

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Sixth Session
(Fourteenth Lok Sabha)



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*The sign + marked above the name of a Member indicates that the Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by that Member.

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Friday, December 2, 2005/Agrahayana 11, 1927 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

(MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have requested you to suspend question hour. Today a very serious thing has come to light....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You raise it after the question Hour, please.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Our ambassador there has said it very clearly that the entire House and the country have been kept in dark. Crores of rupees....* He has spilled the beans there....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: No, it cannot go on record.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Those things will not go on record.

(Interruptions)....*

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Sonia Gandhiji should resign. Case should be filed against Natwar Singhji....(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR (Bangalore South): Sonia Gandhi has to resign, Sir. She should own the responsibility...(Interruptions) Mr. Natwar Singh should go. He should be dismissed....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Despite all this, he has been retained in the cabinet....(Interruptions)

[English]

He should have been dismissed....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, although we have had a full discussion but if you want to raise it, I will give you opportunity after the Question Hour.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us go with the Question Hour.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Sir, it is a very serious matter...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Q. No. 142—Shri Shishupal Patle.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will try to accommodate you after the Question Hour. Please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: On this matter, we will discuss. Let the Question Hour go on.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad): Today, it has been confirmed that Jagat Singh and Andy Sehgal were the beneficiaries. It has appeared in the *Aaj Tak*. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you want to take up this matter during the zero hour but it is a very serious issue. Sonia Gandhiji has kept the entire nation in dark.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot decide on that, please.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

*Not recorded.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: How can Matharani Know?...*(Interruptions)* It has come in an electronic channel....*(Interruptions)* Sonia Gandhi has to resign. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. leaders of all the political parties have been very rightly reminding us that the Question Hour is very important. Let the Question Hour go on. I shall try to give you opportunity after the Question Hour.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, truth has come out in this issue. Democracy does not function in this way....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Athawale, please go to your seat.

Let us proceed with the Question Hour.

Q. No. 142, Shri Shishupal Patle—Not present.

Q. No. 143—Shri Prabhunath Singh.

11.04 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Higher Rate of Interest Charged by Co-operative Banks

*143. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether co-operative banks are getting funds at concessional rates from National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the rate of interest charged by co-operative banks on loans advanced to farmers are higher than the commercial banks apart from the penal rate of interest on overdue amount charged by them;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to ensure that farmers get loans from co-operative banks at lower rate of interest?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. NABARD provides refinance to State Co-operative Banks for Short Term Seasonal Agricultural Operations (ST-SAO) and for investment credit at rates of interest varying between 5.5% to 5.75% and 5.5% to 6.75% respectively.

(c) to (e) Interest rates charged by commercial and cooperative banks have been deregulated. Banks are free to determine the rate of interest on loans taking into account their cost of funds and the risk element involved. Such cooperative banks which charge simple rate of interest on loans advanced to farmers as against compound rates of interest charged by commercial banks, charge a penal rate of interest on overdue amount. Due to the multi-tier cooperative structure, the cost of intermediation at each level adds to the final rate at which the borrower receives the loan. Pursuant to the advice of Indian Banks' Association to Public Sector Banks to charge a rate of interest of not more than 9% per annum on crop loans upto Rs. 50,000/-, NABARD has advised cooperative banks to charge a low rate of interest on crop loans. The rate of interest of cooperative banks has come down considerably on loans disbursed through Kisan Credit Cards.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has mentioned in the reply that banks are free to determine the rate of interest on loans taking into account their cost of funds and the risk element involved but this freedom is being misused. I want to tell the hon. Minister that NABARD offers loan at the rate of interest of 5.5 per cent or 6.7 per cent but cooperative banks offer loans to farmers, at 12 to 16 per cent rate of interest on loans upto Rs. 25 thousand and 12 to 17 per cent on loans from Rs. 25 thousand to Rs. 2 lakhs. Whether the hon. Minister of Finance

would ensure that interest that the farmers are paying is regulated and they do not have to pay more as is happening at present?

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, the question concerns the interest rates charged by cooperative banks. As far as the Government of India is concerned, through NABARD, we are re-financing the State Cooperative Banks, as I have said in my answer, for short-term loans, at 5.5 per cent to 5.75 per cent. Now, the Cooperative Banks set their own interest rates. There are three structures—the State Cooperative Banks, the District Cooperative Banks and the Primary Cooperative Societies.

My experience is that, at every stage, the intermediation cost, the spread of interest that they attach, is sometimes two per cent and sometimes 2.5 per cent, which is why, the ultimate rate of interest to the farmers goes upto almost 12 per cent or even 12.5 per cent.

I have tried to impress upon the State Governments that the spread at every level should not be more than one per cent and if it is not more than one per cent, surely they can give to the farmers at about 8.75 per cent or 9 per cent. But unfortunately the cooperative structure is in such a shambles—their NPAs are so high—that in order to find the revenues and to keep the structure going, they charge such a large spread.

Anyway, you are aware that we appointed Vaidhyanathan Committee. The Vaidhyanathan Committee has given its report; the report has been shared with the State Governments; and a package is being worked out. The package is now in a near-finalisation stage. It will go to the Cabinet shortly. And then, we will implement the package by providing relief. But at the moment, the burden lies entirely upon the State Governments to put their house in order so that cooperative structure at different levels does not add to the re-finance rate given by NABARD.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has accepted that the farmers are being

exploited, they have to pay more. The hon. Minister shows great concern for the farmers while presenting the budget but right now he has passed the buck on to State Governments. The farmers are being charged compound rate of interest and they are being made to pay Rs. 5,000, Rs. 10,000 or Rs. 15,000 against the loan of Rs. 500. Sir, through you I want to know from the hon. Minister whether he proposes to make any arrangements to ensure that farmers do not pay more than the double amount of the loan even if compound rate of interest is charged on the loans taken by them? Whether he proposes to make any such arrangement by holding talks with NABARD and Cooperative Banks?

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, the Government of India does not direct the Cooperative Banks to do this or to do that. The Cooperative Banks are under the control of the State Governments. The Cooperative Banks do not charge compound rate of interest. What they charge is a penal rate of interest. I do not support or encourage these practices, but the financial health of the cooperative structure has to be restored; now simply in order to meet their costs, they are charging a higher spread at each level. Therefore we have worked out a huge package where the Government of India is going to bear a substantial portion of the burden. But the onus squarely lies on the State Governments to set the cooperative structure in order. I can only help by providing this package.

[Translation]

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV: Sir, the Cooperative Banks charge 9 per cent rate of interest on the loans upto Rs. 50,000 advanced to the farmers. The Standing Committee on Agriculture recommended to increase this limit from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 1,00,000. Rate of interest should be kept at 9 per cent even if a farmer takes a loan of Rs. 1 lakh. Whether the hon. Minister would make arrangements in this regard?

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, this is an RBI stipulation. The bulk of the loans, I am not saying all, taken by small and medium farmers as crop loan is Rs.

50,000 or less. I shall certainly pass on the suggestion of the hon. Member to the RBI to see if any further liberalisation can be done.

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN: Cooperative banks in Tamil Nadu are in a very bad shape. Many banks are not at all advancing credit to the needy farmers. Though the cooperative banks come under the control of the State Government, taking into consideration the unprecedented rains and flood in Tamil Nadu and also drought for the past four years, may I request the hon. Finance Minister to take suitable steps so that cooperative banks, if not nationalised banks, advance credit to the farmers and also to wipe off their past loans?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: We have announced on the 18th June, 2004, a package to double agricultural credit in a matter of three years by increasing agricultural credit at 30 per cent a year. We are well on track. Therefore, commercial banks are now aggressively lending to farmers. Loans to the farm sector this year have already exceeded the amount of loans given last year. I gave out these figures at the end of a meeting with the CMDs of public sector banks. Let everyone be assured that public sector banks will reach the target of lending fixed for them. As of 2004-05, We lent Rs. 1,15,242 crore. This year the target is Rs. 1,41,000 crore. I am confident that we will exceed the target.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: The hon. Minister has accepted the bad state of affairs of the cooperative banks, which is well known to us. He has also stated that the Central Government is planning to have are structuring done of these cooperative banks. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Central Government is advising or ensuring to make some basic structural changes so that this thing does not get repeated. You may do one-time restructuring but after a few years we again require restructuring. Is the Government planning to ensure that these things do not occur again? If it is doing, what are the basic structural changes that it is visualising; if you are not doing so how do you ensure that these things do not happen again?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: We are contemplating basic structural changes. The recommendations of the Vaidyanathan Committee Report are on the website. Recommendations have been shared with the State

Governments. The Chief Ministers' Conference has broadly endorsed the recommendations. States have sent their written responses. The package is ready and as soon as the Cabinet clears the package, I will announce it.

SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI: The public sector of Kerala is facing financial crisis due to the high rate of NPA. In the answer to this question, the Minister has stated that NABARD has advised the cooperative banks to charge low rates of interest and the NABARD is directed to give agricultural loans to banks. Due to lack of refinancing facility given to these banks by NABARD, the cooperative banks of Kerala are not in a position to provide loans at a higher rate. I would like to know whether the Minister would take steps to enable these banks to have refinancing by the NABARD. Is there any monitoring of the functioning of NABARD, especially with regard to the district level cooperative banks of Kerala, by the Ministry?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: We are giving refinance but there are several State cooperative banks and DCCBs, which are ineligible for refinance. If you are ineligible for refinance, then the State Government must set its house in order and make that level of cooperative structure eligible for refinance. I do not know of any State cooperative bank or a district cooperative bank, which is eligible for refinance, not getting refinance. If there is such a case, please bring it to my notice. I doubt there is such a case.

[Translation]

Energy Through NCES

*144. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT:

SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY:

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the depleting level of petroleum reserves, Government proposes to give further impetus to non-conventional energy sources in the country;

(b) if so, the initiatives taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) the success achieved so far in this field;

(d) the Central assistance provided to each State during the last three years for this purpose; and

(e) the time by which the country will become self-reliant in the field of energy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To encourage deployment of renewable energy sources financial and fiscal incentives are being provided that include capital/interest subsidy, accelerated depreciation, concessional duties and relief from taxes. In addition, preferential tariff is given to grid interactive renewable power in most potential states. Publicity and awareness on the use of renewable energy systems/devices is also created through print, postal and electronic media and special events like the Rajiv Gandhi Akshay Urja Diwas are being held. District-level Advisory Committees have been constituted in the states to facilitate effective coordination of renewable energy schemes/programmes.

(c) Renewable power contributed around 6 per cent (6160 MW) of the total installed capacity in the country, as on 31-3-2005. As much as 18 per cent, i.e. 2643 MW of the additional installed power generating capacity that has been commissioned during the last 3 years (FY 2002-2003 to 2004-05) has come from renewables. Of this, 13 per cent (1967 MW) has come from wind, 2 per cent (267 MW) from small-hydro power and around 3 per cent (407 MW) from bio-energy.

(d) State-wise Central Financial Assistance (CFA) provided under various non-conventional energy programmes during the last three years, i.e., FY 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 is given in enclosed Annexure.

(e) The broad aim is to move towards energy self-sufficiency in a feasible, viable and sustainable manner in keeping with global trends.

Annexure

(in Rs./crore)

Sl. No.	State/UT	CFA provided during last 3 years
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	43.75
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	34.83
3.	Assam	4.62
4.	Bihar	0.27
5.	Chhattisgarh	16.82
6.	Goa	0.84
7.	Gujarat	13.74
8.	Haryana	14.85
9.	Himachal Pradesh	25.40
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	17.06
11.	Jharkhand	13.29
12.	Karnataka	37.29
13.	Kerala	5.33
14.	Madhya Pradesh	13.14
15.	Maharashtra	22.37
16.	Manipur	11.31
17.	Meghalaya	11.67
18.	Mizoram	8.76
19.	Nagaland	4.71
20.	Orissa	10.18

1	2	3
21.	Punjab	31.85
22.	Rajasthan	16.84
23.	Sikkim	16.96
24.	Tamil Nadu	17.46
25.	Tripura	26.49
26.	Uttar Pradesh	49.13
27.	Uttaranchal	22.82
28.	West Bengal	56.61
29.	Andaman and Nicobar	6.28
30.	Chandigarh	0.36
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00
32.	Daman and Diu	0.00
33.	Delhi	4.67
34.	Lakshadweep	9.36
35.	Pondicherry	0.71
36.	Others (through NGOs, Institutions etc.)	90.57
Total		660.34

[Translation]

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has informed that there are certain areas where the electricity department finds it difficult to make electricity available which include certain villages in forest areas and some restricted areas for which non-conventional energy department provides electricity. Geographically, Madhya Pradesh is a very big State and it has vast forest area also. Electricity department or the State Electricity Board is finding it difficult to provide electricity to many districts of the State. Madhya Pradesh Energy Development Corporation has sent certain proposals to the Union Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources in this regard. I too met the hon.

Minister personally: the Chairman of State's Energy Development Corporation too met him. After receiving the proposals from the State Government, hon. Minister visited Kasai village and announced a few projects in view of the requirements of Madhya Pradesh. The announcements also included wind energy projects in my constituency, Shajapur and Ratlam. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether he would suit action to the word soon and accord approval to the projects he has announced?

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, all the demands put up by our hon. Members have been acceded to or are under implementation. All the problems indicated by the hon. Members have been sorted out. If there is any other problem, it would also be solved.

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister has informed the House that the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has provided financial assistance to States for power generation in non-conventional energy sector during the years 2002-2003 and 2004-2005. However, if we go through the figures, the amount of Rs. 13.14 crore that has been given to Madhya Pradesh is meager. In comparison to Madhya Pradesh, Rs. 43 crore has been given to Andhra Pradesh and Rs. 56 crore has been given to West Bengal which are much higher. There are several states which have been given higher amount where as Madhya Pradesh is a bigger state from geographical point of view and its requirements are also high. The funds that have been allocated to Madhya Pradesh are very less. I would like to know whether the hon'ble Minister proposes to increase this amount?

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, funds which are allocated to the states depend on the proposals that are submitted by the State Government to Central Government. The funds are not allocated on the basis of the geographical size of the States i.e., the state is small or big. The funds are allocated according to the projects or proposals which are submitted to the Government. As the hon'ble Member himself has submitted that the amount has been allocated as per the proposals of the State Governments. Many things also depend on the implementation of the state nodal

agency. The funds are allocated to fulfill the requirements of the proposals that are submitted by the State Governments.

[English]

PROF. BANAJI DEB BARMAN: Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, through you, whether any assessment has been done in regard to the potential of tapping non-conventional energy sources in the country as a whole, particularly regarding wind energy, small hydro power generating units and bio-fuel energy.

I would also like to know whether there has been any study projecting the proportion of non-conventional energy produced, to be produced vis-a-vis the total energy requirement of the country by the end of the Eleventh Plan.

[Translation]

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon'ble Member has raised the question about the wind energy. I would like to submit that our present estimate or potential of the said energy is 45000 megawatt. The plant load factor in that is 25 to 27 per cent. The experiments are being conducted in our country regarding bio-fuel and we have also succeeded in that, it has ample potential. The State Governments have taken initiatives, regarding the prospective production of bio-diesel and I feel that our achievements in this regard are in any way less in this regard. Experiments are being conducted in our country for the commercial production of bio-diesel and we will succeed in it. As far the 11th Five Year Plan is concerned, no such assessment has been made regarding the bio-fuel as it is a new prospective avenue.

[English]

SHRI B. MAHTAB: Sir, it is gratifying to hear the hon. Minister saying that unless the projects come from the State Governments, it will be difficult for the Central Government to provide funds.

I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister through you, to the following. There are about 6,474 villages in the State of Orissa which cannot be

covered under the traditional and conventional grid. They cannot be supplied power under the traditional system. Out of these 6,474 villages, for only 374 villages the Detailed Project Report was submitted to the Centre in March, 2004. I am sorry to say that till date funds for these 374 villages have not been released by the Government. When it was brought to the notice of the hon. Minister, he said that you come with the Detailed Project Report for 1,000 villages. You are unable to provide funds for 374 villages. What is the problem for providing funds to these 374 villages even though the Detailed Project Report was submitted by the State Government in March, 2004?

[Translation]

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Member has raised the question of not providing funds for 374 villages out of 6,000 villages. This proposal was submitted to my Ministry, however, last year the price of solar cell has increased in the international market. The manufacturers, in their proposal had demanded to increase the rate of the cells. Then we assured the State Government to continue subsidy that is provided by the Government if their contribution match with it and they may proceed in this direction and the Government will release the funds. As far the releasing of the fund is concerned, if the State Governments spend the funds released by the Central Government fully and undertake developmental works then the Government release the remaining funds. However, in this case the State Government has not utilized the funds in these 374 villages. That is why, developmental work could not be undertaken there. Presently one lakh twenty five thousand villages are proposed to be electrified under the Rajiv Gandhi Rural Electrification Scheme. Out of these, 25,000 villages are in remote areas and the responsibility to electrify these villages has been entrusted to our Ministry. However, since Rajiv Gandhi rural electrification scheme, under which 90 per cent subsidy is provided, has been launched, the State Governments under which the said 25,000 village fall, have changed their priority. They contend that they propose to generate electricity through the conventional energy sources. Consequently, the total number of 25,000 villages has reduced to only 12,000 villages. The work of identification of the villages that are to be

electrified has been assigned to the Rural Electrification Corporation. If they submit their proposal to the Ministry to cover those remote villages under the non-conventional energy sources, renewable energy sources then our Ministry will act in this direction. This programme has been launched afresh. Two months back the Chief Minister of Orissa met me. I assured him that as and when the list of the villages which are to be electrified is submitted by the Rural Electrification Department, the work will be started there. The officers of my Ministry went to the State and held discussions with the officers there in this matter. I feel that our work is proceeding in this direction.

[English]

SHRI B. MAHTAB: I would like to know whether it has to be resubmitted.

MR. SPEAKER: He has said that the terms and norms have not been fulfilled.

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government makes co-ordinated efforts between the Ministries for environmental clearance, financial grants, etc., for effective and expeditious implementation of the project of NRE through NCES. If so, what steps have been taken by the Ministry for implementing the Durgadwani Mini-Tidal Project of Sunderbans in West Bengal?

[Translation]

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you might be remembering that, I had informed the hon'ble Member in the House itself that the State Government had sent the proposal of the Durgadwani Project about which the hon'ble Member is mentioning. I had assured him at that time also that if the said proposal is cleared by the Ministry of Environment and Forests and is sent to us, we will definitely extend our cooperation in preparing DPR. We have helped them in preparing DPR. I have just now received the information that the Department of Environment has approved it but we have not received the proposal officially so far. Hon'ble Member has suggested that there should be coordination

between the Government and the concerned Ministries. Our Ministry had written a letter to the Ministry of Environment and Forests for the clearance of Durgadwani project because it is the first tidal project of its kind in the country. We were anticipating that as soon as the work on that project begins other states will also submit such proposals. It will contribute to the credit of the country is developing new technology. I think that now there will be no hurdle in this matter.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Ministry of the Government of India is taking a very commendable step for the generation of energy from the non-conventional energy sources. The progress of the country is not possible without the success in the energy sector. My question is what steps are being taken by the Government for the generation of energy from the non-conventional energy sources? There are large number of Delits and tribals in the country. Whether the Government propose to formulate a special scheme for them?

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, although the hon. Member has not mentioned any specific project, yet I would still mention that the Government has envisaged a major programme for providing electricity to 1.25 lakh villages of the country. Under the programme electricity would be provided to all the sections of society albeit priority is accorded to scheduled castes and the scheduled tribes. We are working in this sector.

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the fruits and vegetables worth crores of rupees are not sold and get putrefied every day. IISC Bangalore has developed a drier called extra drier which is operated with biomass instead of electricity. This extra drier will help the small producers of fruits and vegetables to export their produce. I would like to know what steps are being taken by the Government for publicity of this extra drier and to make it available to small producers.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have a plan to generate electricity through non-conventional energy sources and to ensure that minimum input of energy is required for such electricity generation. For this purpose, we make every possible effort and encourage such plan. In the drier sector we have

provided all kind of assistance for research and development at various places. Today, wherever non-conventional energy sources are being used in the country, I understand that barring one or two places we have given our maximum contribution. As far as awareness campaign is concerned; we have launched an intense awareness campaign as it is necessary. That is why District committee on renewal Energy has been constituted. All the hon. Members who have an interest in it, have been asked to furnish two names. With this view it is an effort.

Fiscal Deficit

+

*145. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:
SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has made an assessment of the extent of revenue and fiscal deficit during the first six months of the current fiscal *vis-a-vis* the figures of last year;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise during the above period;

(c) the steps taken to check revenue and fiscal deficit for the remaining part of the current fiscal; and

(d) the amount of loan taken so far/proposed to be taken from the market during the said period?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (d) Based on the assessment of the Union Government finances, undertaken as a part of the fiscal correction obligations mandated under the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, 2003, reports are submitted to Parliament. A mid-year review is being presented to Parliament since 2002-03, which details the fiscal situation as at the end of the first six months of the financial year. The Mid-year Review for

2005-06 would be placed in the Parliament in the current session. The extent of Union revenues, Union revenue deficit, and Union fiscal deficit for the first six months of the current and previous financial year are given below:—

(Rs. crore)

Sl. No.	Indicator	April-September 2004-05	April-September 2005-06
Union Government			
1.	Gross tax Revenue	1,12,843	1,37,542
2.	Revenue receipts	1,06,507	1,22,845
3.	Total expenditure	1,95,573	2,10,983
4.	Revenue Expenditure	1,66,458	1,87,942
5.	Revenue deficit	59,951	65,097
6.	Fiscal deficit	53,235 (82,575)	83,843 (83,843)

Source: Controller General of Accounts, Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance.

Note: Figures in parentheses are deficits adjusted for debt swap receipts, which have been discontinued in 2005-06.

Sustaining fiscal consolidation is a continuous process, which includes measures increasing the revenue receipts (both tax and non tax) and achieving moderation in expenditure, particularly non-plan expenditure. The gross and net market borrowings of dated securities of the Union Government as per the Budget for 2005-06 are placed at Rs. 1,39,467 crore and Rs. 1,03,836 crore respectively. During 2005-06 (upto November 25, 2005) gross and net market borrowing are placed at Rs. 97,000 crore and Rs. 64,370 crore respectively. The provisional gross and net allocation under the market borrowing programme for State Governments for 2005-06 (BE) was placed at Rs. 22,431 crore and Rs. 16,211 crore respectively. During the current financial year so far (upto November 28, 2005), the gross borrowings of the State Governments amounted to Rs. 14,640 crore.

The Union Government does not make any specific intra-year assessment of the State finances.

[Translation]

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR (Chimur): The fiscal deficit appears to be higher in the statement given by the Hon. Minister. The fiscal deficit is increasing constantly despite the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, 2003 passed by the Parliament. The funds for various schemes are falling short owing to the constant increase in the fiscal deficit. Consequently, Central Government schemes are not completed in time. I would like to know the reasons for the constant increase in the fiscal deficit and in the failure of the Government to check it?

Secondly, what steps are being taken or likely to be taken by the Government to reduce this fiscal deficit?

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, it may appear that the fiscal deficit in the first half of the current fiscal is much higher than last year's fiscal deficit. But that is not the correct position. Last year, there was a Debt Swap Scheme. But that Debt Swap Scheme has since been discontinued after the Twelfth Finance Commission's recommendations were implemented with effect from 1-4-2005. Therefore, for the purpose of comparison, one must compare the adjusted fiscal deficit of last year with the fiscal deficit of this year. If we do that, the adjusted fiscal deficit of last year, at the end of September, was 60.1 per cent and in the current year, it is 55.5 per cent. In absolute terms, it is Rs. 82,575 crore. This year, on a larger GDP, it is Rs. 83,843 crore. Therefore, there is no deterioration in the fiscal deficit position. On the contrary, there is an improvement in the fiscal deficit position. There is an improvement in the revenue deficit position. The Debt Swap Scheme gave you a certain capital receipt. That capital receipt was reflected last year. The Debt Swap Scheme has since been discontinued. Therefore, That capital receipt is not reflected. When the Mid-Year Review is placed in Parliament, I believe, in about a week's time, this explanation will be available. Then, you can compare

last year's fiscal deficit with the current year's fiscal deficit.

[Translation]

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR: Hon. Minister has said that when it will be placed in Parliament, then it can be compared. My basic question is that the figures which have been given through starred question, reflect that the fiscal deficit is not decreasing even after two consecutive budgets. I am talking of the proportion in which it should reduce.

My question is that for various schemes like Employment Guarantee Scheme, River linking scheme etc. launched by the Government the funds were adjusted from the Employment Guarantee Scheme in that proportion. I do not wish to go into details but funds are not available even for a scheme like river linking scheme....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask the question.

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR: Mr. Speaker, now the question is that if the Government continues to take loan from the market, the fiscal deficit would continue to rise. Unless they reduce government expenditure, such a large country cannot be governed efficiently. One day all schemes would have to be discontinued....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask your question.

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask as to whether the Government propose to take certain remedial measures in this regard or what steps are being taken by it to improve this situation.

[English]

Sir, I am repeating this question because he has not answered.

MR. SPEAKER: It is not a debate on the matter.

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR: No, Sir.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask the question.

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR: Whether the Government propose to improve this condition or what steps are being taken by the Government to improve this situation.

[English]

I want a specific answer.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you trying to improve the situation. That is the question.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, this is first time, I have heard anyone say that the fiscal deficit situation is not improving. I do not see why you should run down the performance of your own Government in the bargain as well as run down the performance of the current Government. For 2002-03, the actual fiscal deficit is 5.9 per cent. For 2003-04, the actuals is 4.5 per cent, and that is, when the FRBM Act had not been notified. Now, for 2004-05, the revised Estimates had placed the fiscal deficit at 4.5 per cent but the actuals turned out to be 4.1 per cent. Therefore, FRBM target has been achieved. While criticising the current Government, you are indirectly criticising the previous Government also. It is quite unnecessary. Both the Governments have done well in reducing fiscal deficit. I think we should leave the matter there.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Dushyant Singh—Not present.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Sir, towards the end of the reply, it has been stated that in the current financial year the gross borrowings of the State Government amounted to Rs. 14,640 crore. Is it not a fact that a substantial portion of the loan of the State Governments is to the Central Government only?

Secondly, whether is it not a fact that a task force has been set up to consider the issue of interest rate in the borrowings from the small savings? When this Report is expected to the Government?

MR. SPEAKER: It does not relate to this.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Yes, the second one.

MR. SPEAKER: It does not relate to this.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, no, that is not correct. Most loans of State Governments are market

borrowings. The proportion of loans, if I recall right from memory, is roughly about one-eighth of the total State Government loans as the Central Government loans. It is roughly, I mean, I do not have the exact figures with me. It is roughly one-seventh to one-eighth. So the bulk of it is market borrowing.

Now, as far as the Central Government loans to the State Governments are concerned, you are aware that the 12th Finance Commission recommended that all loans contracted upto 31st of March, 2004 and outstanding on 31st March, 2005 must now be spread over a 20 years' period with a 7.5 per cent interest. We have accepted that. We have done that. We have announced it. One of the issues raised in the Chief Ministers' meeting—I think, the NDC meeting—is that the interest rate must be further reduced. Now, we have appointed a small Sub-Committee in which several Finance Ministers are there. I Chair the Sub-Committee. We are discussing the matter and we have presented our point of view. They have presented their point of view. Discussions are underway. We will see what happens.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Rupchand Murmu—Unwell, not present

Shri Chandrakant Khaire—Not present.

Protection of Small Investors

*147. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sensex at Bombay Stock Exchanges (BSE) reached the level of 8400 points on 17th September, 2005 which was not consistent with the economic fundamentals of the country;

(b) if so, the reasons for Security and Exchange Board of India not intervening after it crossed 8000 points; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to protect the small investors?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The stock markets have shown an upward trend in the recent past. The Sensex, which closed at 8380.96 on Friday, the 16th September 2005, further rose to close at 8444.84 on the next trading day, that is, Monday, the 19th September, 2005. On 29th November, 2005, the Sensex closed at 8931.16. On 30th November, 2005, the Sensex closed at 8788.81. The movements of the index are a function of changes in investment arising out of perception about the economy and/or a sector or the stocks constituting the index. Besides economic factors, movement of stock indices also depends on various domestic and international events, market sentiments, corporate performance and likely economic growth in future, including the fundamentals of the economy.

(b) and (c) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) was established to protect the interests of investors in securities and to regulate and promote the development of the securities market. SEBI is not expected to interfere in the market when an index crosses any particular level. However, SEBI keeps a constant vigil on the markets. In view of recent market movements, SEBI has taken several measures as a part of its surveillance activities. These include, inter alia, shifting of several scrips to trade-to-trade segment to discourage day trading and speculation and imposition of circuit filters/price bands on several scrips. SEBI has advised stock exchanges to initiate expeditious demonstrative action wherever warranted so as to protect investors' interests and to ensure orderly functioning of the stock market. Additionally, from time to time stock exchanges are also issuing lists of do's and don'ts for investors with regard to dealing in securities, through leading English and Hindi newspapers. SEBI also emphasises this through its periodic investor education programmes.

[Translation]

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister of Finance, had announced that when sensex touches or crosses 8,000, he would intervene. At this time the sensex has touched 8,900 and is in a

position to cross the level of 9,000. It can shoot up anytime. It is not consistent with the economic fundamentals of the country. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether the Government has intervened. If so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, my statement has been quoted and misquoted in so many different ways. I do not recall what I first said! What I said was when the index was about 7,000, I think, Mr. Vir Sanghvi or someone, asked me when will you begin to worry. I said, when the index crosses 8,000, I will begin to worry. That does not mean, I should worry when the Index crosses 8,000. This morning when I left my office, I think, index was 8,947....(*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): It touches now 9,047.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: The point is—I submit with great respect—I do not worry and you should not worry. Everyday, when index goes up or index comes down. The index is what it is; it is an index. It is an index of 30 stocks. Now, the movement of index is determined by a number of factors—largely sentiment. The point is: Is the movement orderly? Or, is the movement disorderly? The SEBI and I at one distance removed and watch the movement carefully. If the movement is orderly, we should not intervene. If the movement is disorderly, we should intervene. For example, on the 17th of May, 2004, the movement was disorderly, and the SEBI intervened. But, I do not think you should look upon the index as something on which we would have to intervene everyday. I would request you, "Do not pay so much attention to the movement of the index. Pay attention to whether the movement is orderly or disorderly." At the moment, Sir, the SEBI has assured me that the movement of index is orderly. There are enough surveillance measures in place and I have given a detailed list of the surveillance measures in my answer to Parts (b) and (c) of the question.

(Translation)

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister himself said, that if the index crosses 8,000 it would be a matter of concern. These are not my own words, the hon'ble Minister himself had said so. I am quoting that only.

Secondly, During 80s and 90s very large number of small investors invested in share market and there used to be great enthusiasm among them for it but now it is not so, why?

(English)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: The reasons are, of course, the periodic scams that have taken place. One of the biggest reasons was the near collapse of UTI. The small investors became very alarmed by the happenings in the stock markets. I think, the Government of the day took a number of steps. We have taken a number of steps. My impression now is that the mutual funds are now very active in the markets. Actually, the mutual funds seem to have returned to the markets in a big way which means the small investors are putting in more money at the disposal of mutual funds and the mutual funds are back in the markets.

My advice to small investors is, unless they have the knowledge and the technical skills to analyze specific scrips, small investors should, as a rule, try and invest through mutual funds.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I appreciate the hon. Finance Minister's view that he has still no concern and still he is not worried. It is good. I appreciate it because that is what he should speak. Otherwise, there would be a bang on the security market. I appreciate that and I appreciate that also because he is a protagonist of a free market. So, why should he intervene? But the point remains that despite the number of assurances and steps that SEBI is taking, the index has crossed 9,000 points and it is almost reaching 10,000. The basic issue is this. Does the Government believe that the index that is increasing every day is increasing on its own or is there an external factor which is playing its role to bring about increase in the 30 scrips that he is saying in order to reap speculative profit? That is the basic question.

Secondly, I would like to know whether the Government believes that there are some forces deliberately indulging in speculation with a number of scrips in order to have more return for their own business houses.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I am not the only one who supports a well-regulated market. I know many friends who support a well-regulated market and even I have some friends in the Left who support a well-regulated market. As I said, as long as the movement of the indices—and SENSEX is only one index and there are other indices—is orderly, there is no cause for worry. In the first half of the current fiscal year, the GDP has registered 8.1 per cent growth. Obviously that growth and the confidence of sustaining that growth in the remaining period of this fiscal will impact the index positively. Why are we mourning over good news? We should be happy about good news. If the different sectors of the economy are doing well, if the business confidence is high and if the investor confidence is high, it will reflect positively in the index. When there is bad news, of course, that will also reflect negatively in the index. So, I submit once again, with great respect, we must look at the orderly movement of the index either up or down and take it as our stride. I believe that the market indices today broadly reflect the current fundamentals of the economy. That is my belief. We keep a close watch over price earnings ratio and as long as price earnings ratio are within acceptable limits, I do not think we should get extremely worried about the movement of the index. But if the economy does well, if the different sectors of the economy are doing well, if the business confidence is high, if the investor confidence is high, I expect the index to rise and that is the phenomenon that we have seen all over the world.

MR. SPEAKER: Was there any manipulation?

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, I asked whether there is any speculation.

MR. SPEAKER: I asked it on your behalf. Please take your seat.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, there were so many parts to the question, I am sorry I missed that. The underlying basis of a capital market is speculation. What

we frown upon is not speculation, but manipulation. When there is manipulation, we will intervene decisively, but the underlying basis of a capital market is speculation.

MR. SPEAKER: Intelligent speculation.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: But he has avoided my question of uneconomic speculation. That is where he is playing the cards. He does not answer that question on uneconomic speculation.

Reforms in Judiciary

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*148. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to appoint a high powered commission to look into issues related to administrative reforms in the justice delivery system:

(b) if so, the facts thereof:

(c) the estimated cost of the plan:

(d) the time by which the said plan is likely to be completed: and

(e) the other steps proposed to be taken by the Government for expeditious justice to people?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) No. Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

(e) A statement is enclosed.

Statement

Steps taken to reduce pendency in the courts and to make access to Justice affordable and speedy

- The Government is committed to provide speedy and inexpensive justice system in the country and have been constantly reviewing the accumulation of arrears in Courts. The Judge strength has been reviewed from time to time. The Supreme Court and High Courts

have taken various steps, viz.: grouping of cases involving common questions of law, constitution of specialised benches and organizing Lok Adalats, legal aid camps at regular intervals, etc.

- The Government have also encouraged alternative modes of dispute resolution (ADR) including mediation, negotiation and arbitration. Special tribunals like Central Administrative Tribunal, State Administrative Tribunals, Income Tax Appellate Tribunals, Family Courts, Labour Courts, Consumer Courts etc. have been set upto expedite disposal of cases. Information technology is being used in generation of cause lists, providing information to the litigants/Advocates etc. for speedy disposal of cases.
- Fast Track Courts (FTC) for the disposal of long pending cases, particularly sessions cases and cases involving under trials in jails have been set up.
- The term of 1562 Fast Track Courts which were sanctioned based on the recommendation of the Eleventh Finance Commission are being continued for a further period of 5 years upto 31-3-2010 with 100% central assistance.
- The Government is also considering the question of bringing in a legislation for the establishment of Gram Nyayalayas at the intermediate Panchayat level. The proposed Gram Nyayalayas would be holding Courts at their headquarters and also as Mobile Courts in the close proximity of the places where the parties ordinarily reside in their territorial jurisdiction. To deliberate the matter further, a Conference of Law Ministers and Law Secretaries of States is being organized in New Delhi on 18-12-2005.
- For computerisation of Courts in the country, E-Committee under the overall guidance of the Chief Justice of India has been set up. The scheme of computerisation of judiciary provides for 100% central assistance.

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the reply, the hon. Minister has stated that the Government have encouraged alternative modes of dispute resolutions like mediation, negotiation and arbitration, Labour Court, Industrial Court, Income Tax Appellate Tribunal and all that.

My specific question is particularly with regard to labour court and industrial court where there is a heavy shortage of judges, particularly, in Maharashtra. A judge of industrial court has to rush from Kolhapur to Sangli and from Sangli to Satara. It indicates that there is a heavy shortage of judges.

Secondly, it is experienced day by day. Therefore, I would like to know what steps the hon. Minister is going to take for the appointment of judges, particularly in labour and industrial courts and how will it curtail the expenses.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: Mr. Speaker, Sir, these industrial and labour courts are not under the Ministry of Law and Justice. But I have noted it and I will draw the attention of the relevant State.

MR. SPEAKER: He has nothing to do as he has got enough trouble.

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister the issue of Wage Board. The Wage Board is set up particularly for expediting the solution to the problems in the labour units.

But unfortunately, in the State of Maharashtra, for the last one-and-a-half years, the Wage Board has not been appointed by the State Government. The reason for that, as per my knowledge, is that being an alliance Government, there is some dispute in both the Parties. But the problem of the labour is that in last one-and-a-half years hundreds of cases of wage revision are pending there. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he is going to instruct the State Government for the earliest appointment of the Wage Board.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: Sir, this question too has the same reply. It does not arise from this question.

MR. SPEAKER: He is asking to use your good offices.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: Sir, I will definitely do that.

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Sir, in spite of the fact that a large number of cases are pending before the various High Courts of our countries, vacancies exist in the High Courts. The Government is not keen to fill up the vacancies of the judges in various High Courts of our country.

My question is whether the Government will take steps to fill up these vacancies immediately.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: Sir, the hon. Member is right. When we assumed office, we had more than 300 vacancies in the High Courts. I am very happy to inform this august House that during the last one year or so, we have appointed more than 134 judges, which is a record performance by itself. For the remaining vacancies, we have charted a course of action in which we are expediting the filling up of the remaining vacancies. Very soon, we will bring the vacancies within a reasonable limit.

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Sir, in the reply, the hon. Minister has stated that for computerisation of courts in the country, e-Committee under the overall guidance of the Chief Justice of India has been set up. But, throughout the country, in most of the Talukas, court buildings are not having any infrastructural facilities, like, Court Building, library, Bar rooms, and other things.

The State Government of Tamil Nadu has already sent a proposal to the Union Government for the construction of Court Buildings and it is pending with the Law Ministry for a number of years. I would like to know whether the Law Ministry has cleared the recommendations of the State of Tamil Nadu for the development of the mofussil courts.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: There are two aspects to this question. One is with regard to computerisation. The Central Government has sanctioned a Centrally-sponsored scheme which is hundred per cent funded by the Central Government. We have allocated during this year Rs. 214 crore for computerisation and we have

a roadmap of five years by which all the courts in the country, right upto the taluka level, will be computerised.

I have no information with regard to the Tamil Nadu courts, which are pending. We will inform the hon. Member after I get the details.

SHRI BRAHMANANDA PANDA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, justice delivery system in our country is very slow. As you are aware, Orissa High Court does not have the required number of Judges, as a result of which the lawyers are on strike for about two weeks. Urgent matters are not listed for admission for months together, criminal appeals are pending in the hon. High Court for about more than a decade, and civil appeals like second appeal and first appeal are lying in the High Court for about two decades. What measures actually the hon. Law Minister is taking to dispose them of expeditiously thereby delivering the judicial system to the poor people of the county? When we cry that justice delayed is justice denied, but we find that cases are pending for years together.

MR. SPEAKER: Put your question.

SHRI BRAHMANANDA PANDA: I would humbly like to know from the hon. Law Minister, through you, Sir, as to what steps he is taking to overcome such alarming situation which is now prevailing in the Orissa High Court.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: Hon. Speaker, Sir, the recommendations made by the collegium of Orissa High Court were received, and what happened is this. Then the collegium of the Supreme Court did not approve these names, and they have been referred back. We are in touch with the Chief Justice to speedily send more names so that the vacancies can be filled up. To meet out the requirement of the trial courts, the Central Government has noted that the delays occur mostly in the trial courts, and we are trying to set up a special cadre of Judges of *gramin nyayalayas* who will go to the rural areas and dispose of cases there only. These are two programmes which are under consideration.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in reply to part (e) of the question Government have

mentioned about setting up of Fast Track Courts for providing speedy and inexpensive justice for the people. In this context, I would like to know as to whether any programme has been formulated to set up more courts for providing speedy and inexpensive justice.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: Sir, you are aware that Fast Track Courts were set up after allocations in this regard were made by the Finance Commission. Now there are no funds left for this purpose, but our Government have extended availability of funds for another five years and even today Fast Track Courts are functioning in the country. Moreover, we have called the meeting of Law Ministers of State on 18th December. We will discuss about Megisterial Courts and provision of Fast Track Courts for Gramin Nyayalayas'.

[English]

Fundamental Rights

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*149. **SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:**
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government for making right to work, shelter, education and health for all as fundamental rights;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the time by which a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Right to Education

The Right to Education has been made a fundamental right by inserting a new Article 21A in the Constitution of India which provides that "The State shall

provide free and compulsory education to all children of the age of six to fourteen years in such manner as the State may, by law, determine." The Government has also launched Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan with the following goals:—

- (i) All 6-14 age children in school/EGS centre/bridge course by 2005;
- (ii) Bridge all gender and social category gaps at primary stage by 2007 and at elementary education level by 2010;
- (iii) Universal retention 2010; and
- (iv) Focus on elementary education of satisfactory quality with emphasis on education for life.

Right to Shelter

The Supreme Court of India has observed in the following cases that right to shelter is integral part of the fundamental right to life under Article 21 of the Constitution:—

- (i) Shiv Sagar Tiwari Vs. UOI and Ors. AIR 1997 SC 2725.
- (ii) State of Karnataka Vs. Narasimhamurthy—AIR 1996 SC 90.
- (iii) U.P. Avas Evam Vikas Parishad and anr. Vs. Friends Co-op. Housing Society Ltd. and anr.—In AIR 1996 SC 114.
- (iv) Chameli Singh Vs. State of U.P.—1996 AIR SCW 542.

However, there is no proposal to expressly make right to shelter a fundamental right.

Right to Health

As regards right to health also the Supreme Court in the matter of Consumer Education and Research Centre and Ors. Vs. UOI and Ors. has held that the right to health, medical aid to protect the health and vigour of a worker while in service or post retirement is a fundamental right under Article 21, read with Articles 39(e), 41, 43 and 48A. However, no proposal is under consideration of the Government to expressly make health as fundamental right.

Right to Work

Right to work has not expressly been made a fundamental right but the Supreme Court has, in the matter of Shiv Sagar Tiwari Vs. UOI and Ors., held that right to life, livelihood and shelter are so mixed, mingled and fused that is difficult to separate them. But the right to work by itself is not expressly said to be a fundamental right by the Court. There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to expressly make work as fundamental right. However, the UPA Government in accordance with the Common Minimum Programme has introduced the national Rural Employment Guarantee Bill, 2005 which, with the wholehearted support of the Parliament was enacted into an Act on 5-9-2005. With the availability of the resources the Government will expand the scope of the benefits under the Act.

[Translation]

SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government have replied that there is no proposal under consideration of the Government for making right to shelter, health and work for all as fundamental rights....(*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Just put one supplementary.

...(*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to ask the hon'ble Minister that people like VJNT, NT roam in search of home, if the Government are not going to give them this right, then whether it will formulate any scheme for them? In regard to Health, the Government is not spending a single penny on the disease like sickle cell anaemia.

12.00 hrs.

What scheme the Government is having to check such diseases and what kind of schemes the government are having to give jobs to educated youth?

[English]

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: Sir, I have replied to the Question which was put for interpretation of article 21 of the Constitution.

Sir, you are aware that the Supreme Court has been expanding the meaning of article 21 to several spheres. These relate to various Ministries. They are: right to shelter, right to education and right to health.

This question, as a matter of fact, is a composite question. Several steps have been taken regarding education by the earlier Government and this Government. I am enumerating it. Similar is the case in respect of health and shelter....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What is happening here?

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Barah Baj Gaye Hain....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Barah Baj Gaye. Lekin House is not showing 12 O'clock. Ke Barah Nahi Baje Hain.

[English]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Everything has been exposed....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You people may sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Financial Health of States

*142. SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has recently conducted a review of the financial liability of each State:

(b) if so, the outcome thereof:

(c) whether the Union Government has asked the State Governments to pay their earlier loans to seek fresh loans;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to strengthen the financial health of the States?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Government of India recently reviewed the financial liabilities of each State for the limited purpose of consolidating central loans from Ministry of Finance contracted by each State upto March 31, 2004 and outstanding as on March 31, 2005. State-wise details of these loans vis-a-vis the total outstanding debt are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) During the period 2000-01 to 2004-05, Gol operated a Fiscal Reform Facility for incentivising the States to undertake fiscal reforms for restoring their fiscal health. Recognizing the need to lower the debt servicing costs of the States, Gol also operated a debt swap scheme until recently. Consequent to the Twelfth Finance Commission's (TFC) recommendation for debt consolidation and relief, as part of restructuring of the States' finances, Gol is now operating a Debt Consolidation and Relief Facility that would enable the States to avail themselves of the benefit of reduced repayment of principal amounts and interest payments. These benefits would be available to the States, provided they enact a Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management legislation aimed at eliminating the revenue deficit and reducing the fiscal deficit to 3% of GDP by 2008-09. Also in operation is a debt waiver scheme under which States would be eligible for waiver of the principal repayments, due from current fiscal to 2009-10, to the extent of reduction in revenue deficit.

To bring down the States debt to a sustainable level, Government of India is applying the provisions of Article 293(3) of the Constitution, very judiciously, while giving the approval to the States' borrowing proposals

Higher devolution by way of share in central taxes and duties, revenue deficit grants and grants to weaker States to meet the requirements of expenditure in social sector should supplement the resources of States.

Gol has also increased its financial support under central sector and centrally sponsored schemes to the States for filling critical gaps in social sectors and

infrastructure including health, education, nutrition, power, irrigation and roads.

These measures are aimed at increasing the expenditure and quality of investment in priority sectors besides generally improving the financial health of the States.

Statement

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	State	Outstanding Debt as on 31-3-2005	Govt. of India loans (MoF) contracted upto 31-3-2004 and outstanding as on 31-3-2005
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	69,305	14,061.62
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1,946	403.09
3.	Assam	17,805	2,108.20
4.	Bihar	42,478	7,693.93
5.	Chhattisgarh	11,819	1,864.19
6.	Gujarat	3,858	8,993.34
7.	Goa	72,873	1,165.74
8.	Haryana	24,238	1,933.30
9.	Himachal Pradesh	16,533	900.87
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	12,964	1,900.69
11.	Jharkhand	13,478	2,385.45
12.	Karnataka	46,517	7,166.50
13.	Kerala	43,670	4,175.73
14.	Madhya Pradesh	41,113	7,258.42
15.	Maharashtra	1,21,038	6,799.42
16.	Manipur	2,938	750.80

1	2	3	4
17.	Meghalaya	1,870	313.87
18.	Mizoram	2,704	271.52
19.	Nagaland	2,790	317.40
20.	Orissa	36,325	7,627.75
21.	Punjab	47,547	6,839.85
22.	Rajasthan	60,134	6,174.07
23.	Sikkim	1,160	179.06
24.	Tamil Nadu	54,738	5,265.58
25.	Tripura	4,178	445.03
26.	Uttar Pradesh	10,131	1,625.37
27.	Uttaranchal	1,15,909	19,912.01
28.	West Bengal	1,04,036	14,175.94
Grand Total		9,84,095	1,32,708.71

[English]

Utilisation of Funds under Rural Development Schemes

*146. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU:

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated and utilized for rural development under different schemes during each of the last three years and current year. State-wise;

(b) whether a few States have requested for more funds whereas certain States have not utilized the allocated funds;

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

(d) whether the Union Government is aware that

the progress of these schemes is not upto the mark despite huge expenditure;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor and if not, the extent thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Union Government for proper utilisation of funds, achieving the desired results and for ensuring that the funds reach the beneficiaries?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (f) The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing a number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes for poverty alleviation and rural development in the country. The Swarnjayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana (SGSY) provides self employment, while the Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) aims at providing additional wage employment in rural areas thereby providing food security and improved nutrition, and creating of durable community assets and infrastructure. The National Food for Work Programme (NFFWP) launched in 150 most backward districts during

November 2004, also aims to generate additional supplementary wage employment with food security. The Indira Aawas Yojana (IAY) provides shelter to the shelterless. Other Rural Development Programmes such as Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) for rural connectivity, Accelerated Rural Water Supply Program (ARWSP) including Swajaldhara and Central Rural Sanitation Programme (CRSP)/Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) aim at development of rural infrastructure and rural amenities. Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP), Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and Desert Development Programme (DDP) are area development programmes which are implemented on watershed basis.

The allocation of funds to the States/UTs is done mainly on the basis of the proportion of the rural poor in a State/UT to the total rural poor in the country according to the estimates of the Planning Commission. State-wise Central Releases and Expenditure under major rural development programmes, during the last three years (i.e. 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05) and the current year are given in the enclosed statements I to VII.

The State Governments/UTs are required to utilize maximum amount of the available funds with them in accordance with the programme guidelines. The additional funds are released subject to the availability of funds within the budget allocation.

The Ministry has evolved a comprehensive system of monitoring the execution of the Programmes, including the utilisation of funds, through periodical Progress Reports received from the States/UTs, field visits by Area Officers of the Ministry and discussions with the State Secretaries and with the Project Directors of the District Rural Development Agencies/Chief Executive Officer of Zilla Parishads/Panchayats and monitoring by the District Level Monitoring agencies and National Level Monitors. Besides, Concurrent Evaluations and Impact Assessment Studies are also conducted to find out more effective ways of achieving the programme objectives. The Ministry has also adopted a four pronged strategy comprising (i) creation of awareness about the schemes (ii) transparency (iii) peoples partnership and (iv) accountability.

Statement-I

Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY)

(Rs. in lakh)

State Name	2002-2003		2003-2004		2004-2005		2005-2006	
	Central Release	Exp.	Central Release	Exp.	Central Release	Exp.	Central Release	Exp.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Andhra Pradesh	24380.17	28944.18	23995.50	33965.38	24049.88	25772.58	16883.63	8894.77
Arunachal Pradesh	824.26	1110.63	1560.75	1257.74	1368.64	685.09	914.46	203.94
Assam	22496.96	28729.07	29681.01	41423.14	32124.06	39533.75	23736.54	17611.54
Bihar	26727.42	44312.74	34168.68	48593.41	49196.29	63479.62	33434.91	16619.79
Chhattisgarh	12013.04	15827.20	12023.34	16805.84	12931.67	17757.39	9423.11	6712.44

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Goa	75.04	70.57	110.36	111.59	292.55	282.73	242.07	7.04
Gujarat	6942.87	9069.84	9654.67	17913.25	9941.23	14856.35	7392.1	5840.5
Haryana	5610.37	9206.71	5599.30	7442.93	5567.67	6794.28	3894.25	3010.87
Himachal Pradesh	2046.00	1827.04	2394.67	3256.44	2259.63	3683.45	1274.03	1559.45
Jammu and Kashmir	2051.61	3894.86	10803.03	4195.30	2715.61	4197.50	1876.48	306.65
Jharkhand	17584.68	32556.04	26675.15	40280.58	27394.57	39485.11	23342.24	17428.6
Karnataka	17429.04	24293.34	19428.49	24748.91	18290.28	26682.09	12608.32	9370.12
Kerala	7665.17	7710.51	8696.74	10065.14	7866.56	13565.39	5657.36	4661.85
Madhya Pradesh	26872.02	33324.50	26705.26	38744.86	28713.84	40023.35	20349.49	17832.34
Maharashtra	28960.58	38213.83	31212.10	47411.11	33657.28	49000.74	24923.86	9674.01
Manipur	769.38	N/R	1331.40	1071.19	2123.41	2387.20	1593.1	363.69
Meghalaya	1905.92	1409.66	2055.44	2716.95	2439.01	3199.36	927.99	928.29
Mizoram	537.88	869.41	757.86	801.68	574.44	557.19	413	136.12
Nagaland	667.28	887.06	1168.08	1170.55	1637.97	1433.70	1224.23	1433.7
Orissa	27406.55	32947.22	24743.95	38608.74	26939.86	36291.37	19097.71	13852.31
Punjab	3848.98	4157.25	4620.08	6055.59	5818.55	6215.06	4331.48	2474.72
Rajasthan	14904.76	20514.24	13860.68	22075.62	14564.97	20437.32	9574.01	10217.66
Sikkim	439.18	368.80	703.55	760.00	685.88	771.95	457.25	447.05
Tamil Nadu	21161.09	27467.54	23318.54	33602.53	22470.43	30960.67	14763.66	16091.15
Tripura	3850.07	4211.48	3991.89	5959.21	4079.04	5891.08	2876.69	1721.76
Uttar Pradesh	66092.08	91865.03	65695.85	111863.13	79279.95	106468.40	56425.59	39909.32
Uttaranchal	4398.54	5031.26	5355.75	7492.65	5361.66	8502.94	3768.64	2491.84
West Bengal	20649.89	30040.03	21453.96	31869.99	26731.84	38267.32	21223.3	18750.25
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	42.32	22.19	97.40	23.77	220.94	65.35	0	70.57
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	61.40	N/R	41.13	N/R	87.28	N/R	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Daman and Diu	0.00	N/R	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/R	0	N/R
Lakshadweep	0.00	5.79	28.57	2.59	28.57	16.21	132.39	N/R
Pondicherry	112.61	200.98	136.13	101.69	205.09	34.06	0	69.29
All India	368563.16	499089.00	412069.32	600391.50	449618.65	607298.60	322961.89	228691.63

N/R means Not Reported

Statement-II**National Food for Work Programme (NFFWP)**

(Rs. in lakh)

State Name	2004-2005		2005-2006	
	Central Release	Exp.	Central Release	Exp.
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	12214.72	4116.71	13599.82	8012.74
Arunachal Pradesh	190.80	117.27	212.23	69.30
Assam	16645.79	N/R	0.00	6897.43
Bihar	26456.54	7778.38	12627.41	10029.50
Chhattisgarh	10410.19	6393.51	11590.71	3615.03
Gujarat	3994.69	234.51	0.00	2289.01
Haryana	281.85	N/R	0.00	104.67
Himachal Pradesh	303.91	200.58	338.38	114.14
Jammu and Kashmir	494.26	145.97	298.29	186.48
Jharkhand	22595.70	2888.16	50315.90	9519.62
Karnataka	2925.38	176.15	0.00	2179.78
Kerala	547.14	125.37	0.00	121.14
Madhya Pradesh	15808.32	6787.57	16270.41	11077.77

1	2	3	4	5
Maharashtra	15495.26	1982.62	981.55	799.66
Manipur	399.22	N/R	444.89	417.70
Meghalaya	543.85	150.14	0.00	91.70
Mizoram	95.52	N/R	106.45	24.23
Nagaland	455.72	N/R	0.00	N/R
Orissa	22283.67	14640.55	24810.56	11114.85
Punjab	716.32	698.45	0.00	5.56
Rajasthan	3532.69	2498.55	3933.31	1105.03
Sikkim	315.73	150.00	0.00	55.20
Tamil Nadu	4851.58	2652.41	0.00	1967.51
Tripura	1543.37	644.32	0.00	1258.45
Uttar Pradesh	26378.11	1982.07	1477.19	5429.18
Uttaranchal	1014.86	52.46	0.00	107.48
West Bengal	11449.81	1451.64	6769.45	5565.66
All India	201945.00	55867.39	143776.95	82158.82

N/A means Not Applicable and N/R means Not Reported.

Statement-III

Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY)

(Rs. in lakh)

State Name	2002-2003		2003-2004		2004-2005		2005-2006	
	Central Release	Exp.	Central Release	Exp.	Central Release	Exp.	Central Release	Exp.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Andhra Pradesh	3738.02	5800.68	3942.42	5631.80	5305.97	6970.51	2541.37	2194.43
Arunachal Pradesh	78.06	162.50	139.60	176.17	278.92	245.76	120.27	35.33

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Assam	2802.61	3587.09	5313.00	7417.91	6595.62	8046.89	3517.00	3300.04
Bihar	3493.34	10822.77	5488.81	11216.46	9619.84	13442.98	6046.34	5379.41
Chhattisgarh	1968.76	3510.70	2025.44	2975.36	2676.11	3863.97	1342.27	1201.40
Goa	17.65	40.18	25.00	51.31	27.82	60.93	25.00	20.67
Gujarat	1403.27	2006.46	1508.00	2415.12	1946.40	2814.63	956.62	1349.02
Haryana	827.79	1317.00	932.06	1437.07	1175.08	1595.25	562.80	640.97
Himachal Pradesh	348.62	593.07	304.73	642.79	487.42	745.26	234.98	251.36
Jammu and Kashmir	350.44	650.91	427.45	842.03	436.74	779.94	250.64	170.68
Jharkhand	1801.02	3939.38	2817.41	4711.54	4180.61	5587.89	2660.01	1439.16
Karnataka	2686.99	4882.43	2777.12	4711.28	3735.03	5487.70	2107.76	1881.91
Kerala	1266.55	2062.58	1435.18	2054.13	1783.56	2445.14	1182.93	1081.44
Madhya Pradesh	4232.53	7402.90	4397.14	7040.11	5516.04	7592.17	2877.58	2152.74
Maharashtra	5579.85	8243.71	5712.39	8839.88	7409.42	10644.14	3793.58	2985.83
Manipur	0.00	0.00	56.75	N/R	91.05	N/R	67.61	12.06
Meghalaya	27.51	86.88	117.12	161.90	190.84	241.88	128.77	123.64
Mizoram	77.47	84.03	99.96	138.00	146.76	189.77	61.13	74.40
Nagaland	83.15	184.01	157.80	301.05	203.94	28.32	93.41	N/R
Orissa	4181.99	5499.02	4553.07	6699.20	5866.19	8281.82	2906.80	2344.94
Punjab	391.58	668.22	444.25	671.96	442.81	552.73	273.51	282.43
Rajasthan	2143.41	2917.62	2261.24	3157.58	2941.56	4051.15	1457.23	1032.36
Sikkim	95.33	129.80	110.76	230.30	179.99	222.09	67.68	96.04
Tamil Nadu	3290.35	5068.76	3690.70	5852.91	4676.06	7066.73	4174.99	2980.82
Tripura	599.65	975.63	696.74	967.15	1102.28	1136.56	425.71	526.91
Uttar Pradesh	7126.87	14721.83	11756.85	19564.60	17293.83	27722.43	8704.55	10598.86
Uttaranchal	667.95	1305.22	686.02	1356.47	954.59	1686.24	457.45	712.70
West Bengal	1121.19	5355.23	2617.59	5310.91	4608.31	7317.61	3286.78	3193.41

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	14.41	0.00	4.24	25.00	2.78	6.25	6.27
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.16	12.50	N/R	0.00	0.00
Daman and Diu	0.00	1.34	0.00	N/R	0.00	0.06	0.00	0.00
Lakshadweep	0.00	0.70	0.00	2.53	0.00	1.16	0.00	0.15
Pondicherry	53.64	80.67	25.00	44.91	100.00	104.28	50.00	26.83
All India	50455.59	92115.73	64519.60	104632.82	90010.29	128928.78	50381.02	46096.20

Statement-IV*Indira Aawas Yojana (IAY)*

(Rs. in lakh)

State Name	2002-2003		2003-2004		2004-2005		2005-2006	
	Central Release	Exp.	Central Release	Exp.	Central Release	Exp.	Central Release	Exp.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Andhra Pradesh	2357.15	0122.56	12946.66	19453.50	19190.68	24813.84	12373.35	9986.10
Arunachal Pradesh	738.43	665.38	797.11	1215.89	1106.03	950.76	490.05	315.38
Assam	9987.33	10433.62	14702.75	14318.27	22080.95	27941.87	10981.17	8736.82
Bihar	19729.90	29339.43	25848.10	37422.41	91533.13	58275.18	25621.19	22555.73
Chhattisgarh	2027.85	2923.19	2520.38	3068.27	3135.95	3982.75	2608.52	1751.66
Goa	39.00	49.80	69.56	83.06	90.17	164.82	85.86	98.39
Gujarat	5518.01	5330.60	3744.63	5817.24	5416.01	7064.63	4821.53	4020.07
Haryana	1189.76	1927.66	1365.84	1833.58	1785.10	2215.56	1118.66	1055.86
Himachal Pradesh	857.59	626.66	574.16	696.12	767.60	1021.72	412.07	257.26

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Jammu and Kashmir	458.65	911.35	698.16	1253.69	928.43	1404.54	1013.16	47.38
Jharkhand	5455.84	8064.81	8693.63	11033.91	11960.36	16031.18	5383.97	4093.01
Karnataka	4852.22	7502.49	6580.16	8516.22	7831.84	10360.19	5138.90	5110.20
Kerala	2970.30	4517.33	4272.75	5767.37	5841.32	7839.16	3021.64	3330.41
Madhya Pradesh	7018.02	10206.99	8333.54	10734.49	10594.54	13905.33	5760.32	5323.09
Maharashtra	10109.71	22637.13	12315.64	22767.55	15569.13	22673.85	8561.05	5241.62
Manipur	260.01	551.34	446.05	286.30	921.55	885.17	294.70	N/R
Meghalaya	906.15	741.83	481.18	1147.50	1435.65	1080.97	335.81	641.08
Mizoram	174.58	231.06	319.91	390.72	343.68	435.76	165.57	104.53
Nagaland	291.44	666.73	673.94	826.19	865.88	716.11	413.19	413.98
Orissa	32543.45	80678.23	27731.05	35728.08	13954.68	22620.13	7939.88	7878.00
Punjab	598.55	1028.10	802.72	1059.94	1039.86	880.79	1314.39	798.18
Rajasthan	3149.31	4715.54	3748.00	5274.69	4971.71	6561.81	3490.98	2329.88
Sikkim	149.87	155.17	161.71	308.97	250.51	346.08	125.77	20.62
Tamil Nadu	6205.43	14446.87	6922.99	11988.63	9921.24	17692.30	5425.83	8933.76
Tripura	1977.39	2050.88	1340.96	2749.89	2295.75	2797.55	1032.27	1208.59
Uttar Pradesh	20996.84	31225.28	24672.82	34628.98	31509.17	40536.06	19309.16	13705.56
Uttaranchal	2011.59	2297.13	3263.04	3977.92	3400.03	5579.45	1081.10	1162.33
West Bengal	10161.08	14951.88	12892.42	15478.41	19084.50	27296.38	11975.28	12096.67
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	40.32	188.68	110.44	108.52	352.93	43.52	0.00	64.29
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	3.48	33.35	23.98	33.35	23.71	0.00	0.00
Daman and Diu	0.00	8.24	0.00	0.72	0.00	2.09	0.00	0.61
Lakshadweep	2.50	2.75	2.85	2.76	3.86	3.75	20.00	0.11
Pondicherry	74.63	57.31	41.28	45.64	94.43	7.84	0.00	25.40
Total	162852.90	279259.50	187107.78	258009.41	288310.02	326154.85	140315.97	122206.57

Statement-V

*Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP), Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP)
and Desert Development Programme (DDP)*

(Rs. in lakh)

State Name	2002-2003 Central Release	2003-2004 Central Release	2004-2005 Central Release	2005-2006 Central Release
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	7462.33	8949.22	8735.62	8077.35
Arunachal Pradesh	458.54	351.89	804.05	364.18
Assam	1440.19	1729.91	3202.78	2073.31
Bihar	315.74	694.31	745.83	1080.43
Chhattisgarh	2149.16	2526.37	3517.48	1943.60
Goa	0.00	82.50	0.00	24.10
Gujarat	8185.55	10708.70	8290.58	6697.79
Haryana	2016.27	2308.55	2057.49	2081.56
Himachal Pradesh	2722.54	2666.17	2015.20	1168.89
Jammu and Kashmir	1345.61	1791.15	801.67	1790.24
Jharkhand	595.27	1484.59	1270.67	1093.00
Karnataka	5071.42	7855.61	7280.30	4567.87
Kerala	96.20	314.75	159.70	539.20
Madhya Pradesh	7810.14	7887.88	8194.30	5994.13
Maharashtra	1999.70	2433.71	5146.32	3962.12
Manipur	642.18	313.25	545.87	144.02
Meghalaya	23.68	443.65	194.38	479.13
Mizoram	1156.16	612.44	974.03	1122.00
Nagaland	1740.56	1868.31	1711.46	540.39
Orissa	1786.16	2986.03	2598.99	2881.15
Punjab	0.00	50.66	193.88	177.58

1	2	3	4	5
Rajasthan	11096.99	13223.68	14419.96	13226.90
Sikkim	0.00	31.61	324.27	74.43
Tamil Nadu	1897.48	4395.10	5287.55	2878.73
Tripura	184.12	268.98	386.63	241.25
Uttar Pradesh	3374.89	3472.46	3259.54	3444.04
Uttaranchal	712.27	837.66	2354.01	1739.62
West Bengal	108.00	325.50	399.90	536.89
Total	64391.14	80614.64	84935.46	68943.90

Statement-VI*Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP)*

(Rs. in lakh)

State Name	2002-2003		2003-2004		2004-2005		2005-2006	
	Central Release	Exp.	Central Release	Exp.	Central Release	Exp.	Central Release	Exp.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Andhra Pradesh	17823.92	14984.72	13112.00	16762.00	16418.40	15484.40	12513.68	5227.94
Arunachal Pradesh	3650.00	2597.79	4102.40	4291.90	6825.00	7645.94	4996.81	N/R
Assam	5252.50	6096.34	5772.62	5462.20	9565.62	11596.82	8425.65	3693.40
Bihar	3703.00	3309.23	3159.50	2428.41	8941.03	4388.42	7662.00	N/R
Chhattisgarh	2943.00	2602.92	2574.00	3047.48	2269.80	1646.86	2952.49	1.97
Goa	0.00	10.21	0.00	87.29	0.00	551.33	0.00	0.00
Gujarat	9997.75	9500.97	8458.00	9206.81	6696.35	6696.78	6580.66	3727.01
Haryana	3346.00	3346.00	2662.00	2662.00	2707.00	2707.00	1795.00	685.89
Himachal Pradesh	8244.75	7790.15	5137.00	5602.92	5438.20	4141.09	5302.50	1971.41

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Jammu and Kashmir	11196.39	6126.58	12850.63	14546.06	12833.60	13261.97	10336.50	758.30
Jharkhand	1949.80	1918.50	2060.00	1419.53	2752.83	835.84	3167.31	815.00
Karnataka	14355.36	9784.48	12062.00	15126.39	12677.44	11192.73	10404.50	9886.00
Kerala	1899.30	4616.60	4268.71	4991.98	4401.00	4157.00	3085.33	2173.80
Madhya Pradesh	9586.08	7527.16	7310.00	8939.76	7945.00	7945.00	7550.50	4063.12
Maharashtra	19336.24	12208.07	15710.00	14823.75	15971.00	9500.88	16555.44	5814.01
Manipur	947.00	1193.41	1624.15	1207.66	2103.00	1362.45	1715.47	536.73
Meghalaya	2935.50	1635.32	1811.78	2119.70	2613.87	2263.14	0.00	469.69
Mizoram	2105.00	1773.69	1386.00	1765.47	1810.00	1401.68	1415.79	749.91
Nagaland	2181.00	1628.40	1626.73	2399.40	1702.00	984.23	1453.96	N/R
Orissa	5829.80	3255.37	4713.81	4750.43	6934.00	4310.77	7106.20	2184.79
Punjab	3081.00	2842.27	2269.00	2269.00	2815.00	2516.20	2086.27	N/R
Rajasthan	23620.38	29007.89	23368.51	25383.75	30439.76	22777.78	24957.36	11794.89
Sikkim	895.50	597.06	763.00	1005.32	731.00	610.61	597.77	0.89
Tamil Nadu	7558.00	7358.00	6269.00	7469.00	8494.13	5882.15	5937.50	2123.14
Tripura	2427.60	1558.04	1903.00	2438.07	1575.13	2077.06	1751.55	922.23
Uttar Pradesh	11492.50	12683.40	10457.00	11085.98	13455.00	12263.54	14186.05	4554.16
Uttaranchal	3683.00	2561.45	2371.50	2245.40	3265.47	3660.17	3279.56	919.56
West Bengal	10129.00	7930.44	6827.00	8362.04	8270.21	8553.91	7623.45	4602.66
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	N/R	0.00	N/R	2037.00	N/R	210.51	N/R
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	N/R	0.00	N/R	0.00	N/R	0.00	N/R
Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	N/R	0.00	N/R
Total	190169.37	166444.46	164629.34	181899.70	201787.84	170415.75	173649.81	67676.50

Statement-VII**Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC)**

(Rs. in lakh)

State Name	2002-2003		2003-2004		2004-2005		2005-2006	
	Release	Expenditure	Release	Expenditure	Release	Expenditure	Release	Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Andhra Pradesh	1600.87	393.96	4660.35	7191.17	3362.27	3277.33	3276.12	942.38
Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	13.68	10.00	253.05	90.00	10.86	0.00	8.25
Assam	0.00	0.00	199.31	121.59	254.95	158.76	1355.65	71.64
Bihar	1548.70	0.00	0.00	554.78	120.00	476.03	1487.38	197.05
Chhattisgarh	175.64	0.00	0.00	246.97	1100.17	135.54	1142.32	126.92
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	3.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.67	0.00	0.00
Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	134.67	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gujarat	194.65	13.68	12.50	65.72	3690.44	84.80	188.79	63.94
Haryana	402.90	27.79	62.06	247.71	811.13	323.52	9.97	140.46
Himachal Pradesh	79.29	0.72	0.00	180.47	50.00	29.64	627.15	15.74
Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	5.41	76.48	12.49	1044.88	11.88	0.00	0.00
Jharkhand	223.87	0.00	284.61	443.69	1946.71	350.66	2077.87	364.22
Karnataka	0.00	31.61	0.00	250.64	558.57	76.62	5341.98	329.36
Kerala	439.27	432.51	864.13	1282.96	805.53	513.20	408.62	390.32
Madhya Pradesh	718.10	320.43	4352.79	1325.49	2242.97	2673.92	719.13	650.19
Maharashtra	591.37	1095.37	725.05	900.95	3592.72	1828.90	1165.44	838.80
Manipur	0.00	0.00	103.56	5.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	221.37	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Mizoram	0.00	0.00	11.51	0.00	60.00	5.12	141.41	0.00
Nagaland	13.79	0.23	0.00	219.48	62.69	0.00	20.00	0.00
Orissa	1113.85	62.64	284.16	1734.71	4582.01	1001.77	1821.26	556.18
Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	29.69	47.42	25.30	0.00	0.00
Punjab	52.67	154.79	0.00	19.88	699.94	0.07	194.06	5.90
Rajasthan	265.62	0.00	119.12	220.12	700.86	786.50	4241.57	356.34
Sikkim	17.98	121.96	38.36	29.07	74.07	29.13	344.90	35.71
Tamil Nadu	2192.49	164.21	2768.98	4867.11	2972.06	3258.60	5201.19	2020.45
Tripura	249.56	109.91	819.21	983.31	368.73	410.86	0.00	6.36
Uttar Pradesh	2272.40	0.00	3120.44	3565.22	3475.35	3413.12	4181.91	1580.69
Uttaranchal	151.16	0.00	13.40	8.60	503.23	64.98	97.50	15.47
West Bengal	1528.88	0.00	1181.10	2262.73	1566.85	2389.29	3800.78	970.55
Total	13836.21	2948.90	19928.49	27022.60	34918.22	21338.06	37845.00	9686.92

**Private Sector Participation in
Rural Development**

*150. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken by the Government for involving private sector in rural development:

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

(c) the details of facilities and the concessions given/to be given to the private sector in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Rural Development has approved two special projects for generation of self-employment with private participation. The areas covered by these projects and the details of concessions/facilities offered to the private

sector for these projects are indicated below:—

- (i) **Livelihood Advancement Business School:** The objective of the project is to identify and make available potential livelihood options for 35,000 below poverty line (BPL) youth in the age group of 18-35 years and train them in skills according to the market requirements, thereby working towards achieving the goal of poverty reduction. Dr. Reddy's Foundation is to implement the project in 7 States. The total cost of the project is Rs. 14 crore, out of which the Government share is 75%.
- (ii) **Self-Help Group Mobilization, Capacity Building and Credit Linkage:** The objective of the project is group mobilization, capacity building and credit linkage of the Self Help Groups (SHG). ICICI Bank will be implementing the project in two states to promote SHG of BPL beneficiaries. The total cost of the project is Rs. 15 crore over a

period of five years to be borne by the Central Government. An amount of Rs. 15,000/- will be provided by the Government per SHG as the cost of group formation. The credit will be provided by ICICI Bank from their own resources.

While the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) is implemented by the State Governments, the works are executed by contractors who are generally in the private sector. The contracts are awarded through well established tendering procedures. In addition, the Ministry of Rural Development has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Shree Warana Rural Roads Development and Maintenance Co-operative Society Limited (WARANA) and Government of Maharashtra to enable the Society to execute PMGSY works in three districts of Maharashtra. The MoU envisages planting of fruit trees by the Society on the sides of the roads and the revenue from these trees would accrue to the Society.

A National Fund for Rural Development (NFRD) also exists, to which individuals, corporate and non-corporate bodies can make donations. The NFRD is envisaged to act as a channel for mobilizing efforts and resources for rural development. The accruals to the Fund are to be used for rural development projects, which may be implemented by the private sector also.

[Translation]

Earthquake Resistant Buildings

*151 SHRI HEMMAL MURMU: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Building Research Institute (CBRI), Roorkee has developed modern earthquake resistant techniques for new buildings and for making the old houses and buildings earthquake resistant as per the norms set by the Bureau of Indian Standards;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for dissemination of the above technique?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF

STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Yes. Sir, the Central Building Research Institute (CBRI), Roorkee is seized with the task of developing new techniques for making earthquake resistant buildings. It has also developed techniques for making old buildings earthquake resistant. These techniques are based on norms set by Bureau of Indian Standards. Since the techniques/norms are not fully developed some state governments already in anticipation of such norms have imposed an obligation of a certificate from a structural engineer for new constructions to ensure that the building is earthquake resistant.

The exercise of developing modern earthquake resistant techniques was undertaken by CBRI in 1991 after the tragedy of Uttarkashi earthquake. This exercise has to cover all possible structures in an area exposed to possible damage pursuant to an earthquake of a particular intensity. A beginning has been made and methodology required for vulnerability assessment has been developed for Jabalpur. Similar exercise has been started by CBRI for Delhi. Repair and retrofitting of damaged buildings has also been done by CBRI in Latur, Chamoli, Bhuj etc.

(c) As far as dissemination is concerned, CBRI liaises with different government departments and local bodies in the areas which are liable to more damage. However dissemination at that level is not adequate. What is needed is implementation through appropriate bodies and greater awareness among public of a possible danger to their lives if constructions are made without compliance to the norms. It requires greater involvement of society and public-private partnerships to spread the message that who do not conform to the norms do that at risk to their lives.

[English]

Credit Deposit Ratio

*152. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the Credit Deposit Ratio of various public sector banks in India, State-wise and Bank-wise;

(b) whether investments of funds from public sector

banks in the rural sector and backward States are comparatively low;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the corrective measures being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The Credit Deposit Ratio (CD Ratio) of Public Sector Banks as on March 2005 State-wise and Bank-wise is given in the enclosed statement I and II.

(b) and (c) Agriculture credit of Public Sector Banks has shown an increasing trend from Rs. 42210 crores in the year 2003-04 to Rs. 64,610 crores in 2004-05. The total Ground Level Credit for agriculture for the year 2004-05 was Rs. 1.15,242 crores. Agriculture credit is also likely to show further increase in the current financial year. Hence flow of credit in the rural sector cannot be considered to be low.

However, in comparative terms CD Ratio in the States of Jammu and Kashmir, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Nagaland, Tripura, Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttaranchal and Goa and the Union Territories of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu is less than 30% as against the All India CD Ratio of Public Sector Banks which was 62.89% as on March, 2005.

Some of the major reasons for low CD Ratio in these states include:—

- (i) Non-availability of adequate infrastructural facilities.
- (ii) Low absorption capacity.
- (iii) Non-development of medium and large industries.
- (iv) Low recovery performance of banks.
- (v) Disturbed law and order situation in some of the states.

(d) (i) RBI had advised the convenor banks to take up the issue of low CD Ratio in State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) meetings for identifying measures for

enhancing the CD Ratio. It is now being regularly monitored in these meetings.

(ii) Government had set up an Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Shri YSP Thorat, MD, NABARD to go into the nature and magnitude of the problem of low CD Ratio across states/regions and suggest steps to overcome the problem. The recommendations of the Expert Group have been accepted with some modifications. .

RBI has accordingly issued instructions to scheduled commercial banks on 9th November, 2005 to compute the CD Ratio on the basis of the revised parameters. It has also been decided to set up Special Sub-Committees (SSCs) in Districts having CD Ratio of less than 40% and to draw up Monitorable Action Plans in consultation with the State Governments to increase the CD Ratio in a phased manner.

Statement-I

State-wise CD Ratio of Public Sector Banks

Sl. No.	States/U.T.	2004-05
1	2	3
I.	Northern Region	60.79
1.	Haryana	59.91
2.	Himachal Pradesh	36.70
3.	Jammu and Kashmir	25.31
4.	Punjab	45.96
5.	Rajasthan	74.27
6.	Chandigarh	97.17
7.	Delhi	64.15
II.	North Eastern Region	34.98
8.	Arunachal Pradesh	22.59
9.	Assam	24.43
10.	Manipur	40.00

1	2	3
11.	Meghalaya	48.09
12.	Mizoram	49.91
13.	Nagaland	23.91
14.	Tripura	28.00
III.	Eastern Region	45.74
15.	Bihar	27.24
16.	Jharkhand	28.97
17.	Orissa	62.91
18.	Sikkim	30.54
19.	West Bengal	53.74
20.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	27.43
IV.	Central Region	41.23
21.	Chhattisgarh	48.96
22.	Madhya Pradesh	56.78
23.	Uttar Pradesh	37.49
24.	Uttaranchal	24.00
V.	Western Region	76.10
25.	Goa	25.02
26.	Gujarat	45.56
27.	Maharashtra	89.28
28.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	16.54
29.	Daman and Diu	10.63
VI.	Southern Region	77.12
30.	Andhra Pradesh	74.86
31.	Karnataka	76.06
32.	Kerala	57.73
33.	Tamil Nadu	93.04

1	2	3
34.	Lakshadweep	—
35.	Pondicherry	35.99
All India		62.89

Statement-II*Bank-wise CD Ratio of Public Sector Banks*

Sl. No.	Bank Name	2004-05
1	2	3
SBI and Associates		63.0
1.	State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur	66.3
2.	State Bank of Hyderabad	56.3
3.	State Bank of India	63.6
4.	State Bank of Indore	69.9
5.	State Bank of Mysore	68.4
6.	State Bank of Patiala	59.8
7.	State Bank of Saurashtra	56.4
8.	State Bank of Travancore	61.4
Nationalised Banks		59.2
9.	Allahabad Bank	55.3
10.	Andhra Bank	65.9
11.	Bank of Baroda	54.4
12.	Bank of India	70.1
13.	Bank of Maharashtra	49.3
14.	Canara Bank	64.7
15.	Central Bank of India	49.7
16.	Corporation Bank	67.1

1	2	3
17.	Dena Bank	62.3
18.	Indian Bank	59.2
19.	Indian Overseas Bank	59.1
20.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	58.7
21.	Punjab and Sind Bank	49.6
22.	Punjab National Bank	56.7
23.	Syndicate Bank	57.1
24.	UCO Bank	58.8
25.	Union Bank of India	68.0
26.	United Bank of India	48.3
27.	Vijaya Bank	58.2
	Other PSBs	1020.6
28.	IDBI Ltd.	1020.6
	All India	62.89

NTC Mills.

*153. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN:

SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of NTC Mills operating at present the country, State-wise:

(b) the details of NTC mills declared sick, referred to BIFR and closed during the last three years:

(c) the number of workers affected in these NTC mills:

(d) whether the Government has recently announced a revival package for the above NTC mills:

(e) if so, the details thereof, mill-wise; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to modernize these NTC mills so that they can compete with other private mills?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) At present, 40 NTC mills are operating in the country as per the following details:—

Sl. No.	Name of State	No. of Mills
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1
2.	Karnataka	1
3.	Kerala and Mahe	6
4.	Maharashtra	15
5.	Madhya Pradesh	2
6.	Uttar Pradesh	2
7.	West Bengal	3
8.	Orissa	1
9.	Assam	1
10.	Tamil Nadu	8
	Total	40

(b) and (c) All the 117 mills in NTC have been referred to BIFR. Out of these, 65 potentially unviable mills have been closed and one potentially unviable mill transferred to Government of Pondicherry during the last three years. Details are given in the enclosed statement-I. Till date, approximately 50,000 employees have availed benefits of Voluntary Retirement Scheme.

(d) and (e) Government have decided to modernize 22 mills of NTC using the resources generated by sale of the mills' assets, and to revive 29 mills through Joint Venture with private partners. Details are given in the enclosed statement-II.

(f) The Company has generated by sale of assets the resources required for modernization. The tender for purchase of new machineries and add-on-items for the renovation of the existing machineries have been floated after the recommendations of the Technical Committee.

Statement-I

*National Textile Corporation Ltd.
List of 65 Unviable Mills Closed*

Sl. No.	Name of the Mills	Location	Date of Closure
1	2	3	4

I. NTC (APKK and M) Ltd.**(a) Andhra Pradesh**

1.	Azam Jahi Mills	Warangal	31-10-2002
2.	Natraj Spinning Mills	Adilabad	06-05-2002
3.	Adoni Cotton Mills	Adoni	06-05-2002
4.	Netha Spinning Mills	Secunderabad	06-05-2002

(b) Karnataka

5.	M.S.K. Mills	Gulbarga	06-05-2002
6.	Mysore Spg. and Mfg. Mills	Bangalore	merged into Minerva Mills

II. NTC (DP and R) Ltd.**Rajasthan**

7.	Edward Mills	Beawar	06-05-2002
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Punjab

8.	Dayalbagh Spg. and Wvg. Mills	Amritsar	01-09-2003
9.	Panipat Woolen Mills	Kharar	15-05-2004

III. NTC (Gujarat) Ltd.**Gujarat**

10.	Ahmedbad Jupiter Tex. Mills	Ahmedabad	31-03-2003
11.	Jehangir Textile Mills	Ahmedabad	30-06-2004
12.	Mahalaxmi Tex. Mills	Bhavnagar	20-09-2002
13.	New Manekchowk Tex. Mill	Ahmedabad	31-07-2002
14.	Petlad Tex. Mills	Petlad	06-05-2002

1	2	3	4
15.	Rajkot Tex. Mills	Rajkot	06-05-2002
16.	Viramgam Tex. Mills	Viramgam	31-07-2002
17.	Rajnagar II	Ahmedabad	31-10-2002
18.	Himadari Textile Mills	Ahmedabad	30-09-2003

IV. NTC (M.N.) Ltd.**Maharashtra**

19.	India United Mills No. 2	Mumbai	31-03-2004
20.	India United Mills No. 3	Mumbai	31-03-2004
21.	India United Mills No. 4	Mumbai	31-10-2002
22.	Kohinoor Mills No. 2	Mumbai	01-06-2002
23.	Kohinoor Mills No. 3	Mumbai	01-06-2002
24.	Jam Mfg. Mills	Mumbai	31-03-2004
25.	Model Mills	Nagpur	05-06-2004
26.	R.S.R.G. Mills	Akola	05-06-2004
27.	Shri Sitaram Mills	Mumbai	31-03-2004
28.	Vidharbha Mills	Achalpur	05-06-2004

V. NTC (S.M.) Ltd.**Maharashtra**

29.	Bharat Textile Mills	Mumbai	01-04-2004
30.	Digvijay Textile Mills	Mumbai	01-04-2004
31.	Elphinstone Spg. and Wvg. Mills	Mumbai	01-04-2004
32.	Jupiter Textile Mills	Mumbai	01-04-2004
33.	Mumbai Textile Mills	Mumbai	01-04-2004
34.	New Hind Textile Mills	Mumbai	01-04-2004
35.	Podar Processors	Mumbai	01-04-2004
36.	Shree Madhusudan Mills	Mumbai	01-04-2004

1	2	3	4
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VI. N.T.C. (M.P.) Ltd.**Madhya Pradesh**

37.	Bengal Nagpur Cotton Mills	Rajnandgaon	31-10-2002
38.	Hira Mills	Ujjain	31-10-2002
39.	Indore Malwa United Mills	Indore	31-03-2003
40.	Kalyan Mal Mills	Indore	31-05-2002
41.	Swadeshi Textile Mills	Indore	31-05-2002

VII. NTC (U.P.) Ltd.**Uttar Pradesh**

42.	Atherton Mills	Kanpur	11-03-2004
43.	Bijli Cotton Mills	Hathras	11-03-2004
44.	Laxmirattan Cotton Mills	Kanpur	11-03-2004
45.	Lord Krishna Tex. Mills	Saharanpur	11-03-2004
46.	Muir Mills	Kanpur	11-03-2004
47.	New Victoria Mills	Kanpur	11-03-2004
48.	Rae Bareli Tex. Mills	Raebareli	11-03-2004
49.	Shri Vikram Cotton Mills	Lucknow	11-03-2004
50.	Swadeshi Cotton Mills	Kanpur	11-03-2004

VIII. NTC (WBAB and O) Ltd.**(a) West Bengal**

51.	Bangasri Cotton Mills	Sonopore	06-05-2002
52.	Bengal Fine S. and W. Mills No. II	Kataganj	06-05-2002
53.	Manindra B.T. Mills	Cossim Bazar	06-05-2002
54.	Jyoti Wvg. Factory	Patipukur	06-05-2002
55.	Central Cotton Mills	Belur	06-05-2002
56.	Shree Mahalaxmi Cotton	Palta	06-05-2002
57.	Bengal Fine S. and W. Mills No. I	Konnagar	25-10-2003

1	2	3	4
58.	Bengal Luxmi Cotton Mills	Serampore	25-10-2003
59.	Rampooria Cotton Mills	Rishra	25-10-2003
(b) Bihar			
60.	Gaya Cotton and Jute Mills	Gaya	06-05-2002
IX. N.T.C. (TN and P) Ltd.			
Tamil Nadu			
61.	Balamavarma Textile Mills	Shencottah	06-01-2003
62.	Kishnaveni Textile Mills	Coimbatore	31-05-2002
63.	Om Parasakthi Mills	Coimbatore	31-05-2002
64.	Somasundaram Mills	Coimbatore	31-10-2002
65.	Kaleswarar Mills 'A' Unit	Coimbatore	21-07-2002
Pondicherry			
66.	Swadeshi Cotton Mills	Pondicherry	Transferred on 1-4-2005

Statement-II*List of 22 Mills Proposed for Modernization*

Sl. No.	Name of the Mills	Location
1	2	3

A. 15 Mills to be Revived in 1st Phase**NTC (APKKM) Ltd.****Karnataka**

- | | | |
|----|---------------|-----------|
| 1. | Minerva Mills | Bangalore |
|----|---------------|-----------|

Kerala

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------------|---------------|
| 2. | Algappa Textile Mills | Alagappanagar |
| 3. | Cannanore Spg. and Wvg. Mills | Cannanore |

1	2	3
4.	Kerala Laxmi Mills	Trichur
5.	Vijayamohini Mills	Trivandrum

Mahe

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------------|------|
| 6. | Cannanore Spg. and Wvg. Mills | Mahe |
|----|-------------------------------|------|

NTC (MIN) Ltd.**Maharashtra**

- | | | |
|----|-------------|--------|
| 7. | Podar Mills | Mumbai |
|----|-------------|--------|

NTC (SM) Ltd.**Maharashtra**

- | | | |
|----|----------------------|--------|
| 8. | Barshi Textile Mills | Barshi |
| 9. | Finlay Mills | Mumbai |

2

3

N.T.C. (TN and P) Ltd.**Tamil Nadu**

10. Cambodia Mills	Coimbatore
11. Coimbatore Murugan Mills	Coimbatore
12. Pankaja Mills	Coimbatore
13. Pioneer Spinners Mills	Kamudakudi
14. Sri Rangavilas S. and W. Mills	Coimbatore
15. Kaleeswarar Mills 'B' Unit	Kalayarkoil

B. 7 Mills to be revived in 2nd Phase**NTC (DPR) Ltd.****Rajasthan**

16. Udaipur Cotton Mills	Udaipur
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NTC (Guj.) Ltd.**Gujarat**

17. Rajnagar Textile Mill No. 1	Ahmedabad
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NTC (MN) Ltd.**Maharashtra**

18. Tata Mills	Mumbai
19. India United Mill No. 5	Mumbai

NTC (WBABO) Ltd.**West Bengal**

20. Arati Cotton Mills	Dass Nagar
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NTC (MP) Ltd.**Madhya Pradesh**

21. Burhanpur Tapti Mills	Burhanpur
22. New Bhopal Textile Mills	Bhopal

List of 29 Mills Proposed for Strategic Private Partnership

Sl.No.	Name of the Mills	Location
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1	2	3
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NTC (APKKM) Ltd.**Andhra Pradesh**

1. Tirupati Cotton Mills	Renigunta
2. Ananthapur Cotton Mills	Tadapatri

Karnataka

3. Sree Yallama Cotton Mills	Davangere
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Kerala

4. Parvathi Mills	Quilon
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NTC (DPR) Ltd.**Punjab**

5. Kharar Textile Mills	Kharar
6. Suraj Textile Mills	Malout

Rajasthan

7. Mahalaxmi Mills	Beawar
8. Shree Bijay Cotton Mills	Shree Bijaynagar

NTC (Guj.) Ltd.**Gujarat**

9. Ahmedabad New Textile Mills	Ahmedabad
10. India United Mills No. 1	Mumbai
11. Kohinoor Mills No. 1	Mumbai
12. RBBA Mills	Hinganghat
13. Savatram Ramprasad Mills	Akola

1	2	3
NTC (SM) Ltd.		
Maharashtra		
14. Apollo Textile Mills		Mumbai
15. Chalisgaon Textile Mills		Chalisgaon
16. Dhule Textile Mills		Dhule
17. Goldmohur Mills		Mumbai
18. Nanded Textile Mills		Nanded
19. New City of Bombay Mfg. Mills		Mumbai
20. Aurangabad Textile Mills		Aurangabad
NTC (UP) Ltd.		
Uttar Pradesh		
21. Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Mau		Maunathbhanjan
22. Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Naini		Naini
NTC (WBABO) Ltd.		
West Bengal		
23. Laxminarayan Cotton Mills		Rishra
24. Sodepur Cotton Mills		Sodepur
Bihar		
25. Bihar Co-operative Mills		Mokameh
Orissa		
26. Orissa Cotton Mills		Bhagatpur
Assam		
27. Associated Industries		Chandrapur
N.T.C. (TN and P) Ltd.		
Tamil Nadu		
28. Sri Sarda Mills		Coimbatore
29. Coimbatore Spg. and Wvg. Mills		Coimbatore

[Translation]

**Review of Performance of NGOs
Engaged in Rural Development**

*154. MOHD. SHAHID:

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently conducted a review of Non-Governmental Organisations engaged in rural development schemes;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) the shortcomings noticed in functioning of NGOs;

(d) the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;

(e) whether the Government has recently introduced new grading system for classifying NGOs; and

(f) if so, the advantages of the new grading system over the previous one?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (f) No specific review of NGOs has recently been conducted. However, CAPART has a system of monitoring and evaluation of NGOs under which they are regularly monitoring the functioning of the NGOs funded by them. As a result of which 354 NGOs have been de-listed by CAPART. No system for grading of NGOs has yet been introduced by this Ministry.

Central Excise Duty

*155. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether recovery of central excise duty has fallen in the country especially in the North Eastern States;

(b) if not, the total recovery of central excise duty in the first six months of the current financial year in the North Eastern States, State-wise;

(c) whether the regional excise department has fixed the target of recovery;

(d) if so, details thereof; and

(e) the extent to which the target has been achieved?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Central Excise revenue realization for the period April-September, 2005 from Shillong Zone consisting of Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur was Rs. 1176 crore (provisional). State-wise revenue realisation of Central Excise duty is not collected and compiled.

(c) to (e) The target for collection of Central Excise revenue for Shillong Zone for the year 2005-06, actual collection for the period April-September, 2005 and the percentage of realization of the target assigned, are as given below:—

(Rs. in crore)		
Target 2005-06	Revenue realized during 2005-06 (April-Sept)*	% of Target realized
2700	1176	43.6

*Provisional.

[English]

Power Crisis

*156. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR:

SHRI UDAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the power sector in the country needs immediately attention in order to avoid a crisis situation in future;

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard:

(c) whether the Government proposes to launch a major scheme to strengthen the State Electricity Boards (SEBs);

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the overall growth likely to accrue to power sector as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (e) The National Electricity Policy (NEP) has set the goals for power sector. The main objectives of the policy are as mentioned below:—

- Access to Electricity—Available for all households in next five years.
- Availability of Power—Demand to be fully met by 2012. Energy and peaking shortages to be overcome and adequate spinning reserve to be available.
- Supply of Reliable and Quality Power of specified standards in an efficient manner and at reasonable rates.
- Per capita availability of electricity to be increased to over 1000 units by 2012.
- Minimum lifeline consumption of 1 unit/household/day as a merit good by year 2012.
- Financial Turnaround and Commercial Viability of Electricity Sector.
- Protection of consumers' interests.

A scheme "Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana" (RGGVY) of Rural Electricity Infrastructure and Household Electrification has been introduced in April 2005 with an objective of providing access to electricity to all households over a period of four years. Under this scheme 90% capital subsidy will be provided for:—

- Rural Electricity Distribution Backbone.
- Creation of Village Electrification Infrastructure.
- Decentralized Distributed Generation and Supply, if required.

It is estimated that a capacity addition of 1,00,000

MW would be required during X and XI plans to achieve the goal set by the National Electricity Policy. A capacity of 13416 MW has been added till 30-11-2005 during the 10th Five Year Plan. For timely completion of projects, the monitoring mechanism has been strengthened. A nodal officer for each project has been nominated in the Central Electricity Authority. Regular review meetings are also organized.

The National Electricity Policy provides that consumers, particularly those who are ready to pay a tariff which reflects efficient costs, have the right to get uninterrupted 24 hours supply of quality power.

The trend of increasing commercial losses of Power Utilities has been arrested after 2001-02. The commercial losses (without subsidy) in State Electricity Boards had increased from Rs. 4,560 crores during 1992-93 to Rs. 25,259 crores during 2000-01. According to data compiled by Power Finance Corporation, the losses of Utilities have reduced from Rs. 27,068 crores in 2001-02 to Rs. 20,623 crores in 2003-04.

Seven States namely Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Kerala, West Bengal and Rajasthan have been provided incentive under Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) for actual reduction in losses.

The Government has launched following major initiatives to overcome the problems of the power sector and to make it competitive and viable:—

- (i) Tariff determination by independent Regulatory Commissions.
- (ii) Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) for assisting States in investment in distribution network for reducing technical losses and improving the quality of supply and also for incentivising reduction of cash losses through cash grants.
- (iii) Generation has been delicensed under the Electricity Act, 2003. Non-discriminatory open access has been provided in transmission.
- (iv) Stringent legal provisions relating to theft of electricity.
- (v) Emphasis on metering of feeders and supply to consumers for energy accounting and auditing for identifying location of high losses.
- (vi) Mega Power Policy for encouraging quick capacity addition of bigger generation plants.

[Translation]

Energy from Bio-Mass

*157. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA:

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any new technology is being developed for generating electricity from bio-mass in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the total capacity of electricity generation in M.W. from bio-mass in the country, State-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has sanctioned new projects to increase bio-mass capacity and proposes to set-up community bio-mass plants in each village;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the funds provided therefor during 2005-06, State-wise; and
- (f) the total quantum of electricity in M.W. estimated to be generated thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Technology for generation of electricity from biomass using 100% producer gas engine linked with biomass gasifier has been recently developed in the country.

(c) A total installed capacity of 870 MW based on biomass combustion, gasification and bagasse cogeneration have been installed in the country. The state-wise information is given in the enclosed statement.

(d) Biomass Power/Cogeneration Programme is being continued during the current year to promote

setting up of biomass based electricity generation projects. An additional capacity of 55.50 MW has been set up in the country during the year. Besides, the Government is already promoting biomass based technologies in selected potential villages for meeting energy requirements, such as cooking, motive power and electricity generation under various schemes of the Ministry, but not under the title of 'community biomass plants' in each village.

(e) Biomass gasifier based electricity generation projects of a total capacity of 423 kW has been sanctioned during 2005-06 involving a total central financial assistance of Rs. 63.45 lakh to the state of Tamil Nadu. Amounts of Rs. 70.70 lakh, Rs. 42.69 lakh and Rs. 8.10 lakh have been released during 2005-06 to Arunachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry, respectively under the Biomass Gasification Programme.

(f) The objective of setting up of village based biomass energy systems is to meet the electricity requirements of the villages in a decentralized manner and is not to generate electricity in MW scale.

Statement

State-wise information of the installed capacity of Biomass based electricity generation projects

Sl. No.	State	Capacity (In MW)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	282.63
2.	Chhattisgarh	11.50
3.	Gujarat	14.76
4.	Haryana	7.06
5.	Karnataka	190.58
6.	Madhya Pradesh	5.72
7.	Maharashtra	39.82

1	2	3
8.	Punjab	28.70
9.	Rajasthan	8.00
10.	Tamil Nadu	178.02
11.	Uttar Pradesh	93.38
12.	West Bengal	5.00
13.	Others	5.00
Total		870.00

Education Loan

*158. SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA:
DR. K. DHANARAJU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the applications for grant of education loans received by the various nationalized banks so far during the years 2004-05, State-wise:

(b) the number of applications pending for grant of education loan, bank-wise, State-wise:

(c) the reasons for pendency; and

(d) the action being taken by the Government to clear the pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) The information is available only bank-wise for public sector banks. In 2004-05 the number of educational loans sanctioned by each bank is contained in the statement enclosed. The number of applications received by each branch in 2004-05 is not consolidated, and is therefore, not available.

(c) and (d) As per the RBI guidelines, loan applications under educational loan scheme have to be disposed of within a period of 15 days to 1 month but not exceeding the time norms stipulated for disposing of loan applications under priority sector lending where all loan applications upto a credit limit of Rs. 25,000/-

should be disposed of within two weeks and up to Rs. 2 lakhs within 4 weeks provided the loan applications are completed in all respects.

Pendency if any is due to non-fulfillment of eligibility

criteria for particular course/institution or non-fulfillment of terms of sanction. Banks have been advised to organize camps in locations suitable to the students and academic community such as university towns, where loan applications may be accepted for quick sanctions.

Statement

Bank-wise Details of Education Loans Sanctioned by Public Sector Bank during 2004-05

Sl. No.	Name of the Bank	New Loan Sanctioned 2004-05	
		No. of A/Cs	Amount
1	2	3	4
1.	State Bank of India (Feb. 2005)	27260	433.00
2.	State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur	1444	20.22
3.	State Bank of Hyderabad	3875	120.43
4.	State Bank of Mysore	2921	67.18
5.	State Bank of Indore	990	24.90
6.	State Bank of Patiala	1288	34.00
7.	State Bank of Saurashtra	747	30.73
8.	State Bank of Travancore	9847	201.30
9.	Allahabad Bank	1834	44.34
10.	Andhra Bank	10157	225.34
11.	Bank of India	8282	172.00
12.	Bank of Baroda	6931	200.38
13.	Bank of Maharashtra	2189	50.14
14.	Canara Bank	20220	337.00
15.	Central Bank of India	4912	127.10
16.	Corporation Bank	2503	100.36
17.	Dena Bank	2128	31.72
18.	Indian Bank	8642	171.05

1	2	3	4
19.	Indian Overseas Bank	8053	167.63
20.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	3459	95.70
21.	Punjab National Bank	9592	397.15
22.	Punjab and Sind Bank	889	28.97
23.	Syndicate Bank	10685	142.50
24.	UCO Bank	2626	62.35
25.	Union Bank of India	10152	96.23
26.	United Bank of India	4982	100.30
27.	Vijaya Bank	3160	43.90
	All India	169768	3525.91

[English]

Assistance to Powerloom Sector

*159. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of workers engaged in powerloom industry, State-wise;

(b) the production and percentage of the cloth being manufactured through powerloom out of the total cloth manufactured in the country;

(c) the details of the financial assistance provided by the Government to powerloom industry in the country during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise; and

(d) the details of the schemes being implemented by the Government for welfare of the workers engaged in industry?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) State-wise number of workers engaged in powerloom industry as on 30th September, 2005 is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) The production of the cloth in powerloom sector

and the total cloth produced/manufactured in the country during the last three years are as follows:—

(Million Square meter)

Year	All Sectors (Including Khadi, Wool, Silk)	Powerloom Sector	Percentage
2002-03	41973	25954	62
2003-04	42383	26947	64
2004-05	44355	28325	62

(c) The following are the on-going Schemes under the Powerloom Sector:—

- Modernisation and Strengthening of Powerloom Service Centres;
- Group Workshed Scheme;
- Group Insurance Scheme; and
- Support to Computer Aided Design Centres.

All of the above schemes are Central Sector Schemes under which no central assistance is provided

to the individual States for the development of the powerlooms. However, under the Technology Upgradation

Fund Scheme, the State-wise assistance, in the shape of loans, in as follows:—

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	State/U.T.	Loans Sanctioned 2003-2004	Loans Sanctioned 2004-2005	Loans Sanctioned 2005-2006 (April- September)
1.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Gujarat	17.48	10.22	4.09
3.	Haryana	0.00	2.26	0.00
4.	Karnataka	1.55	0.45	0.50
5.	Maharashtra	5.15	0.19	0.00
6.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Punjab	2.00	4.51	0.00
8.	Rajasthan	0.00	4.63	0.00
9.	Tamil Nadu	6.46	23.35	1.10
10.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	0.18	6.87
11.	West Bengal	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		32.64	45.79	12.56

(d) For the welfare of the powerloom workers, the Government has introduced a Group Insurance Scheme in association with Life Insurance Corporation of Indian (LIC) from 1st July, 2003. There are two separate components under the scheme:—(1) Janashree Bima Yojana (JBY) and (2) Aid-on Group Insurance Scheme (AGIS). Under the JBY, the premium is Rs. 200/- of

which Rs. 100/- is paid by LIC and remaining is paid in the ratio of 60:40 by the Government and the beneficiary. In case of AGIS the total premium of Rs. 180/- is paid on 50:50 basis by the Government and the beneficiary. A beneficiary also has the option of choosing either of the Schemes or both. The coverage under the Schemes is as under:—

Component	Natural Death	Accidental Death	Total Permanent Disability	Partial Permanent Disability
1	2	3	4	5
JBY	Rs. 20,000/-	Rs. 50,000/-	Rs. 50,000/-	Rs. 25,000/-

1	2	3	4	5
Add-on-GIS	Rs. 30,000/-	Rs. 30,000/-	—	—
Both	Rs. 50,000/-	Rs. 80,000/-	Rs. 50,000/-	Rs. 25,000/-

In addition to the above, a worker under JBY is also entitled, under LIC's Shiksha Sahayog Yojana, to the education grant of Rs. 300/- per child/per quarter for two children studying in IX to XII standard.

Statement

State-wise number of workers engaged in powerloom industry as on 30th September, 2005

Sl. No.	Name of the State/ Union Territory	No. of Powerloom Workers
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	110670
2.	Assam	6815
3.	Bihar	7235
4.	Goa	305
5.	Gujarat	806468
6.	Haryana	24753
7.	Himachal Pradesh	3653
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	163
9.	Karnataka	204673
10.	Kerala	6970
11.	Madhya Pradesh	203328
12.	Maharashtra	2168840
13.	Orissa	8303
14.	Punjab	59050

1	2	3
15.	Rajasthan	82693
16.	Tamil Nadu	930240
17.	Uttar Pradesh	164910
18.	West Bengal	11758
19.	Delhi	2755
20.	Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura	0
II. Union Territory		
21.	Chandigarh	105
22.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2405
23.	Pondicherry	2075
24.	Andaman and Nicobar, Daman and Diu, Lakshadweep	0
Total		4808163

Industrial Houses in Mining Sector

*160. SHRI SURENDRA PRAKASH GOYAL: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of industrial houses have shown interest in mining sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of mines allotted in public sector/private sector during the last three years; and

(d) the total revenue earned by the Government from this sector during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SISH RAM OLA): (a) and (b) A large number of companies have applied for mineral concessions. Mineral concessions are granted by State Governments. Prior approval of this Ministry is required in respect of atomic minerals and ten metallic and non-metallic major minerals. 323 prior

approvals were given in the last three years by Ministry of Mines of which 244 were in favour of companies.

(c) The details of mining leases granted by the State Governments for all major minerals in public and private sector during the last three years are as under:—

Sl. No.	Details	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005	Total
(1)	Mining leases for all major minerals granted in favour of private sector (individuals and companies) by the State Governments.	373	285	239	897
(2)	Mining leases for all major minerals granted in favour of public sector undertaking by the State Governments.	6	10	5	21
Grand Total		379	295	244	918

(d) Revenues are collected and retained by the State Governments and information in this regard is not maintained centrally by the Ministry of Mines.

Production in lakh bales of 170 kgs. each

State	Cotton Production	
	2004-05*	2003-04*
1	2	3
Punjab	16.50	10.35
Haryana	15.50	11.50
Rajasthan	11.00	9.15
Gujarat	73.00	50.00
Maharashtra	52.00	31.00
Madhya Pradesh	16.00	19.65
Andhra Pradesh	32.50	27.40
Karnataka	8.00	4.20
Tamil Nadu	5.50	3.75

Demand and Production of Cotton

*161. SHRI SUBRATA BOSE:

SHRI HITEN BARMAN:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of cotton produced in different parts of the country; State-wise:

(b) the annual demand of cotton in the country, State-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to increase the production of cotton in the country?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) State-wise details of cotton production during 2004-05 cotton season vis-a-vis last year in different cotton growing States are as under:—

1	2	3
Others.	1.00	1.00
Plus Loose Lint	12.00	11.00
Total	243.00	179.00

*For cotton season (1st October to 30th September).

Source: Cotton Advisory Board.

(b) The annual demand of cotton in the country is as under:—

Demand	2004-05	2003-04
Mill consumption	163.00	150.39
Small Mill consumption	17.00	13.00
Non-mill consumption	14.00	13.71
Total	194.00	177.10

Source: Cotton Advisory Board.

State-wise cotton consumption (cotton year-wise)

('000 kg.)

Sl. No.	State	2003-04 (Oct.-Sept.)	2004-05 (P) (Oct.-Sept.)
---------	-------	-------------------------	-----------------------------

1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	131,313	136,666
2.	Assam	118	187
3.	Gujarat	216,695	244,813
4.	Haryana	89,456	134,369
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	37	5,766
6.	Karnataka	75,306	87,410

1	2	3	4
7.	Kerala	30,223	36,819
8.	Madhya Pradesh	151,247	152,357
9.	Maharashtra	295,426	306,107
10.	Orissa	4,237	3,380
11.	Punjab	279,398	327,914
12.	Rajasthan	92,931	115,686
13.	Tamil Nadu	1,217,544	1,303,885
14.	Uttar Pradesh	52,113	61,360
15.	West Bengal	14,952	16,897
16.	Pondicherry	17,924	17,772
17.	Himachal Pradesh	72,277	76,378
18.	Manipur	—	46
19.	Daman and Diu.	112	30
20.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	35,046	30,410
21.	Uttaranchal	27	16
22.	Jharkhand	1,079	1,679
Total		2,777,461*	3,059,947*

*Figures includes only mill consumption and small spinning mill consumption.

(c) Cotton production in the country has increased by 36% during 2004-05 and reached a record level of 243 lakh bales as compared to the estimated production of 170 lakh bales during previous year. During 2002-03, the cotton production was 136.00 lakh bales. The Government of India had already launched Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC) in February 2000 in the course of 9th Five Year Plan, with the objective of improvement in the production, productivity and quality of cotton and reduction in cost of cultivation, in order to provide

abundant supply of good quality cotton at competitive prices to the textile industry and a remunerative return to the farmers. The TMC scheme has been continued during the 10th Five Year Plan i.e. upto 2006-07.

[English]

Identification of BPL Families

1486. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain States particularly Gujarat have requested the Union Government to lift the restrictions on enrollment of people under Below Poverty Line (BPL) Scheme and to enhance the annual limit for getting benefit under BPL Scheme:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government on each such proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The initial guidelines issued by the Ministry of Rural Development stipulated that the total number of BPL families to be identified under the BPL Census, 2002 should not exceed more than 10% of the poverty estimates of the Planning Commission for the year 1999-2000. A number of States had represented to the Ministry to review the number of BPL households to be identified under the guidelines of BPL Census, 2002. These representations have already been considered by the Ministry and the States have been given enough flexibility to decide the total number of BPL households which may be equal to the poverty estimates of 1999-2000 of the Planning Commission or the Adjusted Share whichever is higher. In addition, 10% flexibility has also been granted on account of transient poor.

Gold Prices

1487. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the gold prices in the country during each of the last three years;

(b) the reasons for rising prices in the country especially during the last six months, month-wise; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government bring down the gold prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) The month end gold prices for the three years namely, 2003-04, 2004-05 and April-November, 2005-06 are given in the table below. Government has not changed customs duty on import of gold after March 1, 2003. The price of gold in the domestic market is influenced, inter-alia by international prices and seasonal fluctuations in demand.

Table: Domestic prices of Gold (Rs/Gm)

(As reported in the Economic Times)

End of Month	Delhi Standard		
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4
April	529	586	627
May	575	578	603
June	550	604	629
July	553	601	609
August	552	621	632
September	581	622	664
October	580	645	699
November	599	665	751*
December	621	643	

1	2	3	4
January	607	618	
February	604	620	
March	613	615	

*As on November 29, 2005.

Loan under PMRY

1488. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received complaints from the States and beneficiaries under Prime Minister Rojgar Yojana (PMRY) about large scale rejection of applications and delay in sanctioning and disbursement of loans by the Public Sector Banks:

(b) if so, the details of complaints received during each of the last two years, State-wise, particularly in respect of Karnataka;

(c) Banks which are major defaulters in this regard: and

(d) the remedial measures the Union Government have taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) According to the information available from RBI, no specific complaints have been received from States and beneficiaries.

(d) RBI and Government of India have initiated the following steps for improvement of performance under PMRY and other allied schemes:—

- (i) Banks have been advised to carry out scrutiny of rejected applications by a higher authority from their controlling/Head Office.
- (ii) Banks have been instructed to dispose of applications for loans upto Rs. 25,000 within 2 weeks and upto Rs. 2 lakh within 4 weeks, provided the loan applications are complete in all respects.

(iii) Time frames have been laid down for receipt of applications from the DICs to banks and thereafter sanction and disbursements of loans by banks.

(iv) Banks have been instructed to set-up training institutes jointly with the State Governments by utilizing the existing infrastructure of the Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and Small Industries Service Institutes (SISIs).

(v) State Governments have been advised to identify viable activities jointly with banks at the District level.

(vi) Discussions are held by concerned nodal Departments with the bank branches in Block Level Bankers' Committee (BLBC) meetings to ensure early sanction of pending applications.

(vii) Regular review meetings are held at District and State Levels to monitor the progress of these schemes.

Cash Transaction Tax

1489. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received some representations from the Management of Cooperative Banks, Financial Institutions and Public representatives regarding withdrawal of banking cash transaction tax:

(b) if so, the response of the Government thereto:

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (d) A number of banks had represented requesting the Government to withdraw the Banking Cash Transaction Tax on inter-bank transactions. It was never the intention of the Government to tax such transactions. Therefore, the Government has amended the statute through the

Taxation Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 2005, promulgated on 31st October, 2005 to provide that such transactions will be exempt from the levy of the Banking Cash Transaction Tax.

Excise Duty on Petroleum

1490. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to reduce excise duty on petroleum in order to check price hike;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to check price rise caused due to increasing petrol price time and again?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) Prices of petroleum products depend upon a number of factors such as international oil prices, domestic and international demand and supply position, duties and taxes. At present there is no proposal under the consideration of the Government to effect any changes in the excise duty structure and rates for petroleum products.

[Translation]

Interest on GPF and PPF

1491. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to give 9.5 per cent interest on the GPF and PPF savings of the Government and private employees like that of Employees Provident Fund Organisation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this proposal is likely to be considered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) There is no proposal under consideration of Government to revise

the rate of interest on GPF which has been retained at 8 per cent for 2005-2006 at par with that of 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 or the rate of interest on PPF which has been pegged at 8 per cent since 2003-2004. In the case of Employees' Provident Fund, the Central Board of Trustees has not made any recommendation in respect of interest rate on EPF accumulations for the year 2005-2006.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Draft Policy on Bio-technology

1492. MS. INGRID MCLEOD: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently formulated a draft policy on Bio-technology and has circulated the same to the State Governments for eliciting their views;

(b) if so, the response of the State Governments in this regard; and

(c) the time by which the policy is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) The draft National Biotechnology Development Strategy has been prepared and it was put on the website of Department of Biotechnology for eliciting views and comments. A large number of responses have been received from students, scientists, industries, research organizations, NGO's etc. and also the general public. As regards State Governments, comments have been received only from Gujarat State Biotechnology Mission, Department of Science and Technology, Government of Gujarat, which have been taken into consideration while modifying the draft.

(c) The Draft is now in the final stages of modification and editing based on the comments received.

Displacement of Workers of NALCO

1493. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of families displaced in the National Aluminium Company (NALCO) specially in the Damanjodi sector;

(b) whether some of the displaced families have been rehabilitated, given employment, or other kind of compensation by NALCO;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) At Damanjodi, total 600 families were displaced for NALCO's establishment.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. Total 598 persons out of the 600 families displaced have been rehabilitated in two specifically constructed colonies with infrastructure facilities at Damanjodi in addition to payment of cash compensation for the land required. The balance two families for the purpose of rehabilitation have preferred to stay at their native place and, hence, not availed the rehabilitation benefit.

Moreover, one able bodied nominee each from 585 families has also been provided permanent employment in the Company.

Royalty on Minerals

1494. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to revise the royalty rate of minerals;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the new royalty rates are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) to (c) No.

Sir. Section 9(3) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 provides that the Central Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, amend the schedule related to rates of royalty so as to enhance or reduce the rate at which royalty shall be payable in respect of any mineral with effect from such date as may be specified in the notification; provided that the Central Government shall not enhance the rates of royalty in respect of minerals more than once during any period of three years.

Rates of royalty of minerals, other than fuel and minor minerals, were last revised vide Gazette Notification GSR 677(E) dated 14-10-2004.

Foreign Participation in Setting up of Power Projects in N.E.

1495. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some foreign power companies permitted by the government to set up power plants in the country particularly in West Bengal, Sikkim and North Eastern States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of power projects pending with the government as on date; and

(d) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is permitted on automatic route for setting up power projects of electric generation, transmission and distribution.

As per information available, the Allian Duhangan HEP (2x92=184 MW) in the State of Himachal Pradesh is being set up with foreign equity, while no foreign power company has been allotted development of hydro power project (above 25 MW capacity) in the states of West Bengal, Sikkim and the States of North Eastern Region. As regards thermal projects, the following projects are being set up in West Bengal with foreign companies engaged as contractors by the project developers:—

Sl. No.	Name of the Foreign Company	Name of the Thermal Power Projects/ Executing Agency
1.	M/s. Dongfang Electric Power Corpn., China	(i) Sagardighi TPP (2x300 MW), WBPDCCL (ii) Durgapur TPP Extn. (300 MW), WBPDCCL
2.	M/s. ITOCHU, Japan	Bakreshwar TPS Extn. (2x210 MW), WBPDCCL

(c) and (d) Pursuant to the enactment of the Electricity Act, 2003. Techno-Economic Clearance by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) for thermal projects has been dispensed with and presently, no hydro project involving foreign equity is pending for clearance from CEA.

[Translation]

Inspection of Companies

1496. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of companies inspected for its functioning during the last three years;

(b) the number of companies found not functioning properly during inspection; and

(c) the action taken against such companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA): (a) A total of 503 companies have been inspected under section 209A of the Companies Act, 1956 during the years 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-2004.

(b) and (c) Consequent to inspections carried out under the Companies Act, 1956 during the period specified above, prosecution under the Act has been initiated against the above mentioned companies in respect of violations of various provisions of the Act, as came to notice during inspections.

[English]

Proposals from Voluntary Organisation

1497. SHRIMATI RUPATAI D. PATIL: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of voluntary organisations who submitted their proposals under science and Society Division-DBT and DST during the last three years;

(b) the action taken on the above said proposals;

(c) whether the proposals of voluntary organisations of some States are not being accepted; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) 320 voluntary organizations submitted their proposals to Science and Society Division of Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and 390 voluntary organizations submitted proposals to Science and Society Division of Department of Science and Technology (DST) during the last three years.

(b) Each proposal is carefully evaluated through a committee of experts and peer group review. Out of 320 proposals received by DBT, 52 were found suitable for funding and 314 were funded by DST out of 780 proposals received from 390 voluntary organizations. Rest of the proposals were not found suitable for funding.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Infrastructure Facilities for Handloom Sector

1498. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up infrastructural facilities such as dyeing facilities, design centres, training units etc., to help handloom weavers and small scale apparel units;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the areas covered by the Integrated Infrastructure Development Scheme for small scale apparel units during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A new scheme titled as "Integrated Handloom Cluster Development Scheme" has been launched during the current financial year for the development of handloom sector, with an outlay of Rs. 40.00 crore for development of 20 handloom clusters throughout the country in the 1st phase. The scheme in a holistic approach will cover the entire needs of the handloom sector in each cluster for supply of raw materials, marketing support, design inputs, upgradation of technology and welfare of the weavers.

'Apparel Park for Export Scheme (APES)' was launched with the objective of imparting a focused thrust for setting up apparel units of international standards at potential growth centers, and to give a fillip to exports. Under APES, 12 projects have been sanctioned with an estimated support from Government of India of Rs. 191.70 crores.

For upgrading infrastructure facilities at important textile centers, the 'Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme (TCIDS)' was launched. Under TCIDS, 18 projects have been sanctioned with an estimated support from Government of India of Rs. 270.80 crores.

To provide the industry with world class infrastructure facilities for setting up their textiles units, a new scheme namely, Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks' has been launched by merging the Textile Centres Infrastructure Development Scheme (TCIDS) and the Apparel Parks for Export Scheme (APES). This scheme is based on Public-Private Partnership (PPS) and would equip textile units to meet international environmental and social standards. Government of India support under

the scheme by way of grant or equity shall be limited to 40% of the project cost subject to a ceiling of Rs. 40.00 crores.

[English]

VRS in Jute Mills

1499. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has approved offer of voluntary retirement to all the employees of National Jute Mills Corporation (NJMC);

(b) if so, the number of employees who have sought VRS;

(c) whether Government has accepted VRS of the employees who have applied for and the amount released to them under VRS'

(d) if so, the number of employees who received payment of VRS;

(e) whether the Government has considered the economic viability of NJMC's Kinnison and Khardah mills and referred those two mills to BIFR;

(f) if so, the number of employees seek voluntary retirement in Kinnison and Khardah mills;

(g) whether Government has any proposal to revive the sick jute mills; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Competent Authority has approved a proposal to offer VRS to all the employees of NJMC as per DPE guidelines.

(b) to (d) 16,053 employees have opted for VRS. The NJMC management is in the process of scrutinizing the dues payable to the employees and their eligibility.

(e) The Ministry of Textiles has referred the proposal to revive two mills, namely Kinnison and Khardah of NJMC, to the Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE).

(f) 3450 workmen of Kinnison mills and 1685 workmen of Khardah mills have applied for VRS as on 24-11-2005.

(g) and (h) The Ministry of Textiles facilitates the revival and modernisation of Jute mills through Schemes like the JMDC Incentive Scheme for Modernisation of Jute Industry and the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS).

Crop Loan

1500. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is aware that the nationalised banks and other financial institutions are rejecting the crop loans for betelnut growers in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Union Government are considering to issue orders to the nationalised banks and other financial institutions to review their decisions; and

(d) if so, the time by which the final decision in this regard is likely to be taken and crop loans likely to be issued to the betelnut growers in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The farmers of main betelnut producing districts like Shimoga, Chikmagalur, North Kanara and South Kanara in Karnataka are being provided crop loans by Nationalised Banks, District Central Co-operative Banks (DCCBs) and Regional Rural Banks (RRBs).

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of the (a) and (b) above.

[Translation]

Revival of Hindustan Copper Ltd.

1501. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to revive the closed units of Hindustan Copper Limited located in Jharkhand in view of increase of prices of copper in the international market;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) to (c) Hindustan Copper Limited, over a period of time, has closed down its five underground mines located at its Indian Copper Complex (ICC) unit in the State of Jharkhand, as operations were found to be unviable. There is no proposal to revive the closed mines of ICC unit. However, in case of Surda Mine, which is the last closed mine, it has been decided to transfer the mining lease to Workers' Cooperative formed by the separated employees of Surda mine.

[English]

Migration to EET System

1502. SHRI SWADESH CHAKRABORTTY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an expert committee on proposed migration to the Exempt Exempt Tax system has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the Committee;

(c) the likely impact of the EET system on the saving instruments and the contributors in Provident Fund, small savings and insurance policies; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to ensure that the EET system does not cause hardship to the public with small savings including the senior citizens?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (d) The Finance Minister in his Budget Speech, 2005-06 had announced the decision of the Government to adopt an Exempt Exempt Tax (EET) method of taxation of savings in accordance with the best international practice. In order to resolve a number of administrative issues, a Committee of Experts was set up to work out the roadmap for moving towards an EET method of taxation of saving instruments. The Committee has submitted its

report on 28-11-2005 and the same is under consideration of the Government.

Prediction of Rain

1503. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) has predicted about the rainfall in the country during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; region-wise and the total rainfall received during the year;

(c) the details of excess rainfall or shortfall, if any, during the current year; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to meet the situation in the event of shortfall/excess rainfall in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Yes, Sir. India Meteorological Department (IMD) had issued long range forecasts for the 2005 southwest monsoon rainfall for the country as a whole on 20th April followed by an update on 6th July, 2005. IMD had also indicated forecast of monsoon rainfall for four homogeneous regions (Northwest India, Northeast India, Central India and Peninsular India). The forecast of monsoon rainfall for the month of July was also issued.

(b) The Long Range Forecast for monsoon 2005 issued by IMD during April 2005 is given below:—

The Seasonal rainfall for the country as a whole is likely to be 98% of the Long Period Average (LPA) with a model error of $\pm 5\%$

Updated Long Range forecasts issued by the IMD during July 2005 are given below:—

(i) The seasonal rainfall for the country as a whole was expected to be near normal and quantitatively 98% of Long Period Average (LPA) with a model error of $\pm 4\%$.

The season ended with the area-weighted

rainfall for the country as a whole as 99% of the LPA, very close to the prediction of IMD.

(ii) Over the 4 broad homogeneous regions of India, the rainfall was expected to be 97% of its LPA over northwest India, 102% of LPA over central India, 95% of LPA over northeast India and 97% of LPA over south peninsula with a model error of $\pm 8\%$.

The realized rainfall over these four homogeneous regions were 90%, 110%, 80% and 112% of the LPA respectively.

(c) For the 2005 Southwest Monsoon period (June-September), out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, 9 sub-divisions received excess rainfall, 23 sub-divisions received normal rainfall and 4 sub-divisions received deficient rainfall.

The sub-divisions which received deficient rainfall are:—

Met. Sub-division	% departure from normal
Assam and Meghalaya	-24
Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura (NMMT)	-23
Jharkhand	-35
Bihar	-22

The sub-divisions which received excess rainfall are:—

Met. Sub-division	% departure from normal
1	2
East Madhya Pradesh	+20
Gujarat Region	+48
Saurashtra, Kutch and Diu	+31
Konkan and Goa	+24

1	2
Madhya Maharashtra	+44
Telangana	+26
Rayalaseema	+22
North Interior Karnataka	+24
South Interior Karnataka	+28

(d) Concerned Departments such as Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Agriculture, etc. were regularly apprised of rainfall situations occurring at different places in the country during the periods of excess as well as deficient rainfall for initiating appropriate relief measures.

Captive Power Project

1504. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry is planning to tap captive power generation to augment power supply to the National Grid, so that the captive power plants maintain a certain level of capacity utilization; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED):

(a) and (b) The National Electricity Policy states that a large number of captive and standby generating stations in India have surplus capacity that could be supplied to the grid continuously or during certain time periods. These plants offer a sizeable and potentially competitive capacity that could be harnessed for meeting demand for power. Grid inter-connections for captive generators shall be facilitated as per section 30 of the Act. This should be done on priority basis to enable captive generation to become available as distributed generation along the grid.

The Policy further envisages that appropriate commercial arrangements would need to be instituted between licensees and the captive generators for harnessing of spare capacity energy from captive power plants. The appropriate Regulatory Commission shall exercise regulatory oversight on such commercial arrangements between captive generators and licensees and determine tariffs when a licensee is the off-taker of power from captive plant.

[Translation]

Establishment of Gramin Bhawan Kendra

1505. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has established 'Gramin Bhawan Kendra' in the country particularly in West Bengal during each of the last three years and current year;

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

(c) whether it is a fact that the implementation process of such policy gets delayed; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) The Scheme for setting up of Gramin Bhawan Kendra (Rural Building Centres) was in operation from 1999-2000 to 2003-2004 under which 44 Gramin Bhawan Kendras (Rural Building Centres) have been established in various States from 2002-2003 to 2005-2006 as per details given below. However, no such Kendra has been established in the State of West Bengal.

Sl. No.	Name of State	Year			
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	2	2	2	2

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Bihar		1		1
3.	Gujarat	1	1	1	
4.	Haryana				2
5.	Himachal Pradesh				1
6.	Jammu and Kashmir		1		1
7.	Karnataka	2	1		2
8.	Madhya Pradesh			3	1
9.	Maharashtra		1		
10.	Manipur				1
11.	Orissa		2	1	4
12.	Tamil Nadu		1		
13.	Uttar Pradesh		1		3
14.	Uttaranchal			2	1
Total		5	11	9	19

(c) and (d) The Question does not arise in view of the fact that the Scheme has since been discontinued with effect from 1-4-2004.

Unclaim Money

1506. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a huge amount deposited in nationalized and other banks is lying unclaimed because either account holders are dead or missing and he/she did not nominate his/her legal heir or appointed nominee:

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the total amount lying unclaimed as on date:

(c) whether interest are paid by the banks yearly on above said accounts:

(d) if so, the rate of interest paid to them; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that Section 26 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 provides, inter alia, that every banking company shall, within 30 days after close of each calendar year submit a return in the prescribed form and manner to the RBI as at the end of each calendar year (i.e. 31st December) of all accounts in India which have not been operated upon for 10 years. Accordingly, the latest available data as on December 31, 2004 of unclaimed bank accounts in respect of banks is as under:—

(Rupees in crore)

Bank Group	31st December, 2004
SBI Group of Banks	143.06
Nationalized Banks	651.29
Private Sector Banks	48.06
Foreign Banks	38.33
Total	880.74

(c) to (e) As regards payment of interest, generally while interest is credited periodically to the unclaimed savings bank accounts at the prescribed rate (presently @ 3.50% p.a.) by banks, no interest is credited in respect of term deposits as the contracted period of the deposit has already expired and the depositor has neither renewed nor claimed the deposit amount. However, the terms of payment of interest in the case of term deposits are normally applied at the time of claiming of the concerned deposits.

[English]

Power Distribution Licence

1507. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether public sector power generating company have applied for parallel distribution licence for supplying power to retail consumers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED):

(a) and (b) As per available information no central public sector power generating company has applied for parallel distribution licence for supply of power to consumers.

Core Banking Solution

1508. SHRI ABDULLAKUTTY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by State Bank of India (SBI),

its associates and the Public Sector Banks for Core Banking Solution (CBS);

(b) the number of banks used software of foreign companies and the amount paid bank-wise to the companies and the name of the companies;

(c) whether State Bank of India and its associates Banks which implemented CBS became functional on April 2, 2005;

(d) if not, the reasons for non-functioning/delay in implementation;

(e) whether the system CBS is functioning properly in SBI and its associate Banks and other public sector banks;

(f) if not, the remedial action taken and whether accountability has been fixed; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) As per the data made available the amount spent by State Bank of India and its Associates and public sector banks for Core Banking Solution (CBS) is around Rs. 1461.30 crores. Most of the public sector banks including SBI and its associates have used the software of foreign companies provided to them through Indian Companies namely, M/s. Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), M/s. Infosys Technologies Ltd. and M/s. Iflex Solutions Limited. The total amount so far paid to Indian Companies is Rs. 108.87 crores; no money has been paid to any foreign company.

(c) and (d) State Bank of India and its associate banks which have implemented CBS became functional as of April 2, 2005 and the implementation was well ahead of the scheduled plan of implementation.

(e) to (g) Yes, Sir. The Project responsibilities (including software customization and user training areas) are being monitored on an ongoing basis. As and when any problem arises, immediate remedial action is taken to ensure that CBS branches function effectively and render good customer service.

Financial Losses to Power Sector

1509. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether financial losses to the power sector has been increasing over the years;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to bring comprehensive reforms in power sector;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED):

(a) The trend of increasing commercial losses of Power Utilities has been arrested after 2001-02. The commercial losses (without subsidy) in State Electricity Boards had increased from Rs. 4,560 crores during 1992-93 to Rs. 25,259 crores during 2000-01. According to data compiled by Power Finance Corporation, the losses of Utilities have reduced from Rs. 27,068 crores in 2001-02 to Rs. 20,623 crores in 2003-04.

(b) The details of commercial losses in various States are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) to (e) The Government has launched following major initiatives to overcome the problems of the power sector and to make it competitive and viable.—

- (i) Tariff determination by independent Regulatory Commissions.
- (ii) Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) for assisting States in investment in distribution network for reducing technical losses and improving the quality of supply and also for incentivising reduction of cash losses through cash grants.
- (iii) Generation has been delicensed under the Electricity Act, 2003 and Non-discriminatory open access has been provided in transmission.
- (iv) Transparent policies regarding subsidies.
- (v) Stringent legal provisions relating to theft of electricity.
- (vi) Emphasis on metering of feeders and supply to consumers for energy accounting and auditing for identifying location of high losses.
- (vii) Implementation of energy conservation measures. Bureau of Energy Efficiency has been set up under the Energy Conservation Act.
- (viii) Accelerated Generation and Supply Programme (AG and SP) to support capacity augmentation through renovation and modernization and new generation schemes.

Statement*State-wise Details of Commercial Profit/Loss of Power Utilities*

(Rs. Crore)

Sl. No.	SEBs	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	Loss reduction (-)/increase	
					In 2002-03 from 2001-02	In 2003-04 from 2002-03
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-2948	-1209	-1400	-1739	191
2.	Assam	-696	-776	-655	80	-121

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	-93	-117	-82	24	-35
4.	Bihar	-896	-1095	-980	199	-115
5.	Chhattisgarh	204	792	587	*	*
6.	Delhi	NA	-733	-1774	—	1041
7.	Goa	-7	130	153	*	*
8.	Gujarat	-3102	-2250	-3020	-852	770
9.	Haryana	-947	-804	-769	-143	-35
10.	Himachal Pradesh	-107	-53	-46	-54	-7
11.	Jharkhand	-255	-397	-522	142	125
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	35	-1242	-1229	1277	-13
13.	Karnataka	-1844	-1567	-1235	-277	-332
14.	Kerala	-1254	-935	-915	-319	-20
15.	Madhya Pradesh	-1347	-822	-1230	-525	408
16.	Maharashtra	-540	-255	-549	-285	294
17.	Manipur	-129	-128	-125	-1	-3
18.	Meghalaya	-38	-19	64	-19	*
19.	Mizoram	-30	-34	-49	4	15
20.	Nagaland	-52	-55	-42	3	-13
21.	Orissa	-252	-928	215	676	*
22.	Punjab	-1868	-1386	-663	-482	-723
23.	Pondicherry	-44	34	38	*	*
24.	Rajasthan	-1324	-1738	-1777	414	39
25.	Sikkim	-10	-30	-15	20	-15
26.	Tamil Nadu	-5175	-2100	-1416	-3075	-684
27.	Tripura	-100	-94	-5	-6	-89
28.	Uttar Pradesh	-2518	-2374	-2848	-144	474

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
29.	Uttaranchal	-27	32	-35	*	67
30.	West Bengal	-1705	-914	-296	-791	-618
Total		-27068	-21064	-20623		

*Earned Profits.

Source: "Report on the Performance of the State Power Utilities for the Years 2001-02 to 2003-04" by Power Finance Corporation.

Closure of Mines

1510. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some graphite and other mines have been closed down in Orissa:

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

(c) whether the pilferage of graphite is going on it that factory: and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) to (d) Information is being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Wind Energy

1511. SHRI K.C. PALANISAMY: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of State Nodal Agency looking after the implementation of Small Wind Energy and Hybrid System in Tamil Nadu: and

(b) the details of Wind Mills sanctioned and installed in the State during the last three years and the location thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) The Programme on Small Wind Energy and Hybrid System is implemented in Tamil Nadu by the State Nodal Agency namely Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency, Chennai.

(b) Three Water Pumping Wind Mills have been set up in the State during 2003-04 to 2005-06 at Idayapalayam and Semmi Palayam, Palladam Taluk, Coimbatore District and Pallikaranai, Chennai.

[Translation]

ROC in Uttaranchal

1512. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA": Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up Registrar of Companies in Uttaranchal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the office of R.O.C. is likely to be set up in Uttaranchal: and

(d) the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA): (a) No, Sir. There is no such proposal to open an office of Registrar of Companies in Uttaranchal. It has been decided in principle not to open any more permanent offices of ROCs in view of the implementation of MCA-21 e-Governance Project which will take care of all the /

geographical distances as registration and filling of documents would start taking place through electronic means. Moreover, one Physical Front Office (PFO) is proposed to be opened in Dehradun to facilitate all transactions through electronic means. This PFO will remain operational for a period of three years by which time the MCA services are to switch over to electronic mode.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Opening of Bank Account

1513. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the facility to open bank accounts for entire population of country and free bank accounts for those who do not have money to open accounts in commercial banks has been proposed in monetary Policy released by the Reserve Bank of India:

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) whether the Commercial Banks of the country have taken any steps to comply with the directions of Reserve Bank of India in this regard: and

(d) if so, the Commercial Banks who have/have not complied with the directions of Reserve Bank of India as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) With a view to achieving greater financial inclusion, the Reserve Bank of India in the Annual Policy statement of April 2005, advised all banks of a need to make available a basic banking 'no frills' account either with 'nil' or very low minimum balance as well as charges that would make such accounts accessible to vast sections of the population. The nature and number of transaction in such account could be restricted, but made known to the customer in advance in a transparent manner.

(c) and (d) As per circular issued by RBI on 11-11-2005, banks have been advised to report the

action taken by them and compliance within one month. Further, banks have also been advised to report the number of such deposit accounts opened by them on a quarterly basis.

[English]

Infrastructure Growth Rate

1514. SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the infrastructure growth rate has decreased to 4.4 per cent in the first half of the current fiscal year as compared to 5.3 per cent during the corresponding period of last fiscal year;

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

(c) the expected growth rate for the current year: and

(d) the steps taken to accelerate growth in infrastructure sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (d) During April-September, 2005, six core-infrastructure industries, comprising of crude petroleum, petroleum refinery products, coal, electricity, cement and finished (carbon) steel, registered a growth rate of 4.4 per cent as against 5.3 per cent in the corresponding period of the previous year. Crude oil and petroleum refinery products registered a decline in production compared to the corresponding period of the previous year owing to, inter alia, the fire accident at Bombay High during the last week of July, 2005. Electricity generation and coal registered a decrease in the growth rate during April-September, 2005 as compared to April-September, 2004. As infrastructure is interrelated with various sectors of the economy, no single growth rate has been visualized for the infrastructure sector during 2005-06. Infrastructure development requires large investments for which public

private partnerships (PPPs) have been visualized in addition to public investment. A Committee on Infrastructure under the chairmanship of Prime Minister has been constituted to expedite and streamline infrastructure projects and reforms. The Government has recently taken a decision to set up a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) for providing long-term debt to infrastructure projects.

Tehri Dam

1515. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA:
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:
KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH:
SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD ALIAS SADHU
YADAV:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the flow of water of the Bhagirathi river has been stopped due to turbine operation for generating hydro electricity at the Tehri Dam.

(b) if so, the period for which the water flow has been stopped;

(c) whether as a result of stopping the water of the Bhagirathi river the water of the Alaknanda river is flowing in the Ganga;

(d) if so, whether any action has been taken by the Government for immediately releasing the water of the Bhagirathi river into the Ganga;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED):

(a) and (b) No, Sir. About 70 Cusecs of Bhagirathi water is flowing down stream of Tehri Dam through two nos. of pipes of 400 mm dia laid in the plug of Diversion Tunnel T-1. The Committee constituted by Government of India in April, 2001 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Murlidhar Manohar Joshi, the then Minister of HRD and Science

and Technology, had recommended uninterrupted flow (Aviral Dhara) of 35 Cusecs of water of the river Bhagirathi.

(c) to (e) Ganga is formed at Devprayag downstream of Tehri Dam, after confluence of river Bhagirathi and river Alaknanda with 1/3rd contribution of Bhagirathi water and 2/3rd contribution of Alaknanda water. The flow from Alaknanda river is continuing unabated with some releases of water from the Bhagirathi river also, on which the Tehri Project has been set up. Further, about 1000 cusecs of water shall flow past the Tehri Dam after the reservoir level reaches E1. 700 m (which is expected around 8th of December, 2005) through the intermediate level outlet (ILO). Once the generation starts, further additional water will become available downstream of Tehri Dam.

(f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Weavers under Self-Employment Credit Card Scheme

1516. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made provision for providing financial assistance to artisans and weavers under self-employment credit card scheme; and

(b) if so, the number of artisans and weavers benefited under the aforesaid scheme during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) Yes, Sir. Artisans Credit Card (ACC) scheme is being implemented through banks to smoothen credit flow to handicraft artisans. There is no separate credit card scheme for handloom weavers and they are being covered under Swarojgar Credit Card (SCC) scheme, which is under operation through NABARD.

(b) As reported by bar-ns, the number of artisans covered under ACC in the country since inception of

the scheme in 2003-04 is 37,369 upto 31-03-2005. As regards SCC, in addition to handloom weavers and artisans, this scheme covers other vocations also and as per available information from NABARD, vocation-wise segregated figures of number of beneficiaries covered are not maintained.

[English]

Solar Energy

1517. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has issued specific instructions to the States for use of solar energy to operate traffic lights to save power;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds allocated to each State for the purpose;

(c) whether any proposal is pending with Government for clearance, particularly from Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the present status thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) and (b) A new Scheme on "Demonstration and promotion of solar photovoltaic devices and systems in urban areas" has been developed and forwarded to all States for implementation during the current year. The devices and systems to be promoted under the scheme include solar traffic lights. Central finance assistance upto 50% of the cost of the systems subject to certain benchmarks and other terms and conditions is available under the scheme. No State-wise allocation of funds has been made.

(c) and (d) Preliminary proposals have been received from a few States, including Andhra Pradesh. However, detailed proposals as per the provisions of the scheme have not yet been received from any State.

[Translation]

Setting up of Industrial Plant

1518. SHRI TEK LAL MAHTO: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a huge reserve mineral wealth in Jharkhand and a lot of it is being taken out of the State, consequently local people are devoid of any employment for which the Government has to bear the loss of income of revenue instead of getting any profit;

(b) if so, whether the Government has taken any concrete initiatives to set up industrial plants in accordance with the availability of mineral and to provide employment to local people; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) Jharkhand has substantial reserves of mineral wealth. Movement of minerals outside the State is not prohibited. Mining generates employment and the revenue from mining accrues to the State Government.

(b) and (c) It has been reported that a large number of Memoranda of Understandings (MoUs) have been signed between different companies and the Government of Jharkhand to set up mining and mineral based industries in the State.

[English]

Integrated Energy Policy

1519. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:
SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the much awaited integrated energy policy has been announced;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay; and

(d) the time by which the same is likely to be announced?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED):
(a) to (d) Draft report of the Integrated Energy Policy Committee set up under the Chairmanship of Member (Energy), Planning Commission is currently under circulation. Finalization of comments from various participants is taking time. The report is expected to be submitted shortly.

Dabhol Power Project

1520. SHRIMATI KALPNA RAMESH NARHIRE:
Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has submitted a proposal to restart the Dabhol Power Project:

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating power tariff payable by Government of Maharashtra, Central Government Organizations and the consumer to DPC; and

(c) the financial viability of the project?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED):
(a) and (b) The various aspects for restart of the Dabhol power project including its financial viability have been deliberated among concerned stakeholders including the Government of Maharashtra under the overall supervision of the Empowered Group of Ministers set up by the Government of India to examine and decide all issues related to the project. Consequent to these deliberations, various activities for early restart of the project have commenced at the project site.

The final power tariff payable would depend upon the purchase price of the fuel i.e. Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and would be determined by the appropriate Regulatory Commission.

(c) M/s. SBI Caps were appointed as consultants to the Government of India for advice on the financial viability. Due diligence about viability was also carried out by Industrial Development Finance Corporation

(IDFC) on behalf of National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) and Gas Authority of India Ltd. (GAIL) who are promoters of the restructured project. These institutions recommended that the project was found viable subject to fulfillment of certain assumptions made at the time of restructuring.

[Translation]

Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU)

1521. SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD:

SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) has been constituted:

(b) if so, the objectives, responsibilities, terms of reference and complete details of the new unit:

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the constitution of FIU is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Financial Intelligence Unit, India (FIU-IND), has been created which is headed by the Director, FIU-IND. It is a multi-disciplinary unit for establishing links between suspicious or unusual financial transactions and underlying criminal activities. Its aim is to coordinate and support efforts of national and international intelligence, investigation and enforcement agencies in pursuing the global efforts against money laundering and related crimes. It will be the central national agency responsible for receiving, processing, analyzing and disseminating information relating to suspect financial transactions to the agencies concerned. The Director, FIU-IND, is to be assisted by a highly trained technical group of financial sector experts, analysts and IT specialists.

(d) A number of officers have already joined and the Unit is in the process of filling up the other posts.

*[English]***FDI in Infrastructure**

1522. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently promised captains of United States industry and business to bring down tariff levels comparable to levels of ASEAN and other country in the region while seeking Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in infrastructure sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total FDI as on 31st October, 2005 in infrastructure sector; and

(d) the future road map drawn by Indian Government to attract FDI in infrastructure sector and to reduce tariff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) No, Sir, However, it is Government's declared policy that the customs duty structure would be brought closer to that of ASEAN and other countries of the region.

(c) As per the available data, the total approved FDI in infrastructure sector over August 1991 to September, 2005 is Rs. 116,191.45 crore while the actual inflow over the same period is Rs. 13,741.91 crore.

(d) There are no specific policies for FDI in the infrastructure. The Government of India has encouraged flow of FDI into the country as a whole and in many infrastructure sectors 100 per cent FDI is permitted under the automatic route.

The Government has taken a number of steps to support Public Private Partnership in infrastructure and this is also expected to boost FDI in infrastructure.

*[Translation]***Pension Benefits to Staff of DRDAs**

1523. SHRI CHANDRABHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has provided pension benefits to the staff of District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs) in Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Gujarat and other States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such benefits are not provided to the said staff in Madhya Pradesh;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to remove the disparity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) As the staff of DRDA is taken from the line departments of the State Governments on deputation basis, Ministry of Rural Development has not provided pension benefits to any of the staff of district Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs) in the States.

(b) to (e) Question does not arise.

*[English]***Handloom Insurance Scheme**

1524. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:

SHRI L. GANESAN:

MOHD. SHAHID:

SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of Handloom Insurance Scheme for handloom weavers;

(b) the role of State Governments in implementing the scheme;

(c) the number of weavers likely to be benefited by the Scheme;

(d) whether this scheme would cover individual

small weavers who do not come under the any organisational set-up like cooperative societies; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) The Health Insurance Scheme for handloom weavers has been introduced during the current financial year 2005-06 for implementation through the ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company Ltd.

(b) The Director of Handlooms/Director of Industries/in-charge of Handlooms of the State Governments will be responsible for implementation of the scheme in their respective States.

(c) Three lakh handloom weavers all over the country are proposed to be covered under the scheme during the year 2005-06.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The weavers outside co-operative can also be covered under the scheme on a certificate from the State Directorate of Handlooms that they are fulfilling the eligibility conditions.

Setting up of Ultra Mega Power Project

1525. SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN:

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up Ultra mega power projects in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the locations identified for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) Section 63 of the Electricity Act, 2003 provides for the Regulatory Commission to adopt the tariff, if competitively determined. Pursuant to this, the guidelines for the competitive bidding process for procurement of power by distribution licensees has been issued by Ministry of Power on 19th January, 2005. In order to capture the benefits of economies of scale of large projects supplying power to numerous States, the

Ministry of Power has now taken an initiative to facilitate setting up of ultra mega power projects having capacities of about 4000 MW at pithead/coastal locations. The selection of private developers will be through competitive bidding. In order to obtain responsive offers, it is envisaged to invite bids after bringing such projects to a stage of having major clearances and fuel tie up in place and also associate the power purchasers in the process.

UNDP Assistance

1526. SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) assistance received by the Union Government during each of the last three years;

(b) the sectors in which the funds have been utilized; and

(c) the detailed list of projects taken under UNDP funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) UNDP assistance received by the Union Government during each of the last three years (2002-2004) is given as under:—

(figures in US Dollar million)

	2002	2003	2004
	20.97	19.33	20.25

(b) The funds have been utilized for Promotion of Human Development and Gender Equality, Capacity Building for Local Governance, Livelihoods and Living Conditions, Poverty Reduction and Natural Resource Management, Vulnerability Reduction and Sustainable Development.

(c) The detailed list of projects approved during 2002-2004 is enclosed as statement.

Statement

(figures in US \$)

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Year	Approval Date	Committed Amount	Disbursement (upto Dec. 04)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Umbrella Support Project	2002	11-10-2002	3,200,000	318,519
2.	Disaster Risk Management Programme	2002	19-08-2002	2,000,000	2,000,000
Sub-Total				5,200,000	2,318,519
3.	Renewable Energy for Rural Livelihoods	2003	27-08-2003	2,500,000	1,227,398
4.	Endogenous Tourism	2003	15-07-2003	2,500,000	957,559
5.	ICT for Development	2003	23-10-2003	5,000,000	1,865,299
6.	National Strategy for Urban Poor	2003	14-10-2003	5,000,000	935,780
7.	Strengthening Sustainable Livelihoods for Biodiversity Conservation in Sundarbans	2003	22-09-2003	500,000	277,520
8.	National Programme on Promoting Conservation of Medicinal Plants and Traditional Knowledge for Enhancing Health and Livelihood Security	2003	22-09-2003	3,000,000	35,007
9.	Social Mobilization around Natural Resources Management for Poverty Alleviation	2003	01-12-2003	6,000,000	691,049
10.	Disaster Risk Management Programme	2003	27-03-2003	5,000,000	4,253,797
Sub-Total				29,500,000	10,243,409
11.	Rural Decentralization and Participatory Planning for Poverty Reduction	2004	05-04-2004	3,500,000	746,502
12.	Strengthening States Plan for Human Development	2004	06-05-2004	5,000,000	1,285,206
13.	Promoting Gender Equality	2004	06-07-2004	1,000,000	84,442
14.	Extension to ongoing-Capacity Building for Preparation of SHD Rs.	2004	25-06-2004	800,000	1,770,119

1	2	3	4	5	6
15.	Skills	2004	17-12-2004	1,000.000	—
16.	Capacity Building for Good Urban Governance	2004	29-08-2004	3,000.000	—
Sub-Total				14,300.000	3,886.269
Grand Total				49,000.000	16,448.197

**Utilization of Funds Meant for
Computerisation of Land Records**

1527. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN:
DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO:
SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether funds allocated to Government of Kerala, Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand during each of the last three years for computerisation of land records have fully been utilised:

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) to (c) The scheme of Computerisation of Land Records (CLR) is a demand-driven scheme. The proposals received from the State Governments are examined and funds are released to the respective States as per the guidelines of the scheme. The progress of funds released since inception of the scheme and during the last three years alongwith cumulative utilisation reported by the State Governments of Kerala, Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand is given below: Progress of cumulative utilisation of funds under the Scheme of CLR is satisfactory.

(Rs. in lakh)

Name of the State	Funds released upto 2001-02	Funds released during			Total released since inception	Funds utilized so far	Percentage of total Utilisation
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05			
Kerala	876.44	78.70	—	—	955.14	953.71	99.8%
Madhya Pradesh	2963.91	—	542.50	286.30	3792.71	3174.41	84.0%
Jharkhand	280.80	—	547.20	—	828.00	725.76	88.0%

[Translation]

Employment to Locals in H.P.

1528. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to provide additional incentives to the State Government

of Himachal Pradesh as the State enjoys adequate facilities for setting up of more hydro-electric power projects:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds allocated to Himachal Pradesh for the purpose so far;

(d) whether NHPC and NTPC which are undertaking various projects are not providing employment to locals in various levels in these projects;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to provide employment to locals in Himachal Pradesh in those projects?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

(d) to (f) For the projects being implemented by National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Limited (NHPC) and National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) in the State of Himachal Pradesh, employment to the locals is being provided in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Memorandum of Understanding/Agreement signed by these Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) with the Government of Himachal Pradesh/Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board

Recruitment is done by the Central Public Sector Undertakings under the Employment Exchanges (Compulsory Notification of Vacancies) Act, 1959, read with Rules notified by the Government from time to time. Under these rules the CPSUs notify the required vacancies of all such posts which fall under Group 'C' and 'D' to the concerned local employment exchanges and conduct the recruitment accordingly.

[English]

Family Pension

1529. SHRI M. APPADURAI:

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether family pension or terminal benefits has not been paid to the families of the deceased officers or employees of State Bank of India:

(b) the number of cases are pending for release

of family pension under the State Bank of India, local head office, Hyderabad for the last six months:

(c) the reasons for delay; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to release pension to the families?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) It has been reported by the State Bank of India (SBI) that Family Pension and terminal benefits are being paid to all eligible pensioners/legal heirs of the deceased officers/employees of the bank.

(b) and (c) Only two cases are pending for the last six months under SBI, Local Head Office, Hyderabad, the reasons for which is delay in submission of required papers by beneficiary and processing thereof.

(d) SBI has reported that suitable steps have already been taken to release the Pension/Family Pension in the pending cases.

[Translation]

Loan to Farmers

1530. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:

SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of loans provided to the farmers as against the total loan at national level during the last three years:

(b) the number of loan applications received from the farmers during the said period:

(c) the number of applications rejected and reasons therefor; and

(d) the remedial measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The outstanding Credit to Agriculture during the last three years of major scheduled commercial banks is as under:—

Year	Gross Bank Credit	Credit to Agriculture	Share of 3 to 2
2002-03	6,69,534	73,518	10.9%
2003-04	7,64,383	90,541	11.8%
2004-05	9,72,587	1,22,370	12.6%

(b) and (c) Commercial Banks, Co-operative Banks and Regional Rural Banks keep receiving large number of applications from farmers for loans, on a continuous basis. Some of the applications received from these farmers are not accepted due to various reasons like non-eligibility/existing defaults/non-compliance with procedure laid down for financing, etc.

(d) As and when Government receives complaints from farmers on different aspects, including rejection of their loan applications, they are taken up with respective banks/Reserve Bank of India/NABARD for redressal and remedial action, as per prescribed norms.

[English]

Creation of Employment

1531. SHRIMATI ARCHANA NAYAK: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps to create rural/self-employment for sustainable income generation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount allocated and utilized along with the extent of employment generated thereunder during the last three years and current year, States-wise;

(d) whether the Government has made any review regarding the implementation and progress of these schemes; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN

THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) as an integrated programme to create self-employment opportunities for the rural poor households launched with effect from 1st April, 1999 following restructuring of the erstwhile Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and allied schemes.

The objective of the SGSY is to bring the assisted poor families above the poverty line by organizing them into Self Help Groups, building their capacity through training and provision of income-generating assets through a mix of bank credit and Government subsidy. The assisted families (Swarozgaris) may be individuals or Groups (Self Help Groups) from families living below the poverty line. However, the scheme lays emphasis on the Group approach and development of activity clusters by selecting about 10 key activities per block. The Programme is being implemented in rural areas of all the States/UTs (except Delhi and Chandigarh).

(c) The amount allocated, utilized and Swarozgaris assisted under SGSY during the last three years and the current financial year, State-wise is given in the enclosed statement.

(d) and (e) For effective implementation of SGSY all over the country, the programme is reviewed and monitored from the Central level down to the grass-root level. At the Central level, the Central Level Co-ordination Committee (CLCC) monitors and reviews the implementation of the programme and lays down Policy Guidelines for all aspects related to credit linkages for the SGSY. The Performance Review Committee of the Department of Rural Development also reviews the implementation of the SGSY. At the State level, a State Level Coordination Committee (SLCC) monitors the Programme. In addition, the progress under the SGSY is monitored periodically through Reports and Returns submitted by DRDAs/States. Implementation of the Programme is monitored and reviewed through the visit of Area Officers and Project Directors Workshops. At the Block/DRDA level, monitoring is done through field visits and physical verification of assets.

Statement

State-wise Total Allocation, Utilisation and Swarozgaris Benefitted under the SGSY
During 2002-03 to 2005-06

(Rs. in lacs)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06 (Upto June '05)					
		Total Allocation (Centre+ State)	Utilisation Swarozgaris Benefitted (Nos.)	Total Allocation (Centre+ State)	Utilisation Swarozgaris Benefitted (Nos.)	Total Allocation (Centre+ State)	Utilisation Swarozgaris Benefitted (Nos.)	Total Allocation (Centre+ State)	Utilisation Swarozgaris Benefitted (Nos.)				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4091.08	5800.68	70504	5651.84	5631.80	79736	7074.63	6970.51	84825	7074.63	2073.23	21258
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	169.47	162.50	1053	295.37	176.17	1220	369.21	242.38	1743	369.21	35.33	142
3.	Assam	4403.45	3587.09	50176	7674.87	7417.91	45480	9593.57	8046.89	64814	9593.57	3300.04	26517
4.	Bihar	9733.33	10822.77	123546	13446.63	11216.49	111613	16831.72	13442.98	128075	16831.72	5379.41	45536
5.	Chhattisgarh	2160.77	3510.70	25950	2985.12	2975.36	22926	3736.60	3863.97	28842	3736.60	1201.40	10452
6.	Goa	66.67	40.18	697	66.67	51.31	364	66.67	60.93	683	66.67	20.67	237
7.	Gujarat	1539.95	2006.46	18132	2127.44	2415.12	21462	2663.03	2814.63	27457	2663.03	1349.02	14403
8.	Haryana	905.97	1317.00	11673	1251.60	1473.07	11863	1566.71	1595.25	14132	1566.71	580.03	4959
9.	Himachal Pradesh	381.55	593.07	745	527.11	642.77	7928	659.80	745.26	8950	659.80	251.36	3437
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	472.21	650.91	10817	652.36	842.03	6965	816.59	779.94	8039	816.59	167.33	1569
11.	Jharkhand	3668.55	3939.38	53729	5068.11	4711.54	66644	6343.97	5587.89	59705	6343.97	1439.16	18579
12.	Karnataka	3089.33	4882.43	37116	4267.92	4711.28	43293	5342.35	5487.70	52976	5342.36	1881.91	17229
13.	Kerala	1386.17	2062.58	19778	1915.00	2054.13	20062	2397.09	2445.14	23306	2397.09	842.70	7352

14. Madhya Pradesh	4632.29	7402.90	51907	6399.53	7040.11	41979	8010.55	7592.17	48777	8010.55	2152.74	13888
15. Maharashtra	6106.87	8239.25	55442	8436.65	8805.51	60451	10560.52	10644.14	70146	10560.52	2985.83	17218
16. Manipur	295.20		NR	514.51		NR	643.15		0	643.15	12.06	640
17. Meghalaya	330.73	86.88	1935	576.44	161.90	5514	720.56	241.88	7508	720.56	112.40	499
18. Mizoram	76.13	84.03	894	133.39	138.00	1457	166.75	189.77	1488	166.75	74.40	377
19. Nagaland	226.88	184.01	2218	395.44	301.05	4177	494.27	28.32	481	494.27		0
20. Orissa	4679.33	5499.02	48925	6464.51	6699.20	59289	8091.92	8281.82	65712	8091.92	1844.95	14800
21. Punjab	440.29	668.22	6547	608.27	671.96	6554	761.40	552.73	5246	761.40	273.26	2535
22. Rajasthan	2345.84	2917.62	27901	3240.80	3157.57	28618	4056.63	4051.15	35225	4056.63	979.23	7417
23. Sikkim	84.73	129.80	1397	147.68	230.30	1942	184.60	222.09	1598	184.60	96.04	781
24. Tamil Nadu	3617.41	5068.76	56838	4997.47	5852.91	61120	6255.53	7066.73	74927	6255.53	2980.82	26260
25. Tripura	533.00	975.63	7777	928.97	967.15	6581	1161.23	1136.56	9301	1161.23	513.48	641
26. Uttar Pradesh	14012.49	14721.83	98469	19358.31	19564.60	140622	24231.61	27722.43	246824	24231.61	10241.82	92342
27. Uttaranchal	736.40	1305.22	7690	1017.33	1356.48	10780	1273.47	1686.24	12493	1273.47	712.70	5289
28. West Bengal	5200.15	5355.23	28748	7184.01	5298.25	27008	8992.56	7317.61	28280	8992.56	3193.41	9440
29. Andaman and Nicobar Islands	50.00	14.41	142	50.00	4.24	350	25.00	5.09	373	25.00	6.27	243
30. Daman and Diu	50.00	1.34	17	50.00		0	25.00	0.06	0	25.00		0
31. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	50.00		0	50.00	6.16	125	25.00		0	25.00		0
32. Lakshadweep	50.00	0.70	7	50.00	2.53	26	25.00	1.16	6	25.00	0.15	0
33. Pondicherry	50.00	80.67	707	50.00	44.91	708	100.00	104.28	1409	100.00	26.83	292
Total	75636.67	92111.27	826267	106583.33	104585.81	896857	133266.67	128927.70	1113341	133266.67	44727.97	364332

[Translation]

Energy from Waste1532. SHRI TUKARAM GANPATRAO RENGE
PATIL.

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO:

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of financial assistance provided by the Union Government to each State during the last three years for power generation through waste; and

(b) the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) and (b) Projects for energy recovery from urban and industrial wastes of about 30 MW aggregate capacity have so far been installed in the country. State-wise break-up of installations and financial assistance provided during the last three years is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

State-wise Installations and Financial Assistance provided for Projects based on Urban and Industrial Wastes during last three years

Sl. No.	State	Installations (in MW)	Financial Assistance (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	19.75	329.43
2.	Delhi	—	55.58
3.	Gujarat	0.50	4.66
4.	Jharkhand	—	11.57
5.	Madhya Pradesh	0.025	—

1	2	3	4
6.	Punjab	1.00	—
7.	Tamil Nadu	2.00	397.20
8.	Uttar Pradesh	7.00	829.77
Total		30.275	1628.21

Setting up of Power Monitoring Centres

1533. SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up National Power Monitoring Centre in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the main reasons for setting up of the above centre; and

(d) the time by which the above centre is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (d) Phase-I of State of art National Power Monitoring Centre has been set up in Ministry of Power to facilitate availability of real time operational data of generation and transmission system, a single point information source for all power related activities, quick and timely information exchange, improve coordination with all Power Utilities, comprehensive monitoring resulting in expeditious completion of projects and to facilities immediate action for disaster management.

[English]

Indian Investment in Nigeria

1534. KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Nigeria has sought investment in its power sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision of Indian Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED):
 (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A High-level Ministerial delegation from Nigeria visited India between October 10-13, 2005. It included the Nigerian Ministers for Petroleum, Commerce and Power and Steel, besides the Chairman of the Nigerian Railways and the Special Adviser to the President. During the visit, the Nigerian delegation suggested that in return for award of petroleum blocks on nomination basis and other oil and gas contracts, Indian companies should participate in Nigeria in economic and infrastructure development projects pertaining to pipelines, railways and power.

Discussions between Indian and Nigerian companies are presently under way in this regard.

[Translation]

Tsunami Warning System

1535. SHRI CHHATTAR SINGH DARBAR:

SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:

SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Canadian and Indian Tsunami experts have predicted next tsunami in the Arabian Sea:

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) whether any country has extended financial and technical assistance for setting up tsunami warning centres in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The Government is setting up an early warning system for tsunami and storm surge on its own. A centre would be set up at Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services, Hyderabad on 24x7 basis.

[English]

Demand of Funds for Rural Water Supply

1536. SHRI M. SHIVANNA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any requests from certain States particularly Karnataka for enhancement of funds under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) or to release equal amount to it which the State has incurred on rural water supply during the last three years and current year:

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount involved therein. State-wise; and

(c) the decision taken by the Government in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) Yes, Sir. This Department has been receiving requests from some State Governments for enhancement of funds under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). In 2003-04, Government of Karnataka requested for additional funds to the tune of Rs. 250.47 crores under ARWSP (Normal) and Rs. 14.69 crores for Sub-mission projects. In 2004-05, Government of Karnataka requested for allocation of an amount of Rs. 141.71 crore against the allocated amount of Rs. 100.46 crore under ARWSP (Normal), and additional allocation of Rs. 30.18 crore under ARWSP (Swajaldhara).

(b) The state-wise details of additional releases made over and above the allocated funds are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) As per the ARWSP guidelines, the allocation of funds to the States is made according to a laid down criterion, which takes into account the rural population, geographical conditions, number of rural habitations having drinking water supply of less than 40 litres per capita per day (lpcd) and water quality status prevailing in the State. However, in case any State fails to draw/utilize the allocated funds and savings become available, the unutilized funds are redistributed amongst the better performing States, towards the end of the financial year, as per the allocation criteria.

Statement

Sl. No.	State	Amount released towards additional release of funds (Rs. in crores)		
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05*
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	25.00		
2.	Chhattisgarh	5.00		
3.	Gujarat	20.00		11.74
4.	Haryana	4.00		
5.	Himachal Pradesh	17.00		
6.	Karnataka	22.75		2.61
7.	Madhya Pradesh	14.00		
8.	Maharashtra	25.07		9.43
9.	Punjab	5.00		
10.	Rajasthan			3.22
11.	Tamil Nadu	12.00		2.30
12.	Uttaranchal	6.00		
13.	West Bengal	15.70		
14.	Meghalaya	9.79		
15.	Mizoram	6.99		
16.	Nagaland	7.27	1.74	
17.	Sikkim	2.99	1.60	
18.	Tripura	8.67	1.60	
Total		207.23	4.94	29.30

During 2004-05, no additional funds were released under ARWSP (Normal). However, the additional funds were sanctioned to States under ARWSP (Swajaldhara). The amount shown in this column relates to additional funds sanctioned for ARWSP (Swajaldhara).

Lok Adalats

1537. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has agreed to organise more Lok Adalats in the country to clear the pending cases;

(b) if so, the number of Lok Adalats organised in various States and the number of cases cleared by these Lok Adalats as on June, 2005;

(c) the extent to which it has reduced the rush of pending cases from High Court and Lower Courts;

(d) whether the Government propose to help and assist States to set up more fast track courts/Lok Adalats in the States; and

(e) if so, the details of assistance provided to the States during each of the last three years in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir. More and more Lok Adalats are being organised to clear pending cases in the country.

(b) As on 30-6-2005, 4,67,830 Lok Adalats have been organised in which more than 1.79 crore cases have been settled throughout the country.

(c) Organising Lok Adalats is a continuing process and by the very nature of the purposes of holding Lok Adalats, the same are need based. The Lok Adalats are playing an important role in reducing the pendency in High Courts and Lower Courts.

(d) Yes, Sir. All help and assistance is provided by the Government to States for setting up more and more Lok Adalats.

(e) Grants provided in the form of assistance to States during each of the last three financial years are as under:—

Financial Year		Amount of Grant (Rs.)
2002-03	—	2,62,53,000/-
2003-04	—	3,65,07,105/-
2004-05	—	5,02,60,226/-

*[Translation]***National Investment Fund**

1538. SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI:

DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

SHRI SWADESH CHAKRABORTTY:

SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA:

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

SHRI MOHAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up National Investment Fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the percentage of this fund likely to be spent in the revival of the sick industries of the public sector;

(d) the sectors from which the amount for the National Investment Fund is likely to be collected; and

(e) the amount likely to be deposited in this Fund and the safeguards likely to be provided to check the misuse of this Fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (d) The Government have constituted a "National Investment Fund" (hereinafter referred to as the Fund) into which the proceeds from disinvestment of Government equity in Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) would be channelised. The Fund would be maintained outside the Consolidated Fund of India (CFI) and would be professionally managed by selected Public Sector Mutual Funds to provide sustainable returns without depleting the corpus.

75% of the annual income of the Fund will be used to finance selected social sector schemes, which promote education, health and employment. The residual 25% of the annual income of the Fund will be used to meet the capital investment requirements of profitable and revivable CPSEs that yield adequate returns, in order to enlarge their capital base to finance expansion/diversification.

(e) The corpus of the National Investment Fund would depend upon the level of disinvestment during the current financial year and thereafter. The National Investment Fund will be operated by the selected Fund Managers under the 'discretionary mode' of the Portfolio Management Scheme, which is governed by the SEBI guidelines. The entire work of the National Investment Fund will be supervised by Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Fund, an officer of the rank of Joint Secretary/ Additional Secretary to the Government of India. A part time Advisory Board consisting of three eminent persons with the requisite expertise, to be appointed by the Government, would advise the CEO on various aspects of the functioning of the Fund.

Training to Unemployed People in Rural Areas

1539. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:
PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the latest position of the scheme regarding imparting training to one crore unemployed people in the rural areas;

(b) whether any meetings have been held of the Committee which has been constituted for this purpose;

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

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to boost the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) to (e) An Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) had recommended that a demand-driven skill development programme may be designed to equip the unemployed rural youths from the Below Poverty Line (BPL) households with marketable skill which would enable them to either secure placement in the organized establishments or secure sustainable self-employment through micro enterprise. Subsequent to the recommendations of IMG, the Government decided

to launch a pilot programme for skill development under Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) for the unemployed youths from BPL families in the rural areas. The guidelines of the pilot scheme has been issued and circulated to the states.

During the pilot phase of the scheme (2005-2007) it is proposed to cover at least 1000-2000 rural youth per year in 100 selected districts. These pilot projects would be funded as Special Projects under SGSY, with the same pattern of assistance (75:25) applied mutatis mutandis to the training programme. So far no such special projects have been received from the State Governments.

[English]

Athirappilly Hydrel Power Project

1540. SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether clearance has been given to the Athirappilly Hydrel Power Project in Kerala;

(b) if so, the present status of the project;

(c) whether detailed study has been undertaken to ascertain the environmental/ecological impact of this project;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the project is expected to be operational?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) The necessary clearances namely, environmental and forest clearances from Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) and techno-economic clearance from Central Electricity Authority for implementation of Athirappilly Hydro Electric Project (163 MW=2x80 MW+ 2x1.5 MW) in Kerala have been accorded.

(b) Kerala State Electricity Board who are implementing the project have informed that the 'letter of award' for the works has been awarded to the consortium of M/s. Hindustan Construction Company (HCC) and M/s. Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. (BHEL).

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A Comprehensive Environmental Impact Assessment (CEIA) study has been conducted to ascertain the environmental/ecological impact of the project. In addition to this, studies have also been carried out on the physical status of the reservoirs (such as siltation, power generation against installed capacity) and catchment area with treatment plan for all upstream reservoirs.

(e) The project is expected to be operational during 2008-09.

Study on Functioning of NFFWP

1541. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a recent study conducted in respect of the working of the National Food for Work Programme (NFFWP) has revealed that muster rolls were either absent or fudged in five out of six States which were subjected to the study;

(b) if so, the name of States in respect of which such a study was conducted and by which agency the same was made;

(c) whether the Government had conducted such a study through an independent agency before going in for enactment of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA);

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken under the NREGA to prevent such draining out of resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) No such study has been got conducted by the Ministry. However, a study conducted jointly by Delhi University and JNU has indicated some shortcomings in the implementation of the National Food for Work Programme in the six Districts of six States namely Madhya Pradesh (Badwani), Rajasthan (Dungarpur), Jharkhand (Palamau), West Bengal (Purulia), Uttar Pradesh (Sonebhadra) and Chhattisgarh (Sarguja) where the study has been

conducted. The findings of the study was published in an article in the "Times of India" dated 2nd July, 2005 which highlights shortcomings like fudging of muster rolls and non payment of full minimum wages in some of the Districts. The findings of the study are not representative since it has taken sample size of only 10 works in one block per sample District and verified muster rolls only at one worksite per District. The sample so taken for the purpose cannot be representative keeping in view the magnitude of the programme. However, the same study has also hailed the implementation of NFFWP in Dungarpur District of Rajasthan. Moreover, considering the magnitude of the programme that was launched only about seven months ago prior to the study, structures and processes envisaged for creating accountability for delivering the benefits intended in the programme may take sometime to become fully effective and this itself will need constant, vigilant support from all quarters at every level.

(c) to (e) No, Sir. However, for the purpose of formulating comprehensive Guidelines and Rules on NREGA, a process of intense and wide consultation has been initiated by the Ministry with experts, professionals, State Governments, NGOs so as to bring together a wide range of expertise and experience. Hon'ble Minister of Rural Development has written to all Chief Ministers, Members of Parliament, Rural Development Ministers of all States, all Political Parties and Experts requesting their suggestions to make the Guidelines and Rules more comprehensive and foolproof. Open advertisement in all leading News Papers has been published requesting common masses to send suggestions and their valuable opinion in this regard. In addition to this, focussed discussions with a wide range of professionals and practitioners are being held. All these are aimed at to make foolproof Guidelines and Rules of the NREGA that is expected to minimize leakage and corruption as well.

Dabhol Power Project

1542. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Thermal Power Corporation has signed or likely to sign agreements with State Government of Maharashtra in respect of power projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof.

(c) whether NTPC will also play a vital role in the Dabhol Power Project to ensure its completion; and

(d) if so, the detailed terms and conditions of NTPC and DPC?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED).

(a) and (b) National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has already signed the Bulk Power Supply Agreement (BPSA) and Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) with states for power supply from its existing power stations (already commissioned). The details is enclosed as statement-I. Status of signing of PPA for various ongoing and new projects of NTPC is enclosed as statement-II.

In future also, NTPC would continue to sell power to various beneficiaries and sign Power Purchase Agreements for this purpose.

(c) and (d) Union Cabinet constituted an Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) to consider and decide all issues related to Dabhol Power Project. The restructuring framework approved by EGoM inter alia included setting up of a 'project SPV' having equity contribution of Rs. 500 crore each from NTPC, Gas

Authority of India Ltd. (GAIL) and Indian Financial Institutions (IFIs) to acquire the assets of Dabhol Power Company (DPC), free of all encumbrances and past liabilities through the Debt Recovery Tribunal (DRT)/Court process. Accordingly, a new Company, Ratnagiri Gas and Power Private Ltd. (RGPPL) was incorporated on 8th July, 2005 under the Companies Act, 1956 with NTPC and GAIL as promoters.

Detailed terms and conditions for acquiring the Dabhol Project assets were mutually agreed between RGPPL, DPC, Indian Lenders to DPC and other related parties and were filed in the Hon'ble High Court of Judicature at Mumbai in the Consent Petition on 22nd of September, 2005. On the same day the Hon'ble Court passed its Order for the transfer of assets of DPC to RGPPL. Thus RGPPL, currently having equity contribution of Rs. 500 crore each from NTPC, GAIL, IFIs and non-cash equity of Rs. 265 crore of MSEB Holding Company owns the Project and is responsible for its completion. NTPC's role in RGPPL is limited to its rights and obligations as one of its shareholder. In addition, NTPC, through its consultancy division, is also providing its expert technical services for early commissioning of the power plant as required by RGPPL on commercial basis.

Statement-I

Bulk Power Supply Agreement (BPSA)/Power Purchase Agreement signed with Beneficiaries of NTPC for Existing Stations

Station (Capacity MW)	Date of signing of BPSA/PPA	Beneficiary
1	2	3
Singrauli STPS (2000)	31-01-1994	Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, UT Chandigarh.
Rihand STPS (1000)		
Unchahar TPS (420)		
Dadri TPS (840)		
Anta GPS (413)		
Auraiya GPS (652)		
Dadri GPS (817)		

1	2	3
Korba STPS (2100)	12-01-1994	Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Goa, Daman and Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli
Vindhyachal STPS (1260)		
Kawas GPS (645)		
Gandhar GPS (648)		
Vindhyachal-II (1000)	13-08-1994	Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Daman and Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli
Ramagundam STPS (2100)	28-09-1993	Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Goa, Karnataka, Pondicherry
Farakka STPS (1600)	25-05-1993	West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, Damodar Valley Corporation, Sikkim
Kahalgaon STPS (840)		
Talcher STPS (1000)		
Talcher Thermal (460)	08-03-1995	Orissa
Simhadhri (1000)	04-02-1997	Andhra Pradesh
Kayamkulam GPS (350)	06-01-1995	Kerala
Faridabad GPS (430)	22-12-1995	Haryana
Talcher-II (2000)	06-04-1998	Andhra Pradesh
	16-04-1998	Karnataka
	13-05-1998	Tamil Nadu
	10-06-1998	Kerala
	22-06-1998	Pondicherry
Rihand-II (1000)	17-09-1998	Haryana
	12-03-1999	Uttar Pradesh
	13-08-1999	Himachal Pradesh
	19-02-2000	Jammu and Kashmir
Unchahar-II (420)	29-09-1998	Punjab
	12-03-1999	Uttar Pradesh

1	2	3
	20-12-1999	Himachal Pradesh
	19-02-2000	Jammu and Kashmir
Tanda TPS (440)	07-01-2000	Uttar Pradesh
Ramagundam-III (500)	01-02-2001	Andhra Pradesh
	19-07-2001	Kerala
	12-09-2001	Tamil Nadu
	21-07-2001	Karnataka
	18-06-2001	Pondicherry

Statment-II*Status of Power Purchase Agreement of Ongoing/New Projects*

Project (Capacity)	States who have requisitioned power and signed the PPA	Date of signing of PPA
1	2	3
Sipat Stage-I (1980 MW)	1. Madhya Pradesh	08-11-1998
	2. Chhattisgarh	10-09-2005
	3. Maharashtra	06-12-2003
	4. Gujarat	24-06-2002
	5. Goa	07-11-2002
	6. Daman and Diu	10-05-2000
	7. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	10-05-2000
Sipat Stage-II (1000 MW)	1. Madhya Pradesh	13-02-2003/20-06-2005
	2. Maharashtra	10-10-2003
	3. Gujarat	29-10-2003/14-05-2005
	4. Goa	16-12-2003
	5. Daman and Diu	09-10-2003

1	2	3
	6. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	09-10-2003
	7. Chhattisgarh	08-10-2003
Vindhyacl. at Stage-III (1000 MW)	1. Madhya Pradesh	13-12-2003
	2. Maharashtra	20-02-2003
	3. Gujarat	29-10-2003
	4. Goa	24-04-2003
	5. Daman and Diu	17-02-2003
	6. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	13-05-2003
Unchaahar Stage-III (210 MW)	1. Uttar Pradesh	10-06-2003
	2. Jammu and Kashmir	27-05-2003
	3. Himachal Pradesh	06-06-2003
	4. Punjab	02-11-2003
	5. Chandigarh	29-11-2002
Kahalgaoon-II Stage-III (210 MW)	1. Madhya Pradesh	13-02-2003/19-09-2005
	2. Maharashtra	26-05-2003/10-10-2003
	3. Gujarat	29-10-2003/14-05-2004
	4. Daman and Diu	26-03-2003/9-10-2003
	5. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	13-05-2003/9-10-2003
	6. Punjab	02-11-2002/07-10-2003
	7. Rajasthan	19-04-2003
	8. Uttar Pradesh	10-06-2003/12-12-2003
	9. Himachal Pradesh	06-06-2003/26-09-2003
	10. Jammu and Kashmir	27-05-2003/15-10-2003
	11. Chandigarh	29-11-2002/26-09-2003
	12. West Bengal	05-08-2003
	13. Bihar	12-06-2003

1	2	3
Barh (1980 MW)	1. Daman and Diu	26-03-2003
	2. Madhya Pradesh	13-02-2003
	3. Gujarat	29-10-2003
	4. Punjab	02-11-2002
	5. Rajasthan	19-04-2003
	6. Himachal Pradesh	06-06-2003
	7. Jammu and Kashmir	27-05-2003
	8. Chandigarh	29-11-2002
	9. Bihar	08-01-2004
North Karanpura (1980 MW)	1. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	13-05-2003
	2. Daman and Diu	26-03-2003
	3. Madhya Pradesh	13-02-2003
	4. Gujarat	29-10-2003
	5. Punjab	02-11-2002
	6. Rajasthan	19-04-2003
	7. Himachal Pradesh	06-06-2003
	8. Jammu and Kashmir	27-05-2003
	9. Chandigarh	29-11-2002
	10. Jharkhand	14-11-2003
Kawas-II (1300 MW)	1. Gujarat	21-03-2005
	2. Maharashtra	23-03-2005
	3. Daman and Diu	28-03-2005
	4. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	28-03-2005
Gandhar-II (1300 MW)	1. Gujarat	21-03-2005
	2. Maharashtra	23-03-2005
	3. Daman and Diu	28-03-2005
	4. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	28-03-2005

Mismanagement of Lord Krishna Bank

1543. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is aware of the mismanagement of Lord Krishna Bank Ltd.

(b) if so, the action taken by the Reserve Bank of India to correct the management;

(c) whether the Government has taken steps to call for a report from the Reserve Bank of India on the functioning of the Bank; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (d) The Lord Krishna Bank Ltd. is functioning under the regulatory and supervisory purview of RBI. The bank is subjected to Annual Financial Inspections (AFI) and is supervised through off-site monitoring system. The Reserve Bank of India has not come across any major concerns in the conduct of the affairs of Lord Krishna Bank Ltd. After the resignation of its Managing Director, the affairs of the bank are being looked after by a Committee of Directors of the bank, which also includes a nominee director of RBI.

[Translation]

Progress of Swajaldhara Yojana

1544. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Swajaldhara Yojana is not proving beneficial due to rampant corruption;

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

(c) the usual time taken in sanctioning the scheme;

(d) the details of areas where the said scheme has been implemented. State-wise; and

(e) the details of progress made during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. No specific complaints of corruption in implementation of Swajaldhara have been received in the Department of Drinking Water Supply, Ministry of Rural Development. Rural drinking water being a State subject, the State Governments are primarily responsible for ensuring proper implementation of the Swajaldhara Scheme. Vigilance and Monitoring Committees at State and district levels already exist to ensure proper utilization of the funds. The State Vigilance and Monitoring Committees are headed by the Minister, Rural Development of the concerned State with four Lok Sabha MPs, one Rajya Sabha MP and five MLAs as members. The District Vigilance and Monitoring Committees are headed by Member of Parliament elected from the District with PMs, MLAs of the district as members.

(c) Funds under Swajaldhara are allocated to the States every year as per the inter state Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) allocation ratio fixed for the year. The States then make district-wise allocations and consider specific proposals at District Water and Sanitation Committee (DWSC)/State Water and Sanitation Mission (SWSM) level and approve them in conformity with Swajaldhara Guidelines. Details of proposals received and cleared by the DWSC/SWSM in States are not maintained by Government of India.

(d) The list of districts where Swajaldhara Scheme has been implemented is enclosed as statement.

(e) So far, Rs. 80.14 crores have been released as 1st installment for projects of 2005-06 in six States, namely, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.

Statement

List of Districts Covered under Swajaldhara Scheme

Andhra Pradesh—Adilabad, Anantapur, Chittoor, Cuddapah, East Godavari, Guntur, Karimnagar, Khammam, Krishna, Kurnool, Mahabubnagar, Medak, Nalgonda, Nizamabad, Rangareddy, Srikakulam, Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram, Warangal, West Godavari.

Assam—Barpeta, Bangaigaon, Cachar, Darrang, Goalpara, Golaghat, Haikandi, Kamrup, Karimganj, Morigaon, Nagaon, Nalbari, Sivasagar, Tinsukia.

Chhattisgarh—Bilaspur, Dantewada, Dhamtari, Jagdalpur, Janjgir Champa, Jashpur, Kawardha, Korba, Korea, Mahasamund, Raigarh, Raipur, Rajnandgaon, Surguja.

Dadra and Nagar Haveli

Gujarat—Ahmedabad, Anand, Banaskantha, Bharuch, Bhavnagar, Junagadh, Kheda, Narmada, Panchmahal, Patan, Sabarkantha, Vadodara, Valsad.

Haryana—Ambala, Faridabad, Jhajjar, Kaithal, Kurukshetra, Mahendragarh, Panchakula, Rewari, Rohtak, Sonapat.

Himachal Pradesh—Bilaspur, Chamba, Hamirpur, Kangra, Kullu, Mandi, Shimla, Sirmour, Solan.

Karnataka—Bangalore (R), Bagalkote, Bangalore (U), Belgaum, Bellary, Bidar, Bijapur, C.R. Nagar, Chickmagalur, Chitradurga, Davanagere, Dharwad, Gadag, Gulbarga, Hassan, Haveri, Kodagu, Kolar, Koppal, Mandya, Raichur, Shimoga, Tumkur, Udupi, Uttara Kannada.

Kerala—Alappuzha, Ernakulam, Idukki, Kannur, Kasargode, Kottayam, Kozhikode, Malappuram, Palakkad, Thiruvananthapuram, Thrissur, Wayanadu.

Madhya Pradesh—Balaghat, Barwani, Betul, Bhopal, Chindwara, Datia, Dewas, Dhar, Guna, Gwalior, Harda, Jabalpur, Jhabua, Katni, Kargone, Mandla, Mandsour, Narsinghpur, Neemach, Raisen, Rajgarh, Ratlam, Satna, Seoni, Shahdol, Shajapur, Sidhi, Tikamgarh, Ujjain, Vidisha.

Maharashtra—Ahmednagar, Aurangabad, Beed, Buldhana, Gadchiroli, Hingoli, Jalgaon, Jalna, Kolhapur, Latur, Nagpur, Nandurbar, Nashik, Osmanabad, Parbhani, Pune, Ratnagiri, Sangli, Satara, Sindhudurg, Solapur, Thane, Wardha, Yavatmal.

Orissa—Angul, Balasore, Bargarh, Bhadrak, Bolangir, Boudh, Cuttack, Dhenkaanal, Gajapati, Ganjam, Jajpur, Jharsuguda, Kallahandi, Kandhamall, Kendrapara, Keonjhar, Khurda, Koraput, Malkangiri, Mayurbhanj,

Nawarangpur, Nayagarh, Puri, Rayagada, Sambalpur, Sonepur, Sundergarh, Deogarh, Jagatsinghpur, Nuapara, Phulbani.

Rajasthan—Banswara, Bharatpur, Bhilwara, Bundi, Chittorgarh, Dausa, Dungarpur, Hanumangarh, Jaipur, Jaisalmer, Jalore, Jhalawar, Jodhpur, Karauli, Kota, Nagaur, Pali, Rajsamund, S. Madhopur, Sikar, Sirohi, Tonk, Udaipur, Alwar, Baran, Barmer, Churu, Ganganagar.

Tamil Nadu—Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Dharmapuri, Dindigul, Erode, Kanchipuram, Kanyakumari, Karur, Krishnagiri, Madurai, Nagapattinam, Namakkal, Nilgiris, Perambalur, Pudukottai, Ramanathapuram, Selam, Sivaganga, Thanjavur, Theni, Thirunelveli, Thiruvallur, Thiruvannamalai, Thiruvavur, Thoothukudi (Tuticorin), Tiruchirapalli, Vellore, Villupuram, Virudhnagar.

Uttar Pradesh—Agra, Aligarh, Allahabad, Ambedkarnagar, Auriya, Azamgarh, Badaun, Bagpat, Bahraich, Balia, Balrampur, Banda, Barabanki, Bareilly, Basti, Bhadohi, Bijnor, Bulandshahar, Chandauli, Chitrakoot, Deoria, Etah, Etawah, Faizabad, Farukhhabad, Fatehpur, Firozabad, Gautam Budh Nagar, Ghaziabad, Ghazipur, Gonda, Gorakhpur, Hamirpur, Hardoi, Hathras, J Phool Nagar, Jalaun, Jaunpur, Jhansi, Kannauj, Kanpur Dehat, Kanpur Nagar, Kaushambhi, Lakhimpur Kheri, Lalitpur, Lucknow, Maharajganj, Mahoba, Mainpurri, Mathura, Mau, Meerut, Mirzapur, Moradabad, Muzaffarnagar, Padrouna, Pratapgarh, Pilibhit, Raebareli, Rampur, Saharanpur, Sant Kabir Nagar, Shahjahanpur, Shrawasti, Siddarth Nagar, Sitapur, Sonebhadra, Sultanpur, Unnao, Varanasi.

West Bengal—Burdhman, Coocnuchur, Dakshin Dinajpur, Hooghly, Howrah, Jalpaiguri, Malda, Murshidabad, Nandia, Paschim Medinipur, Purullia, South 24 Parganas, Purba Medinipur, Darjiling, Uttar Dinajpur.

Uttaranchal—Dehradun, Almora, Chamoli, Champawat, Nainital, Pauri, Pithoragarh, Rudraprayag, Tehri, Uttarkashi, Haridwar.

Nagaland—Dimapur, Tuensang, Zunheboto.

Tripura—North Tripura, Dhalai, West Tripura, South Tripura.

Jharkhand—Ranchi, Gumla, Simdega, Lohardaga, East Singhbhum, West Singhbhum, Sarakela, Daltonganj.

Garhwa, Latehar, Hazaribag, Kodarma, Chatra, Bokaro, Giridih, Dumka, Sahebganj, Pakur, Jamtara, Deoghar, Godda.

Jammu and Kashmir—Anatnagh, Baramulla, Budgam, Doda, Jammu, Kargil, Kathua, Kupwara, Leh, Poonch, Pulwama, Rajouri, Srinagar, Udhampur.

Arunachal Pradesh—Upper Subansiri, Upper Siang, Tirap, Lower Subansiri, Tawang, West Kameng, East Kameng, Papumpare, K/Kumey, West Siang, East Siang, Upper D/Vally, Lower D/Valley, Lohit, Changlang.

Punjab—Armitsar, Bathinda, Fatehgarh Saheb, Firozpur, Hoshiarpur, Jalandhar, Kapurthala, Moga, Patiala, Ropar, Sangrur.

Bihar—Patna, Vaishali, East Champaran, Bhagalpur, Siwan.

Meghalaya—East Khasi Hills, West Khasi Hills, Jantia Hills, East Garo Hills, West Garo Hills, South Garo Hills.

Mizoram—Saiha, Serchip, Mamit.

Sikkim—North Sikkim, Gangtok, South District, Sikkim West.

Power Shortage

1545. DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":

SHRI MUNSHI RAM:

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU:

SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY:

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether farmers from certain States are carrying out agitation due to short supply of power;

(b) if so, the details thereof

(c) whether the Government has issued guidelines to private producers to complete their ongoing power projects within the stipulated time;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the quantum of power in M.W. likely to be added after the completion of such ongoing private sector power projects; and

(f) the extent it will bridge the gap between demand and supply of power in the country?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED):

(a) and (b) Ministry of Power has no information about the agitation by farmers in any state due to short supply of power.

(c) and (d) All statutory clearances like the environmental clearance, fuel linkage and power purchase agreements stipulate a time frame so as to ensure that the project is commissioned within its stipulated time. Once construction commences, officers from CEA periodically visit the project site to monitor construction progress and offer technical solutions, if required.

(e) and (f) The private sector power projects aggregating to 4899 MW are, expected to be commissioned during 10th plan period comprising of 4199 MW Thermal and 700 MW Hydro projects. Out of this, 698 MW capacity (398 MW thermal and 300 MW Hydro) has already been commissioned upto end of 2004-05. The contribution of private sector to reduce the peak shortages and energy shortages based on demand as per 16th Electric Power Survey would be to the tune of 2 to 3% at the end of 10th plan.

[English]

Closure of Swadeshi Cotton Mill

1546. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to shut down Swadeshi Cotton Mill;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for shut downs of the said mill;

(d) the number of employees likely to be affected after the said closure; and

(e) the action plan prepared for the rehabilitation of the affected employees?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) to (c) By virtue of Swadeshi Cotton Mills Company Ltd. (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertaking) Act, 1986 the management of following Swadeshi Cotton mills was taken over by the Central Government.

1. Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Kanpur
2. Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Naini
3. Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Maunath Bhanjan
4. Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Pondicherry

Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Kanpur has been closed after being declared unviable under the Rehabilitation Scheme approved by BIFR. Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Naini and Maunath Bhanjan have been identified as viable under BIFR approved Schemes, and are slated for revival through Joint Venture, Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Pondicherry, has been handed over to the State Government of Pondicherry alongwith its employees.

(d) and (e) 1114 employees of Swadeshi Cotton

Mills, Kanpur have been given voluntary retirement till 15th November, 2005.

Subsidy on Fluorescent Lamps

1547. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Compact Fluorescent Lamps consume considerable low energy and give more lighting;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to give subsidies on these lamps to reduce energy consumption; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As compared to incandescent lamps (GLS), Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFL) consume considerably low energy and gives more lighting. The consumption of electricity of good quality CFLs are 70 to 80% less in comparison to incandescent lamps for same light. The indicative value has been illustrated as per table below:—

Incandescent lamps		Compact Fluorescent lamps	
Wattage	Light Output	Wattage	Light Output
25 W	220 Lumen	5 W	240 Lumen
40 W	430 Lumen	7 W	400 Lumen
60 W	730 Lumen	11 W	600 Lumen
75 W	960 Lumen	15 W	900 Lumen
100 W	1380 Lumen	20 W	1200 Lumen

(c) and (d) No, Sir. There is no proposal to give any subsidy on these lamps to reduce energy consumption.

ASSOCHAM's Recommendation

1548 SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) has recommended that 50- per cent of the total small savings be allowed to be invested to buy Government stakes in profitable public sector undertakings as reported in "The Hindu" dated the September 25, 2005;

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

(c) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) At present, there is no such proposal under consideration of Government.

Funds to Kerala

1549. SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the achievement of Kerala State in social reforms compared with other States during the last two years;

(b) whether allocation of funds and projects sanctioned for that State is done in accordance with its achievement in social sector;

(c) if so, the details of funds allocated and projects sanctioned to the State of Kerala during the 10th Five Year Plan Period; and

(d) if not, details of criteria followed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The achievement of Kerala in the Social Sector whether it is in the area of educational achievement; health indicators (such as Birth Rate, Death Rate, Infant Mortality Rate, Life Expectancy) or empowerment of women is quite noteworthy when compared with other Indian States or the All India Average. Kerala is perhaps one of the few States where one-third budgeted outlay is earmarked for local bodies of which 10% is allocated for women and 5% is spent for the welfare of children, aged and physically challenged.

(b) Yes, Sir. Achievement is only one of the several criterion used for finalizing the allocations to States in the Social Sector with the criterion varying across Schemes in the Central and State Sector.

(c) The approved Plan size for the 10th Five Year Plan of Kerala was Rs. 24,000 crore at the level of 2001-02

prices, of which allocation for social service sector was Rs. 4360.45 crore.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Corruption in Rural Employment Schemes

1550. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that despite spending huge money rural employment schemes have not shown any desired results due to widespread corruption;

(b) if so, the name of worst hit three States;

(c) if not, the extent of success achieved thereof; and

(d) the deliberations held with the States so as to make the schemes successfully?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Rural Development has been implementing various Schemes through State Governments/U.T. Administrations for the members of the BPL families living in rural areas of the country. The overall performance has been satisfactory. Whenever complaints are received, they are immediately taken up with the concerned State Government/UT Administration. Senior Officers of the Ministry and National Level Monitors are also deputed to enquire such complaints.

(d) The Ministry of Rural Development have evolved a comprehensive system of monitoring the execution of the Programmes, including utilization of funds, through periodical Progress Reports received from the States/UTs, field visits and reviews with State Secretaries and with Project Directors of the District Rural Development Agencies/Chief Executive Officers of Zilla Parishads, Concurrent/Quick Evaluations and Impact Assessment

Studies are also conducted. A four pronged Strategy comprising of (i) Creation of Awareness about the Schemes (ii) Transparency (iii) Peoples' partnership and (iv) Accountability has been introduced to further improve the speed and quality of programme implementation.

Gas Based Power Projects

1551. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether foundation stone for a gas based power project has been laid by the Government recently in Tripura;

(b) if so, the name of share-holder of power generation company of this project;

(c) the time by which the plant is likely to become operational;

(d) the details of the States and the quantity of power in M.W. proposed to be supplied to each of them from this project; and

(e) the extent of which the power crisis in these States is likely to be met?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED):

(a) Hon'ble Prime Minister laid the foundation stone on 29th October, 2005 for a 740 MW Gas Based Power Project being developed by the Joint Venture Company "ONGC Tripura Power Development Company (P) Ltd. (OTPCL)". Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and Government of Tripura are partners with M/s. Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services Ltd. (IL and FS).

(b) The share-holders of the Company and their stakes are as follows:—

IL and FS	—	50%
ONGC	—	26%
Government of Tripura	—	24%

(c) Likely commissioning date, as per the draft Feasibility Report, will be 29 months from the date of issuance of 'Notice to Proceed' to Engineering Procurement Construction (EPC) contractor. As per the present plan, the commissioning schedule is expected by August, 2008.

(d) and (e) After meeting the requirements of North-Eastern States, surplus power from the project is proposed to be supplied to different power deficit States in Northern Grid.

[English]

VAT-Terms, Conditions and References

1552. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:

SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA:

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers on VAT is a society registered under the ambit of a statute;

(b) if so, complete details thereof with main terms, conditions, references of the Committee;

(c) whether the Empowered Committee is authorized to keep details of VAT including schedule of rates of all States/Union Territories;

(d) if so, details in this regard, item-wise, State-wise and

(e) the details of steps taken by the Empowered Committee to get uniform VAT rates across all States, State-wise, item-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) The Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers (EC) was initially notified in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, vide Resolution dated 17 July 2000, by the Government of India, Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue, on the basis of recommendation in the conference of Chief Ministers of all States/UTs held on 22 June 2000. Later, on 17 August 2004, the EC has been registered as a Society, under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. The Terms of Reference of EC were the monitoring of (i) implementation of uniform floor rates of sales tax, (ii) phasing out of sales tax based incentive schemes, and (iii) reforms in the Central Sales Tax system and deciding milestones and methodology for States to switch over to VAT.

(c) to (e) The EC has finalized the tax rate structure under State VAT, through the process of consultations with the States. The tax structure aims at achieving broad uniformity amongst the States, with some flexibility to the States. There are broadly 4 tax rate categories, namely, 0% (tax exempt), 1%, 4% and 12.5%. In addition, there is a 20% floor rate of tax for items outside VAT. Over 500 items have been classified in these categories. Based on this broad structure, each State has finalized the tax rate structure, which forms part of the VAT law of the State concerned. Such VAT law (including the Schedules) has been notified by each State in the Official Gazette, for public information and have been publicized by the States in various other ways. The EC calls for the details of these Schedules from the States, as necessary from time to time, for deliberating upon various issues. The EC constantly monitors the position regarding implementation of uniform VAT rates by the States/UTs.

Basal-II Guidelines

1553. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposed to introduce Basal-II guidelines for banks:

(b) if so, whether such guidelines will encourage merger and take over of banks.

(c) if so, the details in this regard

(d) whether small, medium and large farmers and villagers will face hurdle in getting loans from banks after issue of such guidelines, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. As per extant instructions, the commercial banks in India will start implementing Basel II norms with effect from 31st March, 2007. Mergers and acquisitions in the banking industry are generally dictated by market dynamic. Banks which operate with capital above the minimum levels as stipulated under Basel II have an edge over the other banks to the extent that they would be able to seize an opportunity for merger/acquisition, as and when it is available.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

FBT and SSI

1554. SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total revenue from Fringe Benefit Tax (FBT) as on July 31, 2005:

(b) the proportion of such FBT coming from Small Scale Industries (SSIs):

(c) whether the Union Government has ever been evaluating the impact of SSIs on the total collection of FBT:

(d) if so, the details thereof:

(e) whether information about the complex rules of FBT is spread, being spread to SSIs:

(f) if so, the details thereof:

(g) whether the Government plan to simplify the rules/procedure regarding FBT in the larger interest of SSIs:

(h) if so, the details thereof: and

(i) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The total revenue from Fringe Benefit Tax as on July 31, 2005 amounted to Rs. 583.45 crore.

(b) The contribution of Small Scale Industries (SSIs) in the total collections under Fringe Benefit Tax is not ascertainable as the Government does not maintain separate record of taxes paid by SSIs.

(c) No such evaluation has been undertaken by the Government.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to para (c) above.

(e) and (f) Interactive sessions with all categories of tax-payers are being held on a continuous basis to educate them about the Fringe Benefit Tax. A detailed circular explaining the provisions of FBT and also

containing Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) has been issued and is available on the official website of the Department (incometaxindia.gov.in)

(g) to (i) The existing provisions of FBT do not provide for different rules for different categories of tax payers. Thus, there are no separate set of rules governing the liability to pay FBT on the part of SSIs.

Allocation of Power

1555. SHRI B. MAHTAB: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the actual requirement and supply of power for Orissa from the Central Public Undertakings;

(b) the names of undertakings from which power is being distributed to Orissa;

(c) whether Orissa has requested for additional quota of power to meet the increasing demand in the State; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED):

(a) During the current year (April-October, 2005), the power supply position in Orissa was as under:—

	Energy (MU)		Peak (MW)
Requirement	8762	Peak Demand	2350
Availability	8655	Peak Met	2334
Shortage	107	Shortage	16
Shortage (%)	1.2	Shortage (%)	0.7

It would be seen from the above that the power supply position in the State of Orissa has by and large been satisfactory during the current year and Orissa has been selling power to other States under bilateral agreement.

The scheduled drawal of power by Orissa from central sector generating stations of National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) and Chukha Hydro Electric

Project (HEP) in Bhutan during the current year (April-October, 2005) was 4070.1 MU as against its entitlement of 4061.3 MU.

(b) Orissa has been receiving power from NTPC and Power Trading Corporation (PTC) against its share of central sector thermal generating stations in Eastern Region (ER) and Chukha HEP in Bhutan respectively.

(c) and (d) Orissa as well as other constituents of ER had requested for additional allocation of power from NTPC stations in the ER. Allocation of power from NTPC stations was reviewed w.e.f. 15-11-2005 keeping in view the power supply position of various States/UTs and the allocation of Orissa in Central Generating Stations in ER and Chukha HEP was increased from 701 MW to 705 MW.

Cost Audit of Pharmaceutical Companies

1556. SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD ALIAS-SADHU YADAV:

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal for cost audit of two hundred Pharmaceutical companies under section 223B of Companies Act, 1956:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the proposal is rejected by Ministry of Company Affairs;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which cost audit of Pharmaceutical companies is likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA):

(a) and (b) A suggestion for cost audit under section 233 (B) of the Companies Act, 1956, of companies engaged in drug manufacturing in the organised sector but not presently covered under Cost Audit orders, is under consideration of the Government.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The exercise of statutory powers under the Companies Act, in relation to any company, is subject to satisfaction of various statutory requirements laid down therein. As such no time frame can be indicated for all the companies under consideration.

Acquisition of Private Foreign Banks

1557. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether nationalised banks have acquired private foreign banks during the last year.

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith money paid in each acquisition;

(c) whether prior permission has been sought from the Government before acquisition; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No. Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Merger of IIBI

1558. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL. Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken a decision to merge the Industrial Investment Bank of India (IIBI) with IDBI;

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay in implementing the decision; and

(c) the time by which the merger is likely to be effected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Export of Fly Ash

1559. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is exporting Fly Ash from Simhadri Thermal Power Project to Middle East countries:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the efforts being made to obtain orders from other countries?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam Limited (NVVN), the wholly owned subsidiary of NTPC, has awarded contract for export of fly ash from Simhadri Thermal Power Project on Open Tender basis on 7-11-2005 on Free on Board (FOB) Vishakhapatnam port basis. Following are the broad details of the export contract:—

Name of the Party	Environment Building Material. Lebanon
Fly Ash Clash	ASTM* C 618
Total Quantity	54000 MT
Monthly Dispatch	6000 MT
Period of Contract	9 Months
Packaging	1 MT Jumbo bags
Dispatch of 1st consignment	January, 2006
Delivery point	Ex-Vishakhapatnam Port on FOB basis

*American Society of Testing Material

(c) NVVN is exploring possibilities for export of other countries in the Middle East from Simhadri on FOB Vishakhapatnam port basis.

Loan to Tsunami Affected Persons

1560. SHRI VIRCHANDRA PASWAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether nationalized banks are insisting on sureties for granting loans to fishermen of Nagapattinam, Tamil Nadu ruined by tsunami waves:

(b) if so, the action the Government proposes to take to relax loan norms for the persons affected by tsunami waves to enable them to earn their livelihood; and

(c) if so, the measures taken for the welfare of the families ruined by tsunami waves?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) According to the information furnished by Indian Overseas Bank (IOB), Convenor of the State Level Banker's Committee for Tamil Nadu, as per decision taken in the special SLBC meeting held on 8-6-2005 banks have been advised to grant loan to Tsunami affected fishermen without any security or guarantee under Rajiv Gandhi Rehabilitation Package. The bank has further informed that the Public Sector Banks operating in Nagapattinam District while granting loans to fishermen affected by Tsunami under Rajiv Gandhi Rehabilitation Package (RGRP) without any collectoral security, some banks are obtaining group guarantee among the borrowers or mutual guarantees between the borrowers wherever the same is forthcoming.

(b) and (c) In view of the loss of life and property caused by Tsunami on 26-12-2004 in the Southern States/ Union Territories special SLBC meetings were convened to assess the situation and take immediate measures to provide appropriate relief to the affected people in terms of RBI standing guidelines. Based on the suggestions received from a few SLBCs, the banks have been advised to provide the following relief measures to Tsunami affected persons:—

- Consumption Loan has been increased to Rs. 5,000 without any collateral. Further, the limit may be enhanced to Rs. 10,000 at the discretion of the branch manager, depending on the repaying capacity of the borrower
- Opening of Savings Bank accounts with nominal balance (Rs. 10), without insisting on minimum balance.
- Providing education loans to the affected persons to enable them to purchase books, cloths, etc. for children studying in educational institutions.

In addition to the above relief, Government of India has announced the Rajiv Gandhi Rehabilitation Package, which is a subsidy-cum-loan scheme for fishermen to help them acquire fishing vessels and nets and resume their livelihood.

The salient features of the package are:—

- For purchase of boats with motors and net, assistance upto Rs. 1.5 lakh, with 35 per cent subsidy and the balance 65 per cent as loan;
- For mechanized boats, assistance upto Rs. 20 lakh, with 35 per cent subsidy with a ceiling of Rs. 5 lakh and the balance 65 per cent as loan; and
- For repair to boats, a subsidy of 60 per cent with a ceiling of Rs. 3 lakh and the balance 40 per cent as loan.

In each of these cases, the loan will bear an interest of 7 per cent with the interest subsidy of 2 per cent in the case of regular repayment by the borrower. There will be a moratorium period of one and a half years and the repayment period will be spread over 7 years thereafter.

Banks have been advised that these limits are only for the purpose of subsidy and that they should finance to the extent of full unit cost.

[Translation]

Taking Over of Banks

1561. SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE:

SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria fixed by the Government for nationalised and other major banks to take over the banks placed under liquidation process;

(b) the number of proposals received by the Government to take over the banks placed under liquidation process in Nasik; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Government has not fixed any criteria for nationalised and other major banks to take over banks placed under liquidation process. However, Reserve Bank of India has issued guidelines on merger and amalgamation between private sector banks and of NBFCs with private sector banks on May 11, 2005 which are available on the RBI website www.rbi.org.in.

(b) No proposal has been received for take over of any bank under liquidation process in Nasik.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Allocation for NE

1562. SHRI MANI CHARENAMEI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money and percentage (out of total allocation) allocated for development of the North Eastern Region by each Department during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the amount and percentage actually spent, department-wise, year-wise during the same period;

(c) the amount of unspent balance returned from such departments to the Ministry of Finance, Department-wise, year-wise during the same period;

(d) the details of amount paid accordingly to the

Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DONER) year-wise;

(e) whether the figures of unspent balance and that passed onto Ministry DONER commensurate; and

(f) if not, the year-wise reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) The details of finalized accounts for the years 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04 are given in the enclosed Statements-I, II and III.

(d) The details of allocation of funds from the Central Pool of Resources for North Eastern Region and Sikkim during the corresponding years is given below:—

(Rs. in Crore)

Year	Amount
2001-02	— 492.00
2002-03	— 550.00
2003-04	— 604.81

(e) and (f) Given the broad objective of the Central Resource Pool for facilitating development of infrastructure in the NE Region and Sikkim by ensuring flow of budgetary support for specific viable projects/schemes in the Region, the allocation of funds are made keeping this in mind.

Statement-I

The details of Budgetary provisions of each Ministry/Department during 2001-02

(Rs. in Crores)

Sl. No.	Ministries/Departments	Allocation for North East	% of total Allocation	Expenditure	% Expenditure of NE Allocation	Unspent balance
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Agriculture and Cooperation	116.53	5.92	115.81	99.38	0.72
2.	Agricultural Research and Education	68.40	10.00	62.23	90.98	6.17

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3.	Animal Husbandry and Dairying	25.57	10.65	25.15	98.36	0.00
4.	Small Scale Industries and ARI	0.00	0.00	47.01		0.00
5.	Chemicals and Petro Chemicals	2.20	4.49	0.00	0.00	2.20
6.	Fertilizers	20.00	8.73	115.33	576.65	0.00
7.	Civil Aviation	5.30	10.00	12.84	242.26	0.00
8.	Coal	0.00	0.00	28.65		0.00
9.	Mines	0.00	0.00	15.74		0.00
10.	Commerce	0.00	0.00	50.74		0.00
11.	Industry Policy and Promotion	24.95	11.61	78.13	313.15	0.00
12.	Posts	9.96	10.06	9.96	100.00	0.00
13.	Information Technology	57.00	13.41	83.30	146.14	0.00
14.	Environment and Forest	80.00	8.89	79.77	99.71	0.23
15.	Consumer Affairs	0.70	6.50	1.08	154.29	0.00
16.	Food and Public Distribution	4.00	8.71	2.50	62.50	1.50
17.	Food Processing Industries	5.85	10.64	5.85	100.00	0.00
18.	Health	133.00	10.02	133.00	100.00	0.00
19.	ISM and Homeopathy	9.00	10.00	0.00	0.00	9.00
20.	Family Welfare	253.76	6.86	227.92	89.82	25.84
21.	Home Affairs	0.00	0.00	0.49		0.00
22.	Elementary Education	1.00	0.03	219.85	21985.00	0.00
23.	Secondary and Higher Education	14.00	0.77	126.56	904.00	0.00
24.	Women and Child Development	0.01	0.00	158.71	1587100.00	0.00
25.	Public Enterprises	0.80	10.00	0.39	48.75	0.41
26.	Heavy Industries	7.28	2.54	7.12	97.80	0.00
27.	Information and Broadcasting	61.32	19.80	53.29	86.90	0.00
28.	Labour	12.13	9.90	6.40	52.76	5.73
29.	Justice	9.60	9.70	8.75	91.15	0.85

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
30.	Non-Conventional Energy Sources	34.00	6.88	39.65	116.62	0.00
31.	Power	336.58	9.22	308.40	91.63	28.18
32.	Rural Development	670.50	6.32	640.86	95.58	29.64
33.	Land Resources	90.00	10.59	51.69	57.43	38.31
34.	Drinking Water Supply	216.00	10.24	179.80	83.24	36.20
35.	Statistics and PI	6.08	10.35	4.89	80.43	0.00
36.	Road Transport and Highways	282.15	4.76	279.17	98.94	2.98
37.	Shipping	21.22	10.00	10.00	32.03	21.22
38.	Tourism	15.00	10.00	15.65	104.33	0.00
39.	Culture	17.50	10.00	16.90	96.57	0.60
40.	Tribal Affairs	23.00	10.60	34.41	149.61	0.00
41.	Urban Development	82.50	5.22	82.49	99.99	0.01
42.	Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation	33.00	10.00	33.00	100.00	0.00
43.	Water Resources	0.01	0.00	39.35	393500.00	0.00
44.	Social Justice and Empowerment	48.05	3.88	28.50	59.31	19.55
45.	Youth Affairs and Sports	23.45	8.76	20.60	87.85	2.85
46.	Railways	334.00	65.14	300.00	89.82	34.00
47.	Taxiles	42.00	6.89	41.00	97.62	0.00

Statement-II

The details of Budgetary provisions of each Ministry/Department during 2002-03

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	Ministries/Departments	Allocation for North East	% of total Allocation	Expenditure	% Expenditure of NE Allocation	Unspent balance
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Agriculture and Cooperation	168.70	10.12	167.77	99.45	0.93

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2.	Agricultural Research and Education	72.50	10.00	43.88	60.52	28.62
3.	Animal Husbandry and Dairying	24.00	10.00	19.08	79.50	4.92
4.	Agro and Rural Industries	58.00	10.00	30.05	51.81	27.95
5.	Chemicals and Petro Chemicals	5.50	10.00	2.87	52.18	2.63
6.	Fertilizers	28.00	13.40	150.00	535.71	0.00
7.	Civil Aviation	4.35	10.01	13.16	302.53	0.00
8.	Mines	11.31	5.45	11.31	100.00	0.00
9.	Commerce	77.00	11.00	69.53	90.30	7.47
10.	Industry Policy and Promotion	28.00	10.00	133.97	478.46	0.00
11.	Posts	9.50	10.00	2.53	26.63	6.97
12.	Information Technology	0.00	0.00	47.30		0.00
13.	Consumer Affairs	0.22	2.93	0.82	372.73	0.00
14.	Food and Public Distribution	4.03	10.00	2.02	50.12	2.01
15.	Environment and Forest	86.17	9.17	85.83	99.61	0.34
16.	Food Processing Industries	7.50	10.00	7.50	100.00	0.00
17.	Health	137.50	10.00	123.21	89.61	14.29
18.	ISM and Homeopathy	10.50	10.00	4.06	38.67	6.44
19.	Family Welfare	415.00	10.00	274.20	66.07	140.80
20.	Heavy Industries	10.00	10.00	4.34	43.40	5.66
21.	Public Enterprises	1.00	10.00	0.08	8.00	0.92
22.	Home Affairs	25.00	11.45	25.00	100.00	0.00
23.	Elementary Education	328.00	7.63	234.58	71.52	93.42
24.	Secondary and Higher Education	199.11	10.25	247.90	124.50	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
25.	Women and Child Development	208.50	10.00	208.50	100.00	0.00
26.	Information and Broadcasting	74.24	18.79	74.43	100.26	0.00
27.	Labour	12.50	10.00	11.49	91.92	1.01
28.	Law and Justice	12.00	10.00	9.87	82.25	2.13
29.	Non-Conventional Energy Sources	46.00	9.82	49.33	107.24	0.00
30.	Power	535.19	20.58	607.56	113.52	0.00
31.	Road Transport and Highways	265.00	4.91	140.56	53.04	124.44
32.	Rural Development	967.00	6.37	949.64	98.20	17.36
33.	Land Resources	95.00	10.00	62.78	66.08	32.22
34.	Drinking Water Supply	225.00	10.00	220.15	97.84	4.85
35.	Shipping	21.00	10.00	16.70	79.52	4.30
36.	Small Scale Industries	28.50	10.00	24.03	84.32	4.47
37.	Social Justice and Empowerment	52.85	4.31	26.57	50.27	26.28
38.	Statistics and PI	4.38	10.58	4.15	94.75	0.23
39.	Textiles	46.20	7.00	45.10	97.62	1.10
40.	Culture	23.00	10.00	23.00	100.00	0.00
41.	Tourism	22.50	10.00	25.76	114.49	0.00
42.	Tribal Affairs	21.20	10.00	55.99	264.10	0.00
43.	Urban Development	77.00	3.64	76.00	98.70	1.00
44.	Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation	62.50	10.00	44.17	70.67	18.33
45.	Water Resources	45.00	10.00	19.00	42.22	26.00
46.	Youth Affairs and Sports	29.51	10.35	23.13	78.38	6.38
47.	Railway Board	0.00	0.00	441.00		0.00
48.	Telecommunications	0.00	0.00	274.69		0.00

Statement-III*The details of Budgetary provisions of each Ministry/Department during 2003-04*

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	Ministries/Departments	Allocation for North East	% of total Allocation	Expenditure	% Expenditure of NE Allocation	Unspent balance
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Agriculture and Cooperation	212.00	10.00	152.06	71.73	59.94
2.	Agricultural Research and Education	77.50	10.00	55.08	71.07	22.42
3.	Animal Husbandry and Dairying	29.00	10.55	29.01	100.03	0.00
4.	Agro and Rural Industries	63.00	10.00	53.73	85.29	9.27
5.	Chemicals and Petro Chemicals	4.70	10.00	4.51	95.96	0.19
6.	Fertilizers	20.00	10.15	20.00	100.00	0.00
7.	Civil Aviation	4.00	10.00	7.79	194.75	0.00
8.	Coal	28.59	19.06	0.00	0.00	28.59
9.	Mines	16.92	8.91	13.11	77.48	3.81
10.	Commerce	77.33	10.31	69.26	89.56	8.07
11.	Industry Policy and Promotion	28.00	11.91	27.99	99.96	0.01
12.	Posts	7.13	9.51	3.91	54.84	3.22
13.	Information Technology	47.00	9.49	47.98	102.09	0.00
14.	Consumer Affairs	0.60	6.20	1.33	221.67	0.00
15.	Food and Public Distribution	4.42	10.52	1.00	22.62	3.42
16.	Environment and Forest	95.00	10.00	92.96	97.85	2.04
17.	Food Processing Industries	6.50	10.00	6.45	99.23	0.05
18.	Health	155.00	10.98	149.94	96.74	5.06
19.	AYUSH	13.50	10.00	13.50	100.00	0.00
20.	Family Welfare	470.00	10.00	210.58	44.80	259.42
21.	Heavy Industries	8.50	10.00	5.84	68.71	2.68
22.	Public Enterprises	1.00	10.00	0.08	8.00	0.92

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
23.	Home Affairs	25.44	10.17	25.44	100.00	0.00
24.	Elementary Education	0.00	0.00	225.43		0.00
25.	Secondary and Higher Education	9.00	0.45	304.95	3388.33	0.00
26.	Women and Child Development	215.00	10.00	142.43	66.25	72.57
27.	Information and Broadcasting	56.91	22.76	36.78	64.63	20.13
28.	Labour	15.00	12.00	14.78	98.53	0.22
29.	Law and Justice	10.50	10.00	8.12	77.33	2.38
30.	Non-Conventional Energy Sources	39.00	10.00	39.00	100.00	0.00
31.	Power	625.70	33.82	617.07	98.62	8.63
32.	Road Transport and Highways	287.00	5.26	373.85	130.26	0.00
33.	Rural Development	1027.01	6.63	1027.00	100.00	0.00
34.	Land Resources	95.00	10.00	64.77	68.18	30.23
35.	Drinking Water Supply	275.00	10.00	277.00	100.73	0.00
36.	Shipping	30.00	14.29	24.14	80.47	5.86
37.	Small Scale Industries	35.00	10.10	30.31	86.60	4.69
38.	Social Justice and Empowerment	57.50	4.60	33.01	57.41	24.49
39.	Statistics and PI	4.50	10.49	2.73	60.67	1.77
40.	Textiles	67.50	10.00	63.82	94.55	3.68
41.	Culture	22.50	9.00	22.50	100.00	0.00
42.	Tourism	32.50	9.29	32.50	100.00	0.00
43.	Tribal Affairs	20.00	10.75	105.05	525.25	0.00
44.	Urban Development	160.00	7.02	92.00	57.50	68.00
45.	Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation	62.50	9.40	62.50	100.00	0.00
46.	Water Resources	49.47	14.13	45.67	92.32	3.80
47.	Youth Affairs and Sports	31.00	10.00	29.31	94.55	1.69
48.	Railway Board	483.03	6.96	571.04	118.22	0.00

Funds under NMITLI Scheme

1563. MOHD. MUKEEM

SHRI MUNAWAR HASSAN.

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state.

(a) whether a number of companies have been given funds under the New Millennium Innovative Technology Leadership Initiative schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the names of the companies;

(c) the current position about recovery of these loans; and

(d) whether there are such cases where the loans have been waived?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL). (a) Yes, Sir. Under the New Millennium Indian Technology Leadership Initiative (NMITLI) Scheme, specific components of a project are assigned to research groups including industry for development. However, the financial support is in the form of grant-in-aid to the institutional partners in public domain and as soft loan to industrial partners.

(b) and (c) The details including the names of the projects, names of the companies, amount of loan released and repayment received have been given in the enclosed statement. Loan repayment installments falling due have been recovered from the companies.

(d) No, Sir. Loan has not been waived off in any case, so far.

Statement

Details of loan released under the NMITLI scheme till March 31, 2005

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No	Project Name	Party Name	Loan released	Details of Loan repayment received
1	2	3	4	5
1.	5 and 25 kw decentralized power packs	Sud-Chemie India Ltd., New Delhi	50.00	6.45
2.	Laten M. Tuberculosis: New Targets. Drug Delivery system, bio-enhancers and therapeutics	Lupin Ltd.	975.00	
3.	Nano-material catalysts and associated process technology for alkylation/acylation reaction, pre-reforming of hydro-carbons and sulphur removal (<50 ppm) from petroleum fuels	Sud-Chemie India Ltd., New Delhi	95.00	26.79

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Development of versatile, portable software for bioinformatics and Biocluster	TCS, Hyderabad (Rs. 780.00 Lakh in Bioinformatic and Rs. 174.00 lakh in Biocluster)	954.00	186.38
		Jalaja Technologis Pvt. Ltd., Bangl're	24.00	
		FTIL, Secund'bad	40.00	
5.	Development of an oral herbal formulation for treatment of Psoriasis: a clinical and scientific challenge	Lupin Ltd., Mumbai	633.99	
6.	Development of novel biotech molecular lysostaphin	Bharat Biotech International Ltd., Hyderabad	560.62	
7.	Microbiological conversion of Erythromycin to clarithromycin and other novel biologically active molecules	Alemibic Ltd., Vadodara	28.50	8.00
8.	Novel molecular diagnostics for eye diseases and low vision enhancement devices	Lensei Optics Pvt. Ltd., Pune	14.75	
9.	Recombinant approach to produce alpha-linolenic acid and docosahexanoic acid (DHA) in sunflower and yeast	Avastha Gengraine Technology Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore	266.00	
10.	A cost effective simple office computer (Sofcomp) platform to replace PC	Encore Software Ltd., Bangalore	320.00	
11.	A PC based high-end 3D visualisation platform for computational biology- "Darshee"	Strand Gennomics Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore	186.40	48.05
12.	Improved annotation of Plasmodium falciparam through combination of machine learning and experimental methods: Annotation and experimental validation of specific pathways	TCS, Hyderabad	97.00	
13.	Development of Novel Fungicides	Rallis Res. Centre, Bangalore	85.00	

1	2	3	4	5
14.	Novel expression system	Biocon, Bangalore	14.10	
		Shantha Biotechniques Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad	19.21	
15.	Development of Globally competitive Triple-Play Broadband Technology	DiviNet Access Technologies Ltd., Pune	323.00	
Total			4685.57	275.68

**Phases of Road Construction
under PMGSY**

1564. SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR DUBEY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that construction of roads for IVth and Vth phase in different parts in the country particularly Jharkhand under the PMGSY have already started.

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the present status of each such road. State-wise

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken towards road construction work;

(d) whether any proposal of Jharkhand or National Rural Roads Development Agency are still pending with the Government; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps already taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) to (c) A statement showing details of roads approved under Phase-IV and Phase-V of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) is enclosed. The Ministry of Rural Development does not maintain road-wise data of the road works approved under the programme. Details of roads being constructed under PMGSY are to be made available by the State Governments on the website www.pmgsonline.nic.in.

(d) No. Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

Details of Phase-IV (2004-05) and Phase-V (2005-06) approved under PMGSY

Sl. No.	State	Phase-IV (2004-05)			Phase-V (2005-06)		
		Value of proposals (Rs. in crore)	No. of road works	Length of road works (In km.)	Value of proposals (Rs. in crore)	No. of road works	Length of road works (In km.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	369.24	607	2638.84			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	106.22	64	340.04			
3.	Assam	244.46	195	750.64	425.59	290	1061.27
4.	Bihar	0	0	0.00			
5.	Chhattisgarh	412.59	359	1872.72	448.62	429	1951.27
6.	Goa	1.08	6	4.32			
7.	Gujarat	49.31	142	289.03			
8.	Haryana	40.22	18	183.03	84.25	26	361.93
9.	Himachal Pradesh	136.11	105	620.21	132.93	105	614.50
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0.00			
11.	Jharkhand	0	0	0.00			
12.	Karnataka	101.17	90	611.96			
13.	Kerala	52.76	96	179.47			
14.	Madhya Pradesh	736.59	743	3508.00	537.96	579	2678.72
15.	Maharashtra	143.16	240	847.81			
16.	Manipur	0	0	0.00			
17.	Meghalaya	0	0	0.00			
18.	Mizoram	92.79	14	294.63			
19.	Nagaland	37.51	9	224.50			
20.	Orissa #	398.72	418	1645.12	530.96	483	1907.65
21.	Punjab	78.87	67	419.47			
22.	Rajasthan ##	302.81	584	2279.56	550.59	484	1773.62
23.	Sikkim	63.10	34	144.49			
24.	Tamil Nadu	117.91	417	825.90			
25.	Tripura	0.00	0	0.00			
26.	Uttar Pradesh*	1007.76	2301	4230.69			
27.	Uttaranchal	0.00	0	0.00			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
28.	West Bengal	311.90	152	975.53			
Grand Total		4804.28	6661	22885.96	2710.90	2396	10348.96

Includes value, number of road works and length of missing links of Phase-I, Phase-II and Left Wing districts in Phase-V.

** Number and length of road works relate to Part-I and Part-II of Phase-V only. Number and length of road works proposed under Part-III of Phase-V are to be intimated by the State Government.

* Includes value, number of road works and length in respect of border areas.

Centres for NIFT

1565. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to set up new centres of National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) in the country specially in Gujarat:

(b) if so, the details thereof, location-wise:

(c) if not, the reasons thereof: and

(d) the details of existing centres of NIFT, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) to (c) A NIFT Center is already functioning in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. At present, attention is being paid for consolidation of existing Centres rather than setting up of new NIFT Centre.

(d) The NIFT has 7 Centres located at:—

- Delhi, NIFT Campus, Hauz Khas, Near Gulmohar Park, New Delhi.
- Gandhinagar, NIFT Campus, GH-O-Road, Behind Info City, Gandhinagar.
- Mumbai, NIFT Campus, Plot No. 15, Sector-4, Kharghar.
- Chennai, NIFT Campus, Old Mahabalipuram Road, Tsaramani, Chennai.
- Hyderabad, NIFT Campus, Opp. Hi Tech City, Cyberabad, Madhapur, Hyderabad.

— Kolkata, NIFT Campus, Plot-3B, Block-L-A, Near 16 No. Water Tank, Sector-III, Salt Lake City, Kolkata.

— Bangalore, NIFT Campus, CA Site No. 21, Sector-1, 27th Main Road, HSR Layout, Bangalore.

Revision of Map

1566. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken steps to upgrade/revise the vulnerability map drawn by the Bureau of Indian Standards in 2000 especially after tsunami that indicated tectonic activity:

(b) if so, the details thereof: and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to deal with the situation in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Seismic Zoning Map of India is covered in IS 1893:2002 "Criteria for Earthquake Resistant Design of Structures—Part 1 General Provision and Buildings—Fifth Revision", and Wind/cyclone hazard map is being revised on the basis of IS 875:1987 "Code of practice for design loads for buildings and structures—Part 3".

published by Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS). Building Materials and Technology Promotion Council (BMTPC) is revising its Vulnerability Atlas of India.

(c) The Government of India under the Ministry of Home Affairs has adopted a holistic multi-disciplinary approach for disaster management which inter-alia includes disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness and responsible measures for dealing with future disasters.

Modernisation of Kolkata Mint

1567. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite incurring expenditure of Rs. 59 crores on modernisation of Government of India Mint, Kolkata, there has not been any improvement in the availability of coins in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to meet coin shortage in the Country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) No. Sir.

(c) Does not arise, as no shortage of coins have been reported.

NTPC

1568. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has taken steps to diversify its activities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the terms and conditions thereof if any along with the programme drawn up by NTPC in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. As per its Corporate Plan (2002-2017) NTPC, in addition to thermal capacity addition, plans to diversify its activities in the following directions:—

Hydro Power

NTPC has decided to set up hydro power projects and construction activities are in full swing at our first hydro project at Koldam in Himachal Pradesh, with 800 MW capacity.

Further, NTPC has signed an Implementation agreement with the Government of Uttaranchal (GoUT) for taking up execution of Loharinag Pala Hydro Electric Project (600 MW) and Tapovan-Vishnugad Hydro Electric Project (520 MW). CEA's Techno Economic Clearance for both projects have been obtained and land acquisition and infrastructure works have been taken up. In addition, NTPC has recently signed the implementation agreement with the GoUT for Rupsiabagar-Khasiyabara (260 MW) Hydro Electric Power Project.

The Corporation has also formed a subsidiary company "NTPC Hydro Ltd." (NHL) for development of small and medium scale hydro power projects, of capacity less than 250 MW. Implementation agreement has been signed by NHL with Govt. of West Bengal for Ramam-III (90 MW) and with Govt. of Uttaranchal for Lata-Tapovan Hydro Electric Power Project (160 MW).

Coal Mining

NTPC has entered into coal mining. NTPC has been allocated Pakri Barwadih coal mining block in North Karanpura, Jharkhand for its development. NTPC has requested the Ministry of Coal for allocation of four coal mining blocks for setting up integrated mining cum power projects in Orissa and Chhattisgarh.

LNG/Gas Value Chain

In order to mitigate long term gas availability and pricing risks, NTPC is exploring possibilities of its presence in LNG/Gas value chain apart from tying up gas supplies based on International Competitive Bidding.

Exploration of Oil and Gas

In its efforts to ensure long term fuel security, NTPC has also forayed in acquiring exploration rights. In the recent New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP)-V bidding, NTPC led consortium has been awarded one block in Arunachal Pradesh.

Distribution

NTPC has set up a wholly owned subsidiary, the NTPC Electric Supply Company Limited (NESCL), for entry into distribution business.

Trading

NTPC has set up a wholly owned subsidiary NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam Ltd. (NVVN) for power trading to leverage the opportunities provided by the Electricity Act 2003.

Thrust for Services Business

NTPC has already made inroads into the business of providing services in the area of Engineering, procurement, construction supervision, O and M etc., through its Consultancy wing.

NTPC-SAIL Power Company Private Ltd. (NSPCL)

NSPCL [NTPC-SAIL Power Company (Private) Limited—50:50 Joint Venture of NTPC and SAIL] is operating and maintaining the Captive Power Plants (CPP-II) of Durgapur and Rourkela Steel Plants (120 MW each).

Bhilai Electric Supply Company Ltd. (BESCL)

BESCL (Bhilai Electricity Supply Company Limited also 50:50 Joint Venture company of NTPC and SAIL) is operating and maintaining the CPP-II (74 MW) of Bhilai Steel Plant. The JV company is also executing Bhilai expansion project of 2x250 MW.

Joint Venture for R and M

NTPC formed a JV Company with ALSTOM Power Generation AG under the name NTPC Alstom Power Services Limited (NASL) for taking up Renovation and Modernization (R and M) assignments of power plants in India and abroad. NTPC holds 50% equity in NASL.

Joint Venture for Construction/Erection

Utility Powertech Limited (UPL) is a 50:50 Joint Venture Company of NTPC and Reliance Energy that

has been taking up assignments of construction, erection and project management in power and other sectors.

Power Prading Corporation of India Ltd. (PTC)

Power Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (PTC) has been formed to trade in electric power in an optimum manner. Shareholding pattern of the company is Powergrid-8% NTPC-8%, PFC-8%, NHPC-8%, Financial Institutions and Public at large-68%.

State Electricity Boards

1569. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the total financial losses incurred by each State Electricity Board particularly Karnataka during the last three years:

(b) the total financial aid provided by the Union Government for strengthening the SEBs during the period, year-wise and State-wise; and

(c) the effective steps proposed to be taken by the Union Government to reduce losses and make State Electricity Boards self-reliant during the next three years?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED):

(a) The details of commercial losses of power utilities in various States are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) The Union Government, in order to help the State Utilities, is providing funds to States under Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) for investment in identified distribution areas for, inter alia, reducing technical losses and improving the quality of supply and also for incentivising, through grants, reduction of cash losses.

Statement-II giving State-wise details of financial assistance provided by Government of India during the last three years under investment component of APDRP programme is enclosed.

Seven States have been provided incentive under APDRP for actual reduction in losses. State-wise details are as under:—

Sl. No.	State	Incentive released (Rs. Crores)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	265.11
2.	Gujarat	236.38
3.	Haryana	105.49
4.	Maharashtra	137.89
5.	Rajasthan	137.71
6.	West Bengal	373.76
7.	Kerala	64.94
Total		1471.36

(c) The Government has launched following major initiatives to make power sector competitive and viable:—

- (i) Tariff determination by independent Regulatory Commissions.
- (ii) Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) for assisting States in investment in distribution network for reducing technical losses and improving the quality of supply and also for incentivising reduction of cash losses through cash grants.
- (iii) Transparent policies regarding subsidies.
- (iv) Stringent legal provisions relating to theft of electricity.
- (v) Emphasis on metering of feeders and supply to consumers for energy accounting and auditing for identifying location of high losses.
- (vi) Accelerated Generation and Supply Programme (AG and SP) to support capacity augmentation through renovation and modernization and new generation schemes.

Statement

State-wise Details of Commercial Profit/Loss of Power Utilities

(Rs. Crore)

Sl. No.	SEBs	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	Loss reduction (-)/increase	
					In 2002-03 from 2001-02	In 2003-04 from 2002-03
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-2948	-1209	-1400	-1739	191
2.	Assam	-696	-776	-655	80	-121
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	-93	-117	-82	24	-35
4.	Bihar	-896	-1095	-980	199	-115
5.	Chhattisgarh	204	792	587	.	.
6.	Delhi	NA	-733	-1774	—	1041

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7.	Goa	-7	130	153	*	*
8.	Gujarat	-3102	-2250	-3020	-852	770
9.	Haryana	-947	-804	-769	-143	-35
10.	Himachal Pradesh	-107	-53	-46	-54	-7
11.	Jharkhand	-255	-397	-522	142	125
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	35	-1242	-1229	1277	-13
13.	Karnataka	-1844	-1567	-1235	-277	-332
14.	Kerala	-1254	-935	-915	-319	-20
15.	Madhya Pradesh	-1347	-822	-1230	-525	408
16.	Maharashtra	-540	-255	-549	-285	294
17.	Manipur	-129	-128	-125	-1	-3
18.	Meghalaya	-38	-19	64	-19	*
19.	Mizoram	-30	-34	-49	4	15
20.	Nagaland	-52	-55	-42	3	-13
21.	Orissa	-252	-928	215	676	*
22.	Punjab	-1868	-1386	-663	482	-723
23.	Pondicherry	-44	34	38	*	*
24.	Rajasthan	-1324	-1738	-1777	414	39
25.	Sikkim	-10	-30	-15	20	-15
26.	Tamil Nadu	-5175	-2100	-1416	-3075	-684
27.	Tripura	-100	-94	-5	-6	-89
28.	Uttar Pradesh	-2518	-2374	-2848	-144	474
29.	Uttaranchal	-27	32	-35	*	67
30.	West Bengal	-1705	-914	-296	-791	-618
Total		-27068	-21064	-20623		

*Earned Profits

Source: "Report on the Performance of the State Power Utilities for the Years 2001-02 to 2003-04" by Power Finance Corporation.

Statement-II**Funds Released under APDRP**

(Rs. Crore)

Sl. No.	SEBs	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05*
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	163.82	402.94	
2.	Assam	96.97		61.88
3.	Arunachal Pradesh		36.68	
4.	Bihar	66.11	20.88	226.19
5.	Chhattisgarh	10.00	43.07	106.14
6.	Delhi #	105.51		
7.	Goa	22.04	8.54	82.82
8.	Gujarat	105.41	183.45	111.40
9.	Haryana	56.33	112.66	
10.	Himachal Pradesh	43.05	120.87	
11.	Jharkhand	12.00	43.60	98.27
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	20.00	180.50	114.47
13.	Karnataka	145.15	290.30	
14.	Kerala	30.43	74.23	125.89
15.	Madhya Pradesh	74.87	10.00	45.00
16.	Maharashtra	138.48	107.98	21.77
17.	Manipur	2.67		
18.	Meghalaya	6.57	14.56	37.25
19.	Mizoram	3.78	25.18	
20.	Nagaland	13.14	10.47	19.22
21.	Orissa	54.35		19.67
22.	Punjab	53.98	124.76	

1	2	3	4	5
23.	Rajasthan	125.64	219.70	40.49
24.	Sikkim	17.21	60.17	77.35
25.	Tamil Nadu	111.57	232.59	97.66
26.	Tripura	2.67	6.10	28.87
27.	Uttar Pradesh	80.12		54.40
28.	Uttaranchal	174.63	6.13	60.00
29.	West Bengal	19.02	21.15	
Total		1755.52	2356.51	1428.73

[Translation]

Ban on Poppy Contract

1570. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the revenue earned by the States from contract for poppy. State-wise;

(b) the number of cases registered under the violation of opium contracts in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan during each of the last three years:

(c) whether the Government proposes a complete ban on the sale of poppy as well as consumption of poppy;

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be banned; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Welfare Schemes for Mine Workers

1571. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has considered any proposal/scheme for welfare of mine workers in the country, especially in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which this proposal/scheme is likely to be implemented; and

(d) the details of assistance being provided for the welfare of the mine workers in the country, State-wise, especially to Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): On the basis of information received from the Ministry of Labour and Employment, the part-wise reply is as under:—

(a) to (c) For the welfare of workers engaged in iron ore, manganese ore, chrome ore, limestone, dolomite and mica mines, Government have enacted three Welfare Fund Acts namely, Iron Ore Mines, Manganese Ore Mines and Chrome Ore Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1976; Limestone and Dolomite Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1972; and Mica Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1946.

Several Schemes have been formulated under those funds to provide welfare in the sphere of health, education, housing, recreation and water supply. In the health sphere, seven hospitals and 62 static/static-cum mobile

dispensaries are functioning to look after the medical care of the mine workers and their families, out of which four dispensaries are functioning in the State of Gujarat under the Limestone and Dolomite Mines Labour Welfare Fund. The hospitals cater to the general health care of the mine workers. For major diseases like Heart, Kidney and Cancer, cost of treatment taken in recognised hospitals are reimbursed to extent of Rs. 1.30 lakh for heart ailment, Rs. 2.00 lakh for kidney ailment and without any limit for cancer ailment. For minor illness like Hernia, Appendectomy, Prostate, Ulcer, Gynaecological disease etc. a maximum of Rs. 30,000 in each case is reimbursed. For treatment of TB there exists scheme for reservation of beds in TB hospitals/Sanatoriums apart from reimbursement of cost of domiciliary treatment of TB. Maternity benefit amounting to Rs. 1000/- is given to female worker for first two deliveries. Hospital/dispensaries for the workers run by mines managements are given grant in aid for running/maintenance of such hospital/dispensaries and purchase of equipment and Ambulance Vans.

In the sphere of education, scholarships ranging from Rs. 500/- for students studying in class V to Rs. 8000/- for professional courses, per annum is paid to the children of mine workers. For purchase of uniforms, books etc. stipend of Rs. 250/- per annum is given to the children of mine workers studying in classes I to IV. Under Revised Integrated Housing Schemes, subsidy of Rs. 40,000/- per tenement is granted for construction of a house by the mine worker. Grants are given to the mines management for organizing sports, games, social and cultural events in the mining colonies.

(d) The data regarding assistance provided for welfare of the mine workers in the country is not maintained State-wise.

District Administration of Devangere

1572. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have sanctioned and released an amount of Rs. 113 lakhs relating to Upgradation of District Administration for Devangere District of Karnataka;

(b) if so, whether the State Government have utilised the full amount;

(c) whether the State Government have also sent Utilisation Certificate in this regard;

(d) if so, whether the Union Government have received any request for releasing of further grants for this sector.

(e) if so, whether the Union Government have considered the request of Karnataka Government; and

(f) if so, the time by which further grants is likely to be released by the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) The Government of India, on the recommendations of the Eleventh Finance Commission (EFC), released grants amounting to Rs. 55.00 crore upto march 31, 2005 for upgradation of District Administration for providing infrastructure in 7 newly created districts including Devangere. Inclusive of equal contribution by the State, Government of Karnataka submitted utilization certificate for Rs. 105.6 crore within the prescribed period.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Claims received within the prescribed period have been considered and grant released.

(f) No further grant can be released for the purpose as EFC award period is over on 31-3-2005.

Existing Institutions of Science and Technology

1573. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Science and Technology institutions presently functioning in the country, State-wise;

(b) the main functions of such institutions;

(c) whether the Government proposes to grant more autonomy to S and T institutions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) There are about 2981 S and T institutions in the country. This includes Central, State Government's S and T institutions, universities, deemed universities, institutes of national importance, public sector industries, in-house R and D units of industries and Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (SIRO) recognised by Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR) A statement covering State-wise S and T institutions is enclosed.

(b) The main functions of S and T institutions are to carry out scientific research in the areas of chemical sciences, earth and atmospheric sciences, engineering and technology mathematical sciences, biological sciences, agricultural sciences, medical sciences and physical sciences.

(c) and (d) The need to grant more autonomy to scientific institutions has been discussed at various fora and it has been felt that scientific institutions require more autonomy in the country for providing better opportunities to the scientific community to pursue their R and D.

Statement

State-wise Distribution of S and T Institutions

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	Number of S and T Institutions
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2
2.	Andhra Pradesh	243
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	3
4.	Assam	44
5.	Bihar	37
6.	Chandigarh	19

1	2	3
7.	Chhattisgarh	5
8.	Delhi	156
9.	Goa	8
10.	Gujarat	226
11.	Haryana	91
12.	Himachal Pradesh	46
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	26
14.	Jharkhand	33
15.	Karnataka	246
16.	Kerala	121
17.	Madhya Pradesh	100
18.	Maharashtra	633
19.	Manipur	3
20.	Meghalaya	8
21.	Mizoram	1
22.	Nagaland	2
23.	Orissa	65
24.	Pondicherry	9
25.	Punjab	53
26.	Rajasthan	75
27.	Sikkim	2
28.	Tamil Nadu	307
29.	Tripura	6
30.	Uttar Pradesh	201
31.	Uttaranchal	32
32.	West Bengal	178
Total		2981

Indian Electricity Grid Code

1574. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) has released the draft Indian Electricity Grid Code;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the main reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The first Indian Electricity Grid Code (IEGC) published in January, 2000 and subsequently reviewed in March, 2002, brings together a single set of rules and procedures covering all utilities connected to or using inter-State transmission system. The Grid Code specified the roles, responsibility and duties of various entities connected to the inter-State Grid.

In line with the requirement of the Electricity Act, 2003 the revised draft IEGC has been prepared by the CERC to align it with the various provisions of the Act and the Open Access Regulations of Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC). Certain changes have been proposed based on the operation experience of grid management since March, 2002, particularly, after the implementation of Availability Based Tariff (ABT) in various regions of the country. In the revised draft, a new chapter on inter-regional exchanges of energy has been added and regulatory requirements of special energy meters have been specified. No conceptual or

basic changes have been proposed with respect to the Grid Code already in force.

Hydro Power Projects

1575. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Ltd. (NHPC) has prepared its investment plan till 2012;

(b) if so, the target set for Hydro power generation at the end of 2012;

(c) the details of Hydro power projects proposed to be started and the existing projects proposed to be expanded till the end of that year; and

(d) the total amount of investment envisaged in those projects?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the capacity addition programme of National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Limited (NHPC), a capacity of 2280 MW is proposed to be added during the 10th Plan (2002-07) and a capacity of 7707 MW is proposed to be added during 11th Plan (2007-2012).

(c) and (d) Details of the power projects commissioned/taken up/proposed to be taken up by NHPC during the 10th and 11th Plans are given in the enclosed statement. An investment of about Rs. 60,000 crores is envisaged for these projects.

Statement*Tenth Plan Projects (2002-2007)*

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Installed capacity (MW)	State	Date of Govt. Sanction	Anticipated date of Commissioning	Status
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Chamera-II	300	Himachal Pradesh	1-6-99	Commissioned in 2004	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2.	Dhauliganga-I	280	Uttaranchal	8-4-91	Commissioned in 2005	
3.	Dulhasti	390	Jammu and Kashmir	12-7-89	Expected to be commissioned by mid 2006	Under construction
4.	Teesta-V	510	Sikkim	11-2-00	Expected to be commissioned by March 2007	Under construction
5.	Indira Sagar (Joint Venture with Govt. of M.P.)	1000	Madhya Pradesh	28-3-02	Commissioned in 2004-05	
Total of Tenth Plan		2480				

Eleventh Plan Capacity Addition

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Installed capacity (MW)	State	Date of Govt. Sanction	Anticipated/ scheduled date of commissioning	Status
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Ongoing Projects						
1.	Parbati-II	800	Himachal Pradesh	11-9-02	Sept. 09	Under Construction
2.	Sewa-II	120	Jammu and Kashmir	9-9-03	Sept. 07	
3.	Teesta Low Dam-III	132	West Bengal	30-10-03	March 08	
4.	Subansiri Lower	3000	Arunachal Pradesh	9-9-03	Sept. 10	
5.	Uri-II	240	Jammu and Kashmir	1-9-05	Nov. 09	
6.	Chamera-III	231	Himachal Pradesh	1-9-05	Aug. 10	
7.	Teesta Low Dam-IV	160	West Bengal	30-9-05	Sept. 09	
8.	Parbati-III	520	Himachal Pradesh	9-11-05	Nov. 10	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9.	Omkareshwar (Joint Venture project with Govt. of M.P.)	520	Madhya Pradesh	Ongoing project.	Feb. 08	Under construction.
Other Projects in the Pipeline						
1.	Nimoo Bazgo	45	Jammu and Kashmir	2005-06	2009-10	Awaiting investment approval
2.	Chutak	44	Jammu and Kashmir	2005-06	2010-11	
3.	Siyom*	1000	Arunachal Pradesh	2006-07	2011-02	Detailed Project Report (DPR) under examination in Central Electricity Authority
4.	Lakhwar Vyasi*	420	Uttaranchal	2006-07	2010-11	DPR under preparation.
5.	Teesta-IV	495	Sikkim	2007-08	2011-12	
6.	Kotli Bhel-IA	240	Uttaranchal	2007-08		
7.	Kotli Bhel-IB	280	Uttaranchal			
8.	Kotli Bhel-II	440	Uttaranchal			
9.	Bav-II	20	Maharashtra	2006-07	2010-11	
Total of Eleventh Plan 7707						

* Siyom HEP (1000 MW) and Lakhwar Vyasi HEP (420 MW) are likely to slip from 11th Plan due to problems in clearances.

In addition to the above, the following projects of NHPC are expected to receive investment approval of the Government of India with likely commissioning in the 12th Plan:—

- (i) Pakal Dul (1000 MW), Jammu and Kashmir
- (ii) Bursar (1020 MW), Jammu and Kashmir
- (iii) Kishanganga (330 MW), Jammu and Kashmir
- (iv) Dibang (3000 MW), Arunachal Pradesh
- (v) Siang lower (1600 MW), Arunachal Pradesh

Joint Venture with Tata by SBI

1576. SHRI K.C. PALANISAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Bank of India has formed a joint venture with Tata Consultancy Services Ltd. to sell technology to banks and financial services firms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of SBI branches in various districts of Tamil Nadu and whether all these SBI branches has been computerized by them; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. State Bank of India has formed an Information Technology Joint Venture (JV) with Tata Consultancy Services Ltd. (TCS) with 51% equity share from TCS and 49% from SBI. Two representatives each from both the companies will constitute the Board of the JV. The JV will leverage the technological powers of TCS and banking domain competencies of State Bank Group to provide consultancy, transaction processing, software solution based commercial services to banks and other constituents of financial services industry in India and abroad. The JV will also focus on providing technology transformation capabilities to small, regional and cooperative banks in the country.

(c) and (d) All the 592 branches of SBI in Tamil Nadu are fully computerized.

Employment to Adults under NREGS

1577. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that a number of Unions have sought for a central legislation for protecting the interests of adults and providing them employment under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Schemes for 150 days as reported in the Hindu dated October 13, 2005.

(b) if so, the details thereof along with other issues raised by them, if any; and

(c) the response of the Government on all the issues raised by them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir. An article titled 'Many of the 450 million agricultural workers live in dire conditions' was published in "The Hindu" on 13th October, 2005.

(b) and (c) The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 provides for at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. The Indira Aawas Yojana (IAY) was introduced during the year 1985-86 to provide assistance for construction/upgradation of dwelling units to the below poverty line rural households belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and freed bonded labourers categories. From the year 1993-1994, the scope of the Scheme was extended to cover non-SC and ST rural BPL poor subject the condition that the benefit to non-SC/ST would not be more than 40% of the total IAY allocation. The benefits of this Scheme have also been extended to the families of ex-service men of armed and para-military forces killed in action. 3% of the houses are reserved for the rural BPL physically and mentally challenged persons. During the year, 2004-2005, a total of 151622 houses were constructed under this Scheme.

Under the National Old Age Pension Scheme, additional Central assistance is provided to the States/UTs by the Central Government. Under this Scheme, the amount of Old Age Pension for the purposes of claiming additional Central assistance is Rs. 75/- per month, per person for old age destitute person of the age of 65 years or higher.

[*Translation*]

Water Testing Labs

1578. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for establishing water testing laboratory in each district of the country is under consideration of the Union Government;

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

(c) whether the Union Government has received similar proposals from certain State Governments during the last three years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) and (b) Drinking Water Supply is a State Subject. The Government of India renders financial and technical assistance to the States in this endeavor through a centrally sponsored programme, namely, Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). Under the programme, the Union Government has been assisting the State Governments in developing an integrated system of drinking water quality monitoring by setting up of district level laboratories for water quality testing.

reporting and generating awareness among rural masses about the importance of water quality and its relation to health. Details of district water quality testing laboratories sanctioned by the Government of India, as well as those established by the State Governments with State resources, are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) During the last three years, proposals from Uttaranchal, Meghalaya, Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir were received for sanction of district water quality testing laboratories. These State Governments have been requested to furnish the required documents to enable further processing.

Statement

Setting up of District Level Water Quality Laboratory (As on Nov. 2005)

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	Govt Funds		Established by State Govts. from their own resources
		Sanctioned	Established in States	
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	14	14	37
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	13	1	0
3.	Assam	21	21	2
4.	Bihar	35	2	2
5.	Chandigarh (UT)	0		0
6.	Chhattisgarh	16	6	2
7.	Goa	1	1	1
8.	Gujarat	13	5	4
9.	Haryana	18	18	1
10.	Himachal Pradesh	10	10	5
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	9	6	2
12.	Jharkhand	16	6	0
13.	Karnataka	21	9	0

1	2	3	4	5
14	Kerala	4	4	10
15	Madhya Pradesh	48	48	14
16	Maharashtra	3	3	27
17	Manipur	8	3	0
18	Meghalaya	7	7	0
19	Mizoram	4	4	0
20	Nagaland	6	2	0
21	Orissa	30	29	0
22	Punjab	12	3	0
23	Rajasthan	23	23	10
24	Sikkim	3	2	0
25	Tamil Nadu	24	24	6
26	Tripura	3	3	3
27	Uttar Pradesh	67	8	1
28	Uttaranchal		3	0
29	West Bengal	17	13	6
30	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1	1	0
31	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	1	0
32	Daman and Diu	2	2	0
33	Delhi	0	0	6
34	Lakshadweep	7	2	7
35	Pondicherry	2	2	2
Total		459	286	148

Note: * 67 district water quality testing laboratories approved for erstwhile Uttar Pradesh, which included Uttaranchal also.

[English]

Genetically Engineered Foods

1579. SHRI SWADESH CHAKRABORTTY: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether genetically engineered (GE) foods help to feed the hungry in the world. Third world in particular;

(b) whether the biotech industry is losing the struggle for global acceptance of GM products; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Yes, Sir. Genetically engineered foods do have the potential to feed the hungry particularly in the third world, because of their enhanced production, improved nutrition and value addition in various other ways.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. Worldwide, the acceptance of genetically modified (GM) products has in fact, increased. The cultivation of GM crops has risen globally from 67.7 million hectares in 2003 to 81 million hectares in 2004. In the pharmaceutical sector, many drugs and vaccines are being used for life saving purposes. There are also a number of industrially useful GM products that have reached the market.

Production of Silk

1580. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sericulture, a traditional industry of Jammu and Kashmir has seen a steady decline since last several years;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to promote production and export of silk from Jammu and Kashmir?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Details of production of cocoon and raw silk for the last three years in the State of Jammu and Kashmir are given below:—

Year	Cocoon (MT)	Raw Silk (MT)
2002-03	848	100
2003-04	681	85
2004-05	716	90 (Provisional)

(Source: CSB and State Govt. of Jammu and Kashmir)

It will be noted that there is an increase in both figures in 2004-05 over 2003-04.

(c) Apart from other programmes and schemes to increase the production and to improve the productivity of silk in the silk producing states including Jammu and Kashmir, Govt. of India, Ministry of Textiles is also implementing a special package of assistance announced by the Prime Minister in May, 2002 for the development of infrastructure, silk and wool etc. in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. So far as sericulture is concerned, the details of amount released under this package during the last three years as the 90% share of the Central Government are given below:—

Year	Amount Released (Rs. in Lakhs)
2002-03	226.25
2003-04	178.49
2004-05	169.20

Major steps taken to promote exports form the country including the State of Jammu and Kashmir are given below:—

(i) Import of raw silk has been liberalized by being brought under OGL, which has increased

availability of good quality silk enabling the manufacturers to produce export quality goods.

- (ii) A number of schemes like Duty Entitlement Pass Book (DEPB), Duty Drawback, Duty Free Replenishment Certificate (DFRC) have been made available to exporters whereby the element of tax on the exported item is reimbursed to them.
- (iii) Government has rationalized value addition/ Input-output norms specified under the EXIM Policy extended to exporters.
- (iv) The Government is providing assistance to the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council, Mumbai for undertaking various export promotion activities such as participation in international fairs, organizing generic promotion stalls in domestic fairs like Tex Styles India, publicity in foreign trade magazines, publication of magazine "Silk India" and colour forecast card for domestic silk manufacturers, dissemination of overseas trade information among exporters, etc.
- (v) For Technological up-gradation of the industry, loan at 5% point less than the applicable rate, under the Technological Up-gradation Fund Scheme for the Textiles sector is available inter alia to the silk sector.
- (vi) In the budget 2004-05, customs duty on import of silk processing machinery has been reduced by 5%, thus facilitating availability of machinery at lower prices.
- (vii) Central Silk Board provides subsidy to beneficiaries through State Governments under plan schemes. It also provides technology support and training to them for their skill upgradation. During the X plan period enhanced plan provision over the IX plan period, has been made i.e. Rs. 450/- crores for development of Research and Technology and implementation of Central and Centrally Sponsored programmes.

[*Translation*]

Corruption in Banks

1581. SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:
 SHRI TUFANI SAROJ:
 SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:
 MOHD. SHAHID:
 SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:
 PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:
 SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA:
 SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:
 SHRI MUNSHI RAM:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether banks have been placed at the top position at present in the matter of corruption as reported in *Rashtriya Sahara* dated November 7, 2005;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether some cases of corruption have been detected by the Central Vigilance Commission in the functioning of banking system during the last three years and till date;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Union Government has investigated the matter;

(f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(g) the number of fraud cases took place/detected bank-wise, State-wise; and

(h) the details of guidelines issued in this regard by RBI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) has reported that it has not made any categorization of corruption in various organizations. The report of *Rashtriya Sahara* is based on the annual report 2004 of the CVC wherein it is mentioned that major penalty has been imposed on 2510 employees (all categories) of banks during 2004.

(c) to (f) Number of employees of banks under CVC's jurisdiction, on which punishment has been imposed after detailed investigation and following prescribed procedure, during last three years, is as follows:—

2002	—	1404
2003	—	2617
2004	—	2358

(g) The bank-wise details of frauds and amounts involved therein as reported by Public Sector Banks to RBI, during the years 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005 (upto June) are given in the enclosed statement. RBI has reported that their Fraud Monitoring Cell compiles bank-wise information.

(h) Reserve Bank of India as a part of its supervisory responsibility has been advising banks from time to time about the common fraud prone areas and the measures to be taken by them to prevent/reduce the incidence of frauds/corruption in banks. To strengthen machinery in banks to prevent/reduce the incidence of frauds, RBI has, inter-alia, advised the banks to:—

- introduce a system of concurrent audit covering branches accounting for 50 per cent of business (deposits plus advances).
- constitute Audit Committee of the Board of Directors, with a view to ensuring that the working of internal inspection and audit

machinery is monitored at the top most level in banks.

- in order to give a focused attention by the Board on fraud prevention, to constitute a Special Committee of the Board for exclusive monitoring of large value frauds of Rs. 1 crore and above.
- review and refine the systems and procedures with regard to balancing of books, reconciliation of inter-branch accounts, review of the adequacy of the internal inspection/audit machinery and control returns, visit to branches by officials of the controlling offices and to ensure that the warning signals do not go unnoticed.
- ensure more intensive screening of candidates at the time of recruitment.
- ensure clear demarcation of duties and responsibilities of employees and periodical rotation of staff within the branch and from one branch to another.
- initiate disciplinary action promptly and award exemplary and deterrent punishment to the delinquent employees.
- strictly comply with the recommendations of Mitra Committee on legal aspects of bank frauds.

Statement

The details of fraud cases reported by banks

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Public Sector Banks	2002		2003		2004		2005 (Upto June)	
		No. of frauds	Amount involved	No. of frauds	Amount involved	No. of frauds	Amount involved	No. of frauds	Amount involved
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	State Bank of India	416	25.49	477	115.37	350	32.64	209	92.49
	Overseas Branches	4	0.07	10	0.05	1	0.03	2	0.21

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2. SBBJ		20	1.56	19	4.27	27	2.45	14	1.36
3. State Bank of Hyderabad		39	5.04	48	21.16	66	13.32	29	1.40
4. State Bank of Indore		18	4.38	18	1.08	25	2.91	24	29.66
5. State Bank of Mysore		9	0.22	15	2.66	7	1.37	13	3.59
6. State Bank of Patiala		11	0.59	8	1.88	49	9.59	30	9.53
7. State Bank of Saurashtra		9	0.70	8	17.59	16	2.90	7	33.47
8. State Bank of Travancore		8	0.09	15	2.21	19	6.07	11	2.79
9. Allahabad Bank		49	3.73	36	3.96	30	2.40	27	16.83
10. Andhra Bank		49	13.09	52	13.27	65	12.26	20	3.44
11. Bank of Baroda		85	10.66	146	43.46	232	40.07	121	14.80
Overseas Branches		1	0.11	9	0.75	8	0.31	2	0.26
12. Bank of India		77	9.55	97	19.56	130	17.31	71	14.85
Overseas Branches		2	0.01	2	0.01	1	0.05	1	2.21
13. Bank of Maharashtra		6	6.68	10	8.85	9	0.87	6	0.22
14. Canara Bank		192	56.54	164	38.85	184	11.87	94	10.32
Overseas Branches		0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
15. Central Bank of India		45	7.61	108	22.27	140	52.88	70	20.67
16. Corporation Bank		44	11.23	101	6.65	252	13.97	57	25.43
17. Dena Bank		26	5.58	46	36.12	38	4.30	13	1.22
18. Indian Bank		75	16.10	75	44.16	134	23.91	52	35.32
Overseas Branches		0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	1.06
19. Indian Overseas Bank		48	11.90	54	6.42	85	10.51	39	5.63
Overseas Branches		0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	0.00
20. Oriental Bank of Commerce		28	46.65	24	5.79	40	17.98	45	114.16
21. Punjab National Bank		65	31.30	267	133.64	222	41.98	103	19.69
22. Punjab and Sind Bank		22	59.21	30	18.89	24	3.87	26	4.53

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
23.	Syndicate Bank	118	8.22	103	7.55	148	3.07	61	15.43
	Overseas Branches	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	0.43	0	0.00
24.	Union Bank of India	64	45.80	59	11.47	71	34.43	36	6.69
25.	United Bank of India	45	0.41	42	1.42	23	28.16	10	6.33
26.	UCO Bank	42	11.63	91	20.43	72	12.50	60	7.51
27.	Vijaya Bank	26	0.82	59	13.82	51	6.43	53	27.46
Total		164.3	394.97	2198	623.61	2520	421.04	1308	528.63

[English]

Implementation of Major Programmes

1582. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to set up a mechanism which would be put in place to measure the development outcomes of all major programmes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which these proposals will be helpful in improving the implementation of the major programmes that have been undertaken by the Government in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms have been created at various levels at Centre and State as part of the programme guidelines. Programme Evaluation Organisation of Planning Commission carries out evaluation of selected programmes under Implementation to assess their impact; the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation also monitors large central projects. A Programme Outcome and Response Monitoring Division has been set up in Planning Commission to measure physical outcomes of major programmes/schemes.

(c) These proposals will help in monitoring and assessing the implementation and impact of the major programmes/schemes.

Nanotechnology

1583. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether alongwith Information Technology and Biotechnology, Nanotechnology is the technology of the future;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government for encouraging research in Nanotechnology; and

(c) the funds allocated to various research institutes in the country for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Government has launched a "Nanoscience and Technology Initiative (NSTI)" programme in October 2001 for encouraging research in Nanotechnology. Close to 100 R and D projects have been supported to individual scientists in the areas of nanofabrication, nanolithography, DNA chips, nanocomposites, molecular electronics, nanosensors, drug delivery, carbon nanotubes and wires

etc. Ten Centres of Excellence/Core Groups in Nano Science have been established in leading institutes/Universities. Six Centres for Nano Technology in specific areas, like nanoelectronics, NEMS/MEMS, sensors, tissue engineering etc., important to our country and one Centre for Computational Materials Science have also been approved recently. Some of the selected and leading institutions participating in these programmes are Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research, Bangalore, Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, S.N. Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences, Kolkata, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy and New Materials (ARCI), Hyderabad etc. On the manpower development front, Advanced Schools, Postdoctoral Fellowships, National Conferences etc. have been held. An International Conference on Nano Science and Technology (ICONSAT-2003) was held at Kolkata and another, ICONSAT-2006 is scheduled to be organized at Delhi during March 2006. International S and T collaborative programmes with US, Canada etc. have been planned. Based on the experience gained so far, a major Nanoscience and Technology Mission has been launched during the current financial year.

(c) A sum of approximately Rs. 100 Crores has been allocated to various research institutes in the country so far.

Amount Lying in Suspended Account in RBI

1584. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:

SHRI M.K. SUBBA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether crores of rupees earned as interest is lying unclaimed by Muslim depositors in the country as reported in the *Indian Express* dated October 2, 2005;

(b) if so, the total amount kept in suspense account, State-wise and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government would consider making use of this amount; and

(d) if so, the details of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India does not hold any Islamic deposits in the current accounts maintained with it and no amount is lying in Suspense account with RBI as interest on instruments of Islamic Banking. RBI does not maintain any "Suspense Account".

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Computerization in District Courts

1585. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the proposal for computerization of all district courts in the country;

(b) whether Kerala has been given funds for the computerization of lower courts;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether courts in Kerala have been given central assistance for development of infrastructure; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) The Government has accorded its approval for the Computerization of District and Subordinate Courts in the States and Union Territories at a cost of Rs. 384.53 crores. National Informatics Centre (NIC) is the implementing agency for the project. Necessary funds are being released to NIC in each financial year. An amount of Rs. 103.05 crores pertaining to the year 2004-2005 has already been released to NIC. An amount of Rs. 214 crore has been provided for this project during the current fiscal year (2005-2006).

(b) and (c) An amount of Rs. 46.00 lakhs was released to the Government of Kerala for information technology in courts under centrally sponsored scheme for development of infrastructural facilities for the judiciary from the year 2000-2001 to 2003-2004. Also, during the

year 2003-04, under the scheme of computerization of city courts in State Capitals, implemented by the National Informatics Centre, an amount of Rs. 80.51 lakh was earmarked for the computerization of city courts in Ernakulam. Further, under the Capital City Courts computerization project, the District and Subordinate Courts of Thiruvananthapuram have been provided with necessary computer Hardware, Software and established Local Area Network.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) From 1993-94 upto 2003-2004, an amount of Rs. 20.95 crore was released to Kerala for development of infrastructural facilities for the Judiciary under the centrally sponsored scheme.

Women Reservation Bill

1586. MS. INGRID MCLEOD:

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI:

SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to make special efforts to push through Women's Reservation Bill without further delay; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) The Government proposes to bring in a Women's Reservation Bill on the basis of agreed provisions. With the objective of evolving a consensus on Women's Reservation Bill, the Chairperson of the United Progressive Alliance convened a meeting on 22nd August, 2005 in which the constituents of the United Progressive Alliance and Left Parties participated. Subsequently, the Prime Minister held a meeting with the leaders of the National Democratic Alliance and other leaders on 24th August, 2005. Three proposals relating to Women Reservation Bill were considered. One was to reintroduce the lapsed Bill providing one-third reservation of seats for women. The second was to increase the

strength of the Legislatures and provide one-third of the original number of seats to women. The third was to implement the proposal of the Election Commission of India which is commonly known as the Gill formula to make it mandatory for the recognized political parties to ensure putting of minimum agreed percentage for women in State Assembly and Parliamentary elections so as to allow them to retain the recognition with the Election Commission as political parties. As no consensus could be arrived at, it was not-possible for the Government to introduce a fresh Bill in Parliament. The Government is making all out efforts to seek a consensus on the provisions so that a Bill could be brought before Parliament at the earliest.

Non-Banking Financial Institutions

1587. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to modify regulations for the non-banking financial institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the various irregularities have been increasing in the non-banking financial institutions and RBI guidelines/instructions are grossly violated by them; and

(d) if so, the extent to which the modifications by Government in regulations of non-banking financial institutions are going to check such irregularities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that at present there is no such proposal to modify the regulations for Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs).

(c) RBI have not come across any irregularities/violations of their guidelines/instructions by Non-Banking Financial Institutions.

(d) As stated in reply to parts (a) and (b) above, there is no such proposal under consideration of RBI at present.

*[Translation]***Power Finance Corporation**

1588. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Power Finance Corporation has signed any agreement on the constitution of a group of Financial Institutions to provide funds to the Power Projects; and

(b) if so, the name and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

Power Finance Corporation, Life Insurance Company and 10 Banks including Bank of Baroda, Central Bank of India, Oriental Bank of Commerce, Punjab National Bank, Union Bank of India, Syndicate Bank and Canara Bank have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for consortium lending of power projects to provide a single window to borrower.

*[English]***Export of Sarees and Carpets**

1589. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the world famous Banarsi Sarees are woven by the weavers of Mubarakpur and world famous carpets woven by the weavers of Bhadohi in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether to encourage weavers of these

areas Government propose to export the Sarees and Carpets woven by these weavers;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In order to give impetus to the export of handloom products, including Banarsi Sarees, from all over the country, including Mubarakpur, a Scheme under the name of Handloom Export Scheme has been in operation since 2002-03. The Scheme envisages provision of financial assistance to the eligible handloom agencies for development of exportable range of handloom products by engaging professional designers and international marketing thereof by way of participation in international fairs and exhibitions. Further, assistance under the Scheme is also provided to organisations like Association of Corporations and Apex Societies of Handlooms (ACASH), Handloom Export Promotion Council (HEPC), Handicrafts and Handlooms Export Corporation of India Ltd., (HHEC) etc. for organising participation of their members in international fairs/exhibitions/Buyer-Seller Meets etc. However, export of Banarsi Sarees is mainly done by private exporters. The Government do not export Banarsi Sarees directly.

Details of funds provided under the Handloom Export Scheme in general, and to Uttar Pradesh, in particular, during the last two years are as under:—

(Rupees in lakh)

Year	Uttar Pradesh	Other States	For participation in international trade events	Total
2003-04	Rs. 76.72	Rs. 129.64	Rs. 235.32	Rs. 441.68
2004-05	Rs. 34.18	Rs. 88.88	Rs. 291.94	Rs. 415.00

The Exporters of silk textiles, including fabrics for furnishings, sarees and other finished made-up items such as curtains, cushions etc. are encouraged to

participate in International fairs as well as in Tex-Styles India Fair in New Delhi. Although the scope of export of sarees as such to USA or EU is very limited, the exporters

from Varanasi are participating in different international trade events to sell those items as fabrics for different end uses. During the last two years, participants from Varanasi had participated in the following international fairs and exhibitions under the banner of Handloom Export Promotion Council:—

1. 14th India Home Furnishing Fair, Tokyo, Japan-May 2003
2. 14th India Home Furnishing Fair, Osaka, Japan-May 2003
3. Heimtextil Fair, Frankfurt, Germany-January 2004
4. TIP 2004 Fair, Brussels, Belgium-September 2004
5. Heimtextil Fair, Frankfurt, Germany-January 2005
6. TIP 2005 Fair, Brussels, Belgium-September 2005
7. Tex-Styles 2004, New Delhi-February 2004
8. Indian Handicrafts and Gifts Fair, New Delhi-October 2005

The Indian Silk Export Promotion Council keeps the exporters/weavers informed about the latest fashion/colour trends through SILKNET and other publications and conducts seminars to inform latest export trends. Market Development Assistance (MDA) facilities, Export Credit Guarantee Corporation (ECGC) formalities etc.

The world famous carpets are woven by the weavers of the Bhadohi in Uttar Pradesh. However, the export of carpet woven by the weavers is mainly done by private exporters. There is no proposal before the Government to export the carpet woven by the weavers as the Government do not carry out commercial activity directly.

(d) Does not arise.

Wind and Solar Energy

1590. SHRI SURENDRA PRAKASH GOYAL:

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:

SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR:

SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:

SHRI AJAY MAKEN:

SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPIPARAI:

SHRI M. APPADURAI:

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Institutions/NGOs which were provided funds as grants by the Union Government for the generation of solar and wind energy in the country during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the total grants provided to each of them during the above period;

(c) whether the Government are aware that grants provided have not been utilized fully by them during the period, causing short fall in solar and wind energy generation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government against such institution/NGOs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) and (b) The Government does not provide any subsidy for setting up of commercial Wind Farm Projects. The programmes on Solar Energy and Small Wind and Hybrid Systems are implemented mainly by State Nodal Agencies. State-wise details of Central Financial Assistance provided under Solar Energy Programme to various institutions/NGOs during the last three years i.e. 2002-03 to 2004-05 are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) No, Sir. The Government ensures receipt of utilization certificates of previous releases and progress reports before subsequent release of funds.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

Statement

State-wise details of Central Financial Assistance provided under Solar Energy Programme to various institutions/NGOs during the last three years i.e. 2002-03 to 2004-05

(Rupees in lakhs)

Sl. No.	State/UTs	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.60	0.40	0.00
2.	Bihar	0.00	0.68	0.00
3.	Chhattisgarh	8.70	0.00	0.00
4.	Rajasthan	288.22	12.19	2.70
5.	West Bengal	83.85	109.42	77.68
6.	Jammu and Kashmir	34.85	0.00	27.99
7.	Kerala	38.12	22.53	0.00
8.	Manipur	0.00	25.00	0.00
9.	Delhi	51.40	2.44	61.52
10.	Tamil Nadu	4.00	0.00	1.37
11.	Karnataka	40.76	0.00	0.00
12.	Uttar Pradesh	21.93	0.00	0.00

Assets Reconstruction Companies

1591. SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN:
SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:
SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH:
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":
SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to allow Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) upto 49 per cent in Assets Reconstruction Companies (ARCs) set upto buy non-performing assets from banks;

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

(c) the number of cases handed over to the above company for disposal by banks and financial institutions;

(d) the amount of funds involved in these cases;

(e) the funds to be received by Banks/FIs; and

(f) the time limit set for disposal of cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has decided to permit Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) upto 49 per cent in the equity capital of assets Reconstruction Companies (ARCs) registered with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

(c) and (d) RBI has so far issued Certificate of

Registration to three ARCs viz. Asset Reconstruction Company (India) Limited (Arcil); Asset Care Enterprise Limited, and ASREC (India) Limited. ARCIL is the only company that has commenced its operations.

Arcil has reported that they have acquired financial assets in respect of 374 cases from various banks and financial institutions having total dues amount of Rs. 17204 crore.

(e) The funds to be received by banks/FIs would be the amount recovered by Arcil out of recoveries from the NPA borrowers.

(f) The timeframe specified for realization of assets by ARCs is five years from the date of acquisition, in terms of RBI guidelines.

Coverage of Districts under RIDF

1592. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under NABARD to take up more districts in the country for the implementation of District Level Infrastructure Development Plan (DLIDP) in view of its gigantic Rural Infrastructural Development Fund (RIDF); and

(b) if so, the details of districts to be taken up under the same. State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) NABARD does not prepare District Level Infrastructure Development Plan. However, it is preparing potential linked credit plans each year for each of the districts of the country entailing potential assessment of various sectors. This document refers to infrastructure gaps from the point of view of credit potential in the district for various investment activities in agriculture. The document is prepared for the guidance of banks in preparing their credit plans. Further, the sectors/activities eligible for financing under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) are decided by the Government. The nature of projects financed depends on the projects submitted by the State Governments depending upon their own priority.

Total Capital in Private Sector Banks

1593. SHRI M. APPADURAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the present capital of the Private Sector Banks in the country as on date;

(b) the details of total deposit in Private banks:

(c) whether the RBI/Government proposes to allow 74% FDI into the capital of these banks; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) As on September, 2005, the total paid up share capital of Private Sector Banks is Rs. 3,536.76 crore and total deposits of these banks is Rs. 3,41,489.44 crore.

(c) and (d) With a view to provide an enabling environment for higher FDI inflows alongwith infusion of new technology and management practices resulting in enhanced competitiveness, Govt. of India has issued a notification dated 5th March, 2004 raising the Foreign Direct Investment limit in private banks from 49% to 74% under the automatic route including investment of Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs).

[Translation]

Private Participation in Power Sector

1594. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:

SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPIPARAI:

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA:

MOHD. SHAHID:

SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made in regard to the total quantum of power to be generated by the private sector power projects during the next three years;

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

(c) the percentage of demand of power estimated to be met by the private sector power projects?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED):
(a) and (b) During the next three years i.e. 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08, a capacity of 5982.6 MW is likely to come up through the private sector projects. Of this,

400 MW is expected from the hydro projects and 5582.6 MW from the thermal projects in the pipeline. The State-wise break-up is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The share of private sector in total capacity addition in these three years, if all these projects are commissioned, would be 21.4%.

Statement

(Capacity Addition in MW)

State	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	Total
Andhra Pradesh	1160	390		1499
Jharkhand	120			120
Tamil Nadu	102.60			102.60
Chhattisgarh		250	1050	1300
Gujarat		365	752	1117
Maharashtra		144		1444
Uttaranchal		400		400
Total	1382.60	2798	1802	5982.60

[English]

Pending Power Projects

1595. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA:

SHRI AJIT JOGI:

SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL:

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:

SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPIPARAI:

SHRI M.K. SUBBA:

SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals submitted by private and public sector companies for setting up of power

projects in the country during the Tenth Five Year Plan, State-wise;

(b) the number out of them cleared by the Government so far; and

(c) the total number of power projects set up by private and public sector companies during this period and the total amount being invested for these projects?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED):
(a) and (b) The requirement of Techno-Economic Clearance in respect of thermal projects has been dispensed with. However, Central Electricity Authority (CEA) received detailed project reports for 24 hydro power plants during 10th Plan period so far. Out of these 12 projects have been accorded Techno-Economic Clearance and remaining 12 have been returned to

projects authorities for providing additional inputs. At present, no proposal is pending with CEA for according Techno-Economic Clearance. The details of these projects are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) During the 10th Plan period, so far 38 projects totaling 12963.44 MW have been commissioned in the thermal and hydro segments as per details given below:—

	Hydro			Thermal			Total		
	No. of Power Plants	Installed Capacity (MW)	Cost/Exp. (Rs. Crs.)	No. of Power Plants	Installed Capacity (MW)	Expenditure (Rs. Crs.)	No. of Power Plants	Installed Capacity (MW)	Cost/Exp. (Rs. Crs.)
Private	1	300	949.23	7	982.8	1561.28	8	1282.8	2510.51
Central	5	3105	14993.36	5	4630	15753.71	10	7735	30747.07
State	5	1975	9179.19	15	1970.64	5052.22	20	3945.64	14231.41
Total	11	5380	25121.78	27	7583.44	22367.21	38	12963.44	47488.99

In addition, 590 MW has been commissioned in the nuclear segment.

Statement

Status of Appraisal of Hydro Power Schemes Received During 2002-03

Central Sector

A. CEA cleared Projects

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme/ State/Executing Agency	I.C. (MW)	Estimated Cost (Rs. Crs.)	Date of receipt in CEA	Date of TEC/ Present Status
1	2	3	4	5	6
NHPC (Central Sector)					
1.	Sewa HEP-Stage II in Jammu and Kashmir	3x40=120	US\$ 0.306 M + Rs. 673.75 Crs. (9/02 P.L.)	6/2002	18-10-02 (Technical Viability only)
2.	Teesta Low Dam III in West Bengal	4x33=132	US\$ 4.876 M + Rs. 758.82 Crs. (4/02 PL)	6/02	28-11-02

1	2	3	4	5	6
B. State Sector					
DPRs returned to Project Authorities					
Karnataka (State Sector)					
1. Mahadayi HEP (H) (KPCL)		320	850	7/02	Returned on 13-8-02. Pending inputs are Sec. 29(2), 2(4)A, 15(A)2, 15(A)5. of E(S) Act. water availability, MOEF/ forest clearance, inter-state aspects etc.
M.P. (State Sector)					
2. Sone (HEP (H) (MPEB)		5x210=1100	706	3/03	Returned on 21-4-03. Pending inputs are Sec. 29(2), MOEF clearance, R and R Plan, inter-state aspect, water/land availability, etc.

Status of Appraisal of Hydro Power Schemes Received During 2003-04

Central Sector :

A. CEA Cleared :

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme/ State/Executing Agency	Installed Capacity (MW)	Estimated Cost	Date of receipt in CEA	Date of TEC/TEA
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Chamera HEP III in H.P. by NPC	3x77=231	US\$ 3.708 M + Rs. 1346.47 Crs. =Rs. 1364.01 Crs. (Present Day Cost) (4/03 PL)	6/03 3-10-03 (Revived)	12-11-03

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Uri Stage II HEP in Jammu and Kashmir by NHPC	4x60=240	US\$ 10.393 M + Rs. 1647.92 Crs. =Rs. 1695.73 Crs. (Present Day Cost) (7/03 PL)	8/03 2-11-03 (Revived)	11-2-04 (TEA)
3.	Parbati HEP St. III in H.P. by NHPC	4x130=520	US\$ 12.54 M + Rs. 2170.69 Crs. =Rs. 228.41 Crs. (Present Day Cost) (7/03 PL)	11-8-03 22-10-03 (Revived)	12-11-03
4.	Teesta Low Dam Stage IV HEP in W.B. by NHPC	4x40=160	Rs. 998.36 Crs. (8/03 PL)	16-09-03 10-12-03 (Revived)	23-12-03
5.	Nimoo Bazgo HEP in Jammu and Kashmir by NHPC	3x45=160	Rs. 631.54 Crs. (9/03 PL)	12/03 4-3-04 (Revived)	16-3-04 (TEA)
6.	Chutak HEP in Jammu and Kashmir (H) by NHPC	4x11=44	Rs. 655.65 Crs. (12/03 PL)	1/04 6-4-04 (Revived)	23-4-04 (TEA)

B. DPR returned for inputs:

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme/ State/Executing Agency	Installed Capacity (MW)	Estimated Cost (Rs. Crs.)	Date of receipt in CEA	Status
1	2	3	4	5	6

NHPC (Central)

1.	Siang Middle HEP (H) in Arunachal Pradesh	4x250=1000	4699	9/3	Returned on 26-09-03. Pending inputs are authorization from competent Govt., water availability, MOEF clearance, R and R plan. —Being a multipurpose project clearance of TAC of MOWR is required.
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1	2	3	4	5	6
Jammu and Kashmir					
2.	Sawalkot HEP in Jammu and Kashmir by JKSPDCL (H)	600	4177	1/04	Returned on 12-2-04. pending inputs are land/water availability, MOEF clearance, inter-state/International angle aspects clearance etc.

Status of Appraisal of Hydro Power Schemes Received During 2003-04

Central Sector Projects

A. CEA Cleared :

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme/ State/Executing Agency	Installed Capacity (MW)	Estimated Cost (Rs. Crs.)	Date of Receipt in CEA	Date of TEC/TEA Status
NTPC					
1.	Tapovan Vishnugad HEP in Uttranchal	4x130=520	US\$ 43.64 M + Rs. 2346.97 Crs. =Rs. 2545.51 Crs. (3/04 PL)	7-5-04 27-7-04 (Revived)	11-08-04
2.	Loharinagpala HEP in Uttaranchal	4x150=600	US\$ 34.15 M + Rs. 2262.60 Crs. =Rs. 2417.17 Crs.	7-5-04 27-7-04 (Revived)	11-08-04

State Sector Projects

A. CEA Cleared :

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme/ State/Executing Agency	Installed Capacity (MW)	Estimated Cost (Rs. Crs.)	Date of Receipt in CEA	Date of TEC/TEA
1	2	3	4	5	6
Chhattisgarh					
1.	Matnar HEP by CSEB	3x20=60	Rs. 313,35 Crores. (March 04/PL)	6/2000(I) 23-4-04 (II) 17-8-04 (Revived)	19-08-04

1	2	3	4	5	6
Kerala					
2.	Athirappilly HEP by KSEB	2x80 +2x1.5 =163	286.0 (I) 385.63 (II) (2004-05 PL)	30-4-02(I) 2-9-04 (II) (16-3-05) (Revived)	31-3-05

B. DPR returned:

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme/ State/Executing Agency	Installed Capacity (MW)	Estimated Cost (Rs. Crs.)	Date of Receipt in CEA	Status
Jammu and Kashmir					
1.	New Ganderbal (H) HEP by JKPDCL	3x31=93	4.00.15	9-6-04	Returned on 14-6-02. Pending inputs are land/water availability, MOEF/Forest clearance, R and R Plan, Indus Water Treaty, Angle clearance

*Status of Appraisal of Hydro Power Schemes Received During 2005-06***Private Sector Projects****PDRs returned**

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme/ State/Executing Agency	Installed Capacity (MW)	Estimated Cost (Rs. Crs.)	Date of Receipt in CEA	Status
1	2	3	4	5	6
Sikkim					
1.	Teesta Stage-III HEP (M/s. Teesta Urja Ltd.)	6x200=1200	6569.0	26-7-05	Returned on 3-8-05. Pending inputs are Land/Water availability, MOEF/Clearance, R and R Plan. Inter State aspects etc.

II. Central Sector Projects**A. DPRs returned**

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme/ State/Executing Agency	Installed Capacity (MW)	Estimated Cost (Rs. Crs.)	Date of Receipt in CEA	Status
Himachal Pradesh					
1.	Rampur HEP (SJVNL)	6x68.67=412	2423.8	15-6-05	Returned on 22-6-05. Pending inputs are Land/Water availability, MOE and F clearance, Interstate/clearance etc.
Jammu and Kashmir					
2.	Pakhaldul HEP (NHPC)	4x250=1000	5577	3-8-05	Returned on 10-8-05. Pending inputs are Land/Water availability, MOE and F clearance, R and R Plan, Interstate/International clearance, Defence clearance etc.
Uttar Pradesh					
3.	Lata Tapovan HEP (NTPC)	162	617.7	5-7-05	Returned on 15-7-05. Pending inputs are Land/Water availability, MOE and F Clearance, Interstate/International clearance, defence clearance etc.
Total (3 Nos.)		1574 MW			

State Sector Projects

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme/ State/Executing Agency	Installed Capacity (MW)	Estimated Cost (Rs. Crs.)	Date of Receipt in CEA	Status
1	2	3	4	5	6
Uttaranchal					
1.	Pala Maneri HEP (UJVNL)	480	1834.5	8-7-05	Returned on 21-7-05. Pending inputs are Land/Water availability, MOE and F clearance, R and R Plan, Interstate/International/clearance etc.

1	2	3	4	5	6
Uttar Pradesh					
2.	Dhukwan HEP (UPJVNL)	2x15=30	152.95	13-10-05	Returned on 21-7-05. Pending inputs are Land/Water availability, MOE and F clearance, R and R Plan, Interstate/clearance etc.
Andhra Pradesh					
3.	Dummugudam HEP (APGENCO)	8x45=360	3116	2-8-05	Returned on 10-8-05. Pending inputs are Land/Water availability, MOE and F clearance, R and R Plan, Interstate/International clearance etc.

Privatization of LIC

1596. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has a proposal to privatize Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) and several other Insurance Companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to safeguard the interest of the staffs of these financial institutions in the event of their privatization?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

*[Translation]***World Bank aided Rural Development Schemes**

1597. SHRI CHHATTAR SINGH DARBAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of rural development schemes being implemented in the country with the assistance provided by World Bank, State-wise; and

(b) the amount allocated for each rural development scheme during the last three years and current year alongwith the present status of individual schemes, year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) The requisite information is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Sl. No.	Project Name	State	Donor	Effective From	Closing Date	Loan/Credit Amount	Cummulative Disbursement upto October, 2005
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	AP District Poverty Initiative Project	Andhra Pradesh	IDA	7-8-2000	31-12-06	US \$ 111 million	US \$ 88.249 million

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2.	AP Rural Poverty Reduction Project	Andhra Pradesh	IDA	13-5-2003	30-9-08	US \$ 150 million	SDR 59.477 million
3.	Chhattisgarh District Poverty Initiative Project	Chhattisgarh	IDA	13-11-2003	31-3-09	US \$ 92.56 million	US \$ 7.665 million
4.	MP District Poverty Initiative Project	Madhya Pradesh	IDA	27-2-2001	30-6-06	US \$ 90.1 million	US \$ 62.620 million
5.	Rural Roads Projects (PMGSY-I)	Himachal Pradesh Rajasthan Jharkhand Uttar Pradesh	IDA IBRD	16-3-2005	30-9-09	US \$ 300 million US \$ 99.5 million	US \$ 38.265 million US \$ 0.498 million
6.	Raj. District Poverty Initiative Project	Rajasthan	IDA	7-8-2003	31-12-07	US \$ 100.5 million	SDR 41.246 million
7.	Kerala Rural Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation Project	Kerala	IDA	12-2-2001	31-12-06	US \$ 55.5 million	US \$ 31.093 million
8.	Maharashtra Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project	Maharashtra	IDA	29-10-2003	31-3-09	US \$ 181 million	US \$ 13.729 million
9.	Second Karnataka Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project	Karnataka	IDA	19-4-2002	31-12-07	US \$ 136.6 million	SDR 34.410 million

[English]

Foreclose Loan

1598. SHRI M. SHIVANNA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka Government has sought the intervention of the Union Government to persuade public financial institutions such as the life Insurance Corporation of India and other to foreclose loans granted to the State; and

(b) if so, the response of the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir. A request from Government of Karnataka was received regarding prepayment of loans of LIC.

(b) The request of Government of Karnataka was considered by LIC as a special case and it was decided to accept prepayment of loans, provided the State Government agrees to pay Net Present Value of future loss of interest on such loans.

Power Projects in Coastal Areas

1599. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is working on developing a comprehensive scheme to create a chain of power stations along the coastline of the country;

(b) if so, whether any decision has been taken for setting up of power stations at coastal areas in Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra; and

(c) if so, the extent to which the Government is hopeful of getting good results from these power stations?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED):

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Development of coastal power projects has been identified as a thrust area as these sites can have easy accessibility to imported coal and availability of abundant sea water for cooling purposes in the power projects. In the regional meetings held with the States, all the coastal states including Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra have been asked to draw up an action plan for development of coastal power projects.

*[Translation]***Utilization of Funds meant for Rural Water Supply**

1600. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) during the last three years and current year; State-wise;

(b) the details of norms adopted while allocating the funds under the said programme;

(c) whether the said funds are not being properly utilized by certain States;

(d) if so, whether the Government proposes to constitute any monitoring team to ensure the proper utilization of the said funds; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) The State-wise details of funds allocated under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) during the last three years and current year are given in the enclosed statement

(b) Under ARWSP (Normal) and ARWSP (Swajaldhara), funds are allocated to the States on a laid down criterion having the following weightage of different parameters:—

Sl. No.	Weightage for	Percentage (%)
(1)	Rural Population	40
(2)	States under DDP, DPAP, HADP and special category hill States in terms of rural areas	35
(3)	Not Covered/Partially Covered villages (at 2:1 ratio)	15
(4)	Quality affected villages	10

Allocation of ARWSP (DDP) funds is determined in proportion to the number of "No Safe Source habitations" existing in the areas covered under Desert Development Programme (DDP) of the DDP areas of the seven states—Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka and Rajasthan.

(c) to (e) Vigilance and Monitoring Committees at State and district levels already exist to ensure proper utilization of funds. The State level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees are headed by the Minister, Rural Development of the concerned State with four Lok Sabha MPs, one Rajya Sabha MP and five MLAs as members. The District level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees are headed by a Member of Parliament elected from the District, with MPs, MLAs of the district as members.

Statement

*State-wise Allocation made under various components of ARWSP
(Normal + DDP + Swajaldhara)*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Allocation			
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	14865.00	14728.07	15393.05	24077.35
2.	Bihar	7406.00	7192.73	8328.98	17556.74
3.	Chhattisgarh	2443.00	2163.80	2995.20	5904.97
4.	Goa	122.00	119.55	136.04	221.05
5.	Gujarat	6699.00	6455.56	8696.44	13968.73
6.	Haryana	2946.00	2896.23	2953.48	4101.69
7.	Himachal Pradesh	5643.00	5607.19	6115.36	11855.82
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	12388.00	12385.90	14428.62	22973.60
9.	Jharkhand	3063.00	2931.02	3317.12	6334.61
10.	Karnataka	12313.00	12709.03	13292.59	19808.99
11.	Kerala	3698.00	4149.03	4438.54	6170.65
12.	Madhya Pradesh	7159.00	6919.54	8711.49	17301.27
13.	Maharashtra	16829.00	17882.15	18906.46	31610.88
14.	Orissa	6225.00	6036.28	7799.23	14212.40
15.	Punjab	2581.00	2582.79	3166.11	4172.53
16.	Rajasthan	26750.00	24217.77	32106.71	48614.72
17.	Tamil Nadu	6358.00	5542.22	8243.80	13605.13
18.	Uttar Pradesh	13022.00	12618.91	14612.06	28372.10
19.	Uttaranchal	3083.00	2999.33	3413.67	6559.12
20.	West Bengal	8545.00	7770.90	9591.06	15246.90

1	2	3	4	5	6
21.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	13.00	17.63	18.32	34.38
22.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
23.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	7.00	11.75	12.21	22.92
24.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
25.	Delhi	5.00	8.81	9.16	17.19
26.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
27.	Pondicherry	5.00	8.81	9.16	17.19
28.	Arunachal Pradesh	4977.00	5409.41	6598.76	9993.61
29.	Assam	8407.00	9157.59	11128.36	16851.29
30.	Manipur	1826.00	1986.59	2265.86	3430.93
31.	Meghalaya	1957.00	2143.96	2608.12	3949.77
32.	Mizoram	1398.00	1512.88	1870.25	2831.58
33.	Nagaland	1454.00	1583.22	1919.48	2907.91
34.	Sikkim	597.00	656.42	788.11	1195.53
35.	Tripura	1734.00	1899.93	2313.97	3503.10
Total		184518.00	182315.00	216187.77	357424.65

Loans under SGSY

1601. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the people who are eligible for loans under Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY);

(b) the amount of loan disbursed to them during each of the last three years and current year alongwith the rate of interest levied thereon, State-wise and category-wise;

(c) whether the Government is aware that this work is not being done satisfactorily; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) Individuals or Self Help Groups belonging to BPL households are eligible for loans under Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana.

(b) The amount of loan/credit disbursed to individuals or self help groups, during the last three years and current year is given State-wise and category-wise in the enclosed statement. As informed by Ministry of Finance, the interest rate regime has been deregulated and the individual banks are free to fix rate of interest on their lending depending on the cost of the funds and

the risk involved in such lending. Hence, the rate of interest varies from bank to bank.

(c) As per feedback received from State Governments and banks, the work is being done

satisfactorily and no complaints have been received. The amount of loans disbursement has also shown steady increase over the last three years.

(d) Question does not arise.

Statement

State-wise/Category-wise Loans/Credit Disbursed to Individuals/SHGs under SGSY During 2005-2006 (As on 18-11-2005)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Total Credit Target	Credit Disbursed to SHGs	Credit Disbursed to Individual Swarozgaris	Total Credit Disbursed (4+5)	Credit Disbursed (in % age)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	18178.69	1633.46	794.35	2427.81	13.36
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	664.60	4.68	7.40	12.08	1.82
3.	Assam	17268.44	2398.46	32.76	2431.22	14.08
4.	Bihar	30290.23	1425.94	6305.40	7731.33	25.53
5.	Chhattisgarh	6722.14	678.01	1085.69	1763.70	26.24
6.	Goa	140.80	13.09	22.38	35.47	25.19
7.	Gujarat	5589.21	439.58	1813.81	2253.39	40.32
8.	Haryana	4330.57	1041.71	92.13	1133.84	26.18
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2244.90	624.12	306.40	930.53	41.45
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	3113.25	27.66	386.74	414.40	13.31
11.	Jharkhand	11412.77	587.68	1143.26	1730.94	15.17
12.	Karnataka	11766.35	2353.17	275.12	2628.29	22.34
13.	Kerala	5279.51	847.49	267.28	1114.77	21.12
14.	Madhya Pradesh	16812.83	2890.97	740.42	3631.39	21.60
15.	Maharashtra	18998.42	2210.66	539.16	2749.82	14.47
16.	Manipur	1157.63	1.31	1.31	2.62	0.23
17.	Meghalaya	1296.99	28.87	6.37	35.24	2.72

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
18.	Mizoram	300.11	1.00	11.00	12.00	4.00
19.	Nagaland	889.74			0.00	0.00
20.	Oriss	14557.32	1779.46	58.01	1837.47	12.62
21.	Punjab	1598.04	226.37	335.09	561.46	35.13
22.	Rajasthan	8514.22	1029.84	1466.45	2496.29	29.32
23.	Sikkim	332.28	48.15	47.92	96.07	28.91
24.	Tamil Nadu	13777.67	3330.67	112.30	3442.96	24.99
25.	Tripura	2438.56	519.10		519.10	21.29
26.	Uttar Pradesh	40000.00	12135.04	1500.81	13635.85	34.09
27.	Uttaranchal	3436.29	809.60	15.29	824.89	24.01
28.	West Bengal	10000.00	831.38	329.25	1160.63	11.61
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	90.08			0.00	0.00
30.	Daman and Diu	90.00			0.00	0.00
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	90.00			0.00	0.00
32.	Lakshadweep	90.34			0.00	0.00
33.	Pondicherry	103.48			0.00	0.00
Total		251565.47	37917.46	17696.10	55613.55	22.11

N.R.=Not Reported.

*State-wise/Category-wise Loans/Credit Disbursed to Individuals/SHGs
under SGSY During 2004-2005*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Total Credit Target	Credit Disbursed to SHGs	Credit Disbursed to Individual Swarozgaris	Total Credit Disbursed (4+5)	Credit Disbursed (in % age)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11848.49	6273.44	3273.83	9547.27	64.30

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	664.60	38.18	160.94	199.12	29.96
3.	Assam	17268.44	6023.76	84.32	6108.08	35.37
4.	Bihar	30280.23	3084.13	18435.64	21519.77	71.07
5.	Chhattisgarh	6722.14	1510.17	3072.38	4582.55	68.17
6.	Goa	140.80	42.56	50.38	92.94	66.01
7.	Gujarat	4790.75	1047.93	3123.86	4171.79	87.08
8.	Haryana	3537.27	2197.24	687.20	2884.44	91.54
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2244.90	1501.90	805.07	2306.97	102.76
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	3113.25	167.34	2171.31	2338.65	75.12
11.	Jharkhand	11412.77	1846.83	4892.34	6739.17	59.05
12.	Karnataka	9610.85	6335.24	1224.92	7560.16	78.66
13.	Kerala	4312.35	2191.22	855.00	3046.22	70.64
14.	Madhya Pradesh	16812.83	10305.68	810.85	11116.53	66.12
15.	Maharashtra	18998.35	8588.71	2469.35	11058.06	58.21
16.	Manipur	1157.63			0.00	0.00
17.	Meghalaya	1296.99	120.34	81.18	201.52	15.54
18.	Mizoram	300.11	63.52	10.20	73.72	24.56
19.	Nagaland	889.74	5.99	2.60	8.48	0.95
20.	Orissa	14557.32	8723.78	1026.32	9750.10	66.98
21.	Punjab	1598.04	384.60	831.38	1215.98	76.09
22.	Rajasthan	8514.22	3356.41	6888.69	10245.10	120.33
23.	Sikkim	332.28	88.37	55.30	143.67	43.24
24.	Tamil Nadu	11253.71	6678.65	188.58	6867.23	61.02
25.	Tripura	2438.56	849.30	661.78	1511.08	61.97
26.	Uttar Pradesh	43592.66	27097.35	9866.05	36963.40	84.79
27.	Uttaranchal	3436.29	1945.27	61.58	2006.85	58.40

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
28.	West Bengal	16177.55	2128.22	1210.76	3338.98	20.64
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	90.08	19.38	1.50	20.88	23.18
30.	Daman and Diu	90.00			0.00	0.00
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	90.00			0.00	0.00
32.	Lakshadweep	90.34		1.30	1.30	1.44
33.	Pondicherry	103.48	118.82	1.64	120.46	116.41
Total		250767.01	102734.21	63006.25	165740.46	66.09

N.R.=Not Reported.

*State-wise/Category-wise Loans/Credit Disbursed to Individuals/SHGs
under SGSY During 2002-2003*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Total Credit Target	Credit Disbursed to SHGs	Credit Disbursed to Individual Swarozgaris	Total Credit Disbursed (4+5)	Credit Disbursed (in % age)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8112.51	4325.20	3006.51	7331.71	90.38
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	680.22	12.36	91.98	104.34	15.34
3.	Assam	9244.94	2495.19	969.07	3464.26	37.47
4.	Bihar	37040.00	1792.41	16234.38	18026.79	48.67
5.	Chhattisgarh	6542.33	771.45	3863.77	4635.22	70.85
6.	Goa	230.35	12.41	89.73	102.14	44.34
7.	Gujarat	4544.28	693.69	1914.32	2608.01	57.39
8.	Haryana	3537.27	971.35	1382.24	2353.59	66.54
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2244.90	752.18	574.27	1326.45	59.09
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	3113.25	116.05	1060.63	1176.68	37.80

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11.	Jharkhand	12896.49	427.46	5086.39	5513.84	42.75
12.	Karnataka	12521.30	4039.18	2284.11	6323.29	50.50
13.	Kerala	6500.00	1184.01	1726.21	2910.22	44.77
14.	Madhya Pradesh	12300.00	4814.84	5841.84	10656.68	86.64
15.	Maharashtra	19739.86	5138.00	4338.53	9476.53	48.01
16.	Manipur	531.36			0.00	0.00
17.	Meghalaya	1254.92	33.45	54.60	88.05	7.02
18.	Mizoram	184.41	54.62	3.15	57.77	31.82
19.	Nagaland	642.83	41.88	38.86	80.74	12.56
20.	Orissa	11121.59	2041.25	4847.63	6888.88	61.94
21.	Punjab	1539.49	436.60	916.64	1353.24	87.90
22.	Rajasthan	8207.50	982.10	6993.90	7976.00	97.18
23.	Sikkim	237.08	4.04	141.28	145.32	61.30
24.	Tamil Nadu	7332.16	3065.93	173.67	3239.60	44.18
25.	Tripura	1462.07	53.76	1572.46	1626.22	111.23
26.	Uttar Pradesh	56500.15	9998.63	5477.36	15475.99	27.39
27.	Uttaranchal	3436.29	1070.91	235.60	1306.51	38.02
28.	West Bengal	20000.00	508.18	3597.40	4105.58	20.53
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	181.76		0.31	0.31	0.17
30.	Daman and Diu	206.30		3.15	3.15	1.53
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	90.00			0.00	0.00
32.	Lakshadweep	170.42	0.00	1.25	1.25	0.73
33.	Pondicherry	175.37	71.26		71.26	40.63
Total		252521.40	45908.39	72521.24	118429.62	46.90

N.R.=Not Reported.

*State-wise/Category-wise Loans/Credit Disbursed to Individuals/SHGs
under SGSY During 2003-2004*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Total Credit Target	Credit Disbursed to SHGs	Credit Disbursed to Individual Swarozgaris	Total credit Disbursed (4+5)	Credit Disbursed (in % age)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11620.10	5845.26	3167.93	9013.19	77.57
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	537.59	28.64	112.83	141.47	26.32
3.	Assam	14159.90	4434.16	163.41	4597.57	32.47
4.	Bihar	27392.77	2096.55	16544.07	18640.61	68.05
5.	Chhattisgarh	6033.70	714.36	3192.96	3907.32	64.76
6.	Goa	140.80	7.16	54.86	62.02	44.05
7.	Gujarat	4372.65	818.63	2464.95	3283.58	75.09
8.	Haryana	3537.27	1647.58	823.91	2471.49	69.87
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2244.90	1203.81	633.88	1837.69	81.86
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	3113.25	211.80	1744.74	1956.54	62.85
11.	Jharkhand	9344.58	737.29	5493.06	6230.35	66.67
12.	Karnataka	8604.01	4970.68	1534.36	6505.04	75.60
13.	Kerala	3891.38	1512.09	1004.81	2516.90	64.68
14.	Madhya Pradesh	13270.65	8184.81	1643.93	9828.74	74.06
15.	Maharashtra	16512.58	6678.86	3269.80	9948.66	60.25
16.	Manipur	926.11			0.00	0.00
17.	Meghalaya	1055.97	164.34	83.20	247.54	23.44
18.	Mizoram	247.12	76.36	5.70	82.06	33.20
19.	Nagaland	719.16	146.99	64.27	211.26	29.38
20.	Orissa	11121.59	4867.68	2921.97	7789.65	70.04
21.	Punjab	1539.49	490.73	935.39	1426.12	92.64

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
22.	Rajasthan	8207.50	1685.38	6279.98	7965.36	97.05
23.	Sikkim	294.90	20.68	176.80	197.48	66.97
24.	Tamil Nadu	7332.16	4013.54	117.90	4131.44	56.35
25.	Tripura	1978.87	34.75	1727.34	1762.08	89.04
26.	Uttar Pradesh	37055.07	17316.35	3079.72	20396.07	55.04
27.	Uttaranchal	3436.29	1494.04	55.40	1549.44	45.09
28.	West Bengal	13778.51	1379.29	2108.29	3487.58	25.31
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	90.08			0.00	0.00
30.	Daman and Diu	90.00			0.00	0.00
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	90.00		12.50	12.50	13.89
32.	Lakshadweep	90.34	0.25	6.05	6.30	6.97
33.	Pondicherry	103.48	62.24	27.50	89.74	86.72
Total		212932.77	70844.28	59451.50	130295.79	61.19

N.R.=Not Reported.

[English]

National Mining Policy

1602. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

SHRI JUAL ORAM:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the National Mining Policy;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether the Government has set up a high level committee to examine the Government and private sector investments in mines sector;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the report of the said committee is likely to be presented to the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) to (e) A High Level Committee has been set up under the chairmanship of Shri Anwar-ul-Hoda, Member, Planning Commission to review the National Mining Policy, 1993 and recommend possible amendments to the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 to give a fillip to private investment in the sector.

The Committee is expected to finalize its report by the end of December 2005.

Enhancement of Wage Limit of Textile Workers

1603. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has enhanced the wage limit of textile workers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) the year from which the enhanced re-numeration of the textile workers is likely to be effected; and

(e) the number of textile workers are likely to be benefitted therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) to (e) Government of India has enhanced the wage ceiling from Rs. 2500/- to Rs. 3500/- retrospectively w.e.f. 1-4-1993 for coverage of textile workers of closed mills under Textile Workers' Rehabilitation Fund Scheme (TWRFS), subject to their being eligible as per the guidelines. More than 2200 workers are likely to be benefitted by this measure.

Bribe for Getting Loan from Banks

1604. SHRI UDAY SINGH:

DR. M. JAGANNATH:

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that most of the loans are sanctioned by commercial, regional, rural and cooperative banks in the country on bribe basis as reported in the Statesman dated the November 10, 2005;

(b) if so, whether the World Bank and National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) have conducted a study in this regard;

(c) the reaction of the Government in this regard; and

(d) the remedial steps taken by the Government to check such corruption?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) A news item appeared in The Statesman on

10th Nov., 2005 regarding bribe for getting loan from banks, quoting a study by National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), NCAER has reported that the Rural Financial Access Survey (RFAS) was undertaken by the World Bank and NCAER in 2003 in two large states i.e. Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh for an estimate of the pattern of access of different sources of credit by the Rural households of the two states. The report indicates that bribe paid by some applicants adds to their total borrowing cost.

(c) and (d) RBI and Government have taken several measures to prevent irregularities in the Banking Industry. Banks have been advised from time to time to strengthen the vigilance set up and introduce preventive and prohibitive measures. The functioning of vigilance system is reviewed during the course of on-site inspections. Various measures such as periodical rotation of staff within the branch and from one branch to another, prompt disciplinary action, awarding exemplary and deterrent punishment to the delinquent employees and intensive screening of the candidates at the time of recruitment are being taken. Further, as and when such irregularities come to the notice, severe action is taken against the delinquent employee(s) under relevant conduct regulations and suitable penalty is imposed.

New Design Coins

1605. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to replace the coins of all denomination currently in circulation with new designer coins;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the existing mints have the facilities to produce the new coins;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, whether the Government propose to involve the private Indian firms in this venture; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and

(b) No, Sir. The new design of coins from 50 paise to Rs. 10 will be with the theme "Unity in Diversity". The coin of 50 paise, Re. 1 and Rs. 2 will be in Ferritic Stainless Steel and Rs. 5 and Rs. 10 a new coin, will be in bi-metallic.

(c) and (d) The mints are having facility to produce new coins of 50 paise, Re. 1 and Rs. 2 in Ferritic Stainless Steel. India Government Mint, Noida is in process to produce bi-metallic coins on trial basis.

(e) and (f) The Government may involve Indian Private firms to supply the coin blanks required for the above production in the mints, if needed. Recently, India Government Mint, Noida has placed order to an Indian Private firm for supply of 25 million pieces of Rs. 10 bi-metallic coin blanks for pilot production.

Closure of Companies in A and N

1606. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that many firms in Andaman and Nicobar Islands have virtually shut down their business and liquidation process of these firms are underway;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the efforts made so far by the Government for earlier disbursal of their dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA): (a) There is no report of any company registered in Andaman and Nikobar Islands having gone into liquidation.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Profit of Banks

1607. SHRI HITEN BARMAN:
SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of profits earned by public sector banks in the country during the last three years, till-date in comparison to foreign banks, bank-wise/year-wise;

(b) whether the Indian Banks are competing with the foreign banks in granting loans to the Industrial sector, and specially the small scale sector;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the effective measures being taken or are proposed to be taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The details of profits earned by public sector banks and foreign banks during the last three years are as under:—

	(Rs. in crore)		
	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Public Sector Banks	12295	16546	15785
Foreign Banks	1824	2243	2002

(b) and (c) As on 31-03-2005, the credit extended by the Indian banks and foreign banks to SSI sector are Rs. 76,088 crore and Rs. 2,788 crore respectively.

(d) The Government has stipulated that amount financed to SSI sector would be treated as priority sector lending. The targets prescribed and achieved under priority sector are being closely monitored at various levels by banks, RBI and the Government. Further, with a view to step up credit to Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), a policy package was announced in the Parliament on 10th August, 2005. The banks have been advised to take various measures to step up credit to SMEs. The Reserve Bank of India has also constituted empowered committees at its regional offices to review the progress in SME financing so as to ensure smooth flow of credit to these sectors.

Recovery of Loan

1608. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY:
SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA:
SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a bench situated at Chennai of State Consumer Commission has imposed a fine of Rs. 20 lakh on Standard Chartered Bank and have directed to the Reserve Bank of India that the licenses of those Banks should be cancelled who are involved in recovering their dues through the rented goons;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has extended the rights to the banks to recover their dues through the help of goons (local criminal elements); and

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to put up a ban on the open use of criminal elements by the Financial Institutions of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, Chennai had ordered Standard Chartered Bank (SCB) to pay the complainants a compensation of Rs. 20 lakh with a cost of Rs. 5000/- on the alleged harassment. The Commission had mentioned in the order that *"it is high time the Reserve Bank of India takes strong note of it and come down severely upon such banks. We would even suggest that they do not hesitate to cancel the license of such bank..."*

(c) No, Sir.

(d) RBI and IBA have, from time to time, issued guidelines to banks/NBFCs to ensure that their agents should not resort to intimidation or harassment of any kind, either verbal or physical, against any person in their debt collection efforts, including acts intended to humiliate publicly or intrude the privacy of the borrowers.

Textile Park

1609. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the Government is considering to set up apparel Park or other projects in the compound of sick or closed textile mills;

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

(c) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) To provide the textile industry with world-class infrastructure facilities for setting up their textile units. Government has launched the 'Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP) by merging the 'Scheme for Apparel Parks for Exports (APE)' and 'Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme (TCIDS)'. This scheme is based on Public-Private Partnership (PPP), and would equip textile units to meet international environmental and social standards. The criteria for selection of site for setting up of such park *inter alia* include potential investment, employment generation and viability or projects.

Banking Network in Rural Areas

1610. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether commercial banking network in rural areas is handicapped by the fact that most banks branches are one man branches and lack of capacity to undertake development banking functions, which are essential to the success of a programme like Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY);

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether there is a need to create National Micro Finance Equity Fund to cater to the needs of the poor;

(d) if so, the policy framed by the Government in this regard; and

(e) the steps taken by the Union Government to provide financial help to self employment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) There are no reports with the Government on commercial banking network being handicapped because of lack of capacity to undertake development banking functions.

(c) and (d) Pursuant to the announcement in the Budget Speech for the year 2000-01, a Micro Finance Development Fund of Rs. 100 crore was created in NABARD. The fund was to support broadly the following

activities: (a) training and exposure to self-help group (SHG) members, partner NGOs, banks and government agencies; (b) providing start-up funds to micro finance institutions and meeting their initial operational deficits; (c) meeting the cost of formation and nurturing of SHGs; (d) designing new delivery mechanisms; and (e) promoting research, action research, management information systems and dissemination of best practices in micro finance.

In the Budget Speech for the year 2005-06, the Union Finance Minister announced that the Micro Finance Development Fund has been redesignated as Micro Finance Development and Equity Fund and its corpus increased from Rs. 100 crore to Rs. 200 crore. The Fund is managed by a Board of representatives from NABARD, RBI, Commercial Banks and Professionals.

(e) Government has introduced various poverty alleviation and employment generation programmes such as Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Swarnajayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), Scheme for Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers (SLRS), Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) which are being piloted through credit linkage with banks and subsidy allocations from different Ministries.

Irregularities in CAPART

1611. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new Non-Governmental Organisations supported by Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART) for better implementation of development programmes in rural area;

(b) whether there are several irregularities in CAPART;

(c) if so, the findings thereof; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to streamline the functioning of CAPART?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) The Council for

Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART) has extended support to 185 new Non-Governmental Organisations during the current year (till 26th November, 2005) for implementation of development programmes in rural areas.

(b) and (c) Certain irregularities relating to release of funds to voluntary organizations under blacklisted categories, violation of CAPART norms, proper maintenance of revolving fund, release of excess amount, sanction and release of funds to non-existing VOs, etc. have been intimated by CAPART.

(d) CAPART has initiated disciplinary action against the erring officials and consequently penalties ranging from minor penalty of censure to major penalties of compulsory retirement have been imposed. In order to streamline the functioning of CAPART, a review committee was set up by the Government in the year 2002 which report was accepted by the Govt. Accordingly, certain changes in the functioning of CAPART have been made and instructions to enable streamlining have been issued by CAPART.

Micro-Infrastructure for Self Employment

1612. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether inadequate facilities of micro infrastructure has been a major constraint for promotion of self employment;

(b) if so, whether there is a need to identify the type of micro infrastructure;

(c) if so, whether the Government has prepared any scheme to identify the same;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the steps taken by the Government to identify the type of micro infrastructure required for promotion of self employment; and

(f) the success achieved by the Government to address the need of micro infrastructure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) to (f) Proper infrastructure is essential for success of micro enterprises. The provision of infrastructure is essentially the responsibility of the State Governments. However, to bridge the critical infrastructure gaps, Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), a self employment scheme for rural poor being implemented by this Ministry, seeks to ensure that infrastructure needs—backward and forward linkages—for the identified activities are met in full, so as to enable the Swarozgaris to derive maximum advantage from their investments.

The District SGSY Committee reviews the infrastructure gaps and identifies the areas of intervention for financing projects in activity clusters. 20% (25% in the case of North Eastern States) of SGSY allocation for each district could be utilised for development of infrastructure.

National Savings Organisation

1613. SHRI K.C. PALANISAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Regional and sub-regional offices of National Savings Organisation (NSO) in Tamil Nadu State and its location thereof;

(b) whether the Union Government has recently decided to restructure the existing NSO; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) There is only one Regional Centre in Tamil Nadu State which is located at Chennai.

(b) and (c) The erstwhile National Savings Organisation (NSO) has been restructured into National Savings Institute (NSI) with head quarter at Nagpur and ten Regional Centres at Chandigarh, Lucknow, Guwahati, Kolkata, Chennai, Bangalore, Mumbai, Jaipur, Nagpur and Delhi. The staff strength of NSI and the locations of its head quarter and regional centres have been notified vide Government of India Resolution No. 2/2/2003-NSI

dated 29th October, 2003 published in the Gazette in India.

[Translation]

Development of Desert Districts

1614. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the scheme prepared for the development of desert districts of Rajasthan;

(b) whether there is any proposal to provide facilities to desert districts on the lines of hilly areas;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the same are likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) The Desert Development Programme (DDP) is already being implemented in project mode on watershed basis, in 75 blocks of 10 desert districts of Rajasthan with the objective of controlling desertification through various activities of natural resource regeneration as provided in the Guidelines for Watershed Development. The total arid area identified for treatment in these districts is 185.047 lakh hectares.

(b) to (d) The watershed projects (of 500 hect. each) have a uniform cost norm of Rs. 6000/- per hectare for both the hot desert and cold desert regions. So far, 3129 watershed projects have been sanctioned to desert districts of Rajasthan. However, in view of the typical geographical conditions prevailing in these regions, Ministry of Rural Development, besides normal watershed projects, has also been sanctioning special projects for these areas. Accordingly, 2780 Special projects have additionally been sanctioned to desert districts of Rajasthan for sand dune stabilization, shelterbelt plantations and afforestation. Under special projects, the cost per hectare of these activities is fixed as per the scheduled rates approved by the State Government of Rajasthan.

[English]

Sale of Reliance

1615. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to news-item captioned "Who sold Reliance on August 3" appearing in the Indian Express of August 8, 2005;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether any of the company which has made significant transaction on August 3, 2005 come under SEBI's scrutiny in the past;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the above company has raised substantial stake in Reliance Capital Limited shortly after the above transaction; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has intimated that pursuant to findings of separate investigations conducted in 2004, appropriate proceedings have been initiated against certain entities in terms of the SEBI Act and SEBI regulations.

(e) and (f) According to SEBI, preliminary examination based on the data received from the exchanges do not suggest that major entities, who have sold shares of Reliance Industries Ltd. on August 3, 2005, later purchased shares of Reliance Capital Ltd. for the period August 3, 2005 to August 18, 2005.

NPAs of Corporate Houses

1616. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the noted corporate houses from which non-performing assets worth about Rs. 96,000 crores are due;

(b) the reasons for not recovering NPAs from these

corporate houses and measures taken for speedy recovery of NPAs; and

(c) the corporate houses which were again sanctioned loans despite the fact of their being a defaulter company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Credit Information Bureau (India) Limited is maintaining a database on suit-filed accounts of Rs. 1 Crore and above and non suit-filed accounts (wilful defaulters) of Rs. 25 Lacs and above. The information can be accessed at CIBIL website www.cibil.com. Government of India and Reserve Bank of India have stipulated certain steps for recovery of loans, which, inter-alia, include evolving and implementing a recovery policy by banks, filing of suits in civil courts/DRTs, issue of notices under SARFAESI Act, 2002, compromise settlement and monitoring and follow up of NPAs at various levels. The public sector banks have been advised to take effective measures for expeditious recovery of dues from the borrowers in NPA accounts. The Credit Information Companies (Regulation) Act 2005 has been enacted to provide for regulation of credit information companies and to facilitate efficient distribution of credit thereby arresting fresh accretion of NPAs.

(c) No such instance has been brought to the notice of the Government.

Prescription Drugs

1617. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:

SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has come across any innovative way of smuggling narcotics in the name of 'prescription drugs';

(b) if so, the countries which are getting these smuggled drugs from India;

(c) whether the cases have been framed against the exporters of these drugs;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to stop such a malpractice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No such case has come to the notice of this Ministry

(b) to (d) Nil in view of (a) above.

(e) All Customs field formations including Directorate of Revenue Intelligence are alert and vigilant to detect and prevent smuggling of contraband items.

Peerless in LIC Business

1618. MS. INGRID MCLEOD:

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Peerless General Finance Ltd. of Kolkata has been permitted to enter into Life Insurance business in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the PGFL is basically a residuary Non-banking Financial Company;

(d) if so, the reasons for permitting the company to join the insurance fray; and

(e) the terms and conditions on which the company has been so permitted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (e) Peerless General Finance Ltd., Kolkata, a non-banking finance company, has not been registered with the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA)

as an Indian insurance company but as a Corporate Agent under the IRDA (Licensing of Corporate Agents) Regulations, 2002. The company has entered into a Memorandum of Association with the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) to function as a corporate agent of LIC.

Non-Performing Assets

1619. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR:

SHRI M. APPADURAI:

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:

SHRI GANESH SINGH:

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the Gross Non-Performing Assets (NPA) and Net NPA in each of the public sector banks, private sector banks and foreign banks in India as on March 31, 2005 and March 31, 2004;

(b) the amount written off as bad debts in these banks for the year ended March 31, 2005 and March 31, 2004;

(c) the amount of provisions from profits towards NPAs in these banks for the last two years; and

(d) the efforts made by the banks to recover these amount alongwith interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The details of Gross and Net non-performing assets of public, private and foreign banks for the year ending 31st March 2004 and 31st March 2005 are as under:—

(Rs. in crores)

Banks	2004		2005	
	Gross	Net	Gross	Net
1	2	3	4	5
Public Sector Banks	51538 (7.8)	18860 (3.0)	47325 (5.7)	16642 (2.1)

1	2	3	4	5
Old Private Sector Banks	4393 (7.6)	2140 (3.8)	4206 (6.05)	1859 (2.79)
New Private Sector Banks	5961 (5.0)	2717 (2.4)	4576 (3.6)	2292 (1.90)
Foreign Banks	2894 (4.6)	900 (1.5)	2192 (2.8)	648 (0.90)

*Figures in brackets are percentage of gross/net NPAs to gross/net advances

(b) and (c) The details of amount written off as bad debts and amount of provisions made by public, private and foreign banks for the year ending 31-3-2004 and 31-03-2005 are as under:—

Banks	Compromise/written off		Provisions for NPAs	
	2004	2005	2004	2005
Public Sector Banks	11,308	8,102	29,649	29,395
Private Sector Banks	1,811	2,146	4,500	4,392
Foreign Banks	371	628	1,585	1,376

(d) Government of India and Reserve Bank of India have stipulated certain steps for recovery of loans, which, inter-alia, include evolving and implementing a recovery policy by banks, filing of suits in civil courts/DRTs, issue of notices under SARFAESI Act, 2002, compromise settlement and monitoring and follow up of NPAs at various levels. The public sector banks have been advised to take effective measures for expeditious recovery of dues from the borrowers in NPA accounts.

Deposit Collection from Trust

1620. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Kerala has moved the Union Government for getting exemption from the directive restraining the National Savings Department from recurring deposits collections from the institutions and Trusts, so as to enable them to continue the Sanchayika Deposit schemes in Schools of Kerala;

(b) if so, whether the Government have granted exemption: and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) The 'Sanchayika' Scheme is intended to inculcate the savings habit in students and as such, is not open to institutions and trusts. Government of Kerala had requested the Union Government to continue the 'Sanchayika' Scheme consequent to the recent amendment to the Government Savings Bank Act, 1873.

It has since been decided to continue the operation of the Sanchayika Scheme in a slightly modified version within the ambit of the amended statute, keeping in mind the objectives of the scheme.

[Translation]

Strike by Bank and Insurance Employees

1621. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the bank and insurance employees were on strike on September 29, 2005;

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

(c) whether the Union Government have taken any action on the demands of banks and insurance employees; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) On a call for strike given by some of the employees' unions and officers' associations of the Public Sector Banks (PSBs) and public sector insurance companies, a majority of the employees were on strike on 29th September 2005. The unions/associations had given a call for strike on various issues relating to the banks and insurance companies besides the common demand of National Trade Union Convention.

(c) and (d) The points made by the unions/associations in support of their demands are given due consideration while taking a decision in such matters. However, with the opening of the economy and growing globalization, the PSUs are now more market driven. Also, to bring the Indian Financial Sector, especially the PSBs, to global level and to make them competitive, it necessitates new initiatives.

[English]

Modernisation of Handloom/Handicrafts Sector

*1622. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal for modernization and development of handicrafts and handloom industries in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount allocated for the purpose during each of last three years; and

(d) the details of the work undertaken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The schemes being implemented for modernization and development of handicraft sector include Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana (AHVY) for integrated cluster development, Design and Technology Upgradation, Marketing and Support Services, Export Promotion, Training etc. A new component for setting up Facility Centre for Exporter and Entrepreneurs on Public Private Partnership (PPP) model has been introduced from the current financial year under Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana (AHVY). Besides, the scheme of Credit Guarantee, which was introduced in the year 2003-04 in the State of Jammu and Kashmir has been extended to other parts of the country to facilitate flow of credit to the handicraft artisans without any collateral.

As far as handloom sector is concerned, the Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana (DDHPY) is being implemented to provide assistance for such facilities which would enable the weavers, both within the cooperative fold and outside, to take up production as per market demand. The scheme attempts to look at the needs of the weavers for working capital, basic inputs, creating awareness and attempts to support quality fabric production through appropriate design intervention etc. A new scheme titled "Integrated Handloom Cluster Scheme" has also been launched from the current financial year to provide assistance in a comprehensive and coordinated manner towards setting up of infrastructure, up-gradation of technology, supply of raw material, design inputs, marketing support etc.

(c) The amount allocated during each of the last three years for the schemes for handicrafts and DDHPY for handloom sector is as under:— (Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Sector	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1.	Handicrafts	88.00	103.55	103.00
2.	Handlooms	81.20	63.64	76.61

* The incomplete original reply is substituted by this revised reply which was subsequently made by the Minister through a Correcting Statement on 16-12-2005. Also placed in Library. See No. LT3215/2005.

(d) In the handicrafts sector, coverage of 481 craft clusters under AHVY, organization of 799 marketing events, 78 export promotion events, 1139 design development workshops and training to 39,171 artisans was undertaken during the last three years. Under DDHPY, assistance was provided to 14,54,860 weavers for various interventions during the last three years.

High Court Bench

1623. SHRI M. SHIVANNA:

SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:

SHRI S.D. MANDLIK:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted by the Government for setting up of High Court Bench in States;

(b) whether there is a long pending demand for increasing the number of benches of the High Courts in several States;

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

(d) whether the Government propose to take action regarding setting up of more benches for speedy disposal of cases; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) to (e) In its report, the Jaswant Singh Commission suggested the broad principles and criteria to be followed while deciding the question of expediency and desirability of establishment of a Bench of a High Court away from the principal seat and the factors to be kept in view in selecting the venue of the said Bench. The report of the Commission was placed in the Parliament Library on 15-10-86 and was laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha on 20-4-87 and 21-4-87 respectively, which may be referred to.

The question of opening a High Court Bench is considered by the Central Government in the light of these principles and criteria as and when a proposal is

received from the State Government in consultation with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court.

Narasimhan Committee on Insurance

1624. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

SHRI PRABODH PANDA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Narasimhan Committee in its draft report on the proposed amendment in the Insurance Act has stressed the need to bring down the minimum required capital base from Rs. 100 crores to Rs. 45 crores for Insurance companies;

(b) if so, whether the Committee is preparing a draft on the proposed amendments in the Insurance Act; and

(c) if so, the main recommendations and the number of recommendations which have so far been considered and incorporated in the present Insurance Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) The Narasimhan Committee was set up by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) to deliberate on the recommendations of the Law Commission to review the Insurance Act, 1938. It has submitted its report to IRDA in July, 2005. IRDA has placed this report in the public domain for comments of all stakeholders. IRDA is yet to submit its report to Government.

Committee on IT Act

1625. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up an expert committee to examine the amendments in the Income Tax Act;

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

(c) whether the said committee has given its report to the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the time by which it is likely to be submitted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (e) An Expert Group has been constituted by the Government to prepare a draft for revised and simplified income tax law. The Group is expected to submit its report by 31-12-2005

Production of Handloom

1626. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether inspite of large number of handlooms existed in the country the productivity is very low;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the measures taken by the Government to increase the productivity in the handlooms to meet the challenges in the International markets?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) and (b) As per the Joint Census of Handlooms and Powerlooms 1995-96, productivity per working loom in Household and Non-Household units (Average Metres per day) is as under:—

	Production per day	
	Household	Non-Household
Urban	3.48	11.60
Rural	2.16	10.84

(c) In order to meet challenges in the international markets and to promote the export of handloom products, the following steps are being taken:—

- (i) Handloom Export Scheme under which financial assistance is provided for development of exportable range of products and international publicity and marketing thereof;
- (ii) Organisation of fairs, exhibitions, Buyer Seller Meets by Handloom Export Promotion Council in overseas markets from time to time to provide the Indian handloom manufacturers an avenue for export market;

- (iii) Various export promotion schemes operated by the Department of Commerce such as Duty Entitlement Pass Book (DEPB), Market Development Assistance (MDA), Market Access Initiative (MAI) etc.

The export of handloom items has increased from Rs. 2064.94 crore in the year 2001-02 to Rs. 2633.27 crore in the year 2002-03. In the absence of ITC (HS) Codes for the handloom items, export data from 2003-04 onwards is not available.

The Government of India has also been implementing various schemes for the development and productivity in handloom sector in the country viz. Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana, Integrated Handloom Training Project, Handloom Export Scheme, Marketing Promotion Programme, Mill Gate Price Scheme, Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme, Weavers Welfare Scheme, Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana, Health Insurance Scheme, Implementation of Handloom (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985.

The production of handlooms in the year 2004-05 was 5722 million sq. mtrs. compared to 5493 million sq. mtrs. in 2003-04 which shows an increase. Also in the first quarter of 2005-06 it has registered a growth of 17.9%.

Energy Conservation

1627. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any study to assess the quantum of energy saved under the Energy Conservation Programme during the last two years:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to encourage the people to conserve energy; and

(d) the extent to which the Government has been successful in its efforts?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (d) As per assessment made by Bureau of Energy Efficiency after studying the data of 297 industrial units.

it emerged that during the year 2003-04 due to energy conservation measures, these units were able to collectively avoid generation of over 800 million units of electricity equivalent to over Rs. 760 crores.

For creation of public awareness and spreading the message of energy conservation a national campaign on energy conservation 2005 has been launched. Comprehensive action plan to target Industry, commerce, education, agriculture and domestic sectors has been prepared under the campaign.

[Translation]

Deposits in Banks

1628. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

SHRI SUBRATA BOSE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of financial institutions/rural banks/banks etc. functioning in the urban/rural areas in the country alongwith the details of total deposits and working capital of each bank, State-wise:

(b) the details of unemployed youths, farmers and artisans benefited by such banks in these States during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the effective measures being taken by Government to attain the objectives of the banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Rural Electrification

1629. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have achieved the target fixed to provide electricity to villages in various Islands in Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

(b) if so, the details of amount spent on rural electrification from the Tsunami Fund;

(c) whether the Government has sped up rural electrification programme in Andaman and Nicobar Islands after the Tsunami devastation in the Island;

(d) if so, the total amount spent on rural electrification so far from the Tsunami Fund; and

(e) the time by which the target fixed for the purpose is likely to be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) According to the Union Territory Administration of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, 317 villages out of 547 villages have been electrified. In addition 120 villages which are either encroached in forest areas or are un-inhabited villages, holding about 4% of population, are not to be electrified as per present guidelines. Balance 110 villages covering 1% population are yet to be electrified, out of which about 25 isolated villages are to be electrified through non-conventional energy sources. The survey of these villages is in progress. However the above figure of villages to be electrified has got modified due to Tsunami on 26-12-2004 and the final settlement/village details are yet to be finalized.

(b) to (e) An amount of Rs. 5.29 crores has been spent upto October, 2005 and an amount of Rs. 9.00 crores is committed expenditure from the Tsunami fund for providing power supply to relief camps and the intermediate shelter locations.

In addition, after the Tsunami disaster the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources had provided 5500 solar lanterns for distribution in Tsunami affected areas for which an amount of Rs. 1.81 crore has been spent by the Ministry.

Power supply to all the Tsunami affected islands including all the intermediate shelter locations has been restored. All the remaining un-electrified villages are proposed to be electrified by the year 2007.

Restoration of power supply in Andaman and Nicobar Islands including rural electrification may require about Rs. 178 crores.

Appointment of MD/Chairman in Banks

1630. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of Union Government and procedure and criteria adopted in making the appointment of Chairman, Managing Director and Directors in all the nationalized banks;

(b) whether members on the Board of Directors are also elected; and

(c) if so, the policy and procedure of elections and the likely date of ensuing election in different nationalized banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Appointment of Directors on the Boards of the nationalized banks is made in accordance with the provisions contained in the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act 1970 and 1980 and the Nationalised Banks (Management and Miscellaneous Provisions) Scheme, 1970 and 1980. In terms of provisions of Section (3) of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 and 1980, the Board of Directors of each of the nationalized banks consist of the following:—

(i) Two whole time directors—one Chairman and Managing Director and one Executive Director—to be appointed by the Central Government after consultation with the RBI;

(ii) One Government director—who is an official of the Central Government—to be nominated by the Central Government;

(iii) One RBI director—who is an officer of the RBI—to be nominated by the Central Government on the recommendations of RBI.

(iv) Two directors from the financial institutions—to be nominated by the Central Government.

(v) One Workman Employees Director—out of the workman employees of the bank—to be nominated by the Central Government in consultation with RBI.

(vi) One Officer Employee Director—out of the officer employees of the Bank—to be nominated by the Central Government after consultation with the RBI.

(vii) One part-time non-official director—who has been a Chartered Accountant for not less than 15 years—to be nominated by the Central Government after consultation with the RBI.

(viii) Not more than six part time non official directors from the general category—to be nominated by the Central Government. However, in the case of those banks which have raised capital by public issue of shares, these six part time non official directors shall be replaced in a phased manner by directors elected by the shareholders other than the Central Government, as indicated below:—

(a) where not more than 20% of the paid capital is held by the public	not more than 2 directors
(b) where more than 20% but not more than 40% of the paid up capital is held by the public	not more than 4 directors
(c) where more than 40% of the total paid up capital is held by the public	not more than 6 directors

As regards the procedure and criteria for making such appointments, an Appointments Board has been constituted in the Ministry of Finance (Banking Division) for making recommendations for appointment of whole time directors on the boards of public sector banks and financial institutions, Governor, RBI is the chairman of

the Board which includes Secretary (DEA), Deputy Governor, RBI, Additional Secretary (FS) [(in the absence of Secretary (FS))] and two outside experts as its members. In addition, there are two sub-committees of the board, one under the chairmanship of the Secretary (DEA) and the other under the Additional Secretary (FS)

to interact with short-listed Executive Directors and General Managers respectively and prepare panels of eligible Executive Directors for being appointed as CMDs and general managers for being appointed as Executive Directors. The meetings of the Appointments Board are held from time to time to consider these panels and make recommendations for appointments of persons for filling up existing and anticipated vacancies of CMDs and EDs. The recommendations of the board are processed in the Banking Division and based thereon, the decision to make appointments of whole time directors is taken with the approval of the Finance Minister. After obtaining the vigilance clearances in respect of such persons and completion of other formalities, formal proposals for the appointments are submitted to the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) for approval. After the receipt of the ACC's approval and updating of vigilance clearance, wherever required, the appointments are notified by the Government.

(b) and (c) The part time non official Members on the Board of Directors are elected only when a Public Sector Bank raises capital by public issue of shares. Depending on the public holding, a Bank can convene Extra Ordinary General Meeting and elect its shareholder directors.

India Security Press Nasik

1631. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the India Security Press, Nasik is responsible for manufacturing of security papers viz. security paper, dandy rolls for security water mark, gumming and super-calendaring, is getting these works done from outside agencies;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the value of counterfeit security papers in circulation at present and the number of cases relating to circulation of counterfeit security papers detected during each of the last three years; and

(d) the remedial measures taken by the Government to check circulation of such security papers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) No, Sir. India Security Press, Nasik, is responsible for

printing and supply of different types of Security documents only. In this process necessary raw materials required are procured from outside agencies. Paper manufacturers for production of paper obtain dandy rolls from dandy roll manufacturers. Gumming and super-Calendaring is also done by outside agencies.

(c) This information may be available with State/U.T. Governments. India Security Press does not have any data on circulation of counterfeit security papers, as it comes under the purview of law enforcement agencies of the State Governments.

(d) Checking of circulation of security papers, is a law and order subject which comes under the purview of State/U.T. Governments. However, to eliminate the possibility of pilferage and theft enroute, the supplies to indentors has been made on F.O.R. basis at Security Printing Press, Hyderabad as is the practice at India Security Press, Nasik, Further, the introduction of enhanced security features in stamp papers would make counterfeiting of stamp papers extremely difficult.

Expenditure under SGRY

1632. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has been spending money on individual beneficiary schemes and development of need based infrastructure under the Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) in the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe habitations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount spent under these schemes during the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) the details of number of districts in each State benefited as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

Under SGRY, 22.5% of resources released to the District Panchayat and Intermediate Panchayats are required to be used for individual beneficiary schemes for Scheduled Castes (SCs)/Scheduled Tribes (STs) living below poverty line while minimum 50% of the Village Panchayat share of allocation are required to be used for the creation of

need based Village infrastructure in SC/ST habitations.

(c) The details are given in the enclosed statement.

(d) All the District Panchayats/DRDAs of the States/ Union Territories except those of Chandigarh and Delhi are benefited with these provisions under the SGRY.

Statement

Expenditure incurred on individual beneficiary scheme (22.5%) and development work in SC/ST habitation (50%) during the years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.	States/UTs	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05	
		Individual	Development	Individual	Development	Individual	Development
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3414.63	5946.70	4182.16	8321.76	2742.5	8242.56
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	77.31	27.91	32.81	NR	14.56	NR
3.	Assam	3758.08	3749.50	6102.00	7322.67	6345.671	10003.03
4.	Bihar	4925.06	6642.54	6120.14	9345.27	9312.245	10392.91
5.	Chhattisgarh	1514.21	2441.20	1871.56	2936.01	2136.91	4675.80
6.	Goa	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
7.	Gujarat	3512.37	2340.51	NR	NR	1948.51	4980.13
8.	Haryana	1191	2246.60	1012.57	1953.84	842.267	2041.69
9.	Himachal Pradesh	401.07	295.34	521.96	573.56	447.77	899.86
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	NR	NR	NR	NR	268.24	493.01
11.	Jharkhand	3118.90	4909.33	5315.61	6477.39	13835.46	NR
12.	Karnataka	2753.50	4342.14	3240.43	5204.30	3142.04	6180.45
13.	Kerala	744.97	1220.31	1166.90	1608.76	1464.75	3016.63
14.	Madhya Pradesh	4997.44	8437.42	5926.64	11226.05	4755.79	11201.09
15.	Maharashtra	4804.16	8597.25	5363.28	11578.65	5803.8	12363.55
16.	Manipur	200.92	339.52	227.84	244.76	322.3	792.24
17.	Meghalaya	NR	532.13	1336.62	1194.83	NR	NR

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
18.	Mizoram	5.25	4.75	411.25	314.982	27.37	113.26
19.	Nagaland	NR	306.96	595.87	553.08	322.56	718.79
20.	Orissa	6195.65	5950.70	8241.65	10561.48	17526.05	NR
21.	Punjab	536.26	1263.77	765.91	2138.62	890.72	2080.16
22.	Rajasthan	1764.35	5268.91	3366.12	5862.81	2610.34	6780.79
23.	Sikkim	70.00	109.33	107.00	148.00	208.86	205.56
24.	Tamil Nadu	4179.34	6295.79	5247.36	9081.25	4208.99	9108.42
25.	Tripura	678.99	858.62	1075.40	841.28	1182.196	2280.95
26.	Uttaranchal	NR	NR	1112.38	1366.75	1071.52	2037.68
27.	Uttar Pradesh	14182.85	17983.48	16031.49	26489.97	13376.565	28038.57
28.	West Bengal	2968.98	4335.43	5024.57	4057.63	4908.92	7720.76
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	NR	NR	NR	7.26	NR	NR
30.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
31.	Daman and Diu	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
32.	Lakshadweep	NR	5.79	NR	NR	10.98	NR
33.	Pondicherry	51.02	60.52	4.79	41.86	0.21	7.14
Total		66046.31	94512.45	84104.31	129452.82	99728.09	134373.03

NR—Not Reported.

[Translation]

Setting up of Family Court

1633. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of family courts set up in various parts of the country so far, state-wise;

(b) the number of cases disposed off by the family courts in the country during each of the last three years, till date;

(c) whether the Union Government have issued any

direction to all the State Governments to set up family courts in each districts within scheduled time;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the names of States, which have set up/not set up family courts in each district as on date; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to overcome the problems being faced in setting up of family courts in each district of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) Statements-I is enclosed.

(b) Statement-II is enclosed.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The recommendation made in the 6th Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances and Ministry of Law and Justice (Department of Justice), were circulated to all State Governments in June, 2005 that a target should be fixed for establishing at least one Family Court in each district so as to resolve family disputes and related matters expeditiously.

(c) As per the information available, no State Govt. has set up Family Court in every district of the State.

(f) In order to encourage the State Governments to set up Family Court in each district, this Department is providing funds under centrally sponsored scheme on 50:50 basis from 2002-03. As per the scheme, Rs. 10 lakhs per court under Plan are provided for setting up of Family Court and Rs. 5 lakhs per court under Non-Plan are provided for the recurring expenditure of family courts.

Statement-I

No. of Family Courts Established in the Country

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Total number of Family Courts
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8
2.	Assam	5
3.	Bihar	4
4.	Chhattisgarh	7

1	2	3
5.	Delhi	15
6.	Gujarat	7
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	1
8.	Jharkhand	6
9.	Karnataka	12
10.	Kerala	16
11.	Madhya Pradesh	7
12.	Maharashtra	18
13.	Manipur	2
14.	Nagaland	2
15.	Orissa	2
16.	Pondicherry	1
17.	Punjab	2
18.	Rajasthan	6
19.	Sikkim	1
20.	Tamil Nadu	6
21.	Tripura	1
22.	Uttar Pradesh	14
23.	Uttaranchal	7
24.	West Bengal	3
Total		153

Statement-II

State-wise details of the number of cases disposed of by Family Courts as on 31-12-2004

Name of the State	Disposal		
	During 2002	During 2002	During 2002
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	4715	4736	3025 (30.9)

1	2	3	4
Assam	688	733	700 (30.9)
Bihar	537	1026	1648
Chhattisgarh	*	*	69
Gujarat	4399	4548	4428
Jharkhand	1281	2062	**
Karnataka	5983	6132	5825
Kerala	11636	17240	18810
Madhya Pradesh	*	2453	1985 (30.6)
Maharashtra	15103	15488	15940
Manipur	276	186 (30.6) *	**
Orissa	1890	2260	1816
Sikkim	188	117	30 (31.3)
Tamil Nadu	6956	9827	11628
Tripura	*	*	446
Uttar Pradesh	19723	20042	22610
Uttaranchal	1212	3497	3110
West Bengal	471	418	**
Pondicherry	691	528	676
Total	64798	94832	92367

* Not started Functioning.

** Not received.

Pending Family Court Cases

1634. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:
Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending in the Family Courts during each of the last three years, till date;

(b) whether the Union Government are aware of the increasing number of pending cases in Family Courts;

(c) if so, the main reasons for the same; and

(d) the steps taken to clear the pending cases in Family Courts speedily?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) A statement is enclosed.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Some of the important reasons for increase in the number of pendency in Family Courts are awareness of the people, specially women, about their legal rights; globalization, increase in the number of divorce cases and lesser number of Family Courts.

(d) State Governments have already been advised to set up a family court in each district for which funds are also being given. Further it has been decided to

focus on reforms in a few core areas which include computerization of judiciary and development of physical infrastructure.

Statement

State-wise details of the number of cases pending in Family Courts as on 31-12-2004

Name of the State	Pendency		
	During 2002	During 2002	During 2002
Andhra Pradesh	4421	4164	5123
Assam	927	1032	1012 (30.9)
Bihar	2904	3221	2393
Chhattisgarh	*	*	1300
Gujarat	6257	6161	6368
Jharkhand	2494	4424	**
Karnataka	8753	9798	10672
Kerala	21175	28205	30114
Madhya Pradesh	*	7916	8101 (30.6)
Maharashtra	18298	18795	18119
Manipur	679	743 (30.6)	**
Orissa	4404	5004	5260
Sikkim	28	39	35 (31.3)
Tamil Nadu	7541	6504	6940
Tripura	*	*	367
Uttar Pradesh	42040	46406	49758
Uttaranchal	3414	2765	3485
West Bengal	554	647	**
Pondicherry	765	881	708

* Not started Functioning.

** Not received.

Sale of PSUs

1635. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has plans to create new model to administer the strategic sale of its profit-making companies by taking such PSUs out of their administrative ministries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether for this purpose, any new commission or the existing Disinvestment Commission is going to be vested with additional powers to oversee the sale of equity; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No such proposal is under the consideration of the Government at present.

(b) to (d) Do not arise. It may be added that the Disinvestment Commission has been wound up in October, 2004.

[Translation]

Losses of Cooperative Banks

1636. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of co-operative banks in the country specially operating in tribal areas running in losses, during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the reasons for incurring losses;

(c) the details of the administrative expenses incurred on these banks during the above-mentioned period; and

(d) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken to check these losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The State-wise number of State Cooperative Banks (SCBs)/

District Central Cooperative Banks (DCCBs) operating in tribal areas and running in losses during the last 3 years are indicated in enclosed statement-I.

(b) The general reasons for incurring losses by cooperative banks as a whole are as under:—

- Poor quality of loan appraisal, inadequate post disbursement supervision, poor recovery performance, high level of overdues/non-performing assets.
- Lack of efforts/support for recovery of dues, delay in receiving dues from non-credit societies.
- Inadequate income generation and interest spread/financial margin.
- High cost of management leading to negative net margin and poor health of affiliated Primary Agriculture Credit Societies (PACs).

(c) The details of administrative expenses incurred by loss making banks are indicated in enclosed statement-II.

(d) Some of the steps taken to check these losses are (i) proper implementation of Development Action Plans (DAPs) and Memorandum of Understanding (ii) Augmentation of share capital (iii) conduct of training programmes for these banks (iv) Constitution of cooperative development fund with the objective of supporting cooperative credit institutions in undertaking various developmental initiatives such as Human Resource Development, building of better Management Information System, infrastructure creation, setting up of business development department with technical personnel, etc.

Statement-I

The state-wise details of Cooperative Banks in Tribal areas and Banks running in losses during the last 3 years

Sl. No.	State	No. of SCBs/DCCBs operating in Tribal areas	No. of SCBs/DCCBs running in losses
1	2	3	4
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	1	—
2.	Andhra Pradesh	16	—

1	2	3	4
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	1
4.	Assam	1	1
5.	Bihar	3	—
6.	Chhattisgarh	6	—
7.	Gujarat	8	2
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1	—
9.	Jharkhand	8	6
10.	Karnataka	4	1
11.	Kerala	3	—
12.	Madhya Pradesh	14	11
13.	Maharashtra	15	5
14.	Manipur	1	1
15.	Meghalaya	1	—
16.	Mizoram	1	1
17.	Nagaland	1	1
18.	Orissa	6	1
19.	Rajasthan	9	—
20.	Sikkim	1	—
21.	Tamil Nadu	4	2
22.	Tripura	1	1
23.	Uttar Pradesh	1	—
24.	West Bengal	3	1

Statement-II

The state-wise, SCB/DCCB-wise details of administrative expenses incurred by the loss making Banks during the last 3 years

(AMT: Rs. Lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Name of SCB/DCCB	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	Arunachal SCB	399.81	460.35	494.23

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Assam	Assam SCB	1895.00	1566.00	1588.00
3.	Gujarat	Baroda	602.29	610.71	549.76
		Panchmahal	616.08	455.48	395.13
4.	Jharkhand	Deogarh-Jamtara	95.38	101.67	NA
		Hazaribagh	59.75	62.99	NA
		Singhbhum	225.66	250.13	NA
		Giridih	50.74	44.04	NA
		Ranchi-khunti	115.12	127.02	141.79
		Gumla-Simdega	135.69	145.13	210.06
5.	Karnataka	Chikmagalur	303.31	298.45	305.92
6.	Madhya Pradesh	Mandla	300.51	272.72	368.30
		Dhar	429.38	413.45	425.94
		Khandwa	510.86	485.94	595.85
		Betul	208.09	188.49	178.98
		Seoni	260.67	228.46	176.09
		Balaghat	274.24	229.21	228.87
		Hosangabad	416.20	389.30	337.02
		Shahdol	148.55	107.22	109.55
		Sidhi	167.30	156.25	154.06
		Morena	195.78	152.46	146.38
		Chhindwara	377.05	343.30	345.76
7.	Maharashtra	Amravathi	919.45	1000.74	1090.53
		Dhule	1437.39	1497.88	1599.66
		Jaigaon	3331.22	3197.30	3308.68
		Nagpur	1105.78	1614.84	1222.92
		Nanded	1987.42	2305.29	1813.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
8	Manipur	Manipur SCB	149.51	144.51	141.63
9	Mizoram		473.82	481.91	NA
10	Nagaland	Nagaland SCB	381.24	447.90	432.23
11	Orissa	Boudh	120.09	112.05	137.97
12	Tamil Nadu	1. Dindigul	557.00	663.00	629.00
		2. Nilgiris	259.00	264.00	240.00
13	Tripura	Tripura SCB	536.44	548.61	540.16
14	West Bengal	Purulia	94.57	106.62	106.87

NA=Not Available.

[English]

Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana

1637. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka High Court has pulled up a nationalized bank for 'sabotaging' the object of the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana by resorting to unethical banking practices:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken against those held responsible: and

(d) the steps being taken by the Union Government to check the recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

India Security Press Nasik

1638. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India Security Press, Nasik is responsible for Production of various types of security papers required

by RBI, SBI, State Governments and Union Territories have failed to fulfil the demands of these agencies to a large extent;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to increase the production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The India Security Press, Nasik is responsible for production of various types of security papers required by RBI, SBI, State Governments and Union Territories. It has met the demands of these agencies to its capacity. In the case of MICR and Non-MICR Cheques as well as Drafts, the demand has been fully met. It has been observed that in the case of Non Judicial and Allied Stamps, there have been wide fluctuations in the annual indents received from the indenters. However, production and supply of stamps and stamp papers has been consistent.

(b) In the case of Non Judicial and Allied Stamps, it has been observed that the indents raised by the State Governments and Union Territories have been unrealistic and highly inflated.

(c) To curtail erratic and unrealistic indents, the States are now required to pay 30% amount of the indented value of the Non Judicial and Allied Stamps in advance and balance 70% at the time of taking delivery. They are also required to place 3 years rolling indent

and follow a six monthly supply schedule to ensure realistic indent and better production planning. Presently, it is not proposed to increase the production capacity in the case of Non Judicial Stamps and Allied Stamps as there is a decrease in demand due to the steps taken to encourage the states to raise realistic indents and other developments such as implementation of dematting and other modes of revenue collection by State Governments. In the case of other products, production capacity has been found to be adequate.

[Translation]

**Cancellation of Registration of
Defaulter Companies**

1639. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Panel of Legal experts has suggested to the Government in the month of October 2005 to cancel the registration of the defaulter companies:

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of Government thereto:

(c) whether the Government proposes to takes steps against such companies regarding the cancellation of registration; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA):

(a) to (d) The Expert Group headed by Shri O.P. Vaish constituted by the Government on Streamlining Prosecution Mechanism under the Companies Act, 1956 submitted its report on 19th October, 2005. It has interalia made certain suggestions for striking off the names of defaulting/defunct companies under section 560 of the Act. While the recommendations of the said report are under examination in context of the statutory provisions, the Government have already afforded an opportunity to defunct companies to exit from the Register of companies through Simplified Exit Scheme (SES) 2005. 26483 companies have made applications under this scheme. The Government will continue to

pursue action under relevant provisions of the Law against defaulters, including striking off the names of such companies from the companies register.

**Assistance to State Handloom
Finance Corporation**

1640. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government provide financial assistance to the State Handloom finance corporations and Handloom Cooperative Societies in order to extend benefits to the weavers:

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

(c) the criteria adopted to provide such assistance:

(d) the details of the funds allocated by the Government under the various schemes during the last three years, State-wise; and

(e) the number of weavers benefited by such assistance?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Union Government provides financial assistgance to National and State Handloom Development Corporations and State Apex and Primary Handloom Weavers Cooperative Societies to extend benefits to the weavers. No financial assistance is, however, provided to Handloom Finance Corporations.

(b) Statement-I showing details of State-wise financial assistance provided under various schemes, including Delhi, is enclosed.

(c) and (d) No State-wise allocations are made under the schemes by the Government. All the proposals found in conformity with the guidelines of the respective schemes and recommended by the State Governments are processed for release of funds.

(e) Statement-II showing the number of weavers benefited by assistance released under various schemes during the last three years is enclosed.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
14. Kerala			34.69	96.85	52.93	34.69	0.00	19.64	17.16	2.62	26.10	3.08	17.98	
15. Madhya Pradesh			0.00	0.00	3.78	6.60	0.00	0.00	0.00		2.48	0.00	0.00	2.00
16. Maharashtra			35.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	1.28	0.00		0.11	0.00	0.00	
17. Manipur			127.25	0.00	50.09	158.07	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	
18. Meghalaya			15.75	0.00	0.00	19.53	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	
19. Mizoram			-36.60	0.00	0.00	12.75	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	
20. Nagaland			24.45	484.51	371.75	247.60	0.89	73.88	0.00	79.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	
21. Orissa			0.00	0.00	24.05	29.44	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	
22. Pondicherry			0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	
23. Punjab			0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	
24. Rajasthan			0.00	51.71	51.71	26.61	5.00	0.35	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	
25. Sikkim			0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	
26. Tamil Nadu			227.80	514.44	172.29	42.68	106.22	122.64	100.07	20.90	210.00	318.79	278.41	370.55
27. Tripura			0.00	20.00	20.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.53
28. Uttar Pradesh			109.91	0.00	0.00	218.20	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	
29. Uttaranchal			20.30	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	
30. West Bengal			0.00	20.51	-0.00		0.00	1.71	7.09		10.00	0.00	0.00	
Total			1050.00	1797.10	1500.00	1072.92	237.08	221.25	369.26	120.98	275.03	321.87	436.39	375.40
Other Organisation			0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
Grand Total			1050.00	1797.10	1500.00	1072.92	237.08	221.25	369.26	120.98	275.03	321.87	436.39	375.40

	1	2	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
15. Madhya Pradesh	0.00	0.48	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.77	0.00	0.00	0.56	49.14
16. Maharashtra	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.95
17. Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	161.07
18. Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	22.59
19. Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	19.74
20. Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	861.51
21. Orissa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.83	7.12	0.00	0.00	138.36
22. Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
23. Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
24. Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.96	3.34	2.61	2.81	35.17
25. Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
26. Tamil Nadu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3039.43
27. Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.53
28. Uttar Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	793.52
29. Uttaranchal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.69
30. West Bengal	0.00	2.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	33.33
Total	10.45	17.93	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.44	14.83	2.87	3.78	7805.81
Other Organisation	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	2871.92
Grand Total	10.45	17.93	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.44	14.83	2.87	3.78	10677.73

Details of releases made during 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 (upto 31-10-05) to various States under different Handloom Plan Schemes

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Handloom Export Scheme					Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana (DDHPY)				
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1238.85	1648.45	406.09	656.12		
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	19.33	0.00	0.00	0.00		
3.	Assam	0.00	33.75	15.00	0.00	837.87	445.71	0.00	0.00		
4.	Bihar	6.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	12.62	0.00	0.00		
5.	Chhattisgarh	6.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	42.92	43.88	11.20	0.00		
6.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	100.00	100.00	0.00		
7.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
8.	Gujarat	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
9.	Haryana	0.00	9.85	13.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.58	0.00		
10.	Himachal Pradesh	32.33	41.55	6.75	4.69	137.64	99.18	96.82	0.00		
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	31.89	21.56	20.42	25.38		
12.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
13.	Karnataka	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	156.61	126.66	104.76	1029.53		
14.	Kerala	20.25	11.25	6.73	11.50	1067.13	679.35	594.10	215.16		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
15.	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	62.20	9.06	40.19	0.73	
16.	Maharashtra	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.82	3.59	38.00	0.00	
17.	Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00	481.32	112.79	426.35	0.00	
18.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
19.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.46	3.47	7.76	0.00	
20.	Nagaland	5.90	5.50	0.00	117.81	516.33	489.21	508.42	
21.	Orissa	0.00	6.44	20.25	22.34	20.66	123.36	87.19	
22.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
23.	Punjab	14.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
24.	Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.75	9.77	43.37	0.00	
25.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
26.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	0.00	5.63	2520.65	1581.41	3375.20	2555.55	
27.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.72	5.49	34.16	0.00	
28.	Uttar Pradesh	69.40	76.72	34.18	589.04	908.84	1283.83	516.06	
29.	Uttaranchal	0.00	0.00	0.00	27.25	2.13	53.49	0.00	
30.	West Bengal	31.93	21.30	14.52	347.88	77.91	881.37	19.36	
	Total	186.26	206.36	116.56	7873.50	6423.79	8134.26	5613.50	
	Other Organisation	119.64	235.32	298.44	592.67	310.00	260.00	137.08	
	Grand Total	305.90	441.68	415	8466.17	6733.79	8394.26	5750.58	

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Marketing Promotion Programme										Bunkar Bima Yojana			
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06			
1	2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18						
1.	Andhra Pradesh	61.88	42.88	75.17	66.21	0.00	0.00	13.26	0.00						
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	19.59	7.26	1.75		0.00	0.00	0.00							
3.	Assam	112.55	101.41	107.29	137.35	0.00	0.00	0.85							
4.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00							
5.	Chhattisgarh	29.19	1.00	2.41		0.00	0.00	0.00							
6.	Delhi	13.70	12.00	15.00	13.00	0.00	0.00	0.17							
7.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00							
8.	Gujarat	15.66	19.25	22.00	41.73	0.00	0.00	0.55							
9.	Haryana	11.52	17.73	51.63	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00							
10.	Himachal Pradesh	9.05	8.09	7.00	11.87	0.00	0.00	0.02							
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	53.42	18.29	42.99		0.00	0.00	0.00							
12.	Jharkhand	8.60	0.00	0.00	35.00	0.00	0.00	0.00							
13.	Karnataka	24.45	24.10	46.33	57.22	0.00	0.00	8.22							
14.	Kerala	4.00	11.67	17.27	5.00	0.00	0.00	0.36							
15.	Madhya Pradesh	41.87	29.70	17.25	39.25	0.00	0.00	0.00							
16.	Maharashtra	68.31	6.79	22.71	2.95	0.00	0.00	0.02							

1	2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17.	Manipur	0.00	5.00	4.26	3.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
18.	Meghalaya	3.98	3.91	3.97	0.94	0.00	0.00	0.00	
19.	Mizoram	14.92	28.72	19.98	6.99	0.00	0.00	0.00	
20.	Nagaland	14.00	34.00	42.17	26.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	
21.	Orissa	18.00	43.81	80.52	21.73	0.00	0.00	2.15	
22.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	
23.	Punjab	7.00	0.00	5.33		0.00	0.00	0.00	
24.	Rajasthan	59.08	51.92	26.92		0.00	0.00	0.05	
25.	Sikkim	2.97	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	
26.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	44.11	28.34	38.25	0.00	0.00	19.02	
27.	Tripura	19.07	10.49	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	
28.	Uttar Pradesh	103.74	84.52	48.56	40.18	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.76
29.	Uttaranchal	31.67	8.00	8.82	4.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	
30.	West Bengal	11.86	20.26	38.28	13.97	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total		760.08	643.11	755.95	566.71	0.00	0.00	45.00	0.76
Other Organisation		167.11	146.70	153.02	102.84	0.00	150.00	150.00	0
Grand Total		927.19	790.61	908.97	669.55	0.00	150.00	195.00	0.76

Details of releases made during 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 (upto 31-10-2005) to various States under different Handloom Non-Plan Schemes

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Implementation of the HL (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1986						MDA Scheme				Janata Cloth Scheme			
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	17.93	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	859.61	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
3.	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.50	2.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
4.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
6.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
7.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
8.	Gujarat	18.66	39.26	19.19	34.18	60.76	97.80	76.78		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
9.	Haryana	6.06	7.68	6.60		0.00	0.00	0.00	54.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
10.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00		38.50	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	0.00	0.00		42.65	0.00	16.48		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
12.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
13.	Karnataka	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	26.47	26.38		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
14.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	0.00		45.60	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Reimbursement of CENVAT											Grand Total	
		10% Special Rebate											2005-06	
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2004-05	2005-06	2005-06	Non Plan	
1	2	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	127.54	26.12	0.30	0.00	262.31	227.77	566.17	666.47				
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
3.	Assam	0.00	0.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	112.00	626.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
4.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
6.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	26.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
7.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
8.	Gujarat	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	14.16	13.33	11.03	46.21				
9.	Haryana	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	173.59	21.22	75.74				
10.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	71.21	35.06	35.06				
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	95.59	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
12.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
13.	Karnataka	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	240.56	220.22	50.07	50.07				
14.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	287.50	731.68	7.90	7.90				
15.	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.23				

	1	2	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
16. Maharashtra			0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
17. Manipur			0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
18. Meghalaya			0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.10	0.00		0.00
19. Mizoram			0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	11.13	3.05		0.00
20. Nagaland			0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
21. Orissa			0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	114.94	243.68	179.56	444.82
22. Pondicherry			0.00	0.00	13.49	27.87	0.00	0.00	0.00		27.87
23. Punjab			0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	10.23		0.00
24. Rajasthan			0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	38.12	71.85	78.04
25. Sikkim			0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
26. Tamil Nadu			0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	660.86	630.82	526.33	672.85
27. Tripura			0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	12.05	19.13		0.00
28. Uttar Pradesh			0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	138.76	394.31	489.49	489.49
29. Uttaranchal			0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	6.24	0.00		0.00
30. West Bengal			0.00	6.26	0.00		0.00	190.30	303.63	154.10	183.03
Total			0.00	173.84	35.61	28.17	0.00	1960.00	3826.63	2112.77	2680.68
Other Organisation			1500.00	2318.04	477.92	0	0.00	50.00	327.78	29.42	4703.16
Grand Total			1500.00	2491.88	617.63	28.17	0.00	2000.00	4164.41	2142.19	7283.74

*Statement-II**Name of the Schemes and weavers benefited under them during the years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05*

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Year		
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1.	Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana	527695	51534	411816
2.	Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme	25756	21718	12008
3.	Thrift Fund Scheme	109668	77815	168782
4.	Health Package Scheme	44503	26814	72198
5.	New Insurance Scheme			441
6.	Bunkar Bima Yojana		33982	201152
7.	Handloom Export Scheme	1285	952	1025

*[English]***Irregularities in NFFWP**

1641. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) has expressed concern at the recent report of corruption in the implementation of the National Food for Work Programme (NFFWP);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the FICCI has also suggested measures for strengthening the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) including tightening of the delivery system and provisions for transparency and accountability;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) to (c) The Ministry

is not aware of any such report nor Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) has submitted to the Ministry any suggestions or measures for strengthening the implementation of National Rural Employment Guarantee Act.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Evaluation of SGSY

1642. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted concurrent performance evaluation of Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana and assessed the impact of the programme;

(b) if so, the details of main findings of the concurrent evaluation;

(c) the corrective measures taken by the Government to streamline the functioning of SGSY and made it poor friendly;

(d) whether there is a need to enhance the training and marketing facilities for swarozgaris; and

(e) if so, the action being taken by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir. A concurrent evaluation of Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) was carried out in 2002-03 for evaluating the performance of SGSY from the year 1999-2000 to 2001-02.

(b) As per the evaluation, the SGSY has been generally successful in providing economic empowerment to the poor, especially women. In most of the groups, the savings are regular. SHG members have improved their general awareness and knowledge, with the groups taking responsibility to ensure proper implementation of the scheme. The rural women seem to have benefited most from the scheme. Involvement in SGSY has contributed in improving their confidence in managing the finances of their families, improving their ability to communicate, enhancing their capacity to protest against social evils and swarozgaris appear to be more in control of their lives and are in a stronger position vis a vis their family members. Delay in disbursement of loans from the banks to Swarozgaris, lack of training and inadequate marketing support has also been pointed out in the report.

(c) The Ministry has a regular system for analyzing/ assessing the progress of the programme in terms of financial and physical and identifying reasons for lack of adequate progress. Efforts are made to systematically address the problem areas where bottlenecks are needed to be eliminated. The programme is monitored at various levels. At the Central level, the Central Level Co-ordination Committee (CLCC) monitors and reviews the implementation of the scheme and lays down policy guidelines for all aspects relating to the credit linkages for the SGSY. At the State level, a State Level SGSY Committee monitors the programme.

State Governments have been advised to hold regular meetings of SGSY Committees at different levels as per frequency prescribed under guidelines to ensure proper and effective implementation of programme. Regular participation of bankers in these meetings has been emphasized to ensure adequate credit mobilization

for the poor beneficiaries. An intensive awareness campaign has been launched through print/electronic media with the active involvement of the district/block officials and Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) to educate rural people about the benefits of the scheme.

(d) and (e) SGSY Guidelines provides for a number of measures for upgrading the capacity of Swarozgaris both in individual as well as group oriented activities. Swarozgaris who need additional skill development/ upgradation of skills, suitable training programmes are being organized by Government Institutions like Engineering Colleges, Industrial Training Institutes, Polytechnics, Universities and NGOs. With regard to enhancing marketing facilities for Swarozgaris, 12 regional SARAS Fairs besides India International Trade Fair (IITF) SARAS 2004 were organized to encourage the sale of products made by Swarozgaris during 2004-05. During the current year i.e. 2005-06, the Ministry has organized 12 such fairs in different parts of the country besides the annual IITF SARAS 2005. An amount of Rs. 5.00 lakhs annually may be spent from the SGSY fund by District Rural Development Agencies on marketing research, value addition, product diversification etc. to facilitate marketing of produce by swarozgaris.

Population to Judge Ratio

1643. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the population-to-Judge ratio in each of the States/Union Territories in the country;

(b) the percentage of gross national product in India spent on the judiciary to deliver justice;

(c) whether the Government proposes to formulate a policy to strengthen judicial system in the country and improve the population-to-Judge ratio to a satisfactory level; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) to (d) Under article 235 of the Constitution of India, the administrative control over the members of subordinate

Judicial Service vests with the concerned High Court. Further, in exercise of powers conferred under proviso to article 309 read with articles 233 and 234 of the Constitution, the State Government frames rules and regulations in consultation with the High Court. The members of the State Judicial Service are governed by these rules and regulations. Therefore, the appointments, posting/transfers and other service conditions of judicial officers of the District/Subordinate Courts are governed by the respective State Governments. The Central Government, therefore, has not maintained the figure of the population-to-judge ratio and the total expenditure incurred on judiciary in each of the States/Union Territories in the country.

However, the present judge strength in India is 13 per million population (approx.). The First National Judicial Commission in its report submitted in the year 1999 had reported that the expenditure on the judiciary in the country is 0.2 per cent of the GNP.

As stated above it is the primary responsibility of the State Governments to provide infrastructure facilities for the judiciary. In order to augment the resources of the State Governments and UTs, Central Government has, however, been providing funds for development of infrastructure facilities for the judiciary through various plans. Department of Justice has a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for development of judicial infrastructure. Under the scheme, the Centre and the States together have spent nearly Rs. 1150 crores in the last decade to construct court houses and residences for judicial officers.

Department of Justice has also identified a few core areas where judicial reforms are needed on priority basis to strengthen judicial system in the country. These include continuation of existing Fast Track Court (FTC's), creation of additional FTCs, Computerization of District and Subordinate judiciary and creation of physical infrastructure. The Government has approved continuation of the existing 1562 Fast Track Courts for further period of 5 years i.e. upto 31-03-2010 with a provision of Rs. 509 Crores as 100% Central funding. The Govt. has also approved Central Sector Project for computerization of subordinate judiciary at a cost of Rs. 384.53 crore.

[Translation]

One Time Settlement Scheme

1644. SHRI PARAS NATH YADAV: Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce one time settlement scheme involved in petty violations of company laws like self disclosure of income scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of such companies at present, State-wise;

(d) the nature of concessions/relaxation of the said scheme likely to be given to these companies; and

(e) the time by which the said scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA):

(a) No such scheme is presently proposed for introduction by the Government.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Smuggling of Heroin

1645. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU:

SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence has recently arrested three Nigerians with heroin worth 35 crores of rupees recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of heroin ganja, opium, charas and other narcotics seized during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(d) the number of persons arrested during the said period and the details of the action taken against them; and

(e) the measures taken by the Government to put a check on smuggling of narcotics and penalize the persons involved in this trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. DRI has arrested three Nigerians with a total of 34.6 kgs. of Heroin valued at about Rs. 35 crores (IMV). On the basis of specific intelligence, two Nigerians were intercepted at Nizamuddin Railway Station on 23-10-05 when they were about to board a train to Mumbai. Examination of their luggage led to recovery and seizure of 20.856 kgs. of Heroin. In the meantime, intelligence was developed that a Nigerian carrying heroin had already departed from the railway station for Mumbai. The Nigerian was apprehended when he

alighted at Mumbai and 13.8 kgs. of heroin seized from him.

(c) and (d) The details are furnished in the enclosed statement.

(e) All Customs field formations including Directorate of Revenue Intelligence are alert and vigilant to detect and prevent smuggling of contraband goods, including narcotic drugs. Prosecution proceedings are launched against persons involved in the smuggling of narcotic drugs.

Statement

State	Seizure of Narcotics Drugs in kgs.					Persons Arrested
	Heroin	Ganja	Opium	Charas	Other Narcotics	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2002-03						
Bihar	1.820	3680.350	—	490.400	—	46
Uttar Pradesh	1.0	830.000	—	1665	237.2	13
Uttaranchal	—	—	—	4.38	—	—
Tamil Nadu	21.975	162	—	—	1024	18
Maharashtra	35.668	—	—	—	347.99	17
Goa	—	—	—	—	37.295	6
West Bengal	0.59	670.10	—	—	5.00	6
Punjab	5.198	—	3.3	12.05	10	10
Rajasthan	—	—	—	—	0.200	2
Jammu and Kashmir	—	50.00	—	12.050	5.550	4
Delhi	4.59	—	—	6.86	1001487 (tabs) 0.487 kgs.	8

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Assam	—	8667.15	—	—	74.589	24
Manipur	—	104.94	—	—	117.9	3
Meghalaya	—	9527.38	—	—	—	14
Mizoram	0.05	500.02	1.2	—	—	17
Nagaland	—	3915.86	—	—	—	13
Tripura	—	216	—	—	—	1
Andhra Pradesh	—	—	—	—	3123	16
Gujarat	6.375	—	—	—	13.79	3
Karnataka	9.3	—	—	—	2	
Kerala	36.17	—	—	—	—	5
2003-04						
Bihar	1.350	12239.540	—	1117.660	360.105	52
Uttar Pradesh	—	731.25	—	1644.456	32	10
Uttaranchal	—	—	—	6.2	—	—
Karnataka	6.8	—	—	—	—	8
Tamil Nadu	18.643	19.475	—	—	—	22
Maharashtra	32	—	—	—	58.7	5
West Bengal	29.50	636.51	—	—	5.56	13
Punjab	6.570	—	6.80	—	5250	6
					Nos. Injection	
Himachal Pradesh	—	—	—	1.100	—	1
Rajasthan	—	—	5.280	—	545.000	9
Jammu and Kashmir	0.800	—	—	14.100	353.000	2
Delhi	25.007	—	—	9.96	71.160	22
Assam	0.18	11668.45	—	—	6.293	17
Manipur	0.77	2220.75	1.975	—	5.05	9

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Meghalaya	0.86	15226.45	—	—	1.96	11
Mizoram	0.60	8808.04	1.66	—	—	9
Nagaland	—	1814.51	—	—	—	2
Tripura	—	42	—	—	—	1
Kerala	—	—	—	—	0.93	1
2004-05						
Bihar	—	11136.2	—	12118.300	—	48
Jharkhand	—	8	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh	4.926	514.00	0.9	2432.43	19	20
Uttaranchal	—	—	—	23	—	—
Karnataka	—	1503	—	—	—	—
Kerala	—	32.750	—	—	0.75	13
Tamil Nadu	0.72	82.4	—	—	—	8
Maharashtra	8.43	—	—	1.800	148	2
Goa	—	—	—	2.00	0.010	3
West Bengal	5.99	1415.51	—	—	—	—
Punjab	23.970	—	—	—	3428.650	4
					Nos. Injection	
Humachal Pradesh	—	—	—	0.950	—	—
Rajasthan	—	—	0.030	0.022	11.280	4
Jammu and Kashmir	—	—	1.900	—	—	—
Delhi	61.042	—	—	32.34	27.793	16
Assam	1.66	27141.65	8.5	—	3.72	36
Manipur	1.01	4134	—	—	—	4
Meghalaya	0.06	9387.5	—	—	—	4
Mizoram	0.08	—	2.51	—	—	4

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Nagaland	—	211.5	—	—	—	3
Tripura	0.17	2828	—	—	—	04
Andhra Pradesh	—	—	—	—	531.713	1
2005-06 (Upto Oct. 05)						
Bihar	0.750	5480.4	—	281.4	3471 Vials	18
Uttar Pradesh	—	151.20	—	846.10	0.38	11
Uttaranchal	—	—	—	7	—	—
Tamil Nadu	—	2.2	—	—	1.730 (Methaq uon)	1
Maharashtra	15.369	—	—	9.293	62.559	12
Goa	—	—	—	38.00	2.710	3
West Bengal	4.00	668.65	—	—	—	2
Punjab	10.218	—	—	—	—	1
Himachal Pradesh	—	—	—	0.400	—	—
Rajasthan	—	14.600	0.048	160.106	2.528	5
Jammu and Kashmir	—	—	—	—	—	—
New Delhi	32.455	—	—	18.20	7.060	8
Assam	0.55	15416.5	—	—	0.45	20
Manipur	0.08	11198.5	—	—	3946	4
Meghalaya	—	4357.7	—	—	—	1
Nagaland	—	2806.09	—	—	—	2
Tripura	—	4068.7	—	—	—	—
Delhi	88.845	—	—	—	—	11
Maharashtra	13.800	—	—	—	50	2

The persons arrested are produced before the Magistrate. On completion of investigation complaint is filed in the designated court under NDPS Act for prosecution.

Exchange Rate and Interest Rate

1646. SHRI CHANDRABHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian economy is likely to have an indirect impact in the event of a formidable adjustment between the exchange rates and interest rates;

(b) if so, whether the market borrowing cost of the Government goes up if the expense pressure pushes the domestic interest rates;

(c) whether the position in regard to home loans is likely to be affected by the increase in the general rates of interest;

(d) whether the Indian banking sector is all set to withstand the impact of hike in the rates of interests;

(e) whether the interest rates have been increased on the American Dollar, British pounds, European Unions Euro deposits under the foreign exchange and NRI deposits and NRI deposits (External) scheme; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Any large adjustments in the exchange rates of major currencies are not expected to result in disruption in the Indian foreign exchange market. Presently, India does not have capital account convertibility, and as such fluctuations in the interest rates overseas may not have a direct immediate impact on the local economy. The fiscal and monetary policies are geared to minimise any adverse impact of such fluctuations.

(b) to (d) The interest rates in respect of the open market borrowings of the Government of India have become market related since 1992. The domestic interest rates are primarily a function of demand for and supply of loanable funds. The credit policy of the RBI prescribes the Bank rate, the repo and reverse repo rates. Interest rates on advances for different purposes including home loans are determined by the banks based on their risk perception and business considerations. RBI has not increased the Bank rate in the domestic economy during

the recent mid-term review of the Annual Policy Statement for the year 2005-06 in October 2005.

(e) and (f) Effective close of business in India, on November 17, 2005, it has been prescribed by RBI that the interest rates on fresh repatriable Non-Resident (External) Rupee (NRE) deposits for one to three years should not exceed 75 basis points (as against 50 basis points effective since November 1, 2004) above the London Inter-Bank offered Rate (LIBOR)/Swap rates for US dollar of corresponding maturity. From the above mentioned date, the interest rates on NRE savings deposits will also be at rate applicable to domestic savings deposits (as against the ceiling of LIBOR/Swap rates for six month maturity on US dollar deposits).

[English]

Government Purchases

1647. SHRI VIRCHANDRA PASWAN:

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:

SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any inter-Ministerial meeting has been held relating to the procedure for purchase of stationery and other items by Government departments;

(b) if so, the details of decisions taken in the meeting;

(c) whether any decision has been taken with a view to safeguard the interests of cooperative societies;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether Rules currently governing purchase procedure by Government departments has been followed strictly; and

(g) if not, the details of violation of such Rules and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (e) The provisions of Department of Personnel and Training's

(DoPT) O.M. No. 14/14/80-Welfare dated 14-7-1981, making it incumbent on all Central Government Departments, their attached and subordinate offices etc. for making all local purchases of stationery and other items only from Kendriya Bhandar in relaxation of the procedure of inviting tenders/quotations prescribed in General Financial Rules (GFRs), were reviewed in an inter-Ministerial meeting held on 2-6-2004, wherein it was broadly decided that the provisions of GFRs about tendering should be followed for purchase of stationery and other items, and DoPT was advised to issue revised instructions. Since then, this Ministry has revised GFRs, 1963 after wide ranging consultations with Ministries/ Departments (including DoPT). The new GFRs, 2005 have been promulgated with effect from July 1, 2005. As a result, the special dispensation under the earlier GFRs, 1963 available to Cooperative Societies ceased to have effect once GFRs, 2005 became operational. However, the new GFRs, 2005 do not exclude the Co-operatives from supplying to Govt. departments, nor preclude Ministries/Departments from making their procurements from these Cooperatives.

(f) and (g) It is for the individual Ministries/ Departments of the Government of India to ensure compliance of the current Rules governing purchase procedures.

Duty Evasion by Pharm Cos

1648. MOHD. MUKEEM:
SHRI UDAY SINGH:
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:
SHRI MUNAWAR HASSAN:
SHRI JUAL ORAM:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have launched investigation into suspected industrial units including pharmaceutical companies in relation to cases of tax evasion/under-invoicing;

(b) if so, the company-wise and State-wise details of the findings therefrom during the last three years:

(c) the quantum of loss in foreign exchange, and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken against the guilty companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (ε) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Projects Pending with Public Investment Board

1649. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects in the steel ports and coal sectors pending with Public Investment Board as on date:

(b) the separate break-up thereof;

(c) whether any such projects were cleared by his Ministry during the current financial year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken to expedite the clearance of the remaining projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) The number of projects in steel ports and coal sectors pending with Public Investment Board as on 29th November, 2005 is as under:—

Steel	—	Nil
Ports	—	Nil
Coal	—	13

(c) and (d) The details of projects cleared by Public Investment Board in steel ports and coal sectors during current financial year are given in the enclosed statement. The remaining 13 pending projects as on 29th November, 2005 in Coal Sector will be considered in the forthcoming meetings of Public Investment Board. Meetings for 6 Coal Sector projects under Emergency Coal Production Programme have already been fixed till first week of December, 2005. Meetings for remaining 7 coal projects will be scheduled in due course.

Statement

Projects in Steel, Ports and Coal Sectors cleared by PIB during current Financial Year (till 29-11-2005)

Sl. No.	Date of Meeting	Subject	Ministry/Deptt.
1.	13-4-2005	Sethusamudram Ship Channel Project (SSCP)	Min. of Shipping
2.	24-6-2005	Expansion of RINL Vishakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP)	Min. of Steel
3.	2-9-2005	Rajmahal Opencast Expansion Project of Eastern Coal Fields Ltd.	Min. of Coal
4.	3-11-2005	(i) Bhubaneswari Opencast Expansion Project—ECPP (ii) Kaniah Opencast Expansion Project—ECPP	Min. of Coal
5.	8-11-2005	(i) Gevra Opencast Expansion Project—ECPP (ii) Dipka Opencast Expansion Project—ECPP	Min. of Coal
6.	22-11-2005	(i) Magadh Opencast Expansion Project—ECPP (ii) Ashok Opencast Expansion Project—ECPP	Min. of Coal
7.	28-11-2005	(i) Krishnashila Opencast Project—NCL (ii) Block B Opencast Project—NCL	Min. of Coal

ECPP—Emergency Coal Production Programme.

Public Provident Fund

1650. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives of constituting Public Provident Fund (PPF) and whether the objectives have been achieved;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether PPF covers less than one in every thousand workers in the unorganized sector and PPF has not been very successful in attracting lower income earners and whether over half of PPF customers are in the taxable income bracket; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to achieve the objectives of constituting PPF and to make it a successful scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (d) The objective of constituting the Public Provident Fund (PPF) Scheme is to establish a provident fund for the general public. Fulfillment of the objective of the scheme is an ongoing process.

The gross annual collections under the Scheme have increased from Rs. 10747 crore in 2001-02 to 16484 crore in 2004-05 (Provisional). The balances under the Scheme amount to Rs. 83461 crore as on 31-3-2005 (Provisional). The information of account holders, income-wise is however, not maintained. Government has constantly been reviewing the scheme to make it investor friendly.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Why are you reacting like this?

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): It has been published in the newspaper and I would like to know the names of the persons who shared this booty of Rs. 200 crores....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: All right, you please sit down. There should be a procedure to be followed to know such things.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: At least their names should be disclosed....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will come to this. I am not avoiding it. I am not running away so far. Till 1 p.m. I am here. Let me finish the Papers to be laid first.

I will call the hon. Leader of the Opposition after these items are over.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ramdas Athawale, would you go to your seat?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, we take up the Papers to be laid on the Table.

12.01 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 59 of the Energy Conservation Act, 2001:—

- (1) The Bureau of Energy Efficiency (Annual Report) Rules, 2005 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 317 in Gazette of India dated the 17th September, 2005.

- (2) The Bureau of Energy Efficiency (Procedures for Conduct of Business of the Governing Council) Regulations, 2005 published in Notification No. F.No. 02-11(1)/03-BEE in Gazette of India dated the 27th September, 2005.

- (3) The Bureau of Energy Efficiency Appointment and Terms and Conditions of Service of Director General (Amendment) Rules, 2005 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 567 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 7th September, 2005.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2910/05]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962:—
 - (i) G.S.R. 672 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th November, 2005, together with an Explanatory Memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 36/2005-Cus., (N.T.) dated the 2nd May, 2005.
 - (ii) G.S.R. 673 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th November, 2005, together with an Explanatory Memorandum making certain amendments in the seventeen Notifications mentioned therein.
 - (iii) G.S.R. 538 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd August, 2005, together with an Explanatory Memorandum making certain amendments in the seventeen Notification mentioned therein.
 - (iv) G.S.R. 624 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th October, 2005, together with an Explanatory Memorandum regarding exemption to specified goods from the basic and additional duties of Customs leviable thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2911/05]

[Shri S.S. Palanimanickam]

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 38 of the Customs Act, 1944:—

- (i) G.S.R. 539 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22th August, 2005, together with an Explanatory Memorandum exempting "Newsprint, in reels", from the payment of Central Excise duty leviable thereon for the period from 1st March, 1998 to 8th July, 2004.
- (ii) G.S.R. 508 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th July, 2005, together with an Explanatory Memorandum exempting "Cocoa beans, whole or broken, raw or roasted", and Cocoa shells, husks, skins and other cocoa waste from the whole of duty of Excise leviable thereon for the period from 28th February, 2005 to 1st May, 2005.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2912/05]

(3) A copy of the Central Sales Tax (Registration and Turnover) Third Amendment Rules, 2005 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 588 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th September, 2005 under sub-section (2) of section 13 of the Central Sales Tax Act, 1956, together with an explanatory memorandum.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2913/05]

(4) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section (7) of section 9A of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975:—

- (i) G.S.R. 660 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th November, 2005, together with an Explanatory Memorandum seeking to impose provisional anti-dumping duty on Sodium Formaldehyde Sulphozylate, originating in, or exported from, the People's Republic of China, on provisional basis, on the recommendations of the Directorate General of Anti-dumping and Allied duties.

- (ii) G.S.R. 665 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th November, 2005, together with an Explanatory Memorandum seeking to provisional exempt imports of vitrified and porcelain tiles, other than industrial vitrified tiles, produced and exported by specified parties, from anti-dumping duty.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2914/05]

(5) A copy of the Draft Notification No. F.No. 8(11)/2004 IF-1 (Hindi and English versions) exempting Industrial Development Bank of India Limited from the provisions of sections 19 (2) and 20 (1) (b) (iii) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, under sub-section (5) of section 3 of the Industrial Development Bank (Transfer of Undertaking and Repeal) Act, 2003.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2915/05]

(6) A copy of the Export Import Bank of India General (Amendment) Regulations, 2005 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. FCG/2005 in the weekly Gazette of India dated the 17-23rd September, 2005, under sub-section (3) of section 39 of the Export-Import Bank of India Act, 1981.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2916/05]

(7) A copy each of the following Notification (Hindi and English versions) under of section 296 of the Income Tax Act, 1961:—

- (i) The Income-tax (23rd Amendment) Rules, 2005, published in Notification No. S.O. 1557 (E) in Gazette of India dated 3rd November, 2005 together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (ii) The Income-tax (24rd Amendment) Rules, 2005, published in Notification No. S.O. 1558 (E) in Gazette of India dated 3rd November, 2005 together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (iii) S.O. 1559 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd November, 2005 together with an explanatory memorandum specifying the

Public Provident Fund, established under the Public Provident Fund, Scheme 1968 for the assessment year 2006-2007 and subsequent assessment years.

- (iv) S.O. 1560 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd November, 2005 together with an explanatory memorandum specifying the National Savings Certificate (VIII Issue) as Savings Certificate for the assessment year 2006-2007 and subsequent assessment years.
- (v) S.O. 1561 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd November, 2005 together with an explanatory memorandum specifying the Unit Linked Insurance Plan of the Life Insurance Corporation Mutual Fund for the Assessment year 2006-2007 and subsequent assessment years.
- (vi) S.O. 1562 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd November, 2005 together with an explanatory memorandum specifying the New Jeevan Dhara, New Jeevan Dhara-I and New Jeevan Akshay, New Jeevan Akshay-I and II Plans of the Life Insurance Corporation of India as the annuity plan of the Life Insurance Corporation of India for the assessment year 2006-2007 and subsequent assessment years.
- (vii) The Equity Linked Savings Scheme, 2005 published in Notification No. S.O. 1563 (E) in Gazette of India dated 3rd November, 2005 together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (viii) S.O. 1564 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd November, 2005 together with an explanatory memorandum specifying the UTI-Retirement Benefit Pension Fund as a pension fund for the assessment year 2006-2007 and subsequent assessment years.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2917/05]

- (8) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) on Trend and Progress of Housing in

India (National Housing Bank), for the year ended 30th June, 2004, under section 42 of the National Housing Bank Act, 1987.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2918/05]

12.02 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:—

- (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 Manipur University Bill, 2005 which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 30th November, 2005.

2. Sir, I lay on the Table the Manipur University Bill, 2005, as passed by Rajya Sabha on the 30th November, 2005.

12.03 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

Fourth Report

[English]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad): I beg to present a copy of the Fourth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Government Assurances, regarding request for dropping of pending assurances.

12.04 hrs.

SUBMISSION BY MEMBERS

**Re: Reported revelations in respect of
Volcker Committee Report by Indian
Ambassador to Croatia**

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the hon. Leader of the Opposition. He wants to make a submission.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI (Gandhinagar): Mr. Speaker. Sir....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us all hear him and conduct ourselves peacefully. We have competent Ministers here and they can also respond. I request the hon. Leader of the Opposition to be as brief as possible.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker. Sir, this week the discussion was held in the House on Report of Volcker Committee. You have admitted my Adjournment Motion ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Kunwar Manvendra Singh, will you please take your seat?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am doing my job. Why are you disturbing me? Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will give you one-day trial to sit here and control the House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is very easy to give suggestions from there. I am trying my best. If you are not satisfied, the ways are open to you.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I warn you. I warn all sections of the House. You are in the habit of interrupting each other. It is bringing down our position in the whole country.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Kunwar Manvendra Singh, will you keep quiet? It is not a matter of laughter. I am not amused and the country is not amused.

Now, the hon. Leader of the Opposition.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this issue was discussed in the House all through the day and the hon'ble Minister of Finance replied to the debate. Similarly, the other House also discussed this issue throughout the day and perhaps the hon'ble Minister of Finance replied there too. I have gathered from the discussion that each Member of the ruling party wants to go to the root of the matter as to why the country earned a bad name in the food for the oil scam and who is responsible for this. That is why, I applaud the statement of the Congress President expressing her apprehensions that somebody seems to have deliberately brought a bad name to the Congress Party by accepting the kickbacks in the name of the party....(Interruptions)

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH (Mathura): She has not said this....(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Yes, she has said this. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Whom are you helping? You are not helping your leader.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Well I do not need your help.

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, today in the morning out of four persons who had gone to Iraq with Shri Natwar Singhji that led to the exposure of this scam, one person who was the Secretary of the Foreign Cell

of the Congress Party and who is presently the Ambassador in Croatia, his name...*

MR. SPEAKER: Advaniji, please do not mention name.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: It is crucial. He was a member.

MR. SPEAKER: Maybe, but you have not given any notice about him. You know that. You know very well that. I have allowed you time. I am only saying not to take the name. I am only saying this. Why are you upset?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: All right.

He is one of the members of the Congress delegation. What he has said is shocking really. That means that the whole Government knew about it. That means that everyone knew about it. After all...* cannot be knowing more than what Shri Natwar Singh knows or what the Congress Party knows.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Name will not go in record.

[English]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: After all, what he has said is this. If I were to sum up what he had said. the summing up is this. "That Natwar exploited an invitation to the Congress Party by Iraq to send a delegation to Baghdad. That during this trip in January 2001 Natwar got..." to accompany him and to the surprise of the other delegates, they were joined by..." in Baghdad as an official Congress delegate..."...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: the names will not go on record.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR (Mangalore South): Why?

MR. SPEAKER: You know very well why. I have not said about Shri Natwar Singh because he is a Member. I have not objected to his name. Why are you saying that?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Very well, you know Mr. Advani. I

do not have to tell you that there is no notice. These allegations cannot be made here. He is not here to protect himself.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I wish that in the two Houses the Prime Minister as Foreign Minister should have come to speak. In neither of the two Houses, did he speak? I am told that today he is going to make a statement. Only after...* made his statement, the Prime Minister comes here. Sir, I feel that this is an outrageous insult of the House and the country....(Interruptions) These revelations should have come to us in the course of the debate.

[Translation]

I got the information from...* The Government must be knowing. I did not know that all these coupons were taken by Shri Natwar Singh of the Congress party and who is till now holding the post of a Minister. This is different thing that today he will be removed or will be asked to tender resignation....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please be quiet.

[Translation]

What is this?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: All of you please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): We have removed him....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Ramdas Athawale, please go to your seat. Why are you creating problems? You are not on your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let him finish. I have requested him to be brief.

[*Translation*]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, regarding these announcements.

[*English*]

We want to go to the root of this matter. We want to go to the bottom of this entire episode.

MR. SPEAKER: You have mentioned it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Are these announcements hollow? If these announcement were not hollow I feel that our Minister of Finance should have called that Ambassador and asked about the reality. Who took those coupons in the name of the Congress Party. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I will have to take some action. This is too much. These three hon. Members are holding the House to ransom.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You are not adding to the stature of your Party. You are spoiling the image of your Party apart from the image of Parliament.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: "That Natwar used the trip to give the green signal that the oil vouchers could be handed over to..."

MR. SPEAKER: You get the names deleted.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: "That the allocations meant for the Congress were cornered in Natwar's name. And even before the Volcker Report, Natwar was aware of him being named in it."

[*Translation*]

He said that Natwar Singh had taken the coupons

in the name of the Congress Party. All these facts were not known to them....(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, you made your point. Let us hear him.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: No. Sir. my point is that I do not want even Shri Natwar Singh to be made a scapegoat of this scam....(*Interruptions*) He has to go. It is not merely Shri Natwar Singh but the whole Congress Party is involved....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Very well, you have made your point but this is not fair.

...(*Interruptions*)

12.11 hrs.

(*At this stage, Dr. Ram Lakhan Singh and some other hon. Members come and stood on the floor near the Table.*)

MR. SPEAKER: Do you not want the House to run?

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I will appeal to the Leader of the Opposition.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I will appeal to him that this is not fair.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Bring it to me and I will see whether this reference will be maintained or not.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned till 12.30 hours.

12.12 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Thirty Minutes past Twelve of the Clock.

12.30 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Thirty Minutes
Past Twelve of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

**Re: Reported Revelations in Respect of Volcker
Committee Report by Indian Ambassador to
Croatia—Contd.**

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Mr. Speaker, Sir, before the adjournment, the hon. Leader of the Opposition raised certain points and demanded that the hon. Prime Minister should come and respond to the points which he has raised, especially relating to some revelations in the matter of Volcker Report by our Ambassador to Croatia.

Most respectfully, I would like to submit that the hon. Prime Minister would come and make a statement at 2 p.m. or at whatever time you decide. My most respectful submission through you to hon. Members would be that we should transact our business till the hon. Prime Minister comes and makes his statement; and then, it is for hon. Members of the House to decide, after listening to the hon. Prime Minister, what course of action they would like to have. It is for every party and every individual to decide what course of action they would like to have.

As the Leader of the House, most respectfully, I would like to appeal to the Leader of the Opposition and to all hon. Members to please continue the normal business so that even if we raise our serious concerns on certain matters the normal way of transacting the business of the House should not be disrupted. This is my most respectful submission....(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, please call him now....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: All of you please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: The leader of Opposition wants to say something.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI (Gandhinagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the leader of the House informed the House that the Prime Minister has agreed to come to the House after the morning discussion and give statement in this regard. I would like to submit that it is commendable on the part of the Prime Minister that he has agreed to give statement in this regard after today's discussion on this issue, however, it would be better if he comes on Monday and gives his statement. Today I feel that the way the people are shocked to know this....*(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANANAT GANGARAM GEETE (Ratnagiri): Mr. Speaker, Sir, please call the Prime Minister now. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): This is not a rightful and honest approach. The House should be allowed to function....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, it is a matter of great sorrow and agony for me that in spite of my best efforts to give proper opportunity to all sections of the House to ventilate their issues and problems, no opportunity is given to the Chair to run the House.

...(*Interruptions*)

12.34 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Ashok Argal and some other hon. Members come and stood on the floor near the Table.)

MR. SPEAKER: With that anguish, I adjourn the House to meet again at 2. p.m.

12.35 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till
Fourteen of the Clock.*

*Not recorded.

14.02 hrs.

(The Lok Sabha reassembled at two Minutes past fourteen of the clock)

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

STATEMENT BY PRIME MINISTER

Re: Volker Committee Report

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a matter of shame for the entire country. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, do you want to say something?

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: The Prime Minister is coming.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajanj, Bihar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, please give me one minute's time before the Prime Minister makes a statement....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Do you want to speak in his presence?

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Sir, I would like to seek a clarification from him....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Meanwhile, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs may read out the statement about next week's Government business.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: No, Sir....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: All right.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir,

I had requested you to give me two minutes time. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Do you have to seek my permission?

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: I cannot speak without your permission....(*Interruptions*)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Prime Minister is going to make a statement and the leader of the Opposition, hon. Advaniji, has dwelt at length on this issue. I do not want to speak at length but would like to request the hon. Prime Minister to clarify two points while making his statement....(*Interruptions*) They need to be taught lessons on public morality and accountability. They are speaking inanely, like kids....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You may carry on. Do not pay any heed to them.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Members on the other side are requested to keep their cool. The hon. Prime Minister will give a reply.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the TV channels are giving out names also and from what they are showing, it seems that the members of the Congress organization are also involved in the bunglings. ...(*Interruptions*) That is why I would request the hon. Prime Minister to tell the names of the people who are involved in the illegal transactions and where had that money been kept? He is requested to clearly give out the names of the persons involved in it....(*Interruptions*) He should give the details here in the House. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: The Prime Minister has come. Let us hear him.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us hear the Prime Minister.

...(*Interruptions*)

THE PRIME MINISTER (DR. MANMOHAN SINGH): Mr. Speaker. Sir, this morning some hon. Members of the House wanted me to make a statement on a certain interview granted to a TV channel by the Indian Ambassador to Croatia. I have been informed that he has made certain statements regarding the alleged involvement of certain individuals in the matter which is currently under inquiry by the Justice Pathak Inquiry Authority as part of its mandate to inquire into certain transactions mentioned in the Volcker Committee report.

The same matter is also being investigated by the Enforcement Directorate.

Ever since the first mention was made of the involvement of certain Indian entities and individuals in the Volcker Committee report as non-contractual beneficiaries in the Iraq Oil-for-Food programme, the Government has been firm, consistent and clear in its stand on the matter. We had said that the references, as they are found in the Volcker Committee's report, are 'unverified references'....(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): These have been verified today...(*Interruptions*). He is still saying these are unverified....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: This is not right. What is happening?

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I will appeal to all the hon. leaders.

...(*Interruptions*)

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: We had said that we are determined to go to the root of the matter and establish the truth or otherwise of these references. We stand by that position even now.

In order to unearth the facts, we promptly appointed Mr. Justice R.S. Pathak to inquire into the two specific contracts which are of relevance and gave him full powers, in the manner he desired, to complete his inquiry speedily

*Also placed in Library. See No. LT 2919/05.

and effectively. We appointed Shri Virendra Dayal as a Special Envoy to gather relevant materials, and as the Finance Minister informed the House the other day, he has been doing his work most expeditiously and, in a space of 10 days, obtained important documents and material.

As for the statements made today—and I am told are likely to be published in a magazine later—they certainly relate to the transactions under investigation. Statements have been made about Shri Natwar Singh and other individuals. These are all a matter of concern.

The Enforcement Directorate will take cognizance of the recent statements attributed to the Indian Ambassador to Croatia and pursue the investigations.

The Enforcement Directorate has assured the Government that their investigations are proceeding on the right track and they would be able to establish the facts expeditiously. We should not pre-judge the final outcome of the investigation or pre-empt the findings that may be given by the Justice R.S. Pathak Inquiry Authority. For us in the Government truth is of utmost importance. We are determined that truth must prevail in this matter. Our Government believes in maintaining high standards of probity and transparency in public life and I can assure the House that no one who is guilty will go unpunished.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Panskura): Sir, I have a point. If the hon. Leader of the Opposition makes his generous remarks in the House with regard to the statement made, then the other Parties also should be given the same opportunity....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us see what happens.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: All right, please let your leader speak.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, may I submit one thing?...(*Interruptions*) Please listen to me....(*Interruptions*)

[Shri Gurudas Dasgupta]

I appeal to Shri Advaniji to yield and allow me to make my submission....(Interruptions) I am saying that the normal practice in the House has been that the Leader of the main Opposition Party makes a remark and after that there is a din and noise and the House is compelled to adjourn. This should not be allowed....(Interruptions)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Sir, what is this going on?...(Interruptions)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: It is the perversion of democracy....(Interruptions)

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR (Bangalore South): Sir, how can he say like this?...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot dictate to any Member what to say and what not to say.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: He cannot dictate....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I can only appeal to you to observe the norms of debate, observe the norms of discussion.

What more can I say? I have called your leader. Shri Ananth Kumar and Shri Harin Pathak, please do not disturb your leader. I have called him forthwith....(Interruptions)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: It is perversion of democracy if you do not allow us to speak....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us hear him.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: No. You should hear all of us....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I will hear you one by one.

[English]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: They will create noise....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: What should I do

[English]

I cannot stop all of them.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: He should not speak like that....(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): What was he doing when he was in the opposition?...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know why do you follow that example.

[Translation]

Let it go, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: I will not take lessons from him....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Leader of the Opposition wishes to respond to the statement.

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I mentioned it in the morning that the hon. Finance Minister replied to the discussion that went on throughout the day in both the Houses. Since the hon. External Affairs Minister is formally divested of his portfolio, the hon. Prime Minister is in charge of the External Affairs department but he did not reply in either of the House. Later on the Leader of the House informed you that the hon. Prime Minister would make a statement at 2 O' clock and I thought we would get some additional information other than that which has been shared here in the form of the facts that have come up during the discussion held throughout the day, particularly because a person who was a part of the delegation has verified these facts. That day he said it repeatedly that these were unverified allegations....(Interruptions) Moreover the hon. Prime Minister has mentioned right now that a magazine is going to publish it all. The matter that is going to be published tomorrow also covers Shri Natwar Singhji's

statement that he did not know that his name would crop up in this connection. The Congress behaves like this only. The words that the person who was a part of the delegation has used are....* He has alleged both. I want to ask only one question from the hon. Prime Minister as to why Natwar Singhji has been diverted of his Ministry prior to instituting an enquiry into the matter?...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): Let Shri Advani authenticate it....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will see to that what is not admissible.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: It was said that we would wait for the report of the Pathak Committee and then decide the fate of Natwar Singhji. I believe that the President of Congress Party should also resign from her post till that report is presented....(Interruptions) She may not resign from the post of the President of Congress Party but she should resign from the post of President of UPA because that is an official post....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: What is more? You have said your point.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Gurudas Dasgupta.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the senior leaders are here. Let me have a say. Please sit. I am not in favour or against anybody. I am only trying to regulate the proceedings. I have no views on it.

...(Interruptions)

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You are repeating the same thing over and over again.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Shrimati Sonia Gandhi should resign....(Interruptions) Shri Natwar Singh should be dismissed....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am appealing to Shri Advani and I am appealing to Shri Vajpayee. You wanted to say something. I have given you full opportunity to say.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You wanted the Prime Minister's statement. The Prime Minister has made a statement. Thereafter, you are not allowing anybody to speak. This is not fair. What more can I say?

Shri Gurudas Dasgupta, you wanted to say something.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, please control them....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I do not control it. If you want to say something, then please go ahead.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, is this democracy? They do not want us to speak in the House. They only want to express their views....(Interruptions)

14.15 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Avinash Rai Khanna, Dr. Rattan Singh Ajnala and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, I want to speak, but this is happening in the House. Is this democracy?...(Interruptions) This is perversion of democracy. BJP is indulging in...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats.
Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What more can I ask them to do?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned till
3.30 p.m.

14.16 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Thirty Minutes
past Fifteen of the Clock.*

15.30 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Thirty Minutes
past Fifteen of the Clock.*

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*Translation*]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi):
Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the hon. Prime Minister's
statement was disappointing...(Interruptions) The hon.
Prime Minister's statement was entirely...(Interruptions)

15.31 hrs.

MOTION RE-FOURTEENTH REPORT OF
COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS'
BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House shall now take
up Item No. 12.

Chaudhary Lal Singh—Not present.

Shri Jai Prakash.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI JAI PRAKASH (Hissar): Sir, on behalf of
Chaudhary Lal Singh, I beg to move:—

"That this House do agree with the Fourteenth
Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills
and Resolutions presented to the House on the
30th November, 2005."

...(Interruptions)

15.32 hrs.

*(At this stage, Shri Avinash Rai Khanna, and some
other hon. Members came and stood on the floor
near the Table.)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:—

"That this House do agree with the Fourteenth
Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills
and Resolutions presented to the House on the
30th November, 2005."

The motion was adopted.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House stands
adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on Monday, the 5th
December, 2005.

15.34 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock
on Monday, December 5, 2005/Agrahayana 14,
1927 (Saka).*

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