector, whereas there are 400 million people in the unorganised sector and that too living in the villages. They are the people who are to be taken care of first. Did they discuss about them? We discussed about them.

In regard to health, education, housing, drinking water, electrification, giving house connections to the poor, we made schemes, and they have not made any schemes. I am not making any shallow speech. I will give you the details of how much allocation has been made to every item. I will now take up one by one the points raised by my hon. colleague, Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan. She said that the Finance Minister had frittered away the resources, that he was narrow-minded and that he came forward with populist proposals only because elections are due in some States. Whose elections is she talking about? It is not his elections or my elections. There is no need for him to do anything here.

She talked about the common man and she talked about suicides by farmers. When did it happen? That has happened when their Government was in power. She talked about technology and agriculture. I do agree with her on that point. The point here is that research and development was neglected in this country for quite a long time. But what have they done during their tenure? I am now giving you the statistics. Do you know what was the amount that they have allocated in their budget towards Science and Technology? It was Rs. 30 crore. This present Government has allocated Rs. 13,000 crore. Where is the comparison? There is no comparison at all. We have realised that this country is not growing as much as it should grow because of lack of research and development. So, this Government has allocated that much money.

Now, I will go point by point. She was talking about employment. Have they ever thought of that? On the contrary, my hon. colleague was making fun of NREGP (National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme). We passed that Act. In the rural areas, poor people were not getting work throughout the year. They are certainly getting work for some days. We wanted to cover this gap and we thought that we will provide 100 days of work to one

[Shri K.S. Rao]

member in each family. She said, and I do not know how she imagined that to be true, out of 25 people who are living under one roof, the Government is providing employment to only one person. That is not our idea. Our idea is to provide employment to one person in a family comprising two adults and three or four children. I never had the opportunity of coming in contact with a family comprising 25 members living. As per her calculations, there may be 23 children with two adults living under one roof, which I am not debating. The National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme was made by us and not by them.

She said that this Government has forgotten the small-scale industries. Not only small-scale industries, but even medium enterprises were brought under the small-scale industries today by this Government, limits have been increased, and substantial allocations have been made. Credit Guarantee Fund was made available to take care of the risk, as far as these small-scale industries are concerned. Even here it is the Congress Government which has done this, and they have not done anything.

In regard to Bharat Nirman, she made fun of it by saying how can we bring one crore of hectares under cultivation with the kind of allocation that was made. For her information, under this programme, the Congress Government in Andhra Pradesh brought 65 lakh hectares of land under cultivation till date.

Not only making announcements, funds are allocated for every scheme. I will explain the quantum of funds allocated scheme by scheme.

Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan referred to the Golden Quadrilateral project. The only thing that is left for them to talk of their Government is that it is their Government which started the Golden Quadrilateral project. I do not think that a day passes in the Lok Sabha without their talking about Golden Quadrilateral! They keep repeating Golden Quadrilateral, Golden Quadrilateral and Golden Quadrilateral. What actually was the quantum of work done during their tenure under the Golden Quadrilateral project? It was 1.8 kilometres road per day. Today, work of 4.48 kilometres is being completed everyday under this project. This Golden Quadrilateral project is going to

be completed by June this year, not next year. We have not left it at that. We have also started work on the project of corridors. We know how important it is. So, it is not that only their Government started it.

Coming to power, yes, this Government has said that it would give electricity connections to all those people living below the poverty line. The number of such households runs into crores. The programme is already being implemented in every State. Out of Rs. 1500 expenditure incurred on each connection given to below the poverty line households, we said that only Rs. 125 would be paid by them and the rest of it would be borne by the Government. Have they ever thought of that? Is it not being implemented today in the villages?

Shr talked about the water bodies and praised Mr. Modi, of all the people, on this occasion. He is an example of the former Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh...\*...He also thought in the same way and spent Rs. 1600 crore on *Neeru-Meeru* programme. Not even one crore rupees worth of work was done in the entire Andhra Pradesh. All the Rs. 1600 crore was swallowed by the people of his party. It seems he brought out that scheme to feed his party members so that it can be spent during the next elections. Maybe the same thing has been done in the other case. I do not think any real work was down.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Do not mention names of those who cannot be present here.

[Translation]

Names will not go in record.

[English]

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (Palani): She mentioned the name of Mr. Modi, Sir.

SHRI K.S. RAO: She mentioned his name. That is why I mentioned the names.

I will now come to the things this Government has done one after the other. She talked as if her Government had rolled out a red carpet for this Government when it came to power two years back. She said that they had done everything and this Government has just followed.

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\*Not recorded.

If that were to be so, why had their GDP remained where it did in their tenure of four-five years? If it had been for one year, one can understand. One can blame the previous Government if it were to be belonging to another party. It is they who ruled the country prior to that also. They ruled the country for the last four-five years. Growth during their tenure has not exceeded five per cent, except in the last three years.

In the very first year of the Congress Government, growth has gone much beyond what they achieved. If it were to be only because of them, how come the growth rate during the second year also has been 7.5 per cent? It was 8.1 per cent in the third year. We would like to reach ten per cent. So, where is the comparison? How can they say that it is inherited from them because of their good work? If it were to be good work, it would have shown throughout their tenure of five years and not just in three years.

Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan talked about inflation. What is inflation today? It is four per cent the lowest in the history of India. Industrial growth is equally good. Agriculture has recorded a growth rate of 2.3 per cent at 209 million tonnes. It was less than one per cent sometimes in their tenure. She said it is all a jugglery of figures. I am not doing any jugglery. I am just quoting the figures. She herself mentioned that she is not very familiar with the figures....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (Kalahandi): The 2.3 per cent growth that you are talking about is achieved through the plantation crops. It does not come under the Ministry of Agriculture. Agricultural input extension is lacking under your Government.

SHRI K.S. RAO: Not only industrial growth. There has been a capital formation of 30.1 per cent. It happened never in the history. Domestic savings have been registered at 29 per cent. This has been the highest figure in the entire history of India.

15.00 hrs.

They never thought of agricultural credit. This Government promised that it will double the credit in three years. It has not just promised that but it is exceeding its own promise in terms of providing credit.

Not once in the history one would see a Government keeping up its commitment. Here is an evidence. What did they do? There is also a mention of reduction of interest to seven per cent, a reduction by two per cent. Did they ever think of it? They thought of reducing the interest for car manufacturer but not for the farmers. They mentioned zero per cent during their tenure. For farmers, our Government has reduced the interest rate.

In regard to the gender budgeting, she just mentioned that they made a beginning. I would like to explain as to how they made a beginning. We have allocated a sum of Rs. 28,737 crore for gender budgeting. Is it not a huge figure? Let them dispute the figure if it is wrong.

Now, I come to Bharat Nirman programme, which she referred to. The allocation made for this year under this programme is Rs. 18,696 crore; last year, it was Rs. 12,160 crores. That means, there is an increase of 50 per cent in one year. It is not just five per cent or 10 per cent. The allocation for irrigation under the AIBP was enhanced from Rs. 4,500 crores to Rs. 7,120 crores. Six lakh hectares of land would be brought under irrigation.

Under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply, out of 56,270 villages to be provided water connection, already 47,546 villages are connected by January this year. Another three months time is left. That means, we would be going beyond the set target.

In the last year, for construction of rural roads, a sum of Rs. 3,749 crores was allocated. This year, he made a provision of Rs. 5,337 crores. By September, the set target would be reached.

How did they interpret housing in their Budget—1999-2000? The promise given by them was wonderful and beyond imagination. They stated that for housing, they had done a wonderful thing. What is that wonderful thing they had done? For housing in the urban areas, they replaced the ULC Act. By doing that, they thought that their job was over. By doing that they think that they had done an immense service to the poor for their housing. Is that a solution? For rural housing, what did they do? For strengthening the housing finance, their Government had asked the national banks to lend to NBFCs, private financial companies to lend for housing.

[Shri K.S. Rao]

What kind of imagination! They wanted to strengthen the private financiers to finance for housing. This is how they think. She mentioned that not only agriculturists, farmers, but also several hundreds of weavers committed suicide because for them living has become such a bad thing. Then, in what manner, they thought of coming to their rescue? They said that they would provide services, technical and marketing only. By saying that they think that their job was over, not by allocating funds. What has this Government done? This Government has not only allocated funds but it has also provided insurance scheme for healthcare, accidents, death. The Government has assured that it would start 'Yarn Banks' so that they would be provided with the supply of uninterrupted yarn and without any delay; and as and when they require funds, they would get the same. There must be a practical solution. They never thought of that.

In the field of healthcare, what did they do? For providing healthcare for the poor, they said, integrate and synergise existing programmes and that the Central Government would give funds to the *Gram Panchayat*, who come up with their own contribution. That is all they said: and there is no allocation of funds. If the village worker comes up with his own contribution, then, he will be given funds. how many village workers come to them?

They wanted to start the schemes in the fields of healthcare and education. It is much more surprising. The biggest weapon for the poor to come up in life is only education. Even by shutting generation of power for 24 hours, they could not secure one house site, one shelter to live or even one acre of land. What was the promise they gave? About education, they said that they would provide a school within a radius of one kilometre. It is a very good idea. I appreciate that. They said that wherever schools are not there, they would provide one school within a radius one kilometre. We do not deny that. What have they done to achieve that? They said that premises or building, cash and teachers would be provided by the panchayats. Then what is it that they would do? If the gram panchayat has to arrange for a building, then what will they do? They will announce a policy that they would provide a school within a radius of

one kilometre. This is how they would do. I am reading only those things which are written here.

She was talking about employment. She talked about the Swaran Jayanti Gram Swaraj Yojana. She said that the gram panchayat would implement the scheme and the Central Government would bear 20 per cent of the cost. Which gram panchayat has got the capacity to bear 80 per cent of expenditure? They are not even able to pay their own salaries. For everything, they are depending on the Central Government fund or the funds from the State Government. If 80 per cent is to be borne by them, will there be an opportunity for any poor man to get educated in a village? How can they think of education health and housing?

I will come to what this Government has provided for health or for housing. This Government has provided Rs. 24,115 crore for education, which is 31.5 per cent more than what was provided last year. Now this year particularly under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, they have provided Rs. 10,041 crore. They have a clear target of recruiting 1,50,000 teachers Five lakh classrooms will be constructed in addition to what is already existing. Statistics reveal that there are 5.7 lakh villages in the country. We are now providing five lakh rooms in this Budget.

The Mid-Day Meal Scheme is there. We are providing funds for it. We are creating an ambience there. We are providing an atmosphere in the school so that the child thinks in terms of coming to the school and enjoy more than sitting in the house. Not only that. This Government has got a scheme for a girl student. If a girl student passes class VIII and enters into the Class IX, the Government will deposit Rs. 3,000 in a bank which she can draw, the moment she reaches 18 years of age. They were talking about women's empowerment. What more is required? We have started it right from the childhood. We are providing incentives for them to educate the girl child. They had never thought of that. 'Women's Empowerment' was only a slogan. Will it bring real women's empowerment?

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Then bring Women Empowerment.

[English]

SHRI K.S. RAO: I did not utter a single word when she was speaking.

About rural sanitation, under the Rajiv Gandhi Drinking Water Mission, there is an allocation of Rs. 4,680 crore in this Budget with a specific target that 56,270 habitations would be connected with water; 1,40,000 schools would be given drinking water facilities. It is not merely an allocation of money, he has mentioned about it in the Performance Budget about the kind of action that is going to be taken in comparison to the provisions made, targets set and achievement made. Have they ever done that? Did they ever cope up with the commitment?

Under the ICDS, this Government has provided Rs. 4,087 crore and wants to start, in addition to the existing ones, 1,88,168 centres. Apart from that, Rs. 4,067 crore is allocated.

Even now, the allocation to ICDC is much more than as compared to what they did during all their tenures put together.

About the Urban Renewal Mission. It is the UPA Government which has started this.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Rao, you have already taken more than 25 minutes. Please conclude now.

SHRI K.S. RAO: Sir, give me just five minutes. I would conclude within five minutes.

Similarly, the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission was conceived only by this Government. To come to the rescue of the urban poor, Rs. 4,995 crore have been allocated now. They are ready to allocate something more, right upto Rs. 6,254 crore. Apart from this, they are taking into account the areas and regions of the States which are backward. In this regard, a separate allocation has been made with a grant of Rs. 5,000 crore.

In this manner, the Budget reveals that this time, the poor man is taken into consideration and it is realised that unless the allocations are made, unless the income of the poor in the rural areas increased and unless their purchasing power goes up, there is no solution for this country. No matter whatever be the growth in industry; no matter how much wealth is generated in this country,

unless their purchasing power is increased, it will not help. Some industrialists may manufacture 10 lakh motorcycles. But who will purchase it? About 65 per cent of our population is living in the villages. It is they, who should purchase them. But these manufactures would send them to Africa other countries leaving their own people. If the people below poverty line in this country are not taken care of by these industrialists, there would be no solution. These industrialists are today earning crores of rupees for the sake of other countries.

Therefore, people living below poverty line in the rural are to be taken care of, and this is what this Government has done in this Budget. That is what this Government is taking up.

Sir, though I belong to Congress party, I have something to mention to our hon. Finance Minister. I appreciate the allocations made by him. But he has forgotten the basic point. What is wealth? Wealth has come out of the sweat, out of the skills of the human being. But I am sorry that enough allocation has not been made for the development of the human skills in this Budget. If Japan has come up, if South Korea has come up, if Malaysia has come up or if Singapore has come up, it is because of the skills that they have got. So, the skills of all the poor people below poverty line have to be increased. Today, a unskilled person is earning Rs. 50 per day. But by increasing the skills, everyone of us would happily give him Rs. 100.

In any place, be it a town or a village, if you want a good driver, you are not getting him; if you want a mechanic to repair your car or scooter, you are not getting him; if you want a good carpenter or plumber, you are not getting him. If you get a good skilled man, you would even be prepared to pay him Rs. 200. But if a person is not a skilled one, you would not pay him even Rs. 50. So, the skills of the citizens in this country has to be increased. All efforts must be made. Rupees 4 lakh crore worth wealth can be generated in this country just by improving the skills of the people living below poverty line. I am not talking about the entire population of this country.

The hon. Minister must please think of them. Now, the hon. Minister would say that he is not the Minister concerned; let some other Minister decide it. But however the Minister concerned, must do it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Rao, please conclude now.

SHRI K.S. RAO: Sir, just give me two-three minutes. I have got only four to five points.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Other members of your party have also to speak, now.

[English]

SHRI K.S. RAO: I am just concluding.

Sir, about water resources, I do support the inter-linking of the rivers. What the farmers require is not any donation or charity from the Government or anybody. What they want is timely water for irrigation. Our farmers are prepared to generate more than our imagination. We should think of them. If he were to increase the GDP by one per cent, he is struggling like anything. This struggle would not be required if our farmers are given timely water. They would generate enough wealth and make our GDP as 12 per cent, not only 10 per cent.

Similarly FCI is proving as a white elephant. Rupees 20,000 crore worth is the food subsidy. I am not against giving subsidy to the poor. But the subsidy is not reaching the poor. It is going to the Food Corporation of India. A large number of self-help groups, particularly, with women members are coming into existence. Their performance is excellent. If the responsibility is given to them by giving loan at a lower rate of interest, say three per cent, they will not only purchase and transport paddy but also convert it into rice, stock it in their traditional way and then supply it to all the Fair Price Shops in the country throughout the year. At present, the FCI procures paddy from the farmers, transports it to the rice mills which convert it into rice by taking conversion charges and then send it to either Punjab or Madhya Pradesh where it is being stocked in the godowns. They do not take care of it and as a result 25 per cent of it gets rotten. They either keep it in the open or it gets wetted so much that it is not in a condition to be consumed by even animals, leave alone human beings. We have reached at this pathetic stage. I have seen a number of times that thousands and thousands of tonnes of foodgrains, which are riot fit for consumption,

are auctioned but they do not fetch any money. Why should we waste our money?

The other day I was talking to the hon. Minister of Agriculture and he said that what I was saying was right. He said that the Government has made an Act to give food security to all the countrymen. When did the Government pass that act? It was passed at a time when the food production in the country was less and we had to import foodgrains from outside. But we have passed that stage and now we have so much of production that we are exporting foodgrains to other countries. So, I request the hon. Minister to take it up in the Cabinet Ministers' meeting and see that FCI is wound up and the consequent savings can be utilised for providing health insurance to all the people below poverty line.

Every poor man in the country cannot get treatment in the Government hospitals. He cannot afford to pay the bills of corporate sector or private nursing homes. Although we have lakhs of doctors but no MBBS doctor will prefer to go to the village and set up a nursing home for the poor people. So, if the Government provides health insurance to all the people below poverty line then even those doctors who are reluctant to go to the villages will go and set up their nursing homes in the villages. The Government does not need to provide so much of money in the Budget for the health sector and the same money can be utilised for providing health insurance to all poor people or the marginal poor so that they are not at the mercy of any doctor, politician or official to get nice treatment.

So, some of these schemes, like, skill development, inter-linking of rivers, health care insurance for all the poor, winding of FCI and above all crop insurance are very important. If some godown, worth crores of rupees, of an industrialist is to be gutted, we are prepared to pay compensation to him. What crime a poor farmer has committed? He is made to suffer for no fault of his. He works hard in the fields for six months and when his crop is ready and he is expected to get two tonnes of paddy for every hectare of land, suddenly a cyclone or a flood comes in and his entire crop is washed away. Though it is not his mistake, yet he will not be provided any crop insurance. The Congress Government during Shri Rajiv Gandhi regime, thought of giving crop insurance scheme



to the farmers but that scheme was not fully serving the needs of the people. I request the hon. Minister to take up the Crop Insurance Scheme and apply it to all the individual farmers. The Government should provide relief—if not immediately now at least in this year—on the basis of not *mandals* but village, to all the farmers who are working throughout the year.

I have a few such things to suggest. I will write to the hon. Minister on all these matters. I would also request the hon. Minister to cut down red tapism, which is eating into the lives and economy of this country. With these few words. I thank the hon. Minister for giving a good Budget to the country.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Members, who want to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House, can do so. Those will be treated as part of the proceedings.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam): My friend, Shri K.S. Rao has mentioned the name of the then Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You may speak when your turn will come

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Sir, that is no record. Please allow me to speak. I am not criticising anybody.

*[Translation]*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have got his name deleted from record at that time.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Sir, he has mentioned about the TDP workers. Since both the Andhra Pradesh Government and the Central Government are under the regime of Congress. I request the Government to appoint a CBI inquiry to find out the culprit ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Budget but this does not mean that we are very happy. We support it with some degree of disappointment also. They have tried to adhere to the pronouncements made in the National Common Minimum Programme. There is a marked departure from what the previous Government had been doing. They have appropriately been cautioned that reckless and desperate disinvestment route can never contribute to the growth of this country. But we have been ruining the country by going through that desperate route only.

What is to be noted are the allocations given to the eight flag ship schemes. I would not say that they are too inadequate because then the Finance Minister would say that it could never be adequate. It is always relative. It is low in terms of the expectations of many partners including the Congressmen, our countrymen and even, of course, the Left. The Government should have addressed more on the burning issue of unemployment.

In the last Budget, the hon. Finance Minister had tried to concretise how during the Tenth Plan period and spilling over to the Eleventh Plan period, five crore jobs would be created. He had mentioned in the food processing sector—2.5 crore jobs, textile sector 1.2 crore, etc. would be created. In such a way, he had given a picture about five crore jobs. I would like to know from the hon. Finance Minister during 12 months how many such jobs have been created. If you look at the rural areas—I am not quoting any unofficial statistics—in the Economic Survey, the results of the 60th round of NSSO's survey on employment and unemployment situation conducted during January to June 2004 are now available.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): It is related to the entire period.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Yes. The 60th round estimates of unemployment rate based on the current daily status, in 2004—NDA and India Shining times—the males at 9.1 per cent upto 5.6 per cent in 1993-94 in rural areas and at 8.1 per cent upto 6.5 per cent in the urban areas...*(Interruptions)* I fully agree with you but do not support them.

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER:** Mr. Yerrannaidu, no running commentary, please.

**SHRI RUPCHAND PAL:** This period was in NDA Government's regime. But this is not a factor to be taken into consideration that it was their time. But during this period also, how much jobs could be created. If you look at the figures, in 2001, we find that in the 10 year period since the reforms process, the job opportunities had sharply come down both in the rural areas and the urban areas. There is a misconception created by some interested people as if the Left is against the economic reforms. But today what they are advocating as economic reforms is being equated with unemployment, more suffering and more poverty. That is the situation.

I was reading a report that the number of billionaires in India are growing at double the rate as compared to other countries in the world, that is, at 14 per cent. If I am not mistaken, there are more than 78,000 billionaires in the country today. Again, the same report puts the number of people living below poverty line at an estimated 26 crores. This estimation of people living below poverty line is wrong because they are based on limited parameters. I believe, the definition of poverty needs to re-assessed. I would not like to go into that debate right now.

Sir, there is an agrarian crisis in the country today. In the Tenth Plan the growth in this sector was targeted at four per cent. But the growth in this sector so far has been hovering around 1.7 per cent to 1.8 per cent and I believe even by the end of the Tenth Plan period we would not be able to achieve the targeted growth of four per cent in this sector. We are an agriculture based economy where 67 to 68 per cent of our population live in the countryside and are engaged mostly in agriculture. Not only it is the situation in regard to agriculture, even in respect of availability of foodgrain we seem to be in a period of the Great Famine. The hon. Minister may like to argue saying that now people are not merely dependent on cereals but they are taking something else as well. The point is that our agrarian sector is in serious crisis. The Government, of course, is quite conscious about that. I know they are conscious about it.

The Government had set up one National Commission under the Chairmanship of Dr. Swaminathan, a very capable and reputed person to head such a

Commission. But I am very unhappy about the fact that hardly any major recommendation of that Commission has found a place in the Budget presented by the hon. Finance Minister this year. I do not mean to say that the Government has not considered the recommendations at all, but whatever has been considered is just no enough, rather it is very less. If the hon. Minister would allow me to use the word. I would say, 'it is inadequate'.

Loans to farmers to be made available at seven per cent interest rate of course is a relief in the given situation when peasants and farmers are committing suicide in such large numbers all across the country. But this relief is just a peanut to them. Twenty-two per cent of the agricultural population in the country is still today dependent on loans from the private moneylenders and only 27 per cent have access to institutional finance and half of the population engaged in agriculture do not even have access to agricultural credit. I am happy about the fact that the concerns of the tenant cultivators have been addressed by the hon. Finance Minister and the banks have been asked to take care of their concerns. But the Government has not considered Dr. Swaminathan Commission's two vital recommendations about a Price-Stabilisation Fund and about crop insurance for all. That is very unfortunate. But still we are supporting this Government for some different reasons. It is because the previous NDA Government was even worse than this. At least this Government is trying and are willing to listen to us. They have said that they are passionate about these issues. Even such kind of words and assurances were not heard of in the NDA regime.

Sir, there are burning issues like employment and agrarian crisis. The hon. Minister has stated that this Government believes in growth and not jobless growth. But if it has to be a job-friendly growth, then the Government needs to reorient their economic outlook, certainly not in the way of the Washington Consensus.

We are not against economic reforms if they are good for the country, if they are good for the countrymen, if they are good for agriculture and industry. In a country where 40 per cent of the employment can be provided by the small scale industries, by the cottage industries, by the traditional industries, hardly any attention has been paid. The Minister will say that the new Bill is coming up.

But there we find that there is more emphasis on labour reforms and contract labour. There is no social security. They are promising that they shall bring a Bill to ensure jobs for 92 per cent of the work force in the unorganised sector. But still it has not come. The budget hardly reflects such a need.

Unemployment is rampant. The Government is trying to follow the down-sizing in the organised sector. There is a ban on recruitment and there is rampant outsourcing in the organised sector. The example of China is most cited. China is a manufacturing country only in IT. You cannot address the problem of employment. For a country like India, if real agricultural reforms are brought, we are the best supports for them. We will support if it is good for the people. Land reforms is about giving land to the people who are landless, in order to encourage them. Then comes adequate and timely credit, marketing facility including prices of the commodities. There is hard labour. If a reform is brought in these areas, we are the first to support you. But all your reforms mean that the fruits of reforms will be appropriated by a handful of billionaires. The number of billionaires is rising. Poverty is rising. Farmers are committing suicide. Even the educated people are standing in the queue. They have become so frustrated that sometimes they even do not register their names in the employment exchanges. What will be the outcome? Frustration. And what will frustration lead to? It will lead to what we have found in the North-East and elsewhere. There are external forces also who are out to exploit the frustrated ones. So, employment requires proper planning. Planning is required for manufacturing and appropriate support to the agriculture. Small scale sector is having problems. There are many Committees about upgradation of their technology, timely availability of raw materials, timely availability of adequate credit and marketing facilities for marketing the products both qualitywise and pricewise.

The Minister and myself have seen the position in China. But one thing should be noted. India should not imitate China. Yes. There is a wrong concept. India should have a model. Gandhiji wanted to have one model and Panditji wanted to have a slightly different model. There have been differences and ultimately, we are evolving our own model and that model must be labour-intensive model, agriculture-oriented model, small scale-oriented

model and not simply IT-oriented model. We have our areas of strength in pharmaceuticals. We have our areas of strength in engineering and food processing. The Minister knows better than I do. But I am disappointed to see that the problem of unemployment has not been addressed. The problem of crisis in agriculture has not been addressed. Rather it is a repetition of some cliches. I think the Minister has made certain cliches like this and this will be done like Bharat Nirman, etc. I do not say that nothing has been done. There is remarkable achievement and we have a share in it. For the first time in free India, there is a National Employment Guarantee Scheme.

We are proud of it and they also must be proud of it. It is a coalition Government based on the National Common Minimum Programme. There is an agreement on the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act. That is an achievement. But that should be vigorously pursued. An amount of Rs. 40,000 crore is required to implement it. As it exists today, we are providing for only 100 days of work, for only one able-bodied person and confined only to 100 districts. If we have to cover all the other districts, which includes some urban areas, give employment to more than one able-bodied person and extend it from 100 days to 180 days, then it would require more funds. Now, it is very meagre and low.

With regard to the existing industries, there is hardly any vision. The Government, of course, has not taken the disinvestment route, which is very easy. Selling the property, selling the family silver and meeting the revenue deficit, which the NDA Government was doing, is easy. There are potential public sector undertakings, which given the necessary and timely support, can turn around. Look at the steel sector. Steel sector was ailing for sometime. People were telling that Durgapur Steel Plant and other steel plants were sick. See what happened now! I congratulate the hon. Finance Minister and also the Minister of Industries for having extended support to some of the public sector undertakings. But there are many others which also need support. But unfortunately, there is no reference for revival and rehabilitation of these public sector undertakings.

The hon. Prime Minister once said that he does not believe in privatisation as an ideology. A very eminent industrialist once asked. "Is there any private Sector in

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this country?" He went on to say that all the private sector companies are using only the Government money, bank money and public sector money. He made a mention of a very very important private company which was being managed with just three per cent private sector money. The public sector should work judiciously, creatively and innovatively, But this does not mean dismantling the public sector. They have grown over the sweat of our countrymen. It was the result of the vision of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and others. We are opposing any disinvestment, which weakens the *Navratnas*. The Government has agreed to it. We are opposed to selling of any profit-making PSUs. In some cases it may be necessary. Even after several attempts. If they could not be revived, then close them down. What can be done? Even then, we should try to protect the interests of the workers. We should try for their redeployment and rehabilitation. But this Budget did not reflect on this point....(*Interruptions*)

The reform process should be India-specific. It should not be as per the prescription of the International Monetary Fund or the World Bank or someone else. It should not be as per the prescription of some dignitaries coming here and pressing us to sign certain agreements, which is in their interest. I am, of course, not referring to Mr. Joseph Stiglitz or to any other thinking person or their books. We have to evolve our own model on the basis of our own experience. If this Government sincerely adheres to the guidelines of the National Common Minimum Programme, which may be deepened or expanded in the coming days, then there is no chance for the other side to come to this side in the coming days.

But if they fail to honour that commitment to the nation, then what will happen? I do not know what will happen....(*Interruptions*) They have not failed totally. I have not said like that. We are disappointed and unhappy. But, we support because they are different from you. We want that they should demarcate and they should again and again prove that they are different. They have not forgotten their legacy about the public sector and all these things.

On the issue of agriculture, just incidentally, I would like to mention that today it has come in the Press that there is one Indo-US Agreement with regard to agriculture,

with regard to bio-technology. There are very serious apprehensions because of CEOs of Walmart and Mosanto have come. I am not going into the details because we have demanded a separate discussion on that. But in the case of Indian agriculture to be dependent on multinational companies, it will be a disaster. So for irrigation, investment, and bank credit, I had occasion to examine some banks as a member of the Parliamentary Committee. They say that, on the one hand, they are being told that they have to provide such and such credit to the agriculturists and, in the same voice, they are told that they have to be profitable and their profit must be reflected in their balance sheet.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Both are correct.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: The Minister says that both are correct. But they must be convinced. They say that the foreign banks, the private banks do not honour any stipulation and, sometimes, after being pressurised, they put the money in the NABARD Bond. On the other hand, they are told to fulfil social obligations. I would say, yes, they are doing it, but not always. The Government should be aware of the situation that the banks alone cannot be left with that. The Government will have to vigorously pursue it.

Now, I have spoken about unemployment, about the problems with regard to agriculture, about urban unemployment, about the flagship schemes, which this Government has not addressed properly. As regards the Mid-Day Meal Scheme, 12 crore children are covered. But we want that more should have been provided. About ICDS, the Supreme Court had said that it should be made universal, but this is a meagre amount at such a time. One day the Minister was saying: "Where can I have the money from?" Is there any dearth of money in the country? I am incidentally referring to the Annual Information Report (AIR), a part of it I had read, and I think, which was referred also in the month of January. I had repeatedly asked, and the Minister also publicly stated how many people in India in a population of more than one billion declare in their returns that they have an income of more than Rs. 10 lakh. It is 80,000 people. In the same year, when they declared that their income was more than Rs. 10 lakh, we do find a different picture when we see the account of sales figure of luxury cars, investment in the capital market,

investment in the financial instruments, deposits in the banks, or real estate. This is an area for which the Minister will say that he is very conscious of black money, the unaccounted money, the cash transactions that has given us the trail. It is a peanut. He had himself introduced the Amnesty scheme. The Supreme Court has said that it is being misused.

But if the tax administration is not only appropriately strengthened but also modernised, we can achieve results. Yes, the Minister is aware of it. But till date, we find that even those people, who are just demonstrating their wealth in the hotels, marriages and ceremonies, are not touched. In such a situation, the Minister says that there is dearth of money. The point is there is rampant tax evasion not only in Direct Taxes but otherwise also and the Minister says Laffrecurge! It is not true about the Indian psyche.

Mr. Minister, you know about that Amnesty Scheme which you introduced in 1997. Even those who were going to pay the usual tax had taken that Amnesty route. There was a case. When I told the Minister that these were the names, he said: "What has happened has happened. I cannot tell you all these things right now. There is a secrecy clause." In the name of secrecy, there is lack of disclosure. People are making money. 78,000 billionaires are there. Even look at the real estates. In such a situation, there is no dearth of money! There is dearth of political will on the part of the Government. So, the eight flagship companies require more money. The Government could have provided money at least to them.

Now I come to price situation. The hon. Minister says that inflation has been controlled. If you go to the market, you can find out the truth. I do not know whether he goes to the market or not. You go to the market. Figures were just quoted here. The Wholesale Price Index is far different from the Consumer Price Index. The basket is defective. People have to spend a lot for their food and foodgrains. That is not given the due weightage in the basket. Prices are going up. With limited income, what is happening? People are taking less in terms of nutrition. Our population is going weaker and weaker. We are not ashamed of it. Even in terms of the Human Development Index, we are at 127 among the 177 countries. Bangladesh is above us in certain areas. Sri Lanka is

above us in certain areas and even more. They are tiny countries. India is a big country with our boys and girls just occupying the IT market in important countries, without potential in the new areas of science, pharmaceuticals, bio-technology, with a vast potential in agriculture, with industrial resources, with educated English-speaking people, scientists etc. India being such a country, are you not ashamed that we are at 127 in terms of Human Development Index? Even in certain areas, Bangladesh is above us; Sri Lanka is above us. Why? Can we not provide more money?...*(Interruptions)*

With two or three points, I am going to conclude. I now come to health sector. About education, yes, the Sarva Siksha Abhiyan is doing well. But more can be done. The State Governments have a role. The Panchayati Raj institutions have a role. I agree with you. About health, why do you not impose 2 per cent health cess to implement the new National Pharmaceutical Policy to strengthen the health infrastructure? Health insurance is never possible. I have spoken to important public sector health-care providers, private sector health-care providers. They say that the inadequate infrastructure health-care is standing in the way. There is so much of money being misused, wasted. Money is wasted on luxury items. I am not going into the figures.

Price rise is taking place. Sugar price is going up and up. The PDS has been dismantled to some extent. We find that the fair price shop dealers are saying: "Why should the API, people come for wheat only? What will happen to the price of rice in the market and the price in the fair price shop, what will happen to oil immediately after this Budget? We do not know. But the indications are that the Government had not listened to us."

They will increase the prices of LPG as per the recommendations of Dr. Rangarajan's Committee. I do not know whether he will give assurance to this House that there will not be any further increase in the prices of LPG, Kerosene and Diesel. You can impose tax on the luxury cars. It does not matter. But, the price situation is really bad. The basket is defective and the interest rates in the banks are going down and down. As far as the senior citizens, the pensioners, are concerned, he has taken away the bonus from the Monthly Income Scheme

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in post offices. He has just slashed down the interest rate on the Employees Provident Fund. How would the senior citizens live in the absence of any social security? They cannot make both ends meet. The senior citizens in the country are in real distress. He has spoken about gender budgeting. But, what is the condition of our women? Firstly, it is the economic operation of the system. Secondly, it is the operation of a male-dominated society and their philosophy. The women are being burnt in the name of *sati*. There is killing, bride burning and they do not want women to be educated and empowered. I congratulate the Minister that he has kept in mind our duties towards women, although they are also responsible that the women's Reservation Bill has been pending for quite sometime. Pawanji is a great supporter of it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is more than thirty minutes.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: I am just concluding while making a mention of two-three important things.

Just is a very important traditional industry in our country. This Government had agreed to provide that mandatory packaging thing from the days of Shri Rajiv Gandhi itself. But, now, what is happening in the international market? Bangladesh is providing support for export and their products are cheaper. So, I have written to Shri Kamal Nathji that he should address this issue in his Export Import Policy.

Now, I would like to say something about two-three concrete things. I do not know how much is required for printing notes in the Nashik Press or other security presses. The life of these notes is about two years or two and a half years. All expenses taken together, it comes to the tune of about Rs. 4000 crore. The Government needs to have a re-look at it. They are modernising but we are opposed to corporatisation. But, as far as the life of the notes is concerned, they say, 'No, we have to change it every two years because of security reasons. The ISI people have been doing these things, and the terrorists have been doing these things.' But, I think that the Government should address this issue of printing notes.

Now, I will just mention two-three things and

conclude. Sir, the prices of medicines are going up and up. The Government should not impose any excise duty. Rather, at least, it should be brought down from 16 per cent to 8 per cent. Then, they have imposed service tax on services which contribute to 52 per cent of GDP. Of course, the recommendations of the Standing Committee on Finance was that the non-farm sector should also be considered for widening the tax net. There is non-agricultural income like middlemen and money lending. Actually, they are showing it as agricultural income. This has not been done. My worry is, will it not have any impact on the price rise because the service providers will pass it on to the consumers? The law is not there. There should be law for this.

Then, I would like to ask a question about the packaged software. This Government is encouraging IT in schools and colleges. At such a time, imposition of tax on packaged software is not correct. First of all, it will be very difficult to distinguish between customised software and packaged software. That is a different issue. There was a Press report in which the hon. Minister for Information Technology Shri Dayanidhi Maran also has said something about this. Of course the Minister may say that it will benefit Microsoft and other big IT companies and that he has exempted DVD drives etc. from the imposition of tax. But the IT sector is in the nascent stage of growth in our country and so he should reconsider this.

There is a proposal to set up a research centre for pharmaceutical research. I think West Bengal should be considered while setting up this research centre. I am not disputing the claims of other places. Of course, Chennai has its claim, Hyderabad has its claim, but West Bengal should also be considered.

Sir, this Budget, to some extent, is a departure from the previous regime. At least, they have been made to think about the major concerns of the countrymen, but it seems that they have not done enough. We are unhappy, we are disappointed and we believe that, in the coming days, they will take care of them and move in the right track. If the Government moves in the right track as told through the National Common Minimum Programme to the nation. I think, they will have the full term in that area where they are sitting now.

*[Translation]*

\*SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI (Udaipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon'ble Minister of Finance started his speech urging the people of the country to walk along with honour and courage. UPA Government in its last two year's tenure has been invading the honour and courage of common people. The life of common man is hard pressed due to increasing prices of essential commodities and uncontrolled unemployment. The present Government talks about common man but all its policies are against the interests of common man.

The present Government, soon after coming to power, decreased the production of cooking gas. At the time of NDA Government LPG vendors used to provide LPG cylinders going from door to door. Does the same condition prevail today? After months of waiting one is not able to get LPG cylinders.

Efforts are being made to take credit by talking about the growth of economy. I would like to tell that high growth rate is not due to the policies of the present Government, but it is despite the wrong policies of this Government. The foundation of this growth rate was laid by the NDA Government under the leadership of Shri Atalji. Today growth which is visible is the result of the policies of NDA Government directed at increasing quality and competition. This Government has hampered the progress by increasing the burden of taxes and imposing new taxes.

Hon'ble Minister of Finance has announced to implement the single commodity and service tax by 2010 and on this pretext increased the rate of service tax from 10 to 12 per cent. Earlier the present Government after coming to power had increased this rate from 8 to 10 per cent. It is likely to increase the burden of taxes on people by Rs. 11500/- crore. Hon'ble Minister has expressed his desire to increase its rate upto 16 per cent. This is a dangerous thinking. As a result of this there will be heavy burden of taxes on the people. I demand to roll back the rate of this tax to 8 per cent.

The service tax was implemented in the country in 1994. It is regretful that the Government could not frame a separate code or law for this so far. The provision of

service tax is still confined to the finance bill of 1994. It has become necessary to formulate a separate code keeping in view the increasing scope of service tax.

The Government had done away with the standard deduction being provided in the income from salaries. The said deduction was being given in lieu of the expenses being incurred in earning income from salary. This was not a concession on behalf of the Government. As the expenses in a business are deducted from income, the standard deduction was being given in lieu of similar expenses. It is an injustice and discriminating against salaried class. I demand to restore standard deduction.

Hon'ble Minister of Finance had announced gold unit scheme in his budget speech last year. It was stated that an ordinary family could buy gold through joint funds in the units of Rs. 100/-. What happened to this scheme? This Scheme has not been implemented so far.

The excise duty for computers has been increased from 8 to 12 per cent. As a result the dream of a common man in regard to purchasing a computer will continue to be a dream. This is yet another blow of the government on the common man. Similarly the imposition of 8 per cent excise duty on packaged software is a regressive step. Software constitutes a major portion of our export. The Government must review it.

Rajasthan is famous for marble in the entire world. In my Parliamentary constituency Udaipur, Rajsamand area alone accounts for 70 per cent of world's marble processing. The Supreme Court has ruled that marble processing is not a production. As a result this industry had come out of the net of excise duty. It was a great relief for this industry going through depression due to ceramic tiles, tiles of artificial stone and mosaic tiles. The Government amended the excise duty code in the finance bill and brought the marble processing under the purview of production process. As a result of this the said industry came under the purview of excise duty also. The contribution of this industry in revenue is not substantial. This industry is labour intensive industry. I demand from the Government to withdraw the provision regarding inclusion of marble processing industry in production process.

\*The speech was laid on the table.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Co-operative Banks have important

[Shrimati Kiran Maheshwari]

role in our economy. These banks are very useful link in providing credit facilities to lower income group, small traders and entrepreneurs. Hon'ble Minister of Finance has proposed to do away with the concession being given to these banks under section 80P of Income tax Act. This will weaken these banks. They will not be able to compete. It will be an attempt to dilute the co-operative movement. I demand from hon'ble Minister of Finance to continue this concession.

Hon'ble Minister of Finance has completely ignored the agriculture and rural sector in the budget. Development of our country is not possible without the development of agriculture and rural sector. Permission should be granted to set up Rural Development Cooperative Banks on the lines of Urban Cooperative Banks in Urban areas. The initial capital of these banks should be Rs. 5 Lakh. Commercial Banks ignore rural sector and small entrepreneurs. These banks will enable the inhabitants of small towns and rural areas use their resources and make economic progress.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the limit of concession in service tax for small service providers is fixed gross receipt of Rs. 4 lakh. This is meager. The limit for such concession in excise duty is rupees one crore. The limit for small service providers should be increased to at least Rs. 10 lakh. Through this, Government can also keep its promise of providing relief to the common man.

Rajsamand district of Rajasthan is a big centre of marble and handicraft. Tourists in large number visit this place. Hon'ble Minister of Finance has referred to complex development cluster development in regard to handicrafts. I also request to open complex cluster development centre of handicraft in Rajsamand district.

Hon'ble Minister of Finance talked about national e-governance. It is regretful that standard Hindi keyboard has not been developed so far. In the absence of this extensive application of Hindi has not been possible. The work carried out in one font of Hindi does not work in other font. I demand from hon'ble minister of Finance to start a time bound scheme to develop a scientific keyboard in Hindi.

Apart from income tax and corporation tax, surcharge and cess have also been imposed on taxable income. As a result, unnecessary complexities arise in the calculation of taxes. It also makes entries in challans and statement difficult. I request the hon'ble minister to incorporate all surcharges and cess in the original tax.

I also request the hon'ble Minister of Finance to increase the limit of minimum taxable income for women from Rs. 1,35,000 to Rs. 2,00,000 in order to increase their participation in industry, trade and the service sector.

\*SHRI BHANWAR SINGH DANGAWAS (Nagaur):  
Sir, hon'ble Minister has especially emphasized in page-8, para 44 to provide solid irrigation facilities credit and market for agriculture produce. So far as irrigation is concerned, it is a state subject but financial assistance may be provided in this regard to the states by the Central Government. The biggest scheme for providing drinking water alongwith irrigation was to connect the rivers. The scheme was launched by the NDA Government. Control of floods and availability of water in drought prone areas were other likely benefits of this scheme, but the present government has put this scheme on the back burner.

Another point relates to providing loans. In this regard I would like to draw the attention of hon'ble Minister towards the survey report of National Survey Organisation for Central Ministry of Agriculture. Survey of 51,770 households of 6638 villages was carried out in 2003. During the survey it was found that 40 per cent farmers were ready even to abandon agriculture as their profession if they get such an opportunity. According to this survey farmers' income is meagre and for their daily expenses they have not only to work as labourers but also take loans on a large scale. According to this survey states with lowest per capita income are Orissa, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh etc. respectively. The estimated average national income of these states is very low. About 48.60 per cent farmers in the country are in debt trap and average debt on each farmer is Rs. 12,484 whereas an average debt in Rajasthan is more than Rs. 18,000. The Average income of the farmers from agriculture in the country is Rs. 11,628 per annum and their total estimated income is Rs. 25,380 per annum

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\*The speech was laid on the table.



where as their total estimated expenditure on agriculture is Rs. 8,782 and total annual expenditure is Rs. 33,240. Income from agriculture in Rajasthan is Rs. 4,308 and expenditure on agriculture is Rs. 7,668. Thus total income is less than total expenditure and as many as 52.4 per cent farmers are in debt trap. In such circumstances no matter how much loan you provide to the farmers they will continue to live under the increasing burden of loans because agriculture is a loss making occupation for them.

Instead of providing loans, the Government should substantially increase the amount of grants for farmers on the lines of Western Countries and make agricultural produce profitable.

If we look at the composition of GDP, the share and percentage of agriculture is continuously decreasing. Its percentage in GDP was 40.96 in 1970-71 which, over the years, has decreased and it is 19.38 per cent as per the figures of 2003-04. It means that proper attention is not being paid towards the growth of agriculture and there are only two measures to sustain agriculture which I have referred earlier. Attention is not being paid toward increasing the amount of grant and fixing profitable minimum support price forcing the farmers to fall in the debt trap over the years. Support price should be linked with index price and increased every year accordingly.

Consumer index has increased from 137 in 1986-87 to 563 in November, 2005 but the support price has not increased in the same proportion. Support price is fixed for the entire country keeping in view same norms whereas agricultural produce is cheaper in several states and further the cost of input is also very high in some states. For example, the part of Punjab where irrigation is done by canal water the cost of irrigation is far less in comparison to that part of Rajasthan where irrigation is done by water pumped out by electric motors from more than 300 metre deep wells. Hence in the states where the input cost of agricultural produce is higher grant should also be provided at the time of selling the produce apart from minimum support price. If you want to prevent farmers from committing suicide and to liberate 60 per cent population of the country from debt trap, you must implement the above measures otherwise farmers will continue to earn less than their expenses, to fall in the

debt trap and the number of suicides will keep on increasing.

I request to provide relief to the farmers keeping in view the above suggestions. If the GDP of agriculture increases, the GDP of the nation will also grow.

**SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail):** Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me permission to speak on the General Budget for the year 2005-06. I would definitely appreciate the good points of this budget but at the same time I would also take this opportunity to express my disagreement with certain facets of this Budget. Everyone knows that India is primarily dependent on agriculture and the majority of the population of the country lives in villages. A careful reading of the budget speech made by the Hon. Finance Minister reveals that suicides being committed by the farmers has got no mention in the budget. This is a matter of deep regret. As far as the welfare of farmers in particular is concerned we find that there is no proposal in budget to boost the agricultural sector. The Constitution of a National Commission for Farmers is a long pending demand but there is no mention of this in the entire budget.

**15.57 hrs.**

[SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN *in the Chair*]

You have made specific enhancements or reductions in the rate of interest. Those figures show that rate of interest on loans taken by farmers has been fixed at 9 per cent whereas the rate of interest on loan for purchase of car which is availed by people belonging to middle and upper classes, has been fixed at eight per cent. It is a big disparity. Many hon. Members have said during discussion that inflation has touched a new high. It is true that the prices of all commodities are skyrocketing now. No efforts have been made to control inflation.

As regards foodgrains production, it is expected to be 209.3 million tonnes. We rely on hope but do not make any effective scheme to ensure that our hopes are realized. A provision of Rs. 7,121 crore has been made for the year 2006-07 alongwith grants of Rs. 2350 crore.

**16.00 hrs**

As regards promotion of employment, National rural

[Shri Shailendra Kumar]

Employment Guarantee Scheme has been launched to increase employment under which it is proposed to spend Rs. 11,700 crore during the current year. All the hon. Members, whether belonging to the Treasury benches or to the Opposition, have said the same thing while discussing the budget in the House today that the Government has given assurance of only 100 days of employment to farmers but we want to know what the farmers are going to do for the rest 265 days, how are they going to sustain themselves? This is a matter of concern. Had you made provisions for guaranteeing employment to them throughout the year, I think this scheme would have been far more effective even if you would have to bring a fewer number of villages under the ambit of the scheme rather than the proposed 150 villages.

Madam, if we consider the figures regarding unemployment, the number of unemployed in the country has become a ten digit figure. You have not mentioned about unemployment anywhere in the budget. This is the reason why the educated unemployed are unable to find employment whichever state they may belong to, whether they are the states of the North East or other states. As a result, they are taking recourse to crime and militancy. It would have been a great thing if any effort had been made to check this trend and provide them employment.

With regard to rural electrification you said that you have set a target of carrying out electrification of 40 thousand villages in the year 2006-07. However, you have placed contacts for only 95 districts so far, for which Rs. 1100 crore have been released. At this slow rate of progress how do you propose to achieve your target? You might announce a target of 50 thousand or 75 thousand villages in the next years' budget and one lakh villages thereafter. But it is unlikely that this work would be completed at this rate of progress. Many of our Hon. Members belong to rural areas where people have not even seen a bulb from the time of independence till date. There are many such places in the country. If provision could be made to electrify such villages, I think it would be a great achievement.

Madam Chairma.. the UPA Government has talked

about Bharat Nirman. The previous NDA government had floated the concept of India Shining, which was a phenomenon all of us had observed and accepted. You have talked about creating the irrigation potential for 06 lakh hectares of land and constructing 8700 rural houses by January 2006. Some Hon. Members from Jammu and Kashmir and other areas had said a short while ago that their areas face devastation caused by earthquakes, floods and famines. There are places in such areas where people are still forced to live in the open. The Government should make arrangements for their rehabilitation. The hon. Members representing such areas have demanded that a higher allocation of funds should be made for them. The people in rural areas of the country still live in joint families. If you observe them you would find that they stay in one or two room tenements alongwith their aged parents, children and daughters-in-law. These are poor people who are dependent on daily wages. I feel that there is a dire need to enhance allocations under this head.

You have talked of providing education to children in the age group of 6-14 years under the Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan and also said that 93 per cent children have started going to school now. When studied from certain angles these figures appear to be incorrect. I was just now going through a survey report according to which two to three crore children still do not go to school. They have never seen the insides of a school in their life. You have made a provision of Rs. 10041 crore under the Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan for the year 2006-07 and have said that you would construct an additional five lakh class rooms in schools and employ an additional one and a half lakh teachers. I would like to tell the Finance Minister that if the Hon. Members were honest in themselves they would agree that the primary schools in rural areas are in a pitiable condition. The government is spending crores of rupees on adult education programmes, Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan and other such programmes whereas the need of the hour is to improve the infrastructure of the primary schools in rural areas and to get trained teachers for them. The standard of education of the teachers should measure upto the standard of education being provided by convent schools in cities now-a-days. If efforts are made to provide the same kind of education in villages only, then would you be able to realize your

dream of India's development and to complete your literacy mission. You have made provision of Mid-Day-Meals. You said that 12 crore children have been covered under the Mid-Day-Meal scheme and that a provision of Rs. 4813 crore has been made for the purpose. You have made some increase in allocation. However, it has been seen that generally most of the teachers get engaged in cooking the food and neglect their actual duties, i.e. teaching the children. Amendment Bill has been discussed here. One cook and one helper should be engaged in the primary schools covered under the Mid-Day-Meal Scheme so that the teachers are free to carry on the job of teaching. In the present circumstances the teachers remain engaged in cooking and get the children involved in this activity as well. We are unable to provide education to the children and they are getting deprived of it as a result. You have made a budget provision under the National Health Mission and have estimated that more than two lakh Associated Social Health Activists would be benefited thereby. I would like to remind the Hon. Minister that the revived socialist thinker, the late Raj Narainji had, at one time, held the post of Health Minister in the Union Government. He had appointed public health workers during his tenure. Those workers have been forced to sit on hunger strikes, dharna and stage demonstrations at Jantar-Mantar from time to time and have been fighting for their rights for a long time. In my view, if you engage their services you would be able to fulfil your mission and they would also be able to get employment.

You have also said that one thousand block level community health centres would provide round the clock services. A provision of Rs. 8207 crore has been made for this purpose. I would like to ask the Hon. Members how many of the existing community health centres in rural areas really provide round the clock services. No doctor wants to be posted there because the doctors give the reason that their children would not be able to live in such places. They cite the problems of housing and electricity. They have to face many problems if they stay in such areas. What I mean to say is that although you have increased the allocation it would prove to be of no use unless efforts are made to provide good health care services to the villages. Instead of increasing the allocation you may as well reduce it to 500 from 1000

but you should try to improve the quality of health-care services. You have made a slight increase in allocation for Child Development Projects and for Child Development Service sanctioned by ICDS. You have established nearly 18,800 additional centres and you talk of spending Rs. 4087 crore for the purpose. But it has been seen that the functionaries involved in the work of child development keep on resorting to strikes and agitation. Hon. Minister, they get a pittance as remuneration and they are forced to sell-off the health food they get for distribution and they also give away this food to the supervisors, and other officers. If they do not give their bribe they may be suspended by such officers. There are many such problems. They have been demanding for an increase in their remuneration since long. This budget has made no mention about increasing their remuneration. They have one more demand. They have contended that since they teach poor students belonging to rural areas they should be deemed to be government employees and if they are given no remuneration for this, they should, at least, be paid a salary commensurate with the high prices prevalent in the places of their posting. This is a longstanding demand and the government should give serious consideration to it.

You have said about the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission that out of an outlay of Rs. 6250 crore in 2006-07 a grant of Rs. 4595 crore would be provided, particularly for specific industries, IT intensive sectors and the education and health sectors. There are a number of slums in rural and urban areas where horrific conditions are prevailing. It would have been good if you had talked of carrying out development work and upgradation of the slum clusters in the cities. You talked of old age pension under the National Social Assistance Programme. You have said that the pension of old people who have crossed the age of 65 has been increased from Rs. 75 to Rs. 200.

The State Governments are required to make a contribution of Rs. 200 per head to bring it upto Rs. 400. This is a good scheme but I feel this pension should be increased to at least Rs. 500 in view of the prevailing inflation. There are many families where the only members are an aged couple. They raised their children to the best of their capabilities but are facing hard times now in their old age. The children leave home for jobs,

[Shri Shailendra Kumar]

or get married and start living separately. Such circumstances make their condition pitiable. They are on the verge of starvation. The government has increased the pension from Rs. 75 to Rs. 200. This is a laudable step but far more needs to be done in this regard.

Madam Chairman, the budget has addressed the issue of schemes for welfare and development of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. The budget for such schemes has been raised by 14.5 per cent and a provision of Rs. 2902 crore has been made thereunder. But this amount is totally inadequate. The condition of people belonging to the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in the country is pitiable. This amount needs to be increased. Similarly, the equity contribution towards National Schedule Castes Finance and Development Corporation has been increased by Rs. 37 crore. Whatever may have been the amount of contribution earlier, the present amount is not enough either. It has been proposed to grant Rs. 80 crore to the National Safai Karamchari Finance Corporation. Whether in cities or in slums the safai karamchari's are getting a raw deal. They are made to work on contract basis. They are not given proper remuneration. Their remuneration needs to be increased.

As regard minorities, the budget provision for corpus fund to the Maulana Azad Educational Foundation has been increased from Rs. 100 crore to Rs. 200 crore whereas actually Rs. 1000 crore had been demanded. The population of minority community in the entire country is 20 crore at present. Not only Muslims, but people from other minority communities also work in the educational sector. Therefore, it is my request that this amount should be increased. It is a matter for concern that although the UPA Government has created a separate Ministry for Minority Affairs with Mr. A.R. Antulay as its Minister, merely Rs. 2 crore have been allocated for it as budgetary provision. Had some more funds been allocated to it then the Ministry might have initiated some more programmes and could have asserted that it was taking concrete steps for the welfare of minorities with the budgetary provision made for it. The meagre budget provision has given rise to a feeling of resentment among the minorities. Rs. 16.47 crore have been contributed to

strengthen the equity base of the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation.

Madam Chairman, the Government talked about the weavers in urban areas but no provision has been made in the budget for the rural areas. Similarly, allocation for the National Urdu Promotion Council has been raised to Rs. 13 crore from Rs. 10 crore. Provision of only three crore rupees has been made in the budget for Urdu and the people knowing Urdu is very less. The amount should be increased.

One thousand new residential schools are proposed to be opened under the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya Scheme and Rs. 172 crore have been provided for it in the budget. I think our Literacy Mission can be achieved if these schools are opened in rural areas. In addition, the Government has proposed a grant of three thousand rupees to girls after passing eighth class. The girls will get encouragement to study further if a grant of ten thousand rupees for high school and twenty thousand rupees for intermediate level is provided. The Uttar Pradesh Government is planning to give a grant of twenty thousand rupees for the girls at the intermediate level. The girls are getting much encouragement from this scheme. Whereas, earlier they used to finish their studies at high school or intermediate level, now they are getting encouraged to study in University and degree colleges and are marching ahead.

The Government has identified 20,000 water bodies with a command areas of 1.47 million hectares for renovation and restoration of agriculture and Rs. 4481 crore have been earmarked for it. In my view, this amount is very meagre. Today, the situation is becoming so bad that we are not able to provide irrigation facilities for much of the land. There is a need to raise this amount.

Rs. 150 crore have been allocated for horticulture and fishery for the year 2006-07. He has spoken about setting up a Central Horticulture Institute in Nagaland under the National Horticulture Mission. Gvavas of my city Allahabad are famous in the whole country. It has very good look and looks almost like apple. It is particularly good for digestion. In my opinion, it would have been better had the Central Horticulture Institute been established there.

He has mentioned about development of tourist spots in the whole country had also about identifying 50 villages all over the country with core competency in handicrafts, handloom and culture. I think it will make every Minister and UPA Chairperson in particular, happy if only those 50 villages would be developed. He should have formulated such a scheme which would have benefited the entire country and then everyone would have said that his budget is very good. It has been said that our villages in rural areas would be provided benefit. Ninety seven crore rupees have been allocated for upgradation of skill development and upgradation of ITIs. This amount is very less and needs to be increased. Ten crore rupees have been allocated for celebration of 150th anniversary of the First War of Indian Independence to honour our history and heritage. Funds have been allocated for the National Gandhi Museum, Rajghat and Kasturba Gandhi Memorial. I would like to remind you that Allahabad has remained a hub of freedom struggle in Uttar Pradesh. This budget could have been a star budget if some funds could have been allocated for the museum in Allahabad.

Similarly, five crore rupees have been allocated for safeguarding the ancient art forms. This amount is very less. This amount for safeguarding ancient art forms in the whole country is less because ancient art forms are conserved so nicely abroad that people go to see them. But we are not able to conserve the ancient art forms and they are becoming dilapidated and their existence is endangered.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Allocation of Rs. 5 crore for their conservation is very less and there is a need to increase it.

Allocation of Rs. 5200 crore for clean drinking water in villages is also very less. An amount of Rs. 800 crore has been provided for rural sanitation. I think sanitation arrangements for rural people is negligible. People there do sanitation work themselves. There is no scheme or programme for it.

He has allocated Rs. 565 crore for the development of the wasteland and Rs. 270 crore for the development of the desert land under the agriculture sector. This

amount is very less. Lakhs of acres of land is wasteland. That is why this amount is very less. Madam Chairman, I conclude here as you are ringing the bell again and again.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Other Hon. Members of your party also have to speak.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: I am grateful to you for giving me time to speak.

SHRI GANESH PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Madam Chairman, I express my gratitude to you for allowing me to speak on the General Budget for the year 2006-07 today. Action and reaction between the ruling party and the opposition takes place whenever the budget is presented. Outside, the general public too keeps guessing the provisions being made which can improve their lives. In this House too, the hon. Members from both ruling party and opposition are expressing their concern and putting their suggestions.

Madam, in my opinion, the budget for the year 2006-07 presented by the hon. Finance Minister in the UPA Government, Shri P. Chidambaram, is a budget for the development of villages and in the interest of the poor, women, Scheduled Castes and Schedule Tribes and the other backward classes. The money of the current budget has been increased by Rs. 7000 crore as compared to the last year's.

Madam, more funds have been provided in the budget for health, education, drinking water and irrigation in accordance with the common minimum programme of the UPA Government and many new things have been included in it. An increase of Rs. 6000 crore in the budget for the defence of the country has also been made. All in all, budgetary provisions in all respects have been liked.

Madam, budgetary provisions have been increased but no tax has been imposed to bring in money. Income tax has not been raised. Service tax has been increased only on certain services which is attracting too much reaction. I want to say that income tax has not been increased, only service tax has been increased a little and some services have been brought under the ambit of service tax. I think it will not make much difference and this tax can be taken from the pockets of the service

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receivers. The Finance Minister has found a good measure to increase the income without imposing any tax.

Madam, the Government has made a provision under the Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan Scheme to teach the children in villages not having schools and where there is no arrangement for teaching of the children and funds have been provided for it. I would like to tell the Finance Minister that it is not ensured how the funds received from the centre under the Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan are spent and where? There remains a possibility for many irregularities in it.

Madam, the Finance Minister has made a provision for funds under the Employment Guarantee Scheme and has said that employment for, at least, 100 days in the year will be provided to 50 lakh persons. I would say that it is not sufficient. The proposed amount under the scheme and the number of beneficiaries should be increased. You know how vast is our country and how many persons are unemployed and are on the verge of starvation. Therefore, nothing will happen by providing employment to 50 lakh persons just for 100 days in a year. Therefore, money for the scheme should be increased. The Government deserves accolades for implementing the scheme.

Madam, the most commendable work done by the Finance Minister is the establishment of the Kasturba Gandhi Girls High Schools. One thousand schools will be set up under the scheme. This will provide opportunity to the poor, scheduled castes and tribes, backward classes and tribal girls to receive education upto high school. From the current figures of education in villages, it can be seen that education of girls in villages is negligible. Very few girls are able to study in villages. Some study upto primary school and some upto middle school and then they have to leave their studies because facility to receive high school level education in their village itself is not available. Now, at least, high schools will be opened in villages under this scheme and the girls will get the opportunity to receive education upto the level of high school. The Finance Minister has made provisions in the budget for the weaker sections in the villages and for that too, he deserves accolades.

Madam, the Finance Minister has provided funds in the budget to provide more opportunities to the people of minority community who got little opportunity to get higher education. He deserves accolades for this too. I think that all these provisions indicate that the UPA Government is marching ahead towards achieving the common minimum programme and their commitment towards the public, even if it may not be 100 per cent. I want to say that just now our colleague, Shailendraji, was speaking that this country depends on the farmers and agriculture but what has the Government done for them? The farmers will be provided loan at 9% interest rate. You know how many persons would be provided loans. All the Hon. Members in the House must be aware that our farmers are burdened with loan even today. They are unable to repay their loans and their houses, animals and everything is being attached and they commit suicide out of sheer frustration. Such incidents take place in every state-somewhere it is less, somewhere it is more. If farmers face these problems then how they can do farming. The Finance Minister has made some provisions for irrigation but there is no coordination state-wise so that we can implement big irrigation schemes everywhere. There is no scheme to provide funds for such big irrigation schemes. The farmers are the food providers of the country but today they live on the verge of starvation, their children are not able to study, they cannot provide better treatment to the sick members of their families. What is the reason for that? The reason is that they do not get any facility for increasing their agricultural production. You know it already that sometimes farmers complain about not receiving fertilizers and sometimes about seeds. How a farmer can be happy if we will not fulfill his requirements? There is only one way to make him happy. That is to provide irrigation facility for his fields. If allocations under other heads can be reduced a little and allocated for providing irrigation facilities, then more than half of his problems can be solved.

Besides, I want to say that all these provisions have been made. I want to make one request to the Hon. Finance Minister. In the last budget he had announced that 200 districts would be selected in the whole country and a special Backward District Fund will be set up separately for the districts which are too backward. Every year, Rs. 5000 crore would be provided for their

development. Thirty six districts from Bihar have also been selected under it. But I think that he has not allocated any funds for the Special Backward District Fund. That day also I heard him that he will provide funds for developing the backward districts. He should provide funds. Now crimes are rising due to backwardness and naxalism is also rising due to it. I would request him to provide funds for it.

Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana is going on. Funds are being made available for it too through Planning Commission and Finance Ministry. But, has work been done in all the districts that were selected under the Sam Vikas Yojana during the last 2-3 years? Provision has been made to provide Rs. 15 crore to a district every year. Have the works worth Rs. 15 crore been in the last year? I think and what we see in Bihar is that no such work has been done there. These are common things.

Finally, I want to say about Bihar. You know that Bihar is on the top when it comes to backwardness. How the backwardness of Bihar would be removed? Until Bihar is given special package to bring it forward, its backwardness cannot be removed. The Government has provided enough funds for the rural electrification where it would be spent, how it would be spent, nobody is there to hear about it and nobody is there to monitor it. The Electricity Board says that this work is not under it, it is under the power grid and other institutes. Their work is going at slow pace. Slow work is not going to achieve the targets set by the Government in near future.

Electricity in the first and foremost thing for the farmers or for the progress of the country. Power generation is very low in Bihar, not to talk of irrigation, it is not sufficient for even lighting. So, there is a need to increase its generation there. The works which were undertaken there earlier were not going on with the speed with which they should have been undertaken.

Recently, the Government of India has entered into an agreement with America to set up nuclear plants. I, therefore, demand from the Government to set up a nuclear power plant to generate more power in Bihar to remove its backwardness.

More than half of the districts of Bihar are naxal affected. A jailbreak took place in Jahanabad district of

Bihar. The hon. Home Minister had said in the House that he would provide funds for the modernization of the police force and sophisticated weapons and arms would be provided to them. Besides, those who have faith in nationalism would be provided employment to bring them into the mainstream. But nothing of the sort has happened so far. I request again that we will have to change the mindset of those believing in naxalism so as to bring them into mainstream, otherwise it is not going to be checked. Presently naxalite problem is there in Bihar, Chhattisgarh and Andhra Pradesh but in future it will engulf the entire country.

Funds have been provided in the budget for the development of small-scale industries. Madam, you know that Mahatmaji had visualized about Khadi and Gramodyog. More employment used to be provided through Khadi and Gramodyog with low budget. But today both Khadi and Gramodyog are almost dead. It has been mentioned in the Common Minimum Programme of the Government that Khadi and Gramodyog would be revised and promoted but it is with deep regret, I have to say that the hon. Minister has not made any provision in the budget to revive and to promote Khadi and Gramodyog, which are the traditional industries.

I, therefore, want to say that if you really want that poverty and unemployment are removed from the country, you will have to give special package to Khadi and Gramodyog and they will have to be revived and strengthened. For all these things only one thing is said....(*Interruptions*)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Please conclude your speech.

....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI GANESH PRASAD SINGH: For all things, it is said that so much funds have been provided by the Government. Madam, through you, I want to tell the Hon. Minister that you may allocate billions of rupees but kindly ensure as to how the funds are utilized and how to control it. Today there is rampant corruption everywhere. A system will have to be put in place to keep an eye on corruption so that the funds reach the people for whom it is meant. If the funds are given for appointment of teachers in villages, we will have to ensure that the teachers are being appointed and that amount is not

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gobbled up in corruption or bribery. Funds are provided for opening schools in villages under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan but whether the schools are being opened in villages, one will have to ensure it. We will have to put in place a mechanism for the purpose. I want to say one more thing...(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Now, you please conclude. You have taken full time of your party.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI GANESH PRASAD SINGH: Finally, I want to say one more thing. Two institutions, the bank and post office are under the Central Government. Now, complaints are received about the presence of agents in Banks and Post offices. This problem is there in cities too. It is also said that the agents get two and a half per cent commission in banks and one per cent in post offices. When anyone approaches banks directly for home loan, he faces a lot of difficulties. They themselves tell that person that he should contact so and so agent and after getting in contact with that agent, all the problems are sorted out. I want to tell the hon. Minister that if the agents have legally been appointed in the banks and post offices, then I have nothing to say and if they have not been legally appointed, then what is the need for an agent in such institutions? If they are appointed there is a need to remove disparity in commission, which is two and a half, and one per cent.

Madam, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI RAJESH VERMA (Sitapur): Madam Chairman, I am going to speak in support of the General Budget presented by the UPA Government. Discussion on the budget is going on for a long time. Members from the treasury benches as well as from the opposition have expressed their views and given suggestions in this regard. By going through the budget speech, it seems that the hon. Finance Minister has tried to provide a range of facilities to the people of the country. But ours is so vast a country that it is not possible to provide all sorts of facilities to our people. On the said line, several shortcomings are there in the budget. Let me start with certain suggestions.

The hon. Minister in his speech has emphasized mainly on Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan launched by the UPA Government. The hon. Prime Minister too has shown special interest in it. The UPA Government has endeavoured to extend primary education to backward villages in the country under the said drive. Efforts to set up new schools, construct new classrooms and meet the shortage of teachers have been made under this drive.

Sir, with special reference to Uttar Pradesh, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister towards the fact that some politicking can be seen in setting up such schools in the state. Schools have been set up where there is no need of schools and at some places where schools are badly needed for children to study, schools have not been set up. The Central Government provides grants to the tune of thousands of crores of rupees to see to it that no child is left illiterate in the country but on visiting various areas in the State noticed this discrepancy that out of political considerations schools have been set up at places where there is no need. There are neither students nor teachers in such schools. These school buildings are used only for accommodating *barats* accompanying the bride-groom to the bride's place to those villages or to provide shelter in case of any calamity. I would like to draw the attention of the Minister that like making provision of funds under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, he should make provision for a monitoring committee to ensure that schools are set up only in such villages where they are really needed.

So far as construction of extra rooms in schools is concerned, there is no discrepancy. I welcome this move and tell the hon. Minister that if he has laid emphasis on primary education under this drive then he should pay attention to higher education also in rural areas. There is no provision in the budget to accord priority to higher education in rural areas. I would like to request the hon. Finance Minister that the way he has accorded priority to primary education, promotion of institutes of higher education is also equally necessary. Mid-Day-Meal scheme for primary schools is a good scheme but if it is not being implemented properly. I think, we get bad results thereof. Many hon. Members have raised this issue in their speeches. There are neither cooks nor peons who can cook meals for our kids. The teachers and students together cook meals in open space. Several incidents in



the country have been reported wherein children have fallen ill after eating contaminated food. Several cases of deaths of children have also been reported. Therefore, I would like to say that if you have started such an ambitious scheme of mid-day-meal for students of primary schools, then the government should make necessary arrangements to ensure that the children get healthy and safe meals. So far as drinking water and sanitation is concerned, there are thousands and lakhs of schools in the country where there is no hand pump. Like providing extra rooms, you should launch a specific scheme to install 'India Mark' hand pumps in each school and it should be taken up as a scheme that wherever there is a school a hand pump should be there. No work is possible to be done without hand pump.

I welcome the Rajiv Gandhi Rural Electrification Scheme also. Backward districts have been selected in the entire country and electrification work is going on in several villages. This scheme should also be implemented in a time bound manner. This is an ambitious scheme and the villages with no electricity see a ray of hope for electrification. If this is implemented in a time-bound manner, this is certainly going to provide benefits. But I would like to add that villages are not developed by mere electrification. Erection of poles and wires is not going to do any good without electricity. Therefore, the government should take special care to see to it that once such a large-scale electrification has been done, appropriate arrangements are made for supplying electricity too to these states.

The government has given an important slogan of "Bharat Nirman". I have studied it. It envisages many social works including accelerated irrigation scheme, accelerated rural water supply scheme, rural road programme, construction of rural housing units etc. with which the dream of Bharat Nirman should certainly be realised. I would like to say that a monitoring committee should be constituted for implementing such an ambitious scheme. It may comprise representatives from the Central Government or the Members of Parliament from the region may also be included therein. If these programmes are monitored regularly, these are certainly going to be a success.

The Government has increased the funds for welfare

of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes by 14.5 per cent to make it Rs. 2902 crore. I don't agree to this. Given the ratio of their population and that of poverty, I think, this is not justified. I have seen several schemes costing between Rs. 3000 crore and Rs. 15000 crore. I fail to understand as to why this provision of Rs. 2902 crore only has been made and not of Rs. 3000 crore or Rs. 4000 crore. Therefore, it seems that the figure of Rs. 2902 crore has been worked out very meticulously. This amount is quite paltry. So it should be increased for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

The Centre provides funds for thousands of crores of rupees to the States under Rajiv Gandhi Drinking Water Scheme. The work of installing hand pumps is also being undertaken under this scheme. I would like to draw the attention of the Finance Minister and say that I have read the entire budget speech. Half of the hand pumps installed under this scheme need repairs. The centre itself should make a scheme to monitor the working of the said hand pumps and repair them from the central funds. If these hand pumps are repaired then we can achieve success in Rajiv Gandhi Drinking Water Scheme with even less amount of funds.

About the minorities, I welcome the proposal of providing more assistance to minority institutions for their welfare, You have increased the assistance to be provided to Maulana Azad Education Foundation from Rs. 100 crore to Rs. 200 crore. The minority communities have been demanding for a long time, even during the discussion on the last budget. The Members belonging to minority communities had demanded increase in the said assistance to Rs. 1000 crore. But you have increased it by Rs. 100 crore only. I demand from the Government that the interests of the minority communities should be safeguarded by increasing the amount of the said assistance.

On taxation, in relation to direct taxes in paragraph 69 of your budget speech you have said that:—

"Members of many State Legislatures have complained that their constituency allowances are taxed differently from the constituency allowance received by Members of Parliament. I propose to remove the discrimination and treat them equally."

[Shri Rajesh Verma]

I would like to say that if on the complaint from MLAs of various states you can propose to treat their constituency allowances equally with that of MPs then you must also see the amount of allowances, salaries, free telephone calls and electricity units given to the MLAs in various states. Would you please allow such facilities to the hon. Members of Parliament too? If you can act on their complaint and tax the allowances of Members of Parliament on the lines of MLAs then I would like to say that the MPs should also be provided comparable facilities. Your proposal to reduce duty on life saving drugs to treat diseases like AIDS, cancer etc. from 15 per cent to 5 per cent is also a welcome step as these drugs are very costly and the patients suffering from these diseases tend to become quite demoralized. If they can get these medicines at cheaper rates, they will feel that their government is doing something to save their lives. I welcome this move of the government. Allocations to National Council for Promotion of Urdu has been increased from Rs. 10 crore to Rs. 13 crore. I welcome this increase of Rs. 3 crore. Increase in excise duty on cigarettes and tobacco is also a welcome step as cigarette is injurious to health. You have discouraged the smokers in a way by increasing excise duty on cigattes. I welcome this step. There was a starred question in this House concerning the agriculture sector that concentration in the cities is taking place at a very fast pace these days. People from the countryside are migrating to cities and are settling down on agricultural land around cities by constructing big bungalows on vast plots of land. It is resulting in the decrease of agricultural land. I would like to request the hon. Finance Minister that he will have to find some alternative in regard to our decreasing arable land due to industrialization and urbanization. Crores of hectares of land is lying waste in the country even today. If the Government can improve it and formulate a scheme to make it arable, then the land lying waste as wasteland or seepage land can be improved and it can compensate the arable land being used for industrial purposes at the outskirts of cities. Therefore, I would also like to draw your attention towards it. A question regarding decreasing water level of the rivers and the increasing pollution in them was raised in the Parliament last year also. But, I would like to tell that there is no provision in the budget regarding this. I believe

that there is a need to deepen the rivers. The problems of pollution and drinking water can be solved if the rivers are made deeper. I want to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister that the Central Government should formulate an ambitious plan to address the problems regarding decrease in the water level and flow of our rivers due to canals and rivers becoming shallow as a result of silting. The problem of drinking water and pollution in the country can be solved to a great extent if the rivers are made deeper. Supporting all the public interest works in his budget, I conclude with my suggestions.

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL (Buldhana):  
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Budget 2006-07. There are some good and some sweet things in the Budget. I deem it proper to raise good things first. I thank the Finance Minister for the steps taken by him to provide relief to the poor and backward classes of the society by allocating quite a good amount for all the schemes whether they be of Rural Development, Urban Development, HRD, Social Justice and Empowerment or Education Department.

The National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, in particular, was being run in Maharashtra for a long time. Sometimes there were irregularities and sometimes it worked too. Keeping this in view, the Rural Development Ministry brought this scheme under the law in the whole country for which I thank them a lot. An amount of Rs. 11000 crore have been allocated for the scheme and 200 districts have been included in the beginning. Perhaps, it will be implemented all over the country in future. I think that is also necessary. Employment Guarantee may just be of 100 days but guarantee for providing employment is being given. This scheme already existed in Maharashtra. Any legal provision made to set irregularities right in the scheme is a welcome step. Quite a good amount has been allocated in the budget for the scheme, which will be raised next year and more districts will also be covered under it.

Efforts have been made to allocate maximum amount in the budget for farming. There is provision for crop loan at 7% interest rate. There is a package to help sugar industry and District Central Co-operative Bank

and State Co-operative Bank. The Finance Minister has agreed for a package for Land Development Bank before presentation of the budget. I also want to thank him for that. While reading newspaper, we also read the views of some scholars. It has been found in national and international surveys that a parallel black economy also runs along with the white economy. There is black economy in the country worth Rs. 12,00,000 crore as against Rs. 40,00,000 crore. Black money has to be given for admission to the medical or engineering colleges. Money has to be given even for getting some work done in Government and non-government offices. It is experienced by all of us. Even after existence of anti-dowry law, dowry has to be given in a girl's marriage and that too in black money. If someone becomes a doctor or engineer then he uses black money to recover his cost. I was a little surprised. Income Tax Department has investigated all the private colleges in Maharashtra, in particular, taking black money. At that time, admissions were going on and they must have found black money there. What happened after that, nobody knows. I have a doubt in this regard. It was kept secret because the persons running colleges there are connected to politics. I have a doubt regarding what further action was taken by the Income Tax Department.

Now, I want to speak about the middle class. Income Tax limit was raised to one Rs. lakh from Rs. 80,000 in last budget.

17.00 hrs.

But standard deduction was taken out simultaneously. Income tax of salaried persons is deducted at source and facility of standard deduction was provided to them. No benefit was provided to the middle class in the last budget. When we move around in the society, we find that everyone hopes that, perhaps, they will get some relief in the next budget. But neither the income tax limit has been raised nor has standard deduction been kept.

Now, I talk about women and senior citizens. Exemption upto 1,25,000 rupees was provided in the last budget. It was said in the last budget that it involved a loss of Rs. 8,000 and would be seen but no attention has been paid in this regard in this budget. Now, the

situation is that people are not clear as to how much tax will be imposed on their investments later as there is exemption under section 90(c)(ii) C for investment in national policies of Kisan Bonds or LIC in the beginning. People have doubts regarding this everywhere.

Now, I come to co-operative movement. It is for the first time in the Parliamentary history that the hon. Finance Minister is willing to impose income tax on the profits earned by the cooperative banks, I want to put forth some points before him regarding co-operative banks and commercial banks.

[English]

I want to give a comparison of the co-operative banks with the commercial banks.

First of all, let us see the formation of the co-operative banks. There are a minimum number of shareholders and the minimum amount of the shares. Then and there, they are getting the registration from the society under the Societies Act of their own State. Then, afterwards, by way of election, the Board is elected. The co-operative banks are functioning according to the rules and regulations of the Reserve Bank of India. Accordingly, they are having their limited area of operation; they are having their limited branches; and simultaneously, if any person wants any loan, as per the Act, he must be a member of that particular society or a bank.

As a borrower, he is paying the interest and simultaneously, he is getting the dividend as a shareholder. That is about the co-operative banks.

As against the co-operative banks, what are the benefits and other facilities, which the commercial banks are getting? The commercial banks are issuing credit cards to their customers on a large-scale; they are providing ATM services to their customers all over the country; and they are having interconnectivity of all their branches. They are also getting licence for their branches easily, and hence, they can spread all over the country without any difficulty. They are having their own subsidiaries; they are getting the Government business; and they are having demand drafts an bank guarantee facilities, which are accepted by the Government

[Shri Anandrao Vithoba Adsul]

agencies. They are having stock market related operations; and they can issue bonds in open market and raise their equity.

Thus, it clearly shows how commercial banks are getting good business, good deposits, good funds: and thereby, they can lend huge money to the big and medium-scale industries, merchants and other customers.

As against, the Cooperative banks are not having such facilities. Their activities are limited to the priority sector, small businessmen and common and middle-class persons of the society. Ultimately, they are bound by the rules and regulations of the Reserve Bank of India. They have to make provisions for reserve fund, building fund, dividend equalisation fund, other statutory funds and simultaneously make provision for NPA. After making all these provisions they have to meet the requirements of salary, bonus, premises, vehicles and such other expenses and the amount left out of the profit is distributed as dividend to their shareholders. That is why, in the history of last 50 years of this Parliament, cooperative banks were exempted from the income tax. My earnest request to the Finance Minister is to think over it and consider these things. I hope that he will exempt the cooperative banks from income tax.

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): Thank you, Madam, for allowing me to participate in the General Budget discussion today.

Budget is an annual occasion to present a coherent view of the economy and articulate the Government's economic policies. The third Budget of the UPA Government tries to be a bit of everything to everybody and ends up being little of nothing to most. The Left has predictably been sought to be pleased but they are not jumping with joy. The Finance Minister has repeatedly said in his Budget that this Budget is aimed at the proverbial '*Aam Aadmi*'. Is it because the Government is looking towards the Left but walking in the right side? The Finance Minister has made some cuts in products that are not consumed by the average people; products like small cars, soft drinks, condensed milk, ice cream, pasta, ready to eat packaged foods.

17.07 hrs.

[SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN *in the Chair*]

This caters to the yuppies by removing the excise duty. He has also made cheaper the whole range of processed food. He has announced to reduce the price of small cars and MP-3 players. He has reduced Customs Duty and Excise Duty on all synthetic fibre and yarn. which would translate into cheaper synthetic garments. But, there is nothing for cotton. I will come to that aspect later on when I will talk about agriculture.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: The year before last cotton was made zero. Please remember that.

SHRI B. MAHTAB: I have been saying that we are importing cotton in large amount.

The import duty on *vanaspati* also has been announced in this Budget but the producers of *vanaspati* of our country do not feel very elated. Today, I think most of the Members have received certain notes regarding this. Farmers have been offered interest subsidies on loan.

But the biggest favour which I presume to all segments of the society was to leave out, at least temporarily, the impending hike in the prices of petroleum products. Should we presume that oil companies will do this unpleasant job after a few days?

The Finance Minister in his speech has made a mention about innovations. The first Budget dealt with gender budget; the second Budget dealt with outcome budget; and in this Budget his offer is another innovative idea of a statement on revenue foregone known worldwide as tax expenditure. I welcome it. But should the hon. Finance Minister not take a similar initiative in expenditure control? In last November, I remember the Finance Minister had harped on the need to cutting expenditure on every count—over time allowance, foreign travel, expenditure on seminars, telephone bills, vehicles, continuing ban on creation of fresh posts, etc. In spite of all this pontification, the number of civilian employees on the rolls of all Ministries excluding the Ministry of Defence, increased to an estimated figure of 34,09,032 in 2005-06 from 32,76,145 in 2004-05.

This Government's profligacy can be gauged from the fact that there is an increase in the combined allocation for pay allowance and travel expenditure by 5.17 per cent to Rs. 41334.26 crore in 2006-07 from the revised estimates of Rs. 39301.55 crore for the current fiscal. This is all taxpayers money. Now the Prime Minister has accepted the need for a new Pay Commission. What will be its impact on the State Exchequer? The nation has a right to know what the Finance Minister has done to implement the reform-centric recommendations of the Fifth Pay Commission. The Finance Minister has not been very active in terms of either macro economics or micro economic policy. Rather he is trying to serve the political interest of his Party. On the expenditure side, this is an old style Congress Budget replete with hand outs and hangers on. Fifteen years ago, the Finance Minister and his Prime Minister displayed a penchant for rethinking on old policies—eliminating ranks, introducing fair competition and imparting dynamism to the economy. It is by breaking the old mould that will raise the growth rate not this indiscriminate rewarding of the faithful and the politically useful. I was going through a news magazine where Mr. M.G. Rao, Director, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy has said:

"The Finance Minister has sold his Budget well. But the fact that he spent 50 per cent of his Budget Speech talking about 11 per cent of the Budget shows his political compulsions and the truth is that he cannot afford to spend too much money."

Where does the Finance Minister want to spend most of his development expenditure? Forty per cent of the total budgetary support for Central and State Plans of Rs. 1,72,727 crore is absorbed by his so called flagship schemes.

The four core areas on which the hon. Finance Minister has stressed upon is, agriculture, employment, education and health and the unorganised sector. These were the thrust areas of NCMP. The nation owes an interest payment of over Rs. 1,20,000 crore. The Government's annual borrowings is about the same. The situation has not changed. No one is complaining. No one is questioning the gap between the revenue receipts and the expenditure.

Sir, I now turn to the aspect of food security. The most disturbing aspect of this Budget is its approach to the food economy. This erodes food self-sufficiency and security. There is a high rate of mal-nutrition. We all accept that. But this Budget has allocated Rs. 2,000 crore less for this purpose. Government claims that there was a saving of around Rs. 3,000 crore in transportation and storage costs because of disposal of surplus stocks. The Government has also decided to import five lakh tonnes of wheat. This wheat is coming to this country from foreign traders who are being paid Rs. 300 more per quintal than the minimum procurement price which is provided to our farmers in this country.

Sir, we all discussed about the Rural Employment Guarantee Act and many hon. Members here also have rightly discussed this point. There is a widespread welcome to this Rural Employment Guarantee Act. However, the question that arises here is over the allocation made for this in the Budget. I do not know whether Shri Rupchand Pal had mentioned this fact or not. I was in the meeting of the Standing Committee then. I might have missed it. However, earlier there were two major Rural Employment Guarantee Programmes, namely the *Sampurna Gramin Rojgar Yojana* (SGRY) and the Food for Work programme. The Budget allocation for these two programmes last year was Rs. 12,600 crore. But Government actually had spent a sum of Rs. 19,350 crore on these programmes. In this Budget the total allocation for these programmes is Rs. 15,570 crore. The allocation is less. Now, out of this allocation, a sum of Rs. 2,700 crore have been set aside only for the SGRY and the rest amount will be spent in the 200 districts for the Food for Wrok programme. This is really alarming. We are proposing to spend a sum of only Rs. 2,700 crore to be spent throughout the country for SGRY and the rest amount of around Rs. 11,000 to Rs. 12,000 crore will be spent in these 200 districts for rural employment guarantee programmes. In other words, as much as Rs. 3,780 crore has been less allocated for these programmes as compared to this year. Should we call it jugglery of arithmetic?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Please wait for my reply.

SHRI B. MAHTAB: Sir, I would certainly wait for your reply. The whole country is waiting for the reply.

[Shri B. Mahtab]

Sir, in regard to the progress made in social and rural development, I would say that the progress in these sectors have been tardy in the last two years. Progress in implementation of the *Bharat Nirman* programmes has been slow. There is no clear indication as to how the funds would be synergised for the programme.

Until the 1960s, the economic growth in India was low and confined largely to urban areas. A dramatic change came with Green Revolution. The country became self-sufficient in food improved the earnings of a large section of rural people. In the 1990s, because of reforms, industries and services were revitalised. The Indian economy is moving ahead to achieve 8 per cent of growth. But this growth is not likely to guarantee to generate enough employment. Agricultural growth has significantly dropped since the beginning of 2000. On an average, it is less than the growth of population. Bufferstocks of foodgrains have shrunk. The slowdown in agriculture also implies that the income of a large section of the population is nearly static. Hence, there is a need for efficient farm management and new technologies should be introduced to improve yields and quality of foodgrains. But what have we in the budget? What are our priorities? The basic question that should have been addressed to in this Budget is, whether income from cultivation enough to meet consumption and other expenditure or not. Are farmers today heavily indebted due to lower income from cultivation and increased cost of cultivation? The third question is, whether our farmers are able to cope with the new competitive environment after the economic reforms or not.

A survey known as the Situation Assessment Survey (SAS) shows the dreadful condition of the farmers' households, be it income, expenditure or indebtedness of farming households. Income from cultivation accounts for only 45 per cent of the total income which are wages, farming of animals, and non-farming business income. I would not go into the details of all that. But I would only impress upon one point. The Government is giving more stress on credit. The initiator of the debate, Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan, referred to Charvak theory. 'Krinam Kritva Ghritam Pivel—We are providing more credit to farmers. That will not serve the interest of the farmers to

a greater extent. The problems which our farmers are facing today is about the market where they can sell their produce and get the return. Giving more stress on increasing credit will not solve the problem. Farmers are more concerned about better prices, improved yields, better insurance cover, better infrastructure, and Government is more concerned to increase the loan amount.

Here, I would mention about an important aspect. Recently, a report was published depicting why more than a thousand farmers have committed suicide. This has happened over the last five years in Maharashtra cotton belt which is supposed to be one of the affluent agricultural areas. Now cotton is being imported because the price of indigenous cotton is high. All cooperatives are bankrupt in that area and more concession is being given to synthetic fibre. This year also, more leniency have been shown to synthetic fibre. Whom is the Government helping? Is it the *aam admi* or the industry? I have a quotation to make. Shri M.S. Swaminathan has said:

"A famine of jobs/livelihood in the rural non-farm and off-farm sectors is leading to a famine of food at the household level."

This point should be addressed to. The Prime Minister is emphasising the need to double annual foodgrain production from the present 210 million tonnes to 420 million tonnes within the next ten years time, that is, by 2015.

Therefore, the need of the hour is to give more stress on small farm productivity; increasing small farm income and providing institutional support to small farmers. I do not see much progress in empowering the farthest citizens of this nation, in reducing his hunger and poverty and in providing him employment.

Regarding education, a number of issues have come up for discussion. I would like to confine myself to *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan* because there was a lot of stress on it. Of course, while participating in a discussion on Private Members' Bill. I did state some of my views. I would like to draw the attention of the Government to some of the problems in brief. We have a thriving private sector which is providing education to a small section of the society.

The primary level education is upto 8th standard. But mid-day meal is provided only upto 5th standard students. We should spread the coverage of mid-day meal scheme upto at least 7th standard so that nutritious food can be given to children, especially to those who are in the rural areas. That would help to a greater extent. Of course, providing money for building the infrastructure of primary school education is good. It is giving results. More children are coming to the schools. But at the same time, this aspect should also be looked into. A figure has been mentioned in the Budget.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI B. MAHTAB: About the *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan* the Finance Minister has said:

"Two independent surveys show that 93 per cent of the children in the age group of six and fourteen are in school."

I do not think this is true. Total number of children are 22 crores. This is the demographic figure which has come out in the 2001 census. Only 12 crore children are attending the schools. That shows that more than ten crores of children are not going to schools.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. You have been given ample time. You have been given time very liberally.

SHRI B. MAHTAB: Now, I would like to speak about my State, Orissa. Of course, there are a number of other issues which need to be deliberated upon. No project has been proposed for the State of Orissa. There is only one reference to the State of Orissa in the whole of Budget speech of the Finance Minister. That is about deepening the channel to Paradeep. That is the only one reference regarding the State of Orissa. Nothing else has been mentioned. There is no mention about AIIMS-like Institute for Orissa for which the then Prime Minister had laid a foundation. There was a mention in the last year's Budget speech regarding this. But in this year's Budget speech, there is no mention about this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI B. MAHTAB: Sir, I would lay rest of my speech.

\*The Budget is supposed to create an opportunity for investment. Investment in underdeveloped areas to improve upon the infrastructure. Budgetary provision been made to improve Health Sector. Setting up of 6 AIIMS like institute does not find mention in the Budget. Bhubaneswar was one such place where AIIMS like institute was supposed to come up. What happened to it? Last year, it was there. What happened to this programme? Eight States are being provided special package. But Orissa been neglected again.

Hotel Management Institute are to be opened in Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Jharkhand and Uttaranchal. Orissa has tourism potential, but our state does not find place in the FM's radar.

Five Mega Power Project will come up in Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra. But Orissa, which has coal and water in abundance does not figure in the scheme of things.

Rs. 4618 crore are to be expended in SARDP. It is a road project. Orissa is not mentioned. We have been insisting to take up Vizag—Ranchi Highway. But nothing is mentioned.

A deep Sea Port is proposed to come up in West Bengal off shore. Only deepening of Paradeep Port is mentioned; nothing else. No capacity enhancement, no additional berth. No plan to develop Gopalpur or Dhamra.

Similarly, setting up of Indian Institute of Science for Education and Research (IISER) is a long felt need in Orissa. After Pune and Kolkata, Punjab has been named. Why Orissa been neglected in higher studies. Large number of students pursue higher education from Orissa, in outside state. Isn't it a fit case to set up at least one National Institute of repute in Orissa?

Similarly, why Cuttack, the oldest city of Orissa, is not included in NURM? It qualifies all criteria, yet why only two cities from Orissa, and 6 and 7 cities from other States? It is not partiality.

Heat wave is a natural calamity of high severity. Scores of people had died in 1999 because of Sun-stroke. No compensation is being provided to the victims

\*This part of the speech was laid on the Table.

[Shri B. Mahtab]

family. I would urge upon the Government to consider heat wave as a natural calamity and provide financial support to victims family who die of Sun-stroke.

Yes, the F.M. has thought of Ram Lila, Vedic chanting and Kuttiyattam—the old art forms. He has also remembered to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the First War of Indian Independence. But we should not forget that this year is also the 500 death anniversary of the great Mughal Emperor Akbar's. He was truly secular in thought and deed. During his reign, a Ram Durbar coin with Sri Hanuman on it was released. Ministry of Culture is aware so also Historians. Will it not be in fitness of things to commemorate Akbar the Great, by replicating that Ram Durbar coin in 2006! Will F.M. consider?\*

In conclusion, I would say that this Budget is clearly not for the common people. It is not even for the people of middle strata. It does not look after the interests of the under-developed States like Orissa. Orissa needs more attention. We are told that hon. Prime Minister is visiting KBK districts to review the progress of the works for which money has been spent for the last six years. These under-developed areas of Orissa and other States of this country need more support from the Union Government. They need adequate funding, monitoring and proper implementation of schemes.

That is why I urge upon the Government that the neglect that has been propounded in this Budget should be corrected.

[Translation]

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH (Rajgarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to quote the first lines from the budget speech of the Minister. Hon. Minister said in his speech "when I presented the first budget of the UPA Government, I asked hon. Members and the people of the country to walk with us on the path of honour and courage. The final report card on the first year of the UPA Government is out, and there are reasons to celebrate" I want to ask hon. Finance Minister the reasons for such celebration and which courage and honour he is referring to? Whether helping Quatrochi to get the money earned by him through

illegal means abroad has added the honour to the country? Quatrochi was an infamous international tout who earned money through kickbacks in deal and whose accounts were freezed in foreign banks. Surprisingly, the entire machinery of the Central Government left no stone unturned in defreezing his account. Even the CBI was pressurised and the Central Government did not leave a sigh of relief until payment was made to him from account. Has it added honour to the country? Is he celebrating over it?...*(Interruptions)* I will also speak on Budget, but it too relates to the Budget Speech. You have talked of courage, is counting the heads of minorities in the Army a matter of courage? Has it given the courage to the country? I thank Pranabji who did not take it seriously and rejected any such move.

Now I come to budget. If we have a close look on the Budget, according to the Prime Minister the Government has fixed the target of growth rate of GDP at 10% before the country and it will achieve the same. Actually we are expecting the Finance Minister to fix target of growth rate of GDP at 12% instead of 10% before the country, which would have increased the opportunity of employment. But the Finance Minister regressed two steps in advance and said that he was fixing the target of GDP at 8% and he could not fix it more than that. You had talked of achieving the target of 8%. If we discuss GDP growth rate, we had achieved 8.4% growth in 2003-2004. It was at 6.9 per cent in 2004-2005, which was revised and later stated to be 7.5 per cent. If we talk of trade deficit, it was 13.7 billion dollars in 2003-04, which increased to 36.6 billion dollar in 2004-2005. Is this a thing to be appreciated? The same trade deficit has now reached to 40 billion dollar in 2005-2006. Is increase in trade deficit a good thing? At present the Commerce Minister is not here, it is his responsibility. He is neither seen in the House, nor in the state, nor in the constituency. Most of the time he is in foreign countries and that is why the trade deficit is increasing. Export has increased by 18%, whereas import has increased by two-fold. Import has been enhanced to double in comparison to the export, and you can say that you have imported oil and hence the percentage of import has increased. If we overbook the import of oil, which is only one-third, even this import during your stint has increased by two-third and that too in industrial sector leading to an adverse



impact on industries in the country, which are on the verge of closure. Therefore, there is no such thing in your budget which may justify thumping of the table and receiving accolades.

If we talk of price-hike, the figures being cited by me are taken from Economic Survey, which has been published by you. The price of potato has increased by 58 per cent, onion by 48 per cent, tomato by 82 per cent, *urad* and *moong* by 20 and 39 per cent respectively and the prices of petrol and diesel have increased 6 times in two years. The price of coal has increased by 16.7 per cent and that of gas cylinder has been increased by rupees 40. Which common man's budget you are talking about? Is common man not related to all these things? It cannot be termed as common man budget in any case. ...*(Interruptions)*

National Rural Employment Scheme, which is a very big scheme, has been formulated and is now being publicised. You allocated Rs. 11,700 crore under that scheme during the last year, and Rs. 14,300 during the current year. The increase in allocation under the scheme was needed because the scheme was gathering dust in National Advisory Council for 21 months. No decision was made on this scheme in 21 months and the people remained deprived of the scheme for the same period. Why was it delayed for so long, what was the reason behind it?...*(Interruptions)*. It should be enquired into and you furnish the explanation in your reply so that the people of the country may know the reasons for delay in this scheme for such a long duration....*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, you can reply when your turn comes.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except Shri Lakshman Singh's speech.

*[Translation]*

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH (Rajgarh): this is not a new scheme. It has been formulated by clubbing food for work and SGRY schemes...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, you can reply when your turn comes. Let him speak.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)\**

*[Translation]*

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: You had covered 600 districts under this scheme. What are the reasons for decreasing the number of districts from 600 to 200 in spite of increasing allocation. We would like to get the reply for the same in the Minister's reply and the people of the country want a reply....*(Interruptions)*

The rate of employment has increased by 8 per cent in the country. Shri K.S. Rao was just talking of farmers in Andhra Pradesh. Eighty two per cent of farmers in Andhra Pradesh are overburdened with debt, 65 per cent farmers in Tamil Nadu, to which the Finance Minister belongs to, are in debt. 50% farmers in Punjab and approximately 45% farmers at national level are in debt. They do their work with the help of cooperative banks. They need fertilisers seed, pump, pipe etc. Their day-to-day farming needs are met with the help of co-operative banks. But the Finance Minister has imposed income tax on those co-operative banks. Please think of the condition of farmers who will be affected by it. Why did you impose income tax on them, what was the need for it? By doing so you have compelled the farmers to take more loans and the bank will be hit hard and the manner in which farmers are committing suicide their number may increase....*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except Shri Lakshman Singh's speech.

*(Interruptions)\**

*[Translation]*

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: There was 123.3 million hectare agricultural land in 2003-04 and the same has

\*Not recorded.

[Shri Lakshman Singh]

decreased to 120.3 hectare. There is a need to pay special attention to this.

What have you done for the families living below the poverty line? Thirty-five kgs. of foodgrains being provided/per family, has been decreased to 30 kgs., not to talk of increasing it....(Interruptions) Similarly, you have increased the prices of subsidized wheat and rice. Why were such hike made, reply me....(Interruptions) I know who is persuading...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the discussion is not *ex parte*. You can have your say when your turn comes. Why are you agitated?

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except the speech of Shri Lakshman Singh.

(Interruptions)\*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except the speech of Shri Lakshman Singh.

(Interruptions)\*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can have your say when your turn comes.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Budget discussion is a free discussion. You can reply at the time when your turn comes.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)\*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, your turn will come next. You can react at that time but in parliamentary words.

[Translation]

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: I deserted you because you don't listen to me....(Interruptions)

\*Not recorded.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, this year shares turnover was Rs. 20 lakh crore whereas turnover of future trading of share market was Rs. 40 lakhs crore. The total trading of share market was Rs. 60 lakh crore. Why don't you levy ten per cent tax on it? Do poor people deal in share market? If the Government levy 10 per cent tax on them, it will earn Rs. 60 thousand crore. You should consider this aspect also so that some funds could be mobilized.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are facing electricity crisis. Keeping in view the soaring prices of oil, the hon'ble Prime Minister just said that the Government is making efforts to mobilize other sources of non-conventional energy. But how much have you focused on non-conventional energy sources? Your minister of non-conventional energy sources has stated a number of times that the Government propose to bring in a comprehensive renewal energy policy. Where is your policy? Why is there not any mention about the same in the budget? The reasons for not mentioning it in the budget may also be explained.

Now, I would like to say something about scientists. The problem is that in our country scientists are rarely discussed. With your permission I would like to tell what Shri Chetan Singh Solanki, a professor in IIT Mumbai has said about solar energy.

[English]

"According to IITs Professor Chetan Singh Solanki, who leads the study alongwith scientists in Belgium and the U.S., the cost of electricity generated using PVCs comes to the lowest possible around Rs. 15 to Rs. 17 crore per megawatt."

[Translation]

This scientist has said that solar energy can be made more cheaper but I want to know what the government is doing in this regard. You have done nothing in this regard. You talk about nuclear energy. You should go ahead with it but at the same time you should also pay attention to solar energy. If you allow hundred per cent foreign direct investment in the non-conventional energy sector it will make much difference, but you are allowing foreign direct investment in the retail

sector. You are getting shops demolished in Delhi and trying to ruin the small shopkeepers by allowing foreign direct investment in the retail sector. You are paying much attention to that. I am of the view that the Government should allow hundred per cent foreign direct investment in the non-conventional energy sector.

One very important thing has been overlooked completely. Through you, I would like to tell the Government that Rs. 40 thousand crore are earned from small forest produce in our country and this small forest produce is collected by the people belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes who have voted you to power. Out of these Rs. 40 thousand crore fifty per cent is contributed by women. About seventy to eighty per cent man-days in collection of small forest produce is done by the people belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes but you don't care for them. Last year the budget for the Ministry of Environment and Forests was to the tune of Rs. 1235 crore, which has been reduced to Rs. 1100 crore this year. I apprehend you may slash the Budget allocation further for the Ministry of Environment and Forest.

Our share in global forests cover is two per cent at present. In global scenario we have fourteen per cent cattle and fifteen per cent human population. You have expressed serious concerns over decreasing population of Lions. The Prime Minister had visited the Tiger Reserve Area. A wide publicity was given to it but I am ashamed of what you spend on Tiger Reserve areas and National Parks.

Despite all this you are providing funds at the rate of Rs. 75 per square kilometers per year for preservation of Tiger habitats which is a matter of shame. You should pay more attention to it. Today about three hundred rivers flow through our forest areas, National Parks, Biodiversity Reserves and Tiger Reserves. If you do not make any efforts for their conservation and these rivers dry up and no water reaches to your taps, then take it for sure that all of your programmes, be it your 'Bharat Nirman Programme' or infrastructure programme all will not be translated into action.

You have allocated Rs. 4680 crore for drinking water and sanitation programme, which is a commendable thing.

But you have provided only Rs. 213 crore for treatment of contaminated water, water laboratories and water testing kits, which is less than five per cent. Do you want that our people should keep on drinking contaminated water? In our country many people are suffering from flourosis caused due to excess contents of fluoride and arsenic in water. Therefore, there is a need to allocate more funds for testing of drinking water.

Apart from increasing loan limit for agriculture sector what else have you done for this sector? Just now one of my friends said something about Dr. Swaminathan. Dr. Swaminathan who is a great agriculture scientist of our country himself has said that;

*[English]*

'Agriculture has not received the attention it needs. Apart from credit, there is nothing on other fronts'.

*[Translation]*

It is very good that you have fixed seven per cent interest rate on agriculture loan for the farmers but this provision has been made for kharif crops only and so far as I know it is not for the rabi crops. This provision should be made for rabi crops as well.

Sir, you have earmarked a budget of Rs. 89,000 crore for defence which is equal to 2.25 per cent of our gross domestic product. This allocation is too meagre and it should be enhanced. Our chief of Army staff had been writing to the Government time and again to strengthen the artillery of our country but the Government has done nothing to strengthen the artillery and purchase of tanks, I will conclude my speech after making a very important point.

The Eleventh Finance Commission had made a provision of Rs. 3000 crore for the backward States Grant Fund But that fund is kept in tact. You have formulated a rule that grant will be provided out of this fund only to the states which reduce their fiscal deficit by five per cent per year. My states made efforts to achieve the said target. Jammu and Kashmir, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Orissa and West Bengal have achieved the said target, and demanded grant from above the fund but you refused to provide any grant to them.

[Shri Lakshman Singh]

[English]

This amount to fiscal cheating, and this fiscal cheating will not be tolerated.

[Translation]

You refused to meet the Chief Minister of these states who came to meet you. One of your Joint Secretaries went to them and said that funds could not be provided to them. Is this your sympathy towards the backward states? Is this the price you have given to the states on support of which you are voted to power? It is a matter of great regret.

Finally, I would like to say that the Congress party is no longer a political party rather it has turned into a company....(Interruptions) It has been stated in the report of the Volkar Committee and you have accepted it. The Congress ceased to be a political party on the day when the sniffer dog of American Security agency licked and sniffed 'Samadhi' of Mahatma Gandhi.

[English]

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (Palani): Those who killed Mahatma Gandhi are with you....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: Even a single senior leader of Congress Party could not muster courage to speak against it.

SHRI SANDEEP DIKSHIT (East Delhi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on Budget. I have listened to speeches of members from Opposition benches attentively. I was told that today there will be discussion on the budget but I would like to point out about the political comments made by the Members of BJP in their speeches. I, very humbly, would like to say that Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan, who is going to occupy the Chair now and I have high regards for her and Shri Lakshman Singh could not resist themselves from making political comments in their speeches.

17.51 hrs.

[SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN *in the Chair*]

These too are elder and senior members to me and I have high regards for them. But I have also got an opportunity to say something on the political initiative they have taken. I would like to start my speech with one thing though it is not concerned with the budget. Madam Chairperson, I would like to tell you also that 30 to 40 years back BJP gave a big slogan of 'Hindi Lao' (bring Hindi) to people of the country. They were of the view that Hindi language is the proof of the pride of India.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Jaipur): What language has to do with this Budget?

SHRI SANDEEP DIKSHIT: Please first listen to me. You have also said so many things which have nothing to do with the Budget and that is why I am saying. I am following what you have said. I simply want to point out that for your seven-year rule you gave 'India Shining' slogan to the country. It is most unfortunate that you could not find a slogan in Hindi. At least we have brought a slogan of 'Bharat Nirman' in Hindi and not in English. ... (Interruptions) This I have mentioned just to start my speech. If there was no Hindi word to substitute 'India Shining' you should have tried to find out one in Tamil or Telgu. Perhaps you do not know that Tamil or Telgu are Indian languages. Had you picked up any word from any Indian language I would have felt pride on myself. ... (Interruptions) I was going to make a very small submission.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: No cross talks please.

SHRI SANDEEP DIKSHIT: I just want to say if you wanted to play politics on this issue you should have done like this.

I rise to support this Budget. I consider myself fortunate enough to get an opportunity to support this budget. One more reason of supporting this Budget is that such a budget has been prepared and presented after several years. We people hadworked in the rural areas of the country and we are aware of the situation there. All who have seen the situation in rural areas are of the view that this budget has been prepared keeping in view the requirements of rural areas.

There are two important things in this budget. The first most important thing about which you were talking is growth rate. Shri Lakshman Singhji said that the hon'ble Prime Minister has given a call for achieving ten per cent growth rate. This call has been given today and the UPA Government will move ahead with this target. Not only for the next three years but I am sure that people of the country will support us and we will remain in power for next ten year and will definitely achieve this growth rate. There is a unique thing behind this achievement of 8.1 per cent growth rate. We have achieved this growth rate amidst the confusion that is being created by some people in the country that this is a coalition Government in which left partners are supporting from outside and hence this Government would have no policy directions and neither they will remain leftist nor the rightists. I would like to say that the people of the country may give this sort of mandate to us rapidly so that we may go ahead with all of them. In this way we may give this growth rate of eight per cent to the people of the country again and again and year after year.

The second important thing is the responsibility of the Government to spend funds in the areas where it is needed but funds can be spent only when funds are mobilized. You cannot spend without earning, be it Rs. 30 crore or Rs. 3000 crore. Our Finance Minister, his department and UPA Government have created a record in this regard. I would like to give here some figures. In 2003-2004 NDA was in power and during that period total revenue receipt was Rs. 2,63,813 crore and our Government has enhanced that to Rs. 3,70,000 crore during the year 2005-2006 that too without any inflation about which you have been talking every time when we levied any tax. To achieve an increase of Rs. One lakh ten thousand crore in only two years is not an easy thing. After this increase we have been able to increase central outlay plan upto Rs. one lakh 72 thousand crore from one lakh five thousand or one lakh ten thousand crore. The Opposition has its Governments in several states. All such state Governments were given 1 lakh 82 thousand crore in 2003-04 but we gave them 2 lakh 53 thousand crore and we have set a target of Rs. 2 lakh 82 thousand crore this year. This is what a Government does and the Government, which has the courage, approaches its citizens for demanding money and this is

the confidence of the citizens that when their Government demands from them, they fill its coffers. And our Government has shown this confidence. Not only this that we distributed Rs. Two lakh three thousand crore, but the extent of our revenue collections shows our Government's confidence and this also shows that we know from where we can collect money from the public and the voters have confidence in our Government and whenever the hon. Finance Minister or for that matter our UPA Government has called upon the people of this country, they have given us overwhelming response and they have contributed Rs. 3 lakh 70 thousand crore to the national fund. Such are the people of our country, which is being lead by our hon. Manmohan Singh's Government under the guidance of hon. Soniaji.

One thing was said here as to what is the financial condition of this country? Keeping in view the financial muddling of the last many years, our hon. Finance Minister would have to make capital investment in the areas where it has not been done. He said that he would press a pause button of the fiscal responsibility act. In his speech he said that the manner in which they have collected the money, the way we have reined in the fiscal deficit, the way we have enhanced quality in work, that automatically fulfilled the commitment of the FRBM Act. Madam, that is a remarkable thing. By investing money where it is needed and doing all sorts of work, we have been able to bring down the fiscal deficit upto 3.8 per cent of the GDP and revenue deficit upto 2.1 per cent. Despite all this we gave money where we wanted to give.

Some of our friends of the opposition were talking about the Bharat Nirman Rs. 18,696 crore have been allocated for the Bharat Nirman. This is additionally. There is 54 per cent increase this year as compared to last year. This increase has been affected keeping in view that the state Governments have to implement this programme and they have their absorptive capacity. There are so many programmes in which the State Governments could not spend money.

Hon'ble Laxmanji asked why 600 districts were not covered, only 200 districts were covered? The first time when we discussed on this subject in our Standing Committee, this thing came to the fore that the National

[Shri Sandeep Dikshit]

Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme is a revolutionary step—revolutionary because there is nothing which the Government has not given, hereafter the Government won't say that you undertake this programme and the Government won't say to any officer that this is your target but the Government will humbly say to its citizens that just give order to it to give work to him because this scheme is pro-people and the Government is bound to give work to its citizens in villages. Therefore, we wanted to implement this scheme in 200 districts, to begin with. We do not want to implement it in the entire country in a haste so that there are no shortcomings. The Standing Committee also demanded the same thing. All the experts demanded this thing and so many colleagues were also of the same views. Therefore, we wanted to implement the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act step by step.

Some members also said that Rs. 14 thousand crore or Rs. 14 thousand and 3 hundred crore were less. There is an important line in the speech of the hon. Finance Minister wherein it is said that though we have given Rs. 14 thousand 3 hundred crore and [English] if necessary, whatever additional amount as required will be provided. [Translation] Madam Chairman, it will have to be accepted that this is a guarantee, this is a right. If Rs. 20 or 40 crore are to be spent under this scheme, then not only this Government but the coming government will also be compelled to arrange that amount by whichever way, for the poor of the country. If we need to spend Rs. 20 thousand crore we will do that and if we need to spend Rs. 10 thousand crore for the purpose, we would spend that much amount.

18.00 hrs.

I would like to urge all the friends that when they think of the Rural Employment Guarantee Act, they should think that it is not like other schemes, which are target based. Sufficient funds are provided there under. Our UPA Government and its each ally was confident that when we were giving such an important right to our people, we would be able to do it. Our conscience vouched for it. Otherwise, it is not so easy to give such an important right. One needs courage for its. And that

courage is shown by the UPA Government that it can do that.

[English]

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Shri Sandeep Diskshit, please wait for one minute. Now, it is six o'clock. I want to know whether we can extend the time of the House or not.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE): Please extend the time of the House by one hour, upto 7 p.m....(Interruptions)

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR (Bareilly): What about 'Zero Hour'?...(Interruptions)

SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE: There will be 'Zero Hour'...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MADAM CHAIRMAN: First, we extend the time of the House for one hour and then there will be zero hour.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): If you extend by one hour, it is not going to be finished even tomorrow....(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Mr. Handique, first there will be Zero Hour and thereafter we will take it up.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Let Shri Sandeep Dikshit complete his speech. Then, we will have 'Zero Hour'.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): Discussion on the General Budget should not be take up after the zero hour....(Interruptions) after that, zero hour should be taken up.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: First decision is that we extend the House for one hour. Shri Sandipji will complete his speech and there after zero hour will be taken up.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Is it time that all the ongoing schemes have been merged into one....(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE: Madam Chairman, let the discussion on the General Budget go upto 7 p.m. After that, we shall take up 'Zero Hour'....(Interruptions)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: That is fair....(Interruptions) [Translation] after that zero hour be taken up....(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: All the members need not speak simultaneously.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Let Shri Sandeep Dikshit complete his speech and then there will be 'Zero Hour'. After that, if Members agree, then we can continue the discussion on the General Budget. We are extending the time of the House by one hour.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE: This discussion continues for three days. Today is the first day of the Discussion. It will go on for two more days. Then, there will be reply....(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): Then we will agree. I was under the wrong impression that it would be over by tomorrow. If it is for three days, then it is all right....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Discussion should not be held like this. House is extended for more one hour. Let us see how much is covered within that time.

[English]

Now Shri Sandeep Dikshit, you can continue your speech.

[Translation]

SHRI SANDEEP DIKSHIT: I extend my sincere thanks to you for giving me an opportunity to express my views here in this august House.

I would like to repeat all the figures mentioned by Shri Roop Chand Pal in his speech in the morning. The findings of the seventh sample survey carried out between January and June by the National Sample Survey Organisation have just been released. I would like to repeat them as well. This survey is undertaken to gauge the unemployment situation in the country. In the year 1993-94 only 5.6 per cent people were found to be unemployed which has increased now to 9 per cent though only 6 per cent woman were unemployed. They were found to have increased to 8 per cent in the rural areas. Likewise, if anyone is to see the basis of 2004 election results then the figures speak for themselves that during the NDA regime of 5-7 years unemployment increased to 9-10 per cent. This issue itself brought us here which is reflected by the figures also keeping it in view what the hon. Finance Minister and the UPA Government have kept at the top of their agenda, I would like to make a mention of it.

First of all, agriculture has been kept on the priority list. Many things have been said about it. It has been stated as to why second green revolution is not talked about after the first one. Why does anyone not talk about technology? I would like to draw the attention of Finance Minister to one thing. All sorts of technology has been referred to Rain-fed areas are those where green resolution actually occurred in the year 1960-70. The areas which were entirely left out have not been taken into consideration by any government. Even today these rain-fed areas are being pondered over. That could be called dry land agriculture or rain-fed agriculture. On being encouraged by this, the hon. Finance Minister, after several years has stated to exemphasive issue of irrigation on the national level. I was quite young in the sixties. On the basis of what I had studies I could say that several revolutionary steps were taken and mega irrigation projects were started at that time. This continued in the seventies but thereafter issue of irrigation disappeared from the priority list. I would like to thank the Finance

[Shri Sandeep Dikshit]

Minister that he has again paid attention towards irrigation. I have little experience of working in rural areas on the basis of which I could say that a very great leader had said, "You give me blood, I will give you freedom" this is applied to the poor farmer as well and a farmer would say, 'You give me water I shall give you everything'. If poor farmers are given water then the small farmers will not need fertilizer subsidy or anything else. He is competent enough to explore market for his produce. If he does not get water then he does not find himself competent in any field. This is precisely the reason why the UPA Government has given priority to irrigation. It has been stated to cover one crore hectare of land under irrigation which deserves applause. After a long time, irrigation is being promoted in India. The way our Agriculture Minister is executing this scheme, the prescribed target will certainly be achieved.

I am startled to listen to certain honourable members that credit adds to loan burden. It actually happens when rate of interest is such that the farmers are not able to pay it conveniently. Without credit facility, the marginal farmer will not be able to carry on with farming these days. Those engaged in farming these days have to purchase seeds, fertilizers and also have to pay wages to landless labourers and therefore, they need some working capital. But the factual position is that the farmers do not have any cash today.

Therefore, the increase in credit facility made available to farmers could be termed as the highest achievement of the UPA Government. During the year 2004-05 a credit to the tune of one lakh twenty five thousand crore of rupees was disbursed which increased to one lakh eighty one thousand and five hundred crore. It is likely to be one lakh seventy five thousand crore of rupees in the coming years. Not only this, hon. Finance Minister said that sixty lakh new farmers were given credit out of this amount the previous year and 50 lakh new farmers are to be given credit this year. I would, therefore, request the Finance Minister that even if all other schemes are to be dropped but irrigation and agricultural projects should be fully executed. Certain Hon. Members have reacted to seven per cent and have asked to bring it down further. But I would like to differ with them on this

count that seven or eight per cent rate of interest is not that important, he would pay it up at seven on eight per cent but what is needed is that he should get as much as he needs and at a time when he needs it most, if he does not get the desired amount of loan in time, then it is meaningless for him whether rate of interest is 8 per cent or 20 per cent.

18.12 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Since time is less, I am concluding quickly. While concluding his speech, the hon. Finance Minister had said that they would have to reach a consensus on the issue of subsidy. Today be it subsidy on fertilizers, food etc., we are spending a lot of money on this count somewhere or the other. There is a stage where we cannot cut back in subsidy but to say that a person like me and my friends who are sitting beside me should also get as much subsidy on LPG as those who are living in jhuggi-jhopris or slums or villages, is a wrong thing. I do urge the Government if he could cut back on subsidy on selected basis, he should do so. Besides, I would like to urge him that the money, which accrues due to cut back in subsidy on this head, be directly given for agriculture and irrigation. If the oil pool deficit stands at Rs. 30 thousand crore today, it should be brought down to the level of Rs. 15 thousand and also give an assurance simultaneously that this Rs. 15 crore would be utilized directly in any irrigation project, then the MPs of this country cutting across the party lines would definitely support this move of the Government.

With these words, I conclude. I, thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, we will take up special mentions. First of all, I would call Shri Ganesh Prasad Singh.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Silence please.

...(Interruptions)



*[Translation]*

**SHRI GANESH SINGH (Satna):** Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Central Government should set up a new National Rural Bank. Thousands of employees working in about 196 rural banks are agitating in Delhi nowadays in support of their demand. The employees of the rural banks of Madhya Pradesh are also participating in that. This is true there is a major difference between the facilities available to the employees working in the nationalized banks and those working in rural banks, whereas both are doing the same nature of work. As per the N.I.T. and the Supreme Court, the benefit of the eighth Bipartite Wage Agreement should also be given to the employees of the rural banks but that has not been done so far. Similarly, these employees should also be given the pensionary benefits. But no attention has been paid towards this also. The rural development programmes are being implemented in rural areas through these banks. The need of setting up of a National Rural Bank in the country is being felt since long, because the implementation of the rural development scheme has not been taking place successfully through the nationalized banks. And to deal with this situation, a new National Rural Bank should be set up for the proper development of rural areas. This is my demand.

*[English]*

**SHRI SUNIL KHAN (Durgapur):** Sir, I associate with him.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail):** Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have raised this issue earlier also that the survival of the Ganges is in danger presently following the construction of the Tehri Dam. You might have seen in newspapers that so many agitations are turning violent in support of the Ganga Mukti Abhiyan and cleaning of the Ganges, I would like to draw your attention to the fact that the survival of both the Ganga and Yamuna is in danger. So many states, be it Haryana or Uttaranchal, all are constructing dams to hold the river water which have posed danger not only to Delhi but Bihar and Uttar Pradesh also besides so many other districts. And this has blocked the flow of the Ganga and a drought like situation has arisen. It is a question of faith of the Hindus

associated with it and religious places situated along its banks. Hindus give their offerings to the Ganga on many holy occasions like on the 'Shiv Ratri' etc. It is a matter related with their religious faith. The saints of religious places here have taken to streets and their agitation is turning violent severely.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, through you, I want to urge the Government to immediately release water from the Tehri Dam to avoid agitations and to augment the level of water in the Ganga and Yamuna so that water reaches the farmers' fields through canals and so far as it is concerned with the Hindus faith, it should remain in tact and thereby enabling them to give their offerings to the Ganga as per their faith. We want that the Government should immediately pay attention to it.

**SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna):** Sir, I associate with him.

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER:** All right.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO (Khed):** Thank you, Sir, for giving the opportunity. The Government of Maharashtra has issued a G.R. on 8th November, 2005 imposing a ban on conducting bullock cart races in various places in Pune district and in Maharashtra which is held during the religious fairs during January-February-March period. I just want to mention here that the Government of Maharashtra says that they have issued the ban on conducting bullock cart races based on the directives issued by the Animal Welfare Board of India, Chennai. When we contacted this Board in Chennai, they said that the Bombay High Court has banned the bullock cart races and bullfights. But, if you see the order of the hon. High Court of Bombay, it clearly says the ban is on bullfights and not on bullock cart races. Because of this banning of the bullock cart races, a lot of people in Pune district and in rural Maharashtra have a lot of resentment because this is associated with religious fair and it does not reflect on any provision of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act.

I would request the Government, particularly the Forest and Environment Department, Agriculture Department, Animal Husbandry Department to give

[Shri Adhalrao Patil Shivajirao]

directives through the Animal Welfare Board of India to all the State Governments lifting the ban on bullock cart races and continue the ban on bull fights which we do not mind. Thank you.

SHRI D.V. SADANAND GOWDA (Mangalore): Sir, the hon. Minister of Railways is continuing the step-motherly treatment to the State of Karnataka especially in running the trains even after completion of gauge conversion. Practically, the gauge conversion of Mangalore-Hassan railway line was pending since last ten years. Only in the month of July, 2005 the Mangalore-Subramanya railway line was made operational. After the commissioning of Mangalore-Subramanya line, I repeatedly raised this issue on the floor of the House to quicken up the pace of Subramanya-Sakleshpur gauge conversion work and to start Mangalore-Bangalore train by the end of September, 2005. During the inauguration of Mangalore-Subramanya line, the hon. Minister of State for Railways had assured in a public meeting that the Subramanya-Sakleshpur railway line would be completed by the end of October, 2005 and a new train will start in the month of November, 2005. The gauge conversion work from Subramanya to Hassan has been completed in the month of November, 2005 itself. Again the hon. Minister of State for Railways assured that the new train would start before the commencement of first Mahamasthakabhishekha of the century of Bhagwan Bahubali at Shravanabelagola in Hassan district. Till now no passenger train ran in this area. The Mahamasthakabhishekha celebration has come to an end on 19th February, 2006.

In this regard, I had personally requested the Railway authorities to operate the passenger train in this area. Presently, goods trains are running in this area. Now, people of this area are eagerly waiting for early operation of train, but no sign of starting of a passenger train in indicated by the Railway authorities.

Now, it has appeared in the newspapers that the General Manager of South-Western Railway, Shri Triloknath Perti, has said that train between Bangalore and Mangalore will run only by year end. Further, he explained that presently only goods trains are being run on risky stretches of the track between Hassan and

Mangalore. This statement has given shocking news to the people of Karnataka. This shows that the Railway Ministry is deliberately giving step-motherly treatment to the State of Karnataka, especially the southern part of Karnataka. Hence, I urge upon the Government and the Railway Minister, through you, to commence the Railway operation between Subramanya-Sakleshpur, that is, Bangalore and Mangalore immediately so as to facilitate the public of Karnataka.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Sudhakar Reddy, Shri Chengara Surendran, Shri C.K. Chandrappan, Shri Pannian Ravindran, all of them have raised the same matter, whosoever among the Hon'ble members wants to speak, may speak.

[English]

And others will be associated.

SHRI SURVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY (Nalgonda): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, thank you very much.

I would like to bring to the attention of the Government that several thousands of State Government employees under the banner of their National Federation marched to Delhi today and organised a massive rally before Parliament. Their main demand is restoration of the right to strike and their demands include amendment to the Bonus Act to remove the restrictions.

The right to strike is a fundamental right. Of course, that is the last weapon. Several hon. Members in this august House from different political parties pleaded for restoration of the right to strike. After the Supreme Courts judgement that there is no right to strike for Government employees as part of the right of collective bargaining in the background of the Tamil Nadu Government's unprecedented decision to sack and suspend lakhs of striking Government employees, a frightening atmosphere has developed. This right should be re-established. Strike and other forms of agitation are part of the democracy. This will reflect the problems of different sections of the society that will strengthen our democracy. It will not weaken the democracy. I would request the hon. Prime Minister to consider this justifiable demand of the

Government employees and take a position action as this has got support of different sections of the society.

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY (Sriperumbudur): Sir, I also associate.

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN (Trichur): Sir, I also associate.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You are allowed.

*[Translation]*

SHRI BHANWAR SINGH DANGAWAS (Nagaur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I want to speak on the methane gas issue about which the Prime Minister has made a mention in his speech. Methane gas is produced by burning the underground layer of coal in the mine itself. Coal India Ltd. has conducted the survey of such areas. Such underground coalmines have been identified in my parliamentary constituency at Meera Nagar, Tehsil Medta, District-Nagaur. This underground coalmine is much below the surface and its quality is also of 'D' grade. If it is utilized it will be very costly and good quality coal will not be found.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, having spent money coal India Limited has got the report prepared by Skochin, Skai Institute of Mining (SSIM), a Russian Company. This group of specialists advised that gas may be produced here by burning the coal layer in underground coalmine. Power generation, cement production and baking of brick in Kiln can be done with this gas.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of the Government through you that stones, lime and cement being used are found in abundance in this area. Besides small cement factories famous cement industries in the country like J.K. White is in Gohan and Birla White is in Kharia.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, Coal India Limited has launched a project in collaboration with ONGC and Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited in Gujarat based on this method. Besides this the Central Government has invited tenders for exploration and production of coal-bed Methane in Birhum, Sohagpur, Sengrauli, Tatapani-Ramkola, Mand-Raigarh, Southern Godavari valley,

Barmer basin (Rajasthan), northern Godavari valley and CBM, Lok G.B. (North) Coalfields.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I request the Government through you that there is an underground coalmine in my parliamentary constituency at Mira Nagar, Tehsil-Medta, District-Nagaur and the coal India Ltd. has the report submitted by experts, Tenders be invited to exploration and production of coal bed methane for that too. Alongwith this tender for generation of power be invited from the said gas from which power can be generated. Tubewells also have been bored here. The shortage of power can be met from it not only in Rajasthan but in the entire country.

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Avinash Rai Khanna—not present

Shri Francis George—Not present.

Shri Prabodh Panda—Not present.

Shri Srichand Kriplani.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI (Chittorgarh): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Government, through you, towards an important issues.

In spite of categorical direction of the Hon'ble Supreme court vide order dated 31-01-2001 and 07-03-2002, the ministry of Finance, Government of India has not implemented the allowances and other facilities in accordance with the Eighth Bilateral Salary Agreement and Officers' Agreement dated June 02, 2005.

The recommendation of reduction in other allowances and facilities in accordance with the decision made in the meeting of representatives of sponsoring banks held in the head office of National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD) on 27-01-06 has been forwarded to the Ministry of Finance. If the decisions taken in the said meeting is implemented, it will be contempt of the Hon'ble Supreme Court and violation of equality as envisaged and will be in contravention of the Government order dated 17-04-2002.

Sponsoring banks have decided to oppose this step

[Shri Srichand Kriplani]

through All India Gramin Bank Workers and Officers' Organisation affiliated to Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh. Approximately 600 employees and officers of Rajasthan are holding agitation and rally today before the head offices of NABARD, Punjab National Bank, State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur, Bank of Baroda, Jaipur Thar Gramin Bank in Jaipur, the capital of the state.

I request the Finance Minister, through you to implement the award of National Industrial Tribunal and decisions of Hon'ble Supreme Court.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Tapir Gao—Not present.

Shri Virendra Kumar

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR (Sagar): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, three Kendriya Vidyalayas are functioning in Sagar district of Madhya Pradesh. Besides this there is a Kendriya Vidyalaya in Bina. Sagar is a vait area. Similarly there is a big railway junction in Bina. A branch is being set up there by Bharat Petroleum. In spite of five Kendriya Vidyalayas in the district a Member of Parliament has been authorized to recommend for providing admission to only two students. Similarly, in other districts where there is more than one Kendriya Vidyalayas, one (member) has to work under pressure from the public. Therefore, I request the Government through you to cooperate with the Members of Parliament in providing the quota for admission to two students in each Kendriya Vidyalaya in a district including Sagar district where there are more than two Kendriya Vidyalayas.

[English]

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI (Kutch): Sir, I would like to associate myself with this issue.

SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI (Chittorgarh): Sir, I would also like to associate with him.

SHRI A.V. BELLARMIN (Nagercoil): Sir, in my home State Tamil Nadu, certain private managements are

running professional colleges in Engineering, and they could secure deemed university status for a few of their colleges. In the name of deemed universities enchanting advertisements are made offering lucrative courses in Engineering and Bio-Technology. The curricula for the courses, fee-structure and other academic requirements are also prescribed by the managements themselves. They do not adhere to any of the norms prescribed by the UGC, AICTE or IMA for that matter.

Though such managements get prior approval for certain courses by satisfying the norms prescribed by the AICTE, yet they start courses of their own choice with lucrative nomenclatures levying exorbitant fees that runs into several lakhs of rupees. They are not obtaining approval or recognition for such courses. The students of some such universities have started to realise the trick being played on them. Therefore, unrest broke out and it is spreading to all deemed universities there. The parents, who are spending profusely for the education of their ward at the insistence of such managements are in panic.

Therefore, the Government should come forward to bring out a legislation to check the unbridled spree of such managements in commercialising professional education.

Central agencies like the UGC, AICTE, IMA and the universities concerned should be made responsible for ensuring excellence in education. Affiliation should be given only on the basis of an assessment of the professional requirements and only after the institution concerned satisfied all conditions regarding infrastructural facilities and other academic norms. Minimum qualifications and salary for the faculties should be fixed. They should be made subject for accreditation, assessment and evaluation by the universities, AICTE and IMA.

A comprehensive piece of legislation containing such norms alone can save the students and professional education from the clutches of such managements.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I want to draw your attention towards a serious issue from which the people of my parliamentary constituency are much aggrieved because Rajasthan

Urban Cooperative Bank has been lying closed for the last six months by the order of the Reserve Bank of India. That is why the information regarding decision for recommendation of its merger with Rajasthan State Co-operative Bank for safety of the Money deposited by the people of Rajasthan, particularly the eight thousand depositors of Jaipur, has been sent four months ago at officers' level to the Reserve Bank of India. The Reserve Bank of India has not yet complied with this decision due to red tapism. Many bank depositors have committed suicide in desperation. The people's money is deposited in the bank. People can neither deposit their money nor can they withdraw it. I request that the Reserve Bank of India be requested by the Central Government or any Minister of the Central Government to refund the money deposited by those eight thousand people who have their account in the said bank so that they might get their money back. The people are too much aggrieved and may die of this grief. If eight thousand voters of my parliamentary constituency die it would certainly be difficult for me to get elected. Hence, I request that their money may be refunded. I express gratitude to you for allotting me time to speak.

*[Translation]*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You have completed your duty by raising their issue.

*[English]*

Shri Chandrakant Kahire—Not present; Shri Khagen Das—Not present; Adv. P. Satheedevi.

SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI (Badagara): Sir, I wish to draw the attention of this House towards the move of closure of the Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (CIFT) Research Centre at Calicut in Kerala.

The prestigious Research Centre has been in the forefront in lending a helping hand to the fisher folk and fishing industry of Malabar during the past four decades. Malabar region, which has a long coastline and constitutes half of Kerala is well-known for its fishing and allied fishery industrial activities, which constitute the major occupation and source of income of the people in the coastal districts of Malabar. Since this Research Centre is only one of its

kind in the whole of Malabar region, closing down the Centre will lead to the denial of benefits of scientific innovations to the fishermen and the fishery industrialists.

If the proposal for closure of the Centre is implemented, it will prove to be highly detrimental to the interests of numerous large, medium and small-scale Sea Food Industries of North and Central Kerala. And also, it would be suicidal for the large number of dependent employees and their families.

I feel that this matter needs urgent attention and therefore, I would request the Minister of Agriculture to kindly look into the matter and may be pleased to do the needful at the earliest.

DR. K.S. MANOJ (Alleppey): The Vembanad Lake alongwith the adjacent wetland over the eastern and southern sides forms Kuttanadu, the rice bowl of Kerala, and the largest wetland system in the west coast of India. Five rivers originating from the Western Ghats drain into this Lake. A good portion of the wetland has been converted into paddy fields which remain water logged for six months a year. Some areas are left fallow throughout the year. Every year, tonnes of insecticides, weedicides, fungicides and chemical fertilisers reach into this wetland.

Vembanad Kayal are the most productive ecosystem in our nation, the abode of unique species of plants and animals. It is also the cradle of several endemic and rare species of fishes, the nursery of commercially important shrimps, prawns and crabs and the natural habitat of mussels, oysters and clams. These wetlands are very important from the point of view of their flora and fauna as well as their water chemistry.

Deterioration in water quality and consequent damage to aquatic organisms are found to be very serious as per the studies conducted by various scientific institution. The pollution level is found alarmingly high.

Shrinking of Vembanad Kayal to 37 per cent as a result of land reclamation has been the most important environmental consequences of various human interventions.

In view of the above, it is of utmost necessity to

[Dr. K.S. Manoj]

evolve a sustainable action plan to conserve the Vembanad Wetland System, one of the major wetland systems designated as Ramsar site in India. The action plan should include elements like long-term management and wise use of such ecologically important eco-system considering its international status, with focus on abatement of pollution, check on soil erosion, regeneration and development of catchment areas and frontline development.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the present central government has compelled the people living below poverty line in Rajasthan to suffer in two ways—first by reducing the foodgrain quota under BPL and second by reducing the allocation of wheat under various schemes of social security and Annapurna. The central government allocated 54318 metric tonnes of wheat and 600 metric tonnes of rice to the families living below poverty line during the current financial year from April to July 2005 while it allocated 41454 metric tonnes of wheat and 12658 metric tonnes of rice from August 2005 to March, 2006. This total quantity of rice was increased and that of wheat was decreased by 12674 metric tonnes. The price of wheat under BPL scheme is Rs. 4.70 per kilogram whereas that of rice is Rs. 6.00 per kilogram. Rice not being their staple diet and it being costly, it is becoming difficult for the poor families in Rajasthan to sustain themselves. The poor people of Rajasthan are shedding tears on their predicament.

Sir, similarly 1 lakhs, 10 thousand 219 metric tonnes of wheat was allocated during the period from August 2005 to March 2006 as compared to 2 lakh 24 thousand and 698 metric tonnes allocated during the period from April to July 2005. The quantity of wheat has been reduced by 63 thousand and 479 metric tonnes. Similarly the allocation for Welfare institutions and hostels has also been reduced. Consequently, whether it is BPL or APL, the people of Rajasthan have to face great problem. The demand for wheat under APL has also <sup>been</sup> rising due to rise in price of wheat and flour in the market. It is not available in the shops under public distribution system.

Sir, therefore, the common man is compelled to purchase wheat at hiked price. Similarly, the allocation for Rajasthan has been drastically reduced under Antyodaya and Annapurna scheme also. As a result of this the poor are bearing the brunt. The Rajasthan Government has drawn the attention of central government on pitiable condition of the BPL families by writing letters twice. However, no action has been taken in this regard. Therefore, it is requested to the government of India that heavy reduction in quota of allocation of wheat to Rajasthan under APL, BPL and other schemes be withdrawn with immediate effect and arrangements be made immediately to provide more and adequate wheat in place of rice.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Santasri Chatterjee—  
Not present.

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY (Basirhat): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the Government as well as of this august House to an incident of gross violation of rules and misappropriation of huge funds from people, particularly truck purchasers, by Eicher Motors Limited, Delhi. After promising six workers, free mechanical and technical services, the company attracted prospective buyers of trucks. After trucks are purchased, the company has not provided the services of any worker contrary to what they promised. The company has not provided any free technical or mechanical service as promised for which the truck-owners are paying a service charge. In this way this company has committed fraud upon the people who have purchased its trucks. Apart from this, the company has also deprived the Government of the revenue. This company has been indulging in this fraud upon people and the Government continuously. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to make a comprehensive inquiry against this company and take suitable action as it deems fit and proper.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: At first, you should be present in time.

[English]

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE (Idukki): Sir, I seek the intervention of the Central Government on a very grave problem that is being faced by Kerala. Let me at the outset say that this is nothing against the people of Tamil Nadu. This is a matter regarding the closing down of the shutters of Mullaperiya Dam on 1st March. It has been decided earlier to keep the shutters fully open throughout the year to keep the water level at 136 feet. I only ask for the *status quo* to be maintained if this matter has to be settled amicably between the two States. This is a 110 year old dam. It is in a very precarious condition. If something happens to the dam, four to five districts of Kerala, with a population of 40 lakhs, will be affected. It is a very grave matter. We have no dispute or problem in sharing the water with our Tamil Nadu brethren. Only thing we ask is that *status quo* should be maintained. For a long term solution, we need to construct a new dam and there should be a new agreement.

Hence, I seek the intervention of the Central Government in this matter to settle this problem very amicably.

DR. K.S. MANOJ: Kindly allow me to associate myself with this matter.

SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI: Kindly allow me also to associate myself with this matter.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: All right.

Shri Madhu Goud Yaskhi—Not present.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA (Dhandhuka): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Government that today's children are tomorrow's India, but a large number of children are being kidnapped. An international gang kidnap small children from India and sent their organs to foreign countries after killing them. This has become their business. The issue has been raised earlier, too. Former Prime Minister, Hon'ble Atal Bihari Vajpayee and the present Prime Minister Shri Manmohan Singhji and other members had also raised this issue. Not only this, this gang is so much active that

it has spread its activities in West Bengal, Central Bihar and gradually in south also. The children lost in the other states have not yet been found. If the number of such children lost in the entire country is assessed, it will be quite stunning a number.

Before this, children from India were sent to Saudi Arab. Indian passports were recovered from them and all those children were sent back to India. Most of these children belonged to Kolkata, West Bengal and Bihar. I want to tell the government, through you, that the price of these organs have also been assessed and these are being used for study purpose in foreign dispensaries. Head is sold at a cost of Rs. 1300 in India, the cost a pair of bones of leg and head is Rs. 1600/- and entire body is sold at the rate of Rs. 2100. It should be prevented. The children from the country are being sold. We talk but the parents who despite knowing well that their children will be taken out of the country and their organs will be sold after killing them sell their children due to poverty. This heinous act should be prevented and such mafias should be traced. It is my request to the government through you to prevent such activities inside the country.

SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL (Kota): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I want to draw your attention towards a special problem. You yourself belong to a family of farmers. The farmers in many states of the country are committing suicide these days due to financial crisis. Our state of Rajasthan never faced such a situation. I have just visited my Parliamentary constituency yesterday. There has been huge damage caused by the hailstorm. The entire crops of sugarcane, mustard and wheat have been totally destroyed. The farmers are facing the problem of non-availability fodders for their cattle. They are being compelled to remain hungry for the last two days and their entire family is on the verge of rain. Houses have been damaged; animals have died, the trees have gone bereft of leaves. All birds have died. In such a situation, 100 per cent crops have been damaged due to hailstorm and the people are suffering. Roads are being Jammed. Demonstrations are being held suicides are being attempted. I met them yesterday. Since I also belong to a family of farmers, I could not stop my tears. When the issue of providing relief to them came up, the archaic

[Shri Raghuvveer Singh Koshal]

norms being followed since long for small and marginal farmers come in the way of providing relief to them. Those who purchased good quality seeds and fertilizer after obtaining loan from the bank find a good crop. But today their entire crop has been damaged. Then wherefrom they will pay up their loan, how will they survive for 12 months and how will they pay the electricity bill. Today they are faced with this daunting problem and reeling under severe famine conditions. Therefore, famine relief norms should be revised. Those who are not covered under the marginal farmer category have also suffered losses. How will they sow the next crop? They should also be paid the compensation.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, you very well know that the crop insurance scheme is a complete hoax. When more than 50 per cent crops are damaged in the entire Tahsil then compensation is given when the hailstorm lashes. A belt covering certain villages of one Tahsil and certain villages of another Tahsil are included. All the villages have been damaged. Banks deduct insurance amount compulsorily but they do not get insurance money. Therefore insurance law should be amended to bring it down to the level of Panchayat. Money for farmers the calamity relief fund be raised, otherwise Rajasthan which has been untouched from the suicide trend will witness suicides. I have visited the places and am an eyewitness to it....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Kriplani, Shri Santosh Mahavir, Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat and Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava also associate themselves with its.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: This matter is also a serious one. This not only happens in Rajasthan but also in Punjab.

[Translation]

That affect a few villages but we take into account the entire Tahsil. When entire Tahsil is counted then only three-four villages are left out....

[English]

Village should be considered as a unit.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDER KUMAR (Haridwar): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I extend my sincere thanks to you for giving me an opportunity to speak here in this House. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI (Kutch): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I want to speak on a very important issue. ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: If I can say no to Shri Mistry Saheb then I can also say no to you because it is a court matter.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDER KUMAR: Sir, in my constituency of Haridwar the farmers suffer financial losses and students are deprived of education due to waterlogging owing to absence of bridges-culverts in certain villages. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please do not disturb.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDER KUMAR: Following work should be undertaken:—

1. Construction of a bridge over the hullab in Kane wali.
2. Construction culvert on the Shikroda (Main road).

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\*Not recorded.



3. Construction of culvert over the Rajwahe between Brahmpur and Harchandpur (Opposite Brahmpur)
4. Construction of bridge over the nullah between Baleki to Kunja Bahadurpur.
5. Construction of a bridge over the river between Seeghadu and Aithal.
6. Construction of bridge over the river near Malakpur.
7. Construction of an intermediate college.
8. Construction of a bridge over nullah near village Garh in Bahadarabad block.
9. Construction of a bridge near Kota Gachharhedi over Ratmau river.
10. Construction of culvert on Ahmed Grunt.

It is, therefore, requested that the Government may kindly give a special financial package to facilitate construction of bridges and culverts.

18.49 hrs.

GENERAL BUDGET—GENERAL DISCUSSION,  
2006-07

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS  
(GENERAL) 2005-2006

DEMANDS FOR EXCESS GRANTS (GENERAL),  
2003-2004—Contd.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, we will again continue discussion on the Budget.

[Translation]

An honourable lady members has requested to me that she would not be present here in the House tomorrow and day after, therefore she wishes to put first her views today.

[English]

The time of the House is already extended upto 7 o'clock. So, I would like to give her a special favour. Now, Shrimati Preneet Kaurji.

\*SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR (Patiala) Hon'ble Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak on the General Budget, 2006-2007. In this Budget speech, the Finance Minister informed us that the country had achieved the target of high growth rate as envisaged in the Common Minimum Programme. I congratulate the Finance Minister for this achievement. He has also outlined various facilities for agriculture sector and farmers as per the Common Minimum Programme. Irrigation facilities, credit facilities, promotion to diversification of irrigation and crops and creation of markets are some of the salient features of the Budget.

I would like to dwell in brief upon other issues too. Assured irrigation is the lifeline of farmers and I thank the Government for the attention it has given to this vital area. Diversification of irrigation system is the need of the hour. Drip-irrigation will result in saving of water. Although, it is costly, we must help farmers get adequate water for irrigation. An Hon'ble Member has highlighted this point effectively as there may come a time when water will not be available at any cost.

Now, I come to 'Bharat Nirman' It is a good programme. However, it is not suited to Punjab. As far as link roads and irrigation canals are concerned, Punjab is already an advanced State in these matters. However, we need money for their upkeep and maintenance. So, I appeal to the Government to provide monetary assistance to Punjab.

Sir, during the winter season, there was no rainfall in Punjab. The wheat crop has been damaged due to this drought in Punjab. I hope, the Government will come to the rescue of the affected farmers and provide adequate compensation to them.

I thank the Minister for conceding to our demand regarding financial assistance to Punjab Agriculture University. 100 crore rupees have been given by the Centre and it will certainly help Punjab Agriculture

\*English Translation of the speech originally delivered in Punjabi.

[Shrimati Preneet Kaur]

University. It will also help us in acquiring technology for the diversification programme.

Like water, land too is an asset. However, in Punjab, land is being divided and Sub-divided into small holdings. A working group set up by the Hon'ble Prime Minister has recommended that a bio-technology institute should be established in Punjab. It will give a fillip to agro based bio-technological needs of the State. I hope, this institute will be set up soon. It will help us usher in the Second Green Revolution in Punjab.

Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it is my firm belief that the farmers of Punjab will be foremost in their contribution to the second green revolution. About two lakh hectares of land is under contract farming in Punjab. It is 5% of our total land under agriculture.

I thank the Hon'ble Minister for providing credit-related facilities to the farmers. The rate of interest on short-term credit has been brought down to 7%. But, more needs to be done for the farmers as they provide foodgrains to the entire country. However, the Finance Minister should ask NABARD to increase the credit limits of Punjab Co-operative Bank without putting a cut for large 'own funds' with them.

The UPA Government is kind and compassionate. Its programmes and policies are pro-people. I will not dwell at length on these as there is dearth of time. I will raise five demands for Punjab. A sum of rupees 760 crore should be provided for improving rural infrastructure. An amount of Rs. 630 crore should be given for improving urban infrastructure. For the improvement of roads, 340 crore should be provided. 100 crore should be earmarked for power sector in Punjab and 110 crore should be given for improving the education related infrastructure in Punjab. Thus, an amount of 1940 crore is needed for Punjab.

I thank the Hon'ble Minister for highlighting gender-sensitives and providing money for programmes related to women. This will go a long way in improving the condition of women in our country. 1000 new schools will be opened for the girls belonging to SC, ST, Backward

and minority communities by 2007. I am grateful to the Hon'ble Minister for this commendable step.

India has become a popular tourist destination in the world. Punjab has the potential to become a tourist hub. The third generation of Punjabis are settled in various foreign countries. NRIs tend to return to their roots and this in itself can be a boost to Punjab as a tourist destination. But, we need financial assistance to improve our tourism related infrastructure.

I thank the Government for the proposal to built the Delhi-Chandigarh Express Highway. However, it should be extended to Wagah Border near Amritsar as it would go a long way in improving Indo-Pak relations. Punjab can play a vital role in further cementing Indo-Pak trade and economic ties.

We are grateful to our armed forces as they have always looked after our security concerns. I thank the Government for granting pension to retired PBOR personnel. Under the general Pension Scheme it has been raised to Rs. 200/-. However, people in Punjab do not fall under the income norm required for availing this benefit. We too have widows, handicapped and poor people in Punjab. They too should be included in this scheme so that they can avail the pension of Rs. 200/-. The Punjab Government can also provide a matching amount of Rs. 200/- to them.

Under the Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme in Punjab. Hoshiarpur district has been selected. But, five more districts should also be brought under its purview.

As a country progresses so do the dreams of people. More and more people want to be owners of a car. I thank the Hon'ble Minister for the facilities given on the purchase of small cars. However, there should be a rethink on the conditions laid down.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the House was extended upto 7.00 p.m. Shall we continue the discussion or adjourn the House?

SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR: I am concluding, Sir, I will take one more minute only.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Sir, let her conclude her speech.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: All right.

SHRIMATI PRENEENT KAUR: The Finance Minister had set up a committee which recommended that the remaining amount of Rs. 3772 crore be waived off as far as Punjab is concerned. I would like to clarify to this House that this was not a loan to Punjab. It was actually a security related expenditure that was incurred during the time of terrorism. So, by waiving this amount, we will fulfil a debt that is owed to the people of Punjab.

Lastly, I would like to reiterate the request to help Punjab in its growth in the 21st century. At the moment, people are feeling very constricted because the last Government gave certain concessions to our neighbouring States of Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh. The situation today is that no industry big or small is coming to Punjab. Therefore, we cannot get our youths any jobs. This is very sad because these are youths of parents who have given their sweat and blood for the country—be it in the freedom struggle, be it on the borders during war time or be it for the green revolution.

Now, we are standing on the edge of a second green revolution. At this stage, I would certainly like to end my speech by saying '*Jai Jawan Jai Kisan*' and I hope that all the "castles in the air" would become realities.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I would also like to make a request that our industries are shifting from Punjab. So, we want that you should help Punjab.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): Sir, I would convey your request to the hon. Finance Minister.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, the House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow, the 8th March, 2006 at 11.00 hours.

**19.04 hrs.**

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, March 08, 2006/Phalgun 17, 1927 (Saka).*

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