

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

## **(English Version)**

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



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Dated. 23 March 2007

*(Vol. XIX contains Nos. 21 to 30)*

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**  
**NEW DELHI**

*Price : Rs. 80.00*

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# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## LOK SABHA

Friday, May 12, 2006/Vaisakha 22, 1928 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock*

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Shrinivas Dadasaheb Patil,  
Question No. 402.

#### Income Tax on Co-operative Banks

\*402. SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL:

SHRI PRALHAD.JOSHI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of co-operative banks functioning in the country and the number of profit-earning banks out of them;

(b) the tax collected from the co-operative banks during the last three years on their income;

(c) whether large scale protests have been registered by the co-operative banks against the recently introduced changes in the Income Tax structure pertaining to such banks;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government proposes to review the position; and

(f) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to protect the interests of the co-operative banks?

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

#### *Statement*

(a) The total number of Co-operative Banks functioning in the country and the number of profit making banks out of them are as follows:-

S. No.	Type of Co-operative Banks	No. of banks as on 31.3.2005	No. of profit making banks as on 31.3.2005 (provisional)
1.	Primary Agriculture Credit Societies	105735	Not Available
2.	Primary Co-operative Agriculture and Rural Development Bank	727	221
3.	State Co-operative Banks	31	26
4.	District Central Co-operative Banks	361	288
5.	State Co-operative Agriculture and Rural Development Bank	20	11
6.	Urban Co-operative Banks	1872	1357
<b>Total</b>		<b>108746</b>	

(b) On account of the tax benefit under section 80 P, the income of co-operative banks from banking operations was exempt from tax. If income arose to the banks from other activities, it is not quantifiable. Besides, figures of such tax collection are not separately maintained.

(c) and (d) A number of representations have been received from the co-operative banks requesting restoration of the tax benefit under Section 80P of the Income-tax Act, as it stood before amendment.

(e) and (f) The withdrawal of tax benefit under Section 80P to co-operative banks is, inter-alia, justified on the following grounds:-

- (i) Co-operative banks are like any other bank and the principle of mutuality does not apply because their area of operations extend even to non-members.
- (ii) It is in consonance with the objective of the Government to expand the tax base by phasing out all exemptions which are considered economically inefficient and inequitable.
- (iii) Income-tax is a tax on profits and there is no rationale for exempting profit-making co-operative banks from payment of income-tax.



Despite this, out of 1,08,746 co-operative banks/ banking institutions, a large majority of the co-operative banking institutions has been kept out of the tax net because 1,05,735 Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) and 727 Primary Co-operative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks (PCARD) are outside the purview of the amendment. The PACS and PCARDs constitute about 98% of the total co-operative banks or banking institutions. Thus, the amendment is applicable only to the remaining 2% of the co-operative banking institutions, which are only 2284 in number. Since the tax has to be paid only by the profit making banks, the withdrawal of the exemption will be applicable only to 1682 banks as per the latest figures available.

Parliament has passed the Finance Bill 2006. Government does not propose to review the decision of withdrawing the benefit under Section 80P of the Income-tax Act available to co-operative banks.

SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL: I would like to know whether the Government has taken a note that today the Co-operative Banks are staging nation-wide demonstrations against the withdrawal of tax exemptions from the Co-operative Banks under Section 80(P).

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I have read newspaper reports to the effect that some cooperative banks in some States intend to strike for a day. I think, this is unfortunate. As the answer to the question makes it clear, a very small number of the banks in the cooperative credit structure would have to pay income tax, and only if they make profits. Therefore, it is not correct to say that all cooperative banks have been brought under the Income-tax Act and all of them are affected. In fact, as many as 1,05,735 Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) and 727 Primary Cooperative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks (PCARDs) are outside the purview of the amendment which has been approved by the Parliament. Ninety-eight per cent of the total cooperative banks are outside the purview of the amendment which has been approved by the Parliament. The reasons why we have amended Section 80(P) to apply income tax to a very small number have been explained. This is pursuant to the Kelkar Committee recommendation.

I wish to point out that Parliament has approved this amendment. Therefore, I would appeal to the small number of banks not to misrepresent matters or allow themselves to be misled in the matter and go on a strike. That is not going to serve any purpose. I think, they should come under the discipline of proper accounting and accountability.

SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL: Sir, I would like to know whether the Government would immediately stay, for the time being, the decision of the withdrawal of tax exemptions from such banks, and the Appointment Committee comprising economists, legal experts, noted social workers and Heads of the States of the Cooperative Banks to study the situation and suggest measures to check the malpractices or irregularities, if any, as a part of the Cooperative Bank.

MR. SPEAKER: You want another Committee!

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I am glad that the hon. Member acknowledges that in some cooperative institutions – in fact a significant number – there are poor governance practices, malpractices and lack of accountability. We have done this to ensure accountability. I wish to say that there is no Committee above Parliament. Parliament has approved the amendment.

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Sir, it is mentioned in the reply that more than 30 per cent Urban Cooperative Banks, nearly 50 per cent of the State Cooperative Banks and around 30 per cent of the District Cooperative Banks are making losses.

In such a situation, it is told that only 2 per cent are being brought under net. But especially in the urban areas, a majority of the business is done by the Urban Cooperative Banks. In many of the areas, the District Cooperative Banks are on the verge of closure. Even in my State, in my district, the District Cooperative Bank is on the verge of closure. Generally, they are catering to the needs of small industries and small players. Even the bigger banks, especially the new-generation banks, are rejecting the small players. They are telling: "We do not want small

accounts." In such a situation, if the Cooperative Banks are brought under the net, it will create problems. That is why, I want to know one thing. Is there any plan to classify the banks as Scheduled and Non-Scheduled Banks so that the small players can be taken care of?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: The answer to this question lies in the Question itself. So many of them are reporting losses. By definition, they do not pay any income-tax. Why are they reporting losses? It is because of bad governance and lack of accountability. What we are doing is we are bringing in a measure of accountability by amending the Section for 2 per cent of the total number of Cooperative Banks in the country pursuant to the Kelkar Committee recommendations.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: It is true that an amendment was made by Parliament. At the same time, in our own experience with the cooperative societies, we find that the Cooperative Banks have a special functioning system. The management is by the Board of Directors. The Directors are elected by the people. So, it is really assembling the people. It has to compete with the private institutions also. Considering all these social aspects of the Cooperative Sector — though the Bill was passed by Parliament, though an amendment was made knowing or unknowingly, surely knowingly — will the hon. Minister go into the details and exempt even the profit-making ones? They are making profits because of their stern work behind it.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I wish what the hon. Member says is true about the Cooperative Banks. I wish that all Banks are under the genuine control and management of the Cooperators. I wish the governing practices are good. But, that is not the reality. The reality is very much different. Take, for example, the State Cooperative Banks. There are 31 Banks in the country, six of them are under Section 11 (1) of the Banking Regulation Act. Take the District Central Cooperative Banks. There are 361 in the country and 130 are under Section 11 of the Banking Regulation Act. The state of our cooperative institutions is in a shambles. That is why, we appointed

the Vaidyanathan Committee. Please allow the Government to implement this measure to bring in a certain degree of accountability for only 2284 institutions out of a total of 1,08,746. All the small banks are out. We are only applying this to 2 per cent of all the Cooperative Banks in the country where large-scale irregularities have been reported and the depositors have been cheated.

MR. SPEAKER: Please put your hand down. I have noted it. Once you raised it, it is noted. But whether I would call you or not depends upon the situation.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission and the consent of the hon'ble Minister of Finance I would like to put a supplementary question and submit that the objective of the Cooperative banks that were set up especially in rural areas was to provide from time to time agricultural loans to farmers for the benefit of the people of rural areas. As per the information received in this regard some banks have been closed in several states by their respective State Governments. For example, Cooperative Banks of Chhapra, Madhepura and Darbhanga in Bihar have been closed down. I would like to ask the hon'ble Minister as to what is the justification of closing the said banks. If the burden on these bank is increased, more such banks would be closed.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It does not arise.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, that is why I have asked supplementary question after seeking your permission.

MR. SPEAKER: It is a new question.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: That is why I sought your permission.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Permission cannot be given in all matters.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: I had also sought permission from the hon'ble Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: How can I give permission without knowing your question. When I came to know about your question then I said so.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: All right. If the Minister is able to do that, he can do.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I have taken note of what he has said. Obviously I have no answer to that. I will find it out.

MR. SPEAKER: You will get a reply.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Hon. Speaker, Sir, this is not the question of applicability of two per cent or 2,284 institutions to be brought under tax net. So far, the Government's policy is to help the cooperative sector. That is why, subsidies and-incentives are given to cooperative sector. But, the Government is deviating now from its own old policies. Now, the cooperatives are open. So, what is the policy of the Government? I would like to know whether the attitude or the perception of the Government has changed towards cooperative sector. That is why they have started this for bringing them into the tax net.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: On the contrary, let me stoutly deny what the hon. Member is suggesting. It is this Government, which went into the matter and appointed Prof. Vaidyanathan Committee, which has submitted a Report for a package of Rs. 13,500 crore. It has been accepted by the Cabinet. I have mentioned this in my Budget speeches. We are now going to raise funds in

order to revitalize the entire cooperative credit structure of this country over a three-year period with funds of Rs. 13,500 crore. So, let me say that it is this Government, which has gone to the root of the problem and is attempting to find a solution.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Sir, the cooperative sector is most important sector. According to the statement given by the hon. Minister, from Primary Agricultural Credit Cooperative Societies to urban Cooperative banks, even thousand of banks are running under losses. So, what happened is this. The previous Government has given moratorium. It applied to the nationalised banks and also the cooperative sector. The Government has given support to the nationalised banks but they have not given support to the cooperative sector. That is why, from this year onwards, they are incurring losses and mismanagement and misrule is also there. I agree. The Government of India, after repeated requests made by the State Governments, appointed Vaidyanathan Committee for cleansing the balance sheets of the cooperative sector, and to give boost to the cooperative sector. They are the primary lending to the farmers. The report was so far not implemented in toto. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the steps that the Government have taken to implement the Vaidyanathan Committee report for cleansing the balance sheets of the cooperative banks.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I am happy to report that the Vaidyanathan Committee report has been accepted by the Cabinet. We have circulated the report to all the States and we have asked the States to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Government of India in order to receive the funds. States are now in the process of entering into such Memoranda. Every State, which enters into such a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), will receive funds under the decision of the Cabinet.

[English]

[Translation]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has said that he has decontrolled 1 lakh 8 thousand societies.

[English]

PACS cannot be treated as banks. PACS are PACS. We have never given the status to the PACS of a

cooperative bank because they do not collect the deposit or anybody cannot withdraw the deposit.

Secondly, the cooperative banking design and the commercial private banks' design are totally different. So, looking at the differential designs of the two banks, they are treating them equally.

[Translation]

I would like to tell the hon'ble Minister that according to him it is completely different and he is saying that there is dual control and due to this he is introducing this Bill to bring it under the control of RBI. It is purely in the cooperatives.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is a question on income tax.

[Translation]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: The hon'ble Minister in his Budget reply has said that some unscrupulous persons have come there due to which the government is imposing income tax to streamline business. There is direct recruitment in government's banks. Is it correct on the part of the government to say that all the people in cooperatives are engaged in unscrupulous activities. I am sorry to hear it. His statement is not true.

[English]

Looking at the design of the cooperative Banks and commercial banks, they are different. After studying the details, for the time being, you can postpone the income tax, say, for a period of about six or seven months until the Bill on the cooperative reforms comes.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I cannot accept the suggestion. The entire matter was studied by the Kelkar Committee and it is the Kelkar Committee which has recommended amendment to Section 80b.

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR: Sir, the hon'ble Minister has taken a decision that now he will not effect any change in it, but, I would like to request the august House to consider whether primary agriculture credit society comes under the category of the banks. The number of such societies is nearly one lakh five thousand. I would like

to submit that it does not come under the category of banks.

[English]

These primary Agricultural Credit societies do not come under the category of banks.

[Translation]

The hon'ble Minister is trying to amalgamate both the entities. I would like to request that the Government should ponder over it separately. We know that its function in rural areas is not fully banking. So please review this. I would like to request that the Government should review it by way of separating 1,05,735 Primary Agricultural Credit Societies. Then it will be clear that, in fact, the function of the banks is different from these societies. So it will be better if the Government review it.

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I am sorry, I did not make myself clear. The 1,05,735 Agricultural Credit Societies continue to get exemption under 80P.

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR: The Government should not include them in it.

MR. SPEAKER: These are not included in it.

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: They are not being subjected to income tax.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Question No.403 Subhash Maharia – not present.

Shri Kamla Prasad Rawat.

[Translation]

#### Construction of Roads under PMGSY

\*403. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT:

SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of roads constructed/proposed to be constructed/being constructed under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) during each year of the Tenth Plan, State-wise;

(b) the number of villages covered/proposed to be covered in each State thereunder indicating the criteria fixed for their selection;

(c) the funds made available and utilized during the said period, State-wise;

(d) the additional funds provided to the concerned States against their demand for enhancement, if any;

(e) the details of complaints received and irregularities noticed under PMGSY alongwith action taken thereon, State-wise;

(f) whether the pace of progress of the Yojana is slow and it is lagging behind the schedule; and

(g) if so, the steps taken to achieve the targets within the stipulated time and to link all the villages with roads?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (g) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Statement**

'Rural Roads' is a State subject. The details of proposals for road works approved by the Ministry of Rural Development, the road works completed, as reported by States under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), so far, State-wise and year-wise during the period 2002 to 2006 are given in the enclosed Annexure-I.

The total number of Habitations eligible for coverage under PMGSY and the number of habitations approved for coverage in each state so far, are given in the enclosed Annexure-II. 'Bharat Nirman' launched in 2005-06 has set a goal to connect all villages that have a population of 1000 (or 500 in hilly/tribal areas) with an all-Weather road by the year 2009.

The State-wise details of funds released by the Ministry of Rural Development and expenditure as on 30.4.2006, as reported by the States, are given in the enclosed Annexure-III.

Funds, over and above the amount allocated upto 2005-06, have been released to Andhra Pradesh (Rs. 161.47 crore), Assam (Rs. 150.29 crore), Chhattisgarh (Rs. 185.76 crore), Haryana (Rs. 31.07 crore), Himachal Pradesh (Rs. 60.66 crore), Madhya Pradesh (Rs. 484.05 crore), Mizoram (Rs. 98.50 crore), Nagaland (Rs. 36.56 crore), Orissa (Rs. 287.56 crore), Punjab (Rs. 21.30 crore), Rajasthan (Rs. 719.53 crore), Tamil Nadu (Rs. 6.87 crore), Uttar Pradesh (Rs. 118.91 crore) and West Bengal (Rs. 297.45 crore) till date. Additional funds have also been provided to Assam (Rs. 20.00 crore), Chhattisgarh (Rs. 122.50 crore), Himachal Pradesh (Rs. 41.44 crore), Jharkhand (Rs. 14.57 crore), Madhya Pradesh (Rs. 118.45 crore), Orissa (Rs. 15.00 crore), Rajasthan (Rs. 206.83 crore) and Uttar Pradesh (Rs. 130.99 crore) under ADB/World Bank assistance.

The funds for PMGSY are released to the States generally in two instalments. The release of funds to the States is governed by the level of utilization of funds earlier released to the States and the physical progress of works, as stipulated in the guidelines of PMGSY.

Rural Roads being a State subject, the responsibility of implementation is that of the State. Complaints received regarding the programme are forwarded to the States for taking necessary action.

As the release of funds depends on the progress of works, all the States are regularly advised to expedite the execution of PMGSY works and make payments to the contractors without any delay. The progress of works is reviewed regularly, including in the Regional Review Meetings with the States. The States have also been advised to furnish all the documents as stipulated in the guidelines of the programme, including complete Audit Reports and Utilization Certificates for each year since 2000-01.

## Annexure-I

## Number of road works and road length sanctioned/completed under PMGSY

S.No.	State	2001-03 (Phase II)							2003-04 (Phase III)						
		Sanctioned				Completed			Sanctioned				Completed		
		No. of Roads	Length in Km	No. of Roads	Length in Km	No. of Roads	Length in Km	No. of Roads	Length in Km	No. of Roads	Length in Km	No. of Roads	Length in Km	No. of Roads	Length in Km
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14		
1	Andhra Pradesh	159	425.121	1480	3071.879	1595	3440.35	324	1450.540	122	363.330	496	1401.00		
2	Arunachal Pradesh	137	703.761	0	0	135	689.36								
3	Assam	292	591.891	2	2.74	296	584.02	107	800.095	0	0.000	62	434.08		
4	Bihar	666	1408.189	0	0	375	774.82	17	81.840	310	2942.530	9	81.55		
5	Chhattisgarh	270	1270.171	0	0	245	1086.44	293	1913.290	0	0.000	226	1411.53		
6	Goa	14	21.59	0	0	2	1.87								
7	Gujarat	450	776.73	114	295.92	562	1057.49	279	585.750	7	24.000	288	606.08		
8	Haryana	0	0	32	381.429	32	382.71	0	0.000	14	274.810	11	218.53		
9	Himachal Pradesh	246	932.706	0	0	240	912.06	500	2554.414	0	0.000	130	976.00		
10	Jammu & Kashmir	74	241.389	0	0	13	24.00	66	292.720	1	2.750				
11	Jharkhand	202	1200.229	0	0	185	1072.08	157	781.990	0	0.000	75	309.66		
12	Karnataka	150	413.899	737	2217.061	863	2637.00	0	0.000	359	1096.300	206	643.99		
13	Kerala	168	262.891	10	19.550	156	246.35	52	97.960	0	0.000	7	17.84		
14	Madhya Pradesh	645	3421.521	156	626.710	763	3800.83	555	2821.000	0	0.000	490	2360.51		
15	Maharashtra	432	1023.521	372	862.33	656	1576.43	214	648.720	90	277.940	30	90.71		
16	Manipur	127	710.641	0	0	111	653.61								







	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Rejasthan	1200	4541.390	0	0.000	0.000	575	2160.55	1578	5445.630	0	0.000	176	651.61	3386	10776	0	0	0
Sikkim	34	144.490	0	0.000	0.000	48.00	323.270	0	0.000									
Tamil Nadu	310	638.720	102	181.740	1	2.00	352.430	208	488.800									
Tripura	38	140.778	0	0.000														
Uttar Pradesh	2100	3861.400	213	396.270	0	0												
Uttaranchal	62	535.220	16	29.250														
West Bengal	149	957.890	3	17.700														
<b>Total</b>	<b>6479</b>	<b>22369.115</b>	<b>1274</b>	<b>5373.640</b>	<b>1464</b>	<b>6790.14</b>	<b>6164</b>	<b>26388.726</b>	<b>1403</b>	<b>6576.764</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>878.58</b>	<b>3386</b>	<b>10776</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Annexure-II**

**State-wise number of Habitations eligible for coverage & number of Habitations already covered**

S. No.	State	Total Habitations to be covered under PMGSY (as on 2.12.2000)	Total No. of Habitations already covered						Total
			2001-03 (Phase II)	2003-04 (Phase III)	2004-05 (Phase IV)	2005-06 (Phase V)	2006-07 (Phase VI)		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
1	Andhra Pradesh	980	383	491	0	0	0	874	
2	Arunachal Pradesh	415	84	72	62	218			
3	Assam	13144	523	634	761	1272	3190		
4	Bihar	17920	1164	17	1181		1181		
5	Chhattisgarh	12561	571	858	1045	2182	4656		
6	Goa	55	14	14	28		28		
7	Gujarat	4253	460	342	130	348	1280		
8	Haryana	2	0	0	0	0	0		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9	Himachal Pradesh	3494	339	978	278	527		2122
10	Jammu & Kashmir	2792	126	124	159			409
11	Jharkhand	10696	498	453	277			1228
12	Karnataka	876	263	0	0	0		263
13	Kerala	438	175	70	115	0		360
14	Madhya Pradesh	18492	950	836	1341	1699		4826
15	Maharashtra	1751	393	254	179			826
16	Manipur	598	127			93		220
17	Meghalaya	756	98	30				128
18	Mizoram	285	27	22	16	21		86
19	Nagaland	94	11	19	15	28		73
20	Orissa	14393	720	1222	433	1040		3415
21	Punjab	536	185	115	38			338
22	Rajasthan	11015	689	1646	1360	1815	3780	9290
23	Sikkim	318	22	29	53	80		184
24	Tamil Nadu	2640	306	907	263	398		1874
25	Tripura	2091	178	7	133			318
26	Uttar Pradesh	24284	1642	2472	2671			6785
27	Uttaranchal	2605	133	72	197			402
28	West Bengal	25288	913	1623	856	2739		6131
	Total	172772	10994	13221	10406	12304	3780	50705

**Annexure-III****Release and Utilisation of Funds**

Sl. No.	State	Amount released for Phases II-VI (Rs. in crore)*	Amount utilized for Phases II-VI (Rs in crore)**
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	768.78	614.30
2	Arunachal Pradesh	140.50	86.24
3	Assam	647.82	434.86
4	Bihar	416.38	282.98
5	Chhattisgarh	895.57	937.73
6	Goa (Partial)	5.15	0.32
7	Gujarat	228.31	228.05
8	Haryana	133.20	141.74
9	Himachal Pradesh	429.06	292.05
10	Jammu & Kashmir	126.22	39.96
11	Jharkhand	384.20	282.02
12	Karnataka	404.90	296.16
13	Kerala	103.03	59.49
14	Madhya Pradesh	1898.57	1707.64
15	Maharashtra	468.24	358.87
16	Manipur	64.47	68.71
17	Meghalaya	88.71	58.45
18	Mizoram	207.59	136.31
19	Nagaland	143.78	81.62
20	Orissa	1270.80	889.66
21	Punjab	152.80	132.51
22	Rajasthan	1672.40	1691.94

1	2	3	4
23	Sikkim	99.30	62.96
24	Tamil Nadu	341.51	224.69
25	Tripura	73.90	40.86
26	Uttar Pradesh	1902.11	1227.73
27	Uttaranchal	155.59	88.69
28	West Bengal	1076.95	734.27
Total		14299.84	11200.81

\* upto April, 2006 \*\* upto March, 2005

[Translation]

SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether any priority is given to the villages predominantly inhabited by scheduled castes for connecting them under the Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana. I would also like to know whether the Ministry of Rural Development propose to link those villages of backward states where there are lack of roads.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government have taken a decision and made provisions in Budget to link all those villages having a population of one thousand by roads within four years i.e. by the year 2009 under Bharat Nirman Yojana. We will also link the tribal or hilly villages having a population of five hundred. However, the hon'ble Members is raising question of 'Tola' related to scheduled castes. When we are linking tribal villages then we will certainly give priority rather top priority to the scheduled caste dominated villages.

SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT: The hon'ble Minister talked about 'Tola'. I am talking about big villages predominantly inhabited by scheduled castes where Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana has not yet been started. There are many such big villages. I would like to know whether the hon'ble Minister will give priority to those villages. Though the hon'ble Minister is giving priority to villages and for this I am thankful to him, however, I will be more thankful to the Government and the hon'ble Minister if he starts any special package for these villages.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Yes, Sir, the

Government are seriously pondering over such things and giving priority to link not only scheduled caste dominated villages by road rather they are also giving priority to provide free electricity connections to such villages under the Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Electrification Programme. In the agenda of UPA Government those 'tolas' where tribals, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes people inhabit....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is not good.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH.: A meeting of group of Ministers is being held after 15 days to provide all types of facilities to those 'Tolas' on priority basis and in that meeting the group will consider as to how all facilities could be provided to the poor the neglected scheduled castes and scheduled tribes people and to bring them in national main stream. All these things are being considered.

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: Pradhan Mantri Gram Sarak Yojana is a part of Bharat Nirman Programme. An inbuilt mechanism is envisioned in it, wherein the opinion of right from Panchayat upto Members of Parliament would be sought. Though it sounds very nice, but practically it is not being done. Not to speak of Members of Panchayat even opinion of Zila Panchayats is not sought. Members of Parliament are also not informed about approval of roads and start of work on them.

MR. SPEAKER: You put the question.

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: My question is that until and unless the caucus of officers and contractors is not broken, the projects cannot be implemented successfully and Bharat Nirman Yojana will remain a paper project. I would like to ask what steps the Government propose to take to break the said caucus and what action the Government propose to take on receipt of complaints in this regard?

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is absolutely wrong to say that the recommendations of MPs are not heeded. Recommendations of hon. MPs are not at all ignored.

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, what the hon. Minister says is wrong. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is very unfair. There cannot be running commentary. Please listen.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded except the hon. Ministers' reply.

...(Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: First listen to me.

MR. SPEAKER: You need not reply to his question.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Sir, with regard to what hon. Member has said, I would like to say that the Central Government do not disregard the opinion of Panchayats, rather it welcomes their opinion. A list is sought from each Zila Parishad. The Government have directed that the roads recommended by hon. Members should be considered seriously. Apart from that there has been a mention also to state the reasons as to why the roads of public interest recommended by any body, be it Panchayat, State Governments under their scheduled policy, or roads for villages with one thousand or 500 population are not sanctioned. Not only that, we have even asked the Chief Ministers that the roads, after approval, should be got inaugurated by the concerned area MP and work of roads should be monitored. ... (Interruptions) Mr. Speaker, Sir, all of us know that road is a state subject and we help the states in this regard. Therefore, we have written to the State Government that the Central Government will not tolerate disregard to MPs. The recommendation of MPs for Bharat Nirman and Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana should be called for and roads should be got inaugurated by them. Not only this, MPs should also be invited for implementation of Rojgar Guarantee Scheme. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is very unfair. I would not allow this. I would go to the next question if you disturb like this.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: District Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have been constituted under the Chairmanship of the hon. Members. The hon. Members have been authorised to review and

\*Not recorded.

monitor all schemes of rural development. They are also empowered to keep strict vigilance on them. They monitor the schemes from time to time. Reasons for non-convening meetings have to be explained. Cooperation of the State Government is required in it. Therefore, if you allow I would lay the copies of all the letters written to hon. CMs in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Goyal, you are not yet a Minister, please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: It is a very important issue, but what will happen if mutual recreation of this kind goes on?

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister in his reply has expressed the commitment of the Government that all the villages with a population of one thousand or five hundred will be connected by roads by 2009. I would like to refer to my state, Bihar especially. I would like to tell hon. Minister that where the central agencies have been deputed to carry out the work, it is not being completed within the targeted time. If we go by the pace of work by the Central agencies in Bihar, I think it will not be possible to provide road connectivity in the State by 2020. I would like to add further as to what steps the Government propose to take to execute the work in a time bound manner, keeping good quality in mind? Will the hon. Minister ensure, that the roads, for which work has been started, will be completed within the targeted time, especially, Diara and toll areas which are grossly neglected? Has any scheme been evolved for these two areas?

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ram Kripal Yadav, you cannot add as many supplementary questions as you like. Only one supplementary is allowed.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: It is related to this only.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: The hon. Member has raised the issue of roads in Bihar. Five central agencies have been undertaking road construction work

in Bihar. Tenders worth Rs. 12500/- crore have been floated, process completed and work started in all the districts. Hon. Member wants the work to be further accelerated. Problems with the contractors have come up. There is a shortage of contractors in various states and they are not competent also, consequently the work has to be extended 3-4 times. There is shortage of material also, such as chips. There is a Supreme Court order in this regard. A sanctuary exists in Bhikhanachhori near West and East Champaran. So material is being transported from a distance of three hundred kilometers. It involves more expenditure. Law and order problem is also there. Eight tractors and machines of the contractors, worth crores of rupees have been burnt in five districts. It so happened in Aloli, Khagaria, Jamui Sahasram etc. We have to face this kind of problems also. We have been told of shortage of chips, pumic (stone) and bitumen. Despite this all, I assure the hon. Member that the target of providing road connectivity to villages with a population of 995-1000 will be achieved successfully in a time bound manner by the year 2009. But the cooperation of the hon. Members, State Governments and everyone is solicited for this purpose. The Central Government cannot do on its own. Hon. MPs and the State Governments should cooperate in this regard. The work is going on and now it would be accelerated. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Alright. Leave it now.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Roads will be designed and reconstructed in Diara. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: This is not Bihar Assembly and we, from all sides must understand the importance of brevity also.

*[Translation]*

DR. RAJESH MISHRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I can say that this is definitely a first step towards 'Bihar Nirman' scheme and we are going to implement it through the scheme. But it is also a fact that some problems are being experienced in various states. For example, roads are to be selected as per the norms. I would like to cite the example of Uttar Pradesh. Local agencies and P.W.D., are doing the work there, but local agencies do not select the roads as per the norms.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is not a place to discuss all your details. Please go to him and discuss.

[Translation]

DR. RAJESH MISHRA: Many a problem are emerging. I am holding the post of Chairman of Local Monitoring Committee of my district. We discuss this matter there also and through this committee are writing to the Government about difficulties being faced. Through you, I would like to ask the hon'ble Minister whether the Government will make efforts to resolve these problems at the earliest?

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: We are in contact with the State Governments. We hold secretary level talks quarterly and had held meeting of hon. Ministers also. We will expedite its implementation by resolving all the difficulties with mutual understanding. We are making all out efforts to achieve this target. I also invite hon. Members to get their problems redressed at any time.

SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, just now hon. Minister said that hon. Members' views are taken in this regard, I would like to tell you that in Jharkhand, generally, no opinion is taken. I do not understand as to how roads are selected.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: He has said it is for the State Government to do. Why are you raising it here?

[Translation]

SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Secondly I would like to say that if the road of village with a population of one thousand is taken under this programme, there is a rule that the work of upgradation on those roads on which Grade-I work has already been done, is not undertaken. I would like to tell the hon. Minister that Grade-I work on a road was done 5 to 10 years ago and today it is in bad shape. Nobody takes care of it — I would like to know whether the hon. Minister would like to make amendments in rule, so that the said road could also be taken up under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: I would like to inform the hon. Members that during the previous rule, there was connectivity through roads, the programme to

link the tolls, but there was no upgradation. In UPA rule, legislation for upgradating bad roads has also been made. We invite you people to get the bad roads repaired. Please send me a list in this regard. Alongwith upgradation of bad roads, scheme of construction of road near the habitations having populations of five hundred and more and those having one thousand and more have also been undertaken. During the previous rule, only connecting of roads was there, but there was no upgradation. Now, the UPA Government has also included upgradation, the problems of the hon. Member will also be solved.

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask the hon. Minister that he...

MR. SPEAKER: Only two questions have been taken and half an hour has passed.

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Hon. Minister in his reply has levelled allegations against the NDA Government saying that only the UPA Government took the decision of upgradation, though it is not the case. The NDA Government had taken a decision in this regard, because we have completed the work in regard to five routes to my district. I would like to tell the hon. Ministers that the Minister of Rural Development of Maharashtra has submitted fifth phase of programme of one thousand crore rupees before him, but that programme is not figuring here. If that programme is not takenup, then all our districts will suffer huge losses. I would like to ask the hon. Minister as to the time by which the sanction to fifth phase of programme of one thousand crore rupees submitted by our Rural Development Minister would be given?

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Maharashtra was allocated its share of Rs. 790 crore, but till now, they have drawn only Rs. 596 crore. It is the Union Government that seems more vigilant about the respective share of states' and reminding them that they have drawn less amount so they should draw more and spend. I have received the proposal of scheme of Rs. 1000 crore and will grant immediate sanction to it. Till now, Maharashtra was lagging behind, but he is talking of NDA Government. I would like to say that the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana has been included in the Bharat Nirman. They used to spend Rs. 2.5 thousand crore annually, but we will spend Rs. 12.5 thousand crore annually, five times more than it. Here lies the difference in the vision between

them. We want that top priority should be given to villages and all urban facilities should be provided in villages. If villages of country are developed it will also pave the way for development of the country. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is to be recorded.

...*(Interruptions)\**

MR. SPEAKER: I have not permitted him. No reply is to be given.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: 14 states are lagging behind.

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak. The hon. Minister has given many rhetorical reply about the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana. During the last two years I have written dozen letters to the hon. Ministers and have met him personally couple of times in his office and in the Parliament also. No proposal from my Parliamentary constituency, Unnao of Uttar Pradesh has been undertaken under Pradhanmantri Gram Sadak Yojna. I have given written information in this regard to the hon. Minister, since hon. Minister had asked for the same. The hon. Minister's office has received the information, but none of my proposal has been undertaken. After construction of the roads, the state minister issued G.O to erect foundation stone on all roads and expressed the desire that he would do the inauguration. I have brought this fact to the notice of hon. Speaker and this is a case of breach of privilege. The Minister is usurping the rights of MPs. A monitoring committee at national level has been set up and it is being said that the Union Government will monitor Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana and other centrally sponsored schemes.

But that monitoring committee has no power and their points are not heard too. So, we have become hollar like a heap of straw that reduces to ashes in a fire. His views carry little weight. Nobody listens to the parliamentarians. There is a saying in our village that if you will ask for two things from a tall talker he will say you take

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\* Not recorded.

four, and if you will ask for four he will say you take eight but actually he will not give you anything. I want to say that his Congress Government talks tall and we are supporting it.

MR. SPEAKER: Pathakji, you just ask your question?

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will hon'ble Minister like to take any stringent action in this regard? ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Silence Please.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I will go to the next question.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell all the hon. Members that there is a core network in each state. The should see the core not work in which roads are to be constructed in four years under Bharat Nirman Yojana. If a Single road is constructed without their wish then it will not be passed. But the hon'ble Members must have an interest in it and they must keep an eye on it as to what is going on there or whether the work is going on as per specification or not. The hon. Member is saying that he has no say in the Vigilance and Monitoring Committee of which he has been made Chairman. Then how can we provide such kind of assistance to that committee? So, the hon'ble Members must have an interest in it.

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: I take full interest. ...*(Interruptions)* But what you want to do that will not be accepted. People have elected us and sent here. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Brajesh Pathak, you are speaking without my permission. Nothing will be recorded.

...*(Interruptions)\**

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: Pathak ji, you may please sit down, speak slowly.

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\* Not recorded.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Brajesh Pathak, Please sit down. You have to sit down. Please take your seat. Now you have to take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question as to what action has been taken, must be answered. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Okay, if you are not satisfied with the answer, work as per rules.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is a matter of grave concern that you are not helping in the smooth functioning of the House.

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Sir, my question has not been answered. ...(Interruptions) We have been elected and sent to this House by the people. So we are bound to raise the problems of people in this House. We do not speak again and again but we certainly raise the matter only when a serious matter arises. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Brajesh Pathak, you have to listen to the Chair.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Okay, if you are not satisfied with the answer, you should at least listen to what the Chair is saying.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I provided you an opportunity to ask a question but you create problems.

[English]

I hope the hon. Leader of the Party will control him.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER: By disturbing the proceedings you are not serving your casue.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is very unfortunate.

[Translation]

This is not good. What will be decision thereof? Can a decision be arrived at by disturbing the proceedings of the House?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Okay, there will be no decision but our voices will be heard.

MR. SPEAKER: Voices will be raised, but will not go on record.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, why do you not call him and have a cup of tea with him?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Brajesh Pathak, you are such a good Member of Parliament. You are also such a good speaker. You cannot disturb the House like this.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please speak, please answer. If a question is properly asked, the minister will answer to it. If the answer is not satisfactory, there are rules and procedures for that to be followed. I have never disallowed it. I have allowed half-an-hour discussion on several occasions but nobody has a right to disturb the proceedings of the House.

...(Interruptions)

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\* Not recorded.



**Implementation of National Rural  
Employment Guarantee Act**

\*404. SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:

SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has initiated implementation of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of the districts covered and the criteria fixed for their selection, State/UT-wise;

(c) the number of rural households covered and the number of rural people given employment under it so far, State/UT-wise;

(d) the wages and type of jobs being provided to them;

(e) the year-wise funds provided and utilized since inception of the Act, State/UT wise;

(f) the details and the nature of complaints/ violations noticed under the Act alongwith the action taken thereon, if any; and

(g) the steps taken to bring all States/UTs under the Act and to ensure transparency and accountability at all levels in its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (g) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

(a) and (b) The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 has been launched in the identified 200 districts. State-wise number of districts is at column 3 of Annexure-I. Out of the 200 districts identified for implementation of NREGA in the first phase, 150 districts are those districts which had been earlier identified for NFFWP and 50 new districts have been identified by the Planning Commission. These 150 districts were selected on the basis of an exercise conducted by the Planning Commission on the basis of three parameters SC/ST population, inverse of agricultural productivity per worker and inverse of agricultural wage rate. At least one district

was selected from each State except Goa. For North Eastern States except Assam where data on above parameters was not available, districts were selected out of RSVY districts. Out of the 50 new districts selected, 45 districts are those districts which were covered under Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana (RSVY) but not included in NFFWP. 5 districts have been identified by the Planning Commission to assess the impact of the programme in certain specific backgrounds.

(c) A statement giving details of the households registered under the Act and number of people who have been provided employment is enclosed as Annexure-II.

(d) The type of works which can be taken up under the Act have been given in Para (1) of Schedule-1 of the Act. Under the NREG Act, 100 days of wage employment is guaranteed only for the unskilled manual work. In terms of para 6(2) of the Act until such time a wage rate is fixed by the Central Government, the minimum wages fixed by the State Government under section 3 of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 for agricultural labourers, shall be the wage rate under NREGA.

(e) Funds provided to the States for implementation of the Act during the year 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 are given in column 4 and 5 of Annexure-I.

(f) Complaints have been received regarding irregularities in the implementation of the Act in States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh. In most of the complaints it had been indicated by the complainant that the States are implementing the Act as State schemes and the title of NREG Act has been totally omitted in the various documents printed for the implementation of the Act. Consequently, Ministry of Rural Development had issued instructions to all the States to print NREG Act on all the documents printed for its implementation. In a complaint received from Madhya Pradesh it had been mentioned that job cards are being issued to elite sections of society. The complaint has been referred to the State Government for examination.

(g) In order to ensure transparency and accountability in the implementation of the Act, necessary provisions have been made in the Act itself by providing for monitoring of Act at each level and also for Social Audit at the Gram Sabha level. Chapter 11 of Central Guidelines enlists the steps to be taken by the States and implementing agencies to ensure the transparency and accountability. An MIS has

been prepared by Ministry of Rural Development and provided to all the States for furnishing of the information on a continuous basis to the Central Government. NREGA Guidelines also provide for constitution of local vigilance

and monitoring committees of beneficiaries as well as payment of wages through banks and post offices wherever practicable.

***Annexure-I***

***Funds Released under NREGA during 2005-06 & 2006-07***

(Rs. in lakh)

S. No.	Name of the States	No. of Distts. Identified	Release of NREGA		Total
			2005-06	2006-07	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	13	16474.81	20000.00	36474.81
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1	446.31	272.85	719.16
3	Assam	7	33650.13	13970.85	47620.98
4	Bihar	23	30806.3	40503.38	71309.68
5	Chhattisgarh	11	785	17321.72	18106.72
6	Gujarat	6	4241.12	4113.94	8355.06
7	Haryana	2	873.82	913.39	1787.21
8	Himachal Pradesh	2	898.37	683.64	1582.01
9	Jammu and Kashmir	3	1135.29	986.37	2121.66
10	Jharkhand	20	23429.66	37618.59	61048.25
11	Karnataka	5	4402.1	6329.69	10731.79
12	Kerala	2	1169.18	2179.51	3348.69
13	Madhya Pradesh	18	21213.82	35000.00	56213.82
14	Maharashtra	12	19743.56	17961.64	37705.20
15	Manipur	1	461.63	570.89	1032.52
16	Meghalaya	2	1457.87	2064.68	3522.55
17	Mizoram	2	770.91	298.90	1069.81
18	Nagaland	1	1031.28	430.11	1461.39
19	Orissa	19	7384.75	31516.56	38901.31
20	Punjab	1	822.54	755.75	1578.29

1	2	3	4	5	6
21	Rajasthan	6	4142.11	20000.00	24142.11
22	Sikkim	1	722.16	451.50	1173.66
23	Tamil Nadu	6	6571.72	9889.21	16460.93
24	Tripura	1	2572.97	1456.66	4029.63
25	Uttaranchal	3	1269.11	1910.60	3179.71
26	Uttar Pradesh	22	33242.07	33498.69	66740.76
27	West Bengal	10	17038.15	18358.84	35396.99
	<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>236756.74</b>	<b>319057.95</b>	<b>555814.69</b>

**Annexure-II**

*Monthly Review Format  
National Rural Employment Guarantee Act  
Date: April 26, 2006*

Sl. No.	Name of State	Districts	Registered Households	Job cards issued	Funds released (Lakh Rs.)	Employment demanded	Employment Provided	Works in Progress
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Andhra Pradesh	13	3877669	3877669	20000	1128000	571016	12014
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1			272.85			
3	Assam	7			13970.845			
4	Bihar	23	1385852	592155	40503.38	1657522	1065367	1655
5	Chhattisgarh	11	1460999	1258456	17321.72	335526	335526	6572
6	Gujarat	6	540761	389772	4113.94	30909	27904	333
7	Haryana	2	47250	22674	913.39	6602	6602	79
8	Himachal Pradesh	2			683.64			
9	Jammu and Kashmir	3	169038	65531	986.365	4127	4127	283
10	Jharkhand	20	1766005	1150304	37618.59	496725	467832	9451
11	Karnataka	5	457409	315412	6329.69	148875	42724	551
12	Kerala	2	225133		2179.51			
13	Madhya Pradesh	18	4033166	3875584	35000	1666885	1206067	14321

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
14	Maharashtra	12	2335602	288921	17961.645	44310	44310	4735
15	Manipur	1			570.89			
16	Meghalaya	2			2064.68			
17	Mizoram	2			298.9			
18	Nagaland	1			430.11			
19	Orissa	19	2400560	1602199	31516.56	1281759	1214590	19577
20	Punjab	1	37870	33375	755.75		19339	
21	Rajasthan	6	1337061	1265942	20000	319828	294657	3070
22	Sikkim	1			451.5			
23	Tamil Nadu	6	958980	581360	9889.21	140742	51883	678
24	Tripura	1		44672	1456.66	170	170	8
25	Uttar Pradesh	22	1062772	216462	1910.602	12439		
26	Uttaranchal	3	281016	141978	33498.69	6206	6206	1739
27	West Bengal	10	2000000	600000	18358.84			
Total		200	24377143	16122466	319057.957	7280405	5358320	75066

# Blank spaces in the table denote information not received from the States.

Index:

1. Registration is of the household. column 4 contains data on number of household registered
2. Job Cards are issued to a household
3. Funds released is the funds released by Government of India during the Financial Year 2006-7 (in lakh Rs.)

[Translation]

**SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is Kushinagar district in our Uttar Pradesh. No progress is visible there at the grassroot level as to how many people have got jobs under this scheme. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister as to what the government are going to do for the 200 districts that have been covered under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme but did not witness any development so far.

**DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, consequent upon being passed with great enthusiasm by this House, the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme was launched on 2 February, 2006 and inaugurated by hon'ble Prime Minister and Smt. Sonia Gandhi. This scheme was launched initially in 200 districts

and 85 thousand panchayats. Now, the onus of its implementation lies with the State Governments. Panchayati Raj has to implement it. At least three meetings were held with the hon'ble Chief Minister of various states in this regard. Besides meetings were continuously being held with the Chief Secretaries of states at regular intervals and even today I am coming from the same meeting. What constitutes the responsibility of the State Government cannot be carried out by the Union Government. The job of the Union Government is to coordinate. Our job is to prepare guidelines and provide funds to the State governments. Hence the Union Government would like to assure this country and the House that it will not allow the shortage of funds so as to hamper this scheme. The Government has sufficient money to fund this scheme. Every one is cooperating in making this scheme successful.

I have written four letters to the hon'ble Members, within a month and requested them to visit their constituencies and see the progress of the work being done at the grass-root level. We can ask the state government after having the feedback of the scheme from the hon'ble Members but how can we write to them without having the information in this regard. It is the responsibility of state governments and Panchayati Raj Institutions to discharge their own duties. If hon'ble Members bring the insufficiency, laxity or negligence in work to our notice, we will certainly look into the matter and try to ensure proper implementation. At the same time, hon'ble members are requested to visit their constituencies regularly. One more request to them is that they should tell us about the ground realities.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as far the Monitoring Committee is concerned; we have a list of those Members who do not convene the meeting of this committee. On being bound with the decorum, I do not want to disclose their names but I can expose the names of the Members who don't discharge their duties properly.

SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister about the number of persons likely to be provided jobs each year in the districts covered under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have directed the State Governments that they should inform the people by making them aware of it in villages by beating of drums and through radio and television, handbills as well as through newspapers. A register has been kept in villages for the needy and labourers and others who are not getting work from other sources. They should get themselves registered with the Gram Pradhan or Gram Principal Secretary of the Panchayat. They would get a job card after that and they would petition for work on their own, thereafter they would be provided with work. For that State Governments have been alerted to provide work under the scheme and select schemes. After getting approval for the selection of scheme a minimum of 100 days of employment should necessarily be provided to them. We have released Rs. 3100 crore to all the districts. Apart from this the remaining amount of Rs. 2500 crores of "Food for Work" has also been released. Therefore there would be no shortage of funds. We are vigilant everywhere. Therefore, I would like to request the State Governments, Panchayati Raj Institutions and hon. Members to look into the situation in their areas. We have sent its guidelines in bilingual, both in Hindi and English

form to them. Cooperation of all the Members of the House is needed for the implementation of these schemes. It is necessary to make the poor aware of it because this law empowers them to get employment but nothing can be done without the cooperation of hon. Members. The entire world and the country is keeping a watch over this important and ambitious programme being run with the cooperation of State governments and Panchayati Raj institutions. All economists and other people of the country are willing to know the way the UPA Government has introduced this employment guarantee scheme. Mr. Speaker, Sir, this scheme has been started successfully. Many State Governments have started to work enthusiastically in this regard. Therefore, it should be ensured that people get employment properly. It is our objective to provide food security and employment to poor people, therefore this scheme should be made successful.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ram Gopal ji, are you going to ask any supplementary question on it?

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister has stated in reply to earlier question that he has written letters to all. I would like to say that I have not received any such letter. I myself do not know whether I am a member or Chairman of any monitoring committee. For this very reason another member Shri Brajesh Pathak was getting angry and his concern seems obvious and genuine. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: The senior most member of Parliament of any district would be the Chairman of it and rest of the members would be co-chairman. All have received letters. Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru used to write two letters to Chief Ministers in a month whereas we are writing three letters in a month to hon. Members asking them about the details of the amount received by them district-wise. All hon. Members should inform whether they have received the letter or not. A meeting of the Members statewide has been held and I have started meeting Members for the second time.

*[English]*

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Sir, nobody can talk as well as our dear socialist Minister. He used two words in Hindi – I am not very fluent in Hindi – 'Mahatbapooma' aur 'Mahatbakankshi' or something like that. He has been insisting that we go to our areas and see how the implementation takes place. I have been doing that in my constituency.

I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister, through you, Sir, to what is happening. You are assuring a certain number of days of employment to the head of the family. Where there are two or three sons above the age of 18, 20, 21 and daughters also, they are splitting because the Sarpanch is telling them that they are from one family and only one family is assured of so many days of employment. So, they are splitting and separating from their father. They are setting up homes away from their parents' home. They are also dividing their meagre landholdings, thus creating a total social confusion at the village level. You are creating smaller landholdings; you are breaking up families; and you are creating more poor than actually solving the problem of poverty. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is aware of such a thing happening at the lowest of the low levels and whether they are contemplating anything to safeguard the society from this kind of an evil. This is a very serious matter.

MR. SPEAKER: You have put your question.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per the definition of family, it comprises head of the household, his wife and their dependent children. If a child becomes adult and is living separately then it is a separate family. It is not that only the head of the household has right to work, rather all the members of the family have the right to work. My submission is that the Government have given guarantee to provide employment for hundred days to a family. The Government will provide employment during the lean period as during the peak season they will also work in their fields. Thus they will do their work as well as work in other projects of the Government. The Government have given guarantee to provide 100 days employment out of 365 days. All the members of a household have right to work and therefore there might be teething trouble initially. Encouraging reports are also coming from Orissa where large number of poor people are willing to work and are demanding work on a large scale. They are being provided opportunity to work.

SHRI GANESH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is correct that the Central Government have launched Central Employment Guarantee Scheme w.e.f. 2 February. The scheme has been started in several states and daily lakhs of labourers are working. However, the moot point is that the initial budget allocation for the said scheme is very

low while in several districts work of more than Rs. 30 crore was approved. It is on account of this that the wages of labourers are outstanding against the district administration. I would like to know whether the Central Government propose to provide funds in advance to the districts. If funds are not released in advance, daily wages cannot be paid to labourers as lakhs of crores of rupees are outstanding against several districts. The state governments have sent proposals in this regard, however, the Centre have not as yet released funds.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, funds have been given in advance to two hundred districts and funds are already available there. There is no complaint about non-availability of funds from any district. For this, provision has been made for State Employment Guarantee Fund, however, it is on account of procedural difficulties that there can be a month or two month delay in raising the funds. Funds are to be raised, however, we have already released the amount to the districts even before the raising of the said Funds. Probably, the hon'ble Member has no information regarding the funds which have been sent recently. There is no such complaint from any district that wages were not paid due to paucity of funds. Everywhere funds are available in advance and the same will be the position in future. There will be no dearth of funds. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GANESH SINGH: I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to when did the Government release funds. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: It has been released before February. Is the hon'ble Member not aware of it. ...*(Interruptions)* I would like to advise the hon. Member that he should go through the reply. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Next supplementary to be asked by Shri Basu Deb Acharia.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Sorry, nothing will be recorded.

*(Interruptions)...*\*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, the National Rural

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\*Not recorded.

Employment Programme is the most important programme of the UPA Government. This Act was passed in the month of December, and the scheme was started from February 2006.

In the Act it has been stated that the wage rate is fixed by the Central Government. It is stated that:

"...until such time a wage rate is fixed by the Central Government, the minimum wages fixed by the State Government under section 3 of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 for agricultural labourers, shall be the wage rate under NREGA."

There is wide variation of wage rate among the States. In some States it is as low as Rs. 25 a day, and in some other States it is as high as Rs. 120 a day.

MR. SPEAKER: This is the law. What is your question?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, there should be a uniform wage rate, and unless there is a uniform wage rate, the people in some States will get much less compared to others. Is the Government providing more funds to pay the minimum wage – as per the Minimum Wages Act of 1948 – where the wage rate is much higher?

I want to know this from the Minister. When will the Government notify a uniform wage rate for the rural unemployed people, so that there will be uniform wage rate and no variation in it from State to State?

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per section 3 of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the State Governments have a right to fix minimum wages in different sectors like agriculture. Provision has been made in the Act that as per the provisions contained in section 3 of the Act, Minimum Wages Act of the states will be applicable till the Central Government fixes its own minimum wages. As per the provision, if the minimum wage is fixed by the Central Government then it will not be less than Rs. 60, however, section 3 of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 is still in force in the states. Presently the Central Government do not feel that there is a need to interfere in minimum wages of the State Governments. However, if any State Government takes any action violating the spirit of the Employment Guarantee Scheme, the Union Government will use its power vested in it under the said law. We are seeking information from all the

states regarding the number of working hours, quantum of work and the rate of minimum wage, rate of agriculture wages under the SGRY and Food for work scheme prevailing in various states. We are going through all these information and the Government will interfere, if need arise.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the employment guarantee that has been given to the people of the rural areas by the UPA Government is a commendable step. However, there is only hundred days job guarantee. I would like to submit that if the UPA Government want to remain in power in the next five years also then it will not be enough to provide jobs for only 100 days, rather there is a need to provide employment guarantee for 250 days. The UPA Government has rendered NDA jobless by way of providing job guarantee to people.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Put your question.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: I would like to know whether the Government propose to provide 250 days employment guarantee to people. I would also like to know about the time by which Government will render NDA jobless.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is a suggestion for action.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Sir, I have noted it.

[English]

SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Sir, there is a huge gap between what is said and what is done, between the names registered and the jobs offered. There is many a slip between the cup and the lip. It is known from the Department that there is a huge difference between the job cards issued, applications received and jobs offered. The other day in this House itself an hon. Member stated that 2.5 crore names have been registered under this. The fact is that out of those 2.5 crore, only 8,28,000 and odd job cards have been issued and only 6,14,830 people have been offered jobs. None of them was getting

unemployment allowance. Is the Minister aware of this fact or not? What is the mechanism he is contemplating to bridge the gap in this regard?

MR. SPEAKER: You have to know that questions have to be relevant and brief.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, during the early phase of registration persons owning 50-100 bighas of land and even those who were graduates and post graduates also got themselves registered. All those who were not fit for physical labour had also got their names registered under the scheme so that they may get wages by showing their fake presence or may get unemployment allowance without doing anything. So, more than two and half crore people were registered. However, when the records were examined, it was found that the number of job cards released were less than the number of persons registered. Thus, the number of persons seeking employment got reduced. It is quite natural because those who have done B.A. and M.A. are not able to do physical labour and look for office jobs. Though they had got their names registered but when they found that they will have to carry load on their heads and will have to dig with spade they did not turn up to collect job cards. Thus the number of persons who got themselves registered was more than the number of job cards issued and the number of persons who actually demanded employment were even less than that. We have found out the reasons for variation in figures. We are doing state-wise monitoring. Fact is that those who wish to work are getting job. There is no such complaints that those want to work are not getting job.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: There should not be bogus entries.

[English]

#### Strike by SBI Employees

\*405. SHRI ARJUN SETHI:

SHRI SURESH ANGADI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employees of the State Bank of India went on indefinite strike in the month of April, 2006;

(b) if so, the main demands of the employees alongwith the demands accepted by the Government;

(c) the total loss suffered by the Government on account of strike during the said period;

(d) whether any mechanism has been evolved by the Government to avoid such strikes in future in order to settle grievances for the employees amicably and to give relief to the people from the hardships caused due to such strikes; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) Yes Sir. The employees of State Bank of India were on strike from 3.4.2006 to 9.4.2006.

(b) The main demands of the employees were as under:

(i) The pension ceiling needs a comprehensive review to provide for 50% of the last pay drawn.

(ii) Commutation on par with the industry-level.

(iii) Index linked D.A. as available in the industry.

(iv) Family Pension as available in the industry.

As per the agreement reached on 9.4.2006, the revised pension payable would be @ 50% of the last average pensionable pay upto Rs 21040/- + Professional Qualification Pay (PQP), if any and @ 40% of the average pensionable pay, above thereof.

(c) It is not possible to quantify the financial loss, if any, to the Government due to the strike.

(d) and (e) A negotiating Machinery is in existence for conflict Resolution with officers and workman Staff Federations/Associations/Unions at various levels. The meetings are held by the Management with Unions/Associations with the objective to discuss and negotiate important/emergent issues concerning the Management and/or the Federation. In the event of a strike notice being received by the Government, instructions issued by the Banking Division to Public Sector Banks (PSBs) for taking pre-emptive steps for smooth functioning of branches/



offices are invariably reiterated. Such steps interalia include, approaching local administration/police authorities for all necessary help in keeping branches open and avoiding disruptions, etc. as also, taking appropriate action against the erring employees. Further, Banks have now been advised to take appropriate steps for putting in place a suitable contingency plan to deal with the eventuality of a strike, in future.

[English]

SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what percentage of employees will be benefited because of this agreement, and what additional amount would be required to meet the additional burden that will be there because of this agreement between the Unions.

MR. SPEAKER: You want to know the total amount?

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: The excess amount which would become the liability is approximately Rs.190 crore annually. We have sufficient funds. With the Employees Fund being there, no problem would be caused whatever. The number of employees who were involved in this strike as such was 93 per cent. The agreement which has been arrived at would benefit people whose salary is now up to Rs.21,040.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI: It is learned that a number of Unions are not in favour of this particular agreement and they demand more.

12.00 hrs.

They also intend to go on strike further because of anomalies that have crept in because of this agreement. So, I would like to be clarified on this point.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: It was a mutual agreement arrived at between the Management and various unions along with the earlier Chief Labour Commissioner; and thereafter when the negotiations remained inconclusive, the Government stepped in. There was a mutual agreement. I do not know on what basis my hon. friend makes that assertion here. The agreement was mutually acceptable.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

### Outstanding Dues Against State Governments

\*406. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the dues of certain nationalised banks are outstanding against some State Governments;
- (b) if so, the details thereof upto March, 2006, State-wise;
- (c) the reasons for the dues remaining outstanding;
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for recovery of the said dues;
- (e) whether some nationalised banks have filed their claims in courts for recovery in this regard; and
- (f) if so, the latest position thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) Banks do not lend directly to State Governments. However, they invest in State Government securities, State Government guaranteed bonds issued by the State Government entities and lend to the public undertakings/corporate bodies/autonomous entities on the guarantees of State Governments. While there has been no default in SLR Bonds issued by State Governments, some nationalised banks have informed about unilateral reduction in interest rates of Government guaranteed bonds and their pre-payments by State Governments. Some dues of nationalised banks are outstanding against certain defaulting State Government entities who had borrowed on State Government guarantee but these guarantees have not been honoured by the respective State Governments primarily due to their financial constraints.

(d) Banks have taken steps for recovery of their dues from the defaulting entities of the State Governments in accordance with their recovery policies and RBI guidelines which provide for restructuring of loans, One Time Settlement of dues, filing of cases in Courts/DRTs etc.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. Some banks have filed cases in

various courts against the defaulting State Governments and their entities and registered claims with BIFF/AAIFR. These cases are at various stages of hearing/adjudication.

*[English]*

#### **Monitoring and Vigilance Committees**

\*407. DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:

SHRI RAKESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has issued instructions to the State Governments to set up Monitoring and Vigilance Committees at the Block, District and State levels to monitor and exercise vigilance over implementation of various rural development/employment schemes;

(b) if so, the States which have followed the instructions;

(c) the time by which the remaining States are likely to set up such committees;

(d) whether the Government proposes to issue fresh instructions to the State Governments in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (e) Instructions have been issued reconstituting Vigilance and Monitoring Committees in all States and districts of the country by the Ministry of Rural Development in October, 2004. With the issue of these instructions all such Committees stand reconstituted. So far as States and 340 Districts have held meetings of the Vigilance & Monitoring Committees at least once. Government of India has been constantly reminding the State Government and the Members of Parliament, who are Chairmen/Co-Chairmen of the District Vigilance and Monitoring Committees, for holding of the meetings of the Vigilance and Monitoring Committees regularly.

#### **Loan Under PMRY**

408. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:

SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases sponsored by various State Governments for bank loans under Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) and allied schemes during the last three years;

(b) the number of cases finalised for sanction of bank loans and the number of cases in which disbursements made during the same period, State-wise;

(c) whether the progress is considered to be satisfactory;

(d) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by Government in this regard;

(e) whether the loan taken under PMRY is not refunded by the people and the amount utilized for other purposes as reported in Dainik Jagran dated April 14, 2006; and

(f) if so, the facts of the matter and the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) The State-wise details of the loan applications received, sanctioned and disbursed under Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana (PMRY), Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) and Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) for the last three years are given at enclosed statement I, II and III respectively. The progress under these schemes is indicated at statement-IV.

(d) The steps initiated by the Government/ Reserve Bank of India for improvement of performance of PMRY, SGSY and SJSRY are given below:

(i) A time frame has been laid down for receipt of applications from the District Industry Centres (DICs) and thereafter sanction and disbursements of loans of banks.

(ii) Banks have been instructed to dispose of applications for loans up to Rs. 25000 within 2 weeks and upto Rs. 2 lakh within 4 weeks, provided the loan applications are complete in all respects.

(iii) Banks have been asked to issue 'No dues certificate' whenever required, within 15 days, otherwise it is deemed to have been issued.

(iv) Banks have been advised to carry out scrutiny of rejected applications by a higher authority from their controlling/Head Offices.

- (v) Banks have been advised to conduct joint recovery drives with concerned Government Departments viz. Districts Industries Centers.
- (vi) All State Governments have been advised to notify PMRY dues as revenue dues under respective Revenue Recovery Acts.
- (vii) State Governments have been advised to identify viable activities jointly with banks at the district level.
- (viii) 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).
- (ix) Banks have been advised that Self Help Groups (SHGs) could be considered for financing under PMRY provided all the members individually satisfy the eligibility criteria under the Scheme.
- (x) The performances of the banks are critically reviewed periodically in different fora such as DCC/DLRC/SLBC.

(e) and (f) As on March 2005, the percentage of All-India recovery under PMRY has been 35.2 per cent. In some of the States the recovery rate is less than 30 per cent. The reasons for the low rate of recovery are high failure rate among first generation entrepreneurs, lack of infrastructure, inconsistent quality of products, inadequate marketing support etc. The following steps have been taken to improve loan recovery under PMRY:-

1. State/UTs have been requested to notify the PMRY loan overdues as revenue under the Public Debt Recovery Act.
2. Joint recovery drives by the banks along with officers of the concerned District Industries Centres.
3. Filing of the First Information Report (FIR) against mis-utilization of loans and wilful defaulters under PMRY.
4. To provide, as an incentive, additional targets to States under PMRY whose loan recovery performance is better.
5. Less allocation of targets to States where recovery is below 30 per cent.

**Statement-I**

*State-wise details of number of applications received and sanctioned by Scheduled Commercial Banks (under PMRY Scheme) during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06*

	2003-04			2004-05			2005-06 ( Upto Dec. 2005)		
	No. of Applications			No. of Applications			No. of Applications		
	Received	Sanctioned	Disbursed	Received	Sanctioned	Disbursed	Received	Sanctioned	Disbursed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Haryana	14912	8387	7277	14786	9176	7735	11549	5939	2872
Himachal Pradesh	4177	3028	2862	3975	2977	2853	2682	1841	1444
Jammu & Kashmir	1890	792	656	1732	747	639	609	246	169
Punjab	13307	8405	7558	13619	9178	8359	8819	4638	2537
Rajasthan	28480	15654	12769	29533	16429	12919	22850	10434	3455
Chandigarh	150	99	68	474	288	206	315	146	81
Delhi	3542	1108	904	2785	937	818	1610	412	293
Assam	13293	7501	5844	15137	10262	8229	6201	3649	2904

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Manipur	812	595	520	907	440	387	88	6	4
Meghalaya	529	453	403	762	597	565	189	75	68
Nagaland	581	68	53	1054	897	109	164	130	128
Tripura	5100	2494	2043	3149	2126	1747	2155	1431	1200
Arunachal Pradesh	740	685	668	527	443	440	31	23	4
Mizoram	801	788	775	269	144	142	0	0	0
Bihar	17247	11370	9860	15837	11437	10340	9172	4788	3145
Jharkhand	8936	5498	4774	8955	5492	4804	4735	2254	1403
Orissa	19576	11852	8779	28000	16132	11339	23799	4703	1008
West Bengal	8757	3562	2822	9068	4598	3787	6120	2610	1971
Andaman & Nicobar	297	189	182	305	150	142	77	28	20
Sikkim	89	31	30	75	37	32	42	8	7
Chhattisgarh	7926	3919	3275	8198	4322	3276	5023	1740	861
Madhya Pradesh	46774	28031	19748	50855	27538	20609	31200	11535	3925
Uttaranchal	8989	5636	5361	10463	7200	6637	6337	3905	2932
Uttar Pradesh	74471	44842	40481	72335	45863	42232	39320	23312	15547
Gujarat	12146	7249	6755	11037	6975	6398	7037	3879	3197
Maharashtra	41278	21116	17230	47188	26785	21803	18545	9956	7558
Daman & Diu	5	3	3	7	4	4	6	4	4
Goa	220	125	116	77	53	45	59	23	13
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	27	23	22	9	8	7
Andhra Pradesh	24703	23291	17729	41716	24938	22457	18206	9856	6454
Karnataka	24778	15317	11929	30136	16748	13885	19579	7953	3363
Kerala	25100	17991	14024	30794	22517	16551	19789	11971	6459
Tamil Nadu	23223	14538	12738	33536	20590	16876	24179	12157	6547
Lakshadweep	31	17	17	0	12	4	5	4	4
Pondicherry	553	362	294	625	359	325	495	237	120
Not Specified	3266	1216	897	3377	1246	897	1977	629	363
<b>Total</b>	<b>438679</b>	<b>264012</b>	<b>219444</b>	<b>491137</b>	<b>297660</b>	<b>247813</b>	<b>253563</b>	<b>117218</b>	<b>80067</b>

**Statement-II**

*State-wise details of number of applications received, sanctioned and disbursed by scheduled commercial banks under Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 (upto Sept. 2005).*

1	2003-04*		2004-05			2005-06 (Upto Sep. 2005)		
	No. of Applications		No. of Applications			No. of Applications		
	Sanctioned	Disbursed	Received	Sanctioned	Disbursed	Received	Sanctioned	Disbursed
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Haryana	19174	3324	2282	1840	1779	731	564	510
Himachal Pradesh	8547	1597	2252	2040	2389	868	722	667
Jammu & Kashmir	5010	2778	7509	4354	3022	4121	1429	1002
Punjab	12358	3608	5056	4344	3934	1735	1261	923
Rajasthan	33665	11468	23061	15228	13142	7871	3157	1975
Chandigarh	38	17	197	176	24	1	1	0
Delhi	2	1	10	10	11	14	14	0
Assam	16145	5348	9155	8860	9631	2260	2137	2122
Manipur	56	56	387	375	375	185	181	180
Meghalaya	353	209	1229	1184	1174	88	87	87
Nagaland	266	266	2956	1571	1561	309	302	302
Tripura	19112	3798	2740	2692	2692	225	225	225
Arunachal Pradesh	546	546	1675	1675	1675	121	121	121
Mizoram	58	58	228	213	223	13	12	12
Bihar	115619	154094	78614	70274	75077	34912	29106	28514
Jharkhand	41467	32464	35104	24972	21973	10516	8870	7702
Orissa	37421	22164	10985	8951	13672	2246	1261	1170
West Bengal	90302	22266	21130	17979	22616	6532	5007	5799
A & N Islands	2	1	40	36	36	19	13	13
Sikkim	1028	861	777	777	777	169	169	169
Chhattisgarh	9368	7813	12420	7686	6387	3472	2238	1924

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Madhya Pradesh	32444	17607	11404	9287	8210	6184	3491	2240
Uttaranchal	2282	1477	2856	2330	2283	815	774	764
Uttar Pradesh	36879	16453	24289	20018	18423	8010	6602	6049
Gujarat	17153	11005	25464	16655	15746	18741	11269	8242
Maharashtra	17986	11226	17984	11592	10508	6883	3893	3743
Daman & Diu	8	8	0	0	0	10	10	10
Goa	535	426	338	265	262	192	165	161
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	78	56	24	14	14	53	43	43
Andhra Pradesh	46982	34295	36941	36285	33648	10757	8458	6522
Karnataka	7245	5499	5904	4549	4290	1899	1737	1828
Kerala	8172	7393	8670	7707	8380	3444	2789	2746
Tamil Nadu	18667	10030	10878	9831	10781	8511	7676	7341
Lakshadweep	19	19	10	9	9	0	0	0
Pondicherry	129	91	179	143	162	221	191	181
<b>Total</b>	<b>599116</b>	<b>388322</b>	<b>362748</b>	<b>293922</b>	<b>294886</b>	<b>142128</b>	<b>103975</b>	<b>93287</b>

\* Figure for applications received are not available.

**Statement-III**

*State-wise Details of Number of Applications Received, Sanctioned and Disbursed by Scheduled Commercial Banks Under Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (STSRY)*

1	2003-04 No. of Applications			2004-05 No. of Applications			2005-06 ( Upto Sept. 2005) No. of Applications		
	2 Received	3 Sanctioned	4 Disbursed	5 Received	6 Sanctioned	7 Disbursed	8 Received	9 Sanctioned	10 Disbursed
Haryana	3729	2018	1427	3518	1879	1437	1967	816	543
Himachal Pradesh	257	223	203	473	427	422	168	135	127
Jammu & Kashmir	3444	1255	931	3249	1303	982	1310	375	303
Punjab	1227	883	658	1079	833	740	206	134	116
Rajasthan	11989	6598	4467	11161	6726	4343	6540	1833	590

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Chandigarh	157	71	35	106	59	45	84	26	11
Delhi	954	269	175	629	217	156	500	76	52
Assam	2702	2075	2047	1124	682	635	206	120	86
Manipur	24	24	24	10	5	4	5	3	3
Meghalaya	562	493	490	248	227	219	34	14	13
Nagaland	306	275	275	452	437	428	32	21	18
Tripura	769	554	548	605	395	370	535	223	176
Arunachal Pradesh	118	98	98	6	5	5	10	8	8
Mizoram	238	201	201	3	3	3	11	11	11
Bihar	2642	1864	1812	1781	1545	1396	673	602	572
Jharkhand	506	435	414	479	334	305	206	129	114
Orissa	5475	3139	2873	4520	3257	2951	1046	536	439
West Bengal	5343	3328	2540	3396	2486	1210	1556	1060	881
Andaman & Nicobar	20	20	3	6	4	4	7	7	7
Sikkim	86	41	39	73	45	39	8	4	4
Chhattisgarh	4065	2386	1437	4469	2544	1924	1011	389	297
Madhya Pradesh	12512	5863	3428	8763	4807	2995	3267	1152	750
Uttaranchal	1278	799	649	1180	791	654	351	230	175
Uttar Pradesh	11018	7281	5998	8284	5971	4681	3841	2430	1867
Gujarat	10383	4416	3703	6534	3353	3200	3491	1450	1273
Maharashtra	16126	7832	6255	12493	5557	4361	3417	1909	1740
Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Goa	69	60	58	42	30	29	74	35	30
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	15	15
Andhra Pradesh	12091	7090	6167	13628	8631	6714	4079	3060	2623
Karnataka	5486	3804	3378	3779	2818	2478	2689	1640	1467
Kerala	8090	5054	4489	4626	4033	3890	5945	2912	2722
Tamil Nadu	9564	5286	4894	3681	2212	2124	1000	600	537

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Lakshadweep	9	9	8	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pondicherry	322	141	134	300	274	254	86	53	39
<b>Total</b>	<b>131561</b>	<b>738865</b>	<b>59648</b>	<b>100877</b>	<b>61890</b>	<b>48798</b>	<b>44375</b>	<b>22030</b>	<b>17639</b>

**Statement-IV**

*State-wise percentage of applications sanctioned to applications received under PMRY, SJSRY and SGSY during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06*

1	PMRY			SJSRY			SGSY <sup>A</sup>	
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06*	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06*	2004-05	2005-06*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Haryana	56.24	62.06	51.42	54.12	53.41	41.48	80.63	77.15
Himachal Pradesh	72.49	74.89	68.64	86.77	90.27	80.36	90.59	83.18
Jammu & Kashmir	41.90	43.13	40.39	36.44	40.10	28.63	57.98	34.68
Punjab	63.16	67.39	52.59	71.96	77.20	65.05	85.92	72.68
Rajasthan	54.96	55.63	45.66	55.03	60.26	28.03	66.03	40.11
Chandigarh	66.00	60.76	46.35	45.22	55.66	30.95	89.34	100.00
Delhi	31.28	33.64	25.59	28.20	26.18	15.20	100.00	100.00
Assam	56.43	67.79	58.85	76.79	60.68	58.25	96.78	94.56
Manipur	73.28	48.51	6.82	100.00	50.00	60.00	96.90	97.84
Meghalaya	85.63	78.35	39.68	87.72	91.53	41.18	96.34	98.86
Nagaland	11.70	85.10	79.27	89.87	96.68	65.63	53.15	97.73
Tripura	48.90	67.51	66.40	72.04	65.29	41.68	98.25	100.00
Arunachal Pradesh	92.57	84.06	74.19	83.05	83.33	80.00	100.00	100.00
Mizoram	98.38	53.53		84.45	100.00	100.00	93.42	92.31
Bihar	65.92	72.22	52.20	70.55	86.75	89.45	89.39	83.37
Jharkhand	61.53	61.33	47.60	85.97	69.73	62.62	71.14	84.35
Orissa	59.52	57.61	19.76	57.33	72.06	51.24	81.48	56.14
West Bengal	40.68	50.71	42.65	62.29	73.20	69.41	85.09	76.65
A & N Islands	63.64	49.18	36.36	100.00	66.67	100.00	90.00	68.42



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Sikkim	34.83	49.33	19.05	47.67	61.64	50.00	100.00	100.00
Chhatisgarh	49.44	52.72	34.64	58.70	56.93	38.48	61.88	64.46
Madhya Pradesh	55.65	54.36	36.97	46.86	54.86	35.26	81.44	56.45
Uttaranchal	62.70	68.81	61.62	62.52	68.15	65.53	81.58	94.97
Uttar Pradesh	60.21	63.40	59.29	66.08	72.08	63.26	82.42	82.42
Gujarat	59.68	63.20	55.12	42.53	51.32	41.54	65.41	60.13
Maharashtra	51.16	56.76	53.69	48.57	44.48	55.87	64.46	56.56
Daman & Diu	60.00	57.14	66.67					100.00
Goa	56.82	68.83	38.98	86.96	71.43	47.30	78.40	85.94
Dadra & Nagar Haveli		85.19	88.89			75.00	58.33	81.13
Andhra Pradesh	94.28	59.78	54.14	58.64	63.33	75.02	98.22	78.63
Karnataka	61.82	55.57	40.62	69.34	74.57	60.99	77.05	91.47
Kerala	71.68	73.12	60.49	62.47	87.18	48.98	88.89	80.98
Tamil Nadu	62.60	61.40	50.28	55.27	60.09	60.00	90.38	90.19
Lakshadweep	54.84				80.00	100.00	90.00	
Pondicherry	65.46	57.44	47.88	43.79	91.33	61.63	79.89	86.43
Not Specified	37.23	36.90	31.82					
<b>Total</b>	<b>56.24</b>	<b>62.06</b>	<b>51.42</b>	<b>54.12</b>	<b>53.41</b>	<b>49.65</b>	<b>81.03</b>	<b>73.16</b>

@ upto December 2005

\* upto September 2005

^ Figures for 2003-04 are not available.

### World Bank Financed Projects

\*409. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of development projects in the country being financed by World Bank at present, State-wise;

(b) the status of these projects;

(c) whether most of the State projects are running

behind schedule or are unable to utilize the sanctioned amount within the time frame;

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

(e) the fresh projects pending with Union Government seeking World Bank assistance, State-wise; and

(f) the time by which these are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) The details of State sector projects are as under:

(US\$ Million) / As on 31.3.2006

S.No.	Project Name	Approval Date	Total Amount	Disbursement
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh Community Forest Management Project	16-Jul-02	108	63.8
2	Andhra Pradesh District Poverty Initiatives Project	11-Apr-00	111	99.3
3	Andhra Pradesh Rural Poverty Reduction Project	20-Feb-03	150	113.4
4	Assam Agricultural Competitiveness Project	14-Dec-04	154	13.1
5	Chhattisgarh District Rural Poverty Reduction Project	24-Apr-03	112.6	11.5
6	Gujarat Emergency Earthquake Reconstruction Project	2-May-02	442.8	281.3
7	Gujarat State Highway Project	5-Sep-00	381	228.4
8	Himachal Pradesh Mid-Himalayan Watershed Development Project	13-Dec-05	60	5
9	Karnataka Community-Based Tank Management Project	25-Apr-02	98.9	28.7
10	Karnataka Municipal Reforms	14-Mar-06	216	0
11	Karnataka State Highways Improvement Project	24-May-01	360	251.7
12	Karnataka Urban Water Sector Improvement Project	8-Apr-04	39.5	8.9
13	Karnataka Watershed Development Project	21-Jun-01	100.4	39.4
14	Second Karnataka Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project	18-Dec-01	151.6	69.2
15	Kerala Rural Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation Project	7-Nov-00	65.5	40.7
16	Kerala State Transport Project	14-Mar-02	255	106
17	Madhya Pradesh District Poverty Initiatives Project	7-Nov-00	110.1	78.6
18	Madhya Pradesh Water Sector Restructuring Project	7-Sep-04	394	22.4
19	Maharashtra Rural Water Supply and Sanitation "Jalswarajya" Project	26-Aug-03	181	30.4
20	Maharashtra Water Sector Improvement Project	23-Jun-05	325	31.8
21	Mumbai Urban Transport Project	18-Jun-02	542	166.3
22	Mizoram State Roads Project	14-Mar-02	60	34.1
23	Rajasthan District Poverty Initiatives Project	25-Apr-00	100.5	66.9
24	Rajasthan Health Systems Development Project	11-Mar-04	89	9.6
25	Rajasthan Power Sector Restructuring Project	18-Jan-01	180	139.6

1	2	3	4	5
26	Rajasthan Second District Primary Education Project	21-Jun-01	74.4	56.4
27	Rajasthan Water Sector Restructuring Project	19-Feb-02	140	55.9
28	Tamil Nadu Empowerment and Poverty Reduction	12-Jul-05	120	6.6
29	Tamil Nadu Health Systems Project	16-Dec-04	110.83	7.5
30	Tamil Nadu Road Sector Project	17-Jun-03	348	66.5
31	Third Tamil Nadu Urban Development Project (TNUDP III)	5-Jul-05	300	16.3
32	Uttar Pradesh Health Systems Development Project	25-Apr-00	110	50.8
33	Uttar Pradesh Sodic Lands Reclamation Project	15-Dec-98	194.1	186.1
34	Uttar Pradesh State Roads Project	19-Dec-02	488	114.2
35	Uttar Pradesh Water Sector Restructuring Project	19-Feb-02	149.2	28.7
36	Allahabad Bypass Project	14-Oct-03	240	62.7
37	Uttaranchal Decentralized Watershed Development Project	20-May-04	69.62	5.6
Total			7132.05	2597.4

(\* 1 US Dollar = Rs. 44.83 as on 10.05.2006)

(c) and (d) Some of these State sector projects have been given extension beyond their original closing date on account of various factors like shifting of utilities, land acquisition, community mobilization, change in scope, frequent change in project management, etc. These are:

S. No.	Name of the Project
1	2
1.	Andhra Pradesh District Poverty Initiatives Project
2.	Gujarat State Highway Project
3.	Kerala Rural Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation Project

1	2
4.	Madhya Pradesh District Poverty Initiatives Project
5.	Rajasthan District Poverty Initiatives Project
6.	Uttar Pradesh Health Systems Development Project
7.	Uttar Pradesh Sodic Lands Reclamation Project

(e) and (f) Government of India has finalized the Country Assistance Strategy with the World Bank for the period July 2005 – June 2008. Currently it includes 25 State Sectors Projects which have been posed to the World Bank for assistance as per details below:-

State	No. of Projects	State	No. of Projects	State	No. of Projects
Andhra Pradesh	4	Assam	1	Bihar	1
Gujarat	1	Himachal Pradesh	1	Jharkhand	1
Jammu & Kashmir	2	Karnataka	3	Orissa	2
Punjab	2	Rajasthan	1	Tamil Nadu	2
Uttar Pradesh	2	Uttaranchal	1	West Bengal	1

Apart from these, project proposals are sent from time to time by the State Governments for external assistance and these are examined for support from multilateral/bilateral agencies by the Planning commission, the line Ministry and Department of Expenditure for requisite clearances before they are posed for external funding. After a proposal is posed to the World Bank for funding it follows the cycle of project analysis, preparation, appraisal and negotiations before its final approval by the World Bank Board.

**Additional allocations under NFFWP**

\*410. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the year-wise allocation of funds and quantum of foodgrains supplied to various States under the National Food For Work Programme (NFFWP) since the inception of the programme, till date, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government has received any requests from certain States including drought-prone States for additional amount as well as foodgrains during the said period; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The National Food for Work Programme (NFFWP) was introduced in November, 2004. Allocations of funds and quantum of foodgrains supplied to the various States during the years 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 under the programme is given in the enclosed statement. With effect from 1.4.2006 NFFWP has subsumed in the NREG.

(b) No requests have been made by any State for additional funds and foodgrains during the period.

(c) Question does not arise.

**Statement**

*Releases of Resources under the National Food for Work Programme  
During the Year 2004-05 & 2005-06*

(Rs in lakh)

(Foodgrain in MTc)

Sl. No.	Name of the States	Resources Released during 04-05		Resources Released during 2005-06			Foodgrains Authorized (in MTs)
		Centre Release of Funds	Foodgrains Authorized (in MTs)	Centre Release of Funds	For NREGA	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhara Pradesh	12214.72	125413	13599.82	16474.81	30074.63	150976
2	Arunachal Pradesh	190.80	0	212.63	446.31	658.94	2362
3	Assam	16645.79	108984	0	33650.13	33650.13	0
4	Bihar	26456.54	272432	22048.52	30806.3	52854.82	132196
5	Chhattisgarh	10410.19	109045	23181.35	785	23966.35	131273
6	Gujarat	3994.69	41042	4009.55	4241.12	8250.67	13363
7	Haryana	281.85	2894	313.81	873.82	1187.63	1045
8	Himachal Pradesh	303.91	3121	338.38	898.37	1236.75	3758
9	Jammu & Kashmir	494.26	5074	550.31	1135.29	1685.6	4150

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10	Jharkhand	22595.70	232004	29918.37	23429.66	53348.03	96959
11	Karnataka	2925.38	30038	3257.11	4402.1	7659.21	10850
12	Kerala	547.14	5618	0	1169.18	1169.18	0
13	Madhya Pradesh	15808.32	162310	26409.28	21213.82	47623.1	187977
14	Maharashtra	15495.26	158998	5614.26	19743.56	25357.82	23060
15	Manipur	399.22	2614	889.78	461.63	1351.41	4991
16	Meghalaya	543.85	3562	606.08	1457.87	2063.95	2021
17	Mizoram	95.52	626	106.45	770.91	877.36	1184
18	Nagaland	455.72	2984	0	1031.28	1031.28	0
19	Orissa	22283.67	228863	43221.31	7384.75	50606.06	254674
20	Punjab	716.32	7356	797.55	822.54	1620.09	2657
21	Rajasthan	3532.69	36269	7866.58	4142.11	12008.69	43661
22	Sikkim	315.73	2068	351.85	722.16	1074.01	1174
23	Tamil Nadu	4851.58	49815	5401.73	6571.72	11973.45	17992
24	Tripura	1543.37	10105	1719.95	2572.97	4292.92	5733
25	Uttaranchal	1014.86	10418	891.66	1269.11	2160.77	2969
26	Uttar Pradesh	26378.11	270779	4273.76	33242.07	37515.83	14231
27	West Bengal	11449.81	117568	12748.17	17038.15	29786.32	75641
Total		201945.00	2000000	208328.26	236756.74	445085.00	1184897

#### Setting up of Wind Power Plants/Units

\*411. SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted mapping of different parts/regions in the country, where there is huge potential for wind power;

(b) if so, the details of the States/regions so identified alongwith the estimated power generation capacity;

(c) whether the Government provides capital

subsidy to the unemployed youth for setting up wind power plants;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the total amount of subsidy disbursed as on March, 31,2006; and

(e) the total number of wind power plants/units set up in the country, State-wise as on March, 31, 2006 alongwith the estimated power generation capacity of these plants?

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

(b) Under the Wind Resource Assessment Programme of the Government, more than 540 Wind Monitoring Stations were set up in windy areas in 13 States and Union Territories. 211 sites having annual mean wind power density of 200 Watt/square metre or more at 50 metre elevation have been identified which have a gross wind energy potential of about 45200 MW. State-wise information is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Wind Power Projects with an aggregate installed capacity of 5340 MW comprising of Wind Turbines of 225 kW to 1650 kW unit capacities, have been set up in the country till 31st March, 2006. State-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

**Statement-I**

**State-wise Estimated Gross Wind Energy Potential in the Country**

S. No.	State	Gross Potential (MW)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8275
2.	Gujarat	9675
3.	Karnataka	6620
4.	Kerala	875
5.	Madhya Pradesh	5500
6.	Maharashtra	3650
7.	Orissa	1700
8.	Rajasthan	5400
9.	Tamil Nadu	3050
10.	West Bengal	450
	Total	45195

**Statement-II**

**State-wise Wind Power Installed Capacity (As on 31.03.2006)**

(in MW)

State	Total Installed Capacity
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	121.0
Gujarat	338.1
Karnataka	584.6

1	2
Kerala	2.0
Madhya Pradesh	40.3
Maharashtra	1001.3
Rajasthan	358.1
Tamil Nadu	2892.5
Other	2.7
Total	5340.6

**Electricity in Villages**

\*412. SHRI HITEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the majority of villages do not have electricity;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has adopted a policy to cover one lakh villages, presently deprived of electricity, with electricity for the benefit of villages in the remote areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER ( SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per 2001 census 1,19,570 villages do not have electricity. The same is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) With a view to expedite rural electrification programme in the country, Government of India introduced "Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana" (RGGVY) in April, 2005. The scheme covers electrification of all the villages in the country except the villages under the programme of Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources (MNES) for providing electricity from non-conventional energy sources under their remote village electrification programme.

The salient features of the RGGVY are as under:-

1. Scheme is for the attainment of National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP) goal of providing access to electricity to all rural households and electrification of all villages over a period of four years.

2. Creation of Rural Electricity Distribution Backbone (REDB) with one 33/11 kV (or 66/11 kV) substation in every block appropriately linked to the State Transmission System.
3. Creation of Village Electricity Infrastructure (VEI) for electrification of all un-electrified villages/habitations and provision of distribution transformer(s) of appropriate capacity in every village/habitation.
4. Decentralized Distributed Generation (DDG) and Supply System from conventional sources for Villages/Habitations where grid supply is not cost effective and where Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources would not be providing electricity through their programme(s).
5. REDB, VEI and DDG would also cater to the requirement of agriculture and other activities which would facilitate overall rural development, employment generation and poverty alleviation.
6. The scheme inter-alia provides for financing of electrification of all un-electrified Below Poverty Line (BPL) households in the country with 100% capital subsidy as per norms of Kutir Jyoti Programme in all rural habitations.
7. Under this scheme 90% Capital Subsidy would be provided for projects.

**Statement****Status of Village Electrification as per 2001 Census**

Sl. No.	State	Total No. of inhabited villages as per 2001 census	Total no. of electrified villages	Balance un-electrified villages
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	26613	28565	48
2	Arunachal Pradesh	3863	2335	1528
3	Assam	25124	19081	6043
4	Bihar	39015	19251	19764
5	Jharkhand	29354	7641	21713
6	Goa	347	347	0

1	2	3	4	5
7	Gujarat	18066	17940	126
8	Haryana	6764	6759	5
9	Himachal Pradesh	17495	16891	604
10	J&K	6417	6301	116
11	Karnataka	27481	26771	710
12	Kerala	1364	1364	0
13	Madhya Pradesh	52117	50474	1643
14	Chhattisgarh	19744	18532	1212
15	Maharashtra	41095	40351	744
16	Manipur	2315	2043	272
17	Meghalaya	5782	3016	2766
18	Mizoram	707	691	16
19	Nagaland	1278	1216	62
20	Orissa	47529	37663	9866
21	Punjab	12278	12278	0
22	Rajasthan	39753	37276	2477
23	Sikkim	450	405	45
24	Tamil Nadu	15400	15400	0
25	Tripura	858	818	40
26	Uttar Pradesh	97942	57042	40900
27	Uttaranchal	15761	13131	2630
28	West Bengal	37945	31705	6240
<b>Total (States)</b>		<b>592857</b>	<b>473287</b>	<b>119570</b>
<b>Total UTs</b>		<b>875</b>	<b>875</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>All India</b>		<b>593732</b>	<b>474162</b>	<b>119570</b>

Source: Office of Registrar General

[Translation]

### Bank Charges

\*413. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA:

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received complaints that various public and private banks are levying charges on withdrawal through ATM, and other services in contravention of the Government's directions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that they have received representations from the public about unreasonable and non-transparent service charges being levied by banks, especially with respect to non-maintenance of minimum balance in accounts, delayed payment on credit card dues, remittance charges/ATM Debit card related complaints etc.

Even though levy of Service Charges by Commercial Banks was deregulated by RBI from September, 1999 and banks are given the freedom to fix service charges subject to some conditions, representations against unreasonable treatment are referred to concerned banks for redressal.

(c) The scope of the Banking Ombudsman Scheme, which came into force with effect from January 1, 2006, has been enlarged to cover: customer complaints in areas such as levying service charges without prior notice to the customer and non-adherence to the fair practices code as adopted by individual banks, credit card complaints, deficiencies in providing the services assured by banks and banks' sales agents, etc.

An independent Banking Codes and Standard Board of India (BCSBI) has also been set up by the RBI in February, 2006, under the Societies Registration Act. The Board would function as an autonomous, independent body to effectively monitor and enforce the compliance with Codes and Standards. It has been set up as an independent watchdog to ensure that banks deliver services in accordance with the Codes and Standards to which they have agreed.

As announced in RBI's Annual Policy Statement for the year 2006-07 it is proposed to make it obligatory for banks to display and update, in their office/branches as also on their websites, the details of various service charges in a format to be approved by the Reserve Bank.

### Increase in Capacity of Hydel Power Generation

\*414. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ:

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to increase hydel power generation capacity;

(b) if so, the quantum of power likely to be added during the Tenth Five Year Plan along with the investment likely to be made;

(c) whether any target has been fixed in this regard; and

(d) if so, the achievements made thereon?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The hydro power generation capacity of about 9500 MW is likely to be added during the Tenth Five Year Plan. A provision of Rs.43,350 crores has been made for investment in hydro power in the Central Sector during 10th Plan.

(c) A capacity addition target of 14,393 MW for hydro power generation was fixed in the beginning of 10th Plan. During mid-term review of the 10th Plan carried out in 2005, the hydro power generation capacity addition has been revised to 11,125 MW.

(d) Till 30th April, 2006, 5,580 MW of hydro power generation capacity has been achieved during 10th Plan.

### Fringe Benefit Tax

\*415. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA:

SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount collected as Fringe Benefit Tax (FBT) during the last fiscal year;



(b) whether some tax payers have challenged the constitutional validity of FBT in various High Courts;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government has decided to approach the Supreme Court to get this matter decided by seeking transfer of cases from High Courts;

(e) if so, the details thereof and whether tax payers are paying this tax in instalments irrespective of the writ petitions;

(f) whether certain foreign companies are committing irregularities in depositing outstanding FBT;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the action taken against the foreign companies regarding FBT dues, company-wise?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The amount collected as Fringe Benefit Tax during the financial year 2005-06 was Rs. 4749 crores (provisional).

(b) and (c) Yes Sir. A number of taxpayers have challenged the constitutional validity of Fringe Benefit Tax in various High Courts on the grounds that the tax is arbitrary, unreasonable and discriminatory and ultra-vires the Constitution of India.

(d) Yes Sir.

(e) The Government has filed transfer petitions in the cases of Union of India Vs. Khumbhat and Co. and others and Union of India Vs. Magma Leasing Ltd. and others. Both the transfer petitions have been heard by the Hon'ble Supreme Court and the Government was directed to file amendment applications to the transfer petitions incorporating a list of all the writ petitions filed all over the country. An amendment application to the transfer petition in the case of Union of India Vs. Khumbhat and Co. and others has already been filed. The amendment application in the case of Union of India Vs. Magma Leasing Ltd. will be filed shortly. The final decision of the Supreme Court on the issue of transfer of the writ petitions is awaited.

However, notwithstanding the filing of the writ petitions, the collection figures of Rs.4749 crores during the financial year 2005-06 indicate that the taxpayers have generally paid their FBT dues.

(f) to (h) The information regarding irregularities committed by foreign companies in depositing outstanding FBT can only be culled out from the income-tax/FBT returns for assessment year 2006-07. Since the last date for filing of returns is 31.10.2006, returns are yet to be filed. Therefore, at present, the Government has no information of any irregularities by foreign companies in depositing outstanding FBT.

[English]

#### National Urban Transport Policy

\*416. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to bring new National Urban Transport Policy;

(b) if so, the proposed features of the new policy;

(c) whether the State Governments also were/are being consulted in this regard;

(d) if so, the suggestions given by them; and

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

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) A National Urban Transport Policy has been approved by the Government in April, 2006. It, inter alia, seeks to promote integrated land use and transport planning, greater use of public transport and non-motorized modes of travel as well as use of cleaner technologies. It offers Central Government's financial support for investments in public transport, infrastructure for greater use of non-motorized modes, construction of parking facilities, including demonstrative pilot projects. It encourages capacity building, innovative financing mechanisms, institutional coordination, association of the private sector and need for public awareness and cooperation.

(c) and (d) The draft Policy was circulated to all the State Governments and also presented at a conference of Chief Ministers held on 29th June, 2005. While there was overwhelming support for the policy at this conference, some significant suggestions made were:-

- (i) Reduction of the minimum population threshold for Central Government's financial support towards mass transit systems.
- (ii) Review of the Motor Vehicles Act taking into account the specific requirements of city transport.
- (iii) Accommodating the specific requirements of cities in hill States.
- (iv) Creating awareness through educational programmes on the problems of Urban Transport at the school level.
- (v) Encouraging all possible modes of transport, including waterways and ropeways.

(e) Implementation of such a policy is an ongoing process to be undertaken by the State Governments as this is a State subject.

[Translation]

#### Short Supply of Coal and Gas

\*417. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the power generation has been affected due to short supply of coal and gas during the year 2005-06;

(b) if so, the quantum of power in terms of mega watt generated with coal and gas during the year 2005-06;

(c) the estimated loss of power in terms of mega watt; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure adequate supply of coal and gas to the power plants?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) Yes, Sir. There was shortage of gas supply to gas-based power stations in the country and 25 stations reported generation loss due to shortage of gas during the year 2005-06. Six of the Coal-based power stations of NTPC with a total capacity of 7510 MW reported generation loss due to shortage of coal during 2005-06.

(b) The quantum of power generated by the coal

and gas based power stations during 2005-06 was as under:

- Coal based power stations: 405.374 Billion Unit
- Gas based power stations: 60.128 Billion Unit

(c) The loss of generation due to shortage of fuel supply during the year 2005-06 was as under:

- \*\* Coal based power stations: 1.654 Billion Unit
- \*\* Gas based power stations: 23.88 Billion Unit\*

\* Generation loss with reference to 90% Plant Load Factor at which gas-based power stations are capable of operating the actual PLF was about 60%.

But for the aforementioned generation loss of 25.534 BU, the total generation would have been 103.4% of the target for the year and about 9.5% more than the actual generation during the preceding year.

(d) Following steps are being taken by the Government to augment supply of coal and gas to the power plants in the country.

i) **Coal:**

#### Monitoring and Supervision:

The following steps have been taken to ensure better availability of coal in all the power stations:

- \*\* The coal supply position to thermal power stations is vigorously monitored in Central Electricity Authority and Ministry of Power on daily basis.
- \*\* A Sub-group of the Infrastructure Constraints Review Committee headed by the Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Coal, consisting of the representatives from the Ministry of Power, Central Electricity Authority, Ministry of Railways and Coal India Ltd., every week reviews and resolves the problems of coal supply to thermal power stations having coal stocks below 7 days requirement.
- \*\* The Infrastructure Constraints Review Committee, headed by Secretary (Co-ordination) in the Cabinet Secretariat, reviews the coal production and supply to thermal power stations in the country every month.

#### Short-term Measures

- \*\* Ministry of Coal took action to enhance the production of coal in the country and production did improve.

- Coal is being imported to meet the shortfall from domestic sources. During 2005-06, 11.22 million tonne (equivalent to about 16 million tonne of domestic coal) of coal was imported.

#### Long-term Measures

- New coal blocks are being allocated by the Ministry of Coal to power producers/utilities for captive mining to meet requirement of their power plants.
- Stream lined procedure by Ministry of Environment/ and Forests to expedite the environmental forest clearances to pending coal mining projects.

As a result of various measures taken, the coal supply position in the thermal power stations improved considerably with the coal stock from about 10.3 million tonne as on 1st April, 2005 to about 18.0 million tonne as on 31st March, 2006 and the number of power stations with coal stock less than 7 days also reduced from 19 to 1 during the corresponding period.

#### ii) Gas:

Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has enunciated following action to improve the availability of gas for power stations:

- Augmentation of production of natural gas from the gas fields/wells.
- Increasing availability of gas from domestic sources by awarding gas blocks for exploration and production (E&P) activities in various sedimentary basins of the country under the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP).
- Encouraging import of gas in the form of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and also making efforts for import of gas through international pipeline projects.
- In order to explore and produce new sources of natural gas from coal bearing areas, government has formulated a Coal Bed Methane (CBM) Policy providing attractive fiscal and contractual framework for exploration and production of CBM in the country.

#### Lok Adalats

\*418. SHRI AJIT JOGI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Lok Adalats organized during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the number of cases disposed of in these Lok Adalats during the above said period, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government proposes to set up more Lok Adalats during the current financial year; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) The requisite information is being collected from all State Legal Services Authorities in the country. The information will be laid on the Table of the House as and when the same is received.

(c) and (d) Organising Lok Adalats is a continuous process and the same is need based. All help and assistance is provided by the Government to States for setting up more and more Lok Adalats.

#### Generation of Power

\*419. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States having power generation more than their demand;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to provide the surplus power to those States which have less power generation;

(c) the steps taken to generate power as per demand in those States which are generating less power; and

(d) the success achieved by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) There is an overall shortage of power in the country. The shortages varied from State to State, month to month and hour to hour. Surplus power is available in Himachal Pradesh during summer and monsoon months and in the Eastern Region except for the evening peak period of the day. State-wise power supply position in the country during 2005-06 is given in the enclosed Statement.

The following measures have been taken to provide power to the deficit States:

- (i) The 15% unallocated power of Central Generating Stations (CGSs) is allocated to the needy States/UTs to meet the emergent/seasonal requirement of the power.
- (ii) A part of the unallocated power from CGSs in the Eastern Region as well as part of the firm power of DVC of Eastern Region has been allocated to various States in other regions.
- (iii) The surplus power available with the States is also being availed by the needy States through power trading companies or under bilateral agreements.

(c) and (d) Electricity is a concurrent subject. Supply and distribution of electricity in a state is the responsibility of the state government/state power utility concerned which decides the priorities of power supply to various categories of consumers/areas in the states. Government of India supplements the efforts of the state government by way of adding capacity in generation in the Central sector through Central Public Sector undertakings.

The following steps/schemes/measures are being taken to improve the generation as per the requirement of power in the country:

- (i) A capacity addition of 41,110 MW has been targeted for 10th Five Year Plan consisting of 22,832 MW in Central Sector, 11,157 MW in State Sector and 7,121 MW in Private Sector with the component of hydro,

thermal and nuclear being 14,393 MW, 25,417 MW and 1,300 MW respectively.

- (ii) Currently projects aggregating 41,559 MW are under construction.
- (iii) Maximization of generation through better performance in plant load factor (PLF) of thermal power stations.
- (iv) Early stabilization of newly commissioned units.
- (v) Renovation, modernization and life extension of old and inefficient generation units with interest subsidy on loans by the Power Finance Corporation.
- (vi) Tapping of surplus power from captive power plants.
- (vii) Enhancement of inter-state and inter-regional transfer of power by strengthening of inter-regional transmission links eventually leading to formation of National Grid.
- (viii) Strengthening/augmentation of sub-transmission & distribution system.

While, the energy shortage reduced from about 8.8% in 2002-03 to about 8.4% during 2005-06, there was marginal increase in peaking shortage from 12.2% in 2002-03 to 12.3% in 2005-06, mainly due to shortage of gas. But for the generation loss of 23.88 Billion Unit due to shortage of gas, the energy and peaking shortage during 2005-06 would have reduced to about 4.6% and 9% respectively.

#### Statement

#### Power Supply Position (Revised)

(Figures in MU net)

State System / Region/	March, 2006				April, 05 to March, 06			
	Requirement (MU)	Availability (MU)	Surplus / Deficit (-) (MU)	(%)	Requirement (MU)	Availability (MU)	Surplus / Deficit (-) (MU)	(%)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Chandigarh	87	87	0	0.0	1,260	1,258	-2	-0.2
Delhi	1,519	1,514	-5	-0.3	21,602	21,281	-321	-1.5
Haryana	1,791	1,602	-189	-10.6	23,791	21,631	-2,160	-9.1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Himachal Pradesh	390	386	-4	-1.0	4,302	4,258	-44	-1.0
Jammu & Kashmir	1,004	652	-352	-35.1	9,268	7,672	-1,596	-17.2
Punjab	2,365	2,211	-154	-6.5	35,682	32,591	-3,091	-8.7
Rajasthan	2,748	2,653	-95	-3.5	32,052	30,879	-1,173	-3.7
Uttar Pradesh	4,438	3,830	-608	-13.7	55,682	44,033	-11,649	-20.9
Uttaranchal	436	432	-4	-0.9	5,155	5,008	-147	-2.9
Northern Region	14,778	13,367	-1,411	-9.5	188,794	168,611	-20,183	-10.7
Chhattisgarh	1,217	1,151	-66	-5.4	13,012	12,540	-472	-3.6
Gujarat	5,013	4,669	-344	-6.9	57,137	52,436	-4,701	-8.2
Madhya Pradesh	3,046	2,503	-543	-17.8	36,846	31,619	-5,227	-14.2
Maharashtra	9,583	7,531	-2,052	-21.4	102,765	84,117	-18,648	-18.1
Daman & Diu	130	117	-13	-10.0	1,346	1,323	-23	-1.7
D.N. Haveli	228	228	0	0.0	2,539	2,531	-8	-0.3
Goa	215	215	0	0.0	2,338	2,338	0	0.0
Western Region	19,432	16,414	-3,018	-15.5	215,983	186,904	-29,079	-13.5
Andhra Pradesh	5,414	5,171	-243	-4.5	53,030	52,332	-698	-1.3
Karnataka	3,705	3,600	-105	-2.8	34,601	34,349	-252	-0.7
Kerala	1,301	1,271	-30	-2.3	13,674	13,578	-96	-0.7
Tamil Nadu	5,112	4,981	-131	-2.6	54,194	53,853	-341	-0.6
Pondicherry	154	154	0	0.0	1,678	1,678	0	0.0
Lakshadweep #	2	2	0	0	24	24	0	0
Southern Region	15,686	15,177	-509	-3.2	157,179	155,790	-1,389	-0.9
Bihar	679	624	-55	-8.1	7,955	7,218	-737	-9.3
DVC	914	901	-13	-1.4	10,003	9,891	-112	-1.1
Jharkhand	355	343	-12	-3.4	4,033	3,868	-165	-4.1
Orissa	1,391	1,372	-19	-1.4	15,208	15,010	-198	-1.3
West Bengal	2,365	2,331	-34	-1.4	24,936	24,509	-427	-1.7
Sikkim	17	17	0	0.0	212	210	-2	-0.9

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Andaman Nicobar #	20	15	-5	-25	240	168	-72	-30.0
Eastern Region	5,721	5,588	-133	-2.3	62,347	60,706	-1,641	-2.6
Arunachal Pradesh	18	18	0	0.0	208	206	-2	-1.0
Assam	336	311	-25	-7.4	4,051	3,778	-273	-6.7
Manipur	38	36	-2	-5.3	510	489	-21	-4.1
Meghalaya	104	86	-18	-17.3	1,382	1,144	-238	-17.2
Mizoram	19	18	-1	-5.3	230	216	-14	-6.1
Nagaland	26	25	-1	-3.8	408	389	-19	-4.7
Tripura	63	56	-7	-11.1	745	666	-79	-10.6
North-Eastern Region	604	550	-54	-8.9	7,534	6,888	-646	-8.6
All India	56,221	51,096	-5,125	-9.1	631,757	578,819	-52,938	-8.4

# Lakshadweep and A & N Islands stand-alone systems, power supply position of these, does not form part of regional requirement and availability

*Peak Demand and Peak Met (Revised)*

(Figures in MW net)

State System Region	March, 2006				April, 05 to March, 06			
	Peak Demand (MW)	Peak Met (MW)	Surplus / Deficit (-) (MW)	Surplus / Deficit (-) (%)	Peak Demand (MW)	Peak Met (MW)	Surplus / Deficit (-) (MW)	Surplus / Deficit (-) (%)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Chandigarh	168	168	0	0.0	240	240	0	0.0
Delhi	2,946	2,946	0	0.0	3,722	3,600	-122	-3.3
Haryana	3,664	3,315	-349	-9.5	4,333	3,931	-402	-9.3
Himachal Pradesh	744	683	-61	-8.2	788	749	-39	-4.9
Jammu & Kashmir	1,600	1,182	-418	-26.1	1,600	1,225	-375	-23.4
Punjab	5,202	4,502	-700	-13.5	7,731	6,158	-1,573	-20.3
Rajasthan	5,150	4,850	-300	-5.8	5,588	4,850	-738	-13.2
Uttar Pradesh	7,742	6,471	-1,271	-16.4	8,175	6,588	-1,587	-19.4
Uttaranchal	886	827	-59	-6.7	991	857	-134	-13.5

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>Northern Region</b>	25,746	23,285	-2,461	-9.6	28,154	25,200	-2,954	-10.5
Chhattisgarh	2,133	1,857	-276	-12.9	2,133	1,857	-276	-12.9
Gujarat	8,898	7,491	-1,407	-15.8	9,783	7,610	-2,173	-22.2
Madhya Pradesh	5,720	4,414	-1,306	-22.8	6,558	5,136	-1,422	-21.7
Maharashtra	16,003	11,784	-4,219	-26.4	16,069	12,360	-3,709	-23.1
Daman & Diu ##	182	160	-22	-12.1	223	223	0	0.0
D.N. Haveli	341	341	0	0.0	387	387	0	0.0
Goa	367	367	0	0.0	368	368	0	0.0
<b>Western Region</b>	31,074	24,327	-6,747	-21.7	31,772	25,257	-6,515	-20.5
Andhra Pradesh	8,999	8,542	-457	-5.1	8,999	8,542	-457	-5.1
Karnataka	5,949	5,558	-391	-6.6	5,949	5,558	-391	-6.6
Kerala	2,623	2,578	-45	-1.7	2,623	2,578	-45	-1.7
Tamil Nadu	9,375	8,297	-1,078	-11.5	9,375	8,297	-1,078	-11.5
Pondicherry	251	251	0	0.0	251	251	0	0.0
Lakshadweep	6	6	0	0	6	6	0	0
<b>Southern Region</b>	24,889	23,372	-1,517	-6.1	24,889	23,372	-1,517	-6.1
Bihar	1,307	1,007	-300	-23.0	1,314	1,116	-198	-15.1
DVC	1,531	1,531	0	0.0	1,531	1,531	0	0.0
Jharkhand	610	598	-12	-2.0	669	623	-46	-6.9
Orissa	2,437	2,387	-50	-2.1	2,437	2,396	-41	-1.7
West Bengal	4,743	4,599	-144	-3.0	4,743	4,599	-144	-3.0
Sikkim	40	40	0	0.0	47	45	-2	-4.3
Andaman Nicobar*	40	32	-8	-20	40	32	-8	20
<b>Eastern Region</b>	10,161	9,677	-484	-4.8	10,161	9,677	-484	-4.8
Arunachal Pradesh	72	69	-3	-4.2	75	73	-2	-2.7
Assam	730	679	-51	-7.0	733	679	-54	-7.4
Manipur	107	97	-10	-9.3	113	109	-4	-3.5

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Meghalaya	267	158	-109	-40.8	280	205	-75	-26.8
Mizoram	74	68	-6	-8.1	76	72	-4	-5.3
Nagaland	77	65	-12	-15.6	90	87	-3	-3.3
Tripura	156	111	-45	-28.8	171	155	-16	-9.4
North-Eastern Region	1,385	1,131	-254	-18.3	1,385	1,192	-193	-13.9
All India	93,255	81,792	-11,463	-12.3	93,255	81,792	-11,463	-12.3

# Lakshadweep and A & N Islands stand-alone systems, power supply position of these, does not form part of regional peak demand/peak met.

## It is learnt from WRPC that Daman & Diu has revised the Peak Demand and Peak Met figures of Sept. '05 (from 203 to 152 MW each), Oct.'05 (from 324 to 153 MW each) & Nov.'05 (from 257 to 155 MW each) and so the cumulative figures (for the whole year) are revised as 223 MW each (achieved in July, 2005 - Revised figures).

Note: Both peak met and energy availability represent the net consumption (including the transmission losses) in the various States. Net export has been accounted for in the consumption of importing States.

[English]

#### Expenditure on R&D

\*420. SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money spent for promoting industrial research and development through soft loans and refundable grants during each of the last three years, project-wise;

(b) the number of projects submitted, approved and rejected, separately;

(c) the criteria for selection of projects;

(d) the number of projects which produced desired results and those which failed indicating the amount spent thereon, separately;

(e) whether any critical review has been made about the evaluation of the projects undertaken; and

(f) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) The Ministry of Science and Technology, through its departments viz. Department of Science and Technology (DST), Department of Scientific and Industrial

Research (DSIR) and Department of Biotechnology (DBT) promotes industrial research and development through soft loans and refundable grants. The DST launched a "Pharmaceuticals Research and Development Support Fund" (PRDSF) in January, 2004, under which soft loan at 3% interest is made available for pharma industrial R&D projects. The DSIR operates a "Technology Development and Demonstration Programme" (TDDP) (erstwhile PATSER), under which grants are made available to industry for development of new or improved process and/or product. The grant is refundable if the process or the product is commercialized. The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) operates a scheme - "New Millennium Indian Technology Leadership Initiative" (NMITLI), under which grant is made available to institutional partners in public domain and soft loan at 3% interest to private sector industrial partners. The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) launched a scheme - "Small Business Innovation Research Initiative" (SBIRI), in September 2005, under which grant and soft loan carrying a maximum rate of interest of 2% is made available to Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) for development of projects/processes of high societal relevance in the field of bio-technology. The amount of money spent by the Ministry of Science and Technology on industrial R&D projects under the above mentioned schemes, during the last three years is given below:



Govt. Department / Autonomous Orgn.	Amount spent on Promoting industrial R&D (in Rupees Lakhs)			
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	Total
DST	-	1440.00	5890.00	7330.00
DSIR	524.20	428.10	773.74	1726.04
CSIR	1554.23	1103.51	1408.67	4066.41
DBT*	-	-	-	-
	2078.43	2971.61	8072.41	13122.45

\* amount committed by DBT on industrial R&D projects: Rs.934.05 lakh

The money spent project wise is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) The number of projects received, approved and rejected by DST, DSIR, CSIR and DBT, under the schemes operated by them for promoting industrial research & development are given below:

Year	No. of projects	No. of projects approved	No. of projects rejected
<b>Department of Science &amp; Technology (PRDSF)</b>			
2003-04	-	-	-
2004-05	9	5	4
2005-06	29	17	12
<b>Department of Scientific &amp; Industrial Research (TDDP)</b>			
2003-04	38	12	26
2004-05	17	10	7
2005-06	19	5	14
<b>Council for Scientific &amp; Industrial Research (NMILT)</b>			
2003-04	189	2	187
2004-05	95	2	93
2005-06	90	4	86
<b>Department of Bio-technology (SBIRI)</b>			
2003-04	-	-	-
2004-05	-	-	-
2005-06	-	-	-
Projects committed	71	10	61

(c) The criteria for selection of projects are broadly – novelty, technical feasibility and financial viability. Specific criteria under the various schemes are as follows:

(i) Pharmaceuticals Research & Development Support Fund (DST)

The criteria for selection of the projects is based on the merit of the R&D project submitted by the pharma industry, expertise available with industry, its financial capacity, and the relevance of the project vis-a-vis national health priority. The recognition of DSIR as in house R&D unit/ SIRO is desirable. The selection of projects is based upon an evaluation by an expert in the specified field and recommendations of an expert committee.

(ii) Technology Development & Demonstration Programme (DSIR)

Project proposals from well established and financially sound R&D intensive companies with an objective to develop new/improved process and/or product or for absorption of technology are considered for support under the programme. The selection of projects is based upon screening of proposals by the secretariat, consideration by a Technical Advisory Committee and final approval and concurrence by the competent authority.

(iii) New Millennium Indian Technology Leadership Initiative (NMITLI)

Project proposals which aim at development of process technology or a product which will enable the country to assume a leadership position in the world are considered for support. Companies registered in India and having majority share holding by Indians/NRIs are eligible for support. The companies must either have its in-house R&D centre recognized by DSIR or must undertake steps to get its R&D centre recognized within 12 months of project approval. The selection of projects is based upon development of conceptual proposals into projects by a committee of experts, consideration by a high powered committee and final approval by DG, CSIR / SFC / GB.

## (iv) Small Business Innovation Research Initiative (SBIRI) (DBT)

Innovative, technology intensive and financially sound small and medium enterprises desirous of developing a new biotechnology process or a product are considered for support under the programme. The selection of projects is based upon short listing by technical screening committee, peer review, presentations by the companies to technical screening committee and approval by the Apex Committee of SBIRI.

(d) The number of projects which produced desired results and those which failed, under the above mentioned schemes, during the last three years is given below:

Funding Scheme	No. of Projects completed during last 3 years	Projects that Produced desired result		Project that failed	
		No.	Amount Spent (Rs. Lakhs)	No.	Amount Spent (Rs. Lakhs)
PRDSF (DST)	Nil	NA	NA	NA	NA
TDDP (DSIR)	25	25	1105.16	Nil	NA
NMITLI (CSIR)	10	8	6570.80	2	659.16
SBIRI (DBT)	Nil	NA	NA	NA	NA

(e) and (f) No, Sir. However, each project has a monitoring committee to contemporaneously monitor and review the project and take corrective measures, wherever necessary.

**Statement**

*Money Spent by DST on promoting Pharma Industrial R&D under 'Pharmaceuticals Research & Development Support Fund' Programme, Projectwise, Yearwise for 2004-05 and 2005-06*

*Note: Programme launched in January, 2004*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Project Title	Industry Name & Address	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5
1	Development of quality controlled plant based formulation in the treatment of dementia and its validation with reference to its safety and efficacy	Dalmia Centre for Research & Development (DCRD), 9/369, Siruvani Main Road, Kalampalayam, Coimbatore - 641010	40.00	-
2	Clinical development of DRF 7295 in advanced and metastatic cancers of the gastrointestinal tract (colon, pancreas and stomach) and lung (non small cell)	Dabur Research Foundation (DRF), 22 Site IV, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad - 201 010	325.00	-
3	Formulation development, stability studies, pre-clinical and clinical studies of anti-cataract eye drops for applying the technology and innovation in effective prevention and treatment of cataract	M/s Promed Experts Pvt. Ltd., 208, Ashirwad Commercial Complex, D-1, Green Park, New Delhi - 110016	400.00	-
4	Development of a tetravalent dengue vaccine by using a combination of 30 deletion mutant and chimeric constructs of DEN-1, DEN-2, DEN-3 and DEN-4 viruses against dengue virus infection	M/s Biological E. Ltd., 18/1&3, Azamabad, Hyderabad - 500 020	475.00	-
5	Formulation Research and Development of protein based therapeutics for human use	M/s INTAS Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Chinubhai Centre, Nehru Bridge, Ashram Road, Ahmedabad - 380 009	200.00	-

1	2	3	4	5
6	Setting up of State-of-the-art production and distribution of organic chemicals & reagents for Drug Discovery by M/s AVRA Synthesis Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad	M/s AVRA Synthesis Pvt. Ltd., 54, Sai Enclave, Habsiguda, Hyderabad - 500 007	-	100.00
7	C-Phycocyanin in COX-2 inhibition and diagnostics by M/s ABL Biotechnologies Ltd., Chennai	M/s ABL Biotechnologies Ltd., No.55, 3rd East Street, Kamraj Nagar, Thiruvanniyur, Chennai - 600 041	-	200.00
8	"Development of a cost effective viral load assay and its commercial application in monitoring drug efficacy in HIV/AIDS" submitted by M/s Microtest Innovations Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore	M/s Microtest Innovations Pvt. Ltd., G-05, Discoverer, International Tech. Park, Whitefield Road, Bangalore - 560066	-	90.00
9	Development of Recombinant human parathyroid hormone for the treatment of osteoporosis	M/s Virchow Biotech Pvt. Ltd., Plot No.4, S.V. Co-Op. Industrial Estate, IDA, Jeedimetla, Hyderabad - 500 055	-	150.00
10	Development of a clinically proven and process development of a commercially viable manufacturing process of monoclonal tetanus immunoglobulin (mTIG) expressed in recombinant Chinese Hamster Ovary (CHO) cell line	M/s Bharat Serums and Vaccines Ltd., 16th Floor, Nariman Point, Mumbai - 400 021	-	707.00
11	Production of para-hydroxyphenyl glycine (PHPG) using Hydantoinase and carbamoylase enzymes cloned E.coli	M/s Sudershan Biotech Ltd., 4-100, C/9 & C/10, Doctors Colony, Vijayawada Road, Saroomagar, Hyderabad - 500 074	-	118.00
12	Development of new generation therapeutic and prophylactic Hepatitis B vaccines	M/s Cadila Pharmaceuticals Ltd., "Cadila Corporate Campus", Sarkhej - Dholka Road, Bhat, Ahmedabad-382210	-	100.00
13	Development of a standardized herbal product for management of Non Insulin dependent Diabetes Mellitus (NIDDM)	M/s Natural Remedies Pvt. Ltd., Plot No.58, 19th K.M. Stone, Veerasandra Indl. Area, Hosur Road Electronic City (Post), Bangalore - 560 100	-	101.00
14	Development of a novel formulation for the prevention and management of coronary heart disease by using tribal plants and development of a novel formulation for the prevention and management of neuro-degenerative disorders by utilizing herbal plants found in tribal locality of Vindhya and Satpura hills	M/s Tulsi Ayurvedic Products & Research Pvt. Ltd., Saraiyya, P.O., Bhadohi - 221 401	-	135.00
15	Research and development of a second generation inactivated vaccine against Japanese Encephalitis Virus (JEV) infection	M/s Biological E. Ltd., 18/1 &3, Azamabad, Hyderabad - 500 020	-	576.00

1	2	3	4	5
16	Development of a Quality Herbal Formulation (R06A) and its scientific validation for the management of Renal Calculi	M/s Rumi Herbals Pvt. Ltd., No. B-25, Mugappair West, Chennai-600058	-	33.00
17	Phase-III clinical trials and scaling up of a novel antiviral product, RECEPTOL for AIDS	M/s Biomix Network Ltd., Millenium Business Park, Unit-303, Building-6, Sector-III, MIDC, Mahape, New Mumbai - 400 709	-	1000.00
18	Development of a commercially viable manufacturing process for the manufacture of clinically proven.... Phase A & Phase B	M/s Bharat Serums and Vaccines Ltd., 16th Floor, Nariman Point, Mumbai-400 021	-	341.00
19	Epidermal growth factor receptor I as a target for therapy in cancer with anti receptor humanized monoclonal antibody	Shantha Biotechnics Ltd., 3rd Floor, Serene Chambers, Road No. 7, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad-500 034	-	139.00
20	Epidermal Growth Factor: Development of Novel Therapeutic Interventions	M/s Bharat Biotech International Ltd. (BBIL), Genome Valley Turkapally Shameerpet Mandal, Hyderabad - 500 078	-	750.00
21	RNAi approach for Gene Silencing of HIV-1 (The SyneRgy project)	Institute of Molecular Medicine, Block BN, Plot No. 7, Sector-V, Salt Lake City, Electronics Complex, Kolkata - 700 091	-	350.00
22	Development and commercialization of prioritized leads in metabolic and respiratory disorders	Indigene Pharmaceuticals Pvt. Ltd., 1267-A, Road # 63-A, Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad - 500 033	-	1000.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>1440.00</b>	<b>5890.00</b>

*Money spent by DSIR on promoting Industrial R&D under "Technology Development and Demonstration Programme", projectwise, yearwise for 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl No.	Project Title	Executing Agency	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Development of Low RF cables and other speciality cables;	M/s Radiant Cables Pvt. Ltd. Hyderabad	-	20	30
2	Development of technology for crosslinkable aqueous aliphatic Polyurethane dispersions (C-APUD);	M/S Haryana Leather Chemicals Ltd., N. D	20	8	2
3	Development of Piezoelectrically activated micro mechanical switch;	Bharat Electronics Ltd.	-	-	10

1	2	3	4	5	6
4	Development of 19 mm Dia coned wire and faster wire feeding system;	Ardee Business Services Pvt. Ltd. Rourkela	-	-	60
5	Development of membrane technology for Natural Gas Sweetening	M/s EIL, N. Delhi/IICT, Hyderabad	-	-	18.5
6	Scale up studies for Polymorphic Form I of	M/s Arch Pharmalabs Ltd, Mumbai	-	-	45
7	Process Development for the manufacture of 3-amino-3-azabicyclo[3.3.0] Octane	Bal Pharma Ltd., Bangalore	-	-	20
8	Development of Implants for Knee joints	Poona Health Services Pvt. Ltd., Pune	-	-	90
9	Establishing Bio Control Agent Production Unit	T.Stanes & Co. Ltd. Coimbatore	-	-	100
10	Development of GaAs Low Noise Amplifier MMICS	Astra Microwave Products Ltd., Hyderabad	-	-	40
11	Development of Tunable Telemetry Receiver	Park Controls & Communication Ltd, Bangalore	-	-	40
12	Development and demonstration of Polymeric Fatliquors for Upholstery at pilot plant	Haryana Leather Chemicals Ltd., Jind	-	-	25
13	Optical Test & Measuring Equip.	Aishwarya Telecom Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad	11	-	10
14	Development of Tactical Digital Radio Relay	HBL NIFE Power Systems	-	-	50
15	Development of a manufacturing process for a new product for treatment of Thalassemia	M/S FDC Ltd, Mumbai	-	-	15
16	Development of High sensitivity cathode of 18 mm SUPERGEN Image Intensifier tube	BEL Optronics Devices Ltd., Pune	30	-	30
17	Design and Development of 6 DoF Electrical Motion Platform	Zen Technologies Ltd, Hyderabad	-	-	60
18	Development of Toxicity Prediction Module and integration with CELSUITE - A computer aided design tool	Celestial Labs Ltd, Hyderabad	-	-	30
19	Development of ATM Access Multiplexure	United Telecom Ltd.	-	-	5.5
20	Development of active pharmaceutical ingredients	M/s SMS Pharmaceuticals, Hyderabad	70	-	50
21	Development of a learning content management system (LCMS) with an intelligent authority tool	APTECH, Mumbai	20	8	6

1	2	3	4	5	6
22	Improved Tilting Disc Heart Valve	SCTIMST, Trivandrum	-	-	8
23	Development of optical time domain reflector	M/S Aishwarya Telecom Pvt. Ltd	-	15	15
24	Development of Animal Identification System through RFID	Rajasthan Electronics & Instruments Ltd., Jaipur	-	8	10
25	Development of process for Pilot Scale Hyaluronic Acid and formulations	Gland Pharma Ltd., Hyderabad	-	9.41	-
26	Technology for manufacture of HV composite insulator for application in 132kv 220 kv and 400 kv electrical power T&D lines	Goldstone Teleservices Ltd., Secunderabad	80	100	-
27	Technology development and demonstration of automotive wheel rims through modified manufacturing process	Steel Strips Wheels Ltd., Chandigarh	-	5	-
28	Dev. of ADSL Modem	United Telecom Ltd., Bangalore	-	5	-
29	Development of Novel Resins for use in solid phase organic synthesis and combinatorial chemistry	Bharavi Laboratories Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore	5	0.45	-
30	Development of STM-1 based Customer Premises equipment (CPE)	Coral Telecom Ltd., Noida	30	30	-
31	Identification, Dev. and Utilization of natural dyes from the forest plants of Uttaranchal	Forest Research Institute, Dehradun	-	5	-
32	Development of Technology for 3-Chloromethyl-D3-Cephams Ester from Pen GK	SPIC Ltd., Chennai / CECRI, Karaikudi	18	13	-
33	Dev. of inactivated vaccine using native isolates of mycobacterium avium subspecies paratuberculosis against John's Disease of goats and sheep	Central Institute for Research on Goats (CIRG), Mathura	-	4	-
34	Technology Dev of 200gm capacity microbalance	ATCOM Technologies Ltd Mumbai	-	2.5	-
35	Technogy Dev of Load Cells	ATCOM Technologies Ltd. Mumbai	-	3	-
36	Dev of technology for State of Art Coal Tar Pitch & Carbon Paste in Pilot plant	Carbon Resources P Ltd., Giridih	20	2	-
37	Scale up process development for production of Liposomal Amphotericin B, awareness programme and Clinical Performance Trials	Lifecare Innovations Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi	-	2.8	-

1	2	3	4	5	6
38	Development of hybrid electric vehicle with vector controlled induction motor for propulsion	Ashok Leyland Ltd., Chennai and ER&DC, Trivandrum	-	7	-
39	Design, Development & demonstration of innovative equipments for improved organic manure from municipal waste	M/s Bull Machines (Pvt.) Ltd., Coimbatore	-	40	-
40	Dev. Of indigenous technology for phenanthrene and 9:10 phenanthrenequinone at a pilot plant level	Castron Technologies Ltd., Dhanbad	-	3	-
41	Development of high energy density value regulated lead acid batteries	NED Energy Ltd., Hyderabad	-	30	-
42	Development of Anaerobic Reactor system for pharmaceutical waste at pilot plant	NATCO Pharma Ltd., Hyderabad	-	3.5	-
43	Development of Anaerobic Reactor system for pharmaceutical waste at pilot plant	IICT, Hyderabad	-	1.5	-
44	Dev. of indigenous technology for phenanthrene and 9:10 phenanthrenequinone at a pilot plant level	CFRI, Dhanbad	-	2	-
45	Development and demonstration of continuous hydrogenation system in the edible oil sector including vanaspati fatty acid and oleo chemical plants	M/s Mecpro Heavy Engg. Ltd., New Delhi	30	25	-
46	Development of energy efficient pumps	M/s Process Pumps (Pvt.) Ltd., Bangalore	-	7	-
47	Development of MAK World tractor	MAK Controls & Systems Pvt. Ltd. Coimbatore	-	22.5	-
48	Dev. Of High speed blood chemistry analyser model XL-1000	Transasia Bio-Medicals Ltd., Mumbai	-	40	-
49	Technology for coating of chemical process equipment with fluoropolymer and other high performance polymeric powders	Pennwalt Ltd., Mumbai	-	5.44	-
50	Development of RAMADARS	Ardee Business Services Pvt. Ltd. Rourkela	2	-	-
51	Development of Fraud Management and Control Centre (FMCC)	MIC Electronics Ltd., Hyderabad	15	-	-
52	Development of Intercative Small arms training simulators	Zen Technologies Ltd., Hyderabad	5	-	-
53	Development and Demonstration of glazing on terracotta clay products	Dolphin Industrial Co-op Society Ltd., Vizianagaram	2	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6
54	Development of Technology, equipment and related products for production of stoneware / vitrified clay pipes and other pipes of other material	Priya Cay Pvt Ltd., New Delhi	25	-	-
55	Dev. And dem. of Ecofriendly and Efficient Oil refining Technology for twin bleaching system and deacidification cum deodorization system	Mecpro Heavy Engineering Ltd., New Delhi	30	-	-
56	Development of upgraded digital voice logger with 32 channels and fax compatibility	Abacus Softech Ltd., New Delhi	30	-	-
57	Development of voice enabled web	Innovation Communications Systems Ltd., Hyderabad	1.7	-	-
58	Design & manufacture of prototype ceramic membrane filtration unit for safe domestic drinking water	BHEL, Bangalore	15	-	-
59	Development of Process for the manufacture of Ethyl 2-(2-aminothiazol-4-yl)-2-methoxyiminoacetate and 2-formylamino-4-thiazole acetic acid ethyl ester in Pilot Plant	Punjab Chemicals & Crop Protection Ltd., Chandigarh	35	-	-
60	Control of Psychrophile and sychrotrophic food spoilage microorganisms in cold storage - an eco-friendly approach	Schevaran Laboratories Ltd., Mysore	4	-	-
61	Development of CTI based Call Centre	S.M. Telesys Ltd., Noida / Atal Bihari Vajpayee Indian Institute of Information Technology, Gwalior	15	-	-
62	Dev. of Flame Retardant Low Smoke material for wires and cables	Farcom Cables Systems (P) Ltd., Bangalore	10	-	-
63	Dev. of Thick film hybrid micro electronic Circuit technology for automobile underhood applications	Karnataka Hybrid Meical Devices Ltd., Bangalore	0.5	-	-
64	Integrated pilot demonstration plant for Spice Processing	Mata Foundation/ RRL, Trivandrum	-	-	3.74
<b>Total</b>			<b>524.20</b>	<b>428.10</b>	<b>773.74</b>

*Money spent by CSIR on promoting industrial R&D under 'New Millennium Indian Technology Leadership Initiative' Scheme projectwise, yearwise for 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06*

S.No.	Project Name	Party Name	Loan released (Rs. in lakhs)			
			2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	5 & 25kw decentralized power packs	Sud-Chemie India Ltd., New Delhi	0.00	10.00		10.00
2	Latent M. Tuberculosis: New Targets, Drug Delivery system, bio-enhancers and therapeutics	Lupin Ltd., Mumbai	500.00	375.00	41.00	916.00



1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3	Nano-material catalysts and associated process technology for alkylation/ acylation/nitration of well identified industrial chemicals, pre-reforming of hydro-carbons and sulphur removal (<50 ppm) from petroleum fuels	Sud-Chemie India Ltd., New Delhi	10.00	0.00		10.00
4	Versatile, portable PC based software for bioinformatics	Tata Consultancy Services, Hyderabad	174.00	0.00		174.00
5	Development of an Oral herbal formulation for treatment of Psoriasis a clinical and scientific challenge	Lupin Ltd., Mumbai	352.56	0.00		352.56
6	Development of novel biotech therapeutic molecule -Lysostaphin	Bharat Biotech International Limited, Hyderabad	150.62			150.62
7	Microbiological conversion of Erythromycin to Clarithromycin and other novel biologically active molecules	Alembic Ltd., Vadodara	5.00			5.00
8	Novel molecular diagnostics for eye diseases and low vision	LOPL, Pune Xcyton Diagnostic, Bangalore	5.15	9.60	69.56	14.75 69.56
9	Recombinant approach to produce a linolenic acid and docosahexanoic acid (DMA) in sunflower and yeast	Avestha Gengraine, Bangalore	130.50	90.60	44.90	266.00
10	A cost effective Simple Office Computing (Sofcomp) platform to replace PC	Encore Software, Bangalore	120.00			120.00
11	A PC based high-end 3D visualization platform for computational biology - 'Darshee'	Strand genomics, Bangalore	106.40	80.00		186.40
12	Improved Genome Annotation Through a Combination of Machine Learning and Experimental Methods: Plasmodium falciparum As a Case Study	Tata Consultancy Services, Hyderabad		97.00		97.00
13	Development of Novel Fungicides	Rallis Research Centre, Bangalore	85.00	53.55		138.55
14	Novel Expression Systems	Biocon, Bangalore Shantha Biotech	14.10 19.21			14.10 19.21
15	Development of Globally competitive Triple-Play' Broadband Technology	Divinet, Pune	323.00	500.75		823.75
16	Market seeding of SofComp and Mobilis to develop wide-ranging applications as well as increase awareness	Ennore Softwar			537.00	537.00
17	Development of an integrated micro PCR system with In-situ Identification	bigtech Biotech Pvt.Ltd., Bangalore			161.91	161.91
<b>Total</b>			<b>1554.23</b>	<b>1103.51</b>	<b>1408.67</b>	<b>4088.41</b>

*Money Committed by DBT on promoting industrial R&D under Small Business  
Innovation Research Initiative (SBIRI) scheme, projectwise*

Sl No.	Project Title	Company / Institution	Commitment (Rs. in lakhs)		
			Grant-in-aid	Loan	Total
1	Design synthesis and evaluation of orally available PTP1 b inhibitors for type 2 diabetes	Advinus therapeutics Pvt. Ltd., Pune	20.00	22.20	42.20
2	Process research for commercial production of docosahexaenoic acid (DMA) from Schizochytrium by submerged fermentation	ABL Biotechnologies Limited Thiruvanniyur, Chennai	-	300.00	300.00
3	Expression of recombinant Proteins for development of synthetic pulmonary surfactant for Respiratory Distress Syndrome	Bharat Serums and Vaccines Ltd., Mumbai	50.00	-	50.00
4	Development and standardization of manufacturing and testing methodologies for human neonatal rotavirus vaccine candidate	Bharat Biotech International Ltd., Hyderabad	-	307.67	307.67
5	Epithelial mesenchymal transition and WNT signaling in oral cancer: Identification of targets involved in the cross-talk	Shantha Biotechnics Ltd., Hyderabad, ICGEB, New Delhi, NCCS, Pune & NII, New Delhi	27.20	-	27.20
6	Genetically modified vegetable crops for insect pest and disease resistance	Bejo Sheetal Seeds Private Ltd., Jalna	34.58	-	34.58
7	Development of drought tolerant genotypes of rice, corn and cotton through genetic engineering	Bioseed Research India Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad & ICGEB New Delhi	24.00	-	24.00
8	Design modification and commercialization of nitrifying bioreactor technology for the establishment of organic recirculation prawn seed production system	Oriental Aquamarine Biotech India Private Limited, Coimbatore & Cochin University of Science and Technology, Kochi	10.37	3.37	13.74
9	Development of automated bio-instruments viz. automated dispensing system and automated cell counter	Customised Technologies (P) Ltd., Bangalore	-	86.10	86.10
10	High lipid algae mass cultivation as alternative feedstock for biodiesel feedstock (Phase-I)	Proalgen Biotech Limited, Chennai	9.40	39.16	48.56
<b>Total</b>			<b>175.55</b>	<b>758.5</b>	<b>934.05</b>

*[Translation]*

**Exemption of Customs and  
Central Excise Duties**

\*421. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

SHRI K.S. RAO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of items enjoying exemptions of central excise and customs duties;

(b) the amount of duties lost on account of these exemptions during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the Government proposes to withdraw all exemptions to increase its revenue collections;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the move to withdraw exemptions will adversely affect certain vital sectors of the economy like small scale, food processing industry, village industries etc.; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Specific items enjoying exemptions of excise and custom duties are listed in the various exemption notifications available in the respective tariffs. The information is voluminous and bulky. As the details are available in the printed publication of the Department, these are not recounted here.

(b) Year wise collection of taxes lost on account of customs and excise duty exemptions is not maintained. However, in this year's budget, an attempt has been made to furnish tax expenditure figures for the financial year 2004-05. The details are given in Annexure 12 of the Receipt Budget, 2006-07. Subject to limitations mentioned in the tax expenditure schedule statement to the Receipt Budget, 2006-07, revenue foregone on account of customs and excise duty exemptions during financial year 2004-05 was as under:

(Rs. in crore)

1.	Customs	92561
2.	Excise	12431

(c) No, Sir. In this year's budget, 11 customs duty exemptions and 64 excise duty exemptions were withdrawn. Further, 21 customs duty exemptions and 64 excise duty exemptions have been identified for possible withdrawal and put on the departmental website (cbec.gov.in) seeking comments from all concerned before taking a final view.

(d) Government has been reviewing the need for continuing various exemptions, but this is an ongoing process.

(e) There is no proposal at present to withdraw the exemption for the small scale sector, food processing industry and village industry.

(f) Does not arise in view of (e) above.

**Bio-Diesel Policy**

3171. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has announced the bio-diesel policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to implement the new policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) to (c) The Government has not announced any bio-diesel policy. However, a policy for "bio-fuels" is under contemplation of the Government.

*[English]*

**Mejia Thermal Power Station**

3172. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement has been signed for rehabilitation and providing employment to displaced families of Mejia Thermal Power Station (MTPS) between the State Government and the management of MTPS in West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

**Setting up of Power Plants in  
Coal Mining Areas**

3173. SHRI RAGHUVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to make such scheme under which States could establish their power houses right in the coalfields instead of transporting coal-stock to the power-generating units and thereby facilitating the concerned State with the produced quantum of power;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has made any assessment in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government also proposes to conduct any research-work for reducing the production-cost of power; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) It is stipulated in the National Electricity Policy that for thermal power generation, economics of generation and supply of electricity should be the basis for choice of fuel from among the options available and that it would be economical for new generating stations to be located either near the fuel sources e.g. pithead locations or load centres.

Many State Electricity Boards/State Power Generation Companies and NTPC have already set up coal based power plants near the coalfields considering various techno-economic advantages.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Central Electricity Authority had awarded a study to Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CMPDI) for identification of large sites for setting up of thermal power projects near coalfields. CMPDI has completed the study and suggested many such sites near coalfields having a total potential of about 36,000 MW.

(e) and (f) Following steps have been taken for reducing cost of power generation:-

(i) Introducing competition in the procurement of power by distribution licensees as provided in the tariff policy. The central government has already issued detailed guidelines for procurement of power through tariff based competitive bidding in January, 2005.

(ii) By developing large sized power projects to take advantage of economy of scale such as proposed ultra mega power projects.

(iii) By extending fiscal benefits like exempting customs duty and deemed exports benefits as provided in mega policy.

(iv) Adoption of advanced technologies like super critical technology.

(v) Improving the Plant Load Factor (PLF) of existing thermal power stations in the country which are running at low PLF, to the level of National Average under "Partnership in Excellence" (PIE) Programme.

[English]

**Sale of Power on Commercial Basis**

3174. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to frame a policy to encourage cogeneration of power in different sectors to increase power generation capacity and its availability for sale on commercial basis; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE ): (a) and (b) National Electricity Policy provides as under:

The Electricity Act, 2003 provides that co-generation and generation of electricity from non-conventional sources would be promoted by the SERCs by providing suitable measures for connectivity with grid and sale of electricity to any person and also by specifying, for purchase of electricity from such sources, a percentage of the total consumption of electricity in the area of a distribution licensee.

Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources is

implementing a programme for promotion of surplus power generation from bagasse in sugar mills. The programme provides for central financial assistance in the form of interest subsidy for various types of projects in cooperative/public/joint/private sector sugar mills. Financial assistance is also provided for preparation of Business/Interaction meets, training programme etc. Besides fiscal incentives including relief from taxes and duties accelerated depreciation etc. are also available. Nine States have announced policies for wheeling, banking, third party sale, and buy back of power generated from these projects.

Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources have also launched a Programme on 'Biomass Energy and Co-generation (non-bagasse) in Industry' during the year 2005-06, which provides for capital subsidy @ Rs.20.00 lakhs per MW to encourage setting up biomass co-generation (non-bagasse) power projects in the industries for meeting their captive energy requirements. The programme also allows the export of electricity to the grid upto a maximum of 50%.

#### **New Centres of Excellence**

3175. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM:

SHRI M.K. SUBBA:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to create new science centres of excellence in the country on the lines of IIM particularly in North-Eastern States;
- (b) if so, the locations identified for setting up of the same, state-wise;
- (c) the objectives of constitution of such centres and cost involved therein, State-wise; and
- (d) the time by which the new centres are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) No Sir. Ministry of Science and Technology does not have any proposal to create new science centres of excellence in the country on the lines of IIM particularly in North-Eastern States.

(b) to (d) In view of (a) above, does not arise.

[Translation]

#### **Interest on Loan**

3176. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (MOHANLAL GANJ): Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that many co-operative and rural banks are changing monthly and quarterly interest on the loans given to farmers in violation of the instructions issued by the Reserve Bank of India; and
- (b) if so, the action taken by the Government against such banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has advised Banks that banks should charge interest on agricultural advances for long duration crops at annual rests. As regards other agricultural activities, banks may take into consideration due dates fixed on the basis of fluidity with borrowers and harvesting/marketing season while charging interest and compounding the same if the loan/installment becomes overdue.

On receiving complaints of violations of RBI norms by banks etc. on all issues including charging of interest rate etc. Government/RBI pursue them with the concerned banks for appropriate action.

[English]

#### **Augmenting of Power Supply to ASEB**

3177. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received any request for augmenting the power supply from the Assam State Electricity Board (ASEB);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (c) the total availability of power to ASEB along with the demand of power of the industry, agriculture and domestic sectors dependent on ASEB?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) The Assam State Electricity Board had requested Government of India in October, 2005 for

additional allocation of 50 MW power from the unallocated quota of Central Generating Stations (CGSs) in North Eastern Region (NER) and allocation of 100 MW power from Eastern Region (ER) for the period November'05 – April'06 due to low generation from hydro stations in the region.

The following measures have been taken by the Government to augment power supply in Assam:

- (i) Allocation from unallocated quota of CGSs of NER was increased from 20% (37 MW) to 35% (64 MW) w.e.f. 4th November, 2005 which was further enhanced to 62.3% (114 MW) on 27th February, 2006.
- (ii) An allocation of 50 MW power was made to Assam during evening peak period of 1800-2200 hrs. from the unallocated quota of NTPC stations of Eastern Region w.e.f. 15th November, 2005 which was enhanced to 100 MW (1800-2200 hrs) and 50 MW (rest of the day) on 27th February, 2006.

(c) The details of availability and demand of power with ASEB during 2004-05 are given as under:

- The total energy available for supply for ASEB : 3852.02 Million Unit
- The energy exported by ASEB : 51.79 Million Unit
- The ultimate energy consumption of ASEB :
  - (i) Domestic 722.05 Million Unit
  - (ii) Agriculture 14.31 Million Unit
  - (iii) Industrial 591.01 Million Unit

#### **Vacant Post of Chairman in DRTs**

3178. SHRI A.K. MOORTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of post of Chairman are vacant in various Debts Recovery Tribunals, Tribunal-wise;
- (b) the reasons for not filling up vacancies for a long time; and
- (c) the time by which these posts are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) 9 posts of Presiding Officer in the Debts Recovery Tribunals (DRTs) at Aurangabad, Bangalore, Chandigarh, Coimbatore, Jaipur, Kolkata (DRT-II), Mumbai (DRT-I), Nagpur and Guwahati are vacant.

(b) and (c) Selection for the posts of Presiding Officers in Debts Recovery Tribunals (DRTs) is made by a Selection Committee chaired by the Chief Justice of India or a Judge of the Supreme Court nominated by the Chief Justice. Selection of persons as Presiding Officers has already been made in respect of the existing 7 vacancies and appointments will be made as soon as necessary formalities are completed. In regard to two vacancies, action has already been initiated to fill up the same, as early as possible.

#### **Indo-Singapore Economic Co-operation**

3179. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have a proposal for the expansion of economic pact with Singapore;
- (b) if so, the areas identified for the expansion of Indo-Singapore economic cooperation; and
- (c) the details of the programme drawn up in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) with Singapore was signed on 29th June 2005. CECA prescribes a periodic review of the Agreement which may decide for improvement of existing provisions.

(b) and (c) A mid-term bilateral review of the implementation of CECA was undertaken on 31st March 2006. Ways for further expansion and deepening bilateral economic relations were discussed.

*[Translation]*

#### **Rate of Interest on LIC Policies**

3180. SHRI CHANDRABHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the rate of interest on car-loan is 6-7 percent while interest rate on loan on one's UC policies is 9-10 percent;

(b) if so, the reasons for this disparity in the interest rates;

(c) whether the Government proposes to take any measure to reduce the rate of interest on loan on LIC policies;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the details of future plans of the Government in this regards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has reported that it provides car loans only to its officers, at 5% for loan upto Rs.1 lakh and 9% for loan beyond Rs.1 lakh. The rate of interest on loan against insurance policies is 9% per annum payable half yearly.

(b) The car loan at concessional interest rate to LIC officers is given as a part of Employees Benefit Scheme. On the other hand loan against policies, involves additional operational costs which raises the interest charged.

(c) As reported by LIC, there is no proposal as of now to reduce the rate of interest on loan on LIC policies.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

*[English]*

**Delhi Integrated Multimodel  
Transit System**

3181. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to set up a new Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) called the Delhi Integrated Multi Model Transit System (DIMMITS) in Delhi;

(b) if so, the total expenditure incurred on it;

(c) whether two more Inter State Bus Terminal (ISBT) would be set up;

(d) if so, the places where these are likely to be set up;

(e) whether on completion, the traffic congestion and vehicular pollution in Delhi is likely to come down;

(f) if so, to what extent; and

(g) whether these projects are likely to be

completed before the commencement of Commonwealth Games, 2010?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) Yes, Sir. Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (GNCTD) has decided to set up a new Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) called the Delhi Integrated Multi Model Transit System (DIMMITS) in Delhi.

(b) GNCTD has reported that an expenditure of Rs.2,25,45,000/- only has been incurred on this company as preliminary expenses so far.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Narela and Dwarka.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) GNCTD has reported that on completion of two more ISBTs, traffic congestion as well as vehicular pollution is likely to be eased considerably.

(g) Yes, Sir.

*[Translation]*

**Commencement of Paridha Thermal  
Power Unit**

3182. SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to refer to reply given to the Unstarred Question No.243 on July 6, 2004 regarding the commencement of two units of Paridha (Parichha) Thermal Power Plant in Uttar Pradesh during the Tenth Plan and state:

(a) whether the said scheme has been started;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the progress made so far in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Construction/implementation of Parichha Thermal Power Station (TPS) Extension Units-3 and 4 (2x210 MW), a scheme of Uttar Pradesh Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Ltd. in the district Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh, was started long back. The Unit-3 of Parichha TPS was synchronized on 29.03.2006 and Unit-4 is in advanced stage of construction and the same is expected to be synchronized during September, 2006.

### Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan

3183. SHRI KAILASH BAITHA: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated for the construction of toilets for the people living below poverty line and are living in urban slum areas under the Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan during the financial year 2004-05 and 2005-06;

(b) the process for selecting a site for the construction of such slums; and

(c) the number of people to whom the toilet facility will be made available under above scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Under Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA), an integral sub component of Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana (VAMBAY), Government of India subsidy amounting to Rs.7014.50 lakh was released during the year 2004-05 for construction of 35086 toilet seats and Rs.284.00 Lakh was released during the year 2005-06 for construction of 1420 toilet seats under.

(b) Community toilets under VAMBAY are constructed in those slum areas, especially in congested metropolitan cities where there is lack of rudimentary toilet facilities. The State Government/implementing agencies identify the slums for construction of community toilets, based on their priorities and the sites for the same are made available by the State Governments.

(c) No such targets are fixed under the Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA) and it is demand and need based.

### Power Projects in Uttaranchal

3184. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of power projects sanctioned during the last three years in Uttaranchal;

(b) whether the Government proposes to acquire the land from local people for the construction of projects;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any agreement has been signed

between the Government and affected people for payment of compensation to them; and

(e) if so, the details thereof along with the land acquired from local people for Tapovan Vishnugad Hydro-electric Project in Chamoli district?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) Three hydro projects in Uttaranchal with total capacity of 1,291 MW have been accorded concurrence by the Central Electricity Authority during last three years to be executed by National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC)/ NTPC Hydro Limited.

(b) and (c) The Government of Uttaranchal will assist the concerned developers in acquiring the land from local people under the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 or by way of mutual consent between the developers and the local people.

The likely requirement of private land for Loharinag Pala, Tapovan- Vishnugad and Lata Tapovan Hydro-electric (H.E.) Projects of NTPC / NTPC Hydro Limited is as under:

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Likely requirement of Private land (Ha.)
1.	Loharinag Pala H.E. Project	46 Ha. (Approx.)
2.	Tapovan-Vishnugad H.E. Project	62 Ha. (Approx.)
3.	Lata Tapovan H.E. Project	6 Ha. (Approx.)

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Question does not arise.

### Service Tax on Insurance Premium

3185. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any representations/objections from some quarters regarding increase of service tax on insurance premium; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) The rate of service tax leviable on taxable services, including insurance services has been increased from 10 per cent



to 12 per cent; with effect from 18th April, 2006. Government has not received any specific representation relating to increase in the rate of service tax on insurance premium.

[English]

**Training to People in Rural  
Development Sector**

3186. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD), Hyderabad has selected any villages for the training of people in the Rural Development Sector;

(b) if so, the names of villages selected for the purpose, State-wise; and

(c) the achievements made in this regard so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) No Sir. However, National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD) as an Apex Rural Development Training Institute trains elected representatives of Panchayati Raj, Government officials working in various Rural Development Departments, Bank officials, NGOs, and trainers of various training Institutions. It does not directly train people of the villages.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**Bio-Technology Development Fund**

3187. SHRI K.C. PALLANISHAMY: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set up/proposes to set up a Bio-technology Development fund to process and speed up commercialization of new bio-technologies;

(b) if so, the main objectives of the said fund;

(c) whether the objectives aimed at are being achieved;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (e) No, Sir. Ministry of Science and Technology in general and Department of Biotechnology (DBT) in particular has not set up any Biotechnology Development Fund. However, DBT has launched a scheme known as "Small Business Innovation Research Initiative (SBIRI)" recently for promotion of Research and Development in biotechnology for pre-proof of concept proposals as well as for promotion of biotech product and process development and commercialization in the Public-Private-Partnership mode.

**Reduction in Shares of  
Some States**

3188. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to State:

(a) whether the shares of some States are being reduced every year by the Union Government despite the fact that those States are frequently experiencing some kind of natural calamity or the other;

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

(c) the share in Central Taxes provided to each State during 2005-06; and

(d) the steps being taken to increase the share of such States during 2006-07?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) The percentage share of each State in Central Taxes and Duties is based on the recommendation of the Finance Commission and does not change during the award period of that Commission. However, the quantum of devolution to each State during a financial year would depend upon the total collection of tax revenue by the Union Government in that financial year.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A Statement of share in Central Taxes to each State during 2005-06 is enclosed.

(d) Does not arise.

**Statement****Share of each State in Central Taxes and Duties during the year 2005-06**

Sl. No.	State	2005-06
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	6950.86
2	Arunachal Pradesh	272.15
3	Assam	3056.78
4	Bihar	10420.59
5	Chhattisgarh	2507.82
6	Goa	244.7
7	Gujarat	3372.43
8	Haryana	1015.77
9	Himachal Pradesh	493.26
10	Jammu & Kashmir	1135.26
11	Jharkhand	3175.89
12	Karnataka	4213.42
13	Kerala	2518.2
14	Madhya Pradesh	6341.35
15	Maharashtra	4721.81
16	Manipur	342.09
17	Meghalaya	350.57
18	Mizoram	225.83
19	Nagaland	248.5
20	Orissa	4876.75
21	Punjab	1227.45
22	Rajasthan	5300.08
23	Sikkim	214.5
24	Tamil Nadu	5012.75

1	2	3
25	Tripura	404.38
26	Uttar Pradesh	18202.93
27	Uttaranchal	887.32
28	West Bengal	6668.33
Total		94401.77

**Production of Electricity by New Techniques**

3189. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that a voluntary organization in Rohtak has developed a new technique to generate electricity from agricultural wastes of cotton, arhar, sarson paddy, sugarcane and wheat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the equipment and technique of the said technique had been accredited by Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi;

(d) if so, whether the UNDP has given a project award of Rs. 20.03 lakhs in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken by the Government to encourage the generation of electricity at a very cheap rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A non-governmental organization, namely Navreet Energy Research and Information (NERI), Rohtak, Haryana reported to have developed a gasifier system based on agricultural wastes for generating electricity, which is, however, not a new technique.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) As informed by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, a Memorandum of Agreement signed between the United Nations Office for Project Services and NERI mentions an award of U.S. Dollars 30,934, i.e., Rs. 14,18,014.60 for a project entitled 'Pilot clean and green technology and organic farming concept towards

empowerment and better livelihoods'. The Government continues to provide financial, fiscal and other incentives for encouraging the use of gasifier systems for generation of electricity from biomass, including agricultural wastes wherever feasible.

#### **Financing of Power Projects by PSUs**

3190. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a group of PSUs and Banks have promised to streamline the funding of large-scale power projects as reported in the Business Line dated January 30, 2006;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Power Finance Corporation, Life Insurance Company and ten 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. To expedite investments in the power sector, the Consortium would provide a 'single window' platform for power producers to achieve financial closure in time.

#### **Policy on Mega Power Projects**

3191. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the Mega Power Policy, promoters of power projects are offered tax sops in the form of exemption of customs duties, if they meet certain criteria in terms of capacity and inter-state sale;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Planning Commission in its report has called for a removal of such "misplaced incentives";

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken to implement and revise the mega policy of power projects?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) (i) The Mega Power Policy of November, 1995 provided for designating the projects of capacity of 1000 MW and more for thermal projects and 500 MW and more for hydro electric projects and catering power to more than one State as mega projects. No fiscal concessions were proposed under the original policy of 1995.

(ii) The Revised Mega Power Policy (November, 1998) envisaged import of capital equipment for Mega Power Projects was to be free of customs duty. Price preference of 15% would be given for projects under the public sector to protect the interests of domestic bidders, deemed export benefits as per the EXIM Policy to be given to domestic bidders for projects both under public and private sector and continuing the income tax holiday regime with the provision that the tax holiday period of 10 years could be claimed by a promoter in any block of 10 years, within the first 15 years.

(iii) In the budget for 2003-04, the Ministry of Finance further liberalized the policy to include any project which meets the basic criterion of inter-state sale of power and minimum threshold capacity mega power policy conditions to be eligible for the concessions. The enabling notification has been issued by the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) on 1.3.2003.

(iv) At present, the following conditions are required to be fulfilled for grant of mega project status:

- The project should be inter-state;
- It should have minimum threshold capacity of 1000 MW for thermal and 500 MW for hydro electric projects. The minimum qualifying capacity for thermal power plants to qualify for mega benefits has been reduced from 1000 MW to 700 MW and for hydel projects, from 500 MW to 350 MW in the case of States of J&K and the 7 States of North East & Sikkim.
- The power purchasing State has constituted the Regulatory Commission with full powers to fix tariffs;
- The power purchasing States undertake, in principle, to privatize distribution in all cities, in that State, each of which has a population of more than one million, within a period to be fixed by the Ministry of Power.

(c) Planning Commission has informed that they have not made any criticism in any official document on Mega Power Project.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

#### **Audit of Market Intermediaries**

3192. SHRI MUNAWAR HASSAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Institute of Company Secretaries of India had submitted memorandum to Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) for conducting audit of Market Intermediaries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) SEBI's response to it and by when the audit is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has informed that the Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) has not submitted any memorandum to SEBI. However, SEBI has received a letter from ICSI, containing suggestions which inter alia included suggestions for compliance audit of mutual funds, intermediaries and to undertake annual audit of members of stock exchanges, to be carried out by the company secretaries.

(b) On audit of market intermediaries, the ICSI has suggested as follows:

- (i) there is need for introducing compliance audit of mutual funds by a practicing company Secretary to ensure that the violation of norms, legal or otherwise as applicable to mutual funds is detected, prevented and eliminated in order to usher in a new era of good corporate governance.
- (ii) to ensure compliance of all statutory requirements by intermediaries, Company Secretaries in practice should be entrusted with the task of certifying the compliance of all laws applicable to intermediaries.
- (iii) qualification of Company Secretaries should also be recognized for the purposes of audit of members of stock exchanges and for giving certification on the compliance report.

(c) On the suggestion of compliance audit of intermediaries, SEBI is of the view that compliance audit is not a mandatory requirement for the intermediaries, because SEBI has mandated the appointment of a Compliance Officer for all intermediaries who are registered with SEBI. These Compliance Officers have been entrusted with the responsibility of ensuring compliance with the applicable rules, regulations on an ongoing basis. Besides, the status of compliance with SEBI rules and regulations are verified during the periodic inspections of the intermediaries. There is no requirement of an independent authority certifying compliance. Hence there is no occasion to entrust the task of compliance certification to Company Secretaries.

In regard to the suggestion of annual audit of members of stock exchanges, SEBI has mandated, through a circular, that the annual audit of accounts of active members of stock exchanges is required to be carried out by qualified Chartered Accountants. Every active member of stock exchanges is required to submit a copy of the audited annual report to the respective stock exchange. Besides, as most of the capital market intermediaries are corporate entities, they are governed by provisions of Companies Act, 1956 which too mandates annual audit of companies by Chartered Accountants only.

#### **Action Plan to Augment Infrastructure and Civic Amenities**

3193. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of NCT of Delhi, DDA and MCD have prepared any action plan to augment infrastructure and civic amenities in pace with the expanding population of the city;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when the action plan is likely to be implemented;

(c) whether civic amenities in Delhi are under severe strain and hon'ble Supreme Court has also commented adversely on the same; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) and (b) The Government of NCT of Delhi (GNCTD) has informed that different plans and schemes are prepared

and included in the annual plan/five year plan from time to time to augment infrastructure and civic amenities in pace with expanding population of Delhi. The main thrust of the 10th Five Year Plan of GNCTD is on augmentation and strengthening of civic amenities and infrastructure under transport, energy, water supply and sanitation, urban development, education, medical and public health sectors. Special efforts have been made to extend essential civic amenities in sub-standard areas of the Capital City.

The Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) has also informed that improvement of infrastructure and civic amenities is a regular process. Steps in this regard are taken in accordance with Five Year Plans and the provisions in Master Plan of Delhi.

The Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has stated that the requirement for physical infrastructure for the Estimated population of 230 lakhs have been projected for the year 2021 in the Draft Master Plan for Delhi-2021 (MPD-2021). The perspective plans of infrastructure components of the concerned agencies viz. Delhi Jal Board, Delhi Transco Ltd. and MCD have also been included in the draft MPD-2021.

(c) and (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

#### **Bharat Vikas Kosh**

3194. SHRI SITA RAM SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which the 'Bharat Vikas Kosh' was instituted;

(b) the objectives of the fund;

(c) whether the Banks and financial institutes have invested in the above fund; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) The India Development Fund was registered on December 10, 2002.

(b) The Fund was set up to augment equity capital required by infrastructure projects. The objective of the Fund is to invest in equity and equity-related capital instruments of infrastructure projects.

(c) and (d) Banks and FI's have invested in the Fund as per the enclosed Statement.

#### *Statement*

Sl. No.	Investor	Capital Commitment (In Rs. Lakhs)
1.	Infrastructure Development Finance Co. Ltd.	10,000
2.	State Bank of India	8,437.50
3.	Life Insurance Corporation of India	8,437.50
4.	New India Assurance Co. Ltd.	1,000
5.	National Insurance Co. Ltd.	1,000
6.	Union Bank of India	10,000
7.	Indian Overseas Bank	5,000
8.	General Insurance Corporation of India	1,000
9.	Bank of Baroda	10,000
10.	Oriental Insurance Co. Ltd.	1,000
11.	Small Industries Development Bank of India	5,000
12.	Punjab National Bank	5,000
13.	Syndicate Bank	2,500
14.	Canara Bank	5,000
15.	Bank of India	5,000
16.	Andhra Bank	5,000
17.	United India Insurance Co. Ltd.	1,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>8,4375</b>

[English]

#### **Setting up of Power Plants**

3195. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal from foreign countries for setting up of power plants in India;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any final decision in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) No, Sir. The Government has not received any proposal as such. But under Ultra Mega Project Scheme, expressions of interest have been given by some foreign companies.

- (b) to (d) Do not arise.

#### **Loan Given to 1984 Riot Victims**

3196. SHRI ZORA SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has waived off the loans upto Rs. 25,000/- of the victims and/or their dependents of 1984 anti sikh riots granted by the banks;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether in spite of waiver off loan by the Government upto Rs. 25000/- some banks are still pursuing the recovery cases in the Courts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) It was decided to extend the relief by way of write off of the aggregate of eligible loans from all banks upto and inclusive of Rs.25,000/- as principal granted on 1st November, 1984 or afterwards together with outstanding interest in the case of borrowers affected by November 1984 Riots. The scheme was subsequently modified in October 1994 to include Central, State and Union Territory financial institutions in the definition of 'Bank' in the aforesaid Debt Relief Scheme. A Debt Relief Scheme (Revised) for November 1984 riot affected borrowers was formulated in 1997.

As per the revised scheme, debt relief was extended to the 1984 riot affected borrowers by way of write off of eligible loans taken from banks/financial institutions upto or inclusive of Rs.50,000/- as principal granted on 1st November, 1984 or afterwards together with outstanding interest.

(c) and (d) No such case has come to the notice so far.

#### **Rationalisation of Duty Structure**

3197. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether incentives given to certain States has adversely affected the investment in industries of Gujarat;

(b) whether the Government of Gujarat has requested for the rationalization of duty structure in respect of drugs and pharmaceuticals by bringing down the rate of excise duty from 16% to 8%;

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

(d) the steps being taken by Government to protect the adversely affected small scale industries of Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The Government has given fiscal incentives to special category states to encourage industrial development of certain areas. It is not possible to comment on whether such incentives have adversely affected the investment in industries of Gujarat.

- (b) Yes Sir.

(c) The request for reduction in excise duty was examined but it was decided not to make any change in the rates of duty.

(d) Small Scale drugs and pharmaceutical units located anywhere in India including Gujarat, are eligible for excise duty exemption upto Rs. one crore during a financial year, provided their turnover did not exceed Rs.4 crore during the previous financial year. Small Scale units located in non-exempt areas should thus not be adversely affected by incentives given to certain areas.

#### **Urban Renewal Mission**

3198. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has sought assistance to construct radial roads to connect proposed Outer Ring Road in Hyderabad under Urban Renewal Mission;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the assistance proposed to be sanctioned for Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Following three projects have been received for this purpose:

1. Strengthening and widening of Radial Road No.2 between Indra Reddy Statue on IRR and Himayat Sagar near ORR: Estimated Cost - Rs.20 crore.
2. Strengthening and widening of Radial Road No.3 between Rethibowli Junction on IRR and APPA junction on ORR: Estimated Cost - Rs.21.50 crore.
3. Strengthening and widening of Radial Road No.28 from Chandrayangutta to Srinagar: Estimated Cost - Rs.30.80 crore.

(c) Additional Central Assistance (ACA) to be sanctioned to Andhra Pradesh will depend on fulfilment of criteria envisaged under Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) viz. preparation of City Development Plan (CDP) preparation and submission of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for identified priority areas in select cities and achievement of reform milestones envisaged under Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) signed between the Government of India, the State Government and concerned Urban Local Bodies (ULBs/Implementing Agencies).

[Translation]

**Additional Central Assistance  
Under NFAS**

3199. SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether additional Central assistance is made available to all the beneficiaries of the National Family Assistance Scheme of the Government;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether adequate additional Central assistance would be provided to the State of Madhya Pradesh considering all eligible beneficiaries;

(d) whether the Government have sanctioned a sum of rupees 8813.82 lakh to the State of Madhya Pradesh under National Family Assistance Scheme (NFAS) for year 2005-06;

(e) if so, whether the entire amount has been released during the year 2005-06 and

(f) if not the time by which the balance funds are likely to be released to Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The National Family Benefit Scheme is a component of the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), which has since been transferred to the State Sector. Accordingly ACA for this purpose is released by the Ministry of Finance based on the recommendations by the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD). Presently, State-wise allocations under the Scheme are made by the MoRD by affixing numerical ceiling for each State based on parameters such as States' population, poverty ratio and mortality rates. The numerical ceiling provides only the upper limit. The actual physical targets and allocation of funds from year to year for the State Governments are based on the budget allocation for the Scheme for the year.

(d) to (f) During the year 2005-06, the State of Madhya Pradesh was allocated a sum of Rs.7849.45 lakhs of which the entire amount was released to Madhya Pradesh during the 2005-06.

**Bio-Medical Waste Unit**

3200. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether facility of Bio-Medical Waste Unit in Hospitals are sufficient in the country especially in Madhya Pradesh;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (c)

Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

**Mega-Hydro Power Project in  
Arunachal Pradesh**

3201. SHRI TAPIR GAO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Draft Project Reports (DPRs) submitted by the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) in Arunachal Pradesh for construction of Mega-Hydro Power Project to the Union Government as on date;

(b) the number out of them lying pending for approval;

(c) the details of expenditure incurred by NHPC for the preparation of DPRs in Arunachal Pradesh;

(d) whether NHPC is being replaced by a private power company in the State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE) : (a) and (b) National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Limited (NHPC) has submitted the Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for the following 3 hydroelectric projects (HEPs) to Central Electricity Authority (CEA) for accord of techno-economic clearance (TEC) as per details given below:

Sl. No.	Project	Capacity (MW)	DPR submitted on
1.	Subansiri Lower	2000	7.6.2001
2.	Siyom (Siang Middle)	1000	16.9.2003
3.	Dibang	3000	29.12.2003

Of the above three projects, the Subansiri Lower HEP which has been accorded Techno-Economic Clearance (TEC) on 13.1.2003, is presently under construction.

(c) Details of the expenditure on the projects whose DPRs have been prepared/are under preparation by NHPC, are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Cumulative expenditure till March 2006 (Rs. Crores)
1	Upper/ Intermediate Siang	29.13
2	Dibang	34.22
3	Siyom (Siang Middle)	47.88
4	Siang Lower	32.76
5	Subansiri Middle	28.68
6	Subansiri Upper	33.06

(d) and (e) Siyom (Siang Middle) HEP (1000 MW) and Siang Lower HEP were transferred by Government of Arunachal Pradesh on 22.3.2000 for execution by NHPC. However, the Government of Arunachal Pradesh has since entered into a Memorandum of Agreement on 22.2.2006 for execution of these projects through private developers. In addition to these two projects, three other projects, viz. Tato-II HEP (700 MW), Naying HEP (1000 MW) and Hironag HEP (500 MW) for which the work of preparation of DPRs was entrusted to NHPC under the 50,000 MW Hydroelectric Initiative, have also been entrusted to private developers by the State Government. No reasons have been given by Government of Arunachal Pradesh for replacing NHPC by private developers.

**Power Generation Target**

3202. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target has been fixed for generation of additional capacity of power during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any shortfall has been noticed in this regard; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) A target of 36955 MW comprising of 23260 MW thermal, 11125 MW hydro and 2570 MW nuclear was set during the Mid-Term Appraisal, held in July-August, 2005.



(c) and (d) According to present assessment of Ministry of Power, a capacity of 34024 MW is anticipated. Details of generation projects slipping the revised target of 36955 MW along with reasons thereof, are given in the enclosed Statement.

**Statement**

*Power projects slipping from mid term appraisal target of X Plan:*

Name of Project	Capacity (MW)	Reasons for slippage
<b>A. Central Sector</b>		
<b>Thermal</b>		
Gandhar CCPP, NTPC	725	Main plant order not yet placed due to non availability of gas.
Kawas CCPP, NTPC	725	Main plant order not yet placed due to non availability of gas.
Tripura Gas	280	The project has now been abandoned in favour of 750 MW gas based project to be set UP by ONGC at the same site.
<b>Hydro</b>		
Teesta Low Dam-III	132	Delay in clearance.
Sewa-II	120	Delay in award of works.
Omkareswar	260	Delay in Dam works.
Koteshwar	400	Rehabilitation affecting progress of works. R&R issues.
<b>B. State Sector</b>		
<b>Thermal</b>		
Yamunanagar TPP	250	Due to change in supplier of main plant equipment. The configuration of unit size also changed to 300 MW.
<b>Hydro</b>		
Jurala Priyadarshini	39.1	Slow progress of works.

**Alternative Sites for Community Functions**

3203. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the wake of the ban imposed by the High Court of Delhi on holding marriages, community functions etc. in farmhouses, DDA has finalized alternative venues for these purposes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether most of the alternative sites are unfit for holding such functions due to its long distance, wild patches and poor condition; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (d) Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has reported that it has identified 162 new sites in various parts of Delhi for holding marriages/functions. It has further stated that all these sites are fit for holding functions and have properly maintained approaches.

**Power Distribution by Private Companies**

3204. SHRI SUBRATA BOSE:

SHRIMATI KALPANA RAMESH NARHIRE:

SHRI RANEN BARMAN:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware about the decision of private power companies to hike power tariff in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of private companies engaged in power distribution in Delhi;

(d) whether the consumers get incorrect and inflated electricity bills from these private companies; and

(e) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to streamline the functioning of private companies to ward off corruption and to restore confidence among the consumers towards the private companies?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) Fixation of power tariffs of distribution companies is the statutory function of the State Electricity Regulatory Commission. As per information made available by the Government of NCT of Delhi, Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC) vide its order dated 07.07.2005 on 'Annual Revenue Requirement and determination of retail supply tariff, increased the retail supply tariff' by an average of around 6.6%.

The Government of NCT of Delhi has decided to provide subsidy under section 65 of the Electricity Act, 2003, as follows:

- To subsidise 50% of the approximately 10% hike in the domestic category tariff caused by order of DERC dated 07.07.2005 for a period of one year w.e.f. 15.07.2005.
- To subsidise 100% of the approximately 20% hike in agricultural category caused by order of DERC dated 07.07.2005 for a period of one year w.e.f. 15.07.2005.

Further, as per DERC order dated 23.09.2005, the Distribution Companies are providing incentive to domestic category consumers so that remaining 50% of tariff hike is neutralized.

(c) There are three private distribution companies operating in National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi namely BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, BSES Yamuna Power Limited and North Delhi Power limited.

(d) There have been complaints from the consumers regarding incorrect and inflated electricity bills. While some of these complaints were of inflated bills related to fast running of meters, others were purely billing problems.

(e) For looking into the grievances of the consumers, the Commission, in accordance with the section 42(5) of Indian Electricity Act 2003, had directed the Discoms to constitute their respective Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum which have been duly constituted and are functioning since August, 2004. The Commission has also appointed the Electricity Ombudsman who is the authority for orders looking into the non-redressal of grievances by these Forums.

On the issue of fast running meters, the Commission had conducted a Meter Testing Drive between October

2005 to January 2006 wherein 536 meters were tested and only 4 meters were found to be fast beyond the norms stipulated under the Indian Electricity Rules, 1956.

#### **Fake Notes by ATMs**

3205. DR. M. JAGANNATH:

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received complaints about the spewing of fake, damaged notes by ATMs installed by various banks across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government on such complaints; and

(c) the steps the Government proposes to take/taken to curb such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) During the year 2005-06, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has received complaints of fake currency notes dispensed through ATMs of ICICI Bank, Karunagapally Branch and of HDFC Bank, Kolkata.

RBI have issued instructions to banks vide their circulars dated 7th December, 2005 and 28th March, 2006, to put in place adequate safeguards to contain the menace of counterfeit banknotes. The RBI has also taken up the matter with the Chairmen/CEOs of banks where the counterfeit banknotes were dispensed through ATMs.

*[Translation]*

#### **Electricity from the Northern Grid**

3206. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether electricity is supplied to Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Jammu and Kashmir and Rajasthan from the Northern Grid;

(b) if so, whether the quantum of electricity supplied to each of the above State is already fixed;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether several States receive/get electricity more than their fixed quota from this grid;

(e) if so, the details thereof along with the quantum of electricity received or likely to be received by these States beyond their fixed quota during the year 2005-06 and 2006-07; and

(f) the rate at which they will make the payment for this additional electricity?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The quantum of firm power received by each of the above States from the Central Generating Stations (CGSs) of the Northern Region (NR) is fixed on the basis of guidelines issued on Gadgil formula and the same generally remains unaltered, unless the State itself surrenders its allocated share. The quantum of firm allocation to the constituents of the region increases with the commissioning of new projects in the central sector. The 15% unallocated power in these stations is kept at the disposal of the Government to meet the seasonal and emergent demands of the constituents. Allocation from this quota changes from time to time depending on change in demand pattern, relative power supply position of beneficiary States/ UTs, nature of requirement, etc.

The details of the firm/unallocated power (time slot basis) received at present by each of the above-mentioned States from the CGSs of the NR are as under:

(Figures in MW)

	Delhi	Uttar Pradesh	Haryana	Jammu & Kashmir	Rajasthan
Firm Power *	2589	3646	1340	974	1591
Unallocated power of CGSs in NR#	0-295	189-295	236-260	118-177	177-236
Unallocated power of RAPS-3 & 4#	0-33	11-22	0-11	11	0-11

\* Including power from the dedicated power stations and non-firm allocation from Rajasthan Atomic Power Project Units 3 & 4.

# Allocations from the unallocated quota have been made on time slot basis.

(d) The states are required to draw electricity from the grid as per the schedule based on their allocations (firm + unallocated) from the central sector stations. However, some of the states draw more electricity than their schedule in real time operation which comes under Unscheduled Interchange (UI) as per the Availability Based Tariff (ABT) approved by Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC). Overdrawal by any of the states is charged on special rates linked to grid frequency as have been finalized under UI system.

(e) Statement showing details of schedule, actual drawal and under/overdrawal from the grid for the period 1.4.05 to 31.3.2006 is enclosed. Overdrawals by the States/ UTs for the year 2006-07 cannot be foreseen as it is a real-time phenomenon.

(f) As per CERC, the rate of additional electricity drawn i.e. Unscheduled Interchange is variable with minimum rate being zero at frequency of 50.5 Hz and above and the maximum rate being Rs.5.70 per Kwh at frequency of 49.0 Hz and below.

#### **Statement**

#### *Details of Schedule and Actual Drawal for the period 1.4.2005 to 31.3.2006*

(in Lakhs Units)

Beneficiaries	Scheduled	Drawal	Under drawal (-)/ Over drawal (+)
Chandigarh	13,673.478	12,680.501	-992.976
Delhi	1,25,760.593	1,10,408.006	-15,352.587
Haryana	1,01,853.424	1,15,337.019	13,483.595
Himachal Pradesh	18,419.782	14,554.324	-3,865.458
Jammu & Kashmir	64,847.715	67,889.243	3,041.528
Punjab	1,40,919.949	1,40,311.062	-608.887
Rajasthan	1,13,961.130	1,18,165.711	4,204.581
Uttar Pradesh	2,13,839.307	2,32,285.736	18,446.429
Railways	6,024.842	5,614.219	-410.623
Uttaranchal	18,064.425	15,450.249	-2,614.175

*[English]***Construction of Toilets in IAY Houses**

3207. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the targets fixed for making toilets in Indira Awas Yojana houses during 2005-06, State-wise;
- (b) whether the target has since been achieved;
- (c) if not, the shortfall thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) the amount being given by the Government for making toilets;
- (e) whether any suggestions have been received for enhancement of funds since this amount is inadequate particularly in rocky and sandy areas; and
- (f) if so, the reasons 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) to (f) The Ministry of Rural Development is providing financial assistance to the shelterless rural Below Poverty Line (BPL) households for construction of a house @ Rs.25,000/ per unit in the plain areas and Rs.27,500/ in hilly/difficult areas under Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY). As per the Guidelines of IAY, Sanitary Latrine is an integral part of an IAY house and no separate amount is given for this purpose. However, in case, a beneficiary fails to construct a sanitary latrine, an amount of Rs.600/ is deducted from the total financial assistance to be given to such beneficiary. During the year 2005-06, total physical target for construction of houses was 14.41 lakh. However, against 13.47 lakh houses constructed under IAY as per the reports received from the State Governments so far, only 6.96 lakh Sanitary Latrines have been constructed. Due to attitudinal approach, scarcity of water or due to other reasons, some beneficiaries do not want to construct sanitary latrines within their houses. A Statement showing State-wise number of houses targeted, constructed and number of houses provided with Sanitary Latrines under IAY during 2005-06 is enclosed.

IAY guidelines, inter alia, provide that wherever possible, efforts should be made to dovetail funds from Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) for providing sanitary latrine so that more money could be made available for construction of the IAY house.

**Statement**

*State wise number of houses targeted, constructed and number of houses provided with sanitary latrines under the IAY during 2005-06*

		Unit in Nos.		
Sl.	Name of the States/UTs	Number of Houses Targeted for 2005-06	Number of Houses Constructed/ Upgraded 2005-06	Number of Houses provided with Sanitary latrines
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	130130	132521	132521
2	Arunachal Pradesh	4603	3036	885
3	Assam	101790	94976	39390
4	Bihar	384111	255159	0
5	Chhattisgarh	20124	26578	19477
6	Goa	801	541	524
7	Gujarat	63819	65602	58556
8	Haryana	8960	7037	6906
9	Himachal Pradesh	2873	1955	1806
10	Jammu & Kashmir	8924	2543	0
11	Jharkhand	34261	75403	3832
12	Karnataka	50136	56944	39102
13	Kerala	27880	36413	26822
14	Madhya Pradesh	40022	38232	35470
15	Maharashtra	78478	65608	63276
16	Manipur	3996	3665	1766
17	Meghalaya	6959	3614	281
18	Mizoram	1483	1553	1553
19	Nagaland	4605	7381	0
20	Orissa	75465	86214	18649

1	2	3	4	5
21	Punjab	11081	7868	3893
22	Rajasthan	32070	38431	28956
23	Sikkim	881	1296	1296
24	Tamil Nadu	52101	66434	44044
25	Tripura	8967	11902	0
26	Uttar Pradesh	172527	145013	84123
27	Uttaranchal	7863	21722	17244
28	West Bengal	104098	88697	64926
29	A&N Islands	1238	59	55
30	D&N Haveli	206	83	5
31	Daman & Diu	92	6	0
32	Lakshadweep	80	48	48
33	Pondicherry	617	174	171
Total		1441241	1346708	695577

**Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana**

3208. SHRI FRANCIS FANTHOM:

DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

SHRIRAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target has been fixed under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana during the year 2005-06 and 2006-07;

(b) if so, the targets fixed and achieved so far, State-wise; and

(c) the reasons for the shortfalls in achieving the targets in each of the States?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Under Government of India's scheme Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY), a target of electrification of 10,000 villages in 2005-06 and electrification of 40,000 villages in 2006-07 was fixed.

Village Electricity infrastructure has been provided to 9819 villages in 2005-06 against a target of 10,000 villages.

The state-wise and year-wise targets vis-a-vis achievement of village electrification under RGGVY is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Constant follow-up and vigorous persuasion, both by Ministry of Power (MoP) and Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) Ltd. has resulted in achievement of the national target of village electrification during 2005-06.

However, the states of Uttaranchal and West Bengal have reported achievements less than their annual targets. The initial teething problems e.g. finalization of awards of contracts on turn-key basis, mobilization of major materials and field constraints including climatic vagaries etc. are the reasons attributable to the non achievement of annual targets of village electrification by these states during 2005-06. However, these states have now reportedly geared-up, not only for covering the backlog of the previous year but also to achieve current year targets of village electrification.

**Statement**

*Statewise & Year-wise target of Village Electrification during 2005-06 & 2006-07 and achievement during 2005-06 under RGGVY*

Sl. No.	State	Target during 2005-06 (Nos.)	Achievement during 2005-06 (Nos.)	Targets for 2006-07 (Nos.)
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	-	-	-
2	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	10
3	Assam	-	-	140
4	Bihar	1600	1600	12700
5	Jharkhand	-	-	0
6	Goa	-	-	-
7	Gujarat	-	-	-
8	Haryana	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5
9	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-
10	J&K	-	-	10
11	Karnataka	35	397*	-
12	Kerala	-	-	-
13	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	100
14	Chhattisgarh	-	-	90
15	Maharashtra	-	-	-
16	Manipur	-	-	5
17	Meghalaya	-	-	20
18	Mizoram	-	-	-
19	Nagaland	-	-	-
20	Orissa	-	-	5
21	Punjab	-	-	-
22	Rajasthan	124	230	1150
23	Sikkim	-	-	-
24	Tamil Nadu	-	-	-
25	Tripura	-	-	-
26	Uttar Pradesh	7355	7503	21600
27	Uttaranchal	230	87	320
28	West Bengal	656	352	3850
29	Delhi	-	-	-
Total States		10000	10169	40000
Total UTs		-	-	-
All India		10000	10169	40000

\* including 350 already electrified villages

[Translation]

#### Urban Employment Schemes

3209. SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposals pertaining to urban employment pending with the Union Government, State-wise;

(b) the date from which these proposals are pending; and

(c) the present status of the pending proposals and the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c) Under employment oriented urban poverty alleviation Scheme of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), which is being implemented by the Ministry of Urban Employment & Poverty Alleviation on all India basis through States/UTs Governments, Central funds are released to the States/UTs for the implementation of Scheme. The scheme of SJSRY strives to provide self-employment to the urban poor living below the poverty line by setting up of micro-enterprises and also through provision of wage-employment by utilizing the labour of urban poor in construction of useful public assets. Under SJSRY, at the beginning of the financial year, the Central funds are tentatively allocated to the States/UTs in proportion to the incidence of urban poverty in the States/UTs and thereafter these funds are released to the States/UTs, in installments, on the basis of receipt of Utilization Certificates for the past Central releases and also the contribution of matching State shares for the past releases. Additional funds, over and above the tentative allocations, are also released to the States/UTs on their request keeping in view the physical and financial progress of the Scheme in the State/UT and also the availability of funds. Under SJSRY, proposals for urban employment, as such, are not received from the States/UTs and only demand for additional funds, if required are received.

#### Private Investment in Wind Energy

3210. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether corporate sector has shown interest for investing in the field of wind energy in view of the great potential of this field;

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

(c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented alongwith its effects on the energy sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Grid interactive wind power installed capacity aggregating to 5340 MW has already been set up so far in potential states in the country through private sector investments. State-wise details of the wind power installed capacity as on 31.03.2006 is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Against the target of 1500 MW fixed for the tenth five year plan for wind power projects, an installed capacity of 3714 MW has been achieved during the first four years of the tenth plan. A target of 1000 MW has been fixed for the year 2006-07. The cumulative installed capacity of wind power works out to about 4% of the total grid power installed capacity. Considering that the potential for setting up wind power projects exists only in 10 states, its intermittent and low capacity utilization factor, the wind power is expected to play only a supplemental role in electricity generation.

#### **Statement**

##### **State-wise Wind Power Installed Capacity**

(As on 31.03.2006)

(in MW)

State	Total Installed Capacity
Andhra Pradesh	121.0
Gujarat	338.1
Karnataka	584.6
Kerala	2.0
Madhya Pradesh	40.3
Maharashtra	1001.0
Rajasthan	358.1
Tamil Nadu	2892.5
Other	2.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>5340.6</b>

#### **Setting up of Inter-state Projects to Tap Water Resources**

3211. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA:

SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has formulated any policy to set up inter-state projects to tap water resources for power generation in the country to meet the shortage of electricity to the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) A policy on hydro power development was formulated and announced by the Government in August, 1998 incorporating several steps and measures for accelerated development of hydro power projects. The hydro policy among others lays emphasis on basin-wise development, evolving consensus on inter-State issues, promoting joint venture arrangements, simplified procedure for transfer of clearances etc. Various Central/Joint Sector Corporations have been created for implementation of hydro projects. Three-stage clearance procedure has also been introduced to expedite execution of projects in the Central Sector.

Some hydro power potential has remained untapped because of unresolved inter-State issues primarily involving sharing of water. The Government of India recognizes the need for evolving an approach to ensure that the available hydro-electric potential is fully utilized without prejudice to the rights of the riparian States as determined by the Awards of Tribunals/ Agreements arrived at among the party States for a given river basin with regard to water sharing. The selection and design of project is based on integrated basin wise studies, so as to arrive at an optimal decision and care is taken that such projects do not in any way prejudice the claims of basin states or affect benefits from the existing projects. As per the policy, a consensus is to be evolved amongst the basin states regarding the location of such project, basic parameters involved and mechanism through which each project would be constructed and operated.

[English]

#### **Settlement of Slum Dwellers**

3212. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Maharashtra has sent any proposal for grant/credit/loan for resettlement of residents of Mumbai J.J. Colony and 'Chaals';

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry has referred the proposal to the Department of Economic Affairs to approach the World Bank and to inform the Government of Maharashtra the terms and conditions for finance from the World Bank for the development of slums; and

(d) if so, the final status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) No such request has been received in the Ministry of Urban Employment and poverty Alleviation.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

#### Funds for the Wind Energy Projects

3213. SHRI MANJUNATH KUNNUR:

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID:

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

(a) the details of the funds sanctioned for the wind energy related projects in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu during the last six months;

(b) whether the Government proposes to introduce/ implement any special scheme to tap the wind energy resources in various States, particularly Karnataka and Tamil Nadu; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) Grid connected commercial wind power projects are set up mostly by private sector. The Government does not provide any direct financial assistance for setting up such projects. However, under the programme on "Small Wind Energy and Hybrid Systems", the Ministry has sanctioned Rs.25.92 lakh and Rs.8.22 lakh for development and promotion of aerogenerators and water pumping windmills in the states of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu respectively during the last six months, i.e. from November, 2005 to April, 2006.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. However, setting up of commercial power projects in private sector and promotion of aerogenerators and water pumping windmills being continued during the current financial year.

#### Credit Card Fraud

3214. SHRI UDAY SINGH:

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of credit card frauds in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the losses suffered by banks on credit card frauds;

(c) whether consumers are being cheated by banks as well as by criminals;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the step taken by the Government to check such frauds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of frauds perpetrated using fake credit cards, as reported by the banks to Reserve Bank of India (RBI) during the last three years are as under:-

Name of the Bank	No. of instances	Amount involved (Rs. in lakh)
HSBC Ltd.	27	41.04
Standard Chartered Bank	7	11.31
SBI Cards & Payment Services Pvt. Ltd.	5	9.36
HDFC Bank	8	14.07
ICICI Bank	7	11.26
Andhra Bank	1	19.50

(c) and (d) As and when any such matter is brought to the notice of Govt./ RBI, appropriate corrective action is taken in accordance with the laid down procedure/law.

(e) Reserve Bank of India has advised banks to set up internal control systems to combat frauds committed at application stage and through misuse of lost/ stolen,



counterfeit/altered credit cards. RBI has issued guidelines on credit card operations on 21.11.2005 advising the banks to fulfil 'Know Your Customer (KYC)' requirements, assessing credit risk of customers, specifying terms and conditions in a transparent manner, etc.

**Power Project for Joint Sector  
In Gujarat**

3215. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the Government of Gujarat for setting up of power projects in Joint Sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on 20.2.2004 between NTPC Ltd., Gujarat Power Corporation Limited (GPCL) and Gujarat Electricity Board (GEB) to establish a 1000 MW thermal power project at Pipavav in the State of Gujarat as a joint venture between NTPC and GPCL, subject to establishment of techno-commercial feasibility, tie-up of adequate funding arrangements with Banks/Financial Institution(s) etc. and allocation of suitable distribution area in Gujarat.

Key site specific studies have been carried out for preparation of the Feasibility Report (FR). Application has also been submitted for allocation of suitable coal mine block. The project commissioning is expected tentatively in early 12th Plan subject to establishment of techno-commercial feasibility, tie-up of adequate funding arrangement and allocation of a suitable distribution area in Gujarat as per the agreed MoU.

**Disparity in Allocations  
under PMGSY**

3216. SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI:

SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR:

SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether funds under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) are given to States from the collection of the cess levied on diesel;

(b) if so, the amount of such collection and disbursement to each State from this fund so far;

(c) whether the Government is aware that this amount is very low for the States particularly Gujarat as compared to the entitlement based on collection; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to compensate the State Government by supporting the other alternative programmes so that the State gets its quota as per its contribution?

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. Year-wise allocation of funds from the diesel cess for Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) is as under:-

Year	Amount (Rs. in crore)
2000-01	2500
2001-02	2500
2002-03	2500
2003-04	2325
2004-05	2148 + 320 (for ADB/WB)*
2005-06	3809.5 + 425.5 (for ADB/WB)*
2006-07	3725.62 crore + 1500 (from ADB/WB)*

\* Legend, ADB: Asian Development Bank,  
WB: World Bank

A statement indicating funds released State-wise is enclosed.

(c) and (d) Normative allocation of funds to various States is made by assigning a weightage of 75% to 'connectivity deficit' (share of unconnected Habitations in the total unconnected Habitations in the country) and 25% to 'coverage' (share of connected Habitations in the total

connected Habitations of the country). Distribution of additional cess is made on the basis of proportion of road lengths to be covered under Bharat Nirman programme. Normative allocation of Rs. 60.00 crore has been made for Gujarat for the year 2006-07.

**Statement**

Sl. No.	State	Funds released from 2000-01 to 2005-06 (Rupees in crore)
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	1016.78
2	Arunachal Pradesh	181.45
3	Assam	698.09
4	Bihar	566.28
5	Chhattisgarh	987.98
6	Goa	10.15
7	Gujarat	288.12
8	Haryana	158.38
9	Himachal Pradesh	484.93
10	Jammu & Kashmir	146.31
11	Jharkhand	505.91
12	Karnataka	510.54
13	Kerala	122.93
14	Madhya Pradesh	1847.23
15	Maharashtra	598.45
16	Manipur	104.47
17	Meghalaya	123.66
18	Mizoram	227.52
19	Nagaland	163.53
20	Orissa	1185.02
21	Punjab	177.46

1	2	3
22	Rajasthan	1805.77
23	Sikkim	112.46
24	Tamil Nadu	493.84
25	Tripura	98.65
26	Uttar Pradesh	2223.22
27	Uttaranchal	216.21
28	West Bengal	1211.95
Total		16267.29

**Proposals for Wind and Solar Energy**

3217. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the proposals for wind energy, solar energy etc. received by the Union Government for approval from various States under the scheme of Non-Conventional Energy Sources during the last two years;

(b) the proposals approved by the Government till April, 2006 alongwith details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has received any proposal from Madhya Pradesh in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons for not approving the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) and (b) Proposals from various states have been received for the grant of Central Financial Assistance (CFA) under the schemes/programmes of the Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources relating to biomass power/cogeneration, small hydro power, remote village electrification, village energy security test projects and renewable energy systems/devices for urban, industrial commercial applications. State-wise details of proposals sanctioned under major schemes/programmes during 2004-05 and 2005-06 are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) 65 project proposals which have been

received from Madhya Pradesh during 2004-05 and 2005-06 were sanctioned, of which 50 are under the remote village electrification programme and the balance 15 are under the village energy security test projects. The Madhya Pradesh Urja Vikas Nigam (MPUVN) has been advised to reframe and resubmit the remaining proposals for remote village electrification in line with the guidelines of the programme. These apart, two proposals received from the state during the aforesaid period under the wind power

demonstration programme were not approved as such demonstration projects are sanctioned only to those states where commercial wind power activity has not yet started and Madhya Pradesh does not fall in that category. Another proposal for a cowdung based power project in the state is pending for approval as MPUVN is yet to submit a revised detailed project report after addressing the deficiencies pointed out to them.

**Statement**

*State-wise details of proposals sanctioned under major schemes/  
programmes during 2004-05 and 2005-06.*

S.No.	States/UT	Small Hydro Power (Projects in Nos.)	Biomass Power/ Cogeneration (Projects in Nos.)	Remote Village Electrification (Villages in Nos.)	VESP (Villages in Nos.)	SPV Systems / Devices (Nos.)	Biogas Plants (Nos.)	Energy Parks (Nos.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Andhra Pradesh	1	-	-	3	400	29000	7
2	Arunachal Pradesh	54	-	117	-	5550	250	
3	Assam	-	-	33	14	7650	150	
4	Bihar	4	-	-	-	1000	1100	
5	Chhattisgarh	-	-	-	9	1150	3000	3
6	Goa	-	-	-	-	200	120	
7	Gujarat	-	-	36	3	1810	9000	4
8	Haryana	-	-	-	-	3489	2000	3
9	Himachal Pradesh	13	-	20	-	13000	250	
10	Jammu & Kashmir	471	-	-	-	10320	20	
11	Jharkhand	-	-	224	1	1500	200	
12	Karnataka	10	4	20	-	2060	29000	3
13	Kerala	1	-	-	-	1000	3500	2
14	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	50	15	1525	14000	11
15	Maharashtra	-	-	161	7	3100	15500	13
16	Manipur	-	-	39	-	6400	250	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
17	Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	23250	250	
18	Mizoram	-	-	-	-	5800	500	
19	Nagaland	364	-	-	-	4200	400	
20	Orissa	-	-	-	10	710	9500	
21	Punjab	-	1	-	-	2300	2000	3
22	Rajasthan	-	-	230	6	2000	10	
23	Sikkim	-	-	-	-	3000	300	
24	Tamil Nadu	-	1	-	4	1600	4500	23
25	Tripura	-	-	-	-	16550	250	
26	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	-	-	3068	11000	4
27	Uttaranchal	180	-	2	5	22500	700	
28	West Bengal	-	-	12	7	2200	29000	
29	Andaman & Nicobar	-	-	-	-	-	-	
30	Chandigarh	-	-	-	-	-	-	
31	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	-	-	-	-	-	
32	Daman & Diu	-	-	-	-	-	-	
33	Delhi	-	-	-	-	-	-	
34	Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-	-	-	
35	Pondicherry	-	-	-	-	-	-	
<b>Total</b>		<b>1098</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>944</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>147332</b>	<b>165750</b>	<b>76</b>

SPV = Solar Photovoltaic; VESP = Village Energy Security Test Projects; Nos. = Numbers

[English]

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**Establishment of IREP Centre  
in Orissa**

3218. SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal for the setting up of Integrated Rural Energy Programme (IREP) Centre in Orissa; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no proposal to set up IREP Centre in any State during the 10th Plan period.

**Acquisition of PSB in IDBI**

3219. SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received request from Industrial Development Bank of India regarding acquisition of another public sector banks i.e. UCO Bank / Central Bank of India, etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

#### Potable Water Supply Complaints

3220. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:

SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that no action is taken on the general complaints regarding potable water supply and attention is paid towards specialized nature complaints only;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor indicating the separate number of such complaints received during the last three years and thereafter, State-wise and location-wise;

(c) the details of complaints which come under specialized nature; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to pay attention to all complaints for supply of potable water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) to (d) Rural Water Supply is a State subject. The implementing agencies for rural water supply projects are decided by the State Governments, who may implement it through Public Health Engineering Department or Rural Development Department/Panchayati Raj Department/Board, Corporation or Authority. Complaints pertaining to potable water supply are attended by implementing agencies. There is no mechanism at Central level to keep track of such complaints.

[English]

#### Liberalisation of Overseas Investment

3221. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has lately decided to liberalize and ease up overseas Investments;

(b) if so, to what extent; and

(c) the manner in which it is likely to help to curtail the growth of inflation rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has taken initiatives for substantial liberalization of overseas investments in the last three years. RBI has of late taken the following measures since 1st January, 2006:-

(i) Disinvestment:

Indian listed companies have been permitted to disinvest in a Joint Ventures/Wholly Owned Subsidiaries (JVs/WOS) abroad even in the case where such disinvestment may result in a write-off of the capital invested to the extent of 10% of the previous year's export realization. In order to enable companies to have operational flexibility according to their commercial judgement, automatic route of disinvestment has been further liberalized. General permission has been extended to the Indian parties to disinvest without prior approval of the Reserve Bank of India in categories, viz. (a) where JVs/WOS are listed in the overseas stock exchange, (b) where the Indian promoter company is listed on a stock exchange in India and has a net worth of not less than Rs.100 crore and (c) where the Indian promoter is an unlisted company and the investment in overseas venture does not exceed US \$ 10 million.

(ii) Guarantees:

With a view to simplify the procedure, scope of guarantees covered under the Automatic Route has been enlarged to cover any forms of guarantees issued by Indian entities, such as, corporate or personal, whether primary or collateral, whether by the promoter company, their group company, sister or associate company in India, subject to the condition that total financial commitments including all forms of guarantees are within the overall

prescribed ceiling for overseas investment of the Indian party, i.e. currently within 200% of the net worth of the investing company (Indian party) and that no guarantee is "open ended" i.e. the amount of such guarantee should be specified upfront.

Guarantees issued by banks in India in favour of JVs/WOS outside India, would be subject to prudential norms issued by RBI from time to time.

**(iii) Overseas Direct Investment by proprietary/unregistered partnership firms:**

With a view to enabling recognized star exporters with a proven track record and a consistently high export performance to reap the benefits of globalization and liberalization, proprietary/unregistered partnership firms satisfying certain prescribed eligibility criteria were allowed to set up a JV/WOS outside India under the approval route.

**(iv) Acquisition of Foreign Securities by Resident Individuals under Employees Stock Option Scheme (ESOP):**

As a measure of rationalization, the Authorised Dealer banks may allow remittance for acquiring shares under ESOP Schemes, irrespective of the method of the operationalisation of the scheme either offered directly by the issuing company or indirectly through a trust/a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV)/step down subsidiary, provided (i) the company issuing the shares effectively, directly or indirectly holds in the Indian company, whose employees/directors are being offered shares, not less than 51 % of its equity, (ii) the shares under the ESOP Scheme are offered by the issuing company globally or uniform basis, and (iii) reporting requirements. Foreign companies are also granted general permission to repurchase the shares issued to residents in India under any ESOP scheme provided (i) the shares were issued in accordance with the Rules/Regulations framed under Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999, (ii) the shares are being repurchased in terms of the initial offer document and, (iii) reporting requirements.

(c) Reserve Bank of India in its Annual Policy Statement for the year 2006-07 has reflected its overall approach to inflation as under:-

"Barring the emergence of any adverse and unexpected developments in various sectors of the economy and keeping in view the current assessment of

the economy including the outlook for inflation, the overall stance of monetary policy at this juncture will be:-

- To ensure a monetary and interest rate environment that enables continuation of the growth momentum consistent with price stability while being in readiness to act in a timely and prompt manner on any signs of evolving circumstances impinging on inflation expectations.
- focus on credit quality and financial market conditions to support export and investment demand in the economy for maintaining macroeconomic, in particular, financial stability. !
- To respond swiftly to evolving global developments."

**Speedy Execution of Power Projects**

3222. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the funds allocated for power projects have been fully utilized during the last financial year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government for speedy execution of power projects during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) The Annual Plan allocation for Power Projects in the financial year 2005-06 was Rs. 17076.25 crore. Against the said provision, an amount of Rs. 11267.47 crore was utilized during the year.

(b) As funds provided for power projects are under Central Sector scheme, there is only project wise allocation and not State-wise. Hence it is not feasible to furnish State-wise fund allocation and their utilization.

(c) The reduced utilization is mainly due to lower investment by NHPC, NEEPCO, SJVNL and DVC on account of following reasons:-

**(i) NHPC (National Hydro Electric Power Corporation)**

- (A) Subansiri Lower - Due to delay in formal forest clearance the work could only be started w.e.f 01.01.2005 as against October, 2004 envisaged

earlier. Thereafter, resistance from the local persons has resulted in slow progress at Power House resulting in lower than anticipated expenditure.

- (B) Teesta Low Dam-IV, Uri-II and Parbati-III – Due to delay in investment approval, the expenditure was less than what was envisaged.
- (C) Siyom – Due to non-availability of required clearances, the investment decision is delayed.
- (D) Kishan Ganga – Due to change of design, the project approval could not take place.
- (ii) **NEEPCO (North Eastern Electric Power Corporation).**
- (A) Tripura Gas Based Power Project – Due to dropping of the scheme in the absence of firm gas linkage.
- (B) Kameng HEP – Due to slow progress of the project work.
- (iii) **SJVNL (Setluj Jal Vidyut Nigam Ltd.) – Due to non approval of Rampur HEP.**
- (iv) **DVC (Damodar Valley Corporation)**
- (A) Reduction in on-going scheme of Chandrapura Thermal Power Station units 7 and 8 and Mejia Thermal Power Station Extension units 5 and 6.
- (B) Reduction in new scheme.
- (C) Reduction in T and D scheme.
- (D) Reduction in R and M scheme.
- (d) Ministry of Power is taking suitable measures like intensive monitoring of all projects, inter-ministerial coordination, periodic visits to projects sites, etc. to ensure quicker clearance and speedy execution of the Power Projects during current financial year i.e 2006-07.

**Swarna Jayanti Shahari  
Rozgar Yojana**

3223. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that over Rs.300 crores released under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana during the year 2005-06 have not been fully utilised by various States and Union Territories;

(b) if so, the details of such States and Union Territories; and

(c) the main reasons for not utilising the fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c) Under the Scheme of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), the total Central allocation for 2005-06 was Rs.160.00 crore only. Out of this, Rs.158.88 Crore was released to the State Governments for the implementation of the scheme. As per the procedure prescribed by the Government, States/UTs have to furnish Utilization Certificates (UCs) for the grants released to them within 12 months from the end of the financial year in which the grant is released. Thus States/UTs have time till 31.3.2007 to utilize this amount released in 2005-06 and furnish the UCs for the same to the Central Government.

[Translation]

#### **Tax Free Zones**

3224. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of States having tax free zones in the country;

(b) whether there is an adverse effect on the entire country due to tax free zones in a State;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any study in this regard;

(d) if so, the conclusion of the study;

(e) if not, whether the Government proposes to conduct such study in the near future; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) There are 16 Special Economic Zones in 9 States of the country. Further, tax holiday is also available to new units set up in the North-Eastern States, Jammu

and Kashmir, Sikkim, Uttaranchal and Himachal Pradesh, subject to the provisions of sections 80IB and 80IC of the Income-tax Act.

(b) Some States have complained about the shifting of industries from their States to the States enjoying tax-free status under the Income-tax Act.

(c) to (f) Various expert committees have criticized the policy of providing area-based tax exemptions and deductions and have recommended that such exemptions should be discontinued.

[English]

**Status of Tipaimukh Hydro-electric Project**

3225. SHRI MANI CHARENAMEI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the status of Tipaimukh Multi-purpose Hydro-electric Project;

(b) whether the Ministry of Environment and Forests has given Environmental Clearance;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Public Investment Board (PIB) has given nod for sanctioned of Rs.6000 crore for the construction of this project; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (e) The Central Electricity Authority appraised the updated cost of Tipaimukh Hydro Electric Project (1500 MW) at December, 2004 Price Level but found the project tariff to be economically unviable. Ministry of Environment and Forests has given 1st and 2nd stage site clearances for the project. Environment Impact Assessment, Environment Management Plan and Relief and Rehabilitation Scheme has been formulated by North Eastern Electric Power Corporation. Public Investment Board (PIB) had recently considered the proposal and observed that the project is not viable, per se, but could be considered for support on larger socio-economic considerations. Therefore, the project has been recommended by PIB for investment approval subject to compliance mainly of the following observations:

- (i) Costs relating to flood moderation, diversion of National Highways and external security be agreed to be borne by the concerned administrative departments.
- (ii) The issue of high NPV cost addressed in consultation with the Ministry of Environment and Forests.
- (iii) Ministry of Power may persuade the State Governments of Mizoram and Manipur to reduce their share of free power from the project.
- (iv) Signing of PPAs for sale of power.

**National Mission for Energy Conservation**

3226. SHRI KIREN RIJJU: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to launch a National Mission for energy conservation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India launched the National Campaign on energy conservation on the 14th December, 2004 on the occasion of National Energy Conservation Day. National Campaign focused on the creation of public awareness, understanding the significance of energy conservation and to urge people of the country to be part of the energy conservation drive by optimizing the use of energy and making energy saving a habit.

The Campaign received an overwhelming response from more than 75 industrial and commercial units. A total of 207 activities were conducted in industrial, commercial, domestic, agricultural and educational institutions. Capacity Building on energy conservation of 2700 energy professionals was achieved, opportunity was provided to 8400 students to visit industries to make them aware about the energy conservation practices, 44 industrial units and hotels declared their energy policies bringing in the top management commitment on energy conservation related activities and programmes. About 3,43,000 students of 4th and 5th Standards participated in the Painting Competition on energy conservation conducted at school level, state level and national level.



Encouraged by the response received, the National Campaign is being continued in the year 2006.

(c) Does not arise.

**Power Crisis in Delhi**

3227. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY:

SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:

SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi is experiencing an acute shortage of power during the recent past;

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

(c) whether the Government has taken any measure to augment the power supply; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) The energy and peak shortage in Delhi during current year as well as for the last three years was as under:

Year	Energy Shortage (%)	Peak Shortage (%)
2006-07 (April, 06)	4.2	4.4
2005-06	1.5	3.3
2004-05	1.0	1.9
2003-04	1.4	3.0

(c) and (d) The following measures have been taken by the Government to augment power supply in Delhi:

- (i) Allocation of 1884 MW firm share from Central Generating Stations (CGSs) located in Northern Region.
- (ii) Allocation of 0 to 295 MW power from Unallocated quota in (CGSs) in different time slots.
- (iii) 0-33 MW allocation from unallocated quota of Rajasthan Atomic Power Plants Unit 3 & 4 in different time-slots.
- (iv) A target of 225.78 MW of capacity addition in Delhi (Pragati CCGT) was fixed during 10th Plan which has since been achieved in the year 2002-03. Further,

Delhi will have share in the Central Generating Stations under implementation as per its entitlement subject to signing of power purchase agreement.

- (v) Under the Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) launched by the Government of India for improvement of sub-transmission and distribution system, projects amounting to Rs.922.61 crores have been sanctioned and Rs.105.51 crores have been released to Delhi as on 31st March, 2006.

**Losses of PSBs**

3228. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH:

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to write off the entire accumulated losses of United Bank of India and Indian Bank;

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

(c) whether the Government received similar proposals from other public sector banks; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) With a view to strengthen their balance sheets, facilitate their adopting Basel II prescriptions, meet their future capital requirements through Initial Public Offer, instill confidence among investors for investing in their shares and to enable them to expand their business, Government has decided to net off the entire accumulated losses of Indian Bank and United Bank of India against their equity capital.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

**Bids for Coal Based Power Plant  
in Chhattisgarh**

3229. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the bids have been invited by the Union Government for 400 MW coal based power plant in Chhattisgarh;

(b) if so, the proposed location at which it is likely to be installed;

(c) the total land and water required for this project;

(d) the number of persons are likely to be employed in this project; and

(e) the quantum of power likely to be generated and to be provided to the State?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

#### **Constitution of District Power Committees**

3230. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO:

SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to constitute District Power Committees in all the States of the country for effective monitoring of the power distribution;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to constitute such Committees in all the States;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the criteria adopted for nominating Members of the said Committees;

(e) whether the Government proposes to assign this work to the private sector by dissolving the State Electricity Boards;

(f) if so, the details thereof along with the response of the Government thereto; and

(g) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (d) As per the provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003, a Committee is required to be constituted in each district to:

a) coordinate and review the extension of electrification in each district;

b) review the quality of power supply and consumer satisfaction;

c) promote energy efficiency and its conservation.

These Committees are required to be constituted by State Governments. The Act does not lay down any criteria about the membership of the Committee.

The States in which District Level Committees are reported to have been set up are indicated in the enclosed Statement.

(e) No Sir.

(f) and (g) Do not arise.

#### **Statement**

#### *States which have constituted District Power Committees.*

Sl. No.	State	District Committee formed/ notification issued with date
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5.3.2005
2.	Assam	29.11.2004/11.4.2005
3.	Bihar	6.7.2004
4.	Chhattisgarh	10.3.2004/21.4.2004
5.	Gujarat	2.12.2004/13.7.2005
6.	Haryana	1.9.2005
7.	Himachal Pradesh	23.6.2005
8.	J&K	2.2.2006
9.	Jharkhand	16.2.2006
10.	Karnataka	27.12.2005
11.	Kerala	27.10.2004
12.	Maharashtra	26.7.2005
13.	Manipur	15.11.2005

1	2	3
14.	Meghalaya	14.10.2004
15.	Mizoram	12.1.2006
16.	Madhya Pradesh	30.8.2005
17.	Nagaland	29.4.2005
18.	Orissa	20.9.2004
19.	Rajasthan	29.1.2004
20.	Uttar Pradesh	25.5.2004
21.	Uttaranchal	10.9.2004
22.	West Bengal	5.9.2005

[English]

#### **Demand for Insurance Products**

3231. SHRI G.V. HARSHA KUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is good demand for insurance products in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is collaborating with any foreign company in bringing insurance products; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Use of information technology and advent of new companies have considerably increased awareness of insurance and choice of insurance products amongst general public.

(c) No, Sir. However, Government has permitted foreign equity into Indian insurance companies upto 26%.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### **Micro Technology**

3232. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is contemplating to set up a fund to introduce in the market the technology of inventors engaged in inventing micro-technology;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has made arrangements for the fund proposed to be set up in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) No, Sir. Ministry of Science and Technology has not contemplated to set up any fund to introduce in the market the technology of inventors engaged in inventing micro-technology.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

#### **Demands of Grameen Banks**

3233. SHRI M. SHIVANNA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the representatives of Grameen Banks from all over India had come to Delhi to impress upon the Union Government about their long pending demands including pensionary benefits; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) Notices dated 22.2.06 and 17.3.06 were received from the United Forum of RRB Employees Unions for an agitational programme from 5.4.2006 and 16.5.2006 including central dharna before Parliament on 5.4.2006 and march to Parliament on 16.5.2006. A notice dated 14.3.2006 was also received from the All India RRB Employees Association for an agitational programme from 31.3.2006 including national strike on the 19th May, 2006.

(b) The demands are mainly related to parity of "other allowances" and superannuation benefits, merger/amalgamation of RRBs with sponsor banks, filling up

vacant posts and creation of Negotiating Forum at the Apex level, withdrawal of all deputed officers except Chairman of RRBs from RRBs.

A National Industrial Tribunal (NIT) was constituted with Justice S. Obul Reddy, retired Chief Justice of High Court of Andhra Pradesh as its Chairman to decide the questions relating to pay, salary, other allowances and other benefits payable to the employees of the RRBs. The recommendations of the NIT submitted on 30.4.1990 were considered by an Equation Committee and as recommended by the Committee, these were accepted by the Government of India. Accordingly the employees of RRBs have been granted parity in pay and allowances with the corresponding categories of employees of sponsor banks and the pensionary benefits as admissible under Employees Provident Fund and Misc. Provisions Act, 1952. The "other allowances" are required to be decided by the sponsor banks in consultation with RRBs. The other demands relating to merger/amalgamation of RRBs with the sponsor bank have not been found possible to agree as there is no such provision in RRB Act, 1976. The Officers and Chairmen of RRBs are deputed from the sponsor banks as per the provisions of RRB Act, 1976. The RRBs have been permitted to fill up the remaining vacant posts keeping in view the business potential of the RRBs and suitability of the staff available for redeployment. The formation of a negotiating forum at the Apex level has not been considered as the area of operation of each RRB is confined to a few districts only in the State and the RRBs are sponsored by as many as 27 Banks and promoted by Central and State Governments.

[Translation]

#### Slum Population

3234. SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU:

Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the size of the slum population in the largest cities of Maharashtra and in other States of the country; and

(b) the special schemes being planned to resettle slum dwellers and improve sanitation facilities in slum areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Slum population in Metro and million plus cities in the country including three cities in Maharashtra is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) For integrated development of slums through projects for providing shelter, basic services and other civic amenities with a view to provide utilities to the urban poor in select 63 cities a Sub-Mission on Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP) has been launched on 3rd December, 2005. In the remaining cities/towns an Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP) has also been launched on 3rd December 2005.

#### Statement

##### Slum Population of Metropolitan and Million Plus Cities

Sl.No.	Name of the City/Town/UA	Slum population (lakhs)
1	2	3
<b>Metropolitan Cities</b>		
1.	Delhi	1,891,673
2.	Mumbai	6,861,365
3.	Ahmedabad	473,662
4.	Bangalore	430,501
5.	Chennai	819,873
6.	Kolkata	1,603,595
7.	Hyderabad	626,849
<b>Million Plus Cities</b>		
1.	Patna	3,592
2.	Faridabad	490,981
3.	Bhopal	125,720
4.	Ludhiana	314,904
5.	Jaipur	368,570
6.	Madurai	221,338
7.	Lucknow	180,479
8.	Nashik	138,797
9.	Pune	616,136
10.	Cochin	7,897

1	2	3
11.	Varanasi	137,977
12.	Agra	121,761
13.	Amritsar	229,603
14.	Visakhapatnam	170,265
15.	Vadodara	186,020
16.	Surat	508,485
17.	Kanpur	367,980
18.	Nagpur	737,219
19.	Coimbatore	58,406
20.	Meerut	471,581
21.	Jabalpur	282,353
22.	Jamshedpur	59,314
23.	Asansol	158,324
24.	Allahabad	126,646
25.	Vijayawada	263,393
26.	Rajkot	166,030
27.	Dhanbad	5,526
28.	Indore	260,975

*[English]*

**Financial Crisis in Ghatghar Electric Project in Maharashtra**

3235. SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ghatghar Electric Project in Maharashtra is facing financial crisis;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the work of project has also come to a halt; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the future strategy of Government to save the project?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) and (d) Due to land slide on 28.06.2005, the underground power house of the project was flooded thereby affecting the electro-mechanical equipments already installed as erection works were in advanced stage. Muddy water and slush has been removed and restoration works for the equipments are in progress. The units are now planned for commissioning by March, 2007.

**Modernisation of Government Press**

3236. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to modernize the various Government of India Presses;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the modernisation is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India has decided to modernize following Government of India Presses at a cost of Rs.24.13 crore:

1. Government of India Press, Minto Road, New Delhi
2. Government of India Press, Ring Road, New Delhi
3. Government of India Press, Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi.
4. Government of India Press, Faridabad.
5. Government of India Press, Nilokheri.

\* Source: Slum population, Series-1 Census of India, 2001

Note:

1.	The figures of Mumbai consist of	
	Mumbai (M.C.)	- 6475440
	Thane (M.C.)	- 351065
	Kalyan-Dombivili (M.C.)	- 34860
2.	Kolkata consist of	
	Calcutta (M.C.)	- 1485309
	Haora	- 118286
3.	Pune consist of	
	Pune (M.C.)	- 492179
	Pimpri-Chinchwad (M.C.)	- 123957
4.	Delhi consists of	
	DMC area	- 1851231
	NDCM area	- 40442
5.	Lucknow consist of	
	Lucknow Municipal Corporation	- 179176
	Lucknow Cantt. Board	- 1303
6.	Jabalpur consist of	
	Jabalpur Municipal Corp.	- 275662
	Jabalpur Cantt. Board	- 6691

6. Government of India Press, Aligarh.
7. Government of India Press, Nashik.
8. Government of India Press, Coimbatore.
9. Government of India Press, Koratty
10. Government of India Press, Santragachi, Howrah.
11. Government of India Press, Temple Street, Kolkata.
12. Government of India Press, Shimla (to be converted into a Production-cum-Training Centre).

(c) The process of modernization involves a number of steps viz, procurement of machinery, imparting training to the staff and execution of civil and electrical works. Civil and electrical works have already been completed. Procurement of machine is under progress. Restructuring of staff, their training and redeployment will start after approval of staff strength by Ministry of Finance. The modernization is likely to be completed by 31st December, 2006.

#### Refinance by NABARD

3237. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the commercial banks in the country have requested National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development to increase the refinance to those banks;

(b) if so, the amount of refinance made to each commercial banks during last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether NABARD has made any increase in the refinance to the banks during 2005-06 and proposed to increase during 2006-07; and

(d) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) Yes, Sir. During the financial year 2005-06, there was a greater demand for refinance from commercial banks from NABARD than the previous years.

(b) The details of refinance disbursed to commercial banks during the last three years are given in the enclosed Statement-I. State-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(c) and (d) NABARD has disbursed refinance amounting to Rs. 4027.44 crore to commercial banks in 2005-06 as compared to Rs. 2569.57 crore in 2004-05 and Rs. 1713.60 crore in 2003-04 which indicate that refinance flow to commercial banks has increased significantly during 2005-06. The aggregate State-wise allocation of refinance for commercial banks for 2006-07

is fixed at Rs. 2230 crore. The details of refinance allocations to the banks for the years 2006-07 (State-wise) are given in the enclosed Statement-III.

#### Statement-I

#### Refinance avaiement by Commercial Banks

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the Bank	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Allahabad Bank		0.00	0.00
2.	Andhra Bank	123.27	213.02	65.87
3.	Bank of Baroda		230.78	133.14
4.	Bank of India		177.44	353.50
5.	Bank of Maharashtra	0.86	180.03	16.59
6.	Bank of Punjab Ltd.	9.50	0.00	0.00
7.	Bank of Rajasthan Ltd.	5.18	3.51	0.00
8.	Canara Bank		0.00	0.00
9.	Central Bank of India	1.90	108.35	1.09
10.	Corporation Bank	0.97	22.22	10.58
11.	Dena Bank	3.52	0.00	0.00
12.	Indian Bank	2.52	180.32	283.46
13.	Indian Overseas Bank		88.58	0.43
14.	Nainital Bank Ltd.		0.00	8.06
15.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	0.54	71.19	10.44
16.	Punjab National Bank		516.03	71.34
17.	Punjab & Sind Bank		0.00	0.00
18.	State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur		0.00	0.00
19.	State Bank of Hyderabad		0.00	0.00
20.	State Bank of India		0.00	2002.58
21.	State Bank of Indore	10.00	27.67	0.00

1	2	3	4	5
22.	State Bank of Mysore		0.00	45.55
23.	State Bank of Patiala	2.27	23.90	216.54
24.	State Bank of Saurashtra		0.00	0.00
25.	State Bank of Travancore		0.00	21.11
26.	Syndicate Bank		0.00	0.00
27.	Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Ltd.	1.16	2.07	3.36
28.	The Catholic Syrian Bank Ltd.	0.14	0.00	0.00
29.	The City Union Bank Ltd.		0.00	0.00
30.	The Dhanalakshmi Bank Ltd.		0.50	0.00
31.	The Federal Bank Ltd.		0.00	0.00
32.	The ICICI Bank Ltd.	1539.00	362.66	199.87
33.	The Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd.	5.00	17.32	6.63
34.	The Karnataka Bank Ltd.	4.62	12.42	4.91
35.	The Karur Vysya Bank Ltd.	0.35	0.00	3.32
36.	The Laxmi Vilas Bank Ltd.		1.39	0.00
37.	The Lord Krishna Bank Ltd.		0.00	0.00
38.	The Ratnakar Bank Ltd.	0.15	0.63	0.00
39.	The South Indian Bank Ltd.		0.00	0.00
40.	The United Western Bank Ltd.	3.63	20.56	0.80
41.	UCO Bank		16.93	59.00
42.	Union Bank of India		273.89	14.71
43.	United Bank of India		13.83	34.92
44.	UTI Bank Ltd.		0.00	0.00
45.	Vijaya Bank		0.50	0.00
46.	ING Vysya Bank Ltd.		7.78	11.68
47.	Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd.			89.41
<b>Total</b>		<b>1713.60</b>	<b>2569.57</b>	<b>4027.44</b>

**Statement-II****State-wise Refinance Disbursement to Commercial Banks**

(Rs lakh)			
State/UT	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4
Chandigarh	741.89	394.894	13.758
Delhi	0	21.303	113.07
Haryana	4658.154	8727.54	29257
Himachal Pradesh	0	1913.117	4202.142
J&K	500	1731.93	684.588
Punjab	4884.506	9161.648	30135.72
Rajasthan	11015.28	10799.41	12568.65
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0
Assam	0	2572.66	3698.038
Manipur	0	168.562	139.306
Meghalaya	0	184.454	127.565
Mizoram	0	0	238.52
Nagaland	25.345	148.192	135.9765
Tripura	0	243.716	1003.793
Sikkim	0	880.49	871.601
Bihar	17402	8876.388	7824.003
Jharkhand	3914.807	3339.503	4394.269
Orissa	2168.665	3106.749	2222.818
W. Bengal	6381.579	5335.296	22512.4
A&N Islands	0	0	38.04
M.P.	7627.298	14745.44	28242.18
Chhattisgarh	984.367	2214.243	16529.01
U.P.	17365.17	69146.52	86718.7
Uttaranchal	1443.23	982.546	1250.845
D&N Haveli	0	0	0
Gujarat	16148.66	17752.14	12537.3
Goa, Daman & Diu	1092.303	726.894	1389.441
Maharashtra	22252.79	31100.77	46654.28

1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	22957.77	36086.19	30087.22
Karnataka	13101.24	6563.507	22753.58
Lakshadweep	0	0	11.52
Kerala	2739.168	2988.103	1855.447
Pondicherry	772.211	252.36	1624.287
Tamil Nadu	30568.51	16792.02	32938.97
<b>Total</b>	<b>171360.3</b>	<b>256956.6</b>	<b>402774</b>

\* includes soft loan assistance of Rs. 30 lakh disbursed in the states of New Delhi – Rs. 20 lakh, Karnataka – Rs. 5 lakh, Maharashtra – Rs. 4 lakh, Assam – Rs 1 lakh

### Statement-III

#### *Refinance/Co-Finance – State-Wise Allocation for 2006-07*

State / UT	CBs
1	2
Chandigarh	1.00
Delhi	2.00
Haryana	55.00
Himachal Pradesh	3.00
J&K	5.00
Punjab	50.00
Rajasthan	60.00
Arunachal Pradesh	1.00
Assam	33.00
Manipur	3.00
Meghalaya	1.50
Mizoram	1.00
Nagaland	0.50
Tripura	3.00
Sikkim	2.50
Bihar	60.00
Jharkhand	40.00
Orissa	30.00
W. Bengal	90.00
A&N. Islands	1.00
M.P.	135.00

1	2
Chhattisgarh	20.00
Uttar Pradesh	400.00
Uttaranchal	6.00
D&N Haveli	1.00
Gujarat	220.00
Goa	5.00
Maharashtra	300.00
Andhra Pradesh	240.00
Karnataka	65.00
Lakshadweep	0.50
Kerala	35.00
Pondicherry	10.00
Tamil Nadu	350.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>2230.00</b>
<b>Co-Financing</b>	<b>75.00</b>

### Loan from World Bank

3238. SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount borrowed by the Government as loan from World Bank, IMF and other foreign financial institutions during the last three years and the purposes for which it has been borrowed;

(b) the such details, State-wise;

(c) the States which has obtained such loans ranking highest than other States; and

(d) the details of conditions that were accepted to get such loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (c) State wise details of the foreign loan authorized by various foreign financial institutions during the last three years are given in the enclosed Statement-I. The foreign loans have been obtained for financing projects in various sectors such as road and transport, water supply, environment & forestry, water resource management, health, education and power sector.

(d) Details of the terms and conditions for obtaining foreign loans are given in the enclosed Statement II.



## Statement-I

States	(Figures in Rs. Crores)																		Total foreign loan authorised by Foreign I institutions during last year	Rank
	IBRD		IDA		IFAD		ADB		Italy		Japan									
	2003-04	2004-05	2003-04	2004-05	2003-04	2004-05	2003-04	2004-05	2003-04	2004-05	2003-04	2004-05								
Andhra Pradesh	505.40	1250.70										193.90					1950.00	5		
Assam			702.84				1148.63	673.46	0.00								2524.93	3		
Chhattisgarh			539.96					808.15	204.00								1552.10	6		
Haryana												255.12					255.12	13		
Jammu & Kashmir												1122.43					1122.43	8		
Jharkhand																	2.31	16		
Karnataka	179.59		2.31													2392.45	2572.04	2		
Madhya Pradesh	1769.04																812.64	1		
Maharashtra																	846.06	11		
Meghalaya																	79.79	14		
Orissa	381.63									105.43							928.10	10		
Punjab	8.98																8.98	15		
Rajasthan																	1252.35	7		
Tamil Nadu	1598.89																2504.17	4		
Uttaranchal																	317.28	12		
West Bengal																	1096.91	9		
Multistate																	1979.16			
Central Government	1102.69	450.32	2743.11	651.63	3934.58	8.85	1470.25	3203.86				2408.83	1671.65				17645.76			
Total	3206.98	2789.55	2743.11	3288.34	8043.41	8.85	2618.88	8416.43	204.00	0.00	0.00	139.08	4513.88	4957.95	0.00		39219.17			

## Statement-II

Sl.No.	Source	Currency	Type of Loan (Conc./Mixed)	Grace Period (Years)	Period of Repayment after Grace period (Year)	Current Rate of Interest (in %)	Commitment Charges on undisbursed loan amount (in%)	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	I.B.R.D.	US Dollar	Semi Concessional	5	15	Variable*	0.75	<p>*(i) Interest-Variable every 6 months.</p> <p><b>US \$ Floating Rate Single Currency Loans</b></p> <p>Interest rate is determined based on 6 months LIBOR rate plus a variable spread. The rate applicable for interest payment date beginning 15.07.2005 to 14.01.2006 is as follows (as on 1.5.2006, it is 5.25%.</p> <p>Where negotiation was issued prior to 31.07.1998 3.99% p.a. (with a spread of 21 basis points).</p> <p>Where negotiation was issued on or after 31-07-1998 4.24% p.a. (with a spread of 44 basis points).</p> <p>(iv) Interest Waiver for Promot Payment - As notified by Bank, the waiver applicable for 2005 is as under:</p> <p>Loans for which invitation to negotiation was issued prior to 31-07-98 0.05%</p> <p>Loans for which invitation to negotiation was issued after 31-07-98 0.25%</p> <p>(ii) Commitment Charges payable on the undisbursed loan amount at 0.75%. Bank have been notifying waiver of 0.50% since July, 91.</p> <p>(iii) Front End Fee - 1% (one time payment) reduced to 0.50% for approvals after 1.7.2004 of the loan amount is payable in respect of loans negotiated after 1.7.1998.</p>

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2	I.D.A.	S.D.R.	Concessional	10	25	0.75	0.35	(i) In respect of credits finalised till July 1988, the repayment period was 50 years including a grace period of 10 years. IDA credits presently enjoy a grace period of 10 years with a repayment period of 25 years
								(ii) Commitment charge is payable at 0.35% w.e.f. 1/1/05
								(iii) 0.75% shown under Interest Column is termed as Service Charge.
3	I.F.A.D.	S.D.R.	Concessional	10	40	0.75	-	The payment of 0.75% shown under Interest Column is termed as Service Charge.
4	A.D.B.	US Dollar	Semi Concessional	3 to 5	12 to 20	Variable*	0.75	* Interest - Variable every six months. The interest rate is determined on LIBOR + 0.40% based average cost of borrowings in their respective currencies which is 5.25% as on 1/5/2006
								Commitment Charge - 0.75% on undischursed loan amounts. However, the undischursed amount is reckoned on a graded basis in respect of project loans. For programme loans it is on the entire loan amount.
5	O.P.E.C.	US Dollar	Concessional	5	12	3		
<b>Bilateral</b>								
1	EEC(SAC)	UK Pounds	Concessional	10	40	0.75		
2	France	EUR	Mixed	5	17	2.8		
3	Germany	EUR	Govt. Portion	10	30	0.75	0.25	
4	Germany	EUR	Bank Portion	2	10	5.07 to 6.79	0.25	Interest is charged at a fixed rate indicated in each long agreement.
5	Japan	Yen	Concessional	10	30	1.3		
6	Russian Fed.	US\$	Concessional	6	14	4		
7	Switzerland	S.Fr.	Export Credit	3	8.5	Variable		Interest payable is 0.5% over the Swiss Export Base Rate plus an annualized Export Risk Guarantee. The interest payable ranges between 4% to 8.38% linked to the period of utilization.
8	U.S.A	US Dollars	Concessional	10	30	2.5		

**MRTP Commission**

3239. SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID: Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission (MRTPC) have examined the mega deals of two private airlines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there have been violations of the provision of MRTPE Act including "abuse of monopoly" by these private airlines; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government against the two airlines?

THE MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA): (a) to (d) A representation received on the buyout of Sahara Airlines by Jet Airways (India) Limited has been referred to Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices (MRTP) Commission. The Commission has informed that it has referred the same to Director General Investigation and Registration) with a direction to submit a Preliminary Investigation Report (PIR). The said Report is yet to be received.

**PFRDA**

3240. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a legislative framework providing, inter-alia, for a statutory regulator with adequate powers for regulation of intermediaries and protection of the interests of subscribers of the New Pension System has been in place;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (c) The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority Bill, 2005 was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 21st March, 2005. The Bill seeks to provide for the establishment of an Authority to promote old age income security by establishing, developing and regulating pension funds, to protect the interests of subscribers to schemes of pension funds and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. The legislation will apply to the New Pension

System (NPS) which was notified by Government on 22nd December, 2003 and is mandatory for all new recruits to central government service from 1st January, 2004 (except armed forces in the first stage). Official amendments to the Bill, based on the recommendations of the Standing Committee on Finance, which examined the Bill, are under the Government's consideration.

**Increase in Minimum Temperature**

3241. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that minimum temperatures in the country is increasing more rapidly than the maximum temperatures;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) No, Sir. The average minimum temperature for the country as a whole, has not increased more rapidly than the average maximum temperature. The rate of increase of minimum temperatures over the entire period of last century averaged for the whole country is 0.2 °C / 100 years whereas for the maximum temperatures it is 0.7 °C/ 100 years for the same period.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**Credit Guarantee Scheme**

3242. SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY: SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has announced a specific credit guarantee scheme under the Deposit Insurance and Credit. Guarantee Act for farmers in strife; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) In the Annual Policy Statement on 18th April, 2006, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced its proposal to set up a working group to suggest measures for assisting distressed farmers, including counselling services and introduction of specific credit guarantee scheme under

the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Act for such farmers.

[Translation]

#### **Outlay for Rural Electrification Corporation**

3243. SHRI TEK LAL MAHTO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the total outlay for Rural Electrification Corporation during the years 2005-06 and 2006-07 separately;

(b) whether there is any deduction in the outlay of current year in comparison to last years;

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

(d) whether there is any effect on the State of Jharkhand by this deduction; and

(e) if so, the action taken/likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) Budgetary support is not provided to Rural Electrification Corporation for its activities. Hence there is no outlay provided for REC.

(b) to (e) Questions do not arise.

[English]

#### **Infrastructure Investment vis-a-vis GDP**

3244. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total investment in infrastructure in India, as a proportion of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), in the year 2004-2005, 2005-2006, Public and Private investment each separately; and

(b) the manner in which India's public investment in infrastructure as a share of GDP compare with that of other developing countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Gross capital formation (GCF) in infrastructure, comprising of electricity, gas and water supply; transport, storage and communications, as a proportion of GDP at current prices,

was 5.6 per cent during 2004-05. GCF in infrastructure, as a proportion of GDP, by the public sector and private sector was 2.4 per cent and 3.2 per cent, respectively. Information on GCF for the year 2005-06 has not yet been compiled. While comparable disaggregated information on infrastructure in respect of other developing countries is not available, it is seen that the rates of investment in India are lower as compared with China and some Asian countries.

#### **Unclaimed Funds in UTI**

3245. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are huge funds which remains unclaimed in the Unit Trust of India Mutual Funds and other financial bodies after the death of the investor;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any action has been taken to restore the funds to the dependents of the deceased;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (e) In the Unit Trust of India Mutual Fund (UTI MF) and Specified Undertaking of Unit Trust of India (SUUTI), death claims are settled within 5 to 10 days from the date of receipt of the claim. Regarding banks, Committee on Procedure and Performance Audit on Public Service (CPPAPS) constituted by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) observed that the tortuous procedures, particularly those applicable to the family of a deceased depositor, caused considerable distress to such family members. In the light of the recommendations of the CPPAPS, RBI have issued instructions on 9th June, 2005 to banks for compliance which include access to balance in deposit accounts, premature termination of term deposit accounts, treatment of flows in the name of deceased depositor, access to the safe deposit lockers/safe custody articles, time limit for settlement of claims customers guidance and publicist etc.

#### **Inspection of Companies**

3246. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:

SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU:

Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of companies registered with Registrar of Companies and the details of new companies registered during the last two years, State-wise;

(b) the number of companies inspected during each of the last three years;

(c) the instances/cases of irregularities/misappropriation of funds etc. noticed during inspection and the action taken thereon;

(d) the criteria laid down for selecting company for inspection;

(e) whether there is any proposal to laid down the policy for the same; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA): (a) As per the available compiled data, the number of companies registered with Registrar of Companies is as under:-

(1) As on 31.3.2004	6,41,512
(2) As on 31.3.2005	6,79,649

The details of new companies registered during the last two years, for which State-wise data is available, is given in the enclosed Statement-I and II respectively.

(b) The number of inspections of companies conducted during each of the last three years is as under:

2003-2004	109
2004-2005	197
2005-2006	253

(c) During the course of inspections under section 209A of the Companies Act, 1956, violations of various provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 and financial irregularities, which come to notice, are pointed out and legal action is taken against the concerned companies and their directors and officers, as the case may be, in the competent courts as per laid-down procedure.

(d) Inspection of a company under section 209A of the Companies Act, 1956 is a statutory power that may be invoked and exercised depending upon the circumstances of the case. However, inspection under section 209A of the Companies Act are generally ordered on the basis of the following broad criteria:-

(i) Complaints received in the Ministry of Company Affairs or its field offices about mismanagement in respect of maintenance of books of accounts as prescribed under section 209 of the Companies Act, delay in transfer of shares/debentures, delay in payment of dividend, non-payment of deposits or interest thereon etc.;

(ii) Violations/irregularities noticed on scrutiny of documents including Auditor's qualification remarks on the Balance Sheets filed in the office of Registrar of Companies;

(iii) Reference received from other Government Departments/Agencies pointing out violations of the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 or other irregularities.

(e) and (f) There is no proposal for any specific policy on inspections of companies as it is not felt desirable to limit or confine the scope of inspections carried in exercise of statutory powers.

#### **Statement-I**

#### **Registration of New Companies: Region/State-wise Distribution 2003-2004.**

Region/State	No. of Companies		
	Public	Private	Total
1	2	3	4
<b>Northern Region</b>			
Haryana	23	236	259
Himachal Pradesh	17	117	134
Jammu & Kashmir	3	104	107
Punjab	44	521	565
Rajasthan	25	922	947
Uttar Pradesh	65	1,036	1101
Chandigarh	22	354	376
Delhi	216	5,620	5836
<b>Total</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>8,910</b>	<b>9325</b>
<b>Eastern Region</b>			
Assam	24	195	219
Bihar	16	515	531
Manipur	2	2	4

1	2	3	4
Meghalaya	7	50	57
Nagaland	0	5	5
Orissa	24	429	453
Tripura	1	5	6
West Bengal	130	2,090	2220
Arunachal Pradesh	0	12	12
Mizoram	0	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>3,304</b>	<b>3,508</b>

**Western Region**

Gujarat	75	1,602	1677
Madhya Pradesh	44	762	806
Maharashtra	199	6,536	6735
Dadra & N Haveli	0	9	9
Goa	14	201	215
Daman & Diu	2	11	13
Lakshadweep	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>9,121</b>	<b>9,455</b>

**Southern Region**

Andhra Pradesh	102	2,116	2218
Karnataka	36	1,781	1817
Kerala	36	911	947
Tamil Nadu	103	2,632	2735
Pondicherry	3	68	71
<b>Total</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>7,508</b>	<b>7788</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,233</b>	<b>28,843</b>	<b>30076</b>

**Statement***Registration of New Companies: Region/State-wise  
Distribution 2004-05*

Region/State	No. of Companies		
	Public	Private	Total
1	2	3	4
<b>Northern Region</b>			
Haryana	16	286	302
Himachal Pradesh	8	108	116
Jammu & Kashmir	3	104	107

1	2	3	4
Punjab	45	657	702
Rajasthan	24	1,314	1338
Uttar Pradesh	82	1,171	1253
Chandigarh	14	372	386
Delhi	230	8,692	8922
<b>Total</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>12,704</b>	<b>13126</b>

**Eastern Region**

Assam	16	234	250
Bihar	11	582	593
Manipur	1	2	3
Meghalaya	5	27	32
Nagaland	1	7	8
Orissa	21	516	537
Tripura	1	10	11
West Bengal	163	4,141	4304
Arunachal Pradesh	0	8	8
Mizoram	0	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>5,528</b>	<b>5,747</b>

**Western Region**

Gujarat	76	1,794	1870
Madhya Pradesh	40	928	968
Maharashtra	262	7,842	8104
Dadra & N Haveli	0	3	3
Goa	7	489	496
Daman & Diu	1	8	9
Lakshadweep	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>11,064</b>	<b>11,450</b>

**Southern Region**

Andhra Pradesh	125	2,665	2790
Karnataka	54	2,166	2220
Kerala	35	1,037	1072
Tamil Nadu	149	3,421	3570
Pondicherry	3	81	84
<b>Total</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>9,370</b>	<b>9736</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,393</b>	<b>38,666</b>	<b>40059</b>

[Translation]

**Legal Assistance to Poor People**

3247. KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons to whom free legal aid has been provided during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details of existing income limit fixed by the Government for providing legal assistance to the poor;

(c) whether the Government proposes to increase the income limit for free legal assistance;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which it is likely to be increased?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) The requisite information is being collected from all State Legal Services Authorities in the country. The information will be laid on the Table of the House as and when the same is received.

(b) Limitation as to the income does not apply in the case of persons belonging to weaker sections, such as, a member of scheduled caste or scheduled tribe, a victim of trafficking in human beings or begar as referred to in Article 23 of the Constitution, a woman or a child, a mentally ill or otherwise disabled person, an industrial workman etc. As regards other persons, initially every person whose annual income was not exceeding Rs.9,000/- had been eligible for free legal aid in cases coming before High Courts and Courts subordinate thereto. In cases before the Supreme Court, the limit was fixed at Rs.12,000/-. At the fourth Annual Meet of the State Legal Services Authorities held under the aegis of the NALSA on 29th February 2004 and 1st March 2004 at Kolkata, it was resolved to raise the income ceiling in terms of section 12(h) of the said Act, from Rs.25,000/- to Rs. 50,000/- per annum in respect of cases before High Courts and Courts subordinate thereto. The income ceiling limit has been raised by the Central Government to Rs.50,000/- in respect of cases before the Supreme Court.

(c) to (e) No such proposal as of now.

[English]

**Power Pool System**

3248. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up power pool system in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the benefits likely to be derived from this system; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (d) There is no specific proposal at present to set up Power Pool System in the country. However, an initiative has been taken to examine various issues related to feasibility of wholesale power exchange at National level in India and to develop a Detailed Project Report for the same.

**Selling of NTPC Plants**

3249. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to sell National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) plants;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the benefits likely to be accrued by the sale of these plants; and

(d) the details of the NTPC plants sold to private firms during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) No, Sir.

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

**Sanjha Swachhata Abhiyan**

3250. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has launched Sanjha Swachhata Abhiyan;

(b) if so, the details and the salient features of the scheme;

(c) the amount allocated/released to various State Governments under the Scheme; and



(d) the steps taken by the Government for the timely completion of works undertaken thereunder?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (d) Sanjha Swachhata Abhiyan, a Community Toilets and Sanitation programme of Housing & Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) for funding of construction of Community Toilets and Sanitation facilities for the benefit of floating population and the public in general was launched on 30.1.2006. The scheme is for construction of community toilets in Schools, Institutes, Hospitals, Bus Stands, Railway Stations/busy market places, slums etc. in urban areas. Under the scheme, HUDCO will provide 50% subsidy upto Rs.20,000/-, out of the ceiling cost of Rs.40,000 per WC/Bath. The matching share has to be borne by the implementing agency from its own sources or from MPLAD/MLALAD funds, etc. Subsidy from HUDCO would be released only after implementing agency invests its own share for WC/Bath in the project. In case, the gross cost per WC/Bath exceeds Rs.40,000/-, then HUDCO can finance the balance project cost as loan to the agency under HUDCO's infrastructure guidelines and 'Action Plan' Scheme terms of financing. HUDCO will give subsidy upto Rs. 50 lakhs per district under the scheme.

A sum of Rs.47.20 lacs as subsidy and Rs.39.16 lacs as loan has been sanctioned so far by HUDCO. However, no funds have been released so far.

#### **Corporate Governance**

3251. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY: Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian corporates are not adhering to internationally accepted corporate governance norms;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the action taken against such erring corporates; and
- (d) the steps being taken by the Government to improve the situation further?

THE MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA): (a) The Indian corporates are required to adhere to the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 and other relevant laws. In addition, certain leading

corporates are also taking initiative to adopt and practice internationally accepted corporate governance norms.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) Practice of corporate governance norms flow both through the legal framework and voluntary initiatives by the corporates. The Ministry has set up the National Foundation for Corporate Governance, to work on creation of a business environment that promotes and encourages adoption of good corporate governance norms, on voluntary basis.

#### **Raising Interest Rate**

3252. SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPIPARAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the business expectations index of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for April-June, 2006 declined by 4.1 per cent over the previous quarter ended March 31, 2006;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether RBI have any move to raise interest rates as a result thereof; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the Business Expectation Index for April-June 2006 has declined by 4.1 per cent over the previous quarter ended March, 2006. The main reasons for decline is that the optimism level for five parameters viz., Overall Business Situation, Production, Order Books, Capacity Utilization and Profit Margin which were used in index calculation, declined over the previous quarter level.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Keeping in view the current macroeconomic and overall monetary conditions, RBI in its Annual Policy Statement for the year 2006-07 announced on April 18, 2006, considered it desirable to keep the Reverse Repo rate, Repo rate and Bank Rate unchanged at 5.5 per cent, 6.5 per cent and 6 per cent, respectively.

#### **Development of Government Land**

3253. SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to formulate any policy regarding development of land belonging to different departments of Government of India to prevent haphazard development of Government land; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, city-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) Yes, Sir. It has been decided to evolve a uniform policy/guidelines for management of land, with a common set of transparent and remunerative procedures which would be made applicable to all the land holding Central Ministries/Departments.

(b) City-wise details are not yet finalised.

[Translation]

#### Setting up of Thermal Power Station

3254. MOHD. MUKEEM: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted a survey to set up a thermal power station at Dohrighat in the Mau district of Uttar Pradesh;

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

(c) the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) No survey in the recent past has been conducted for setting up of thermal power station at Dohrighat in the Mau district of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

#### Meteorological Centre

3255. DR. P.P. KOYA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Meteorological centers functioning in the country State-wise and Union Territory-wise particularly in the Union Territory of Lakshadweep and since when;

(b) the staff strength of each of the above centres;

(c) whether these centers are located in far away

islands which are supposed to collect important scientific datas;

(d) whether periodical supervisory visits are made by officials of the Department;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether there is a proposal to upgrade any of the above centers to the next stage of operations; and

(g) whether there is a proposal to establish a District Meteorological Centre at Kavarati the Head Quarter of the Union Territory of Lakshadweep?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) There are 18 Meteorological Centres (MCs) functioning in most of the state capitals in our country but none in the Union Territory of Lakshadweep. Their date of establishment and the staff strength (sanctioned and actually posted) are given below:

Meteorological centres	Established in	Sanctioned strength	Actually posted
1	2	3	4

#### Regional Meteorological Centre (RMC), New Delhi.

Lucknow	1972	103	87
Jaipur	1972	73	70
Srinagar	1973	78	52
Chandigarh	1980	33	28
Dehradun	2002	17	13
Shimla	2002	09	05

#### RMC Nagpur

Bhopal	1976	80	59
Raipur	2002	30	23

#### RMC Guwahati

Itanagar	2006	11	04
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#### RMC Mumbai

Ahmedabad	1974	117	100
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#### RMC Kolkata

Bhubneshwar	1973	101	83
Patna	1974	89	66

1	2	3	4
Ranchi	2002	32	30
Agartala	2003	62	49
Gangtok	2003	12	08
<b>RMC Chennai</b>			
Bangalore	1972	112	93
Hyderabad	1972	102	95
Thiruvananthapuram	1972	110	84

(c) No Sir. These centers are located at state capitals of mainland. Apart from collection of various kinds of meteorological data, these centers cater to all the meteorological requirements of the state governments like weather forecasting and warning etc.

(d) and (e) Periodical inspection of observatories and comparison of meteorological instruments are carried out once in a year. Regular and periodical supervisory visits are also being made at all the Meteorological Centres.

(f) No Sir.

(g) Yes Sir, in due course of time.

#### **Parthasarthy Committee Report on Watershed Programmes**

3256. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Parthasarthy Committee set up to review the implementation of Centrally Sponsored Watershed Programmes has submitted its report to the Government as reported in The Hindu dated April 28, 2006;

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

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to implement these recommendations in toto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) to (c) The Parthasarthy Committee on Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP) and Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP) has submitted its report to the Ministry on

31.3.2006. The main recommendations of the Committee are given in the enclosed statement. The recommendations are being examined by the Ministry.

#### **Statement**

##### *Main Recommendations of Parthasarthy Committee*

- (i) An increased thrust to rainfed areas through greater emphasis on a reformed, more intensive and improved watershed development programme for meeting the food and water security in future.
- (ii) Increased investment in watershed programme and convergence with National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme.
- (iii) Setting up a National Authority for Sustainable Development of Rainfed Areas (NASDORA) as a quasi-independent authority to manage the entire primarily Central Government funded watershed programmes under one umbrella with a view to implementing them on a Mission Mode.
- (iv) In line institutional structures to NASDORA at State, district and block levels to ensure complete coordination in effective delivery of programme, and at village level, Watershed programme may be executed and implemented by the Village Watershed Committee (VWC) as a standing committee of the Gram Panchayat (GP).
- (v) The project period may be increased from 5 years to 8 years and divided into three phases - preparatory phase of 2-year, second phase of resource augmentation and institution building of 4 year, and the third phase of sustainable livelihoods and productivity enhancement of 2-years
- (vi) The per-year per-hectare norm of Rs.1500.
- (vii) A separate monitoring agency under NASDORA for social, physical and financial audit of the programme.
- (viii) Ensuring social and economic equity and benefits from public land to landless and dalits, having them organized in Self Help Groups (SHGs) and federations for effective marketing of produce.
- (ix) Clear prioritisation of objectives - drinking water and protective irrigation, along with fodder and fuel must come first.
- (x) A package of sustainable dryland agriculture practices

must be mandatorily incorporated into the watershed programme for reducing demand and regulating end-uses.

- (xi) Livestock management, animal husbandry, dairying fisheries and other land based activities must be integrated in watershed development programmes.

#### **Vigyan Rail**

3257. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to send Science Exhibition-on-Wheels, the Vigyan Rail to Pakistan;
- (b) if so, the salient features thereof;
- (c) whether it is also proposed to hold science dialogue between the two countries; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The details of the exhibition train would be worked out in consultation with the Pakistani authorities.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir. Dialogues has been initiated to identify the areas in Science and Technology for cooperation between the two countries.

#### **Rural People in Non-Agricultural Sector**

3258. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that people living in rural areas of the country earn their livelihood by working in other areas besides agriculture; and

(b) if so, the number of people working in non-agricultural areas to the people engaged in rural employment as per the Government's assessments, 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) According to 60th Round of National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO), it is estimated that 27.6% people in rural areas are employed

in the non-agricultural activities in the country. State-wise ratio of people engaged in agricultural and non-agricultural activities in the rural areas is given in the enclosed statement.

#### **Statement**

#### *Ratio of People Engaged in Non-Agricultural Activities in Rural Area*

S. No.	States	Agricultural activities	Non-Agricultural activities
1	Andhra Pradesh	73.6	26.5
2	Assam	74.5	25.5
3	Bihar	80.1	19.9
4	Chhattisgarh	90.9	9.1
5	Delhi	10.7	89.4
6	Goa	6.7	93.3
7	Gujarat	76.6	23.3
8	Haryana	64.8	35.3
9	Himachal Pradesh	70.8	29.2
10	Jammu & Kashmir	61.7	38.3
11	Jharkhand	64.4	35.7
12	Karnataka	76.0	24.0
13	Kerala	40.3	59.7
14	Madhya Pradesh	82.5	17.6
15	Maharashtra	78.7	21.3
16	Orissa	69.2	30.8
17	Punjab	61.2	38.8
18	Rajasthan	72.6	27.4
19	Tamil Nadu	63.9	36.1
20	Uttaranchal	84.6	15.4
21	Uttar Pradesh	75.1	24.9
22	West Bengal	60.4	39.6
23	North-Eastern States	67.6	32.4
24	Groups of UTs	36.7	63.3
<b>All-India</b>		<b>72.4</b>	<b>27.6</b>

Source: Report No. 506: Employment and Unemployment situation in India: January-June, 2004

**Proposal to Encourage  
Solar Energy**

3259. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the projects being implemented/ proposed to be implemented in rural areas to encourage solar energy;

(b) the amount spent on such projects during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the details of power generation by non-conventional methods being used in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) The Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources is implementing several programmes to promote use of solar devices and systems in the country including rural areas. The programmes are the Solar Photovoltaic Programme, Remote Village Electrification Programme, Solar Photovoltaic Water Pumping Systems Programme, Solar Lantern Programme and Solar Thermal Energy Programme. Under these programmes, financial assistance is being provided on purchase/installation of dish type solar cookers, solar lanterns, solar home lighting systems, solar street lighting systems, solar pumping systems and solar power plants etc. The eligibility criteria and the quantum of support is different under different programmes. In addition to the above, a scheme on "Accelerated Development and Deployment of Solar Water Heating Systems in Domestic, Industrial and Commercial Sectors" is also being implemented under which soft loan is available to the beneficiaries through selected banks and Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd. for installation of solar water heating systems.

(b) State-wise amount spent on solar photovoltaic programmes (lighting, lanterns, Spy pumps), Remote Village Electrification Programme and Solar Thermal Energy Programmes (cooking, water heating etc.) are given in the enclosed Statements-I, II and III respectively.

(c) Solar photovoltaic, biomass gasifier and small hydro technologies are being used in a decentralized off-grid mode for power generation in rural areas. Therefore, power generation data is not maintained.

**Statement-I**

*State-wise Release of Funds under SPV Programmes\*  
during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	33.52	-	41.33
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	45.12	-	16.41
3.	Assam	336.70	20.22	-
4.	Bihar	-	-	-
5.	Chhattisgarh	78.91	71.41	-
6.	Goa	18.63	-	-
7.	Gujarat	39.82	-	-
8.	Haryana	432.28	-	79.39
9.	Himachal Pradesh	102.63	88.00	-
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	131.15	173.24	-
11.	Jharkhand	-	-	5.91
12.	Karnataka	232.47	143.27	181.81
13.	Kerala	35.16	-	74.54
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2.62	25.87	-
15.	Maharashtra	-	18.0	21.1
16.	Manipur	208.53	-	-
17.	Meghalaya	43.00	-	154.76
18.	Mizoram	161.96	28.22	106.87
19.	Nagaland	-	-	-
20.	Orissa	-	-	2.26
21.	Punjab	1546.23	-	-
22.	Rajasthan	374.69	-	246.16
23.	Sikkim	31.59	26.00	-
24.	Tamil Nadu	304.72	-	-
25.	Tripura	213.06	-	-

1	2	3	4	5
26.	Uttar Pradesh	229.63	518.00	167.44
27.	Uttaranchal	349.75	-	178.42
28.	West Bengal	376.49	37.38	269.62
29.	A&N Islands	-	-	-
30.	Chandigarh	16.37	-	-
31.	Delhi	-	-	-
32.	Lakshadweep	-	-	-
33.	Pondicherry	3.78	1.65	5.1
34.	Others	443.45	337.81	866.31

\* includes expenditure on solar energy projects in rural areas

#### **Statement-II**

*State-wise Release of Funds under Remote Village Electrification (RVE) Programme\* during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	State	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5
1	Arunachal Pradesh	484.00	66.08	293
2	Assam	0.00	23.00	32
3	Chhattisgarh	332.13	8.00	275.5
4	Goa	-	-	0.5
5	Gujarat	8.61	0.00	45
6	Haryana	83.88	0.00	
7	Himachal Pradesh	12.00	15.00	160
8	Jammu & Kashmir	511.50	0.00	2.5
9	Jharkhand	837.41	0.00	1197
10	Karnataka	0.00	0.00	49
11	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	0.00	28
12	Maharashtra	313.63	0.00	285
13	Manipur	33.00	79.01	381

1	2	3	4	5
14	Mehgalaya	0.00	175.85	
15	Mizoram	144.75	0.00	
16	Orissa	0.00	42.89	5.5
17	Rajasthan	184.50	176.22	24.7
18	Sikkim	8.60	0.00	
19	Tamil Nadu	367.00	0.00	
20	Tripura	741.50	1062.40	
21	Uttaranchal	720.05	50.52	14.7
22	Uttar Pradesh	1342.70	0.57	
23	West Bengal	2388.95	72.05	953
24	Others	64.46	13.90	51

\* includes expenditure on solar energy projects in rural areas

#### **Statement-III**

*State-wise Release of Funds under Solar Thermal Programmes\* during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	State	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	5.24	21.94	3.97
2	Arunachal Pradesh	11.00	-	22.12
3	Bihar	1.37	-	-
4	Chandigarh	0.52	-	0.08
5	Chhattisgarh	6.62	-	-
6	Delhi	3.09	6.40	1.00
7	Gujarat	37.51	37.20	36.30
8	Haryana	5.44	20.30	34.64
9	Himachal Pradesh	10.50	0.30	1.77
10	J&K	5.85	0.10	3.20
11	Karnataka	15.20	-	7.00
12	Kerala	-	0.08	-

1	2	3	4	5
13	Meghalaya	0.32	0.08	-
14	M.P.	13.76	2.50	0.50
15	Maharashtra	17.85	27.36	10.37
16	Mizoram	1.80	15.36	3.84
17	Orissa	-	2.80	-
18	Pondicherry	0.32	0.08	-
19	Punjab	-	4.00	-
20	Rajasthan	1.00	4.95	-
21	Sikkim	0.37	-	7.88
22	Tamil Nadu	17.27	4.15	35.23
23	U.P.	8.13	21.70	7.56
24	Uttaranchal	5.00	2.78	3.58
25	W.B.	6.43	3.79	-
26	Others IREDA/ Banks	815.00	515.00	2250.00

\* includes expenditure on solar energy projects in rural areas

[Translation]

#### Repo and Reverse Repo Rates

3260. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has increased the Repo and Reverse-Repo Rates by 0.25 point;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the said decision has resulted in the increase of Housing and Personal Loan rates;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if so, the corrective measures taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) Keeping in view the macro-economic and over all monetary

conditions, the Reserve Bank of India, in its Annual Policy Statement for the year 2006-07 announced on 18th April, 2006, has kept the Reserve Repo and Repo Rates unchanged.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

[English]

#### Tipaimukh Power Project

3261. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Tipaimukh power project along with its estimated cost;

(b) the States and areas that are likely to be benefited;

(c) the details of the cost sharing pattern of the project; and

(d) the allocation made therefor during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) Tipaimukh Hydro Electric (Multipurpose) Project is situated near Manipur-Mizoram border at 500 m downstream of confluence of river Barak with Tuivai in Churachandpur district of Manipur. The project envisages construction of 162.8 m high Rockfill Dam on river Barak to generate 1500 MW of power with 6 units of 250 MW each. The estimated cost of the project is Rs.6701.97 crores at December, 2004 Price Level.

(b) The power generated will be supplied to the North Eastern States to the extent required and balance power evacuated for supply to the other deficit regions of the country. Other benefits from the project include flood moderation in the downstream plains of Assam and development of Pisciculture, Navigation and Tourism.

(c) The project is proposed to be funded through Debt:Equity ratio of 70:30. In order to make the project commercially viable, it is proposed that the costs in respect of flood moderation, National Highways diversion and security outside the project are not loaded on the project cost and met by the respective administrative Ministries.

(d) A provisional sum of Rs.100 crores as Net Budgetary Support has been made for the year 2006-07.

#### Investments in Dabhol Power Corporation

3262. SHRI HITEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of investments made by Indian Financial Institutions (IFIs)/Public Sector Banks in the Dabhol Power Corporation (DPC) both in equity of the company and as loan and year-wise disbursement of the same; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to recover and secure the investments made by IFIs/Banks in the project?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) The details of investments made (disbursement of loans) by the IFIs and Public Sector Banks in DPC are as under:

	(Amt. in Rs. Lakh)	
	Phase I	Phase II
Equity	Nil	Nil
Loans/Debentures	28609	137598
Payments to Export Credit Agencies on account of Guarantees issued	103639	249426
<b>Total</b>	<b>132248</b>	<b>387024</b>

The disbursements in respect of Phase I were made during the period March 1997 to October 2005 and the disbursements in respect of Phase II were made during the period September 1999 to November 2005.

(b) Ratnagiri Gas and Power Pvt. Ltd. (RGPPL), the Project Special Purpose Vehicle, set up by NTPC Ltd. (NTPC) and GAIL (India) Ltd. (GAIL) has acquired the secured assets of DPC as per the terms envisaged under the "consent terms" dated September 22, 2005 approved by the Hon'ble Bombay High Court. Physical possession of the assets of DPC were handed over to RGPPL by the Court Receiver, Bombay High Court on October 5-6, 2005. On taking over the assets of the company, RGPPL has paid the acquisition price of Rs.8485 crore (based on the valuation of assets) to the lenders of DPC as per the "consent terms" towards settlement of the core principal outstanding against DPC. While the acquisition price covered the major portion of the loans (principal) extended to DPC, the IFIs/Banks filed a recovery suit before Debt Recovery Tribunal (DRT) for recovery from the company (DPC) of the unpaid amounts (interest etc.). The DRT has issued a recovery certificate on November 28, 2005.

#### **SBI Home Loan**

3263. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Bank of India has increased the home loan rates by 50 to 75 basis points across maturities;

(b) if so, the additional revenue likely to be generated by the Bank in a year;

(c) whether SBI has decided not to offer fixed rate loans for tenures exceeding ten years; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) As reported by State Bank of India (SBI) it has increased home loan interest rates in respect of loans sanctioned with effect from 1st May, 2006 in the range of 25 to 50 basis points only.

(b) An additional revenue of Rs.115 crore has been estimated by SBI on account of the increase in home loan interest rates.

(c) and (d) To mitigate the asset-liabilities mis-match, in view of the long tenure of home loan, SBI has extended fixed rates of interest only for the tenure upto 10 years with effect from 1st March, 2006.

#### **Grants to NGOs by CAPART for Housing Schemes**

3264. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the funds released to various Non-Governmental Organizations through Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART) for taking up housing schemes in various parts of the country during the last two years and thereafter, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government is gradually slacking the amount of allocations to CAPART on the grounds that the same schemes are being implemented by the Government in the Department of Rural Development;

(c) if so, whether the Government has any proposals to scrap some of the schemes and projects that are now being funded through CAPART with a view to avoiding repetition of the same projects by CAPART and the Government; and

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



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 details of funds released to various Non-Governmental Organizations through Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART) for taking up housing schemes in various parts of the country during the last two years and thereafter (till 30.04.2006), State-wise are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) The budgetary allocation for CAPART from the year 2002-03 onwards under a single scheme viz., "Assistance to CAPART" has been as follows:-

(Rs. in crores)	
Year	Allocation
1	2
2002-03	30.00
2003-04	50.00

1	2
2004-05	65.00
2005-06	70.00
2006-07	70.00

It would thus be observed that the overall allocation for CAPART under "Assistance to CAPART" during the last few years has not slackened.

(c) and (d) While the total allocation to CAPART under "Assistance to CAPART" has not been reduced during the last two years, the Schemes namely Innovative Stream for Rural Housing and Habitat Development and Rural Building Centres (RBCs) under Rural Housing for which funds were received against specific projects have been discontinued with effect from 1.04.2004 by the Department of Rural Development and CAPART. However, the ongoing projects would continue to be funded till their completion. Further, the Government has not taken any decision as yet to discontinue any other existing scheme and projects of CAPART.

#### **Statement**

*State-wise details of funds released to Voluntary Organisations through CAPART for Housing Schemes during the last two years and thereafter (till 30.4.2006)*

S.No.	Name and Address of the NGO	Amount released under Housing
1	2	3
<b>Year: 2004-05</b>		
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>		
1.	Guttur Rural Education & Development Society, Ammavarupalli, Anantapur, AP	7,50,000
2.	Sri Venkateswara Anadha Seva Sadan, Ramnagar Colony, Chittoor (AP)	7,43,500
3.	Mahatma Gandhi Yuvajana Sangam, at Raptnadu, Distt. Anantapur	4,75,000
4.	Gramina Sanghika Abhivruddi Sangam, Lakshmi Nagar, Anantapur	3,59,000
5.	Kallumari Rural Education And Development Society, Munimadugu Village, Distt. Anantapur	4,99,425
6.	Rural Poor Peoples Welfare Society, AP Housing Colony, Anantapur	4,57,500
7.	Gramina Seva Society, Rudrampet, Distt. Anantapur	5,00,000
8.	Deepa Rural Development Society R.K. Nagar, Anantapur	4,66,000
9.	Youth Service Association, Narasimhapalli, Distt. Anantapur	5,00,000
10.	Mankena Social Service, Sai Vinayaka Residency, New Raghavendar Nagar, Distt. Hyderabad	4,500

1	2	3
11.	Organisation for Upliftment of Rural Society, Nagarajuna Colony, Hyderabad	3,28,500
<b>Assam</b>		
1.	Morigaon Mahila Mehfil, Civil Hospital Road, Distt. Morigaon, Assam	9,50,000
<b>Delhi</b>		
1.	Society For Development Alternative, B-32, Tara Crescent New Mehrauli.Road, New Delhi	9,72,250
<b>Orissa</b>		
1.	Society For Rural Advancement & Democratic Humantatian (SRADHA) at Patusahu Kateni. PO. Kaluria via Mahimagadi Distt. Dhenkanal, Orissa.	9,62,240
2.	Narichetana Mahila Institute (NAMI), At: M/1, Housing Board Colony, Po/District: Dhenkanal (Orissa).	9,43,857
<b>Rajasthan</b>		
1.	Kisan Bharti Vikas Sansthan Near Bus Stand, Bhiwada	3,19,000
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>		
1.	Bharti Women Development Centre Mutharasapuram, Distt. Nagapatnam	4,00, 000
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>		
1.	Akhil Bhartiya Gramin Vikas Parishad, Vill. & PO. Muzahidpur Via Sardhana, Muzaffernagar, UP	6,90,613
2.	Dr. Ambedkar Swasthy Vikas Seva Samiti, Vill. Pitamber khera, near C Block Railway Crossing Rajajipuram, Lucknow.U.P.	7,95,000
3.	Pradushan Niyantaran Avam Urja Vikas Samiti, Ward No. 5, Handia Distt. Allahabad U.P.	9,17,250
4.	Lokodyog Seva Sansthan, Vill. & PO. Sikraura, Azamgarh. UP.	8,12,050
5.	Trilokpur Gramodhyog Vikas Sewa Samiti, Vill. Tanda, Ambedkar nagar, UP.	9,74,000
<b>West Bengal</b>		
1.	Purba Bhawanipur Polly Mangal Samity, AT/PO Purba Bhawanipur, Distt. 24 Parganas(S), West Bangal	9,70,000
2.	Satmonisha Santi Sangha (Mahila Samiti), Shatmonisha, 24 Parganas(S), WB	9,49,615
3.	Mahila Sebayatan Mojilispur, 24 Parganas(S) WB.	9,79,250
4.	Central Scheduled Caste and Tribal Welfare Association, Nichu Colony, 4 No. Sankaripukar, Sripally, Burdwan, West Bengal	9,46,000
<b>Year 2005-06</b>		
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>		
1.	Guttur Rural Education & Development Society, Ammavarupalli, Anantapur, AP	6,00,000/-
2.	Rural Integrated and Social Education Society, Bangaruchinnepalli, Distt. Anantapur	4,04,170/-

1	2	3
3.	Mahatma Gandhi Yuvajana Sangam, At/PO Rapatnadu, Distt. Anantapur	4,60,255/-
4.	Grameena Sanghika Abhivruddi Sangham, Lakshmi Nagar, Distt. Anantapur	4,50,710/-
5.	Grama Abhyudaya Society for Integrated Rural Development, Kota Street, Urvakonda, Distt. Anantapur	3,49,500/-
6.	Jag Jeevan Balaheena Varga Abhivruddi Sangam, Vempalli, Distt. Cuddapah	3,92,500/-
7.	Kallumari Rural Education And Development Society, Munimadugu Village, Distt. Anantapur	4,97,250/-
8.	Samatha Society for Rural Education and Development, Gollapalli, Distt. Anantapur	4,74,600/-
9.	Sri Venkateswara Padmavathi Seva Sangham, Peravali, Distt. Guntur	93,225/-
10.	Development Architects for Rural Upliftment, Madinaguda, Hyderabad	3,76,945/-
11.	Smt. Velpula Vimalamma Memorial Harijana Mahila Mandali, Church (East) Penuganchiprolu, Distt. Krishna	2,70,000/-
12.	Grama Swarajya Samithi, Kodavatipudi, Distt. Visakhapatnam	4,22,500/-
<b>Assam</b>		
1.	Desh Bhakta Rural Development Association, Vill. Bhaktardaba, Distt. Barpeta	6,84,000/-
<b>Karnataka</b>		
1.	Indian Rural Integrated Development Society, Near Vivekananda School, Vinoba Nagar, Tumkur.	4,75,000/-
<b>Manipur</b>		
1.	Wangjing Women and Girls Society, Wangjing, Manipur	9,89,250/-
2.	Rural Service Agency, Palace Compound, Imphal East	4,32,625/-
3.	Chilchil Asian Mission Society, Leikhampokpi, Imphal	4,98,750/-
<b>Nagaland</b>		
1	Konyak Youth Society, Chen Town, Distt. Mon, Nagaland	9,67,500/-
<b>Pondicherry</b>		
1.	The Society For Social Justice and Human Resource Development D. No. 565, Mahatma Gandhi Road.	3,72,400/-
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>		
1.	Association for Gramarayam And Rural Integrated Development, 1-3-118, Sarvadayau Illam Madurai, Tamil Nadu	9,79,100/-
2.	Punitha Vinobaji Village Development Society, 1/73, Kurumalai, Distt. Tuticorin	3,47,840/-
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>		
1.	Akhil Bhartiya Gramin Vikas Parishad, Vill. & PO. Muzahidpur Via Sardhana, Muzaffernagar, UP	6,90,612/-
2.	Trilokpur Gramodhyog Vikas Sewa Samiti, Vill. Tanda, Ambedkar Nagar, UP.	9,89,000/-
3.	Kamthahiya Gramin Vikas Sewa Sansthan Gomti Nagar, Lucknow	2,25,900/-

1	2	3
4.	Shri Sai Baba Seva Samiti Ganesh Ganj, Distt. Mirzapur	2,21,980/-
5.	Gramodyog Sewa Niketan Sadhna, Vaishali, Distt. Ghaziabad	2,90,051/-
<b>West Bengal</b>		
1.	Jararanagar Deshapram Tarun Sangha, Vill. Jaranagar, PO: Haria, Distt: East Midnapore (WB).	9,24,478/-
2.	Tafapalli Milani Sangha, AT Tafa, PO Sarisha, Distt. South Parganas 24	6,24,000/-
<b>Year: 2006-07 (till 30.4.2006)</b>		
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>		
1.	Sri Venkateswara Anadha Seva Sadan, Ramnagar Colony, Chittor. (AP)	6,21,800/-
<b>West Bengal</b>		
1.	Satmonisha Santi Sangha (Mahila Samiti), Shatmonisha, Parganas(S), 24 WB	7,59,692/-

**Japan Aided Drinking  
Water Projects**

3265. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has asked the State Governments to submit proposals for drinking water projects to be implemented with the assistance from Japan;

(b) if so, the details of proposals received from each State Government; and

(c) the action taken in this regard and the time by which these are likely to be cleared for execution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) to (c) Drinking water is a State subject. State Governments are empowered to plan, sanction, implement and execute Rural Water Supply Projects. However, rural water supply projects involving bilateral cooperation such as assistance from Japan are examined at Central level for technical clearance. A project, namely, Hogenakkal Water Supply & Sanitation Project was received from Government of Tamil Nadu for Japanese assistance. The said project has been kept in Rolling Plan 2006-08 Official Development Assistance (ODA) Package for posing the same to Japan Bank of International Co-operation (JBIC) loan assistance.

*[Translation]*

**Out of Turn Flats Allotted by DDA**

3266. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:  
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of flats allotted out of turn by Delhi Development Authority during the last three years;

(b) the flats constructed by Delhi Development Authority during each of the said years alongwith the number of flats out of them allotted;

(c) whether option of choosing desired area was not given to the allottees under new pattern scheme 1979; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) The Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has informed that during the last 3 years, only one flat has been allotted on out of turn basis.

(b) The number of flats constructed and allotted during the last 3 years is as under:

Year	No. of houses constructed	No. of houses allotted*
2003-04	1676	12504
2004-05	9896	12939
2005-06	2570	11596
<b>Total</b>	<b>14142</b>	<b>37039</b>

\* Includes allotment of flats constructed in earlier years as also surrendered/cancelled flats.

(c) and (d) The DDA has further informed that no option of choosing the desired area was given under New Pattern Scheme, 1979, as per brochure of the Scheme.

*[English]*

#### **Emission Free Coal Based Power Plants**

3267. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is likely to participate in the \$ 1 billion US sponsored Future Gen Project for emission-free coal based power plants;

(b) if so, whether China has joined the project and India's participation would ensure that the three largest coal based economies join hand in developing clean coal technology;

(c) whether the Future Gen is an initiative to build the world's first integrated sequestration and hydrogen production power plant; and

(d) if so, the extent to which India's participation in these projects would be helpful to India?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. India has signed a Framework Protocol with USA on cooperation on the FuttreGen Project which is a US\$ 950 million project. As per available information, a Chinese energy company China Huaneng Group has joined the FutureGen Industrial Alliance. This Alliance would execute the project.

(c) This project aims to create the world's first coal-based, zero-emission electricity and hydrogen production power plant.

(d) It would be useful for India to participate in

this project as it gives an opportunity to gain experience and learn from the process of development of new technologies in coal-fired thermal power plants. India will also have access to reports and information about implementation of the project. Scientists, engineers and other persons from India would get access to visit project facilities.

#### **R&D Facilities in Pharma Companies**

3268. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of drug manufacturing pharma companies having their own facilities for research and development in new drugs;

(b) the potential and capacity of Indian pharma companies to set up independent research and development units to discover new drugs;

(c) whether the Government proposes a policy to encourage Indian pharma companies to set up its own separate Research and Development units by inviting foreign investments and private participation to raise required funds; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) There are over 175 drug manufacturing pharma companies having their in-house research and development centers recognized by the Department of Scientific & Industrial Research. Out of these, over 15 companies are doing research & development in new drugs.

(b) A number of Indian companies have built up impressive R&D infrastructure and expertise in chemical research, pharmaceutical research, fermentation research as well as new drug discovery research (NDDR) and research in novel drug delivery systems. The therapeutic areas in which these companies have developed lead molecules are malaria, urology, metabolic disorders, cardiovascular indications, cancer, diabetes, dyslipidemia, obesity, inflammation and pain, staphylococcal infections, respiratory infections, skin infections, anti-migraine, anti-TB, anti-psoriasis and cerebro-vascular.

(c) and (d) The Government does not have a specific policy to encourage Indian pharma companies to set-up their own separate research and development units by

inviting foreign investments to raise required funds. However, the Government provides a fiscal incentive to encourage industry, including pharma companies to set up their own separate R&D units by inviting private participation to raise required funds. The fiscal incentive reads - Income-tax exemption @ 125% to donations made to approved Scientific and Industrial Research Organisations (under section 35 (1) (ii) and 35(1)(iii) of the Income Tax Act).

The Government has been announcing other fiscal incentives also, from time to time to promote and encourage R&D by industry.

[Translation]

#### Extraction of Bio-Diesel

3269. SHRI MUNSHI RAM:

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":

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

(a) whether the work pertaining to extraction of Bio-Diesel from the seeds of Mahua, Kusum, Ratanjot, Karangi and Jatropha has been commenced;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith installed capacity of Public sector and Government sector in this regard;

(c) the time by which bio-diesel is likely to be available to the consumers;

(d) whether any assessment has been made in the country regarding the total installed capacity of production of bio-diesel; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the fund allocated for the said works during the current year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) to (c) A National Mission on Bio-diesel is being implemented by Ministry of Rural Development under which Jatropha plantation is proposed to be taken up on 4 lakh hectare of forest and non-forest lands. The work pertaining to the extraction of bio-diesel from Jatropha oil on a commercial scale is a part of this Mission. However, no commercial production of bio-diesel is currently being taken up in the Public Sector.

(d) and (e) The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources have not done assessment regarding total installed capacity of production of bio-diesel as at present bio-diesel is not being produced on commercial scale.

[English]

#### NGOs in Rural Development Sector

3270. SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA:

SHRI JUAL ORAM:

SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:

SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA:

SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:

SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) working for the overall development of rural areas indicating the kind of work entrusted to them and their performance in the field during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) the funds provided by the Government to each of them;

(c) whether these NGOs are regularly submitting utilization certificates as required under the rules;

(d) if not, the details of such NGOs who have not submitted the requisite certificates, State-wise, NGO-wise; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government against defaulting NGOs?

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) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### World Bank Sponsored Projects

3271. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has instructed all States and departments to issue directions to the project authorities to strictly adhere to the norms for implementing the World Bank Sponsored projects;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of cases of corruption charges in World Bank sponsored projects which have come to the notice of the Government during the last three years; and
- (d) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Currently, the World Bank is supporting 53 projects of the value of US\$ 11.9 billion for development projects in India. Given this huge portfolio, the responsibility to execute these projects in accordance with the established guidelines of the Bank also assumes criticality. The responsibility for the implementation of the projects, including award and administration of various contracts, rests with the project authorities which includes the line Ministries, State Governments and Public Sector Undertakings. The World Bank's policy requires that the project authorities as well as the bidders, suppliers and contractors under Bank-financed contracts observe the Bank guidelines and procedures during execution of such contracts. Accordingly, the State Governments and Central Ministries/Departments have been requested that these guidelines may be reiterated to the project authorities so that there is no deviation from the established procedures of the Bank.

(c) There have been six allegations of corruption/fraudulent practices in World Bank assisted projects that have come to the notice of the Government.

(d) Government has taken action as per the existing Indian laws in cases where corruption charges have been held prima facie which includes referring the matter to the investigating agencies, cancellation of contracts, suspension/Departmental proceedings against officials involved, etc. depending upon the nature of the alleged irregularities.

[Translation]

**Utilisation of Foreign Financial Assistance**

3272. SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:  
 PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:  
 SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:  
 SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:  
 SHRI MOHD. TAHIR

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a sizable level of foreign financial assistance remain unutilized;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons for non utilization of such assistance, sector-wise;

(c) the details of commitment charges paid to various foreign agencies as a result of non-utilization of such foreign assistance during the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for timely utilization of such assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a), (b) and (d) A total amount of Rs 61,023.70 crores committed as foreign loan assistance on Government account, was not drawn as on 31st March, 2006. However, utilization of the sanctioned foreign assistance for any project is a continuous process spread over its implementation period. As a result, there would be some unutilized amount at any point of time; these amounts will be utilized as the Project implementation progresses. Moreover, the project implementation authorities like the Central Line Ministries/Departments, State Governments work under diverse constraints. Some of the steps taken by the Government to improve aid utilization are ensuring adequate provisioning for externally aided projects in the budgets of the State and Central Government, streamlining of procurement procedures, disintermediation of the flow of external aid to Central Public Sector Undertakings, strengthening of Project Monitoring Units in some States and Central Ministries, appointment of Nodal Officers for the States and regular review of projects etc. Sector wise details of foreign loan assistance remaining unutilized as on 31.03.06 are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) Details of the commitment charges paid to various foreign agencies as a result of non-utilization of the foreign assistance during the last three years are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

**Statement-I**

*Unutilized balance of foreign loans as on 31.03.06*

(Figures in Rs. Crore)

Sector	Unutilized balance of foreign loans as on 31.03.06
1	2
Agriculture and Rural Development	3493.78
Energy	13651.59
Environment & Forests	2073.26

1	2
Fertilizers	0.62
Health	1181.61
Industry and Finance	85.23
Infrastructure	19485.48
Social	2812.65
Structural adjustments	156.21
Urban Development	9770.16
Water resources management	6292.26
Water supply and management	309.57
Others	3784.56

**Statement-II****Commitment Charaes paid for non-utilization of foreign assistance**

(Figures in Rs. Crore)

Development partner	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Germany	8.99	2.07	1.85
France	0.021	0.00	0.00
Asian Development Bank	38.22	45.10	53.42
IBRD	40.18	36.11	35.7
IDA	5.72	81.82	57.17

**Complaints under Rural Developmental Works**

3273. SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the works being undertaken under the centrally sponsored projects/schemes for rural development in the country, particularly Uttar Pradesh, are not in conformity with the laid down norms;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and whether the Government has conducted any inquiry into the complaints received in this behalf;

(c) if so the details of the findings of the inquiry; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to check the wastage of funds on this count?

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 Ministry of Rural Development with the help of State Governments, implements all the rural development programmes in accordance with the programme guidelines. Some complaints regarding mis-appropriation/misutilisation of funds/foodgrains have been received under the Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) from the State of Uttar Pradesh. Such complaints have been referred to the State Government for corrective actions.

(b) to (d) With a view that the rural development schemes are implemented according to the programme guidelines, the Ministry has developed a comprehensive system of Monitoring the implementation and impact of the programmes through Periodical Progress Reports, Performance of Review Committee, Area Officer's Scheme, Vigilance and Monitoring Committee at the State/District Level with greater involvement of members of Parliament, District Level Monitoring and National Level Monitors to monitor quality of works. Besides, the State have been advised to adopt a four-pronged strategy consisting of (i) creation of awareness about the schemes, (ii) transparency (iii) People's Partnership and (iv) accountability. In addition, to this, constitution of Village Level Monitoring Committee for each work under SGRY and NFFWP is mandatory which monitors the progress and quality while work is in progress. The final report of such Committee is attached along with the completion certificate of work for consideration of Gram Sabha of Gram Panchayat where work has been executed.

[English]

**National Judicial Council**

3274. SHRI ARJUN SETHI:

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:

SHRI. MOHAN SINGH:

SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:

SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV:

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU:

SHRI UDAY SINGH:

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

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



(a) whether Law Commission has recommended for constitution of a National Judicial Council empowering it to hear complaints against judges;

(b) if the response of Government to the recommendation; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The modalities for setting up of the National Judicial Council, in consultation with all the stake holders, are being worked out.

[Translation]

#### World Bank Loan to NHPC

3275. SHRI SITA RAM SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loan provided by the World

Bank and other financial institutions to the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC);

(b) the amount spent by the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation so far on payment of interest on loans; and

(c) the steps taken so far to repay the loans?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Limited (NHPC) has not availed any loan from World Bank. However, NHPC has availed various Export Credits, Official Development Assistance (ODA) from Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), untied Nippon Export and Investment of Japan (NEXI) credit and External Commercial Borrowings (ECBs) from other International Financial Institutions/Banks. The details of these loans and the amount of interest paid by NHPC so far thereon are given in the enclosed Statement. Principal amount of the loans are being repaid by NHPC on respective due dates as per the terms of the respective Loan Agreements.

#### Statement

*Details of Amount Drawn and interest thereon on foreign currency loans taken by NHPC Ltd.*

(Figures in Millions)

Name of the Project	Financer	Currency	Amount Drawn	Interest	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
Uri Power Station	West Merchant Bank	Great Britain Pound	31.19	18.64	Loan fully repaid
Uri Power Station	Nordic Investment Bank	United States Dollar	52.90	22.34	Loan is being repaid as per schedule of the agreement
Uri Power Station	AB Svensk Exportkredit	Swiss Franc	131.13	27.03	Loan fully repaid
Uri Power Station	AB Svensk Exportkredit	United States Dollar	97.67	39.06	Loan fully repaid
Dulhasti	Credit Commercial DeFrance	EURO	143.70	92.40	Loan is being repaid as per schedule of the agreement
Dulhasti	Barclays Capital	Japanese Yen	5347.00	137.08	Bullet repayment on 9.1.2014
Chamera-II	Export Development Canada	Canadian Dollar	156.91	34.74	Loan is being repaid as per schedule of the agreement
Dhauliganga	Japan Bank for International Cooperation Tranche-I	Japanese Yen	497.21	680.64	Loan is being repaid as per schedule of the agreement

1	2	3	4	5	6
Dhauliganga	Japan Bank for International Cooperation Tranche-II	Japanese Yen	16311.11	1366.15	Repayment will start on 20.12.07
Dhauliganga	Japan Bank for International Cooperation Tranche-III	Japanese Yen	10511.53	141.09	Loan is being drawn
Teesta-V	Deutsche Bank, Other Banks and FI's	Japanese Yen	16803.23	94.98	Loan is being drawn
Chamera-I	Export Development Canada	United States Dollar	165.83	147.91	Loan fully repaid

\*\* Loan was drawn in Canadian Dollar and repaid in USD as per terms of agreement.

### Setting up of Power Grid Stations

3276. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up power grid stations in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount likely to be spent on each one of them;

(d) the time by which the said stations are likely to be set up;

(e) whether the Union Government has received any request from the Government of Delhi in this regard;

(f) if so, the action taken by the Union Government in this regard; and

(g) the extent to which the power supply in Delhi is likely to be improved as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (d) Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL), which has mandate for development of inter-

State and inter-regional Transmission Systems, has been undertaking implementation of various Transmission schemes in the Central sector throughout the country. These transmission schemes also include establishment of grid substations. Many of these transmission schemes are already under implementation. The details of the additional transmission schemes which have been planned by PGCIL are given in the enclosed statement. The responsibility of development of State Grid system lies with the respective State Transmission Utilities.

(e) and (f) Chief Minister, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi vide her letter of 9.3.2006 has requested for allocation of more power to Delhi. However, no specific request for setting up of a grid sub-station in Delhi has been made.

(g) States in various Regions, including Northern Region will be the beneficiaries of the transmission schemes mentioned in the Annex. Delhi, being a constituent of Northern Region, will also be benefited through some of these transmission schemes. Besides these schemes, under the Transmission System associated with Tala HEP, East-North Interconnector and Northern Region Transmission System, one 400/220 kV GIS sub-station at Maharani Bagh in Delhi is under construction.

### Statement

#### *Details of transmission schemes/Power Grid Substations planned by Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd.*

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Estimated Cost (Rs. Crore)	Substations/Transformation capacity (MVA)	Beneficiaries	Commissioning Schedule
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Transmission System associated with Parbati-III	557	1 - 400 kV Parbati pooling station (GIS)	Northern Region	42 months from investment approval, matching with commissioning of generation project (by 2010-11)

1	2	3	4	5	6
2	Western Region System Strengthening Scheme-II	5221	3 - 400/220 kV Pune (2x315 MVA), - 400/220 kV Sholapur (2 x 315MVA) & - 400 kV Parli (Switching substation)	Western Region	48 months from investment approval (by 2010)
3	Transmission System associated with Gandhar-II	653	1 - 400/220 kV Sujapur (2x 315 MVA)	Western Region	33 months from investment approval (by 2009)
4	North East-Northern/ Western Interconnector-I	9484	3 - 800 kV Agra HVDC (3000 MW) - 400/132/33 kV Biswanath Chariyali (AC- 2x200 MVA) - 800 kV Biswanath Chariyali HVDC (3000 MW)	Northern Region, Western Region & North-Eastern Region	48 months from investment approval (by 2011)
5	Transmission system associated with North Karanpua	4083	1 - 400/220 kV Fatehpur (2x315 MVA)	Northern Region, Eastern Region & Western Region	42 months from investment approval (by 2011)
6	Transmission system associated with Chamera-III	491	1 - 400 kV pooling station at Chamera(2x315 MVA) – GIS	Northern Region	36 months from first Letter of Award, matching with commissioning of generation project (by 2010-11)
7	Eastern Region Strengthening Scheme-II	900 (under finalization)	1 - 400/220 kV Behrampur (2x315 MVA)	Southern Region	36 months from investment approval (by 2008-09)
8	Northern Region System Strengthening -VI	171	1 - 400/220 kV Gurgaon GIS (2x315 MVA)	Northern Region	30 months from first Letter of Award (by 2008-09)
9	Northern Region System Strengthening-VIII	207	1 - 400/220 kV Bhirmai (2x315 MVA)	Northern Region	30 months from first Letter of Award (by 2009-10)
<b>Total</b>			13		

**Delay in Release of Funds under Swajaldhara Yojana**

3277. DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had released only one installment of funds to several States till December, 2005 last year under the Swajaldhara Yojana;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for releasing the said instalment three months before the expiry of the financial year; and

(c) the measures taken to improve the situation in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) and (b) Funds are allocated to all States under Swajaldhara scheme in the beginning of the financial year. The States then make district-wise allocations and communicate to the Centre for releases. Since Swajaldhara is a demand driven scheme, where community participation is to be ensured and contribution towards the capital cost is to be collected, the District Water and Sanitation Missions (DWSM) take time in formulating the projects for the District. As soon as the district-wise allocations are communicated to the Centre, the first installment is released to the DWSM. Swajaldhara projects require 12-18 months for completion and are not confined to a single financial year. Hence the time of release of first installment does not affect the projects. The balance funds are released for the projects as and when the States report satisfactory utilization of the first installment.

During 2005-06, Rs. 423.60 crores was released as first installment for new projects and for other support activities, Rs. 23.45 crores as second installment for completion of projects taken up in 2002-03, Rs. 26.04 crores as second installment for projects of 2003-04 and Rs. 17.35 crores as second installment for projects of 2004-05.

(c) To improve the situation and facilitate early release of first installments, all States are required to have a shelf of projects that can be taken up as soon as the allocation is communicated to them. So far, nine States have communicated their list of projects that can be taken up in 2006-07. The other States are also prompted regularly to keep projects in readiness.

[English]

#### Electrification of Villages

3278. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages electrified in the country during the last two years, till date;

(b) the funds allocated by the Government during the period and spent by each State, year-wise; and

(c) the number of villages targeted to be electrified during the current financial year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) As reported by Central Electricity Authority (CEA), the number of villages electrified in the country during 2004-05 is 3884. During 2005-06 under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY), 9819 villages have been electrified.

(b) The funds disbursed by the Government, state-wise during 2004-05 is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

Funds spent by the states as reported by them during 2004-05 is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

During 2005-06, Rs. 1100 crore were released by Ministry of Power to Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) for onward release to implementing agencies i.e. Central Power Sector Undertaking (CPSU)/DISCOMS/State Electricity Boards(SEBs) for various states. REC has reported the release of subsidy to the states as per the enclosed Statement-III.

(c) The number of villages targeted to be electrified during the current financial year, State-wise is given in the enclosed Statement-IV.

#### Statement-I

#### Disbursements of Grant for the year 2004-05

(Rupees in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State	KJ	BPL	PMGY	Total	Accelerated Electrification of One Lakh Villages and One Crore Households		
						Loan	Subsidy	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Andhra Pradesh	377.00	912.00	1705.00	2994.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	Arunachal Pradesh	186.00	225.00	684.00	1095.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
3	Assam	0.00	0.00	2900.00	2900.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	Bihar	263.00	182.00	2417.30	2662.30	12014.00	8010.00	20024.00
5	Chhattisgarh	111.00	744.00	584.00	1439.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	Gujarat	27.00	23.00	712.30	762.30	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	Haryana	10.00	41.00	142.80	193.80	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	Himachal Pradesh	9.00	9.00	200.00	218.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	0.00	500.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
11	Jharkhand	-34.00	120.00	744.60	830.60	0.00	0.00	0.00
12	Karnataka	213.00	0.00	1000.00	1213.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
13	Kerala	0.00	1047.00	0.00	1047.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
14	Madhya Pradesh	152.00	173.00	637.50	962.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
15	Maharashtra	14.00	40.00	414.76	468.76	0.00	0.00	0.00
16	Manipur	0.00	0.00	600.00	600.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
17	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	600.00	600.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
18	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	288.00	288.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
19	Nagaland	22.00	0.00	824.50	846.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
20	Orissa	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
21	Punjab	33.00	150.00	222.00	405.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
22	Rajasthan	112.00	0.00	1061.00	1173.00	560.00	373.00	933.00
23	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	400.00	400.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
24	Tamil Nadu	135.00	0.00	271.52	406.52	0.00	0.00	0.00
25	Tripura	111.00	108.00	850.00	1069.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
26	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	0.00	5387.00	5387.00	39398.00	25598.00	63996.00
27	Uttaranchal	0.00	360.00	300.00	660.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
28	West Bengal	0.00	0.00	924.50	924.50	6889.00	4580.00	11449.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>1741.00</b>	<b>4134.00</b>	<b>24470.78</b>	<b>30345.78</b>	<b>57841.00</b>	<b>38561.00</b>	<b>96402.00</b>
<b>BPL Claims</b>							<b>1439.00</b>	<b>1439.00</b>
<b>Total</b>							<b>40000.00</b>	<b>97841.00</b>

KJ - Kuttir Jyoti

BPL - Below Poverty Line

\* - No funds were released in 2004-05 under Minimum Need Programme for rural electrification

**Statement-II***Amount Spent by States during 2004-05*

Sl. No.	State	Amount spent during 2004-05 (Rs. in crore)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	174.04
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2.01
3.	Assam	-
4.	Bihar	138.06
5.	Chhattisgarh	25.04
6.	Goa	Nil
7.	Gujarat	66.35
8.	Haryana	N.A.
9.	Himachal Pradesh	23.14
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	PMGY 9.98 REC 5.28
11.	Jharkhand	104.39
12.	Karnataka	upto 31.12.04 265.36
13.	Kerala	88.2029
14.	Madhya Pradesh	25.05
15.	Maharashtra	191.67
16.	Manipur	4.80 NLCPR) 2.65
17.	Meghalaya	N.A.
18.	Mizoram	5.98
19.	Nagaland	3.12
20.	Orissa	27.83
21.	Punjab	Nil
22.	Rajasthan	163.19
23.	Sikkim	-
24.	Tamil Nadu	Nil

1	2	3
25.	Tripura	4.25
26.	Uttar Pradesh	160.06
27.	Uttaranchal	86.17
28.	West Bengal	-
29.	Andaman & Nicobar	0.69
30.	Chandigarh	Nil
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	N.A.
32.	Daman & Diu	Nil
33.	Delhi	Not applicable
34.	Lakshadweep	-
35.	Pondicherry	-

N.A. - Not available.

**Statement-III***State-wise release of funds during 2005-06 under RGGVY*

Sl. No.	States	Subsidy Released during 2005-06
1	2	3
<b>Funds received as capital subsidy from MOP</b>		(Rs. in crores)
<b>A</b>	<b>Claims received from States</b>	
1	Andhra Pradesh	
2	Arunachal Pradesh	
3	Assam	
4	Bihar	263.683
5	Chhattisgarh	6.500
6	Goa	
7	Gujarat	
8	Haryana	
9	Himachal Pradesh	
10	Jammu & Kashmir	
11	Jharkhand	3.500

1	2	3
12	Karnataka	62.880
13	Kerala	
14	Madhya Pradesh	
15	Maharashtra	
16	Manipur	
17	Meghalaya	
18	Mizoram	
19	Nagaland	
20	Orissa	3.500
21	Punjab	
22	Rajasthan	45.715
23	Sikkim	
24	Tamil Nadu	
25	Tripura	
26	Uttar Pradesh	475.363
27	Uttaranchal	53.200
28	West Bengal	58.083
Total		972.424
B	BPL Claims	47.643
C	Enabling Activities @ 1%	11.000
Total released to states		1031.067

By 31-3-06 Ministry of Power released Rs.1100 crore to REC for onward release to implementing agencies

**Statement-IV**

*State-wise target of Village Electrification during 2006-07 under RGGVY*

Sl. No.	State	Targets for 2006-07 (Nos.)
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	-
2	Arunachal Pradesh	10
3	Assam	140

1	2	3
4	Bihar	12700
5	Jharkhand	0
6	Goa	-
7	Gujarat	-
8	Haryana	-
9	Himachal Pradesh	-
10	J&K	10
11	Karnataka	-
12	Kerala	-
13	Madhya Pradesh	100
14	Chhattisgarh	90
15	Maharashtra	-
16	Manipur	5
17	Meghalaya	20
18	Mizoram	-
19	Nagaland	-
20	Orissa	5
21	Punjab	-
22	Rajasthan	1150
23	Sikkim	-
24	Tamil Nadu	-
25	Tripura	-
26	Uttar Pradesh	21600
27	Uttaranchal	320
28	West Bengal	3850
29	Delhi	-
Total (States)		40000
Total UTs		-
All India		40000

**Pension Scheme for Unorganised Sector**

3279. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWASI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Unit Trust of India mutual fund is going to start a pension scheme (micro pension) for the workers of unorganized sector;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme;

(c) the number of workers likely to be covered under this scheme during the current financial year; and

(d) the time by which all the remaining workers are likely to be covered under this pension scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) UTI Mutual Fund have informed that they have entered into a customised arrangement with Shree Mahila Sewa Sahakari Bank Ltd. (SEWA) for covering its members through a micro-pension initiative under UTI-Retirement Benefit Pension Fund. Under this customised arrangement, the members will contribute small amounts every month towards UTI-Retirement Benefit Pension Fund upto the age of 55 years so as to enable them to receive pension in the form of periodical income/cashflow after they reach the age of 58 years.

(c) and (d) UTI Mutual Fund have indicated that they are in a position to accommodate as many members of SEWA who wish to join the scheme under the existing arrangement. At the inauguration of the scheme on April 12, 2006 at Ahmedabad, approximately 25,000 members joined the scheme. SEWA expects that another 25,000 workers may join the scheme in the next two months and a total of 100,000 workers by the end of this financial year.

#### **Withdrawal of Loan Facility to DMRC**

3280. DR. M. JAGANNATH:

SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Japan Bank for International Cooperation has withdrawn the loan facility to fund the second phase of the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the options being explored by the DMRC for generation of funds to implement their future project;

(d) whether Japan Bank has agreed to fund for metro projects for other States; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. (DMRC) is exploring the options of generating funds from the concerned State Governments, Central Government, as well as through property development to implement their future projects.

(d) and (e) Government of Japan has committed a loan of Yen 44,704 million for the Bangalore Metro Rail Project. Loan Agreement for this has been signed on 31.3.2006 between Government of India and Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC).

*[Translation]*

#### **Electricity from Small Dams**

3281. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any scheme for construction of small dams on the rivers in each of the States for generation of electricity in order to deal with the power crisis in rural areas;

(b) if so, the names of the rivers in Uttar Pradesh identified under the said scheme along with their location; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

*[English]*

#### **Funds provided by Official Development Agency**

3282. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:



(a) whether the Official Development Agency (ODA) is going to provide funds for a large number of projects in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) There is no funding agency called Official Development Agency. As such the question does not arise.

**Grant of Education Loan in Urban/  
Rural Areas**

3283. SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of educational loan disbursed to students residing and studying in rural and urban areas by the public sector banks during the last three years;

(b) whether there is any imbalance in sanction and disbursement of educational loans in urban and rural areas;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the measures taken to be taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether the Government has any proposal to include educational loans/credit under "priority sector lending" schemes, so as to encourage students belonging to weaker, socially and economically backward sector to avail higher education;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that it does not capture data on disbursement under Education Loan in urban and rural areas separately. However, as reported by Indian Banks' Association (IBA) the total loans outstanding under education loan scheme by public sector banks for the last three years are as under:-

Year	No. of accounts	Amount (Rs. crores)
2003-04	319337	4550.06
2004-05	468207	6713.16
2005-06	718046	10525.12

(d) to (f) Education loan upto Rs. 7.5 lakh for studies in India and upto Rs.15 lakh for studies abroad covering courses in schools and colleges are already covered under priority sector lending.

*[Translation]*

**LIC Housing Finance Ltd.**

3284. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Life Insurance Corporation Housing Finance Limited has recently increased their rates of interest;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the share of LIC Housing Finance Ltd. in Housing loan market has reduced;

(d) if not, the present Housing Loan market share of LIC Housing Finance Ltd.; and

(e) the amount of loan disbursed by this company during the year 2005?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As reported by National Housing Bank (NHB), the increase in the rate of interest is on account of increase in the cost of borrowing of funds from market.

(c) and (d) The share of LIC Housing Finance Company in the total disbursement of housing loan by Housing Finance Companies has reduced to 15.50 per cent during 2005-06 from 19.72 per cent during 2003-04.

(e) As reported by NHB a total amount of Rs.4670.08 crore was disbursed by LIC Housing Finance Company during the year 2005-06.

*[English]*

**Agreement with Tehri Hydro Development Corporation (THDC)**

3285. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently signed any agreement with Tehri Hydro Development Corporation (THDC);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of electricity generation as on date along with the likely increase in power generation during 2006-07?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed on 28.03.2006 between the Ministry of Power and the Tehri Hydro Development Corporation (THDC) for undertaking various activities including commissioning, operating and maintaining the power stations of Tehri HEP Stage-I (1000 MW) with optimum performance efficiency; expediting construction of Koteshwar HEP (400 MW); and taking up works related to implementation of Tehri Pumped Storage Project (1000 MW) and Vishnugad Pipalkoti Project (440 MW).

(c) The works at Tehri Stage-I are at an advanced stage of completion. Two units of 250 MW each have been successfully rolled on 31.03.2006. Generation from the project is planned to commence progressively from June 2006 onwards after the water level in the reservoir rises upto EL 740 M (Minimum Draw Down Level). As per MOU, target of electricity generation during 2006-07 is 1161 Million Units.

[Translation]

#### Rationalisation of Import Duty

3286. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made free trade agreements with various countries;

(b) if so, whether the Government is taking any action/proposes to take any action to make the import duty more rationalized;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) It is the stated policy of the Government to align the customs duties with that of our East Asian neighbours. In line with this, the Government has been reducing the peak rate of customs duty for non-agricultural products over the years. In this year's budget, peak rate of

customs duty was reduced from 15% to 12.5%. To further improve competitiveness of domestic industry, customs duty on major raw materials, such as alloy steel, ferro-alloys, primary and secondary non-ferrous metals, major bulk plastics and ores and concentrates was reduced to rates below the peak rate of 12.5%.

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

#### Electricity From Hydel Power Projects

3287. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA:

SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has chalked out any specific programme for allotment of electricity to States particularly in Rajasthan where water resources are limited for hydel power generation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) No specific programme have been chalked out by Government for allocation of electricity to States, particularly Rajasthan, where water resources are limited for hydel power generation. However, allocation from the unallocated quota of Central Generating Stations of the Region is made to cater to the seasonal and emergent requirement of constituent States/UTs keeping in view the nature of requirement, relative power supply position etc. Presently, following allocations have been made by the Government in respect of Rajasthan:

(i) Allocation of 1291 MW firm share from various Central Sector Stations (CGSs) in Northern Region (NR) including entire generation from Rajasthan Atomic Power Station-A (300 MW).

(ii) Allocation of 15% (177 MW) to 20% (236 MW) from the unallocated quota of CGSs in NR in various time slots of the day.

(iii) Allocation of 11 MW (2300-1900 hrs) from the unallocated quota of Rajasthan Atomic Power Station Unit 3 and 4.

(iv) Allocation of 31 MW from the unallocated quota of NTPC stations in Eastern Region.

In addition to above, Rajasthan will also get its entitled share of power from central sector generation projects which are being set up in the Northern Region.

*[English]***Tax from Mumbai**

3288. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount collected in the form of tax from Mumbai during the last five years (Year-wise); and

(b) the amount allotted and released by the Union Government to Maharashtra Government during the last five years to maintain the additional burden on civic amenities and development of Mumbai?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The amount collected in form of income tax (corporation tax and personal income tax) in Mumbai region during the last five years is as under:

(Rs. in Crore)

Year	Amount Collected
2001-02	22420.54
2002-03	27955.23
2003-04	36197.97
2004-05	42136.29
2005-06*	52656.14

Figures do not include collections by way of Central TDS

\*Figures for 2005-06 are provisional

So far as indirect taxes are concerned, state-wise figures are not maintained separately.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Low Cost Housing Projects**

3289. SHRI MANJUNATH KUMAR:  
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:  
SHRI M. APPADURAI:  
SHRI RAKESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to provide low-cost housing in different parts of the country;

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

(c) whether Government is likely to take States into confidence in implementing such a scheme in States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (d) For integrated development of slums through projects for providing shelter, basic services and other civic amenities with a view to provide utilities to the urban poor in select 63 cities a Sub-mission on Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP) has been launched on 03.12.2005. In the remaining cities/towns an Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP) has also been launched on 03.12.2005. IHSDP has subsumed Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana (VAMBAY) and National Slum Development Programme (NSDP). The targeted beneficiaries are slum dwellers/urban poor/EWS/LIG categories.

*[Translation]***Setting up of Power Distribution Transformers**

3290. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:  
SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:  
SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up power distribution transformers in each village of the country during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the time by which these are likely to be set up;

(c) the total outlay prescribed for rural power distribution during the current year;

(d) whether the scheme to electrify 1.25 lakh villages is being completed on an year to year basis;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There is a provision for erection of at least one Distribution Transformer of appropriate capacity in each village of the country as a component of Village Electricity Infrastructure envisaged under "Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Viduyutikaran Yojana" (RGGVY). Under the scheme, Government proposes to

electrify all un-electrified villages/habitations and provide access to electricity to all rural households in un-electrified and electrified villages in the entire country by 2009.

(c) An outlay of Rs. 3000 crore has been provided in year 2006-07 under RGGVY.

(d) and (e) There are more than 1.25 lakh un-electrified villages in the country. Ministry of Power has kept a target to electrify around one lakh villages under this scheme. Year-wise targets of village electrification are as below:-

Year	No. of Villages to be electrified
2005-06	10,000
2006-07	40,000
2007-08	40,000
2008-09	10,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,00,000</b>

Balance around 25,000 villages are in remote areas and are being covered by Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources under their remote village electrification programme.

The scheme will be subject to evaluation and a view on its continuation for implementation during 11th Plan will be taken after a comprehensive review towards the end of 10th Plan.

Village Electricity infrastructure, has been provided to 9819 villages in 2005-06 against a target of 10,000 villages.

(f) Question does not arise.

*[English]*

#### **Development of Ten Sub City**

3291. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal from the Government of Gujarat for development of Ten Sub City;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present Status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The Government of Gujarat has not submitted any proposal for development of Ten Sub City. However, projects related to water supply have been received from 17 towns of Gujarat under Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) during the year 2005-06, out of which projects related to 9 towns, namely Kheda, Mehsana, Kadi, Godhra, Radhan, Himmatnagar, Prantij, Surendranagar, and Valsad have been approved and 1st installment of Central share amounting to Rs.198.64, 376.30, 209.40, 578.61, 89.81, 325.97, 111.97, 306.05 and 247.43 lakhs respectively has been released, totaling to Rs.24.44 crores.

#### **Conference of Central and States Power Regulators**

3292. SHRI SURESH ANGADI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Conference of Central and States Power Regulators was held in New Delhi recently; and

(b) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) Under the provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003, Central Government has constituted the Forum of Regulators which consists of the Chairperson of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission and Chairpersons of the State Electricity Regulatory Commissions. Chairperson of the Central Commission is the Chairperson of the said Forum.

A meeting of the Forum of Regulators was held at New Delhi on 20-21 April, 2006. Following issues pertaining to the electricity sector were deliberated:

- Issues relating to implementation of the Tariff Policy
- Harnessing of Surplus Captive Generation
- Rising Cost of Traded Power
- Consumer Advocacy Mechanism.

#### **Loan from Japan**

3293. SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:  
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:  
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:  
SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Japan has agreed to provide 5,910 crore ODA loan to Government of India;

(b) if so, the details of the loans alongwith terms and conditions; and

(c) the projects on which these loans are proposed to be utilized, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) Government of Japan has agreed to extend loan of Yen 155.458 billion (about Rupees 5910 crores) to India for ten projects under Official Development Assistance (ODA) package for financial year (FY) 2005-06.

(b) and (c) Government of Japan has extended loan for the following ten projects under Official Development Assistance (ODA) package for financial year 2005-06, under Terms and Conditions given below:

Name of the Project	Name of the State where the project is located	Loan amount (in Yen Million)	Rate of Interest	Repayment Period	Disbursement period (after effective date of loan agreement)
1	2	3	4	5	6
Purulia Pumped Storage project (III)	West Bengal	17,963 (Rs.682.95 crore)#	1.3%	30 years (including 10 years' grace period)	7 years
Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Project (II-2)	Karnataka	28,358 (Rs.1078.17 crore)#	0.75% for sewerage part of the project and 1.3% for the water supply portion	40 years (including 10 years' grace period) for sewerage part of the project and 30 years (including 10 years' grace period) for water supply portion.	10 years
Rural Electrification Project	Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra	20,629 (Rs.784.31 crore)#	0.75%	15 years (including 5 years' grace period)	6 years
Delhi Mass Rapid Transport System – Phase-II-1 Project	NCT of Delhi	14,900 (Rs.586.49 crore)#	1.3%	30 years (including 10 years' grace period)	5 years
Bangalore Metro Rail Project.	Karnataka	44,704 (Rs.1699.65 Crore)#	1.3%	30 years (including 10 years' grace period)	10 years
Vishakhapatnam Port Expansion Project (Engineering Services)	Andhra Pradesh	161 (Rs.6.12 crore)#	1.3%	30 years (including 10 years' grace period)	5 years
Swan River Integrated Watershed Management Project	Himachal Pradesh	3,493 (Rs.132.80 crore)#	0.75%	40 years (including 10 years' grace period)	10 years
Orissa Forestry Sector Development Project	Orissa	13,937 (Rs.529.88 crore)#	0.75%	40 years (including 10 years' grace period)	10 years

1	2	3	4	5	6
Hussain Sagar Lake and Catchment Area Improvement Project	Andhra Pradesh	7,729 (Rs.293.86 crore)#	0.75%	40 years (including 10 years' grace period)	10 years
Kolkata Solid Waste Management Improvement Project	West Bengal	3,584 (Rs. 136.26 crore)#	0.75%	40 years (including 10 years' grace period)	8 years

# @ 100 Yen = 38 Rupees

In respect of Rural Electrification project, REC Ltd. is the borrower of the loan. For other 9 projects Government of India is the borrower.

[Translation]

#### Handing Over to NTPC Management

3294. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (MOHANLAL GANJ): Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to hand over the management of those power houses to developers like National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) which have Plant Load Factor (PLF) less than 60 per cent;

(b) if so, the reaction received from respective States thereto; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government on the basis of these reactions?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above, however, Ministry of Power has launched the "Partnership in Excellence" Programme for optimum utilization of the under performing power stations of the country. Ministry has initially identified 26 such power stations which are operating at below 60% PLF. "Partnership in Excellence" is to be forged between these 26 stations and those utilities that are performing better so as to utilize the expertise of the better performing stations to improve the generation potential of these stations at a reasonable cost in the shortest possible time. Out of 26 thermal power Stations, revival of four stations have been found economically unviable, partnership of sixteen stations have been forged with National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), two with Andhra Pradesh Generation Company (APGENCO) and one each with Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Ltd. (RRVUNL) and Tata Power. In remaining two stations, viz., Gandhinagar and Kutch Lignite, GESECL has undertaken to improve performance by self O and M.

[English]

#### Case Reserve Ratio

3295. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bankers have been pressing for a cut in Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) from the existing 5 per cent to 3 per cent;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the decision of the Government thereon; and

(d) the extent to which it is likely to increase the flexibility in interest rates especially in small savings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (d) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has been pursuing the medium term objective of reducing the Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) to the statutory minimum level of 3.0% of net demand and time liabilities (NDTL). The CRR has gradually come down from 11.0 % of NDTL in 1998 to 4.5% in June, 2003. It marginally increased to 5.0% of NDTL since 2nd October, 2004. Since then, there has been no change in the prescribed CRR.

RBI has been closely monitoring the overall liquidity conditions and has policy instruments, which it could use flexibly to ensure that appropriate liquidity is maintained in the system so that all legitimate requirements of credit are met consistent with the objective of price and financial stability.

The deposits rates of commercial banks, except those prescribed for saving bank accounts have been deregulated since October, 1997 and banks are presently free to determine their own deposit rates, depending on their commercial judgement.

*[Translation]***Loans for Poor**

3296. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have formulated any special loan scheme for the poor living in urban areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any instructions have been issued to the State Governments to provide loan under subsidy to the unemployed and the poor people of urban areas for their employment; and
- (d) the amount of subsidy provided to them under the said scheme during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c) Ministry of Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation have not formulated any special loan scheme for the urban poor. Under the Scheme of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), the employment oriented urban poverty alleviation scheme of the Ministry, assistance is provided to the urban poor living below the poverty line to set up micro-enterprises, under the Urban Self Employment Programme (USEP) component of the Scheme. Under USEP the maximum cost of the project is Rs.50,000/- in case of individual. The subsidy per project is 15% of the project cost and 5% margin money has to be contributed by the beneficiary. The balance 80% is in the form of Bank loan. In case of Women Groups named as Development of Women and Children in Urban Areas (DWCUA) Group, the subsidy is 50% of the project cost or Rs.1,25,000/- whichever is less.

(d) The funds under Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) are provided by the Central Government to the State/UT Governments and not directly to the beneficiary. This is subject to the States/UTs providing Utilization Certificates and Quarterly Progress Reports and committing their State share. The subsidy released by State Governments to individual beneficiaries depends on the project cost(s), case to case, in terms of the scheme guidelines.

*[English]***I.T. Returns**

3297. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether foreign companies out-sourcing work to Indian arms have been asked to file tax returns;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Income Tax Department has the jurisdiction to ask non-resident parents that outsource work here to file returns;
- (e) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, year-wise; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir, some foreign companies who have outsourced work to their Indian arm have been asked to file tax returns.

(b) In six cases, foreign companies have been asked to file their tax returns by the Directorate of International Taxation.

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

(d) Yes, Sir. Any foreign company deriving income from India can be asked to file a return under section 142(1) of the Income-tax Act, 1961.

(e) As indicated above in part (b), the Directorate of International Taxation has asked foreign companies to file tax returns in six cases for the Assessment Year 2003-04 and in one case for three Assessment Years i.e.2003-04 to 2005-06.

(f) Does not arise in view of answer to part (d) and (e) above.

**Generation of Electricity for Commonwealth Games**

3298. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any new scheme to generate electricity for Commonwealth Games;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the estimated Megawatts of electricity to be produced; and

(d) the details thereof along with the salient features of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (d): The Delhi Transco Ltd. (DLT) has informed that for the provision of electricity for Delhi, they have signed Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) with NTPC from upcoming power projects as follows:

Name of Station	Installed Capacity in MW	Allocation to Delhi in MW
Barh, NTPC (3x660 MW)	1980	155
Kahalgaon Stage-II, NTPC (3x500 MW)	1500	95
Unchahar, NTPC (1x210 MW)	210	24
North Karanpura, NTPC (3x660 MW)	1980	157
<b>Total</b>	<b>5670</b>	<b>431</b>

(ii) The PPAs from the following Generating Stations are also envisaged by DTL:

Name of Station	Installed Capacity in MW	Allocation to Delhi in MW
Dulhasti, NHPC	540	56
Dadri (Th.) Stage-II, NTPC	490	380
Koteshwar, THDC	400	200
Tripura Gas, ONGC	1140	200
<b>Total</b>	<b>2570</b>	<b>836</b>

(iii) The following schemes are contemplated by the Delhi Government:

- a) A 350 MW capacity Pragati Power Plant in Delhi.
- b) A 2000 MW Plant at Chhattisgarh for supply to Delhi.
- c) A 1000 MW Gas based Plant at Bavana in Delhi (Subject to availability of Gas).

[Translation]

#### Power Plants Based on Solar Energy

3299. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the problem being faced in the implementation of Mega Power Plant Scheme based on solar energy in the Mathania village of district Jodhpur;

(b) the time by which it is likely to be resolved; and

(c) the time by which the said plant is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) to (c) The scope and parameters of the 140 MW Integrated Solar Combined Cycle Power project proposed at Mathania, Jodhpur, Rajasthan have undergone changes from the time it was conceived. These include inability to ensure availability of associate fuel which has undergone a change from naphtha to gas, apprehensions on availability of spare parts in future on account of proposed use of an earlier version of solar thermal technology, inability of the contractor to provide a performance guarantee for the integrated combined cycle part of the project and adverse impact on the quantum of GEF grant due to a change in the baseline warranting a relook at project financing. Accordingly, Government of Rajasthan have been advised to prepare a fresh Detailed Project Report (DPR), get it appraised by the Planning Commission and take a fresh investment decision in the matter.

[English]

#### Shortage of Stamp Papers

3300. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of judicial and non-judicial stamp papers, particularly of small denominations in some parts of the country;

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

(c) the reasons for the same; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) No Sir. There is no report of acute shortage of judicial and non-judicial stamp papers, including those of small denominations from any State Governments/ consignees.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.



*[Translation]***Growth of Agriculture Credit**

3301. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE:

SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the growth of agricultural credit in the country during the last year and the current year, State-wise;

(b) whether all the farmers are likely to be covered as per the announcement made by the Government recently in the budget to provide loan to farmers at the rate of 7%;

(c) if so, the upper limit of the aforesaid loan; and

(d) the criteria adopted for sanctioning of loan to farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) The total Ground Level Credit (GLC) flow to agriculture in the country during 2004-05 and 2005-06 is Rs.1,25,309.37 crore and

Rs.1,57,479.57 crore (provisional) respectively. The overall agricultural credit disbursement has recorded a satisfactory growth of around 26% as on 31st March, 2006. The banking system has set a target of Rs. 1,75,000 crore for disbursement during the current financial year. Latest available data in respect of State-wise details of credit flow to agriculture during 2004-05 is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c) As per the announcement made in the budget for the year 2006-07, all the farmers who avail of short term production credit from Co-operative banks, Regional Rural Banks and Commercial Banks will be provided crop loans at 7% with an upper limit of Rs. 3.00 lakh on the principal amount.

(d) Crop loans to the eligible farmers are sanctioned on the basis of scale of finance fixed by the District Level Technical Committee. The scale of finance is fixed for all crops i.e. Kharif, Rabi, Summer crops, etc. grown in the District. Similarly, investment credit to farmers is sanctioned based on the unit cost fixed by the State Level Unit Cost Committee.

**Statement****Credit Flow to Agriculture-2004-05 – Statewise Data**

State	Public Sector CBs	SCBs/CCBs	SCARDBs/CARDBs	RRBs	Other Agencies	Grand Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>North</b>						
Delhi	3879.57	2.7	0	0	0	3882.27
Chandigarh	907.98	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	908.03
Haryana	3715.70	3899.84	421.13	603.61	0.00	8640.28
Punjab	7695.93	4205.27	475.98	418.98	4.01	12798.17
HP	428.65	111.34	39.08	38.74	26.22	642.03
J&K	63.16	23.59	0.12	24.97	0.04	111.88
Uttar Pradesh	5674.29	1518.35	616.70	2619.30	0.00	10428.64
Uttaranchal	344.97	230.23	0.00	57.12	0.00	632.32
Sub Total	22708.25	9991.37	1553.01	3760.72	30.27	38043.62
<b>East</b>						
A&N Islands	2.56	3.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.87
Bihar	1092.21	273.75	20.00	431.30	0.00	1817.26

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chhattisgarh	206.34	349.27	38.94	132.85	0.10	787.50
Jharkhand	310.34	0.00	0.00	97.05	0.00	407.39
Orissa	709.57	963.72	7.54	304.66	0.22	1985.71
West Bengal	2285.13	487.18	85.00	164.37	4.61	3026.29
Sub Total	4666.15	2077.23	151.48	1130.23	4.93	8030.02
<b>North East</b>						
Arunachal Pradesh	11.79	0.69	0.00	0.09	0.00	12.57
Assam	200.89	3.20	0.00	63.15	0.00	267.24
Manipur	15.62	1.49	0.00	2.13	0.00	19.24
Meghalaya	19.05	1.74	0.00	3.95	0.00	24.74
Mizoram	8.69	2.80	0.00	8.70	0.00	20.19
Nagaland	16.97	2.15	0.00	0.66	0.00	19.78
Sikkim	4.62	0.79	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.41
Tripura	25.14	1.06	0.93	11.05	0.00	38.18
Sub Total	302.77	13.92	0.93	89.73	0.00	407.35
<b>West</b>						
Goa	70.53	9.55	0.00	0.00	0.73	80.81
Gujarat	3025.39	2583.86	39.66	360.39	120.79	6730.09
Madhya Pradesh	2628.89	1738.60	246.01	679.93	0.00	5293.43
Maharashtra	4040.80	3188.65	0.00	191.38	0.00	7420.83
Rajasthan	2328.20	1964.81	164.36	714.88	2.00	5174.25
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.76	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.76
Daman & Diu	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05
Sub Total	12694.62	9485.47	450.03	1946.58	123.52	24700.22
<b>South</b>						
Andhra Pradesh	8726.50	2077.00	0.00	2687.00	0.00	13490.50
Karnataka	4829.77	1162.74	83.39	1205.37	11.19	7292.46
Kerala	2703.40	1790.62	141.68	1076.59	1.18	5713.47
Tamilnadu	7459.02	2209.79	30.11	507.78	21.70	10228.40
Lakshadweep	0.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.62
Pondicherry	114.48	12.48	0.19	0.00	0.00	127.15
Sub Total	23833.79	7252.63	255.37	5476.74	34.07	36852.60

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Other States	12.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12.24
RIDF	941.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	941.23
Other Bonds	58.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	58.67
Private Sector CBs						16263.42
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>65217.72</b>	<b>28820.62</b>	<b>2410.82</b>	<b>12404.00</b>	<b>192.79</b>	<b>125309.37</b>

CBs	- Commercial Banks
SCBs	- State Co-operative Banks
COBs	- Central Co-operative Banks
SCARDBs	- State Co-operative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks
PCARDBs	- Primary Co-operative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks
RRBs	- Regional Rural Banks

[English]

### Gas-Based Power Plants

3302. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up two gas-based power plants with total installed capacity of 8000 MW at Krishnapatnam in Nellore District in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) There is no proposal to set up gas based power plants with total installed capacity of 8,000 MW at Krishnapatnam, Nellore District in Andhra Pradesh under Central Sector. National Electricity Policy stipulates that for thermal power, economics of generation and supply of electricity should be the basis for choice of fuel from among the options available. It further stipulates that use of gas as a fuel for power generation would depend upon its availability at reasonable prices.

### Water Supply and Sanitation

3303. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to privatize the Water Supply and Sanitation Services in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the investments share proposed to be made by the Government in this sector;

(d) the concrete measures taken by the Government to ensure these services are made available to the people on reasonable rates;

(e) whether the World Bank has offered assistance to improve quality and supply of drinking water arrangements; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### Interests of General Investors

3304. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) The details of the measures taken by the Government to safeguard the interest of general investors;

(b) whether the Government have taken steps in this regard recently;

(c) if so, how these measures are different from the measures taken earlier; and

(d) The role of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) in this regard during the last year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) The SEBI Act and the Companies Act and Rules and Regulations made thereunder mandate measures to be taken by the Government and the Regulators to safeguard the interest of investors in securities.

(b) The recent measures taken by Government include the proposal in the budget for 2006-07 to set up an investor protection fund under the aegis of SEBI.

(c) Different measures are being taken to improve the regulatory framework and systems and practices in the securities market and to strengthen the investor protection mechanism. This is a continuous process.

(d) SEBI is mandated to protect the interest of investors in securities. The major initiatives taken by SEBI recently include introduction of optional grading of public issues by unlisted companies, high corporate governance standards, setting up of National Institute of Securities Markets, etc.

[Translation]

#### Research Institutions

3305. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of research institutions/bodies functioning under the Ministry, State-wise particularly in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the budget allocation made to each of these institutions during the last three years and current year, year-wise;

(c) whether some institutions have not utilized the allocated funds fully; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### Pending proposals under CAPART

3306. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the project proposals received by the Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART) during 2005-06 and the current year indicating the number out of them pending so far alongwith the reasons for such pendency;

(b) whether the CAPART has strengthened the procedure for speedy disposal of project proposals received by it;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the extent to which the new changes are likely to improve the proposal clearance procedure 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 details of project proposals received by the Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART) during 2005-06 and the current year (till 30.4.2006) and number out of them pending so far are given as under:-

Year 2005-06		Year 2006-07 (till 30.4.06)	
No. of project proposals received	No. of project proposals pending	No. of project proposals received	No. of project proposals pending
2201	1376	129	124

The reasons for Pendency are as under:-

- i) Only 6 meetings of National Standing Committee (NSC) were held during 2005-06 as against 11 and 12 meetings of NSC held during the year 2004-05 and 2003-04 respectively.
- ii) Submission of incomplete proposals and the proposals not being as per the guidelines.
- iii) Delay in the compliance by the NGOs on shortcomings in the project proposals.
- iv) Finalisation/revision of scheme guidelines.

(b) Yes, Sir

(c) and (d) In order to strengthen the procedure for speedy disposal of project proposals, the following procedure have been adopted:

- (1) All the applications for the year 2006-07 will be received by 31st October, 2006, after which no fresh proposals will be received for the financial year 2006-07. The remaining period of the financial year will be devoted to processing and disposal of the pending proposals and issue of sanction orders.

- (2) If the proposal is not as per the prescribed norms/guidelines and not submitted in the format of the concerned schemes, it should be rejected with the approval of the Head of Division/Deputy Director General at the Headquarter and Member Convenor at the Regional Committee level.
- (3) The NGO will be provided opportunity to submit clarifications/lacking documents within a period of 45 days.
- (4) Time limit of 45 days has been fixed for completing the assignment of pre-funding appraisal by the Facilitator cum Evaluator (FCE).
- (5) The fund release should be completed within 15 days after receipt of the duly accepted Terms and Conditions from the VO.

The above mentioned measures are expected to improve the procedure for clearance of proposals received in CAPART to a considerable extent.

#### **Vanished Companies**

3307. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI:  
SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:

Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is planning to make a website of vanishing companies having details of promoters alongwith their photo and assets, to increase awareness among the public;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has a PAN based central system to prevent such people from registering new companies;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the measures taken by the Government to address investor's grievances and save gullible investor from falling into the trap by vanished companies?

THE MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA): (a) and (b) No Sir. However, the Ministry has placed the details of vanishing companies and names and addresses of their promoters /directors on its website [www.mca.gov.in](http://www.mca.gov.in) for wider public information.

(c) and (d) No Sir.

(e) A Central Coordination and Monitoring Committee, co-chaired by Secretary, Ministry of Company Affairs and Chairman, SEBI has been set up to look into issues relating to vanishing companies and to monitor the progress of action taken against them.

Besides taking action against these companies and their promoters/directors under the Companies Act and the Indian Penal Code, the Ministry is implementing an e-Governance project under which the identity of directors has been built in through the introduction of a Director Identification Number (DIN).

In addition, the Ministry has also sponsored another website known as [www.watchoutinvestors.com](http://www.watchoutinvestors.com), under Investor Education and Protection Fund (IEPF), which is a national registry of economic defaulters.

#### **Shares of PSBs**

3308. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:

SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the quantum of share held by Foreign Institutional Investors in public/private sector banks, instead of increasing, have continuously been decreasing day by day;
- (b) if not, the present status of the quantum of shares held by FIIs in each of the said banks;
- (c) whether RBI has further issued some guidelines to safeguard the interest of National Stock Exchange as well as Bombay Stock Exchange on the said subject;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether a ceiling of FIIs has been fixed in public sector banks; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. FIIs hold 1,898,021,945 shares of public and private sector banks as on 31.03.2006 as against 789,340,406 shares held as on 31.01.2004. The bank-wise details of quantum of shares held by Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) in public and private sector banks as on 31.01.2004, 31.01.2005 and 31.03.2006 are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The Stock Exchanges in India come under the regulatory purview of the Securities and Exchange Board of India.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) The total Non-resident holdings in public sector banks including investment by FIIs is limited to 20% of paid up capital.

**Statement**

Sl. No.	Name of the Bank	No. of shares held by FIIs as on 31.01.2004	% to PUC*	No. of shares held by FIIs as on 31.01.2005	% to PUC	No. of shares held by FIIs as on 31.03.2006	% to PUC
1.	Andhra Bank	21,577,223	5.39	49,323,336	12.33	84,030,646	17.32
2	Bank of Baroda	47,540,615	16.14	55,988,957	19.01	73,356,892	20.13
3.	Bank of India	23,764,900	4.86	41,056,728	8.40	64,468,034	13.19
4.	Canara Bank	43,600,569	10.63	63,923,680	15.59	74,935,787	18.27
5.	Centurion Bank	7,673,437	5.37	112,784,717	14.19	277,578,001	21.67
6.	Corporation Bank	11,083,135	7.72	15,128,945	10.54	14,447,387	10.07
7.	Federal Bank	1,065,637	4.80	2,865,617	12.92	18,315,281	27.53
8.	HDFC Bank	76,738,812	27.02	84,676,332	29.82	102,208,872	32.71
9.	ICICI Bank	283,378,082	36.63	359,461,244	49.00	414,816,138	46.63
10	IDBI Bank	4,947,733	2.35	25,489,653	12.12	0	0.00
11	Indian Overseas Bank	1,131,795	0.20	26,276,074	4.82	94,949,445	17.42
12	Indusind Bank	13,678,792	4.70	19,645,682	6.75	37,520,769	12.90
13	ING Vysya Bank	4,645,021	20.53	4,024,690	17.79	15,502,328	17.03
14	Jammu & Kashmir Bank	7,712,696	15.90	10,528,321	21.70	14,549,707	29.99
15	Karnataka Bank	1,898,653	4.68	2,395,656	5.91	22,913,805	18.88
16	Karur Vysya Bank	919,613	5.10	2,608,246	14.49	2,943,356	16.35
17	Kotak Mahindra Bank	9,435,947	7.92	23,422,188	19.67	64,543,383	20.93
18	Oriental Bank of Commerce	25,375,968	13.17	26,671,319	13.85	49,768,926	19.86
19	Punjab National Bank	29,625,795	11.16	38,778,317	14.61	63,247,778	20.00
20	State Bank of India	60,197,755	11.43	62,524,821	11.88	62,503,693	11.87
21	Syndicate Bank	3,683,407	0.78	10,604,713	2.24	63,789,100	13.51
22	UCO Bank	625,000	0.07	7,380,865	0.92	14,571,873	1.82
23	Union Bank of India	53,907,074	11.71	77,447,987	16.83	100,613,918	19.91
24	UTI Bank	33,163,474	14.27	47,498,688	20.44	96,984,197	34.87
25	Vijaya Bank	21,971,273	5.06	55,877,896	12.88	69,462,629	16.02
<b>Total</b>		<b>789,340,406</b>		<b>1,226,385,672</b>		<b>1,898,021,945</b>	

\* PUC means Paid-up capital

[Translation]

#### **Restart of Thermal Plant at Bokaro**

3309. SHRI TEK LAL MAHTO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to restart the thermal power plant situated at Bokaro in Jharkhand;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the hurdles being faced in restarting the said plant; and
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be restarted?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) Thermal Power Plant located at Bokaro in Jharkhand is of 1953 vintage. Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) has planned to carry out the feasibility of replacing these old units by new units. At present, operation of these units with high heat rate and high fuel consumption is viewed as unviable.

#### **Financial Assistance for Modernization of Thermal Power Projects**

3310. SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the thermal power plant of Electricity Boards were under utilized during the last year due to non-supply of adequate quantity and high quality of coal to the power plants of Madhya Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to obtain financial assistance from Germany and Japan for modernization and renovation of the thermal power projects; and
- (d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be received?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) Madhya Pradesh Power Generating Company Ltd. (MPPGCL) has recently reported that Satpura Thermal Power Station has been under-utilized during the last year due to deterioration of coal quality in comparison to the designed coal quality parameters.

(c) and (d) An amount of Euro 96.5 million as development assistance has been committed by Germany

in December, 2005 under Indo-German Energy Programme for improving the efficiency of existing thermal power plants. Renovation and Modernization of Unit No. 6 and 7 of Satpura TPS of Madhya Pradesh has been planned under this assistance.

#### **Scheme for Economic Development**

3311. SHRI RAKESH SINGH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is formulating any scheme to bring about economic development and prosperity through science and technology in the all important agriculture and energy sector of the country; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Science and Technology through Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC) has undertaken select technology demonstration projects in limited areas in states of Bihar, Eastern UP, Uttaranchal, Tamil Nadu, Sikkim and Orissa. The demonstration projects include systems of approach towards increasing productivity of mainly rice and wheat; cultivation of off season vegetables; large scale production of disease free planting materials of large cardamom, citrus, ginger and other vegetables; creation of microwater resources and their efficient utilization for increase in crop productivity and intensity. Energy security through the generation of more clean energy and saving of energy by solid state lighting and other methods to reduce distribution and transmission losses are also priority areas of the Government. These are ongoing efforts in the agriculture and energy sectors.

[English]

#### **Proposal to Harness Captive Generation and Co-generation**

3312. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Electricity Authority proposes to harness captive generation and co-generation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) The National Electricity Policy (NEP) 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 sizable and potentially competitive capacity that could be harnessed for meeting the demand for power. It stipulates that Grid inter-connections for captive generators be facilitated as per section 30 of the Act. The policy states that this should be done on priority basis to enable captive generation to become available as distributed generation along the grid.

With regard to Cogeneration and Non Conventional Energy Sources, the NEP states that a significant potential for cogeneration exists in the country, particularly in the sugar industry. Accordingly, State Electricity Regulatory Commissions (SERCs) may promote arrangements between the co-generator and the concerned distribution licensee for purchase of surplus power from such plants. The policy further states that cogeneration system also needs to be encouraged in the overall interest of energy efficiency and also grid stability.

The Tariff Policy urges the Electricity Regulatory Commissions to create an enabling environment that encourages captive power plants to be connected to the grid. The policy states the following measures in this regard:-

- Such captive plants could inject surplus power into the grid subject to the same regulation as applicable to generating companies. Firm supplies may be bought from captive plants by distribution licensees using the guidelines issued by the Central Government under section 63 of the Act.
- The prices should be differentiated for peak and off-peak supply and the tariff should include variable cost of generation at actual levels and reasonable compensation for capacity charges.
- Alternatively, a frequency based real time mechanism can be used and the captive generators can be allowed to inject into the grid under the ABT mechanism.
- Wheeling charges and other terms and conditions for implementation should be determined in advance by the respective State Commission, duly ensuring that the charges are reasonable and fair.

- Grid connected captive plants could also supply power to non-captive users connected to the grid through available transmission facilities based on negotiated tariffs. Such sale of electricity would be subject to relevant regulations for open access.

Central Electricity Authority has interacted with captive generators for addressing difficulties in harnessing surplus captive power to the grid.

#### Freezing of Foreign Currency

3313. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any plan to freeze the foreign currency reserves upto 150 billion dollars;
- (b) if so the details thereof;
- (c) whether high foreign currency reserves put pressure on the Indian economy and also increase the interest rates;
- (d) if so, the remedial measures taken in this regard;
- (e) whether Government has any plan to divert this fund to development of infrastructure in the country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) India's foreign exchange reserves stood at US dollar 160.7 billion as on April 28, 2006. There is no proposal to cap such reserves at a level of US dollar 150 billion.

(c) and (d) There is no evidence to suggest that increase in foreign exchange reserves in recent years has adversely affected economic growth or interest rates. While the economy has achieved GDP growth rates between 7.5-8.5 per cent during the last three years, the RBI's bank rate has remained stable at 6.0 per cent during this period.

(e) and (f) There is currently no proposal to utilize a part of the foreign exchange reserves directly to fund infrastructure development.

#### Committee for Credit Card

3314. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:



(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has constituted a Committee to suggest ways to promote and protect consumer interest in the matter of credit cards by banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Committee had submitted its report to the Government;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (e) Pursuant to the announcement made in the Mid-term Review of the Annual Policy Statement 2004-05 in October, 2004, a Working Group was constituted in the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to examine the regulatory and customer protection aspects of credit cards and suggest measures for card usage in a safe, secure and customer friendly manner. Based on the recommendations of the Working Group as also the feedback/suggestions on the report of the Group as well as on the draft guidelines received from members of the public, credit card associations, consumer bodies and card issuing banks, RBI has issued guidelines on credit card operations to banks/NBFCs on 21st November, 2005, which are also available at RBI website [www.rbi.org.in](http://www.rbi.org.in). These guidelines cover almost all issues concerning credit card operations like interest and other charges, wrongful billing, use of Direct Sales Agents (DSAs)/Direct Marketing Agents (DMAs), protection of consumer rights, redressal of grievances etc.

#### **Assessment of Gross Domestic Product**

3315. SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPAPARAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government requested the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to assess the gross domestic product of a country on the basis of its Purchasing Power Parity (PPP), while reviewing Special Drawing Rights (SDR) of current prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith details of IMF's last review;

(c) whether the country's GDP is still low, and it ranks fourth in terms of GDP measured on the basis of PPP; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for 2004 measured on the basis of PPP is fourth highest among 163 countries compared by the World Bank in its World Development Indicators, 2006. Thus, the position of India in terms of PPP based GDP is quite high.

(d) No action is required to be taken by the Government.

#### **Warning from International Credit Agencies**

3316. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received warnings from international credit agencies for increased borrowings;

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

(c) the total size of borrowings from abroad as well as domestic sources at present alongwith figures for the borrowings from abroad during the last two years;

(d) whether the Government are considering any proposal to restrict borrowings; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) While some international credit rating agencies have expressed concern about the level of government debt, they also expect continued fiscal consolidation and lowering of the government debt-GDP ratio.

(c) The total public debt, including internal and external debt of the Government, at the end of 2005-2006, is estimated at Rs. 14,24,335 crore (RE). The external debt (at book value) is estimated at Rs. 60,877 crore at the end of 2004-05 and Rs. 68,392 crore at the end of 2005-06 (RE).

(d) Central Government has been following a

policy of fiscal rectitude in tune with the provisions of the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, 2003, so as to reduce fiscal deficit as percentage of GDP and thereby moderate recourse of Central Government to borrowings.

(e) Does not arise in view of reply to part (d) above.

[Translation]

#### **Privatisation of Housing Sector**

3317. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to encourage private sector to meet the increasing demand for housing units;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a new town-ship policy is being formulated; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) In the draft National Urban Housing and Habitat Policy, there are suggestions to encourage the private sector and public-private partnerships.

(c) and (d) In the draft National Urban Housing and Habitat Policy, there is a suggestion to promote in-situ urbanization to reduce pace of rural to urban migration, which could be achieved through development of integrated townships using in-situ facilities or in Greenfield situations. This would avoid overcrowding in existing Towns and Cities.

[English]

#### **Outsourcing of Banking Business**

3318. SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India has issued any guidelines to individual banks in regard to outsourcing of regular banking business to outside agencies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons of such move?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Banks have been permitted to use the services of intermediaries in providing financial and banking services through the use of Business Facilitator and Business Correspondent models. The guidelines have been issued to banks by RBI in January 2006.

Under the "Business Facilitator" model, banks may use intermediaries such as NGOs/Farmers Clubs, cooperatives, community based organisations, Post Offices, Insurance Agents, well functioning Panchayats, Village Knowledge Centers, Agri Clinics/Agri Business Centers, etc. for providing facilitation services. Such services may include identification of borrowers; collection and preliminary processing of loan applications including verification of primary information/data; creating awareness about savings and other products and education and advice on managing money and debt counseling, etc.

Under the "Business Correspondent Model, NGOs/MFIs set up under Societies/Trust Act, Societies registered under Mutually Aided Cooperative Societies Acts or the Cooperative Societies Acts of States, Section 25 companies and Post Office may act as Business Correspondents. The scope of activities under taken by Business Correspondents will include - disbursement of small value credit; recovery of principal/collection of interest; collection of small value deposits; sale of micro insurance/mutual fund products/pension products/other third party products and receipt and delivery of small value remittances/other payment instruments. This has been done to make available institutional credit to the masses.

#### **Low Operational Efficiency**

3319. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether operational efficiency power generation is very low in some States;

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

(c) the power generation capacity and actually generated in each State annually;

(d) the reasons for low operational efficiency; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) The State-wise details of installed capacity, actual generation as well as operational efficiency (plant load factor) of thermal power plants in the country during the year 2005-06 are given in the enclosed statement.

(d) The identified reasons for low operational efficiency of thermal power plants are as under:

- Some of the generating stations are uneconomic for example Dhuvaran, Trombay TPS, Chandrapur TPS.
- Certain coal based stations being of very old design have had frequent outages and also require longer maintenance period.
- The shortfall in thermal generation due to heavy monsoon, specially in Western and Southern Region during the year 2005-06, giving rise to increase in hydro generation and dip in thermal generation.

(e) The following measures are being taken to increase the plant load factor (PLF) of thermal power stations in the country:

- i. Government of India provides interest subsidy through Power Finance Corporation and Rural Electrification Corporation to States/Utilities under Accelerated Power Generation and Supply Programme (AG&SP) for undertaking Renovation, Modernization and Life Extension schemes.
- ii. Poorly performing power stations have been identified and are linked with better performing stations under the scheme "Partnership for Excellence" for adopting better operational practices.
- iii. Reducing period of planned maintenance and adopting better operation and maintenance practice.
- iv. Efforts for supply of adequate quantity of coal through import.
- v. Early stabilization of new generating units.
- vi. Creation of robust national grid to facilitate inter-regional transmission of power for optimal utilization of electrical energy in the country and thereby improving the PLF of thermal power stations.
- vii. Vigorous pursuance of quarterly performance of low performing power utilities in the country.

**Statement**

*State (Utility) wise Installed Generating Capacity Actual Generation and Plant Load Factor of Thermal Power Stations during 2005-06*

Sl.No.	State/Utilities	Installed Capacity (MW)	Generation (Actual) (MU)	PLF(%)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Indraprastha Power Generation Company Limited	994.9	5598.12	46.5
2.	Haryana Power Generation Company Limited	1540.0	8961.79	66.3
3.	Punjab State Electricity Board	2120.0	14834.43	79.9
4.	Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited	2408.8	18684.95	90.8
5.	Uttar Pradesh Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited	4070.0	19369.71	55.7
6.	Gujarat Electricity Board	3759.0	21072.70	64.0
7.	Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Limited	250.0	168.29	26.7
8.	Gujarat State Electricity Corporation Limited	670.6	5237.54	93.8
9.	Madhya Pradesh Power Generating Company Limited	2282.5	13540.42	67.7

1	2	3	4	5
10.	Chhattisgarh State Electricity Board	1280.0	8944.11	79.8
11.	Maharashtra State Electricity Board	7337.0	44675.95	72.7
12.	Andhra Pradesh Power Generation Corporation Limited	2952.5	20741.83	80.2
13.	Karnataka Power Corporation Limited	1470.0	9173.48	71.2
14.	Tamil Nadu Electricity Board	3401.0	20779.19	72.2
15.	Bihar State Electricity Board	540.0	120.86	2.6
16.	Jharkhand State Electricity Board	840.0	846.34	11.5
17.	Tenughat Vidyut Nigam Limited	420.0	1527.48	41.5
18.	Orissa Power Generation Company	420.0	3094.78	84.1
19.	Durgapur Projects Limited	395.0	2175.90	62.9
20.	West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited	3010.0	15108.95	59.3
21.	Assam State Electricity Board	574.5	810.92	16.1

#### Imposition of Ban by SEBI

3320. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Stock Market Regulator, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has imposed ban on some financiers from trading as reported in the 'Times of India', dated April 28, 2006;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the SEBI has also indicted some of the biggest names in the financial market for their role in the IPO scam which came into light in December, 2005;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the SEBI against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (e) SEBI, vide its interim order dated April 27, 2006 has directed 85 financiers and 24 key operators not to buy, sell or deal in securities market including in IPOs, directly or indirectly, till further directions. The details of the order are: available on SEBI's website [www.sebi.gov.in](http://www.sebi.gov.in)

#### IFCL

3321. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2492 on December 9, 2005 and state:

(a) whether India Infrastructure Finance Company Limited (IIFCL) has been set up; and

(b) if so, its composition and main functions therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) Yes, Sir. The India Infrastructure Finance Company Limited (IIFCL) has received certificate of incorporation on January 5, 2006 with an authorized capital of Rs. 1000 crore and a paid up capital of Rs. 10 crore.

(b) The Board of Directors of IIFCL will have two whole time Directors one of whom shall be Chairman and Managing Director, two director(s) who may be officials of the Central Government, and three part time directors who will be experts from outside the Government. The SPV would provide long term finance for infrastructure projects.

#### NABARD Aided Rural Roads

3322. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of roads in the rural areas of country being constructed and the number of metalled roads proposed to be constructed with the help from National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), State-wise; and

(b) the amount likely to be spent on the construction of each road?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) sanctions loan for metalled roads. The total number of Rural Road projects (Village Roads, Ordinary District Roads and Major District Roads) sanctioned so far under RIDF Tranche I to XI is 49,311. The total amount of loan sanctioned for all roads in the country so far is Rs.17,577.20 crore. State-wise details of number of projects and amount of loan sanctioned are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) The average cost of construction of road per kilometer for all States comes to Rs.8.69 lakh.

**Statement**

*Rural Roads Projects – State-wise RIDF Sanctions  
(RIDF I to XI)*

(As on 31-03-2006)

S. No.	State	Number of Projects	RIDF Loan (Rs. in crore)
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	3,349	2,417.96
2	Arunachal Pradesh	15	204.17
3	Assam	107	144.58
4	Bihar	28	270.98
5	Goa	97	20.44
6	Gujarat	4,673	637.74
7	Haryana	191	350.86
8	Himachal Pradesh	359	571.55
9	Jammu & Kashmir	700	732.62
10	Karnataka	4,007	1,502.21
11	Kerala	750	481.9
12	Madhya Pradesh	514	613.21
13	Maharashtra	5,485	1,550.25
14	Manipur	0	0

1	2	3	4
15	Meghalaya	137	64.02
16	Mizoram	5	61.08
17	Nagaland	147	114.04
18	Orissa	227	471.64
19	Punjab	553	536.49
20	Rajasthan	8,045	1,239.09
21	Tamil Nadu	6,202	1,600.69
22	Tripura	0	0
23	Uttar Pradesh	11,402	1,591.72
24	West Bengal	1,115	1,517.70
25	Sikkim	45	23.67
26	Jharkhand	291	200.43
27	Chhattisgarh	289	300.53
28	Uttaranchal	578	357.63
<b>Total</b>		<b>49,311</b>	<b>17,577.20</b>

**Loss Incurred by Delhi Metro**

3323. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Metro is incurring huge losses due to inadequate feeder services at various stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the ridership and to provide efficient feeder services to facilitate the metro travellers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (GNCTD) has reported the following steps taken by the State Government:-

(i) State Transport Authority (STA) has so far provided 65 dedicated Rural Transport Vehicle (RTV)/Mini Buses on feeder routes connecting various Metro Stations. Till date, 250 permits have been issued to operators on these routes.

- (ii) 670 existing DTC/Private buses, operating on various routes are also providing Metro feeder services for different Metro Stations.
- (iii) STA has taken decision to identify the metro affected routes and thereafter an option will be given to the bus operators of such routes to shift to other routes where the vacancies exist.

#### Uniform Tariff for All Imports

3324. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has suggested a uniform tariff rate for all imports;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has accepted the suggestions of RBI; 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. RBI in its Annual Report 2004-2005 has stated that positive development in the external sector provide environment for further rationalization of tariffs with a view towards moving to a single, uniform rate on imports, say 10 per cent.

(c) and (d) The stated policy of the Government is to reduce customs duty on non-agricultural products so as to bring it closer to East Asian rates. In line with this policy, the peak rate of import duty on non-agricultural products is being reduced over the years. Such reductions are independent of suggestions by RBI.

[Translation]

#### Debt Recovery Tribunal

3325. SHRI MUNSHI RAM:

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Debt Recovery Tribunal was constituted in Chandigarh under the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutes Act, 1993 to deal with cases relating to Punjab, Haryana, Himachal, Chandigarh and Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of cases cleared by the said Tribunal during last three years and from January 2006 to March 2006?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Debts Recovery Tribunal (DRT) Chandigarh was established on 24.3.2000 under the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act., 1993 to deal with cases relating to Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana and U.T. of Chandigarh.

(c) As reported by the Tribunal, the number of cases disposed of was 645 during the year 2003, 556 during the year 2004 and 201 during the year 2005. 140 cases including 73 original applications have been disposed of during the period from January, 2006 to March, 2006.

#### Reservation in Judiciary

3326. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

SHRI KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH:

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

(a) whether provision of reservation in higher courts of the country has not been made so far for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) whether the Government has received representations from Members of Parliament and other Organisations during the last three years requesting for provision of reservation in High Courts and the Supreme Court; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (d) Representations have been received from time to time for appointment of Judges in the High Courts from Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe and OBC categories.

Appointments of Judges of the Supreme Court of India and High Courts are made under articles 124 and 217 of the Constitution of India, respectively, which do not provide for reservation for any caste or class of persons.

The Government have, however, addressed letters to the Chief Ministers of the States and the Chief Justices

of the High Courts, from time to time, requesting them to locate persons from the Bar belonging to Scheduled Castes Scheduled Tribes, other Backward Classes, Minorities and amongst Women who are suitable for appointment as High Court Judges.

[English]

#### Production of Opium

3327. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the annual production of opium in the country in various Poppy growing States, State-wise;
- (b) the total quantum of opium out of this required for pharmaceutical preparation;
- (c) the quantum of opium exported annually;
- (d) whether the Government is aware of the problem of Poppy growers in Rajasthan and other Poppy growing States; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken to resolve their problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The State-wise annual production of opium for the last four crop years is as under:

S.No.	Name of State	Production of opium in tones (at 70 degree consistency)			
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1.	Madhya Pradesh	264	509	234	219*
2.	Rajasthan	387	523	211*	206*
3.	Uttar Pradesh	33	64	1*	2*
	Total	684	1096	446	427

\* Provisional figures: Final Analysis results are awaited from Government Opium and Alkaloid Factory, Ghazipur.

Note: 70 degree consistency means opium which has 70% solids and 30% water. All opium procured from farmers is reckoned at 70 degree consistency.

(b) Total quantum of opium out of this required for pharmaceutical preparation (at 90 degree consistency) is as under:

Year	Opium for manufacture of alkaloids by GOAWs (in MT)	Opium sold to Indian Pharmaceutical industries as medicinal opium (in MT)
2002-03	134.293	5.433
2003-04	102.687	4.993
2004-05	140.445	4.801
2005-06	125.147	5.973

Note: 90 degree consistency means opium containing 90% solids and 10% moisture.

(c) The total quantum of opium exported during the last 4 years is as under :

Year	Quantum of opium exported (in MT) (at 90 degree consistency)		
	Raw Indian Opium	Medicinal Opium	Total
2002-03	490.030	1.925	491.955
2003-04	478.790	2.146	480.936
2004-05	364.361	1.690	366.051
2005-06	501.655	2.840	504.495

Note : 90 degree consistency means opium containing 90% solids and 10% moisture.

(d) Yes, Sir. Representations have been received, from time to time, regarding the problems of the opium cultivators. The main problems highlighted in the representation pertain to cancellation of licence, fixation of the Minimum Qualifying Yield- criteria for grant of licence, testing of opium for determination of grade, compensation on account of damage to the opium crop, uprooting of the opium crop under Departmental supervision, renewal of licence in case of damage to the poppy crop due to natural calamity, expansion of opium cultivation area by issue of new licence, increase in the procurement price of opium, etc.

(e) Over the years several measures have been taken to solve the problems of opium cultivators. All representations relating to the problems of cultivators are attended to and remedial action taken to resolve the same. The Opium Licensing Order, which lays down the conditions of licence, for any crop year is finalized after

considering the problems faced by the opium cultivators in the preceding crop year. Efforts are made to promptly attend to the supervision of uprooting of the unlanded opium crop in all cases where application for uprooting of such crop is received. In other cases also, action is initiated to conduct survey of the concerned areas to ascertain the extent of damage to the poppy crop, if any, due to natural calamity, etc. Periodic meetings of the Grievance/Advisory Committees are held at the Unit Headquarters to redress the grievances of cultivators and suggestions received are examined for appropriate action.

#### Full Capital Account Convertibility

3328. SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR:  
 SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT:  
 SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:  
 SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:  
 SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:  
 SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:  
 SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to introduce full Capital Account Convertibility (CAC);
- (b) if so the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government has constituted a committee for Capital Account Convertibility;
- (d) if so, the terms of reference of the said committee; and
- (e) the time by which the said committee is likely to submit its report to the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Capital account convertibility implies the residents' right to transact in financial assets with foreign countries without restrictions. In India, although convertibility exists in respect of certain constituent elements of the capital account, such convertibility is not complete, particularly with respect to residents borrowing abroad and acquiring large value foreign assets. In view of the growing strength gathered by India's external sector and its considerable integration with the world economy, the issue of moving towards fuller capital account convertibility within a transparent framework assumes importance.

(c) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has constituted a committee under the chairmanship of Shri S.S. Tarapore for setting out a roadmap for moving towards fuller capital account convertibility.

- (d) The terms of reference of the Committee are:
- (i) Review the experience of various measures of capital account liberalization in India.
  - (ii) Examine implications of fuller capital account convertibility on monetary and exchange rate management, financial markets and financial system.
  - (iii) Study the implications of dollarisation in India of domestic assets and liabilities and internationalization of the Indian rupee.
  - (iv) Provide a comprehensive medium-term operational framework with sequencing and timing for fuller capital account convertibility taking into account the above implications and progress in fiscal and revenue deficits of both centre and States.
  - (v) Survey the regulatory framework in countries which have advanced towards fuller capital account convertibility.
  - (vi) Suggest appropriate policy measures and prudential safeguards to ensure monetary and financial stability.
  - (vii) To make such other recommendations as the Committee may deem relevant to the subject.
- (e) The Committee is expected to submit its report by July 31, 2006 to RBI.

[Translation]

#### Acquisition of Foreign Banks by SBI

3329. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the State Bank of India has recently acquired or purposes to acquire any foreign banks;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the countries where SBI is functioning at present;



- (d) whether its foreign based branches are earning any profits;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether the SBI brings back the profit margins earned from its foreign operations; and
- (g) if not, the works for which these profit margins are utilized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) State Bank of India (SBI) has acquired majority equity stake in Indian Ocean International Bank Ltd., Mauritius in April, 2005 and executed transaction documents for acquiring majority stake in Giro Commercial Bank Ltd. Kenya and PT Bank Indo Monex, Indonesia.

(c) SBI is currently functioning in 30 countries i.e USA, Canada, Bahamas, Germany, France, UK, Italy, Belgium, China, Japan, Singapore, Philippines, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Bhutan, Nepal, Mauritius, South Africa, Angola, Egypt, Nigeria, Bahrain, Oman, UAE, Qatar, Iran, Turkey, Russia and Australia.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. During the financial year 2004-05, foreign branches of SBI earned a net profit of USD 46.51 Million.

(f) and (g) Accumulated profits from foreign operations of SBI are retained overseas to support the activities of its foreign offices, including meeting their capital requirements.

*[English]*

**Assistance for Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission**

3330. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Asian Development Bank (ADB) has agreed to provide assistance for Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the terms and conditions; and
- (c) the names of various cities likely to be benefited from such assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Asian Development Bank (ADB) has agreed to provide Technical Assistance to Ministry of Urban Development for implementation of Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM). Out of total Technical Assistance of \$ 2.50 million, ADB's Technical Assistance Funding Programme will be to the tune of \$ 2.00 million whereas the Government of India's contribution of \$ 0.5 million will be in the form of counter-part staff support, office accommodation, facilities for meetings and workshops and other administrative expenses. The Government of India is also required to provide all information and logistic support required for the Technical Assistance activities. The Technical Assistance is meant for strengthening capacity of Ministry of Urban Development for effective and speedy implementation of Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM). It is, therefore, expected to benefit all the cities covered under the Mission.

*[Translation]*

**Power Plant by Reliance Industry at Dadri**

3331. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up Centrally sponsored power plants in Uttar Pradesh keeping in view the growing problem of deficiency of power in the State;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, district-wise;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the time by which the power generation plant is likely to be set up by Reliance Industries at Dadri and become operational?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) Following thermal power projects in the State of Uttar Pradesh have been commissioned/are under construction during 10th Plan in the Central Sector:

1. Rihand STPS St.II Units-3 & 4 (2x500 MW) of NTPC in District Sonbhadra were synchronized on 31.01.2005 and 24.09.2005 respectively.
2. Firoz Gandhi. Unchahar TPP St.III Unit-5 (210 MW)

of NT PC in District Rae Bareilly is under construction and anticipated to be synchronized in July, 2006.

In addition to the above, Dadri-Extn. Project (490 MW) in Ghaziabad District is proposed to be set up by NTPC under central sector in the State of Uttar Pradesh with likely benefit in the year 2011-12.

(d) Reliance Energy Generation Limited has proposed to set up a 4x1400 MW (nominal capacity) Combined Cycle Power Project at Dhirubhai Ambani Energy City, near Dadri in Ghaziabad District of Uttar Pradesh. The first module having a nominal capacity of 1400 MW is proposed for commissioning during 2008-09 and subsequent modules would be commissioned progressively.

#### **Tsunami-Sedimentary Rocks**

3332. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:

SHRI. KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:

SHRI. ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:

SHRI. MOHD. TAHIR:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the earliest Tsunami-sedimentary rocks have been discovered in Jharkhand by Japanese, Polish and Indian experts;

(b) if so, the details of historic finds made by experts from the said discovery;

(c) whether there is any plan to launch such explorations in other States in the country; and

(d) if so, the names of the States where such explorations are likely to be conducted?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (d) Yes Sir. An International team of Polish, Japanese and Indian scientists have claimed to have found from Chaibasa formation in Jharkhand world's oldest 'Seismites' formed by palaeo-earthquakes, that was followed by a tsunami around 1600 Million years ago. Based on a short joint field programme by a team of Indian & Japanese scientists a Joint Indo-Japanese collaborative project on Paleo-tsunami deposits/Paleo-Seismology in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands with the involvement of IIT-Kanpur, IIGM, Centre For Earth Science Studies and Geological Survey of India has been proposed

for identifying major palaeo earthquakes/tsunamis with a view to trace their recurrence history.

[English]

#### **Rise in Prices of Gold and Silver**

3333. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:

SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE:

SHRI MOHAN SINGH:

SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of gold and silver are rising in the country tremendously;

(b) if so, the reasons for this increase;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to bring down the prices of gold and silver;

(d) whether the Government is aware that unaccounted money is being invested in these two precious metals; and

(e) if so, the steps taken/being taken to arrest this phenomenon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) The average price of gold per 10 grams in India rose from Rs. 5192 in April 2003 to Rs. 6551 in November, 2004, but eased lower during the subsequent months to Rs. 6058 in July 2005. The price thereafter firmed up to reach a high of Rs. 8985 in April 2006. The gold prices touched the figure of Rs 10,000 per 10 gm in Kolkata on May 3, 2006. However, it came down to Rs. 9970 per 10 grams on May 8, 2006. Silver prices were generally stable during 2003 at an average of Rs.8130 per Kg, but gained during 2004 to Rs.10550 per Kg. The price was subdued during most of 2005, but showed a distinct firm trend towards the year-end and the start of the current year, with the price reaching at Rs. 19545 per kg in April 2006. On May 3, 2006 in Mumbai, the silver prices for immediate delivery touched to Rs. 21,435 per kg. However, it eased lower to Rs. 20975 per kg on May 8, 2006. The movements in prices of gold and silver in India are generally in tandem with similar movements in international markets. The rise in the prices in the recent periods in India largely reflects the rise in international markets.

(c) to (e) According to World Gold Council, total

consumer demand of gold in India during 2005 amounted to 724 tonnes. The major portion of gold jewellery demand in India is met out of imports, as domestic production is almost negligible. According to the "Committee to examine the regulatory structure of the Gold industry to make India a gold trading hub" the domestic production of gold is only around 2 tonnes per year. In the Budget 2006-07, Government has reduced import duty on gold concentrate to 2 per cent. Provisions are there in the Mineral policy, 1993 in which preference is given to those who propose to take up mining for captive use.

#### **Sale of Coins**

3334. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Union Government and RBI plan memorial coin sales;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and by when it will be implemented; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) No such decision has been taken by the Government. However, to commemorate certain important occasions commemorative coins are minted in the mints with the approval of the Government. These commemorative coins are sold to public by the respective mints on booking, after its release.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

#### **Viability Gap Support**

3335. SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:  
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:  
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD  
SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a high level committee under Economic Affairs Secretary has cleared some projects under Viability Gap Support Scheme as reported in the Times of India dated March 15, 2006;
- (b) if so, the details of the projects;
- (c) the details of the funds released for these projects;

(d) the details of the other projects which are still pending, State-wise;

(e) the time by which these are to be cleared by the High Power Committee to make infrastructure projects economically viable;

(f) whether the pace of utilisation of the allocation suffered a set back due to complexities involved in the project financing mechanism;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the steps taken/being taken by the Union Government to overcome such hurdles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) The Empowered Institution under the chairmanship of Additional Secretary (Department of Economic Affairs) has given in-principle approval to the following 5 projects so far:

- (i) Four laning of Ahmedabad Viramgan, Road (Gujarat).
- (ii) Four laning of Rajkot-Jamnagar-Vadinar Road (Gujarat)
- (iii) Four laning of Halol-Godhara-Shamlaji Road (Gujarat).
- (iv) Four-laning of Osmanabad (Yedshi)-Latur-Nanded Road (Maharashtra)
- (v) Four-laning of Nashik-Niphad-Yeola-Vaijapur Road (Maharashtra).

(c) No funds have so far been released under the Scheme.

(d) Other proposals received so far are not in conformity with the Scheme and hence no other proposal have been submitted to the Empowered Institution.

(e) In-principle approval is issued by the Empowered Institution within 30 days of the receipt of duly completed proposals.

(f) No Sir.

(g) and (h) Does not arise.

#### **Setting up of Riverbed Power House**

3336. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up 1200 MW Riverbed Power House with six-turbine generation units as a part of the Sardar Sarovar Dam Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE) : (a) and (b) The 1200 MW River Bed Power House (RBPH) is a part of the Sardar Sarovar Hydro Electric Project, which is a joint venture between Governments of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh with a share of 16%, 27% and 57% respectively. The project envisages construction of the power complex on Narmada river near Navagam village and canal system to create an irrigation potential of 17.92 lakh hectares in Gujarat and Rajasthan. The salient features of the various components of the Project are:-

- Unit No. I (Dam & Appurtenant Works): Comprising of 1210 m long and 126 m high concrete gravity dam across the main Narmada river along with appurtenant works.
- Unit No. II (Canals): Comprising of 458 Km long Narmada Canal (NMC) up to Gujarat-Rajasthan border, 42 branch canals with gross length of 2524 Km, 7500 Km distributaries and nearly 30,000 Km minors and sub-minors. The vast network of distribution system, including field channels, will have an aggregate length of about 75,000 Km.
- Unit-III (Hydro Power): Comprising an underground River Bed Power House (RBPH) with six units each of 200 MW reversible type Francis turbine, a surface Canal Head Power House (CHPH) with five units each of 50 MW conventional type Kaplan turbine, a switch yard complex and the power transmission network.

(c) Five generator units of 200 MW each of River Bed Power House of Sardar Sarovar Hydro Electric Project have been commissioned progressively from February, 2005 to March, 2006. The sixth unit is likely to be commissioned by June, 2006.

[Translation]

#### **National Mission on Bio-Diesel**

3337. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

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

(a) whether the National Mission on Bio-diesel has got the nod of Planning Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time by which it is likely to be implemented;

(c) whether it will be officially authorized to mix bio-diesel with diesel to increase its popularity and consumption;

(d) if so, whether any exemption in taxes is being demanded on bio-diesel like France, America, Germany and Italy; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Rural Development is the nodal Ministry for the National Mission on Bio-diesel. They have informed that Planning Commission have given in-principle approval in December, 2005 to the proposal on National Mission on Bio-diesel. The National Mission is to be implemented in two phases i.e. Phase-I as Demonstration project and Phase-II, a self-sustaining expansion of Bio-diesel programme. Under the Demonstration phase, promotion of Jatropha cultivation in Forest and Non-forest areas (2 lakh ha. non-forest lands and 2 lakh ha. forest lands) especially in wastelands is proposed to be carried out over a period of 5 years with a total cost of Rs.1286.31 crore. The Ministry of Rural Development have further informed that Rs.49.00 crore was released in March, 2006 in nine States for raising 18 crore Jatropha saplings in nurseries at the district level.

(c) to (e) According to the Bio-Diesel Purchase Policy announced by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, which has come into force w.e.f 1.1.2006, upto 5% of bio-diesel can be blended in high speed diesel. There is no provision for exemption in taxes on bio-diesel in this Bio-Diesel Purchase Policy.

[English]

#### **Foreign and Domestic Investment**

3338. SHRI K.S. RAO:

SHRI SREENIVASULU REDDY:

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has the potential to become a world economic power in the coming years;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons/basic considerations of foreign institutional investors in India with confidence of getting reasonable returns;

(d) whether the Government proposes to further liberalize the foreign investment norms and encourage domestic private sector to produce quality goods and services at competitive rates to effect larger exports; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) India's GDP which has grown during 2003-04 to 2005-06 at 8.5 percent, 7.5 percent and 8.1 percent respectively, has moved on to a high growth trajectory. With US\$ 160.07 billion of foreign exchange reserves (as on 28th April, 2006), India is the sixth largest reserve holding economy in the world. According to the latest World Investment Report (2005) brought out by the UNCTAD, India is the second most attractive destination for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the world. After China and the US, it is also viewed as the most lucrative location for high value added R&D-intensive operations. All these indicators suggest that India is on the threshold of emerging as a leading global economy.

(c) The Indian Capital Market is not only buoyant, but is also endowed with a strong regulatory framework, which is conducive to greater longer term FII participation.

(d) and (e) The policy on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) has been recently reviewed and several rationalization/liberalization measures have been notified vide Press Note No.4 (2006 series), issued by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

#### **Service Tax**

3339. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to further broaden service tax net to include more services;

(b) if so, the number of services covered so far within the purview of this tax since its inception, year-wise; and

(c) the action proposed to ensure that the levy may not hit those who seek genuine medical help frequently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Stated policy of the Government is to widen the tax base including the service tax base.

(b) Details of number of taxable services since 1994 upto 2006 are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Services provided by hospitals to individuals, including diagnostic testing, are not leviable to service tax.

#### **Statement**

Sl. No.	Period	Number of take services
1.	01.07.1994 to 31.10.1996	3
2.	01.11.1996 to 14.06.1997	6
3.	15.06.1997 to 30.06.1997	8
4.	01.07.1997 to 06.07.1997	10
5.	07.07.1997 to 15.07.1997	12
6.	16.07.1997 to 31.08.1997	14
7.	01.09.1997 to 15.10.1998	15
8.	16.10.1998 to 15.07.2001	26
9.	16.07.2001 to 15.08.2002	41
10.	16.08.2002 to 30.06.2003	52
11.	01.07.2003 to 09.09.2004	60
12.	10.09.2004 to 15.06.2005	75
13.	16.06.2005 to 30.04.2006	84
14.	01.05.2006 to till date	99

#### **Slum Areas**

3340. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of slum areas in Delhi are increasing day by day;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check the further coming up of slum areas in Delhi;

(d) whether there is any policy to check the increase in the slums areas; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

**Pending Proposals under PMGSY**

3341. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI:

SHRI M. SHIVANNA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals submitted by various States under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) during the last three years and thereafter, State-wise;

(b) the details of proposals cleared out of them and the proposals still waiting clearance alongwith the reasons for their pendency, State-wise; and

(c) the time by which the pending proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANIA PATIL): (a) to (c) State-wise and Phase-wise details of proposals furnished by the States for the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) and approved by the Ministry of Rural Development during the last three years are given at enclosed statement-I, II and III respectively. Proposals which were in conformity with the PMGSY Guidelines have been cleared up to March, 2006. Submission of project proposals under PMGSY, their scrutiny and approval is a continuous process. Project proposals received from the States of Maharashtra (Phase V), Meghalaya (Phase IV), Punjab (Phase V), Uttar Pradesh (Phase V) and nominated executing agencies in respect of Bihar are being processed as per the provisions of the PMGSY guidelines.

**Statement-I**

*State-wise details of project proposals cleared under Phase-III of PMGSY*

State	Value (Rs. in crore)	No. of Roads	Length (in Kms.)	No. of Habitations benefited
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	186.09	446	1813.87	1273
Arunachal Pradesh	Proposals not submitted.			
Assam	199.715	107	800.095	634
Bihar*	934.97	327	3024.37	327
Chhattisgarh	378.02	293	1913.29	858
Goa	Proposals not submitted.			
Gujarat	96.86	286	609.75	407
Haryana	48.04	14	274.81	102
Himachal Pradesh	334.29	500	2554.414	978
Jammu & Kashmir	91.27	67	295.47	125
Jharkhand	165.07	157	781.99	453
Karnataka	118.41	359	1096.3	842
Kerala	20.54	52	97.96	70
Madhya Pradesh	583	555	2821	836
Maharashtra	147.48	304	926.66	351
Manipur	Proposals not submitted			
Meghalaya	30.05	30	93.101	30
Mizoram	48.88	21	291.94	22
Nagaland	21.44	22	193.42	28
Orissa	440.93	630	2011.92	1222
Punjab	36.81	114	223.95	115
Rajasthan	679.45	1508	5490.7	1646
Sikkim	35.3	21	105.945	29
Tamil Nadu	164.781	498	1113.922	909
Tripura	39.58	7	80.92	7

1	2	3	4	5
Uttar Pradesh	1011.14	2203	4384.52	2655
Uttaranchal	59.53	52	430.37	72
West Bengal	599.28	367	2029.58	1623
<b>Total</b>	<b>6470.93</b>	<b>8940</b>	<b>33460.3</b>	<b>15614</b>

\* Proposals cleared under Phase III / IV / V.

**Statement-II**

*State-wise details of project proposals cleared under Phase-IV of PMGSY*

State	Value (Rs. in crore)	No. of Roads	Length (in Kms.)	No. of Habitations benefited
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	369.24	607	2638.84	2032
Arunachal Pradesh	106.22	64	340.04	72
Assam	244.46	195	750.64	761
Bihar	Indicated under Phase III			
Chhattisgarh	510.83	429	2386.13	1045
Goa	1.08	6	4.32	14
Gujarat	45.59	128	266.21	130
Haryana	40.22	18	183.03	106
Himachal Pradesh	122.54	103	589.51	278
Jammu & Kashmir	144.41	108	413.83	159
Jharkhand	113.78	102	479.39	277
Karnataka	101.17	90	611.96	428
Kerala	52.76	96	179.47	115
Madhya Pradesh	835.99	840	4023.12	1341
Maharashtra	143.15	240	847.81	261
Manipur	Proposals not submitted			
Meghalaya	Under process			
Mizoram	92.79	14	294.63	16
Nagaland	37.51	9	224.50	15

1	2	3	4	5
Orissa	398.72	418	1645.12	675
Punjab	78.87	59	419.41	439
Rajasthan	599.03	1200	4541.39	1360
Sikkim	63.10	34	144.49	53
Tamil Nadu	117.28	412	820.46	420
Tripura	77.98	38	140.78	133
Uttar Pradesh	1013.38	2313	4257.67	2944
Uttaranchal	103.34	78	564.47	213
West Bengal	311.90	152	975.53	883
<b>Total</b>	<b>5725.35</b>	<b>7753</b>	<b>27742.76</b>	<b>14170</b>

**Statement-III**

*State-wise details of project proposals cleared under Phase -V of PMGSY*

State	Value (Rs. in crore)	No. of Roads	Length (in Kms.)	No. of Habitations benefited
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	427.61	526	2217.23	1737
Arunachal Pradesh	204.06	43	399.875	62
Assam	927.01	486	2060.51	1278
Bihar	Indicated under Phase III			
Chhattisgarh	1035.73	990	4467.5	2228
Goa	Proposals not submitted			
Gujarat	121.38	370	763.72	395
Haryana	84.25	26	361.93	149
Himachal Pradesh	295.93	202	1305.646	527
Jammu & Kashmir	Proposals not submitted			
Jharkhand	Proposals not submitted			
Karnataka	260.39	313	1496.86	1080
Kerala	48.95	84	163.919	0
Madhya Pradesh	1114.32	1191	5625.67	1826

1	2	3	4	5
Maharashtra	Under Process			
Manipur	152.23	59	556.19	138
Meghalaya	Proposals not submitted			
Mizoram	121.99	34	494.13	21
Nagaland	70.20	23	390.38	48
Orissa	983.73	827	3351.69	1143
Punjab	Under process			
Rajasthan	976.17	1579	5445.63	1815
Sikkim	149.00	67	323.27	80
Tamil Nadu	174.31	379	849.23	739
Tripura	Proposals not submitted			
Uttar Pradesh	Under process			
Uttaranchal	Proposals not submitted			
West Bengal	313.71	132	999.32	949
<b>Total</b>	<b>7460.96</b>	<b>7331</b>	<b>31272.7</b>	<b>14215</b>

[Translation]

#### **Fire Fighting Measures for High Rising Buildings**

3342. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of high rise and big buildings including schools and colleges in the capital identified as not implementing the prescribed fire-fighting measures;

(b) if so, the total number of such buildings;

(c) whether some big buildings housing schools and colleges also fall in that list; and

(d) the details of the actions proposed to be taken against those erring school authorities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (d) The Delhi Fire Service has reported that in the first phase of survey conducted by it, it has found 2,508 high rise buildings including few schools which have not adopted fire-safety measures as per law. The Fire Service has already initiated action against such buildings by issuing

show cause notice followed by order of disconnection of essential services such as electricity and water.

#### **Protection of Industrial Sector due to Cost Escalation**

3343. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the electricity charges for industrial sector are many times higher than that paid by agriculture and household sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government to protect industrial sector due to cost escalation of electricity charges?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) The electricity charges for industrial sector are generally higher than that paid by the agricultural and household sector due to cross subsidization of the latter by the former.

(b) A statement showing estimated average rates of electricity (updated upto 1.12.2005) for different categories of consumers in various states is given in the enclosed statement.

Under the Electricity Act, 2003, the tariff for supply of power to various categories of consumers is to be determined by the State Electricity Regulatory Commissions and in doing so these Commissions are required to be guided by the provisions contained in Section 61 of the Act which, inter alia, include the factors which would encourage competition, efficiency, economical use of the resources, safeguarding of consumer's interest and at the same time ensure recovery of the cost of electricity in a reasonable manner and also, reduce and eliminate cross-subsidies.

Tariff Policy notified by the Government under the Electricity Act provides that cross subsidies for different consumers are to be reduced and brought within the range of  $\pm 20\%$  of the average cost of supply by the end of the year 2010-11.

The State Government can give subsidy in the tariff determined by the Regulatory Commission, under section 65 of the Act, to the category of consumers it thinks appropriate by paying the amount of such subsidy to the power distribution company.

The provision of Electricity Act 2003 and Tariff Policy stated above will protect industrial sector from cost escalation.



**Statement**

**Central Electricity Authority**  
**Financial Studies & Assistance Division**  
**Estimated Average Rates on Electricity (Updated upto 01.12.2005)**

S.No.	Name of Utility	Tariff effective from	Domestic 1KW (100 KWh/ Month)	Domestic 4KW (400 KWh/ Month)	Domestic 10KW (1000 KWh/ Month)	Commercial 2KW (300 KWh/ Month)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	01-04-2005	238.50	396.63	492.25	599.33
2.	Assam	01-04-2005	277.45	388.60	438.15	527.53
3.	Bihar	01-06-2001	206.70U 63.60 R	237.18	279.84	743.98U 276.87 R
4.	Chhattishgarh	01-03-1999	157.20	253.03	291.62	462.97
5.	Gujarat	25-06-2004	391.84 U 276.29 R	516.46 U 382.44 R	588.71 U 443.99 R	589.61
6.	Haryana	15.08.2004	333.00	379.25	414.50	429.00
7.	Himachal Pradesh	01-07-2005	230.96	270.27	284.96	455.50
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	01-04-1999	122.00	222.00	222.00	277.00
9.	Jharkhand	01-01-2004	163.00 U 74.00 R	183.00	182.00	438.67
10.	Karnataka (Bangalore Metro Area) (Other Areas)	10-10-2005	292.43 281.93	418.30 402.55	482.32 463.42	637.88 630.87
11.	Kerala*	01-04-2004	187.00	398.89	517.61	727.84
12.	Madhya Pradesh	15-07-2005	337.30	424.64	421.55	538.30
13.	Maharashtra	01-12-2003	329.16	367.95	431.70	476.65
14.	Meghalaya	01-10-2004	180.00	246.25	275.50	409.33
15.	Orissa	01-04-2005	135.00	242.50	280.00	395.00
16.	Punjab	01-10-2004	210.00 U 189.00 R	320.51 U 288.47 R	350.60 U 315.54 R	403.20
17.	Rajasthan	01-01-2005	417.50 U 390.25 R	396.88 U 363.81 R	392.75 U 358.53 R	556.67
18.	Tamil Nadu	16-06-2004	120.00	216.25	269.50	610.75
19.	Uttar Pradesh	11-10-2004	282.00 U 124.00R	339.75 112.75	351.30 110.50	452.33 U 152.33 R
20.	Uttaranchal	20-09-2003	225.00 U	225.00	225.00	365.00
21.	West Bengal	01-04-2005	218.30 U 212.17 R	299.34 U 268.01 R	368.70 U 350.64 R	362.86 U 357.47 R
22.	Arunachal Pradesh	01-02-2000	162.50	211.88	231.75	370.00
23.	Goa	01-04-2002	122.00	170.75	216.50	327.00

**Statement**

**Central Electricity Authority**  
**Financial Studies & Assistance Division**  
**Estimated Average Rates on Electricity (Updated upto 01.12.2005)**

(Rates in Paise/KWh)

Commercial 10KW (1500 KWh/ Month)	Commercial 30KW (4500 KWh/ Month)	Commercial 50KW (7500 KWh/ Month)	Agriculture 2HP (400 KWh/ Month)	Agriculture 5HP (1000 KWh/ Month)	Agriculture 10HP (2000 KWh/ Month)
624.67	628.89	629.73	55.00	52.00	51.00
545.48	548.47	549.06	174.17	215.79	276.12
805.81	805.81	805.81	40.50	40.50	40.50
502.52	509.13	510.46	30.00	30.00	30.00
626.47	631.83	632.89	57.75	57.75	57.75
429.00	429.00	429.00	17.50	17.50	17.50
441.50	425.36	424.19	186.00	182.85	181.80
277.00	277.00	277.00	102.00	102.00	102.00
438.67	438.67	438.67	28.75	28.75	28.75
651.18	653.39	653.84	45.00	45.00	55.00
644.18	646.39	646.83	105.00	105.00	115.00
889.90	962.74	969.98	74.80	74.80	74.80
539.59	539.81	539.85	87.50	132.50	132.50
530.13	543.44	546.11	75.00	75.00	75.00
446.67	452.89	454.13	116.00	116.00	116.00
441.00	450.33	452.20	105.00	105.00	105.00
403.20	403.20	403.20	31.50	31.50	31.50
554.00	555.78	556.13	78.75	75.60	74.55
609.35	609.12	609.07	0.00	0.00	0.00
452.33	452.33	452.33	224.00 U	224.00 U	224.00 U
152.33	152.33	152.33	45.00 R	45.00 R	45.00 R
365.00	365.00	365.00	75.60 U 63.00 R	75.60 U 63.00R	75.60 U 63.00 R
526.22 U 525.09 R	586.39 U 586.01 R	586.41 U 586.20 R	191.10	191.10	191.10
390.00	393.33	394.00	-	-	-
357.00	373.67	377.00	102.00	102.00	102.00

**Statement**

**Central Electricity Authority**  
**Financial Studies & Assistance Division**  
**Estimated Average Rates on Electricity (Updated upto 01.12.2005)**

S.No.	Name of Utility	Tariff effective from	Domestic 1KW (100 KWh/ Month)	Domestic 4KW (400 KWh/ Month)	Domestic 10KW (1000 KWh/ Month)	Commercial 2KW (300 KWh/ Month)
24.	Manipur	03-09-2002	262.20	299.70	302.20	302.20
25.	Mizoram (Destt HQ & Sub. Divn. Area) Other Areas	01-08-2002	115.00	145.00 133.75	148.00 143.50	233.33
26.	Nagaland	01-06-2001	235.00 U 200.00 R	276.25 U 200.00 R	290.50 U 200.00 R	346.00
27.	Sikkim	15-08-2002	90.00	230.83	281.25	292.50
28.	Tripnra	01-07-2003	200.00	270.00	460.00	320.00
29.	A & N Islands	01-07-2003	130.00	275.00	326.00	406.67
30.	Chandigarh	01-11-2002	160.75	246.94	282.18	401.00
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	01-09-2002	130.00	172.50	204.00	270.00
32.	Daman & Div	01-09-2002	130.00	172.50	204.00	248.33
33.	Delhi BSES/NDPL	15-07-2005	277.20	346.50	434.70	596.75
34.	Delhi NDMC	01-06-2001	158.00	252.25	327.70	462.00
35.	Lakshadweep	01-09-2004	100.00	300.00	300.00	480.00
36.	Pondicherry	16-04-2002	55.00	113.75	150.50	274.74
37.	Ahmedabad Elec. Co.	01-08-2002	389.40	450.45	482.47	613.71
38.	Kolkata (CESC) D.V.C (A) Bihar Area	01-04-2005 01-09-2000	280.67 -	460.28 -	530.15 -	447.55 -
39.	(B) West Bengal Area		-	-	-	-
40.	Durgapur Projects Ltd	01-04-2004	229.00	285.50	285.50	283.66
41.	Mumbai (B.E.S.T.)	15-07-1997	99.00	299.50	428.45	608.00
	Mumbai (B.S.E.S.)	01-04-2000	169.56	451.31	462.86	622.58
	Mumbai (TATA's)	01-06-2004	181.60	338.05	410.34	522.98

U: Urban R: Rural B: BMR/PMR Areas O: Other Areas

\* In Kerala, Kerala State Electricity Regulatory Commission vide their Order dt. 16th April, 2004 has approved continuation of the existing tariffs (effective from 01.10.2002) and other charges by the Kerala State Electricity Board Tariffs notified have varying parameters for tariff in respect of various categories of consumers. The above comparison is for certain assumed load and consumption levels in a month. The statement has been prepared on the basis of Electricity Tariff, Electricity Duty/Tax and FCA as reported to F.S.&A Division, CEA upto 01-12-2005.

**Statement**

**Central Electricity Authority**  
**Financial Studies & Assistance Division**  
**Estimated Average Rates on Electricity (Updated upto 01.12.2005)**

(Rates in Paise/KWh)

Commercial 10KW (1500 KWh/ Month)	Commercial 30KW (4500 KWh/ Month)	Commercial 50KW (7500 KWh/ Month)	Agriculture 2HP (400 KWh/ Month)	Agriculture 5HP (1000 KWh/ Month)	Agriculture 10HP (2000 KWh/ Month)
302.20	381.80	381.80	272.20	272.20	272.20
233.33	233.33	233.33	69.94	69.94	69.94
373.20	377.73	378.64	150.00	150.00	150.00
345.00	355.00	357.00	157.50	213.75	286.88
400.00	400.00	400.00	75.00	75.00	120.00
465.33	475.11	477.07	90.00	90.00	90.00
401.00	401.00	401.00	101.50	101.50	101.50
270.00	270.00	270.00	55.00	55.00	55.00
265.67	268.56	269.13	55.00	55.00	55.00
596.75	622.76	622.76	162.20	162.20	162.20
525.00	525.00	525.00	-	-	-
480.00	480.00	480.00	-	-	-
325.34	333.78	335.47	235.00	20.67	19.83
681.88	688.91	691.22	327.54	327.54	327.54
575.93	593.94	597.54	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
310.05	308.52	308.21	281.50	281.50	281.50
764.20	1009.81	1009.81	-	-	-
662.66	672.85	674.89	-	-	-
477.78	477.78	477.78	-	-	-

*Central Electricity Authority  
Financial Studies & Assistance Division  
Estimated average rates of electricity (Updated upto 01.12.2005)*

S.No.	Name of Utility	Tariff effective from	Small Industry 10KW (1500 KWh/ Month)	Medium Industry 50KW (7500 KWh/ Month)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	01-04-2005	415.40	414.33
2.	Assam	01-04-2005	345.73 U 268.35 R	428.10
3.	Bihar	01-06-2001	703.65	743.79
4.	Chhattisgarh	01-03-1999	305.39	409.39
5.	Gujarat	25-06-2004	450.02	465.81
6.	Haryana	15.08.2004	438.00	438.00
7.	Himachal Pradesh	01-07-2005	401.25	440.57
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	01-04-1999	157.00	157.00
9.	Jharkhand	01-01-2004	405.62	405.62
10.	Karnataka (Bangalore Metro Area) (Other Areas)	10-10-2005	418.40 413.71	521.47 512.08
11.	Kerala*	01-04-2004	390.50	390.50
12.	Madhya Pradesh	15-07-2005	396.13	483.61
13.	Maharashtra	01-12-2003	254.90	254.90
14.	Meghataya	01-10-2004	383.33	408.67
15.	Orissa	01-04-2005	320.00	336.80
16.	Punjab	01-10-2004	321.30	353.85
17.	Rajasthan	01-01-2005	421.28	459.68
18.	Tamil Nadu	16-06-2004	458.85	486.57
19.	Uttar Pradesh	11-10-2004	452.33 U 408.00 R	452.33 U 408.00 R
20.	Uttaranchal	20-09-2003	305.21	305.21
21.	West Bengal	01-04-2005	342.13 U 327.07 R	468.49 U 447.91 R

**Central Electricity Authority**  
**Financial Studies & Assistance Division**  
**Estimated average rates of electricity (Updated upto 01.12.2005)**

(Rates in Paise/KWh)

Large Industry 1000KW 80% L.F. (438000 KWh/ Month)	Heavy Industry 10000KW 60% L.F. (4380000 KWh/ Month)	Heavy Industry (33KV) 20000KW 60% L.F. (8760000 KWh/Month)	Railway Traction 12500KW (25000000 KWh Month)	
391.75	431.20	425.80	440.03	
388.54	388.41	378.00		
469.44	469.44	460.06	530.51	at 25KV
			524.51	at 132KV
436.71	436.71	428.15	449.81	at 132KV
518.63	557.35	556.91	549.12	at 132KV
419.00	419.00	407.00	444.29	at 11 KV
345.64	326.21	321.30		
157.00	157.00			
412.95	412.95	392.95	516.50	at 25KV
			477.69	at 132KV
490.28	501.07	500.62	485.88	
487.46	498.25	497.79	485.88	
385.02	385.02		360.29	at 110KV
474.48	469.00	441.49	473.33	at 132/220KV
399.55 B	399.55 B		385.00	
388.57 O	388.56 O			
253.92	253.53			
353.74	353.69	353.69	413.48	at 25/33KV
353.85	353.85	343.23	402.00	at 132KV
463.83	463.83	460.65	451.00	
452.11	462.61	452.11	526.47	
438.36 U	438.36 U	419.38 U	472.22	Below 132KV
395.42 R	395.42 R	378.34 R	452.78	132KV and above
282.10	282.10	282.10		
471.48	442.18	442.18	453.62	at 25KV
			424.22	at 132KV

**Central Electricity Authority**  
**Financial Studies & Assistance Division**  
*Estimated average rates of electricity (Updated upto 01.12.2005)*

S.No.	Name of Utility	Tariff effective from	Small Industry 10KW (1500 KWh/ Month)	Medium Industry 50KW (7500 KWh/ Month) Month)
22.	Arunachal Pradesh	01-02-2000	345.00	353.33
23.	Goa	01-04-2002	257.00	297.00
24.	Manipur	03-09-2002	287.20	381.80
25.	Mizoram (Distt.HQ & sub. Divn. Area) Other Areas	01-08-2002	208.33	208.33
26.	Nagaland	01-06-2001	243.33	257.00
27.	Sikkim	15-08-2002	360.00 U 262.50 R	250.59
28.	Tripura	01-07-2003	240.00	270.00
29.	A&N Islands	01-07-2003	316.67	327.33
30.	Chandigarh	01-11-2002	301.00	336.00
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	01-09-2002	230.00	243.40
32.	Daman & Diu	01-09-2002	230.00	262.34
33.	Delhi BSES/NDPL	15-07-2005	560.00	560.00
34.	Delhi NDMC	01-06-2001	431.00	431.00
35.	Lakshadweep	01-09-2004	330.00	330.00
36.	Pondicherry	16-04-2002	247.52	257.50
37.	Ahmedabad Elec. Co.	01-08-2002	396.72	446.40
38.	Kolkata (CESC)	01-04-2005	390.08	480.32
39.	D.V.C. (A) Bihar Area (B) West Bengal Area	01-09-2000	- -	- -
40.	Durgapur Projects Ltd.	01-04-2004	306.61	330.55
41.	Mumbai (B.E.S.T.) Mumbai (B.S.E.S) Mumbai (TATA's)	15-07-1997 01-04-2000 01-06-2004	658.38 585.65 449.36	827.41 567.35 449.36

U: Urban R: Rural B: BMR/PMR Areas O: Other Areas

\*In Kerala, Kerala State Electricity Regulatory Commission vide their Order dt. 16th April 2004 has approved continuation of the existing tariffs (effective from 01.10.2002 and other charges by the Kerala State Electricity Board Tariffs notified have varying parameters for tariff in respect of various categories of consumers. The above comparison is for certain assumed load and consumption levels in a month.

The statement has been prepared on the basis of Electricity Tariff, Electricity Duty/Tax and FCA as reported to F.S.&A Division, CEA upto 01-12-2005.

*Central Electricity Authority  
Financial Studies & Assistance Division  
Estimated average rates of electricity (Updated upto 01.12.2005)*

(Rates in Paise/KWh)

Large Industry 1000KW 60% L.F. (438000 KWh/ Month)	Heavy Industry 10000KW 60% L.F. (4380000 KWh/ Month)	Heavy Industry (33KV) 20000KW 60% L.F. (8760000KWh/Month)	Railway Traction 12500KW (25000000 KWh Month)	
393.86	394.89			
342.29	342.29	342.29	-	
336.09	336.09	336.09	-	
71.35	71.35	71.35	-	
274.69	274.97	-	-	
261.26	261.26	262.50 R	-	-
-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-
381.00	381.00	-	369.90	-
269.97	271.00	-	-	-
259.97	261.00	-	-	
560.30	560.30	547.32	517.26	at 11 KV
-	-	-	576.00	
-	-	-	-	
320.15	332.72	-	-	
429.83	429.83	-	-	
460.66	460.66	444.15	388.08	
340.78	340.78	326.94	427.95	at 33KV (B)
365.44	365.44	350.44	409.06	at 132KV
340.78	340.78	-	-	
528.29	528.29	-	-	
366.42	342.64	-	-	
424.57	424.57	424.57	457.40	33/22/1 1/6.6KV



*[Translation]*

**Extension to Transmission Network  
by PGCIL**

3344. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the Power Grid Corporation of India, a Public Sector Company is contemplating to extend its transmission network to cover more areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the amount likely to be spent by the Government for the establishment of said network; and

(c) the time by which the said network is likely to be established?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL), which has the mandate for development of inter-State and inter-regional Transmission Systems, has been undertaking implementation of various Transmission Systems throughout the country. A perspective transmission plan has been evolved for strengthening the regional grids as well as to increase the inter-regional power transfer capacity by development of a National Power Grid. The present inter-regional transmission capacity is around 9,500 MW which is likely to increase to about 37,000 MW by 2012. The details in this regard are given in the enclosed Statement.

An investment of about Rs. 71,000 crore is envisaged in the 10th and 11th Five Year Plans in the Central Sector on power evacuation, grid strengthening, intra-regional and inter-regional transmission schemes for the development of the National Power Grid.

**Statement**

*List of Inter-Regional Transmission Capacity – Existing,  
Under Construction and Planned/Proposed.*

1	Power Transfer Capacity (MW)		
	Existing	Proposed additions upto 2012	Total Target
	2	3	4
<b>Name of System</b>			
<b>ER-SR:</b>			
Gazuwaka HVDC back to back M-I	1000		
Balimela-Upper Sileru 220 kV S/C	100		
Talcher-Kolar HVDC Bipole	2000		
Upgradation of Talcher-Kolar HVDC Bipole		500	June 06
<b>ER-SR Total</b>	<b>3100</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>3600</b>
<b>ER-NR:</b>			
Dehri-Sahupuri 220 kV S/C	100		
Sasaram HVDC back to back	500		
Muzaffarpur-Gorakhpur 400kV D/C (Quad Moose) with series compensation		2000	June 2006
Biharshariff-Balia 400 kV D/C (Quad Moose)		1200	2007
Patna-Balia 400 kV D/C (Quad Moose)		1200	2007
Barh-Balia 400kV D/C (Quad Moose)		1200	2009

1	2	3	4
Sasaram-Fateshpur 765 kV S/C (40% Series Comp.)		2300	2011
<b>ER-NR Total</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>7900</b>	<b>8500</b>
<b>ER-WR:</b>			
Rourkela-Raipur 400 kV D/C (without series compensation)	1000		
TCSC on Rourkela-Raipur 400 kV D/C	400		
Budhipara-Korba 220 kV D/C+S/C	400		
Ranchi-Sipat 400kV D/C (40% Series comp.)		1000	2007
Rourkela-Raipur 400 kV D/C line-2 (with TCSC)		1400	2009
North Karanpura-Sipat 765kV S/C		2300	2010
Hirma-Sipat 400kVD/C *		1000	2012
Hirma-Raipur 400kV D/C *		1000	2011
(* - Tentative as Hirma generation project is yet to be finalized)			
<b>ER-WR Total</b>	<b>1800</b>	<b>6700</b>	<b>8400</b>
<b>ER-NER:</b>			
Birpara-Salakati 220 D/C	250		
Malda-Bongaigaon 400 kV D/C	1000		
Bongaigaon-Siliguri 400kV D/C		1000	2010
<b>ER-NER Total</b>	<b>1250</b>	<b>1000</b>	<b>2250</b>
<b>NR-WR:</b>			
Vindhyachal HVDC back to back	500		
Auria-Malanpur 220 kV D/C	250		
Kota-Ujjain 220 kV D/C	250		
Agra-Gwalior 765 kV S/C line- 1 400 kV operation		1100	2007
Agra-Gwalior 765 kV S/C line-1 (operation at 765kV)		1200	2010
Agra-Gwalior 765 kV S/C line-2		2300	2012
Kankroli-Zerda 400 kV D/C		1000	2011
RAPP-Nagda 400 kV D/C		1000	2012
<b>NR-WR total</b>	<b>1000</b>	<b>6600</b>	<b>7600</b>
<b>WR-SR:</b>			
Chandrapur HVDC back to back	1000		

1	2	3	4
Barsur-L. Sileru 220 kV HVDC mono pole	200		
Kolhapur-Belgaum 220 kV D/C	250		
Ponda-Nagajhari 220 kV D/C	250		
Parli-Raichur 400 kV D/C		1000	2012
WR-SR total	1700	1000	2700
<b>NER-NR</b>			
Biswanath Chariyali – Agra HVDC Bipole at ±600kV		4000	
NER-NR Total		4000	4000
Total All India (Existing)	9450	27700	37150

[English]

**Micro Finance to SHGs**

3345. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) is extending micro finance to the Self Help Groups (SHGs);

(b) if so, the amount of such assistance extended to SHGs during the last three years;

(c) whether the certificates have been furnished

by each SHG on the utilisation of credit received from NABARD; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) NABARD does not extend finance to SHGs directly. Banks extend finance to SHGs and submit claims for availing refinance from NABARD for their lending to SHGs.

(b) Amount of assistance extended to SHGs by banks as also, NABARD's refinance extended to banks for the purpose during the last three years is as under:-

Year	No. of SHGs finance by banks	Bank Loan (Rs. Crore)	NABARD's refinance (Rs. Crore)
2002-03	255882	1022.30	622.47
2003-04	361731	1855.50	705.44
2004-05	539365	2994.20	967.76
2005-06 (Provisional)	482336	3094.61	1055.42
Cumulative since 1992	2100792	9993.08	4141.33

(c) and (d) Banks extend credit to SHGs based on their saving as well as the demand for loan from SHGs. The amount of bank loan is credited to the bank account of the SHGs. The SHG on-lends to its members based on Members' loan requirement. The bank branch is able to get details of utilization of credit by studying the bank accounts of SHGs. As NABARD does not extend credit to

SHGs directly, SHGs do not furnish any certificate on utilization of credit to NABARD.

**Refusal to Sanction Loan by REC**

3346. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) has refused to sanction term loan directly to non-conventional small power projects; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) and (b) The Rural Electrification Corporation has so far financed 51 small non-conventional energy based power projects. Projects are sanctioned on the merits of each case. However, as per a special study commissioned to devise proper appraisal process, M/s CRISIL have suggested that small generation projects in private sector having a capacity of upto 10 MW need to be financed through the route of refinance and not directly. Since then, REC has not funded such projects. Financing decentralized distributed generation projects (both off-grid as well as grid connected) under a new, separate policy has also been proposed.

*[Translation]*

#### **Reduction in Share of Power**

3347. SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the share of Madhya Pradesh in undistributed power has been reduced;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which the said share is likely to be restored?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Share of Madhya Pradesh in the unallocated power of Central Generating Stations in Western Region has remained unchanged at the level of 19% since December, 2004, which is among the highest in the region.

#### **Research on Medicines**

3348. SHRI RAKESH SINGH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the research work, particularly research on medicines has become costly and India is dependent on developed countries in this regard;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to formulate a scheme to make the country self-reliant in this field; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) The research work for developing new medicines is a capital intensive and long drawn process. The requirement of huge data generation during pre clinical and clinical studies and Good Laboratory Practices/ Good Clinical Practices compliant facilities have contributed to increase in cost of research on medicine. India is not dependent on developed countries in this regard but cooperates with developed countries in order to accelerate the pace of drug research in the country.

(b) and (c) Yes Sir, Government have taken several steps to make the country self-reliant in drug research by introducing new programmes for drugs and pharmaceuticals R&D such as establishment of Pharmaceutical Research and Development Support Fund in Department of Science and Technology, New Millennium Indian Technology Leadership Initiatives in Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Small Business Innovative Research Initiatives in Department of Biotechnology, Research Fellowships for human resource development and Weighted Tax Deduction under Income Tax Act for drug research and development.

*[English]*

#### **Compensation for VAT**

3349. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:  
SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has granted Rs. 1512 crores as compensation to States that lost on VAT;

(b) if so, the actual claims made by the States and the grants made and amounts actually released, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for lesser grants made, if any; and

(d) the time, when the remaining amount of compensation is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The Central Government has released a total amount of Rs.2707.50 crores upto 09 May 2006 as compensation to the States for revenue loss on account of introduction of VAT.

(b) and (c) A Statement showing State-wise details of the actual claims made by the States, the amount actually released and the reasons for the difference between the claims and the actual releases is enclosed. The main

reason for actual release being lower than the claim made by the States is the deduction made on account of revenue loss due to deviations from the approved VAT rates made by the State Governments. The compensation package approved by the Central Government specifically provides for such deduction.

(d) Regarding the 3 pending proposals, the proposal from the Government of Sikkim is incomplete. The proposals from Haryana and Maharashtra are under process and a decision on the same is expected shortly.

**Statement**

*Status of Release of VAT Compensation to States (as on 09.05.2006)*

(Rs. in Crores)

S.No.	State	Period to which the claim relates	Amount Claimed	Amount Released	Less Release	Reasons for Less Release
<b>A. Claims Settled:</b>						
1	Andhra Pradesh	April 2005 to Jan. 2006	404.76	404.06	0.70	Deduction due to Deviation from approved VAT rates.
2	Bihar	April 2005 to Feb. 2006	166.85	165.87	0.98	Difference due to calculation error & Dev. in VAT rates.
3	Karnataka	April 2005 to Feb. 2006	1040.58	1038.92	1.66	Deduction due to Deviation from approved VAT rates.
4	Kerala	April 2005 to March 2006	706.77	692.70	14.07	-do-
5	Maharashtra	April-June 2005	259.89	259.89	0.00	
6	Sikkim	April-June 2005	2.15	1.84	0.31	Difference due to error in calculations.
7	Tripura	April-Oct. 2005	6.14	5.12	1.02	Deduction due to Deviation from approved VAT rates.
8	West Bengal	April-Dec. 2005	140.18	139.10	1.08	-do-
	Sub-total (A)		2727.32	2707.50	19.82	
<b>B. Claims not yet Settled</b>						
1	Haryana	April 2005 to Jan. 2006	39.86	0.00		Proposal is under examination.
2	Maharashtra	July 2005 to Jan. 2006	1146.13	0.00		Proposal is under process.
3	Sikkim	July-Sept, 2005	3.05	0.00		Incomplete Proposal. Addl. information sought.
	Sub-total (B)		1189.04	0.00		
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>3916.36</b>	<b>2707.50</b>		

### Education Cess

3350. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) amount of revenue collected under Education Cess Tax during the last financial year;
- (b) revenue expected to be collected under Education Cess Tax during current financial year;
- (c) whether any internal audit is being done under Education Cess Tax Scheme; and
- (d) the amount spent from Education Cess Tax during last financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) The Estimated Receipt through Education Cess during the current financial year is Rs.8746 crore.

(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) Allocations to States are not being made separately against the Cess. Assistance to them is released under individual schemes related to Elementary Education in accordance with the guidelines of such schemes and against their respective budgetary allocations. Hence the amount spent from the Education Cess during the last Financial Year cannot be indicated.

### Modernisation Programme

3351. SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPIPARAI: Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether all the Registrars of Companies (RoCs) in the country covered under the e-governance project MCA21;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith status of project upto April 30, 2006;
- (c) whether the Government has any proposal for reforming the liquidation process for quick realisation of distressed assets; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Ministry of Company Affairs (MCA) has launched 'MCA21 e- Governance Project' for providing all the services online through Internet. As a part of the complete process of introduction of e-Governance, following steps have already been taken:

- (i) Business process re-engineering;
- (ii) Notification of e-Forms in respect of various services;
- (iii) Scanning and digitisation of permanent records and Balance Sheets and Annual Returns for a period of two years immediately preceding in respect of all active companies, while the balance work is under progress. It is estimated that about 5 to 6 crore pages will be scanned and digitised in this process;
- (iv) IT infrastructure consisting of Data Centre and Disaster Recovery Centre have been set up. Computing equipments have been installed in the ROC offices;
- (v) Non-IT infrastructure in the form of Physical Front Offices to serve as Facilitation Centres for e-filing have been set up at a number of locations, while these are in the process of being set up at the remaining places.

The arrangements for e-filing under the Project have been made at Registrar of Companies, Coimbatore, Pondicherry, Ernakulam, Delhi, Jaipur, Pune, Goa, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Mumbai and Gwalior upto April, 2006, and various processes associated with the above are in the process of validation to enable smooth operation of the new system.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. For the purpose of reforming the liquidation process, necessary changes were made in the Companies Act, 1956 by the Companies (Second Amendment) Act 2002, which provides for setting up of National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) and National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) to enable completion of the liquidation proceedings in a time bound manner. The said Act has not been implemented in full as certain provisions of the above Amendment Act were challenged in the Courts and the matter is subjudice in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

**Patents by CSIR**

3352. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of patents obtained by Scientists/Laboratories of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) during the last three years;

(b) the number of patents which have been resulted in commercial production;

(c) the names of the persons/institutions who have started commercial production based on the above patents;

(d) whether Government is satisfied with the speed of commercial production of these patents; and

(e) if not, the steps the Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) has obtained 727 Indian and 670 foreign patents during 2003-2004- to 2005-2006.

(b) Out of 1237 in-force Indian patents, 103 patents have been licensed.

(c) The list of the organizations who have been licensed these patents for commercial productions is attached as statement.

(d) and (e) The world over only about 2-3% of the patents get commercialized as the Patents are not the complete technologies in themselves but the patented processes and products require development work/up-scaling before they are commercialized. CSIR is making efforts for commercialization through several licensing firms. About 8% of the Indian Patents in force have been licensed for commercialization so far. Further, with the improvements in the enabling mechanisms for commercialization in the country, the utilization rate of patented inventions would improve.

**Statement**

Sl. No.	Licencee	No. of Patents Licensed*
1	2	3
1	A.P. Organics M/s Muez-Hest M/s Anil Modi	1
2	Abref Pvt Ltd, Chennai	1
3	Aditya Birla	1
4	Andel Equipment Pvt. Ltd. Punjab	1
5	AP solvex Ltd., Dhuri Food, Fats Fertilizers Ltd; Innova Agro laboratories, Hyderabad	1
6	Applied in-house HANSA	1
7	Azetronics Instruments Chandigarh is in 2004 and M/s Environment Scientific Instrumentation 1997	1
8	Bharat Electronics Ltd.Taloja ii) M/s Advanced Surface Technologies Gurgaon	1
9	Bharathi Society, Salem, Tamil Nadu	1
10	Biotech International Ltd., New Delhi	1
11	Biotron Health Care Ltd. Mumbai	1
12	Ceramic Systems, Tamil Nadu	1
13	ChemFeb Alkali Pvt Ltd Pondichery 2. Gujarat Heavy Chemicals Ltd Sutrapada, Gujarat	1
14	Christy Friedgram Industry A-2, A-3, SIDCO Industrial Estate, Andipalayam, Namakkal District TN Tiruchengode	2

1	2	3
15	Devine herbals Pvt. Ltd., Delhi and Hari Om Heritage, Chennai	1
16	Dr. Beck, Pimpri, Pune	1
17	Dynasped Integraed systems M/s Techno Instruments Ltd.	1
18	Eco-Organics, Rampur, Uttar Pradesh	1
19	Elico Hyderabad	1
20	Eucare pharmaceutical Pvt.,Ltd., Chennai	1
21	Farmers	6
22	Gabbi Foods Rukiya Bagh Buildings, Ravipuram, M.G.Road Cochin - 682016.	
23	Gabriel Chemicals, Bhavnagar 2.M/S. Tee Beim Chemicals Pvt. Ltd., Trichinapalli	2
24	GE USA	2
25	Green India Natural Products, 46, CMR Road, Madurai - 625 009	2
26	Gujarat Narmada Fertilizers Company, Bharuch	1
27	Hindustan Alloy, Mumbai, Electro Protection Services & Scientific Metal Engr, Karaikudi	1
28	Hindustan Latex Ltd	1
29	Hindustan Lever Limited, Mumbai	1
30	IFGL Bioceramics Ltd, Kolkata	1
31	Indomer Costal Hydrlics (P) Ltd.	3
32	Indus Natural Products Limited Pune	1
33	Indus Pharmaceuticals, USA	1
34	IPCA Labs. Mumbai	3
35	ITC	1
36	Jain Scientific Glass Works, Cyan Marg, near Civil Hospital, Ambala Cantt, M/s Swaraj Mazda Ltd, SCO 156-160, Sector 8-C Madhva Marg, Chandigarh	1
37	Jain Scientific Glass Works, Gyan Marg, Near Civil Hospital, Ambala Cantt, M/s Gopi and Gopi Scientific Agencies, Temple Street. Kakinada. Andhra Pradesh. M/s Mathbin Scientific Agencv. C-6. Mansarovar Garden, New Delhi	1
38	Karbi Anglong Chemicals Ltd., Diphu, Karbi Assam	1
39	Konark Tar Products	1
40	L.Tek, 2B, Rajkamal Complex, Panchasheel Square, Nagpur-10	1
41	Lumen Marketing Company, Chennai	1
42	Maharashtra State Mining Corporation Ltd., 5, Abhayankar Nagar P.O. Box No. 451, Nagpur	1
43	Majestic formulator, Una, Himachal Pradesh	2



1	2	3
44	Maland Biotechnonology Pvt. Ltd. Bangalore	1
45	Membrane Filters India Ltd.	1
46	Mentha & Allied, Rampur (UP)	2
47	Metoil Corporation, Jamshedpur	1
48	MK Petro Products Pvt. Ltd. New Delhi, M/s Osnar Chemicals Pvt Ltd, M/s Yagnal & CO, M/s Solid Asphalt Industries, Mumbai. M/s Sohan Chemical Pvt Ltd. Pune	1
49	Mythri Agro Industries	1
50	Namiex Chemical Pvt. Ltd., Pathancot	1
51	National Mineral Development Corporation, Hyderabad	1
52	Nisha Pharma Products, Bhavnagar	2
53	Onam Enterprises Private Limited, "Karthik", Amarjyothi HBCS Layout, Vijayanagar, Bangalore - 560 040	1
54	Pawas Canning, At & Post- Pawas, Tal & Dist- Ratnagiri-415 616, Maharashtra, Sunripe Conpulp Limited, Flat No. 103, Arihant Ashoka, 1-10-11, Street No.4, Ashok Nagar, Hyderabad - 500 020	1
55	PCTI Ltd., Delhi	1
56	Pepsico Indian Holdings Limited, Gurgaon.	2
57	Perskor Chemical	1
58	Rajasthan State Mines & Minerals Ltd. Udaipur	1
59	Rescholar Equipments Pvt. Ltd., 85, Industrial Area, Ambala Cantt., (Haryana)	1
60	SASO Saudi Arabia. M/s Konic Electronics, M/s Electronics NBSM, Nepal	1
61	Sherya Life Sciences, Mumbai.	2
62	Shipra Scientific Traders, 19, Shivaji Marg, Lucknow-226 018, M/s Mathbin Scientific Agency, C-6, Mansarovar Garden, New Delhi-110015	1
63	Sisusara Food Needs (P) Ltd. Plot No. 194/11, Sector -III, Lane -6, Phase -II, I.D.A., Cherlapally, Ranga Reddy Dist., Hyderabad -500 051	1
64	SITTARC, Coimbatore Has asked for the stitching Quotations and HAL shows interest	1
65	SM Machinery Manufacturers, No. 105, Behind Veneer Mills, Mahadevapura Road, Udayagiri Extension, Mysore	3
66	SMS Pharmaceuticals	2
67	Span Gas Equipment Pvt Ltd.	1
68	Strides Arcolab. Ltd., Bangalore	1
69	Tatanagar Bricks, Jamshedpur	1
70	The Godavari Suger Mills	1

1	2	3
71	Themis Medicare, Mumbai	2
72	Tinplate Co. of India Ltd., Jamshedpur, M/s Flexi Trade Co., Jamshedpur	1
73	Vardhishnu Engg. Pvt. Ltd.	2
74	Vasanthalakshmi Engineering Works #19, S. No. 169/2, Gottagere Road, Kothanur Village, Bangalore - 560 062 Sisusara Food Needs (P) Ltd. Plot No. 194/11, Sector- III, Lane-6, Phase-II, I.DA.Cherialpally, Ranga Reddy Dist. 3 Hyderabad -500 051.	3
75	Ved Engineering Company New Delhi 110055	2
76	VEL Bio-diesel Energy Pvt. Ltd.Mathur-622515	1
77	Wockardt Ltd., Aurangabad	1
Total		103

\* updated as on 9/05/06

[Translation]

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

### Reduction in Power Supply

3353. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of quantum of power provided by the Union Government to the States particularly in Chhattisgarh during the last three years;

(b) the reason for reducing the quantum of power to the States;

(c) whether the Union Government proposes to restore the quantum of power to the States particularly in Chhattisgarh; and

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) The details of entitlement and schedule of power provided by the Government to the States/UTs, including that to Chhattisgarh during the last three years are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) to (d) The firm share of power of States and UTs in the Central Generating Stations (CGSs), allocated at the time of commissioning of projects is generally not altered unless surrendered by any State or UT. The 15% unallocated power in CGSs kept at the disposal of the Government is meant to meet the emergent/seasonal requirement of the constituents and is, therefore, subject to change from time to time.

### Statement

#### Entitlement vis-a-vis Schedule

(Figures in MU)

States/Stations/System	April, 2003 to March, 2004		April, 2004 to March, 2005		April, 2005 to March, 2006	
	Entitlement	Schedule	Entitlement	Schedule	Entitlement	Schedule
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chandigarh	1265	1231	1242	1211	1483	1478
Delhi	13213	11936	12817	12050	16703	16973
H.P.	2144	2022	2937	2407	2888	2681
Haryana	9483	9227	9286	8966	12737	12150
J & K	5517	5239	5616	5431	6507	6332
Punjab	12669	11973	12681	12035	14291	13777

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Rajasthan	11297	11046	10892	10467	12802	12085
U.P.	17557	16532	19777	19315	24397	24294
Uttaranchal	2269	2196	2357	2196	2569	2376
<b>Total</b>	<b>75434</b>	<b>71753</b>	<b>77617</b>	<b>74100</b>	<b>95059</b>	<b>92146</b>
<b>Western Region</b>						
Chhattisgarh	3027	3005	3052	3028	2064	2040
Gujarat	13724	12954	13316	11873	12521	11375
Madhya Pradesh	12807	12482	13513	12925	14719	13361
Maharashtra	18485	18042	19778	19325	17699	17122
Goa	1341	1327	1803	1803	2338	2300
DD	1109	1093	1188	1170	1177	1129
DNH	1649	1615	1867	1813	2002	1870
<b>Total</b>	<b>52141</b>	<b>50516</b>	<b>54517</b>	<b>51936</b>	<b>52520</b>	<b>49197</b>
<b>Southern Region</b>						
Andhra Pradesh	7993	7694	9045	8332	18645	17442
Karnataka	7798	8718	8970	9232	10645	10311
Kerala	5114	4158	5872	5322	8984	7436
Tamilnadu	12434	13466	14285	14796	21196	19916
Pondicherry	1476	1523	1641	1641	1883	1853
<b>Total</b>	<b>34814</b>	<b>35560</b>	<b>39813</b>	<b>39323</b>	<b>61353</b>	<b>56957</b>
<b>Eastern Region</b>						
Bihar	5470	5331	6073	6024	7279	7227
Jharkhand	719	653	1104	1097	1853	1833
DVC	1328	1111	1249	1127	781	744
Orissa	4222	4116	4383	4358	6196	6203
W. Bengal	4413	4270	4608	4424	5738	5457
Sikknn	414	366	456	454	502	501
<b>Total</b>	<b>16566</b>	<b>15845</b>	<b>17873</b>	<b>17483</b>	<b>22329</b>	<b>21964</b>

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>N.E. Region</b>						
Arunachal Pradesh	269	NA	566	457	494	409
Assam	1998	NA	2811	2717	2651	2699
Manipur	655	NA	747	637	630	607
Meghalaya	438	NA	618	676	649	720
Mizoram	319	NA	447	362	398	347
Nagaland	381	NA	433	364	367	333
Tripura	529	NA	698	434	636	464
Total	4589	NA	6320	5646	5824	5578
All India	183544	173674	196828	189037	229968	219133

[English]

### Wind Energy Parks

3354. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

- whether wind energy parks are established in all parts of the country;
- if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- whether the Government proposes to establish more such parks in all of the country;
- if so, the details thereof; and
- the time by which these are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Establishment of wind energy parks, which is commonly known as wind farm projects, primarily depends upon availability of the requisite wind speed and availability the electricity grid to evacuate power. 211 potential sites have been identified in 13 States and UTs that could be considered suitable for installation of wind farm projects. State-wise information on the cumulative installed capacity of wind power projects is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) to (e) Wind Farm Projects are mostly set up as

commercial projects by private sector. The total capacity of wind power projects installed so far in the country is 5340 MW. A target of 1000 MW has been fixed for the Year 2006-07. The Government provides partial financial support for setting up limited demonstration wind farm projects with the objective to open up potential areas for commercial development of wind power. Demonstration Wind Farm Projects of 68 MW capacity have been set up in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal.

### Statement

#### Stat-wise Wind Power Installed Capacity

(As on 31.03.2006)

(in MW)

State	Total Installed Capacity
Andhra Pradesh	12.1.0
Gujarat	338.1
Karnataka	584.6
Kerala	2.0
Madhya Pradesh	40.3
Maharashtra	1001.3
Rajasthan	358.1
Tamil Nadu	2892.5
Other	2.7
Total	5340.6

**Property Conservation Law**

3355 SHRI S. K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has recently changed the property conversion laws;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) its impact of this on the property holders in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) and (b) The Government has decided to modify the existing conversion scheme allowing, inter alia, conversion of such properties to freehold, which are transferred through regular sale deeds after recovery of conversion fee plus surcharge @ 33-1/3%, multi-storeyed group housing residential/commercial flats, subject to certain conditions, allotment of properties sold through auction on freehold basis, etc. A detailed order in this regard is under issue.

(c) Since these modifications are applicable to properties located in Delhi, it will not impact properties outside Delhi. It is premature to assess impact, if any, on property holders in Delhi.

**[Translation]****Violation of MRTP Act by Soft Drink Manufacturers**

3356. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the soft drinks manufacturers are violating the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act on a large scale in many parts of the country;

(b) if so, the names of those soft drinks manufacturers against whom complaints have been registered for violating the MRTP Act during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government against such soft drink manufacturers?

THE MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA): (a) to (c) Alleged violation of provisions of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices (MRTP) Act, 1969 is dealt with under the said Act through proceedings before the MRTP Commission. During the last three years, MRTP Commission instituted three enquiries against soft drink manufacturers for alleged violation of MRTP Act. The details of these cases are given in the enclosed statement. In such cases, action is taken as contemplated under the MRTP Act, 1969, for violations of provisions of law, if any.

**Statement**

Sl. No.	Year of Institution	State to which the complainant belongs	Enquiry No.	Title of Enquiry with Respondent	Remarks
1.	2003	Delhi	UTPE 10/2003	P.K. Rastogi Vs. Pepsi Foods Pvt. Ltd. & Ors., New Delhi.	In progress
2.	2003	Maharashtra	MTPE 01/2003	Sathkumar Alias Sachhu & Arrother Vs. Dukes & Sons (P) Ltd. & Another, Mumbai.	In progress
3.	2005	Uttar Pradesh	CA 01/2005	Vikash Pepsi Agency, Gorakhpur Vs. Territory Development Manager, Pepsi Cola India Marketing Co., Gorakhpur and Another	In progress

*[English]***Shortage of Funds in Banks**

3357. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:  
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:  
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:  
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:  
SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the shortage of funds in the banking system to give credits and for investments as reported in The Times of India dated April 1, 2006;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;
- (d) whether the Chief of five Public Sector Banks met the RBI Governor and discussed the issue recently;
- (e) if so, the details of the discussion held; and
- (f) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (f) Governor, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) met the Chairman, the CEO and three other members of the Indian Banks' Association (IBA) on 28.03.2006 as a part of the normal pre-policy consultation process with various institutions. In the Annual Policy Statement for the year 2006-07 on April 18, 2006, RBI has advised the banks to review their policies in regard to deposit mobilization and make sustained efforts towards mobilizing stable retail deposits by providing wider access to better quality of banking services to sustain prudent business expansion without facing undue asset-liability mismatches. Consistent with the monetary policy stance of ensuring appropriate liquidity, daily net injections of liquidity under Liquidity Adjustment Facility (LAF) avenged Rs. 11,686 crore during January-March 2006. The liquidity conditions have eased considerably in April, 2006 and there has been a significant shift in the liquidity conditions with sufficient liquidity in the system since the second half of March 2006.

**Bio-Diesel Plants in Gujarat**

3358. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal from Government of Gujarat regarding setting up of Bio-diesel plants in the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources have not received any proposal from the Government of Gujarat for setting up of Bio-diesel plants in the State.

**IRDA Guidelines**

3359. SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:  
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:  
SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY:  
SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some companies/persons use insurance sector to park the ill gotten laundered funds as reported in the Hindustan Times dated April 5, 2006;
- (b) if so, the number of such cases came to the notice of Government during the last one year;
- (c) whether the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority has recently issued some guidelines to insurance companies in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Insurance Sector is vulnerable to money laundering as in the case of any financial sector like Banking and Capital Markets. However, no such case has come to the notice of the Government or Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA).

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. IRDA has instructed all insurance companies to put in place a policy on anti-money laundering measures by 1st July, 2006 in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Authority on 31st March, 2006 which are available on IRDA website at [www.IrdaIndia.org](http://www.IrdaIndia.org).

**Unspent Amount by Ministries/Departments**

3360. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of the budget allocations made to different Ministries and Departments of the Central Government that remained unspent during 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06;

(b) steps have been taken and are being taken to avoid and prevent over budgeting by Government Departments to the detriment of the tax payer; and

(c) the manner in which it is likely to be reduced by this year?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) The information is being compiled and will be laid on the Table of House to the extent available.

#### **Safety Standards for Village Dwellers**

3361. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the action proposed to stop villagers replacing thatched roofs with asbestos sheets causing irreversible damage on account of carcinogenic asbestos dust inhalation;

(b) whether the Government proposes to monitor safety standards for village dwellers also; and

(c) 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) to (c) As per the Guidelines of Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), the beneficiaries have complete freedom as to the manner of construction of the house and no specific design has been prescribed for the construction of dwelling units, except that the plinth area of the house should not be less than 20 sq. mts. The beneficiary himself/herself may like to construct the house by utilizing local cost effective materials, environment friendly technologies developed by various institutions. The houses, may also be designed in accordance with the desire of beneficiaries, keeping in view the climatic conditions and the need to provide ample space, kitchen, ventilation etc. The responsibility for the proper construction of the house will thus be on the beneficiaries themselves. However, District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs)/Zilla Parishads (ZPs) may constitute a Committee to coordinate the

construction work. The Committee shall be sensitized to incorporate hazard resistant features in the design of the houses.

#### **Disinvestment of PSUs**

3362. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:

SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Ministry has published white paper on disinvestment of public sector undertakings;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of PSUs already disinvested and new PSUs decided to be disinvested during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) The matter is under the consideration of the Government.

(c) Government has recently decided to disinvest 5% out of its equity shareholding of 100 per cent in Power Finance Corporation Ltd. (PFC) and also to disinvest 15% out of its equity shareholding of 98.384% in National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd. (NMDC) through 'Offer for Sale' in the domestic market. The disinvestment by Government in PFC would be through piggy-back on the public issue being done by PFC.

#### **Import Duty on Edible Oil**

3363. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the revenue earned by Government through import duty on edible oil during the last three years, year wise; and

(b) the rates of import duty fixed during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Customs duty realized in cash on imports of "Animal or Vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products, prepared edible fats, animal or vegetable waxes" during the last three financial years was as under:

(Rs. in Crore)	
Financial Year	Revenue Collection
2003-2004	3039.33
2004-2005	3506.18
2005-2006 \$	4771.42

\$ Provisional

(b) Total Customs duty rates on major edible oils during the last three financial years are given in the enclosed Statement.

**Statement**

Item Description	Total customs duty rates on Crude Edible Oils			Total customs duty rates on Refined Edible Oils		
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Soyabean Oil	45%	45%	45%	45%	45%	45%
Palmolein	65%	65%/80%*	80%	92.4%/70% <sup>1/</sup> 75% <sup>2</sup>	75% <sup>2</sup> /90% <sup>3</sup>	90%
Palm Oil	65%	65%/80%*	80%	92.4%/70% <sup>1/</sup> 75% <sup>2</sup>	75% <sup>2</sup> /90% <sup>3</sup>	90%
Groundnut Oil	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%
Sunflower/Safflower Oil	75%	75%	75%	85%	85%	85%
Coconut Oil	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%
Rapeseed/Mustard Oil	75%	75%	75%	75%	75%	75%
Other Oils	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%

With effect from 1.3.2006, these oils will also attract a special additional duty of customs @ 4%.

<sup>1</sup> Revised to 70% w.e.f. 30th April, 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Revised to 75% w.e.f. from 8th January, 2004 and

\* Revised to 80% w.e.f. 15th February, 2005.

<sup>3</sup> Revised 90% w.e.f. 15th February, 2005.

These oils except Soyabean Oil & Rapeseed/Mustard Oil also attract Education Cess of 2%.

**[Translation]**

**Release of Funds of States**

3364. SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has released assistance to the States as per the recommendations of the IVh Finance Commission;

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

(c) the amount released to Madhya Pradesh for 2005-06 for the three tier Panchayati Institutions;

(d) the dates on which the amount has been released;

(e) the time by which the remaining amount is likely to be released; and

(f) the reasons for not releasing the full amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (f) A Statement showing State-wise grants released during the first year of Twelfth Finance Commission, i.e. 2005-06 and last two years of Eleventh Finance Commission, i.e. 2003-04 and 2004-05 is given in the enclosed Statement.

Grants amounting to Rs. 332.60 crore were released to Madhya Pradesh for Panchayati Raj Institutions during 2005-06 in two equal installments on 13.9.2005 and



15.2.2006, on fulfilment of conditions laid down in the guidelines issued by this Ministry.

**Statement**

*Release of grants to States for Panchayati Raj Institutions during last three years*

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	State	Eleventh Finance Commission		Twelfth Finance Commission
		2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	304.10	76.02	317.40
2	Arunachal Pradesh	16.71		
3	Assam	46.69		52.60
4	Bihar	108.75	54.38	162.40
5	Chhattisgarh	21.00	63.01	123.00
6	Goa			1.80
7	Gujarat		174.02	93.10
8	Haryana	29.42	29.42	77.60
9	Himachal Pradesh	13.13	13.28	29.40
10	J & K			17.62
11	Jharkhand			
12	Karnataka	118.24		88.80
13	Kerala	65.93	65.93	197.00
14	Madhya Pradesh	101.09	50.55	332.60
15	Maharashtra	65.67	197.02	198.30
16	Manipur	1.88		2.12
17	Meghalaya	7.68		
18	Mizoram	1.57	1.57	2.00
19	Nagaland			4.00
20	Orissa	34.56	138.24	160.60
21	Punjab		29.03	32.40

1	2	3	4	5
22	Rajasthan		245.47	246.00
23	Sikkim	1.59		1.30
24	Tamil Nadu	139.84	67.27	174.00
25	Tripura		8.54	
26	Uttar Pradesh	233.43	116.71	585.60
27	Uttaranchal	15.20	45.60	16.20
28	West Bengal		57.77	127.10
Total		1326.46	1433.82	3042.94

**Energy Conservation by Super Conductivity**

3365. SHRI RAKESH SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that 25 per cent of energy could be conserved by super conductivity;

(b) if so, whether the Government has formulated any effective scheme to solve this problem through the use of super conductivity wires as in other countries; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) Use of Super-conducting material can lead to significant saving in energy. However, due to very high commercial cost and high degree of cooling required for its operation, at present, it is technically not viable and affordable. Research in India as well as other countries is going on to find super-conducting material that can work at room temperature is convenient to use and is inexpensive.

The Government of India has funded research and development projects in national research organizations to develop high temperature superconductors. As of now, such materials are still not available for large scale commercial applications in energy saving.

[English]

**Bank Guarantee Cases Pending in Courts**

3366. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Bank Guarantee cases pending in courts in the country; and
- (b) the amounts involved in these Bank Guarantee cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Presently, Management Information System of Reserve Bank of India/Government does not generate the information asked for.

**Committee on Development  
on Bio-Fuel**

3367. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government had set up a committee on Development of Bio-fuel;
- (b) if so, the details alongwith the recommendations thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to implement its recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) and (b) A Committee was constituted in July, 2002 by the Planning Commission for development of bio-fuels. The Committee had submitted its Report in 2003. The main recommendations in the report include launching of a National Mission on Bio-diesel with special focus on plantation of *Jatropha curcas* on 4 lakh hectare of forest and non-forest land.

(c) The Ministry of Rural Development has been assigned task for implementation of the National Mission on Bio-diesel.

*[Translation]*

**Housing Facilities for SCs/STs**

3368. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to formulate any housing development scheme for persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes so that all

the people of these communities are provided the houses within the stipulated time limit;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any suggestion/request has been received in this regard from the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. For integrated development of slums through projects for providing shelter, basic services and other civic amenities with a view to provide utilities to the urban poor in select 63 cities a Sub-Mission on Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP) has been launched on 3rd December, 2005. In the remaining cities/towns an Integrated housing & Slum Development Programme (IHSDP) has also been launched on 3rd December 2005. IHSDP has subsumed Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana (VAMBAY) and National Slum Development Programme (NSDP). The targeted beneficiaries are slum dwellers/Urban Poor/EWS/LIG categories. While a minimum 12% beneficiary contribution is stipulated under BSUP and IHSDP, in the case of SC/ST/OBC/PH and other weaker section it is 10%.

- (c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

*[English]*

**Guidelines for Non-banking  
Financial Institutions**

3369. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the RBI has issued fresh guidelines to non-banking financial institutions to check irregularities in their functioning;

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

(c) the extent to which the Government is likely to check the activities of NBFC by such guidelines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has been issuing directions/guidelines to NBFCs under statutory provisions from time to time. Such directions/guidelines have been issued encompassing various aspects such as acceptance of public deposits, Income Recognition, Asset Classification and provisioning requirements, Capital Adequacy, Credit/Investment concentration norms, Guidelines on Asset Liability Management, Guidelines on investments in Insurance Companies and requirement of auditors to furnish exception report to RBI on non-adherence to instructions issued by RBI. In the recent past the RBI has issued 'Know Your Customer' guidelines on customer identification procedure for opening of accounts and monitoring transactions of a suspicious nature.

(c) The NBFCs have to function within the framework of directions/guidelines issued by the RBI. RBI has a system of inspecting deposit taking NBFCs and is also obtaining returns from these companies to monitor their activities. Certain returns on important financial parameters are also obtained from large non-deposit taking NBFCs with asset size of Rs. 100 Crore and above. In case of need, scrutiny of non deposit taking NBFCs is also carried out.

#### **Post Office Monthly Income Scheme**

3370. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of post office deposit options available for public in the country;

(b) whether the Government proposes to increase the Monthly Income Scheme (Post Office) limit from Rs. three lakh to Rs. ten lakh per person; and

(c) if so, the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) At present, eight (8) small savings schemes are available for the public in the country. These are the Post Office Savings Account, Post Office Time Deposits of 1, 2, 3 and 5 years maturity, Post Office Recurring Deposit, National Savings Certificate-VIII Issue, Kisan Vikas Patra, Monthly Income Account Scheme, Public Provident Fund and Senior Citizens Savings Scheme. These schemes, carrying different tenor and rates of interest administered by the

Government of India, are designed to provide safe and attractive investment options to different sections of small savers. Facility of nomination and transfer of account/certificate from one place to another is available. The option for premature closure subject to conditions is also available under most schemes. Further, only individuals through single or joint accounts are eligible to invest under these schemes.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **CST and VAT**

3371. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:

SHRI A.K. MOORTHY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has decided to dispense with Central Sales Tax (CST);

(b) if so, the details of action taken by the Union Government thereon; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) It is generally agreed that CST, being an origin-based non-creditable tax, is inconsistent with the concept of VAT, which is a destination-based tax. It has already been agreed, in principle, to phase out CST. However, a critical issue which needs to be resolved before the process of phasing out of CST can begin is that of working out a package for compensating the States for revenue losses on account of such phasing out. During 2004-05, the total revenue collection of States from CST was around Rs.15,100 crores. If CST is phased out, this revenue will be permanently lost by the States and hence, they are insisting on a mechanism to compensate them on permanent basis for such revenue loss.

The issue has been discussed in various meetings of the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers (EC) as also in the meetings of the State Finance Ministers with the Union Finance Minister held on 16.12.2005, 17.02.2006 and 22.03.2006. In the meeting held on 22.03.2006, a decision was taken to constitute a Technical Committee of State Commissioners of Taxes to work out various possible options for compensation of revenue loss on account of phasing out of CST and to suggest the

modalities for such compensation. The Technical Committee has accordingly been constituted and the same is presently deliberating upon the issue.

#### **Shifting of Service Taxes to the States**

3372. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to allow States to retain service tax;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this is part of a larger plan to phase out Central Sales Tax (CST); and

(d) if so, complete details about other options for compensating States for revenue loss being mooted by the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) The issue of 'Giving the States the right to collect Service Tax on selected services of intra-State nature' is being discussed with the States in the context of working out a composite package for compensating the States for the revenue loss which will arise as a result of the proposed phasing out of the Central Sales Tax (CST). The issue has been discussed in various meetings of the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers (EC) as also in the meetings of the State Finance Ministers with the Union Finance Minister held on 16.12.2005, 17.02.2006 and 22.03.2006. In the meeting held on 22.03.2006, a decision was taken to constitute a Technical Committee of State Commissioners of Taxes to work out various possible options for compensation of revenue loss on account of phasing out of CST and to suggest the modalities for such compensation. The Technical Committee has accordingly been constituted and the same is presently deliberating upon the issue.

(d) Other possible options for compensating the States for revenue loss on account of phasing out of CST, being presently deliberated upon, are transfer of powers to States to levy VAT/Sales Tax on AED items, VAT on imports, VAT rates revision, reducing the list of declared goods and Budgetary support.

#### **SC Officers in CBEC**

3373. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the break-up Scheduled Caste Officers working in Central Excise and Customs establishments in the country, Commissionerate-wise;

(b) whether recruitment of SC officers has been conducted on a continuous basis;

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

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (d) The requisite information is being collected from the field formations under Central Board of Excise and Customs and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Fuels for Power Generation**

3374. ADV. SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of different fuels used in power generation;

(b) whether the choice of fuel for power generation at particular location is based on the life time cost, etc.; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) Following fuel are generally being used in the thermal power stations in the country for power generation:

i) Indigenous Coal/ Imported Coal.

ii) Lignite.

iii) Natural Gas/ Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG).

iv) Liquid fuels like Naphtha, Light diesel Oil (LDO), Low Sulphur High Stock (LSHS), High Speed Diesel (HSD), etc.

The Choice of fuel in a particular project depends on the availability of fuel and Techno-Economics of power generation. In thermal power plants, Coal is generally being used as fuel as it is available in abundance indigenously. Availability of indigenous Natural Gas is limited and hence it is used at locations where its availability is assured. Use of liquid fuels like Naphtha,

LSHS, etc, was envisaged on short term basis to tide over the prevailing power shortages. Due to steep increase in price of liquid fuel, power generation based on liquid fuels is not being encouraged. New coastal power plants are now being proposed to be set up to make use of Imported Coal. Use of imported Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) is also being envisaged at some locations for power generation depending upon its economics.

#### **Lord Krishna Bank**

3375. DR. K.S. MANOJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is having any specific plans to save the Kerala base Lord Krishna Bank from a probable collapse, as the Federal Bank has decided not to take over the Lord Krishna Bank;

(b) if so, whether the Government consider to merge it with a nationalized Bank;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith present status;

(d) the manner in which such banks are monitor;

(e) the action taken by the Government in case of violation of RBI guidelines;

(f) whether the RBI is aware that Lord Krishna Bank is having minimum exposure to agricultural loans, educational loans and priority sector advances;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the steps taken by the Government to improve the condition of Lord Krishna Bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) The Lord Krishna Bank is under directions issued by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) under Section 35A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.

(b) and (c) Presently, no such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

(d) and (e) The private sector banks are regulated and supervised by Reserve Bank of India through the Board for Financial Supervision (BFS) and appropriate action is taken to protect the interests of its depositors and the banking system. RBI has, inter-alia, taken the following steps to strengthen the banking system:—

- Enhancing transparency and disclosure requirements for published accounts;
- Introduction of capital adequacy standards on the lines of the Basel Committee norms;
- Prudential norms on asset classification, income recognition and provisioning.
- Introduction of off-site monitoring system and strengthening of the supervisory framework/introduction of Risk based Supervision for banks.
- Introduction of a framework for Prompt Corrective Action (PCA). Further, RBI is vested with powers under the provision of Section 47 (A)(1)(b) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 to impose penalty on banks for violating RBI guidelines.

(f) and (g) During the year 2003-04 and 2004-05, the Lord Krishna Bank has financed 45.4% and 44.2% of its Net Bank Credit (NBC) to the Priority Sector as against the stipulation of 40% of NBC, and 18.7% and 11.4% of its NBC to Agriculture Sector, as against the stipulation of 18%. The Education Loan granted by the above bank on the last reporting Friday of March, 2004 and 2005 was Rs.2.15 and 3.24 crore, respectively. Though, Govt. has not prescribed any targets for education loans. However, the banks are encouraged to increase finance under education loan portfolio.

(h) In view of the deteriorated financials and other adverse findings of Annual Financial Inspection as on September 30, 1997, the bank was placed under Quarterly Monitoring System (QMS) which broadly covers areas such as financial position, asset quality, profitability, NPA recovery, CRAR, etc. From April, 2001, the bank has been put up under monthly monitoring to ascertain the movement of its financial and performance parameters on a more frequent periodicity. The performance of the bank is regularly monitored and put up to Board for Financial Supervision every month and instructions are issued to the bank, wherever considered necessary.

#### **WTO Settlement and Rural Sector**

3376. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has stated recently that India would not accept WTO settlement that goes against the rural sector;

(b) if so, the issues that are likely to go against the rural sector; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (c) Following the Hong Kong Ministerial conference of WTO member countries, the union Minister for Commerce and Industry had in a statement made in the Lok Sabha in December, 2005 reported that the Ministerial declaration addresses India's core concerns and interests in agriculture by securing the special products and special safeguard mechanism which will fully protect the interest of our farmers. The developing countries will be able to self designate an appropriate number of tariff lines as special products guided by indicators based on the criteria of food security, livelihood security and rural development. The developing countries will have recourse to a special safeguard Mechanism with both import quantity and price trigger to safeguard against surge in imports or fall in international prices. All forms of export subsidies and other export measures with equivalent effect, by developed countries will be eliminated by the end of 2013 while developing countries like India will continue to provide marketing and transport subsidies for five years after elimination of export subsidies i.e upto 2018. The contours of the Domestic support reduction formula in Agriculture and the tariff reduction formulae in agriculture as well as NAMA (Non Agricultural Market Access) have been given shape and negotiations for finalizing the modalities is yet to be concluded. The Government is intent on fully protecting our farmers, industry as well as promoting our national interests and core concerns.

*[Translation]*

#### **Jharia Water Project**

3377. SHRI TEK LAL MAHTO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Jharia Water Board was set up to supply water regularly to the various collieries in Jharkhand;

(b) if so, whether water supply project have closed due to accumulation of sand in dam and canal constructed by Jharia Water Board and water supply from the said project has been closed;

(c) if so, whether any programme has been formulated for revival of the said water project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating the time by which it is likely to restart?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Allotment of Land to Private Hospitals**

3378. SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV:

SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA:

SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR:

SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPIPARAI:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of private hospitals in Delhi which were provided land at a cheaper rate on the condition that they would provide free medical treatment to 25 percent poor people;

(b) whether the said hospitals are complying with the conditions stipulated in the lease deed of land;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) The list of private hospitals allotted land in Delhi by Delhi Development Authority (DDA) and Land and Development Office (LDO) on the condition of providing free medical treatment to weaker sections, is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) to (d) DDA has reported that as per the reporting system introduced by Directorate of Health Services, Delhi Government, hospitals are submitting fortnightly reports on the implementation of free bed norms and free OPD for weaker sections. Delhi High Court has also constituted a Committee under the chairmanship of Principal Secretary (Health), Delhi Government with a mandate to find ways and means to implement the condition of free treatment in those cases where the condition is not being implemented by the private hospital.

**Statement**

1. Gujarmal Modi Hospital and Research Centre
2. Amar Jyoti Charitable Trust
3. Madam Chanan Devi Eye Hospital
4. Indian Spinal Injuries Centre
5. Deepak Gupta Memorial Foundation
6. Ganesh Das Chawla Charitable Trust
7. Arya Vaidya Shala Kottalaya
8. Venu Charitable Trust
9. Laxmipati Singhania Medical Foundation.
10. Dharamshila Cancer Hospital
11. Devki Devi Foundation
12. Escorts Heart Institute Research Centre
13. Balaji Medical & Research Centre
14. Jaipur Golden Hospital
15. Mukandi Lal Memorial Foundation
16. National Heart Institute
17. Maha Durga Charitable Trust
18. Bala Sahib Gurudwara/Delhi Sikh Management Committee.
19. All India Society for Health Aid Education Research
20. V.N. Gupta Charitable Trust
21. Mai Kamli Wali Jan Kalyan Charitable Trust
22. B.R. Dhawan Medical Charitable Trust.
23. Sarvodaya Health Foundation
24. Veeranvali Hospital
25. Vidya Sagar Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (VIMHANS)

**Integrated Development of Small Towns**

3379. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE:

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT:

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA

DESHMUKH:

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to formulate a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the integrated development of cities, small and medium sized towns in each State;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the funds likely to be earmarked for the purpose; and

(c) the time by which the said scheme likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) The Government has recently launched Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) on 3rd December, 2005 for reform driven integrated development of small and medium towns. The scheme covers all those towns and cities as per 2001 census which are not covered under Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM).

(b) The details of the scheme are given in the enclosed Statement. An allocation of Rs. 900 crore has been made for various States and Union Territories under UIDSSMT for the year 2006-07.

(c) The scheme is already under implementation since 3rd December, 2005.

**Statement****Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) Guidelines 2005**

1. Introduction: Urban infrastructure Development Scheme for Small & Medium Towns aims at improvement in urban infrastructure in towns and cities in a planned manner. It shall subsume the existing schemes of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT) and Accelerated Urban Water Supply programme (AUWSP).
2. Objectives: The objectives of the scheme are:
  - a) Improve infrastructural facilities and help create durable public assets and quality oriented services in cities & towns
  - b) Enhance public-private-partnership in infrastructural development and

- c) Promote planned integrated development of towns and cities.

3. Duration of Scheme

The duration of the Scheme is seven years beginning from 2005-06.

4. Components: The Scheme covers the following areas:-

- i) Urban Renewal i.e redevelopment of inner (old) city areas this would include items like widening of narrow streets, shifting of industrial/commercial establishments from non-conforming (inner-city) to conforming (outer-city) areas to reduce congestion, replacement of old and worn-out water pipes by new/higher capacity ones, renewal of sewerage/drainage/solid waste disposal systems, etc.
- ii) Water Supply (including de-salination plants) and sanitation
- iii) Sewerage and Solid Waste Management
- iv) Construction and improvement of drains/storm water drains
- v) Construction/Upgradation of roads, highways/ expressways
- vi) Parking lots/spaces on Public Private Partnership basis
- vii) Development of heritage areas
- viii) Prevention & rehabilitation of soil erosion/ landslides only in case of Special Category States where such problems are common; and
- ix) Preservation of water bodies.

Inadmissible Items

- a) Power and telecommunication works,
- b) Rolling stock like buses and trams,
- c) Health and educational institutions,
- d) Urban Transport (MRTS, LRTS etc.)
- e) Wage employment programme and staff component

f) Maintenance works

Cost of land is not admissible except for acquisition of private land for schemes/ projects in the North Eastern States & hilly States viz. Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal and Jammu & Kashmir.

5. Urban Reforms

State Governments, Urban Local Bodies and parastatals are required to undertake mandatory and optional reforms as per agreed time lines to be able to access funds under the scheme. These reforms are:

**Mandatory Reforms**

The mandatory reforms are to be undertaken at the ULB/Parastatal level as well as state level. These are:

**Mandatory Reforms at Urban Local Body/ Parastatal**

- i) Adoption of modern, accrual-based double entry system of accounting in Urban Local Bodies / Parastatals;
- ii) Introduction of system of e-governance using IT applications like, GIS and MIS for various services provided by ULBs/ Parastatals;
- iii) Reforms of property tax with GIS, so that it becomes major source of revenue for Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) and arrangements for its effective implementation so that collection efficiency reaches at least 85% within next seven years;
- iv) Levy of reasonable user charges by ULBs/Parastatals with the objective that full cost of operation and maintenance or recurring cost is collected within next seven years. However, cities/towns in North East and other special category States may recover at least 50% of operation and maintenance charges initially. These cities/towns should graduate to full O&M cost recovery in a phased manner;
- v) Internal earmarking within local body, budgets for basic services to the urban poor;
- vi) Provision of basic services to urban poor including security of tenure at affordable prices.



improved housing, water supply, sanitation and ensuing delivery of other already existing universal services of the Government for education, health and social security.

#### **Mandatory Reforms at State Level**

- i) Implementation of decentralization measures as envisaged in 74th Constitution Amendment Act. States should ensure meaningful association/engagement of ULBs in planning function of para-statal as well as delivery of services to the citizens.
- ii) \* Repeal of Urban Land Ceiling and Regulation Act.
- iii) \* Reform of Rent Control Laws balancing the interests of landlords and tenants.
- iv) Rationalisation of Stamp Duty to bring it down to no more than 5% within next seven years.
- v) Enactment of Public Disclosure Law to ensure preparation of medium-term fiscal plan of ULBs/Parastatals and release of quarterly performance information to all stakeholders.
- vi) Enactment of Community Participation Law to institutionalize citizen participation and introducing the concept of Area Sabha in urban areas.
- vii) Assigning or associating elected ULBs with "city planning function". Over a period of seven years, transferring all special agencies that deliver civic services in urban areas to ULBs and creating accountability platforms for all urban civic service providers in transition.

\* Note: In respect of schemes relating to water supply and sanitation, the under mentioned State level mandatory reforms may be taken as optional reforms:-

- i. Repeal of Urban Land Ceiling Act
- ii. Reform of Rent Control Act

#### **Optional Reforms (State and ULB/Para-statal level)**

- i) Revision of bye-laws to streamline the approval process for construction of buildings, development of sites etc.

- ii) Simplification of legal and procedural frameworks for conversion of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes.
- iii) Introduction of Property Title Certification System in ULBs.
- iv) Earmarking at least 20-25% of developed land in all housing projects (both Public and Private Agencies) for EWS/LIG category with a system of cross subsidization.
- v) Introduction of computerized process of registration of land and property.
- vi) Revision of bye-laws to make rain water harvesting mandatory in all buildings and adoption of water conservation measures.
- vii) Bye-laws for reuse of recycled water.
- viii) Administrative reforms i.e. reduction in establishment by bringing out voluntary retirement schemes, non-filling up of posts falling vacant due to retirement etc., and achieving specified milestones in this regard.
- ix) Structural reforms.
- x) Encouraging Public Private Partnership.

Note: Any two optional reforms to be implemented together by State & ULBs/Parastatals in each year.

#### **6. Outcome of the Scheme**

On completion of the Scheme period of seven years, it is expected that ULBs/Parastatals will achieve the following outcomes:-

- (a) Modern and transparent budgeting, accounting, financial management systems, designed and adopted for all urban services and governance functions.
- (b) City-wide framework for planning and governance will be established and become operational.
- (c) All urban residents will be able to obtain access to a basic level of urban services.
- (d) Financially self-sustaining agencies for urban governance and service delivery will be

established, through reforms to major revenue instruments.

- (e) Local services and governance will be conducted in a manner that is transparent and accountable to citizens.
- (f) e-Governance applications will be introduced in core functions of ULBs/para-statal resulting in reduced cost and time of service delivery processes.

#### Tax Structure on Gems and Jewellery

3380. SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether taxation structure and other fiscal issues pertaining to the gems and jewellery trade create hurdles to make India a global trading hub;
- (b) if so, whether the Union Government has set up a committee to look into these hurdles;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the time by which the said Committee will submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No Sir, taxation structure and other fiscal issues do not pose hurdle for gems and jewellery trade.

(b) and (c) However, Government had set up an Expert Body on 31st March, 2006, to look into the potential of the gems and jewellery sector and the prevalent taxation practices in India and abroad, and make suitable recommendations to enable India to be a hub for this sector.

(d) The committee is expected to submit its report by 30th September, 2006.

[English]

#### Customs Duty on Edible Oils

3381. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU:

SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Vanaspati Industries have to pay

the customs duty upto 89% on raw material (Crude Palm Oil) in the country when the Vanaspati itself is allowed to be imported duty free from Sri Lanka and neighbouring countries;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) the quantum of Vanaspati and oil items have been imported in the Country during the last three years and thereafter;

(d) the customs duties imposed by the Government for import of these items, and

(e) the steps taken by Government for provisioning of import duty on import of Vanaspati and various edible oils?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Main raw material for manufacture of Vanaspati is Crude Palm Oil, which attracts basic customs duty of 80%, education cess @ 2% of the aggregate of customs duty and 4% additional duty of customs. As against this, vanaspati in general attracts 80% basic customs duty, 2% of the aggregate of customs duty as education cess and 4% additional duty of customs. However, as per commitments under Indo-Nepal Treaty and Indo-Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement, vanaspati imported from Nepal (upto one lakh MT in a year) and Sri Lanka attracts nil customs duty and 4% additional duty of customs.

(c) Details are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(d) Details are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(e) In this year's budget, taking into account the problems of vanaspati industry, basic customs duty on vanaspati was raised from 30% to 80%.

#### Statement-I

#### Total Import of Vanaspati and Edible Oil during past three years

- (i) Total import of vanaspati during past three years has been as under:

Year	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06 (Apr. to Sep., 05)
Quantity in MT	55,537	62,926	1,27,322

Source: DGCi&S.

(ii) Import of edible vegetable oils during last three years is as under:-

(In lakh MT)

Oil Year (Nov-Oct)	Crude palm Oil	Crude olein	Crude palm kernel oil	RBD Palmolein	Soya bean oil	Sun flower oil	Other oils	Total
2002-03	21.51	12.62	0.78	3.19	11.97	0.95	0.13	51.15
2003-04	20.60	4.92	0.64	7.97	9.06	0.76	0.02	43.97
2004-05	23.61	1.87	0.33	4.23	20.26	0.05	0.07	50.42
2005-06 (Nov. to Mar., 06)	7.29	0.20	0.11	0.67	5.41	0.75	0.03	14.47

Source: Solvent Extractors Association of India

**Statement-II****Customs Duty Structure of Major Edible Oils is as under:**

Item Description	**Customs duty on Crude Edible Oils*	**Customs duty on Refined Edible Oils*
Soyabean Oil	45%	45%
Palmolein	80%	90%
Palm Oil	80%	90%
Groundnut Oil	85%	85%
Sunflower/Safflower Oil	75%	85%
Coconut Oil	85%	85%
Rapeseed/Mustard Oil	75%	75%
Other Oils	85%	85%

\* In addition edible oils (except soya bean oil, rape seed oil and mustard oil) attract education cess 2% of the aggregate of customs duty.

\*\* With effect from 1.3.2006, all these oils will also attract a special additional duty of customs @4%.

**Construction of Dams**

3382. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN:

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had sanctioned Rs.

4.55 lakhs for the construction of Check Dam on Sajnam river at KARARI village on March 29, 1996 to the Mangal Research and Dehati Development Society Bhaloni lodh Bar, Lalitpur (UP);

(b) whether the Government released the first instalment of Rs. 2.55 lakhs in the year 2000 and the second instalment was never released;

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

(d) whether the Government is aware that the project cost has increased since then; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to increase the sanctioned fund and to release the fund for the completion of the project at the earliest possible?

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) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Rationalization of Stamp Duty**

3383. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has planned to rationalize Stamp Duty so as to make it uniform; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b)

Under the Constitution of India, Stamp Duties (but not including rates of stamp duty) fall under Entry 44 of the Concurrent List. Regarding rates of stamp duty, the Central Government has powers to fix the rates in respect of 10 instruments listed in Entry 91 of the Union List, whereas States have the powers in respect of the remaining instruments by virtue of Entry 63 of the State List. The revenue from stamp duties is collected and appropriated entirely by the States concerned by virtue of provisions of Article 268 of the Constitution.

The Central Government has received some suggestions for bringing about uniformity in the rates of stamp duty for certain instruments and for rationalization of such duties. In view of the fact that any change in the rates of stamp duty affects the revenues of the States and also considering the fact that the powers to fix/revise the rates of stamp duty are with the States in respect of most of the instruments, all such suggestions have to be discussed with the States. Thus it is not feasible to achieve uniformity in the immediate future.

#### Special Package to Karnataka

3384. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is considering proposal to provide a special package to Karnataka to enable the State wipe out its whooping debt;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the rate of interest to be charged on this special package amount; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (d) No, Sir. However, the Union Government has accepted the recommendation of Twelfth Finance Commission (TFC) in respect of the Debt Consolidation and Relief Facility for States. According to this Scheme, the central loans (Ministry of Finance) of States disbursed up to 31.3.2004 and as outstanding on 31.3.2005 are to be consolidated and rescheduled for a fresh term of 20 years with repayments in 20 equal installments, carrying a lower interest rate of 7.5%, subject to States enacting their Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act with the certain specified core provisions. Under this Facility the State Governments

are also likely to get debt waiver linked to improvement of their revenue deficit along with other laid down conditions.

Government of Karnataka has enacted its Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act (FRBMA) and also drawn up a Fiscal Correction Path for consolidation of State Finances. On recommendation of the Central Monitoring Committee on Debt Consolidation and Relief Facility, this Ministry has consolidated Central loans, advanced by Ministry of Finance amounting to Rs.7166.50 crores to Government of Karnataka. In addition, an amount of Rs.358.33 crores of repayment of the State Government has been waived off for the year 2005-06 on the basis of improvement in revenue balance.

[English]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Sir, I may be allowed to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: No; please sit down.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Why no, Sir?

MR. SPEAKER: It is because I have to run the House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: I want to speak with your permission. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have not given you the permission, Mr. Ram Kripal Yadav.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Will you not allow laying of papers?

12.01 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Paper to be laid on the Table of the House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Item No.2, Shri Sushil Kumar Shinde.

Mr. Shinde, you were not present yesterday.

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): Sir, it was not listed.

MR. SPEAKER: You have to express your regret.

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE: I express my regret, but Sir, it was not brought to my notice.

MR. SPEAKER: That is your Department's failure and not ours. Yes, you can lay the papers listed against your name now.

I hope, this will not be repeated by anybody in future.

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE: Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Indoor/Outdoor Medical Facilities) Regulations, 2005 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. 2/1(21)/2005-CERC in Gazette of India dated the 18th November, 2005 under section 179 of the Electricity Act, 2003.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4167/06]

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Urban Development for the year 2006-2007.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4168/06]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under of section 296 of the Income Tax Act, 1961:-

- (1) The Income Tax (First Amendment) Rules, 2006 published in Notification No. S.O. 303(E) in Gazette of India dated the 9th March, 2006, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (2) The Income Tax (Second Amendment) Rules, 2006 published in Notification No. S.O. 358(E)

in Gazette of India dated the 17th March, 2006, together with an explanatory memorandum.

- (3) S.O. 616(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th April, 2006 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 741(E) dated the 28th June, 2004.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4169/06]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): Sir, on behalf of my senior colleague, Shri H.R. Bhardwaj, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Supreme Court Judges (Amendment) Rules, 2006 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 162 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th March, 2006 under sub-section (3) of section 24 of the Supreme Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Act, 1958.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4170/06]

THE MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the 49th Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) on the working and administration of the Companies Act, 1956 for the year ended the March 31, 2005 under section 638 of the Companies Act, 1956.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4171/06]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Sir, with your permission, on behalf of my colleague, Shri S.S. Palanimanickam, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Insurance (Amendment) Rules, 2005 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No: G.S.R.178 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th March, 2006, under sub-section (3) of section 114 of the Insurance Act, 1938.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4172/06]

- (2) A copy each of the following Notifications

(Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962:-

- (i) S.O. 211(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 2006, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 36/2001-Cus.(N.T.) dated the 3rd August, 2001.
- (ii) S.O. 220(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th February, 2006, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 36/2001-Cus.(N.T.) dated the 3rd August, 2001.
- (iii) S.O. 242(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd February, 2006, together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rate of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa for the purpose of assessment of import.
- (iv) S.O. 243(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd February, 2006, together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rate of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa for the purpose of assessment of export, together with a Corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. S.O. 249(E) dated the 24th February, 2006.
- (v) S.O. 267(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 2006, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 36/2001-Cus.(N.T.) dated the 3rd August, 2001.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4173/06]

12.02 hrs.

## COMMITTEE ON EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

### Fifth Report

[English]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH (Karol Bagh): Sir, I beg to present the Fifth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Empowerment of Women (2005-06) on the subject 'Working Conditions of Women in Handicraft Sector.'

12.03 hrs.

## STATEMENT BY MINISTERS

- (i) **Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Second Report of the Standing Committee on Rural Development**

[Translation]

\*THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): I am making this statement on the status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Second Report of the Standing Committee on Rural Development (14th Lok Sabha) in pursuance of the Direction 73A of the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha vide Lok Sabha Bulletin – Part II dated September 01, 2004.

The Second Report of the Standing Committee on Rural Development (14th Lok Sabha) was presented in the Lok Sabha on 18th August, 2004. The Report relates to the Examination of Demands for Grants of Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development for the year 2004-05. The report contained 41 recommendations. Action Taken Report on the recommendations/observations contained in the report of the Committee was sent to the Standing Committee on Rural Development on 29.12.2004.

The Committee considered the action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in their Second Report and presented the same in their Fifth Report to Lok Sabha on 10th March, 2005. The Committee accepted the action taken by the Government in respect of 34 recommendations. In respect of 2 recommendations the Committee did not desire to pursue in view of Government's replies. In respect of the remaining 5 recommendations replies of the Government were not accepted by the Committee and made further recommendations/observations for Government to take action upon.

These recommendations mainly pertain to realistic projections of the outlay, development of wastelands through corporate sector/private sector, convergence of various wasteland and other related programmes under Department of Land Resources, performance of the State and district level Vigilance Committees, reasons for foreclosure of Desert Development Programme (DDP) projects and revision of the existing funding pattern of the scheme, Strengthening of Revenue Administration and Updating of Land Records (SRA&ULR).

\*Laid on the Table and also Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 4174/06

The present status of implementation of various recommendations made by the Committee is indicated in the Annexure to my statement which is laid on the Table of the House. I would request that this may be considered as read.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: If you want, you can take the advantage of our new television channel to tell the people what it is all about, as the hon. Member will entitle to do it.

12.03½ hrs.

**(ii) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Tenth Report of the Standing Committee on Rural Development**

[Translation]

\*THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): I am making this statement on the status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Tenth Report of the Standing Committee on Rural Development (14th Lok Sabha) in pursuance of the Direction 73A of the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha vide Lok Sabha Bulletin – Part II dated September 01, 2004.

The Tenth Report of the Standing Committee on Rural Development (14th Lok Sabha) was presented in the Lok Sabha on 20th April, 2005. The Report relates to the Examination of Demands for Grants of Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development for the year 2005-06. The report contained 36 recommendations. Action Taken Report on the recommendations/observations contained in the report of the Committee was sent to the Standing Committee on Rural Development on 25.08.2005.

The Committee considered the action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in their Tenth Report and presented the same in their Sixteenth Report to Lok Sabha on 21 December, 2005. The Committee accepted the action taken by the Government in respect of 16 recommendations. In respect of one recommendation the Committee did not desire to pursue in view of Government's replies. In respect of the remaining nineteen recommendations replies of the Government were not accepted by the Committee and made further

recommendations/observations for Government to take action upon.

These recommendations mainly pertain to extending the area of operation on Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP) and the scheme related to land records in North Eastern states, actual estimates of the outlay, monitoring system of watershed projects, integration of various wasteland and other programmes related to it under land resources department, introduction of bio-fuel scheme, the reasons for premature winding up of projects of Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), and revision of existing funding pattern of the strengthening of Revenue Administration and Updation of Land Records Scheme (SRA & ULR).

The present status of implementation of various recommendations made by the Committee is indicated in the Annexure to my statement which is laid on the Table of the House. I would request that this may be considered as read.

12.04 hrs.

**(iii) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Sixth Report of Standing Committee on Energy on Demands for Grants (2005-06) of the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources.**

[English]

\*THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): Sir, I beg to lay the statement on the Table of the House on the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 6th Report of the Standing Committee on Energy (14th Lok Sabha) in pursuance of the direction 73A of the hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha vide Lok Sabha Bulletin Part II dated September 1, 2004.

The 6th Report of the Standing Committee on Energy (2004-05) was presented to the Lok Sabha on 21st April, 2005. The Report relates to the examination of the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources for 2005-06.

Action Taken Statement on the recommendations/

\*Laid on the Table and also Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 4174/06

\* Laid on the Table and also placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4175/06

observations contained in the 6th Report of the Committee had been sent to the Standing Committee on Energy on 12th August, 2005.

There are 17 recommendations made by the Committee in the said Report where action is called for on the part of the Government. These recommendations pertain mainly to issues like augmenting budgetary resources, implementation related issues of various renewable energy programmes, especially small hydro power, wind power, biomass power and remote village electrification.

The present status of implementation of various recommendations made by the Committee is indicated in the Annexure to my statement, which is laid on the Table of the House. I would not take the valuable time of the House to read out the contents of this Annexure. I would request that these may please be considered as read.

12.04½ hrs.

- (i) **Statement Correcting reply to Starred Question No. 170 dated 02.03.2006 Re: 'Purchase of Aircraft'; and (ii) Giving Reasons for Delay in Correcting the Reply**

*[English]*

\*THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): Sir, in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 170 on 2nd March 2006 regarding purchase of Aircraft in English version of the answer, it was stated:-

"(g) The delivery of 50 Aircraft to Air India Limited are scheduled between November, 2006 and August, 2011; and for 18 aircraft by Air India Charters Limited, the deliveries are scheduled between September, 2008 and February, 2012. Air India will deploy the aircraft for non-stop services to USA and on Southeastern/European sectors.

The delivery of 43 Aircraft to Indian Airlines Limited are scheduled between November, 2006 and March, 2010. These Aircraft will be deployed for operation of services on total network of Indian Airlines."

On scrutiny later, it was found that there was an

inadvertent typographic error in part(g) of the answer. The error is deeply regretted.

The correct version of the part (g) of the answer should read as follows:-

"(g) The delivery of 50 Aircraft to Air India Limited are scheduled between February, 2007 and February, 2012; and for 18 aircraft by Air India Charters Limited, the deliveries are scheduled between November, 2006 and October, 2009. Air India will deploy the aircraft for non-stop services to USA and on Southeastern/European sectors.

The delivery of 43 Aircraft to Indian Airlines Limited are scheduled between November 2006 and March 2010. These aircrafts will be deployed for operation of services on the total network of Indian Airlines."

12.05 hrs.

## BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): Sir, with your permission, on behalf of my senior colleague, Shri Priyaranjan Dasmunsi, I rise to announce that the Government Business during the week commencing Monday, the 15th of May, 2006 will consist of:-

1. Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.
2. Consideration and passing of the following Bills:-
  - (a) The Drugs (Control) Repeal Bill, 2006;
  - (b) The Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Amendment Bill, 2006;
  - (c) The Banking Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2005;
  - (d) The Reserve Bank of India (Amendment) Bill, 2005;
  - (e) The Constitution (One Hundred and Fifth Amendment) Bill, 2006;
  - (f) The Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2005;



- (g) The Union Duties of Excise (Electricity) Distribution Repeal Bill, 2006;
  - (h) The Food Safety and Standards Bill, 2005; and
  - (i) The Small and Medium Enterprises Development Bill, 2005.
3. Consideration and Passing of the following Bills, after they have been passed by Rajya Sabha:-
- (a) The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2006;
  - (b) The Assam Rifles Bill, 2006;
  - (c) The Spirituous Preparations (Inter-State Trade and Commerce) Control (Repeal) Bill, 2005;
  - (d) The Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Bill, 2005; and
  - (e) The National Institute of Fashion Technology Bill, 2005.

**[Translation]**

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:

1. Three crores cases are pending in various courts all over the country and three thousands posts of judges in various Courts are lying vacant. So the pending cases should be disposed off by way of appointing new judges.
2. Separate Courts should be set up right from the High Court to lower Courts in the country for the disposal of cases relating to women and people belonging to the scheduled castes/scheduled tribes and these cases should be disposed off in time bound method.

SHRI V.K. THUMMAR (Amreli): Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:

1. One AC coach, one sleeper coach and one general coach should be attached in Bandra bound Bhavnagar-Bandra train from Dhola railway station in my parliamentary constituency, Amreli.
2. The farmers are getting credit facility from cooperative banks in Gujarat and the process of providing loan should be expedited and the issue of providing loans at the rate of interest at seven percent should be taken up during the next session.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:

1. It is on account of the drought during the last year in Sholapur district under my parliamentary constituency Pandharpur in Maharashtra that crop of pomegranate there have been adversely affected and the farmers who had taken loans from the bank for the said purpose could not repay the loans. So their bank loans should be waived off by way of providing Central Grants.
2. 2050th Buddha Jayanti on 13 May, 2006-07 should be celebrated by the Central Government all over the country with great pomp and show.

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR (Chandrapur): Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:

1. The foundation stone of Gosikhurd irrigation Project of Maharashtra State was laid by Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi in 1984. At that time total cost of the project was estimated to be Rs. 325 crore. Now the cost of the same project has escalated up to Rs. 3500 crore. It is on account of the limited resources with the State Government that the completion of the said project in near future seems very difficult. Keeping in view the increasing cost of compensation, rehabilitation and direct construction, the Central Government should provide lump sum financial assistance and get the project completed at the earliest.
2. In my parliamentary constituency tribal kings have ruled for years. The rich heritage of historical and prehistoric period is lying in abundance in Chandrapur and Gadchiroli districts. There is need to set up a Museum to preserve the artifacts for tourist's viewing.

SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE (Bilaspur): Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:

1. The amount of honorarium being paid to female attendants and workers working in Anganwadi all over the country should be increased to Rs. 5000/- and Rs. 10,000 respectively and they should be treated as the State employees of the respective States where they are working and as per their qualification they should be appointed on the posts of Supervisor and other posts.
2. The candidates called for interview for filling up of 3200 posts of gangmen and porters in Bilaspur Railway Zone of Chhattisgrah are being interviewed

outside of the State, in Jabalpur, Nagpur and Bhopal. Train fares are also not being paid to the candidates who are attending the interview. The fares should be paid to them and the interview of the candidates should be conducted within the State so that poor, SCs, STs, candidates may appear in examination.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:

1. Thousands of bank account holders of Rajasthan Urban co-operative Banks can neither deposit money in their account nor can withdraw it. The problem should be solved and the decision should be taken to return the money to the account holders of the Rajasthan co-operative banks, because people are committing suicide on account of this.
2. It is on account of lack of water bodies that migratory birds are visiting the State. The Central Government should provide economic package to the Rajasthan Government for the repairing of reservoirs.

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): The following subjects may be included in the next week's agenda:

1. In the conduct of Kerala Assembly elections, electoral reforms in the process of conducting elections by the Election Commission have become a matter of public importance. So many discriminatory things have taken place. So, this matter may be discussed.

MR. SPEAKER: Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: There is one more, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: I thought, you have given up that.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: I am sorry, Sir. Another subject to be included is:

2. The deep crisis in the agricultural sector due to high price rise in the essential commodities and debt traps faced by the farmers in the country is a matter of grave concern.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Sir, please oblige by including the subjects mentioned below in the List of Business for the next week:-

1. Need to make available more funds for total development and strengthening of Indira Gandhi Canal, the 'desert Ganges' and life line of Rajasthan by categorizing it as a 'national plan'.
2. Need to release wheat quota to Rajasthan by Central Government urgently in order to make available wheat in place of wages to lacs of labourers engaged in drought relief work in the extreme drought situation in the state.

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA (Ujjain): Sir, please include the subjects mentioned below in the List of Business for the next week:-

1. Water harvesting arrangements should be made in order to ensure supply of potable water all the year round to the rural as well as urban areas and the Central Government should provide sufficient grant for it.
2. Platform upgradation of Unhel and Mahidpur Road railway stations in Western and West Central railway and light, drinking water and waiting room shade facility at both the stations should be done.

12.15 hrs.

## ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

### Coffee Board

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): On behalf of Shri Kamal Nath, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of section 4(2)(b) of the Coffee Act, 1942 read with rule 4(1) of the Coffee Rules, 1955, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from amongst themselves to serve as members of the Coffee Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act and Rules made thereunder."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of section 4(2)(b) of the Coffee Act, 1942 read with rule 4(1) of the Coffee Rules,

1955, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from amongst themselves to serve as members of the Coffee Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act and Rules made thereunder."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. SPEAKER: Item No. 13 A of the Revised List of Business.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: We have agreed to it. Let the Bill be introduced. We shall see it. The time has not come.

12.17 hrs.

**DELHI LAWS (SPECIAL PROVISIONS)  
BILL\* 2006**

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): With your gracious permission and with the generous permission of the House, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to make special provisions for the areas of Delhi for a period of one year and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. SPEAKER: Please listen to me first. You have given notice for opposing the introduction of the Bill but I have permitted the Minister. Since it is Chair's decision, you cannot question that. I am sorry.

Now, the question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to make special provisions for the areas of Delhi for a period of one year and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, I introduce\*\* the Bill.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): My objection is not to the Speaker's permission. My objection is entirely on a different point. I may be permitted to submit

that. It is the fundamental right of the Members of Parliament to have a discussion on a legislative matter.  
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Your contention is that by granting him permission, I have taken away your fundamental right.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: The very same issue is being discussed outside Parliament for a very long time. But we cannot discuss it inside Parliament. I do not understand the logic behind it. ...(Interruptions) The very same issue is being discussed nationally and in the national capital by all parties concerned. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It has nothing to do with the introduction of the Bill.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: The House is denied the opportunity to discuss this matter. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is to be recorded.

(Interruptions)...

MR. SPEAKER: Your fundamental right has been noted but not acknowledged today.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What are you saying? I have permitted it to be introduced in spite of the present rules.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I reject your contention. Mr. Radhakrishnan, you are not cooperating with the Chair. I am sorry to say that.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It will be discussed.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): Sir, as usual, he would oppose the introduction. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I want your protection!

...(Interruptions)

\* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 12.5.2006

\*\* Introduced with the Recommendation of the President.

\* Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: It may be that the Kerala results have given him more exuberance.

I am happy that it has been agreed to in view of the public interest involved. All the hon. Leaders of all the Parties have perceived that to be and I do not wish to stand in the way. Therefore, considering almost the unanimous demand, I have accepted this and you are raising questions on that.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAKASH PARANJPE (Thane): This Bill should be executed in the entire country. Why should it be only for Delhi? ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I think your leader will speak.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This type of indiscipline will not be tolerated. All parties agreed to discuss it.

Now, Item no.13 B – Consideration of the Bill.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I beg to move:

"That the Bill to make special provisions for the areas of Delhi for a period of one year and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

Sir, the hon. Members are aware, the large in-migration of people from all over the country, over the years, into the National Capital Territory of Delhi, has resulted in a huge growth in demand for residential and commercial space. As envisaged in the Master Plan 1962 notified under the Delhi Development Act, 1957, the Government adopted planned development of Delhi through large scale acquisition of land and development and disposal of such land through the Delhi Development Authority, for meeting the needs of the people, for residential, commercial and other spaces.

However, problems in operationalisation of the Plan, poor enforcement and inadequacy and non-affordability of shelter, particularly for the poor, have led to growth of slums and unauthorised construction and large-scale commercialisation of residential areas, especially along the major roads. The Government of India has taken note of these deficiencies and as of now placed emphasis on the need for alternative policy options to secure proper development of Delhi.

With this objective, the draft Master Plan for Delhi

has been prepared with a perspective of 2021. About 7000 suggestions and objections received from the public are under examination. Finalisation of the Master Plan is likely to take some time. In the meantime, the Government has also constituted a Committee headed by Shri Tejendra Khanna, former Lieutenant Governor of Delhi to suggest a comprehensive strategy to deal with the issue relating to unauthorised construction and misuse of premises. Their recommendations will also be taken into account in finalising the Plan.

As regards the problems of those living in slums and Jhuggi Jhopris, the Government proposes to deal with the matter with requisite compassion and the need for proper shelter and basic services for the urban poor. But given the dwindling availability of land for re-location of slum dwellers, it has become imperative to re-visit the current policy and look for sustainable solutions for their rehabilitation. There are a large number of street vendors in different parts of Delhi. While the local bodies are formulating schemes in pursuance to the national policy on street vendors, it has to be ensured that the schemes are realistic and takes into account not only the concerns of hawkers and squatters, but also citizen's access to public places. This will also require some time for finalisation.

Meanwhile a number of representations were received by Government against demolition and sealing of premises by the local bodies. Several Members of this august House, as well as elected representatives of Delhi have been demanding for intervention to sort out the complex issues that have led to the present situation. While a large number of persons are affected by the on-going drive, at the same time, there is wide divergence of public opinion and views on the best way to deal with the issue. These have to be taken into account while finalising the comprehensive and balanced policy on each of these complex issues. This process would involve ground level survey, collection of requisite data, its analysis, consultations with the Residents' Societies and Residents' Welfare Associations by the local bodies of Delhi. Professional expert organisations may also have to be involved to formulate a sustainable strategy. This is a time consuming exercise.

Mr. Speaker, it will be noted that for the finalisation of the norms, policy guidelines, a period of about one year will be required. While this exercise is taken up by the Government and its agencies, it is necessary and desirable to maintain status quo in respect of these categories of

[Shri S. Jaipal Reddy]

unauthorised development existing as on 1.1.2006 so as to prevent unnecessary and avoidable hardship and harassment to the people.

The Government, therefore, considers it necessary and desirable to enact the Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Bill, 2006 for this purpose.

Sir, in the facts and circumstances of the matter as mentioned by me in order to meet the aforesaid objects, I move this Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to make special provisions for the areas of Delhi for a period of one year and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

We will have a general discussion on the Bill now and would like to finish it by 1.30 p.m.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Sir, I wanted to raise an important issue and you had assured to give time for that.

MR. SPEAKER: I had given no assurance. I had only said that I would give an ear to it. I did not assure about any fixed time for it.

[English]

If it is a matter to have been raised after the Question Hour. You shall do it at 6 p.m.

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is an issue concerning not lacs but more than one crore citizens of Delhi. There are some rules and procedures to introduce a bill and the government have not followed them. And as far as the mention about following of rules is concerned, I myself had requested you to introduce the bill by setting aside all those rules and procedures and to make efforts to pass that bill. But, I am constrained to say that as far as the bill just introduced by Shri Jaipal Reddy is concerned, it is too late and too little. I would like to explain these things so as to make this House understand the consequences of passing this bill and other apprehensions about it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had given a Calling Attention Notice on 6th March, 2006 in which I had said that Delhi would

face a grave tragedy if immediate action was not taken. At that time, Shri Reddy pooh-poohed my apprehensions and I would like to quote his words spoken during that discussion. He had said:

[English]

"Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra has also tried to paint an alarmist scenario. It is not correct."

[Translation]

Then it was said:

[English]

"His entire speech was based on the premise that the court has said 'No' to this plea."

[Translation]

Again he said:

[English]

"There is no need for us to get worked up and get people worked up. Prof. Malhotra knows much more about the problem but he is merely interested in exploitation of the problem than in providing a solution to the problem."

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, three months ago, I had said at that time also that quick action was needed. Quick action was needed before orders of the hon. High Court and hon. Supreme Court. A grave tragic situation like earthquake or a tsunami may occur if action is not taken. At that time, he said that I was scaring the people away. From the day when I gave Calling Attention Notice three months ago and which was not accepted by the Chair, 40 thousand shops have been sealed, 20 thousand bore the brunt of demolition drive and thousands of jhuggies have been demolished without giving them any alternative shelter. It has been ordered that action should be taken against the SHO of the area under whose jurisdiction any pavement shopkeeper or hawker starts his business. Had they taken action at that time, it would have been better. At that time, my apprehensions were pooh-poohed and it was claimed that I was scaring away people. Nothing would happen like this. They said that they would approach hon. High Court but nothing could be achieved. So, I would like to say that you have shown criminal negligence in this matter.

Had you introduced the bill at that time itself as per my advice, it would have been a different story. But, you delayed it and did not introduce the bill in Winter Session of Parliament and not even in the first part of budget session by saying that it would be introduced whenever needed. I had warned you at that time that by the time the report of Tejendra Khanna Committee is received, most of the Delhi would be in ruins. Please do something about it immediately. But you did not accept my suggestions at that time.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, you had told that this matter should not be politicised. I am not indulging in politics but the fact remains that Congress Party has been ruling National Capital Territory of Delhi for eight years, and it is in majority in MCD for the last four years and heading the Central Government for the last two years. I would like to know whether their Government have got any new market constructed in Delhi during the past eight years? Have you made even a single hawking zone in Delhi? Have you arranged for a place for the pavement hawkers/shopkeepers to facilitate their business activities? Have you made even a single house or formed new cooperative societies to solve housing problems? You have not mentioned even a single work done by you. Now, you have introduced this bill after being inactive all the time.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to make the hon. Minister aware of some facts. I do not want to go in to the whole bill or history of the facts. But, I would like to say that I was one of the members of the Corporation when it was constituted for the first time in Delhi 40-50 years ago. Even at that time this issue was raised. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): You support this bill.

MR. SPEAKER: Please, do not interrupt. Please sit down.

*[Translation]*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHTORA: At that time, a Bill was brought for regularizing all the unauthorized constructions and checking further constructions. It started in 1958. This problem has been there since the corporation came into existence. Therefore, it is a serious issue and it should be taken into consideration.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to warn and make alert this Government on two specific points.

*[English]*

"...the problem of unauthorised development with regard to the under-mentioned categories, namely:-

- (a) mixed land use not conforming to the Master Plan;
- (b) construction beyond sanctioned plans; and
- (c) encroachment by slum and Jhuggi-Jhompri dwellers and hawkers and street vendors."

*[Translation]*

It further spells out that demolition should be withheld for one year. You are saying yourself that there are unauthorized constructions. Hence, I am warning against going to the court and making a plea that all these are unauthorised constructions and no action should be taken against it for one year. How can it stand the judicial scrutiny. I have been saying it all along for the last two years to bring some formula on the pattern of Mr. Chidambaram which was aimed at converting black money into white money and regularize these constructions with some conditions, whatever is there with people. Had the Government brought such a formula with the declaration that all the unauthorized constructions and shops constructed on the individual plots in Delhi prior to 1 January, 2006 would be regularized and people should get them regularized by paying fixed amount of penalty within three months or six months or within a year. The Court would have continued with this plea of the Government. They are calling them unauthorized constructions. Squatter and unauthorized mixed land use. Thus, you have used the word unauthorized everywhere and then making plea with the court that it should not take action for one year. Meanwhile, we will consider it. Why are you unable to say that you are going to do it? You should also improve conditions such as construction carried out on the Government Land will not be considered and such and such activities will not be regularized in residential areas as Mr. Chidambaram Saheb had imposed conditions that black money earned through drug deal, corruption and the similar methods would not be converted and the rest of the money would be regularized accordingly. You are not yet clear as to which place you prefer to regularize and make a plea for that before the court. You are still under this pretext that the court will not refuse it, while I am sure that this time also court will not accept it. On earlier occasions also you sought six months and then three months time but the court refused to oblige you. They said:

[Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra]

[English]

"If it is unauthorized, it is unauthorized. Make it authorized".

[Translation]

You should authorize it, legalize it. Instead you issued a notification. My able friend Mr. Maken is present here. Bill boards with regard to regularization of all shops were pasted all over the walls of Delhi and congratulations followed up. But the next day itself demolition drive and sealing of shops began and bulldozers picked their work. So, whatever you are saying and doing is being done in a filthy manner. I think that it requires contemplation. The second point that I want to raise is that you had assured us against any sort of further such action. The Bill is silent on whatever has been happening all along from 1st January, 2006 till date on account of your criminal negligence. Near about 40 thousand shops have been sealed.

[English]

What happens to them?

[Translation]

There is no mention about these 40 thousand shops whether they will be desealed or remain sealed.

[English]

I am saying that there is nothing as such in the Act. You have to make it in the Act also.

[Translation]

You should not give a wrong assurance that it would be done. You plead for it on the earlier occasion also but nothing of that sort happened.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): Relevant law was not there.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: There was no law, law does not mention that they have been desealed. The process may halt.

[English]

Please read what it says:

"All notices issued by any local authority for initiating action..."

[Translation]

Then this argument that action should be withheld for a year.

There must be some mention out the fate of those 40 thousand shops which have been sealed. What will be the fate of those thousands of buildings demolished Jhuggis removed and vendors ousted? The Government is responsible for whatever has happened during these 6 months since 1st January 2006. Such people must find a mention in the Bill.

The Government may regularize those constructions which have been sealed now but what would happen to those ones which have already been demolished. What was their fault? No demolition drive was launched against big fishes in Delhi. All leaders right from Chief Minister to Ministers, from councillors to Chairman of Standing Committees are having unauthorized constructions but they were spared. Only the houses belonging to poor people were demolished. Does the Government ..... To reconstruct them?

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Was your House demolished or not. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You please take your seat. Pradhanji please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: He has not yielded.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Why do you worry? He is very competent.

...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: I would like to ask the Government whether it proposes to allow those poor people reconstruction whose houses have been demolished. Would you compensate for the losses suffered by an individual who owns 80 yards with an annexed part, whose building was bulldozed. Had you been able to bring this bill, it would have saved such a devastation. All this has happened because of you. Will you pay them compensation? Will you give them alternative accommo-

dation or allow them to reconstruct. This Bill does not refer what kind of treatment will be meted out to them.

You have put blanket ban on mixed land use. Mr. Jaipal Ji, you are very able, very competent and the best Parliamentarian but how do you define the mixed land use? The definition itself provides that landlord should be residing on 1st floor and shop constructed ground floor can be used for carrying out commercial activities. Moreover, the owner should not rent out that shop. The Government have said that they would stop mixed land use. You should have used the word 'commercial' instead of that 'mixed land use' in order to save such shops. You should carry out commercial activities therein till 1st January 2006. The time by when the new orders are likely to be put in place. But you have not used the word commercial and not have mixed land use. They argue that one can run commercial activities from the ground floor and if it is located on first floor, it is bound to invite sealing.

[Translation]

Yesterday only the order has come that sealing may be started on 60 feet road. They have said that only ground floor shops would be spared and all activities on other floor would be stopped.

[English]

Please, instead of using the words 'mixed land use' if you had used the word 'commercial' then they would have got some relief.

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say some other things that some negative list should also have been kept. This is quite strange that double roti shops in residential areas are being shut, but liquor shops are open. About 150 liquor shops are in residential areas. You see that they do not get any kind of relief. The whole locality face trouble when a banquet hall is constructed. What have you done, you have stopped for one year. Whether liquor shops would be operated from houses upto one year? Pubs will be opened for one year and banquet halls will create a lot of problems for one year for the residents. These are negative things which should not get relief. These things should also have been included in the Bill. This is may request to you that this will not work. This will not stand on judicial scrutiny. You must take opinion from Mr. Chidambaram on scheme. This is appearing in the newspapers that he is again going to fix amnesty scheme.

Excluding all the government land and encroachment thereon and making a list of such land all should be asked that whatever have been constructed upto January, 2006 we have in amnesty scheme regularized and would not be allowed to construct in future. Nothing has been said about future that if any such thing has been constructed then it would be stopped by dismissal, it would be removed. Legal auction must be taken against them. There is need to take much stringent action. You don't say wrong things that by announcing Master Plans, we would give them benefit. Master Plan is for 30 years, and all the things cannot be cover in it. This would not get benefit by Master Plan. The resolution will be to regularize the earlier and strictly prevent it in future. Therefore, I have said that

[English]

it is too late and too little. Please consider all these points.

[Translation]

So that all things would be set rightly before ending of the session and as I have warned three months ago, but you did not listen. I again want to warn you that you please regularize all these by bringing scheme in this session, then the things will be set right. In spite of so many discrepancies, we want that this Bill be passed and I support this Bill.

SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR (Outer Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister has presented the Bill for the year 2000 for Delhi, I rise here to support the Bill. I was expecting that hon. Shri Vijay Kumar Malhotra will support this Bill without any comment but it seems that Mr. Malhotra and BJP are trying to take advantage of the situation by supporting this Bill. Yesterday also we have seen that they did not allow the proceeding to go ahead. The Bill which has been introduced today, Mr. Speaker, Sir, you said that this Bill could not be introduced on time due to unavailability of Hindi Translation but in spite of that I think that there is a huge loss to the country as well as to Parliament due to not allowing the proceedings of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha to go ahead for a single day. Shri Malhotra himself can assess the loss. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Malhotra has already spoken.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Malhotra has expressed his views properly.



...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except the speech of Shri Sajjan Kumar.

(Interruptions)..."

[Translation]

SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR: Sir, Mr. Malhotra was saying that a criminal case may be registered against the government that this Bill has delayed for three months. I would like to remind Shri Malhotraji that this Bill has not only delayed for three months but for 10 years. Mr. Malhotra, you must remember that a Committee had been set up under your chairmanship. Master Plan 2001 has been formulated. Some amendments had also been suggested but the then Minister hon. Shri Jag Mohanji and the other Minister took charge after him, who is also the member of this House at present, they dropped your report in the dustbin. If the said report would be accepted at that time, perhaps the people of Delhi would not had to bear much damage. BJP and NDA government is saying that we have delayed. You must remember that Master Plan would have been implemented in the year 2001. There was need that the work would have been started in 1998 but nothing was done up to 2001 to formulate new Master Plan. If the new Master Plan would have been formed and implemented which things you are suggesting and if all these suggestions would have been incorporated, then neither 40,000 shops would have been sealed nor thousands of houses would have been demolished. If anyone is responsible that it is BJP and NDA government which did nothing about Master Plan. It all have been done when our government came. I want to congratulate Shri Jaipal Reddyji, Ajay Mankanji and the Union government. We have started the work to prepare new Master Plan and involved all the public representatives and all the people of Delhi. As hon. Minister has said about seven thousand suggestions have been received. We wanted time from court and suggestions of the Committee headed by Shri Tejendra Khanna would have been incorporated. Hon. Vijay Kumarji, we went in the court by amending the last Master Plan but could not get success. Now the stay has been taken for an year. I was hoping that you would welcome it and said only that this may be implemented as soon as possible.

\*Not recorded.

You are talking about Patari, Rehariwalas' and unauthorized colonies. You please remember, who is responsible if these unauthorized colonies have not been regularized? Hon. ...\* had filed a PIL. He said that these unauthorized colonies should not be passed and Jhuggis-Jhoparies cluster must be removed from Delhi. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will see that. I am deleting it.

[Translation]

You do not name anyone.

SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR: He said to remove those who sell goods at footpath and Rehari on roads. He went to court. We did not went to court. You say here something and outside something else. I know that you do not feel pain about Jhuggi-Jhopari dwellers, Rehari-Patariwalas and unauthorized colonies, but you feel pain about big houses.

You have nothing to do with poor people. I think BJP and NDA government is responsible for all this.

Hon. Minister is going to bringing a new Master Plan. So long as you do not include all these things in new Master Plan, you would not be able to relief to the people of Delhi.

[Translation]

I hope that all the suggestions given by us and you would be included in the master plan.

I would also like to submit consolidation of land holdings had been done in Delhi in 1908. A Lal Dora area had been created in the rural areas for Lal Dora and it could be for residential purpose and the rest of the land was for agricultural purpose. Demolition has also been carried out at a large scale in the Lal Dora areas of 1908. The Court has also issued order in this regard.

There is no mention of Lal Dora and village in the Bill brought by the hon'ble Minister. Lal Dora should be covered in the Bill because village is the basis of city, colony and everything. But I would also like to ask you as to who is responsible for the Master Plan of 2001? Who is responsible for unauthorized shops? Who is responsible for unauthorized construction? As per the rules, DDA should have constructed the shops and these shops should

\*Not recorded.

have been given as per the Master Plan. But DDA could construct only 16 and 84 percent of shops have not been constructed. Where would the people go to purchase shops? Should they open shops on the roads. Who is responsible for this? Who is responsible for those houses? DDA is directly responsible for this. Unauthorised colonies, shops, JJ. Colonies and the clusters came into existence because we could not provide the people with houses as per the needs of people of Delhi. I think people of Delhi as well as the Government are equally responsible for it. Keeping in view all these things rules should be made. As Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra is saying that penalty should be imposed on these people. But we also think that beauty of Delhi should also be maintained. We also want this and on behalf of my party, I have said that we disagree with it and encroachment on the Government land should be removed and unauthorized construction going on at present should be stopped. We are against unauthorized construction but the relief should be given for the existing houses. I think that hon'ble Minister in the Government of Dr. Manmohan Singh would certainly give concession and lakhs of people of Delhi, who are afraid of it, would get relief. Once again I support this Bill. I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Bill brought a bit late in the House. One of the reasons cited for it was that all the previous Governments have neglected this issue and they have failed to carry out their responsibilities in this regard. This was the problem before the Government. Corruption exists at both level. On one hand there is negligence from the Government and on the other hand corruption was prevailing among the officers. Due to corruption, the people are encouraged for unauthorized construction but no officer has removed that unauthorized construction. It is a casual practice. If no action is taken against the unauthorized occupation on encroachment in future and no action is taken against the responsible offices, then, this practice will continue. This situation has arisen due to corruption and the neglect of the Government. This situation has arisen for thousands of people. This is the main reason of it. Today the Court got a chance and therefore this situation has arisen. This is the responsibility of the Government. Due to the failure, neglect and inefficiency and corruption of previous government, this situation has arisen. Therefore, this is being done in haste. This Bill has been brought for discussion under pressure of big shopkeepers. The time is short to refer it to the Standing Committee. We are talking of wide discussion on this Bill but how will this discussion be held? Such a

situation has not arisen that this Bill be discussed in the Committee of the highest forum of the Country i.e. Parliament. But its urgency has been felt. Due to inaction of the previous Governments this Bill has to be passed in haste. I feel that keeping all these things in view a decision should be taken. There is a mention of a Committee, so far as I know, a Committee has been constituted in this regard.

This Government is considering to divide A to D categories into eight categories. And perhaps the Committee too is thinking in the same line. A to D categories are for posh colonies. These areas would be kept in these four categories. And the rest four categories would be for poor and middle class people. These areas would be categorized in this way. But what is the Government is doing? The Government is considering that the permission would be given to demolish the shops in the areas of rich people because big shopkeepers, showrooms and banquet halls use electricity and water in much quality and the local people do not get the same. If you demolish shops in these areas, the people there would get more facilities. But a decision is being taken to permit shops etc. in the areas where poor and middle class people are living. It is not a great decision. The poor and middle class people living in these areas are already getting electricity and water. If these shops and trucks are allowed to run in these areas, then the people of these areas have to face problem of electricity and water. The Court has rightly said that this demolition drive is to be carried out in posh areas but the shops for daily needs should be spared. Banquet halls, big showrooms etc. which do not come, under the category of daily needs. For these things people can go there for purchasing once or twice in two month or so. The Government therefore, should take appropriate stand and there should be no discrimination in categorization. Such type of concession should not be given in posh areas. The Government should change its thinking for the areas where middle class, lower class and poor people reside.

I would also like to submit that demolition is being carried out in slum cluster and J.J. colonies for a long time. The Government had decided to rehabilitate these people far away from the main city. But it has not been implemented during last 7-8 years. The Government cannot cite any example that the area meant for rehabilitation of such people is developed, water, electricity or any other facilities have been provided in any of such areas. I do not think that Government has done anything in this regard. What is the guarantee that twelve lakh slum dwellers suffering due to this demolition, campaign, would

[Shri Hannan Mollah]

get any facility. Therefore, the Government should take right step for them. It is true that the previous Government had done the same thing and the same is being done today. It should be stopped. The slum dwellers have many problems. You are shifting them far away places from the main city. We would like to know as to how much far way you would shift them. How would they come on their work if you shift them far away. The Government therefore, should take some steps to give them facilities.

My second point is regarding illegal construction and eviction of hawkers. There are more than four lakh hawkers in Delhi. Where would these hawkers go? As the Government has told that DDA's plan has failed and it could not allocate them site as a result of which these people are earning their bread and butter by sitting here and there. The Government should reconsider its decision to remove these people. Nobody has a right to violate their rights. Today it seems that only elite people, rich people will live in Delhi and there would be no place for the poor in Delhi. These people will live in the outskirts. Whether poor people live or not, they get any facility or not, such a situation is emerging and the Government should look into it. Because it was stated in the common minimum programme that slum dwellers, hawkers and poor people will not face any trouble. But situation is unchanged today. Hence, in the coming time one year time which will be available to the government, government will formulate all the plans, during one year of time available at its disposed and in that plan interests of all the people should be covered and prepare the master plan by taking all the parties in confidence. We can save it when we will try to improve this on this line.

13.00 hrs.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. I am happy, hon. Minister has taken care of the poor and troubled people though it is for late. Problem is that anyone who forms government in Delhi and travels around the world becomes very concerned about the capital of India. In the period of emergency when Jagmohanji was Lieutenant Governor of Delhi, a campaign was launched on a large scale to clean Delhi and the emergency laws were used to enforce it and the Congress Party had to face the consequences in the general election of 1977. Leaders of Bhartiya Janta Party are also sitting here and my friend Goyalji and Jagmohanji again became very concerned about Delhi. They wanted to convert Delhi into a world class city and a beautification campaign was launched by demolishing the buildings of

Chandani Chowk. Differences crept within the Bhartiya Janta Party itself and Khuranaji, who was a minister has given statement against this campaign of Jagmohanji. As a result, Bhartiya Janta Party was wiped out in the elections except my elder brother Malhotraji from Delhi while trying to make Delhi a world class city. This time Supreme Court has taken initiative to make Delhi a world class city and when the situation begins to turn serious, after one year this government too became concerned about its consequences. So Reddy Saheb has brought this Bill though he is too late. Hence this Bill is not meant to save the Jhuggi Jhopris but it's meant to save the Congress government. ...*(Interruptions)*

Therefore, I support this Bill and I want to put forward some suggestions. Every year two lacs people are added to the population of Delhi. Due to growing regional disparity and unemployment in the villages more than one crore people have migrated to Delhi during last fifty years. The only reason of people migrating in large number to Delhi—a city where there is no adequate provision of drinking water, electricity and housing, is that they can make their livelihood here with their hardwork. This is the only reason people from Eastern UP and Bihar come here. In the pre-independence era people from eastern UP and Bihar used to go to Calcutta, Howrah, but when migration towards that direction stopped people began to move towards Delhi. When they come here and sleep on the footpath police beat them with their baton. Government of India should explore a way-out. It should be our endeavour that Delhi does not become a metro city of unauthorized colonies and we should also make effort to save the interests of the people who have come to Delhi city to earn their livelihood. A campaign was launched to relocate all the factories operating in the residential area of Delhi. Factories have been relocated as a result the lacs of people rendered jobless and this land was sold to builders not on a throw away price but on high prices and now builders are constructing residential houses on that land.

My suggestions is that there are three institutions to manage the affairs of Delhi. One is Municipal Corporation of Delhi, second is New Delhi Municipal Corporation and the third one is DDA (Delhi Development Authority). Delhi has expanded in such a large area that DDA alone can not maintain it, and my suggestion is that if hon. Minister wants to manage Delhi in a proper way then there should be three authorities like DDA in Delhi. One authority should be given responsibility to maintain the areas outside the outer ring road, another authority should be entrusted the

responsibility to take care of the areas between inner and outer ring road.

Secondly, anti encroachment drive is launched in the areas outside the jurisdiction of New Delhi Municipal Corporation. News items are published daily in newspapers and Supreme Court gives directions. The area which we call Lutyen zone of Delhi in that old area there are unauthorized constructions in the Lutyen zone of Delhi also, but no action is taken against them. Therefore, I would like to submit that it is responsibility of NDMC to demolish such constructions in this area, it is not only the responsibility of court. The Government should accomplish this duty. Apart from that our endeavour to build a megacity, there is a master plan for the neighbouring areas of the capital city, which we call National capital region whether they fell in UP or Haryana.

Government of India is contemplating to develop the small cities around Delhi. My submission is that state government are not capable to develop the areas falling in their states like Noida, Greater Noida, Gurgaon or Faridabad which we want to utilize. The Union Government should cooperate with these states. As long as we do not beautify the areas around Delhi, we do not provide electricity and water in these areas. I think no government can make Delhi a world class city like New York, as per the order of the Supreme Court.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Government of India should think seriously about the main problems of Delhi city. A long term plan should be formulated on the line of the master plan. With these words and suggestions I support this Bill and give thanks to hon. Minister that he has decided to bring this legislation at an opportune time.

**SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur):**  
Mr. Speaker, Sir, today a debate is going on in the House on Delhi Law (Special Provision), Bill, 2006. Honourable Malhotraji even said that the delay for this law was criminal cause of Government. I am not quoting the name of Malhotraji for the some intention. I would like to tell that it was a master plan of 2001 and according to that this works should have been started in 1998-99. Since this matter was raised in an aggressive way in NDA regime in 2003 and there was a delay therein and there had been an equal participation of these people therein they did not take it seriously. Even a committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri Malhotraji in which he said illegal constructions should be regularized. Some important recommendations were made which were rejected by

Shri Jagmohan, the then Minister for Urban Development, and Shri Anant Kumar. Hence, how far is it correct to impose the reason of delay on the Government? How far is it correct to impose the reason on the Government? They should introspect.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this issue is related to increasing population of Delhi. This issue is not related to any specific party. If 57 years of independence are taken into account, you will come to know that there is no job oriented work in the villages. Where they have been unable to get work there is a migration to the cities. Due to this very reason there has been a congestion in the cities. Someone is experiencing the difficulties, someone wants to make Delhi Class-I city and someone wants to have a dream of New York in Delhi. On the other side, Supreme Court has its upper hand on the Executive and it wants to impose its decision on Executive. I do not want to discuss about court. A discussion about it will be made in this House tomorrow. Whether be it an issue of cleaning of a dirty nallah or a matter related to the teachers will all be looked into by the court? There has been a constant discussion in the Supreme Court about encroachment but it is a basic question which Executive has its right today, the function of Executive is being masterminded which has created a very important situation in the country and that is whether the Parliamentary form of Govt. will do its work or not? Whether be it any kind of work, people move the court for that work and it seems that we all are good for nothing and this Parliament is also good for nothing.

The Parliament has become inefficient today, it is the supreme house of democracy where we have right to make a law. Today a debate is going on a Bill and we are going to enact a law but who will define this law who will interpret this law – it is the court which will do it. If the court interprets it in another way, the whole exercise which we are doing to pass it and the whole necessity and essentiality to bring in this legislation can fall to the ground about which we have been thinking. I would like to urge upon one more thing through this Bill as you are on Chair. I would like to say that a elaborate debate should be made one day on it because constitution has fixed our limitations. Limitations for judiciary, executive and legislative are fixed. After that every day Rubicon is being crossed. A new situation is arising. I am requesting that it is necessary to think about it, it is a question of the day. Every parliamentary work which is legislative work, are intervened. Ultimately, what will happen? Constitution is the supreme in democracy and we not in the habit of paying respect to the all provisions made in our Indian

[Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav]

Constitution and to their demarcations made to function thereunder and also to the other institutions. Hence, some debate should be made on it. The ways are not being mended, limitations are being crossed and Rubicon is also being crossed and that is why this situation has arisen. It has been rightly said that earlier, it was 80 feet and now it would be more than 60 feet. Today discussion is going on due to this because APL class has affected rapidly due to this frequentation. Commercially active people came to view. The people living below poverty living are being in slums and are earning their livelihood by vending something on their Rehdis on the footpaths. Lakhs of people were sent to Bihar, West Bengal, eastern Uttar Pradesh and Assam by 'poverty train' on the order of this court in the name of pollution. What were they doing at that time? Why did they not awaken from their sleep at that time? This problem was predestined. Lakhs of people are being rendered homeless in the name of spreading pollution and closing down the factories. Will only the poor people check the pollution? Today Delhi is shining only due to labour of the poor people and artisans. The people living in slums clean the drainage system, do sanitary work, stretch electric wire, clean the hospitals and sell papers through vending. They are responsible for glamour and beauty of Delhi. But today it is being said that these people of labour class should be thrown out of Delhi at the distance of 100 kms. Whereas the glamour and beauty of Delhi is due to them. This is the policy.

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV (Sambhal): They can not have a cow or buffalo.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: They can not have anything. They should be taken 100 kms away from Delhi. Whereas they have no vehicle. In that situation how will they come to Delhi on their work? Such master plan of Delhi is being framed. I am saying this with heavy heart that around 40-50 lakh people of poorvanchal Bihar, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Assam are living in slums in Delhi are leading their life due to poverty, unemployment, flood and drought like nature calamities. In justice is being meted out to them continuously and they are being rendered homeless. NDMC bulldozers run first on their slums. I mentioned this thing because 80 yards, 60 yards and 40 yards plots, plots were allotted during the regime of Pandit Nehru and Indira Gandhi respectively in 1962 and 1984 and these poor people had not to pay for the same.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: We extended it 80 years?

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: No amount had to be paid under that scheme. 40-25 yards plots were allotted during the tenure of late Shri Rajiv Gandhi in 1990 during the regime of former premier, Mr. V.P. Singh, the task of regularizing the slums was started remained incomplete. In the years 2000 when Master Plan was debated, slum clusters were demolished on large scale and on all places this work was started. Cost of Rs. 1 lakh 55 thousand approximately is being incurred on multi storied houses which the Government wants to sell through allotment and that is not possible for these poor people. Therefore, I request that these poor people should be allotted vacant plots and if the Govt. feels any difficulty in doing so, then the houses should be got provided to them by charging a nominal amount from them or free of cost. 1000 slums clusters were demonisted without any notice in Wazirpur industrial area whereas these people who were having more than 30 years old ration cards and other documents also were being driven out from there. There is a need to inhabitate slums dwellers or card holders immediately on Nagla Machi, Minto Road, Laxmi Nagar areas. The slum dwellers who have ration cards since 1990 had to pay for seven thousand rupees at the time of allotment for a 18½ metre plot and those slum dwellers who have not been having ration cards and tokens since 1990 had to pay for Rs. Seven thousand but for 12½ metre plot. Why Can this arrangement not be produced how? ...*(Interruptions)* Even at this time at the cost of 7000 rupees house can be allotted. ...*(Interruptions)*

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was saying practical things. So I would like to submit that there is a need to inhabitate these poor people in the national capital territory. I support this Bill. I can say anything about recommendations of Tejendra Khanna Committee Report constituted for this. But I say that the matter pertaining to regularisation of 1400 unauthorised and irregular colonies, settlement/inhabitation of about 4 lakh hawkers, slum dwellers and people living below poverty line should be considered and the task of uprooting the people should be averted. ...*(Interruptions)* With these words I support the Bill.

*[English]*

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Hon. Speaker, Sir, this Bill has been introduced today and the Parliament has been in Session since last three days. Sir, hon. Minister has gone to the Media two days back. I do not appreciate such action of the hon. Minister. When the Parliament is in Session and the Bill is not introduced, a Minister should not have gone to Media two days back.

This legislation is envisaged in regard to certain enforcement to be kept in abeyance for a period of one year. Also, it is intended to take all possible measures to finalise norms, policies, guidelines and feasible strategies to deal with the problems of unauthorised development in Delhi. This Bill also provides for it not to apply in certain cases. I do not want to go into the details. These are there in the Bill itself.

Everybody knows the growth and demand for housing and commercialisation and there is a growing gap between the demand and supply in Delhi in particular. The entire country is suffering for this thing. It is because the people are not getting employment in rural areas and they are flowing to the urban areas. This is a problem of the country. Government should think to tackle this problem. The population is growing so much in the urban areas and because of employment it is creating a lot of problems, as no civic amenities are available. So, the Government should think in that way. Along with Delhi they should think also about the entire country and the urban problem of the country. This is a problem for the country.

I do not want to go into the details. We should not encourage any unauthorised development. The Government should look into this also. There have been lapses on the part of the Government. The Government has not introduced the Bill earlier nor has taken any steps for the Master Plan to be done quickly and because of it this has happened and the court has given the order. Otherwise, there was no need to come to such a situation of embarrassment. The Parliament is coming to the rescue of the Government. The Government should have seen to it that the Master Plan could be completed in 2001. They should have taken the steps much before so that this situation should not have arisen.

Anyway, we are supporting this Bill because a lot of people are involved and a lot of people staying in jhonpri, jhuggi and slums are affected. We are supporting this Bill, but the Government should not take for granted the Parliament. It should not happen that they will go on in this way and the Parliament will come to the rescue of the Government. This is not to be encouraged.

At the same time, demolition is stopped by this Bill. The Government must look into the environment aspect also when the Master Plan is prepared. They should not take it without looking at the environment aspect. Otherwise, there will be lot of difficulties in future. So, that aspect should also be looked into.

Those who are staying in jhonpri, jhuggi and slums should be given permanent accommodation. When the Government is taking steps for their removal, they should be given permanent accommodation with civic amenities so that they can stay there instead of remaining unauthorisedly in some jhonpri, jhuggi and slums. So, the Government should take care of it. There should not be a single person affected, who is staying in jhonpri, jhuggi and slums, without giving him permanent arrangement and accommodation with civic amenities.

This demolition has also affected religious places. Jagannath Temple in North Delhi is also demolished. That is a Government land and nobody is there. Even the MCD people are saying that they have not given any orders. Then, how has this happened? Oriya people have also written to the Government as to how this temple has been demolished. Some people in the Estate business are interested to grab that land. So, they wanted for demolition of this temple. This should also be looked into while you authorize this act of demolition. You should also ask the MCD people and the State Government people that they should not do it in such a manner so that the religious sentiments of the people are affected.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Panskura): Sir, we support this Bill undoubtedly, but I have a one-point suggestion to the Government. We favour city beautification. Delhi must look as beautiful as possible. Let the Government do whatever it can. But we are strongly opposed to it if the beautification is done at the cost of the poor people. Migrant labour is a reality in Delhi. A large part of labour engaged in the construction, which is going on, is migrant labour. Therefore, the interest of the city poor and migrant labour has to be protected. Five-star glamour of the urban city of Delhi at the cost of the toiling masses will be a sad commentary on the part of any civilised Government. That has to be ensured.

While the Minister was speaking, he was speaking of relocation and, at the same time, compassion. Sir, we understand what is relocation. It was because of the judicial order that industries in Delhi were shifted in the name of relocation, and relocation was done as far as in Uttaranchal. If the Government believes that relocation and compassion can go hand in hand, in that case, the Government will have to categorically say what is the limit within which the relocation has to be done. Otherwise, it will be totally vague and it will be totally playing to the gallery. While saying so, I must suggest that Delhi has become absolutely a hell of a city. I am not going into the question of law and order.

[Shri Gurudas Dasgupta]

This situation derives out of the deep-rooted business of the real estate in connivance with the people in power. If the reckless way in which the real estate business is being carried on is not taken care of and if the nexus is not sought to be broken, the grandchild of Shri Reddy, if he finds a place in Parliament, will have to come for another law because it will be a persistent problem of political connivance and financial corruption. What would the Government like to do with it? This is a very important question.

As regards settlements, settlements have been allowed to continue for 30 years, but it is illegal. Why did these settlements continue for 30 years? Why were the power-lines erected? Why was sanitation arranged there? Why were they included in the voters list? Why were they given ration cards? Furthermore, after 30 years, you call these people illegal occupants, and you bring in bulldozers – by calling them illegal occupants – to demolish after giving them just seven-days' time. Is it a human approach? It is a basic human problem that the Government is dealing with here, and in dealing with this basic problem there has to be a material compassion and not verbal compassion. This is expected from the Government, which is in power today.

While saying so, I must say that the Bill is absolutely belated. Mr. Azad was the Minister earlier, and Mr. Maken did not have the privilege of becoming the Minister of State at that point of time. He will remember that we have been jointly imploring upon Mr. Azad to do something concrete in order to tackle this basic problem, but nothing was done. Therefore, the complaint of Mr. Malhotra that it is belated should not be taken as a political allegation. It is a practical allegation, and I can believe that I am a party to the discussion that took place in the room of Mr. Azad one-year ago. You have allowed the situation to deteriorate, and now you are appearing as the angel who is saving the poor of this city. It is unfortunate.

You have to admit that it is belated; you have to admit that you have faulted; you have to admit that compassion and relocation will be combined; you have to admit that city beautification at the cost of the working people will be taken as a criminal offence; and you have to admit that the Government will move with caution because it is a deeply distressing human problem with which we are confronted today not only in the city of Delhi, but in many other cities of the country also. I believe that Mr. Reddy will look into the problem with a sense of compassion.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this Bill and thank the hon. Minister for introducing it. There is no doubt that it has been introduced late.

[English]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: It is better late than never.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: We know about these things through the newspapers and TV channels. I would like to discuss three to four points. Running of bulldozers is one of the three/four actions being taken at the direction of hon. Supreme Court of India. I think that those persons who have given such orders are in the habit of viewing too many movies. These movies have moulded their minds in such a manner that they have started thinking that the order of demolition through bulldozers will enhance their importance. Had they not seen those movies, they would never have given such orders.

Delhi is the capital of India which is visited by people from all corners of the country. Even people from other countries live here and they search for their livelihood due to demolition of his shop. A shop gives employment to five persons and if forty thousand shops are sealed, it will render two lac people unemployed. Moreover, even Malhotraji and Sajjan Kumar Ji will be unable to count the number of petty tea shops which will get closed due to this order. Now, they are forced to leave Delhi. Why did such a situation emerge? They are talking of unapproved colonies, shops and to resettle them.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, whether the government of Delhi and the Supreme Court of India got reports about the whereabouts of unauthorized colonies and unauthorized structures. If these are unauthorized, then there are such unauthorized constructions even at the residence of Ministers and Members of Parliament. There are many unauthorized rooms constructed at the residence of a Judge of the High Court and Supreme Court. Why do not they take decisions. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I hope, You take the responsibility for the same.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am in the habit of speaking the truth. So, please hear me. The House is the only venue where I can speak without being checked. They may imprison me for contempt of court if I speak these things outside the House. Please, let me express my views about things which are dear to my heart. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I do not forbid you to speak, but speak with a sense of responsibility.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: So, I want to say that the need of the hour is to define the word 'unauthorized' and to locate all those unauthorized structures without discriminating between the influential people and the common man before starting demolition drive. But, the most important issue is to locate the state machinery which has that power. Will the act of governance be done by the Government or the court of laws, in this democratic set-up? We are seeing a peculiar situation in this country. The court issues orders about the appointment of Chief Justice, D.G.P. It issues orders about demolition of unauthorized structures and about sending someone to jails. But, after minute analysis one can draw conclusion that the persons issuing these orders are implicated in acts of land embezzlement, in sex scandals and even in manipulating their dates of birth to get government job. These things have been revealed by the newspapers and TV channels. So, I do not want to name any person. Because of this all these issues need serious consideration. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think you are nodding in disapproval of the contents of my speech. But, please hear me as it is true. I think these issues should be discussed in this House. The discussion about clear demarcation of the rights of the Executive, Judiciary and Legislature machinery of governance should take place in order to make smooth functioning of all these. Today, the machinery, 'Tantra' is being made stronger at the cost of people, 'Lok'. So, I say that in this democracy, 'Lok', will go when. ...*(Interruptions)* I would conclude in two to three minutes. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It is the first warning. So, you can continue your speech.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that it is harming all parts of Delhi including marriage halls, schools, business establishments. Mr. Speaker, Sir, after birth a child will need schools for education and marriage or banquet-halls are also needed for social functions like marriages. If they work in this way

to make Delhi beautiful, then the Supreme Court of India will be compelled to issue an order that. ...\*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: That portion will be deleted.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Schools, education institutions and marriage halls will be needed as long as there is increase in population. Bulldozers were used to demolish jhuggis and now the hon. Minister says that the drive is being suspended for a year. Hon. Minister, Sir, this temporary suspension for a year is not going to solve this problem, it needs a permanent solution. Delhi is the capital of the country. If you want one year's time for streamlining methods of proper arrangements, we are willing to give you two year's time for that. We are witness to the sufferings of the residents of Delhi. People from rural areas come here. Being a Member of Parliament, I too, meet people from rural areas who seek our help in getting even petty jobs. We write recommendation letter for them so that they can get job with a salary of 1500 to 2000 rupees. One can just imagine the economic condition of that person who has to provide for himself in Delhi as well as his family living in his native place with that in significant amount. Even those people are forced to leave their jobs which is very unfortunate.

We were relishing the speeches delivered by Malhotraji and Sajjan Kumar Ji as we thought that they were leveling allegations. But, now I think that even these persons were not concerned about the plight of those Jhuggi dwellers. In fact, these two persons have tortured them. I am speaking independently, so please listen to me. Both of you were in power in Delhi.

They did not remain in power as they had done something wrong. You are in power for a very long time, even then you did not do something significant till now. ...*(Interruptions)* You are in power both at Central as well as State level. You are just saying that they did nothing for them while they were in power. Now, you are in power, so do something concrete for them. ...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, I would conclude with a few words on Lal Dora, The Lal Dora land was demarcated here in 1908, where some small industries and businesses have also been set up. But in villages, even small business establishments are being bulldozed. Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is my request to

\*Not recorded.



[Shri Prabhunath Singh]

the hon. Minister to take concrete steps to save the villages and small business establishments in and around in Delhi. I thank you again for bringing this Bill. Had for brought this a little earlier, I would have thanked you many times. Although you have brought this Bill a little late, still I thank you and conclude.

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, at the outset I must express my profound sense of gratitude to all the senior Members who have taken the trouble of participating in this discussion and making valuable suggestions.

Sir, Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra is a great scholar of Hindi. He has a great flair for fire-eating oratory. But today, I have found neither fire nor oratory because he did not know how to oppose the Bill, how to find fault with it. He was more than satisfied. Yet he had to indulge in formal criticisms, which I take in a fairly sporting spirit.

When the debate took place in this House when he was in a hurry to leave for Melbourne, I did point out to him that, if necessary, Government would certainly come forward with a piece of legislation. He knows more than most others that the situation then was evolving. The matter then was relating only to shopkeepers. We are equally concerned over shopkeepers' affairs because it not only relates to shopkeepers but it relates to a lot of others dependent on shops. Other categories of people in Delhi, namely, slum dwellers, vendors, and people who for some reasons indulged in unauthorised constructions have since been affected.

The situation was then evolving. We had at that time appointed Tejendra Khanna Committee to look into these problems and give us a set of masterly recommendations, which will be received by us any time now. They are in the process of being finalised.

One friend asked me as to why I had gone to the media. The Cabinet took a decision to clear the Bill. There was a need to take the country into confidence and people of Delhi into confidence about the Bill that had been cleared by the Cabinet.

This is what is routinely done; and I gave a notice of the Bill to the hon. Speaker and asked for exemption from 7 days' requirement.

So, Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra wanted to ask for something more than what we could give. But will Prof. Malhotra or any of his friends enumerate a list of things for

which I can give an amnesty? We need one year to enumerate a list of pardonable violations or negligible violations.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Pardonable violations!

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: They are, naturally.  
...(Interruptions)

I think, no adjective can be easily separated from noun if one is to be meaningful.

So, friends, to ask for grand amnesty is okay from public platform. But I think, we must try and draw a distinction between Parliament of India and public platform.

Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra headed a Committee and made recommendations of a sweeping nature in his own characteristically liberal way. But what did his Government do when they were in power? Mr. Jag Mohan rejected them with the contempt they did not deserve. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: He said

[English]

'they did not deserve'.

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: It was Sheila Dixitji, who had rejected it, not Jagmohanji.

[English]

It is on record. So, he should not make statements which are not true. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: All right.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I am saying, Prof. Malhotra that you were quite generous in your recommendations but your Minister was parsimonious, parsimonious to the point of being contemptuous. So, you cannot possibly blame us for what your Government failed to do.

Sir, Mr. Sajjan Kumar, who knows Delhi inside out drew our attention to Lal Dora, urbanised villages and rural villages. I would like to assure him that this Bill takes full care of Lal Dora areas both urbanised villages and rural villages.

If we did not bring this Bill, there could be orders not

merely for shops existing on 80 feet road but also on 60 feet road. It does not, however, mean that in the next one year we are going to condone everything; no.

As you know, the Master Plan Delhi draft has been notified; 7,000 objections and representations have been received. They are being heard by the Board of Inquiry. After that they will be referred to the Delhi Development Authority; and then the Government of India will take a view. This process will be expedited.

Sir, I am rather surprised by the concern that Prof. Malhotra expressed about the disturbance or the nuisance that would be caused by Banquet Halls. On the one hand he was expressing concern about the closure of shops and on the other hand he was expressing concern about the nuisance of Banquet Halls.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: I am talking about those in the residential areas.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: It is true. But, Sir, most of these shops against which there are complaints have been operating in the residential areas. I would request Prof. Malhotra not to run with the hare and hunt with the hounds. You may stick to one line.

We are bothered about slum dwellers. There have been orders from various agencies which are very harsh on slum dwellers. Without slum dwellers, the great construction, which one wants to embark upon in Delhi, cannot go on. If you want world class Delhi, who will provide construction workers?

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY (Dhenkanal): You will bring world class slums! Let us build more slums.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Let me explain this. You do not take such a cynical position! You are much too young to get cynical at this stage!

Slum dwellers provide people, provide services and provide construction workers. To treat them as some nuisance would be not only morally incorrect, but would also be empirically incorrect. Without them you cannot build Delhi. However, that does not mean that we are going to extend an open-ended invitation. Our policy is to provide alternative accommodation for all those who came to Delhi and settled down in slums before 1998. We shall provide accommodation to them.

An hon. Member also pointed out as to whether they will all be thrown away to the fringes of the city. Shri

Gurudas Dasgupta, in his characteristic fashion, raised this point. I would like to assure him that we would like to go in for in situ development as far as possible. They will be located where they are, and it is possible to do so. We shall go in for re-location only in areas, which are specifically required for public projects. We shall not remove them because it will vitiate the optical vision of some elites in Delhi; certainly not.

I announced that in the next two years, through in situ development, we shall provide one lakh apartments for slum dwellers, and it is possible to do so, without taking money from our generous friend, Shri Chidambaram. I will raise money through slum land and provide one lakh apartments, and it is possible. We are doing it already.

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: What would you do for the remaining four lakh?

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I am happy.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): Did you build even 100 apartments?. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad): Please leave it to us. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

You may leave it for us.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: That is only if you come back!

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: He is still dreaming! Within Parliament, he is having sweet dreams!

MR. SPEAKER: There is no harm in dreaming; everybody has dreams.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: In situ development is required not only for the sake of slum dwellers, but also for providing services to those who live in multi-storeyed mansions. Our corporate captains or political potentates and our flamboyance fixers need their services – if you want me to get back into my natural oratorical style! But I do not want to.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): Sir, I want a dictionary!

MR. SPEAKER: Much simpler than humongous!

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Our hawkers and vendors have been there for years and decades. They have been here for a much longer period than some of the elected representatives of Delhi or others who keep giving orders. We need to evolve a policy and we already have a policy draft but we need time. I cannot throw out hawkers and vendors just because they are obstructing some streets. Yes, we cannot have unregulated system in regard to hawkers and vendors. We will have to provide for them but they also serve a function. Our Delhi needs not only big, shining, gleaming malls, it also needs street corner hawkers and vendors.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Mr. Minister, we also need modest dwelling places.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: There will be modest dwelling places. We will try to evolve a pattern by which people who belong to middle class can get modest dwelling places. It has to be done in a transparent fashion. I do not want Delhi's invaluable land to be used as concealed subsidy in the name of modest dwellings houses.

While we are talking of all these things we are not unmindful of the need to build Delhi as a world class capital. There is no contradiction between the two. There is no city in the world where poor people do not exist. The poor and the rich can both exist and this is possible. We are going to make it possible:

As far as encroachments are concerned, the Bill says clearly that from now on we will not tolerate any encroachment. This is a kind of moratorium only on unauthorised construction or conversion that took place before 1.1.06. But we are not going to put up with encroachments that took place in the past or that may take place in future because any encroachment on public land will mean unimaginable kind of difficulties for people living in Delhi.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): I am repeating the sentence you have just now said; 'running with the hare and hunting with the hound'. Are you not just doing the same thing? You are allowing everything to be regularised and then saying that you will not do anything

in future. Are you exactly not doing the same thing. Sir, you know very good English.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I do not think, Sir, I would like to win an argument against Shri Swain. I would rather yield my palm.

A suggestion has been made about the need to look at the National Capital Territory Region. It is a very valid suggestion. We are trying to look at development of not only Delhi but the National Capital Territory Region in an integrated and planned manner and more suggestions in this regard are welcome.

With these few words I would like to commend this Bill for approval of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Because of the demand from all sides of the House, I have allowed rules to be relaxed today but it should not be taken as the usual method. However, since the matter concerns the common ordinary people of the city, apart from others, therefore, I have permitted this.

The question is:

"That the Bill to make special provisions for the areas of Delhi for a period of one year and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration"

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. SPEAKER: The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 to 5 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 2 to 5 were added to the Bill.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula, the Preamble and the Long Title were added to the Bill.*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, I am sure the corrigenda has been received by the hon. Members.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I think the corrigenda has been taken note of.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. SPEAKER: Now we would meet at 3.00 p.m. for the Private Member's Business.

13.56 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for lunch till Fifteen of the Clock.*

15.11 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at eleven minutes past Fifteen of the Clock.*

(SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL *in the Chair*)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let us now take up Private Members' Legislative Business. There are several Bills to be introduced.

Shri Subodh Mohite – not present;

Shri Chengara Surendran – not present;

Shri P. Karunakaran – not present;

Shri Anandrao Vithoba Adsul – not present.

15.12 hrs.

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILLS – *Introduced***

**(i) Prohibition of Publication of Pre-Election Survey Bill\* 2006**

[English]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to prohibit pre-election survey.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to prohibit pre-election survey."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: I introduce the Bill.

15.12½ hrs.

**(ii) Political Parties (Maintenance and Auditing of Accounts) Bill, 2006\***

[English]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for preparation, maintenance and auditing of annual accounts of political parties and for matters connected therewith.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for preparation, maintenance and auditing of annual accounts of political parties and for matters connected therewith."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: I introduce the Bill.

15.13 hrs.

**(iii) Arms (Amendment) Bill, 2006\*  
(Substitution of new section for section 11, etc.)**

[English]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Arms Act, 1959.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Arms Act, 1959."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: I introduce the Bill.

\* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary Part-II., Section-2, dated 12.5.2006.

\* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 12.5.2006

15.13½ hrs.

**(iv) Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2006\*\*  
(Amendment of articles 75 and 164)**

*[English]*

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA (Surat): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: I introduce the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri K.S. Rao – Not present.

Shri Chandrakant Khaire – Not present.

15.14 hrs.

**(v) Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities,  
Protection of Rights and Full Participation)  
(Amendment) Bill 2006\*\***

**(Substitution of new sections for section 31)**

*[English]*

\*SHRI M. SHIVANNA (Chamrajanagar): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995."

*The motion was adopted.*

\*SHRI M. SHIVANNA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.14½ hrs.

**(vi) Delimitation (Amendment) Bill, 2006\*  
(Amendment of Section 2)**

*[Translation]*

SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE (Bilaspur): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Delimitation Act, 2002.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Delimitation Act, 2002."

*The motion was adopted.*

*[Translation]*

SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.15 hrs.

**(vii) Special Courts for Women Bill, 2006\***

*[English]*

SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH (Karol Bagh): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for constitution of special courts for women and for matters connected therewith.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for constitution of special courts for women and for matters connected therewith."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.16 hrs.

**(viii) Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) (Union  
Territories) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2006\***

**(Amendment of the Schedule)**

*[English]*

DR. P.P. KOYA (Lakshadweep): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) (Union Territories) Order, 1951.

\* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 12.05.2006.

\*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Kannada.

\*\* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dt.12.5.06.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) (Union Territories) Order, 1951."

*The motion was adopted.*

DR. P.P. KOYA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.18 hrs.

PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILL – *withdrawn*

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2004

(insertion of new article 45A) – Contd.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we take up the Bill for further consideration and passing.

Before further discussion on the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2004 (Insertion of new article 45A) by Shri Suravaram Sudhakar Reddy is resumed, I would like to mention that 3 hours and 1 minute have already been taken on this Bill, as against 3 hours allotted for its discussion. As eight more members are there to take part in the discussion on the Bill, the House has to extend time for further discussion on the Bill.

Is it the pleasure of the House that time for this Bill be further extended by one hour?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. The time is extended by one hour.

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN (Trichur): Sir, I wanted to support the spirit of this amendment. The question of providing mid-day meal should not be taken as a kind of matter of charity. This is actually a responsibility of creating a new generation in our country who are healthy, who are intelligent, and who are dynamic. If we fail in our duty to do so, that will have its reflection on future of the country and its development. So, looking at this from this angle, I think, there is a lot of justification in this amendment where it has been proposed that more nutritious food should be ensured to be provided to children.

Now, Sir, there are a number of schemes and proposals. But, with all that, what is happening is that children are still largely neglected in their formative period.

Now, take the case of the Anganwadis under the ICDS Scheme by which the Government wanted to provide nutritious food for the children in their childhood. care and all that. According to the statistics of the Government, we require 1.7 million Anganwadis to take care of the children. But what has happened so far is that there are something like six lakh Anganwadis that are functioning. That means, two-thirds of the requirements are not yet met. Hardly, one-third of the requirement is met by that Scheme. If the Government is serious about providing facilities for the new generation – I began from that – to come up well in future, then one of the important steps to be taken is to ensure that the required number of Anganwadis under the ICDS Scheme is functioning all over the country. That is to say, if six lakh anganwadis are now functioning, then that number should be enhanced twice because 1.7 million is the required number of Anganwadis to take care of the children of this age. So, it is not a big task so far as the Government is concerned. But what is lacking there is probably a political will to do so. Of course, Shri Chidambaram, while presenting his Budget, enhanced the amount for the Anganwadis and all that. But the question is this. Considering the importance of the problem, whether this enhancement will be able to meet the requirements. When you look at that way, I think, the enhancement – of course, it is good – is too far from meeting the requirements.

There is one more question associated with the Anganwadis. Anganwadi is one of the institutions by which you can reach the children. Anganwadi is run in a manner where there is a helper and there is a worker also. The point is that they are treated almost like slaves. They are hardly given any reasonable payment. They are not at all treated like any person who is appointed for performing a certain duty. It is a kind of voluntary work that they are doing. There also, the payment that they are given is very pitiable. In that condition, it will be very difficult even for that institution to run by which you want to create a better generation of young people, you want to bring them up well and provide them with food. If the helper and the worker are not given sufficient support, then, probably the institution itself is likely to fail. So, this aspect should also be taken as a part of it.

Now, there are certain areas where the concentration has to be made if the Scheme of providing Mid-Day Meal is to be successful. So, if the Mid-Day Meal programme is to be meaningful, you have to identify the areas where it is maximum required. Firstly, the poverty-stricken people in this country are there. They should be the target area.

[Shri C.K. Chandrappan]

Their children should be provided with sufficient support so that those children are taken care of. Whether it is a primary school or Anganwadi, from whichever institution they come, they should be given proper support.

Now, when you look at the poverty-stricken people, if you take more concretely the agricultural workers who get a very few number of working days throughout the year, according to Government's statistics they get hardly 100 days of work. So, with 100 days of work, an agricultural worker will be finding it extremely difficult to meet the requirements of the family and naturally the children will be neglected. If their children are specially taken care of, then there is a possibility that this scheme will go a long way to meet the purpose for which it is introduced. Then, there are various areas, I can cite the example of tribals who constitute nearly 3 crore of our population. They are completely in wretched condition even today. If Anganwadis are concentrated in those tribal areas, sufficient help is provided and care is taken, then probably those children of the tribals, the next generation, will have a somewhat better life in future. So, if that has to be achieved, then the Government should have fixed priorities for tribals, for fisherman communities, for agricultural workers and the plantation workers, where again poverty-stricken marginalised people are working. If priority is fixed for their children, they are identified and if mid day meal is provided where they study, then, Sir, there will be some more meaningful reason for this project.

Before concluding I would like to say that the Government should take a new approach to this problem. The approach is not that you are spending some money so that some children will eat a little meal as mid day meal. That is not the thing. The thing is that we are purposely doing this so that the marginalised section of our people, their next generation, will be given a condition under which they will be provided nutritious food so that in the formative age, their health, their development and everything is taken care of. If we approach it with that view and with sufficient money allotted in the budget and with the approach that the institutions meant for it like Anganwadis are properly run, then I think this mid day meal will have a salutable contribution in creating a new generation of people, a new India. I hope, with this idea in mind, the Government will look at this problem. I support this Bill because this gives an opportunity for this House to discuss this problem and come to certain decisions.

SHRI BRAHMANANDA PANDA (Jagatsinghpur): Hon. Chairman, Sir, I extend my hearty thanks for giving me an

opportunity to discuss on this sensational issue. Sir, we dream for a prosperous India and we say that by 2020, India will be a very powerful country. Children are really our wealth and unless special attention is given for the all-round development of the children, those who are real wealth of our country, we cannot dream for a prosperous India and the real dream of our great architect of modern India cannot be fulfilled.

While illiteracy is a big threat, widening the scope of basic education can play a preventive role in reducing female insecurity. Out of 21 crore children in the age group of 6 to 14 years, many do not have access to basic education. This problem persists despite numerous programmes for rapid expansion of the education system. Out of many incentive schemes to empower primary education, the Mid-Day Meal Scheme is really alluring. It is very shocking to see the way in which this programme is being implemented because in many cases it is found that nutritious food is not actually supplied to the children and the children suffer from various diseases. It is found that neither the authorities are attentive nor we give any special attention to ensure that good quality food is supplied to schools.

In this connection, I would like to submit that in a particular case, a truck carrying about 12 quintals of food for some towns in Uttar Pradesh was found in Delhi. If this type of scam is allowed to go on in this country, we cannot proudly claim that India is the biggest democracy in the world where we always give attention to honesty and transparency. These types of scams are increasing throughout the country. I would like to cite another incident here. In Azamgarh, 160 students have fallen ill and 50 became very serious after eating kitchdi in the school. These types of incidents are happening these days.

Sir, I represent the State of Orissa which is a very backward State dominated by the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. In our State also, due to lack of proper hygienic food, the children are falling ill and this has become a serious issue. When we are implementing this scheme to allure the children to come and attend school to expand basic education in our country, I would like to appeal to the hon. Minister that the Government should pay special attention to this scheme so that the real dream of achieving all-round development of our children can be fulfilled. The Government must pay special attention and see that this scheme is properly implemented at the lowest level. To make this scheme very effective, the people of all sections of our society must be involved in

this. Apart from this, we have to see that nutritious food is supplied to the students and the food should be examined by experts before it is received by the school authorities.

Sir, in the tribal areas of our State, the situation is really very precarious because nobody goes to inspect this Mid-Day Meal Scheme. The inspectors and the DEOs who are vested with the power to inspect and see that this scheme is properly implemented or not, do not care for it. So, I welcome the proposal made in this Bill. This is really a very good programme with the aim to make our country more prosperous by alluring the poor children and the children of backward States like ours to attend school in large scale.

But unless the mid-day meal programme, which is the basis for this scheme, is being implemented in right spirit, it will not help. Its monitoring, the supply of good quality of nutritious food should be insisted and then only we can say that actually in true spirit the Government of India is going to implement this scheme. More attention and priority should be given to States like Orissa where actually it is found that neither the good quality of food is supplied, nor is there any monitoring system, nor is there anybody to look after the system and nobody is serious about the issue. It is also found that the middlemen who are supplying the food are also involved in the scam and as a result, this has frustrated the whole scheme and the very purpose for which this scheme was created.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRIMATI ARCHANA NAYAK (Kendrapara): Hon. Chairman Sir, thank you for giving me an opportunity to participate in the discussion on the Constitutional (Amendment) Bill, 2004, seeking free nutritious food to all children being provided with free and compulsory education by the State, brought forward by hon. Member, Shri S. Sudhakar Reddy.

The children of India account for one-third of world's malnourished children and the country's rate of malnutrition is at 47 per cent, the same as that of Ethiopia. Children are the citizens of tomorrow. Healthy children are the treasure of the nation. Hence, we have to give more care on the well being of the young ones.

The United Nations Children's Fund report titled 'Progress for Children: A Report Card on Nutrition' reveals that half of the world's underweight, undernourished children come from South Asia, compared with one-third from sub-Saharan Africa. In India, girls suffer more from

malnutrition than boys. The UNICEF report suggests that at least six lakh deaths of children under five can be prevented by simple health interventions, improved sanitation, and better food practices. By contrast, China has made remarkable progress bringing down its malnutrition to eight per cent and contributing significantly to the overall improvement in the East Asia's score. The UNICEF report points out fighting malnutrition, means tackling poverty, the lack of education, the marginalisation of girls, and social inequalities. Clearly, food aid alone will be insufficient to meet the crisis of malnutrition.

In India, the rate of malnutrition varies from State to State. Madhya Pradesh at 55.1 per cent and Bihar at 54.4 per cent top the list. But this in no way implies that prosperous States have well nourished children. A recent report indicates that in the Thane District of Maharashtra, the number of children dying from malnutrition right at the doorstep of Mumbai, India's financial capital, is shockingly high. Last year, 1100 children below the age of six are reported to have died in Thane District. While the cause of deaths are listed as pneumonia or other acute conditions, doctors say many of these children suffered from malnutrition and, in consequence, low immunity to disease and death. Many of the victims were children of the migrant workers, who suffer from economic deprivation linked with unemployment. This shows the connection between socio-economic conditions and malnutrition.

Malnutrition also stems from the low status of women in Indian families. The nutritional needs of pregnant women are given inadequate attention. This social failure, in turn, contributes to babies having less weight. Men have primary control over the typical household resources and, as a result, children's access to food has subordinate importance to theirs.

Instead of being in denial over this critical issue, the Government must ensure that all citizens can afford the cost of basic nutrition; they should also spare no effort in promoting gender equality in communities and within households. The rise of endangering the well-being of an entire generation is very real and urgent action is needed to safeguard the country's present and future.

The present allotment of fund for the Mid-Day meal is very low per child. Therefore I would like to urge upon the Government to increase the amount for the Mid-Day meal, so that nutritious and sufficient quantity of food can be given to the children. Even though States like Orissa, Tamil Nadu and Kerala are giving Mid-Day meal to the



[Shrimati Archana Nayak]

children, more and more States should be encouraged to introduce the scheme. The Central Government must provide adequate fund for the same.

I rise to support the Bill. With these words, I would like to conclude my speech.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): I would like to voice my deep appreciation to Suravaram Sudhakar Reddy garu for the sensitivity and the concern that he had displayed in introducing a Bill which concerns the welfare and the well being of the children of our country. I would also like to voice my appreciation to the other Members for the sensitivity and the spontaneity with which they have participated in the deliberation. I have listened with rapt attention to the speech made by the mover of the Bill, Shri Suravaram Sudhakar Reddy. He moved this Bill for consideration, which seeks the insertion of a new Article 45 (a) in the Constitution and the amendment proposed reads as follows:

"The State shall endeavour to provide free nutritious food to children being provided with free and compulsory education by the State."

Sir, it is heartening to note that from all quarters of the House, rising above Party lines, hon. Members and my hon. colleagues have all appreciated the intrinsic merits of the Mid-Day Meals Scheme which exists in most of our schools and in all parts of the country today.

Before we discuss the necessity and desirability of even introducing such a Bill, I would like to dwell briefly on the genesis and the present-day status of the Mid-Day Meals Scheme which is presently in existence in many of our schools. With heart-full of fulfilment and satisfaction, I would like to bring to your notice and through you to the notice of other hon. Members of the House that the idea of introducing a Mid-Day Meals Scheme was mooted even 11 years ago by none other than our Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh ji who was then the Finance Minister. In his speech in the House in 1995 he observed:

"The schemes to provide Mid-Day Meals to school children have beneficial impact not only on child nutrition but also on school attendance. Some of the State Governments have been operating school Mid-Day Meal Schemes. As a part of emphasis being laid on this by the Government on primary education and taking into account the comfortable food stock with

public sector agencies, it is appropriate that the Central Government should be willing to participate in the phased expansions of these schemes."

Sir, I would like to quote Article 45 of our Constitution, as was originally drafted. Article 45 says:

"Provision for free and compulsory education for children: The State shall endeavour to provide, within a period of ten years from the commencement of this Constitution, for free and compulsory education for all children until they complete the age of fourteen years."

This Article 45 remained untouched until the Constitution 86th (Amendment) Act of 2002 which substituted a new Article 45 which reads as follows:

"Provision for early childhood care and education to children below the age of six years: The State shall endeavour to provide early childhood care and education for all children until they complete the age of six years."

It shall thus be observed that long before the original Article 45 was substituted by a revised Article 45, we were not only able to conceptualise but we were also able to bring into operation a Centrally-sponsored scheme to boost universal primary education and also to improve the nutrition status of our children in the primary schools.

Sir, the revised Article 45 which laid special emphasis on early childhood care came in subsequently in 2002. The point that I would like to make here is that if we really intend to bring in welfare schemes and programmes for targeted sections of the society like the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes, women and children, we can do it immaterial and independent of the fact whether or not there are enabling guidelines in the Constitution.

Sir, given the political will and the financial viability, any Government at any point of time is free to introduce welfare measures for any targeted sections of the society. Sir, here I can assure you that under the able leadership of our UPA Chairperson, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi and under the stewardship of our Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, and the cooperation of all our UPA allies, we will be able to march towards a welfare society with giant and rapid strides. And for such things, Sir, I do not think we need to resort to any kind of constitutional amendment here.

Before proceeding further on the matter, I would like to bring to the notice of the House certain details of this Scheme, which was started pursuant to the Finance Minister's Budget speech on the 15th March, 1995.

Sir, the National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education or the Mid-day Meals Scheme was launched on the 15th August, 1995 to give boost to universal primary education. It was expected to increase enrolment, attendance, retention along with improving the nutritional status of the children in the primary classes in the Government schools, local body schools and also in the Government-aided schools. Sir, from October 2002, this Programme was extended to cover all the children studying in the EGS and the AIE Centres. The Programme provides for the distribution of cooked meals to children through the local implementing agencies. The Central Government provides foodgrains, which can be rice or wheat, free of cost at a rate of 100 grams per child per school day where cooked meals are served and 3 kilograms of rice per child per month where grains are distributed. The cost of transporting the foodgrains from the nearest FCI godown to the school is reimbursed to the State agencies and the district authorities. The State Governments and the Union Territory Governments meet the cost of conversion of food grains into cooked meals. About 64 million children, that is, about 59 per cent of the targeted age group, were supplied with cooked meals between the years 2005 and 2006. The Mid-day Meals Scheme was revised and universalised at the primary level from the 1st September, 2004. In addition to providing foodgrains free of cost to the States, the Central Government now provides assistance towards the cost of conversion of these grains into cooked meals at the rate of one rupee per child. There is a proposal to enhance it to Rs. 1.50 per child.

The transportation subsidy has also been further enhanced from Rs. 50 per quintal to Rs. 75 per quintal for all the States and to Rs. 100 per quintal in the Special Category States. When we say 'Special Category States', we are looking at the States in the Northern India mainly which have mountains and difficult terrain.

The mid-day meals are now being supplied to children in the drought prone areas also even during the summer vacation. The Scheme is now being implemented in convergence with the rural and urban development schemes for adequately meeting the infrastructural requirements.

Sir, turning now to the implementation status of this Scheme, the Programme is being implemented in a very decentralized manner with the involvement of the local level agencies like the School Management Committees, Panchayats, Parent-Teacher Associations, etc.

Sir, cooking is being done by women belonging to the self-help groups in many cases, and in the urban areas, NGOs have also been entrusted with the job of cooking meals for these children.

So far as coverage of school is concerned, beginning from 8.04 lakh schools, the Scheme covered 8.80 lakh schools in 2003-04; 9.04 lakh schools in 2004-05; and 9.53 lakh schools in 2005-06. The children covered under the scheme were 10.27 crore in 2002-03; 10.57 crore in 2003-04; 10.89 crore in 2004-05; and 11.94 crore in 2005-06.

Today, there are 12 crore children covered by the scheme. The assistance provided by the Central Government towards this scheme is as follows. In 2005-06, about 22.50 lakh metric tonnes of foodgrains was allocated and Rs.1690 crore was provided towards the conversion cost and Rs.22 crore was set aside for the purpose of management, monitoring and evaluation of the scheme.

Besides the above, the State Governments are also contributing from their resources for the betterment of this programme, particularly to improve the quality of meal. In addition, some of the States are also providing for the required infrastructural facilities like kitchen sheds. Today, all the States are implementing the programme and the implementation feedback points to a positive impact on enrolment and attendance of children in school. Social equality is fostered here through children sharing the meals with one another. Initially, there were instances of resistance to SC/ST children sitting along with other children or there was resistance to the consumption of food cooked by women belonging to the SC/ST communities. I must tell you here that such instances have come down considerably.

Having touched on the scheme, I would now like to touch upon certain points made by my hon. colleagues here. Shri Reddy has mentioned that in schools where there is a single teacher, the teacher is called upon to cook the meals and the same teacher is also expected to distribute the meals. He has also suggested that professional cooks should be appointed; kitchens and dining halls should also be constructed; and clean and potable drinking water be provided as these are some of the basic necessities required for more effective implementation of the Mid-Day Meal Scheme.

Shri Shailendra Kumar has also referred to some of the infrastructural deficiencies in connection with the Mid-

[Shrimati D. Purandeswari]

Day Meal Scheme like absence of separate kitchen, store, school compound wall, etc. The main thrust of Shri Reddy's submission, however, is the need for enriching the calorific and nutritious value of the food and for supplying the same three times a day to the children instead of one time as it is done today. The proposal to increase the frequency of supply thrice a day has also been supported by Dr. P.P. Koya and Dr. K.S. Manoj also. In fact, the very purpose of pushing forward the present Constitutional amendment is to ensure that the school-going children are entitled to have three meals a day as a matter of Constitutional right. However, I must submit here in all humility that in the proposed manner in which the Bill has been brought forward today, I think, this would not serve the purpose. We would only be adding a Directive Principle to Part IV of the Constitution and this would not make it mandatory to carry forward the proposal as proposed by Shri Suravaram Sudhakar Reddy. This was rightly pointed out by Prof. Ramadass also. Prof. Ramadass has, however, mentioned correctly that the nutrition of children at an early age is very imperative, particularly in the rural areas and the Government should supply free hygienic and nutritious food to children which would make a great impact and ensure free and compulsory education to children; and this would not only improve the attendance but reduce the drop-out rate also.

Here, I would like to mention in this context that the provision of article 39 (f) of the Constitution already provides, in more broad based terms, for the protection of our children from exploitation and against moral and material abandonment.

We firmly believe that our children are the greatest wealth and as Nobel laureate Amartya Sen has aptly said, "they are reliable indicators of nation's growth and development". We, therefore, stand committed to our children's well being and welfare, be it education or health, whether there is a law in place or whether there is no law in place. The shortcomings and the deficiencies of the ongoing Mid-Day Meal Scheme have been effectively pointed out here today and most of them have been taken note of. Definitely, we would look into them.

Coming to the nutritious value of the mid-day meal which has been distributed to the children, I must bring to the notice of the House that State Governments like Haryana and Punjab have enriched their food by adding to their menu healthy and nutritious items like fruits and eggs.

West Bengal has added fish to its mid day meal scheme. States like Goa, Delhi and Manipur spend anywhere between Rs. 2.00 and Rs. 2.25 per child per day and Tamil Nadu contributes Rs. 2.00 per child and last but not least, Andaman and Nicobar Islands contributes Rs. 4/- per child, over and above the share given by the Government of India.

Shri Reddy has suggested that meals should be supplied thrice a day instead of once and this is supported by Dr. P.P. Koya and Dr. K. S. Manoj. Shri Sandeep Dikshit wants it to be served twice at least to every girl child initially. I am not very sure of the feasibility or giving in to the durability of the timings of the school. I do not think that this is a very feasible suggestion to make here. There was a suggestion that the third meal may be supplied in packets to be carried home by the children when the child leaves the school for the day. This raises the question of the time gap between the cooking of the meal and the consumption of the meal. We need to think twice here because by the time the meal is cooked and served to the child and by the time the child takes home the meal to consume, whether the meal would be in a fit condition for consumption or not. So, I do not think that it is a very practical suggestion.

Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat has very correctly pointed out that one substantive filling of tasty and nutritious meal with periodic changes in the menu of food items should be allowed and this has been taken care of and the menu is supposed to be displayed outside the school on the board so that the children and the parents of the children could have a look at the menu.

Shri Reddy has referred to some cast problems which hinder the operation of the Scheme. As I said, some parents earlier would not allow the children to sit along with the dalits and to consume their food. Similarly, they would not want their children to eat the food which was cooked by a woman belonging to SC-ST community. However, this cannot be addressed by simply passing a law. We all know that simply by passing a law, we cannot change the mindset of the society. We may enact any number of legislation but that will not resolve this social or caste malaise. To eliminate this, we shall have to create a social awareness which alone can alter the 'caste' mindset. In this effort, the NGOs, social activists and the participating people can definitely help us. The MPs, the sitting MLAs and the Panchayat members also can lend a supporting hand in a big way. I appeal to all of them through you Sir to help us in doing this. I may however add that the caste-

related problems affecting the operation of Mid Day Schemes, as I had pointed out earlier, are on the wane considerably.

Sir, there were other points made by Shri Lakshman Singh, who referred to the elimination of corruption arising out of theft and pilferage. This was also highlighted by several other hon. Members. Mr. Singh has also suggested about making mandatory provision that only female cook from self-help groups should be appointed. Most of the States are appointing women belonging to the self-help groups and also women belonging to the SC and ST communities. This also considerably enhances or increases the employment chances for the women belonging to the SC-ST communities.

Dr. Karan Singh Yadav, while welcoming the Mid Day Meal concept, has stated that at places the scheme is in such a deplorable state of affairs that no food is available. If there are such instances, I would request the hon. Members to kindly bring it to our notice so that corrective measures could be taken. Besides the suggestion to increase the frequency of the meal twice a day, Shri Sandeep Dikshit has also suggested that children from 0 to 6 years and pregnant ladies should be covered under the Mid Day Meal Scheme, as has been pointed by Shri C.K. Chandrappan. I must tell you here that this is out of the ambit of the Bill because this comes under the ICDS. So, this should come in a separate form.

Sir, I have tried to cover all the points that have been raised by the hon. Members. As you are aware, the Mid Day Meal Scheme is a participatory scheme between the Central and the State Government.

**16.00 hrs.**

We stand committed to its cent per cent success by its effective implementation. In fact, we definitely want to strengthen it further because we know that by feeding our children good nutritious food we are actually building a healthy tomorrow. Today's children are the future of our country. In fact, we want to strengthen it further. We believe that the successful mid-day meal scheme will help us to attain several objectives also. It will improve the health of the school-going children. It will lead to the reduction of school dropouts. It will increase high literacy rate in the process and it will also help us in eliminating various other social evils like child labour and child marriage. We shall, therefore, extend as much support as possible, both financially and physically to the State Governments in making this scheme a success.

I once again would like to mention that 12 crore children are now being covered under the mid-day meal scheme which is the largest lunch programme in the world. In his Budget speech this year our hon. Minister of Finance Shri P. Chidambaram has announced some increase in the allocation for this scheme from Rs. 3,010 crore for 2005-2006 to Rs. 4,813 crore for 2006-2007. Hopefully, we will be able to address some of the deficiencies in the scheme because we do have an enhanced Budget.

Turning to the 47 per cent malnutrition which Shrimati Archana Nayak has just pointed out, the Ministry has enlisted some home science teachers, Integrated Child Development Scheme Consultants and mothers to ensure that the quality of the meal which is going to be supplied to these children would be good and nutritious. The mid-day meal programme is not like any other governmental programme. Hailed by the world-renowned economist and Nobel laureate, Prof. Amartya Sen as the biggest pro-poor initiative since the land reforms of the 1970s, the mid-day meal scheme in 9.52 lakh schools for 12 crore children is fast firming up, complete with a well-defined implementation and monitoring process. For us, therefore, it is a mission. It is a matter of faith which we have to fulfil in any case at any cost. With our unflinching belief that 'feeding children is feeding development' the scheme is sure to enter the final phase of qualitative stabilisation very soon.

With these words, I would request Shri Sudhakar Reddy to kindly withdraw the Bill.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Shri Sudhakar Reddy, please be brief and precise. A number of speakers have already spoken. It should not be a second speech.

**SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY (Nalgonda):** Sir, first of all I would like to thank all the hon. colleagues who have participated in the debate and supported the amendment. Though one or two friends felt that there is no necessity of amendment, yet they agreed with the spirit of the amendment.

Sir, I feel still this amendment is necessary in spite of the effective defence put up by the hon. Minister Shrimati Purandeswari. The development of a country is decided not only by the GDP but by the Human Development Index. In our country, now we are visualising a 10 per cent GDP growth. But, at the same time, it is unfortunately a fact that more than 30 crore of the population are living below the poverty line. Hon. Minister has said that this is the biggest mid-day meal scheme in the whole world. It is also a fact that we are having the biggest poverty in the

[Shri Suravaram Sudhakar Reddy]

country, in the whole of the world. Largest number of the people living below the poverty line are in our country. About 15 crore of children are in need of this mid-day meal scheme. Our hon. Minister of Finance has given about Rs. 4,800 crore this year. But, in spite of this, it comes to less than 35 paise per child for food for each of the school days. It is very insufficient.

Sir, I would like to say that the prevalence of under-nutrition, a condition resulting from the inadequate intake of food or essential nutrients resulting in deterioration of physical growth and health, a chronologically weakened and under-supplied body heavily influences a child's productivity. It is exactly for this reason that we do need more nutrition to be supplied for our children.

Hon. Minister was telling about the feasibility of giving food thrice a day.

There is a possibility, if we agree. If there is a will, there will be away. The breakfast and lunch can be arranged in the packets with an egg and a nutritious drink like soybean milk can be given to the child which will not get spoiled even if it is taken at home. I believe that if India has to advance, we have to help our children.

Right now, unfortunately, a very big debate is going on about the reservation to OBCs. A big section in our society is trying to prevent this good measure and on the name of merit, the SCs, the STs and the OBCs are being shown that they are giving them some sort of special treatment. They do not have nutritious food and they do not have equal economic opportunities. Hence, there is no possibility in fighting the so-called merit. It is exactly for this reason that you supply them nutritious food; you give them equal opportunities in economy; and you give them equal opportunities in studies and only then, the question of merit will come. Till then, this type of problems will be coming up again and again.

I believe that like any other Private Member's Bill, either I have to get defeated or I have to withdraw. While I agree to withdraw, I would request the hon. Minister to take into consideration the opinions of the Members of Parliament, the sentiments expressed during the debate for more nutritious food to be supplied and more amount of money to be allocated. Right now, I think, only 0.001 per cent of the Budget is allotted to nutritious food. This is very insufficient. The Common Minimum Programme also gives a direction to the Government of India that the

nutritious food programme should be taken further to advance the general development of the country. I hope, these sentiments will be taken into consideration. Thank you.

Sir, I beg to move for leave to withdraw the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to withdraw the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY: Sir, I withdraw the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Gingee N. Ramachandran – not present.

16.08 ¾ hrs.

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILL – *Under Consideration***

**Crop Insurance Bill, 2005**

[English]

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI (Gulbarga): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for insurance of crops and for matters connected therewith, be taken into consideration."

Sir, I had introduced this Bill in March, 2005. The object of introducing this Bill is that the farmers always suffer heavily due to floods, cyclones, droughts, rains etc.

16.09 hrs.

(SHRI MOHAN SINGH *in the Chair*)

Sometimes, the farmers suffer because of heavy rains, sometimes because of no rains, sometimes because of cyclones and sometimes because of the droughts. Sometimes, the farmers are being victimised because of the policy of globalisation and sometimes, they are being victimised because of the fluctuation of rates of their produce in the market because they are not being given the support prices.

Moreover, many a time the farmers are the victims of the weather also. I am saying this because weather plays a very important role in the crop loss or crop damage, etc.

Therefore, the object for my introducing this Bill is because of the frequent loss of crops suffered by the farmers. This has rendered them helpless, and has even forced them to commit suicide in many of the States. This is not a matter, which is being discussed for the first time as it has been taken up in this august House and in the Assemblies many times. It has also been discussed in other forums, and through other media. As a result of loss of crop, the farmers are not in a position to repay the loans taken from the moneylenders. Therefore, weather plays a very important role in addition to other reasons.

I do not think that there is any mechanism to settle the claims. The claims are being settled on the basis of rainfall. Furthermore, as a result of uncertainty in weather, nearly 70 per cent of the crop production in India is subject to the timely arrival of monsoon.

Crop insurance has been given through many public sector insurance companies for decades now. However, the farmers were unable to make the best use of these schemes. Though many schemes have been introduced, yet benefits and results in the interest of the farmers were not worked out in it. The results were not satisfactory for it as there was not enough data to verify the settled claims efficiently. One of the reasons for it is that the public sector insurance companies look at crop insurance as a liability, and not as a business opportunity. Therefore, many of the crop insurance companies feel that this is a liability, and they are not coming forward to help the farmers when we compare with other insurance sectors. This is basically as a result of their feeling it as a liability. They feel that there is a risk to the insurance companies rather than to the farmers. This is the viewpoint being made for the last couple of decades.

In the State of Karnataka, the claim petitions are being settled based on the average rainfall of the last five years, and the average yield of the crop is calculated by taking panchayat as the unit. Therefore, assessing and coming to a conclusion for assessing the crop loss will take nearly two years or three years. Meanwhile, the farmers are not helped in time, and the losses are also not compensated in time neither by the insurance companies nor by the State Government or any other agencies. This is the problem being faced by the farmers as a result of the uncertainty of weather in our country.

I would like to suggest that there should be some comprehensive policy or some mechanism, and the loss or risk to the farmers should be decided on the basis of

the rainfall. If there is a shortfall in rainfall, then records are available with the Department to know the amount of shortfall of rainfall in a particular area. I would like to suggest that shortfall in rainfall or heavy rainfall should be made the basis for settling the claims of the petitioners in time instead of having a lengthy process to decide on it by connecting many factors involved. This would allow the farmers to be helped in time.

Though there is a policy in Karnataka, the innocent farmers are not enrolling themselves for claiming the insurance amount. What I would like to suggest is that the insurance process should be taken up by the State Government through the Cooperative Department or whatever is the Department concerned because the farmers are innocent people. Eighty per cent of our population consists of farmers, and they are illiterates. Even though benefits are there to claim, that is, the insurance benefit for crop losses or the risk involved, they are not aware of the schemes, and they are not aware of the procedure laid down by the State Government or the insurance companies. They are not enrolling themselves for claiming the insurance amount, whenever there were crop losses. Therefore, I would like to suggest that the State Government or the Central Government should have a mechanism to enroll the farmers and to enable them to claim the insurance amount, whenever the crops in their respective areas suffer losses.

The second point is, our hon. Minister of Agriculture, who is a champion of the farmers or the agriculturists, while announcing the formulation of a new agricultural insurance scheme said in Parliament:

"This new Scheme is neither first of its kind nor will it be the last. More than half-a-dozen farm insurance schemes have been tried out in the past two-and-a-half decades, but not one has worked."

This is an admitted fact or what was expressed by our hon. Minister of Agriculture while announcing the formulation of the new agricultural insurance scheme.

"Though many insurance policies have been introduced or announced, not a single insurance policy has worked out successfully in the larger interest of the farmers. So, unsuccessful insurance models proved to be unsustainable because they were neither economically viable nor suited to cover the vagaries that beset the crops of the farmers.

The implementing insurance companies have

[Shri Iqbal Ahmed Sardagi]

invariably ended up paying compensation several times the premium collected. The existing national agricultural insurance scheme, which is now sought to be replaced with a fresh look, has had to cope with claims of over Rs. 5,730 crore, more than three times the premium income of Rs. 1,700 crore."

The insurance companies or the agencies are considering it as risky because there is no balance between the premium amount and the compensation to be paid. Therefore, the parallel form of income insurance scheme aimed at covering the risk ranging from a drop in yield to poor prices tried out on a pilot basis in respect of a few crops has also not worked out. This is why the insurance companies feel that insurance business in farming sector is very risky, as far as the insurance companies are concerned. They think that it is a liability, and they are not taking it as business, which is not the case in respect of other fields. Therefore, what is required to be done is to make the insurance companies or the public undertaking concerned to come to the help of the farmers, whenever there is a risk involved.

Sometimes, excess crop is also a problem because then the State Government, the cooperative sector, or the Central Government do not come to their help by fixing the minimum support price. Thus, lesser crop yield or excess crop yield is also a problem being faced by the farmers. In such cases, there should be a comprehensive mechanism whereby farmers would get insurance.

My intention behind moving this Bill is to safeguard the interests of farmers. Globalisation has affected the lives of farmers to a great extent. The old methods of cultivation by farmers in the country would result in increased cost of production when compared to the practices followed in other countries. Cost of production is very less in other countries while it is very high in our country. When they come with their crops into our markets, nobody would come forward to help our farmers with supporting prices. This is the problem faced by the rural farmers.

I would request the Government to pay serious attention to the problems being faced by farmers of the country. The Government should formulate a clear-cut and transparent policy in this regard in consultation with the State Governments, the public insurance companies, and the concerned authorities so that we can have a comprehensive scheme for insurance of crops in order to support our farmers.

I would like to suggest that many of the schemes have not worked successfully in our country while similar schemes have been successfully implemented in some other countries. We must find out the factors because of which crop insurance schemes have been successfully implemented in other countries and our existing policy has to be modified keeping in view the experience of those countries. This is the need of the hour. Methods adopted in other countries for successful implementation of agricultural insurance schemes should be taken into consideration to suitably modify our present policy and to incorporate such provision in our insurance policies.

The Government had appointed a Joint Group to look into the past experience and to suggest improvements to be incorporated in the new insurance policy. Moreover, it has also proposed to cover pre-sowing risk and post-harvest losses also. As I have already said, agriculture in the country depends largely on the arrival of monsoon. There is a time gap between pre-sowing and post-harvest periods. In that two-three month period, Government should have some system to assess the losses and the risk of farmers. If that is done, calculation can be made in time and some insurance money can be meted out to farmers by way of some other policy.

My aim to introduce this Bill is to see that farmer should be provided permanent measures to meet the situation when his crop fails. That is why I have mentioned in clause 3 of the proposed Bill that: "The Central Government shall formulate a scheme providing for insurance of crops and excess of crops throughout the country."

In clause of the Bill, I have proposed that the premium in respect of the insurance shall be borne by the Central Government and the State Government in such proportions as may be prescribed.

In clause 6, I have proposed that it shall be the duty of the Central Government to pay insurance amount to the farmers for the loss of crop suffered by them due to any natural calamities or excessive crops where the return is less.

In clause 7, I have proposed that the insurance amount shall be paid within two months after the full assessment of loss suffered by the farmers is made by a Committee of Experts to be constituted by the Central Government.

The claims are lying unsettled for years together,

and they cannot be settled within two-three months. It will take one year to get settled. So, I have proposed two-three clauses to settle the claims in time.

This is a very important matter pertaining to the farmers. Therefore, I bring forth the attention of the hon. Members of this august House to make valuable suggestions in this regard to help the farmers whenever they meet the natural calamities, viz., floods, cyclones, etc. So, concrete suggestions should be made, and I would again request the august House to make sure that valuable and concrete suggestions are made to this Bill.

*[Translation]*

SHRI JAI PRAKASH (Hissar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the Bill introduced by Shri Iqbal Ahmed Saradgi. It is right that India is predominantly an agricultural country. The previous NDA government had introduced a crop insurance scheme for the farmers in view of the fact that the crops depend on monsoon. Sometimes we have floods, sometimes drought and at times hailstorm. The hon. Minister of Agriculture is present here and I would like to tell him that during the previous winter ground frost had damaged vegetables, specially tomato crops. Among the fruits, Kinoo and malta were completely destroyed. The mustard crop was also badly affected by the ground frost. Even after so many years of independence, the consensus is that India remains predominantly an agricultural country. But it is still not covered under the natural calamity. If the crops are damaged by the fog or high temperatures, the farmers do not get relief from the government.

A Bill has been introduced for the crop insurance scheme. Sudden drop in temperature causes damages to crops. It is my request that such a loss should be included under the natural calamity. Similarly, loss of crops due to excessive temperatures should also be considered as a natural calamity. Therefore, the crop insurance scheme, introduced by the NDA regime should cover all types of crops be it rice, wheat, sugarcane or cotton. Nowadays all crops are affected by the pests. There is hardly any vegetable on which pesticide is not used. Blast affects basmati rice. It should also be covered under the natural calamity. While introducing the crop insurance scheme, the Central Government should not exclude certain crops. All crops produced by the farmers should be included under this. We all are aware of the tedious procedure for implementing the crop insurance scheme. We all know the difficulties faced by the farmers in getting the claims endorsed by the Patwari, during the previous floods.

Due to this reason, it was decided that this aspect would be looked into later. Agriculture is now a loss making proposition, leading to suicides by farmers. The entire House is concerned over this. We should solve this problem. I would like to remind the hon. Minister of Agriculture that farmers are committing suicides because agriculture is no longer profitable. Natural calamities have increased. Number of diseases affecting crops have gone up. After suffering loss due to aforesaid reasons, if the farmers are not compensated through the crop insurance they are unable to repay bank loans or to the money lenders, the farmers feel humiliated, they are unable to feed their family, forcing them to commit suicide.

I would like to suggest the hon. Minister of Agriculture that in case of loss of crops, the farmers should be compensated within 15 days under the crop insurance scheme. Several such companies have come up in the public sector. There should be no discrimination among the crops under the crop insurance scheme. All crops should be covered under the insurance.

Since it is an important Bill, I would like to make a suggestion to the hon. Minister that several constructive suggestions have been made here. We should not think that these suggestions had been made earlier also. My suggestions are novel. First the mustard and tomato crops were damaged. Similarly malta and kinoo crops were also damaged. At that time it was said that these crops were not included under the crop insurance scheme. And that they were damaged by low temperatures. My request is that these crops should also be included under the crop insurance scheme. The farmers should be paid compensation under crop insurance scheme within 15 days or one month. The government should bear the entire cost. The Chief Minister of Haryana had mentioned that there have been instances when farmers had lost their hands in thrashers. If any person in the age group of 16 and 60 dies due to an accident, the government would pay them compensation and they would be brought under the insurance cover. Similarly, all crops should be insured and the farmers should be paid the insurance amount at the earliest.

DR. KARAN SINGH YADAV (Alwar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Hon. Member has referred a sixty years old person as an elderly person.

MR. CHAIRMAN: In some cases, it is acceptable. As sixty-year old is considered as a senior citizen.



SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): Sir, first of all I would like to congratulate you because it is for the first time that I am seeing you on the chair. I am thankful to you that you have given me an opportunity to speak on Crop Insurance Bill, 2005. I support the bill introduced by Iqbal Ahmed Saradgi. Various hon. Members have expressed their opinion and it is true that India is agriculture dominated nation. Indian economic progress depends upon agriculture and it has always been mentioned whenever we have discussion on farmers and agriculture in the House. As far as Crop Insurance is concerned, it is directly related to weather. As some hon. Members have said that several crops indulged various vegetables, fruits and various small or big plants are grown over the year. The face of onslaught of various diseases and adverse weather conditions like draught in summer or floods during rainy season which destroy them.

Similarly, during winter, hailstorms damage most of the crops. If the insurance money can be made available to the farmers on time after ascertaining the weather condition, then I feel that this will enable them to prepare for next crop and their family. From time to time, it has been noticed that the onslaught of natural calamities be it flood, draught, frost or hailstorm normally, leaves a trail of diseases behind damaging food grains, vegetables and fruits. One of the hon. Member has expressed his concern about it. A arrangements should be made so that farmers might get insurance money in proportion to what they have invested so that they can make prepare for the next crop and can look after their family.

As Mr. Jai Prakash has stated I would like to tell him that the Government of Uttar Pradesh has made for paying Rupees one lakh immediately for losses or death due to natural calamity. Similar arrangements should be made by the Union Government also. If State Governments are paying rupees one lakh as compensation, then the Union Government should come forward to help the victims in a big way also. If even an equal amount is paid by the Union Government, then, at least, the farmers will get Rupees two lakh. This will be a big relief to the affected family.

It has often been said and we have been listening it for quite a long time that relief will be provided to the farmers in the name of crop insurance, but it never happens. This is the reason due to which today farmers are compelled to commit suicides. They take loans to cultivate land and produce crops and they do not get any compensation, if their crops get damaged due to some

reasons or another. They have to complete numerous formalities and from pillar to post; which is nerve wrecking. They waste their time and energy and do not even get the insurance money. The Government should make such arrangements regarding crop insurance that the farmers might get their money easily. This process should be simplified farmers should get the money easily and timely so that they can make necessary arrangements for the next crop.

Sir, through you I once again demand from the Government that at least water, electricity, agricultural equipments and pesticides should be made available to the farmers. These arrangements might be made but they should be their block level or panchayat level so that farmers can produce good crops at low cost. With these words, I thank you.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL (Kopergaon): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have risen to support the bill presented by my colleague. This is true that the condition of farmers is very bad. Crop Insurance is not a new concept but, even today 58 percent farmers do not know about Crop Insurance Scheme. Agriculture commission once submitted a report which covered various points related to it 10 per cent farmers tried to avail its benefits but only 4 per cent of them. It is obvious that it needs improvement. Crop insurance should also cover risk factor. Market fluctuation should also be taken into consideration. More production item leads to a lowering of its price. Example of tomatoes and onions can be cited in this regard. The Government said that we would be self-reliant in oil sector but it is being imported. Besides, this cotton is also being imported. Even today we import more than 60 per cent of the oil from abroad, which causes heavy losses to the farmers. They do not get proper prices for their produce. The cost of production is 127 per cent, whereas realization is only 57 per cent – then how will the farmer be able to contribute in it?

As the hon. Members who spoke before me has said that a committee was constituted under the chairmanship of a Joint Secretary, regarding crop insurance which has submitted its report. If this report is implemented then all our worries pertaining to the farmers will be sorted out to a long extent.

16.40 hrs.

(SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN *in the Chair*)

Now census on crop cutting area of Tehsil is coming. Today we can work out the detects on the basis of the data that we get through satellites then where is the need to

depend on crop cutting. It is not relevant anymore. A valuator is called in when we insure fruits when we insure fruits. Why cannot we make similar arrangement for crops? This will provide employment to many people. Everyone has quite rightly said that by the time the farmers get the amount already of crop insurance which is generally after two or three years. It has taken its toll on their health, Agriculture Commission has said that these should be family insurance scheme, only then they will get some social security and help during the times of their help. During the budget of year 2004-05, the Ministry of Finance stated that they are thinking about new crop insurance. In 2005-06 it was stated that; they were bringing new crop insurance scheme from next year. This year i.e. in 2006-2007 it was stated that we are launching National Crop Insurance Scheme, bringing up improvements in the economic policy, and import-export policy, but nothing is being done to promote agriculture or protect farmers. Today, import of agricultural products is increasing and export is decreasing.

Now the case of suicides of the farmers comes up - when the produce is nil, what will the farmers do? Trade farmers have concerns about the comprehensive crop insurance covering the risk; though we can make tall claims, nothing is going to bear fruit until we implement it. Everyone express their own views as per their will power, but when are we going to implement it? Everybody is of the opinion that the farmers have made sufficient progress. Farmers did achieve progress, upto which point, it is not known, but suicides are also on the rise. My request to the Government is that they proudly salute the farmers when they have good crops. We do not need salutes. Please inform us about their plight. They never tell us about their condition. Why do they salute them? They commit suicides. Where they salute them for that? That's why I am requesting you. Complete risk cover insurance is available all over the world and a lot of research had been done in this regard. About this a research has been done in A.N.D.P. There is risk cover crop insurance in UAE, U.K. U.S.A., France. State Governments should be given 50% amount for crop insurance. This is their scheme. But many states are not giving this and in many states this is not being implemented. In order to build confidence among the farmers, today the actual position needs significant improvement. Some better programmes are to be formulated for passing on information to them; books would not be of much help here. Farmers are not in the habit of reading books. I am leaving aside the print media; it would be beneficial for the farmers if we make use of the electronic

media like Radio, Television for publicity purpose. Many people who had insured their crops did not get any amount because many crops were out of the ambit of the insurance cover. There are 450 such villages in my district and in the nearby district where the charges for crop cutting are under 50 paise for the last fifteen years. When there is no produce, how can we expect him to give anything? Out of the fifteen years, crop cutting was zero during seven years. They get hundred, hundred and fifty or two hundred and fifty rupees as crop insurance due to the fact that their crops are kharif crops. For Rabi crops it can be received only after 15 or 16 months. This is a very strange fact. When the kharif crops get damaged, money should be given till the Rabi crops so that the farmers can use it in the Rabi crops thereby helping them to evade the clutches of the money lenders or private Bankers.

As regards the social security, it is necessary to provide social security to the farmers and farm labourers along with crop insurance. Whatever he told about the crop insurance is true, the farmers or farm labourers fall ill, I would not talk about their state of health, but they are building many houses for the landless people. Providing houses to the farmers or farm labourers will help them in staying away from diseases thereby increasing their working days. Increased working days help them to have better crops. As a single person, farmer plays various roles. He is the marketing manager, he is the procurement manager. He himself guards the fields, sows the seeds and cuts the crops, but he is an unskilled labourer. If we think on these lines, we cannot depend on anybody except the farmers. Everybody is singing paeans about the farmers. It is easy to sing songs in praise of them, but what result has it produced? Even after fifty years of independence farmers are committing suicides in many parts of Maharashtra. Farmers are committing suicides in every states, not even a single state was left untouched by this trend.

Madam Chairman, same is the case of the price of crops. The Government of India itself should give money regarding insurance; the responsibility of the States should be minimum in this regard. Some people are in favour of idea of banks distributing loans. But banks are in no position to give loans; all the co-operative banks are incurring losses. Everyone is aware of the condition of the co-operative banks. There are proposals of their revitalization and recapitalization. Commercial banks shoo them away thereby not even allowing them to come near the vicinity of banks. They have at least customer relationships with the co-operative banks. They are not

[Shri Balasaheb Vikhe Patil]

even aware of the internal nature of the crops insurance rules being followed by the commercial banks. Those who are in the know-how of the rules also should be given leaflets enumerating the provisions therein. We buy electricity motor, we give insurance at that time only, but people are not aware of the fact that in the event of it getting damaged they are bound to pay double amount. All these people are exploiting them to the hilt. Be it crops insurance or any other thing when will the farmers and farm labourers be free from exploitation? Risk insurance is its basis, is its answer. How much percentage of subsidies is given to the farmers of US or to the farmers of U.K.? It is not a matter of concern for us. As per the news reports the entire budget is devoted to the farmers, everything is in favour of farmers, but what matters is what has actually been given to the farmers. For how many hours the electricity supply is available to him, what is the state of the water canal, what is the condition of the rain fed area, what is the condition of Rajasthan desert area, what is the condition of drought-prone area? Smt. Indira ji had started drought prone area project and announced that Rs. 2 crore would be allocated to districts every year. But how much progress was made in those districts? This is a very complex issue. We have to adopt an integrated approach to address this issue. A family doctor closely monitors the developments regarding the patient but farmers do not have any family doctors. Ear, nose, head, hand, legs and stomach have separate doctors to treat it, likewise we are not aware of the development which are taking place regarding the farmers and the schemes when they had the senior Minister, I had also requested him that we are totally dependent on our farmers. They are saying that if we want to achieve 10% growth, then agriculture has to grow at the rate of four percent. Now the growth rate percentage is 8.9 and they are talking about achieving 12% growth. Agriculture registered a growth of 2.7% now. They are hoping that they can achieve 12% growth after crossing 4 percent growth in agriculture, but this is possible only when the farmers are ready to cultivate, sow the seeds, and get a market for the good crops they produce. Now, what is your scheme-you should also give insurance cover. Government has got a marketing intervention scheme. They should deal with all the state governments strictly. Today farmers are selling onion at the rate of 100 rupees per quintal and are committing suicides. Where is his insurance? Marketing intervention scheme should be covered in the insurance, then only we could achieve success to an extent.

Today, why are the farmers committing suicides,

because they are under the burden of loans taken from the money lenders. But how can they be expected to give back money when for the last five, ten years they have failed to get any yield from crops. Therefore after the insurance, they have to think about some sort of waiver also. Now N.P.A. of all banks is one lakh thirty thousand crore rupees. Out of this, what is the share of the farmers? I think, not even 10 percent. In the name of unemployment, they are waiving the loans of the big industrial houses. They waive off even their interest, but when the issue of waiving off loans of farmer comes up, it is said that it would become a habit for him and he would squander it away and would not repay the loans. Farmers are committing suicides to save their honour, to escape from the disgrace. No other reason will compel him to take such a step. If farmers are committing suicides and we are not even setting right the crops insurance policy, then the next generation youths will not be ready to toil in the fields.

[English]

If they lose confidence in farming, then what will happen to the country? How much of migration will be there? And if they come to slums, then crime will increase. The intensity of crime will definitely increase.

[Translation]

Therefore, I will limit myself to this much, I will not elaborate any more, but the issue of water is very significant. There was a talk of rain-fed authority. Hon'ble Prime Minister mentioned about this on 15th August. I have read it in the newspapers that work has also been commenced in this regard. Setting up of the rain-fed authority would streamline the system. What can be given to the marginal farmers, rain-fed farmers, after creating separate package for him I what can be done for his insurance etc. Government have done quite a lot for the progress of Punjab even then, today their yield is also decreasing. What will be the price of imported wheat? Now we tried to give them Rs. 50 as incentive bonus while their yield is decreasing, there is decline in production. Crops are insured on the basis of previous year's crop production. If the production was, say 20, 25 or 15 bags, in case of claims, compensation for only 5 bags would be paid. We don't consider that companies calculate average crop yield on the basis of the year when the yield was dismal. My submission is that this system should be changed. Average should be calculated on the basis of three years' good crop, out of any ten or five years. Since

new scheme is being introduced, so average of three good performance years out of five should be taken into consideration and then the crop should be insured on that average basis. In fact, the Govt. hardly intends to pay anything to the farmers.

Whenever DA of Govt. employees becomes due, be it 3 or 5 per cent, it is announced as these employees are organized one and the Govt. do not want to create a rift, whereas, the farmers are unorganized so they avoid clash with the Govt. But the condition is changing gradually. And when he decides to settle the score, the Govt. would be in deep waters. Therefore, I urge the Govt. to implement the said scheme expeditiously. A broad research should be conducted covering the consumers belonging to Cooperative movement.

The job of insurer should be entrusted to the Cooperative Bank, including the village societies, so that these societies or district banks would feel that these farmers are theirs. National Agriculture Insurance Company itself will do everything. So, private evaluators can be engaged. Secondly, whole family should be insured. The crises coming up in marketing intervention scheme should also be covered. Also, it is necessary to cover natural calamities. Suppose a farmer has sown paddy, but rains play truant, the poor farmer will have nothing. So, what shall be his fate? Therefore, there should be stage-wise insurance, such as pre-sowing, after-sowing, harvesting and post harvesting stage.

Therefore, I urge the Govt. to ponder over above aspect. If the Govt. does so, no farmer would be forced to end his life. And it would be a golden era. Therefore, I support Crop Insurance Bill and I urge hon. Minister to consider all these points. I conclude with these words.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): I strongly support the Crop Insurance Bill introduced by Shri Iqbal Ahmad Saradgi. There is famous saying about a farmer that

'Sheet Kanpta jeske bhai se, atap thanda  
par jata, liye fawda waha ata,  
Barsa se waha kya ghabrata'

Means he hardly bothers for cold, heat, rain etc. and produces grains in the womb of the soil. And that's why he is known as the grain provider. This apex body, the Parliament, the biggest panchayat in the country has failed to take proper care of him. Consequently, every other day we find reports of suicide by farmers in various states, be

it, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Punjab or else-where. Be it floods, or drought, blooming crops of farmers get destroyed before his eyes. Heavy downpour or floods destroy his crops within moments and his dreams of prosperity come to an end abruptly. It is said about India's budget that Indian Budget is the gambling of Monsoon. And Monsoon is a gamble, no doubt. If Monsoon is good, crops too will be good and if rain is scanty, crops get destroyed. Be it flood or drought, crops of farmers get adversely affected.

Rajasthan has been facing severe famine for the last several years and wells have gone dry. In places where irrigation facility exists, the chances of good crops get diminished for fear of Neelgai, which destroys the crops. Especially, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan are facing this problem. When Wild Life Act was passed in 1980, a special species of deer, which looks similar to cow but different from it in nature and overall size was termed as Neelgai. It's number is unabatedly on the increase, whereas forest area as well as the number of tree is on the decline. Therefore, this animal has left forests and has come to the fields just to destroy the crops. Keeping this in view, Crop Insurance Scheme can rescue them. I think said scheme can prove to be a blessing for the farmers.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank erstwhile Government led by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji which introduced Crop Insurance Scheme. Today, the Government employees, labourers and even other category of people are unionized one. If a shop keeper suffers any kind of damage, he gets compensated. Similarly, if factory owner faces any kind of damage, he gets insurance claim. Likewise, if one buys a truck, and truck gets damaged or burnt, the owner gets full claim amount within 2-3 days. One the other hand, if crop of a helpless farmer, who provides grains to everybody, gets destroyed entirely, there is no insurance claim for him. NDA Government had introduced Crop Insurance Scheme for farmers. Though it is a State-subject, yet some of the states are implementing it half heartedly. It has reached the stage of intermingling of heterogeneous elements. The State Government will definitely implement it, but it's disposal would be at Tehsil level. Years back, Monsoon rains used to cover very large area, but now it has gained a peculiar dimension. It rains over one village, whereas, plays truant at very next village. This has put the farmer in trouble. In case of drought etc. first, survey is conducted at Tehsil level, girdawari and assessment takes enough time. A study-group covers, but, when it would submit the report no one knows? When survey is conducted at Tehsil level it would become clear as to where it has rained and where it has not, or if any damage has been caused by a national calamity.

[Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat]

17.00 hrs.

Under these circumstances, Gram Panchayat should be taken as a unit for providing insurance claim. Large areas are covered under Block or Tehsils. Consequently, farmers fail to get benefit of said scheme. Poor farmers with small or marginal land holdings fail to get any benefit, whereas, clever and rich farmers with large land holdings reap the real benefits. On the other hand, poor farmers who work hard from dawn to dusk, find it difficult to pay even premium for crop insurance. Therefore, the premium should be fixed in such a way so that these poor farmers can also afford to pay it. It is the responsibility of both, the Central as well as the State Government to ensure that each farmer can gain its benefit and can deposit the premium on time. The Government should ensure immediate payment of insurance claims, in case of damage to the crops.

There is another problem in Rajasthan. Everyone knows about flood and famine but sometime locust swarm enters into our region from the side of Pakistan and African countries. They move in swarms and destroy the entire crop and vegetation and eat the leaves and left the stem behind. Farmers are very upset due to this. Although efforts are made to spray medicine and to push them away with the help of helicopters but still they damage the crops upto large extend.

Madam, the crops get destroyed due to various reasons from the initial stage itself as sometimes wandering animals attack the crop due to weak hedge or sometimes natural calamities hit the area and destroy the crops entirely. Farmer have to suffer in all the cases. Sometimes fire broke out from sparkle in the field. Farmer usually reap their crop of wheat and left it in the field to dry but sometime the entire crop get destroyed due to fire. Through you, I would like to request the government that please do not consider it as Private Bill that hon. Iqbal Saheb has presented it and in response the Minister would praise it that the government will definitely consider it. Therefore hon. Member should withdraw it. The Government have extended the crop insurance cover but half heartedly. I think that all my colleagues sitting in this house have reached here with the help of the votes of rural population and our 80 per cent population depends on agriculture which is the backbone of Indian Economy. Therefore it is not appropriate to ignore such an important sector. Today we are chanting the slogan Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan, Jai Vigyan but how the Kisan (the farmer) will bloom. I would like to draw the attention of all of you towards a mythological tale.

During the Mahabharata War, after sunset, Lord Krishna used to direct Pandava's to get the blessings of elders. Someone used to go the Bhishm Pitamaha some other to Dronacharya. At the time of departure Bhishma Pitamaha was used to bless them the 'The Vicory' (Jai Ho). One day Shri Krishna guided them that today if he blesses the victory, ask him the way to win the battle as from the last ten days he himself is destroying our army then how to end his life. When Yudhishter went to him and he gave him blessings of victory, Yudhishter asked, Sir how do we win because from the last ten days you are leading the Kaurava Sena and destroying our army like butcher. Then Bhishm Pitamaha told him that no one can kill him because he is immortal but if an eunuch comes in his way, he will not attack him and at that time he could be injured by anyone. We all blesses farmers to bloom and grow and win our elections with their votes but they can bloom in real sense only when they will get proper insurance cover for their crops. The arrangements should be made for the re-imbusement of crop insurance at Panchayat level and Gram level for the purpose. Farmers having small holding are not getting any insurance whereas the farmers having lakhs of acres of land and are situated at Badmer, Jaisalmer and on the verge of Rajasthan Canal will be given payments against their insurance claims if their crops get destroyed in hailstorm, famine or draught. Hence, special attention should be paid towards them. I would like to mention one more thing, hon. Shri Iqbal Saheb has beautifully narrated :

[English]

The Central Government shall formulate a scheme providing for insurance for crops and excess of crops through out the country.

[Translation]

Benefits of the scheme should be same through out the country. There is cultivation of coconut in Kerala but all the coconut tree uprooted by storm and tsunami and even riped coconut fruit also get destroyed. Crops like dry fruits, cashewnut or cardamom also get affected at some other places. Insurance cover facility should be provided for all kinds of cultivation. When there is huge production of crops, Government sometime announced the price of the crop in time that price of the crop is such and such and it would be purchased on the prescribed prices. There was huge production of mustard in Rajasthan but until the hon. Minister of Agriculture, Members of Parliament and Chief Minister will not instruct, no one will pay attention towards

it. Godowns are packed to its capacity with the crops purchased earlier, hence godowns are not available. Arrangements were made on the request of Government of India and Government of Rajasthan but they do not get the amount on time. They have to wait for several days and in such a situation, crops also get affected. Therefore attention should be paid towards this sort of situations.

[English]

The premium in respect of insurance shall be borne by the Central Government and State Government.

[Translation]

The premium of it should be borne by the Central Government and State Government. I think that the Government should consider the 4-5 sections given in it at the time of formulation of comprehensive law of crop insurance to make it more practical so that farmers could be benefited in real sense. The excellent suggestions given by the hon. Members in this regard should also be kept in mind, so that we can give meaning the slogan 'Jai Jawan' and 'Jai Kisan' in real sense. If the farmers, who have brought green revolution as well as white revolution in the country and made India independent in the field of food grains, would not be benefited with the crop insurance, then it is useless to say anything about the farmers and for the farmers.

Madam, through you, I would like to convey my views to the Government of India that NDA Government had took the initiative to implement the law regarding crop insurance and directed the entire country to implement it, but agriculture being the state subject was implemented in some of the states only, as a result there is situation of intermingling of heterogeneous elements, this situation should be rectified. Farmers may be compensated for the losses incurred on account of natural calamities like flood, famine or on account of destruction of crop caused by Nilgai or locust swarm or any other insects. If farmers of the country are prosperous, the economy of the country will also be sound. Lets implement the crop Insurance with true spirit by respecting the feelings of farmers.

Farmers should also get immediate payments against their claims similar to the truck and shop owners, so that the farmers could also be benefited and they may not commit suicide.

I am very grateful to you Madam, for allowing me to speak.

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH (Mathura): Madam, I heartily welcome the proposal of Shri Iqbal Ahmed Saradgi regarding Crop Insurance on behalf of me and all the farmers of this country.

India is an agriculture dominating country and almost 80 per cent population depends on agriculture whether farmer or agricultural labourers. But the irony is that the farmers are becoming debt ridden day by day in the present scenario.

Chairperson Madam, whether there are big farmer or small or the agricultural labourers, all the people living in villages and related with the farmer and agriculture today their economic condition is deteriorating continuously.

Madam, I remember that when earlier I joined here as elected Member of Parliament, Late Rajiv Gandhi was the Prime Minister of India. The proposal of compulsory insurance of crops was presented in this House during that period. But it is a matter of regret that even after passing of so many years, it cannot be implemented properly, therefore, we are discussing this matter once again in this House. The produce of farmers whether it is crops, flowers, vegetables or fruits, the condition of all the produces is not good. Whether it is North or South or any other region of India, the farmers do not get the proper price of their produce. I do not want to go to the details of the produces of the farmers but definitely I want to say that it should be protected in full and if the crop get destroyed due to any natural calamity, the full amount of the insurance should be reimbursed to the farmers.

Madam, as per the provisions of present budget only those farmers will get insurance protection who will take loan. The small farmers who earn their livelihood from small holdings and do not take loans will not be benefited under this whether there is loss due to any kind of calamity hailstorm, heavy rains, flood, or losses due to any means of irrigation, breaching of canals, fire, frost hit or any other reason, the farmer will not get any kind of insurance cover as no provision of insurance has been made for all these reasons.

Madam, my request is that the crop of small farmer, whether loan is taken for it or not, should also be protected under insurance cover and insurance claim should be reimbursed to them in case of natural calamity. Usually it has been seen that farmer sow the crop and get good produce but due to heavy rains or any other natural calamity the crop get destroyed and they do not get any insurance claim for it. The farmers who have taken loan get insurance

[Kunwar Manvendra Singh]

claim in the case of loss of crops but the village unit of farmer is not covered under insurance. If the crop is destroyed due to hail storm, the insurance company does not consider the village as an unit. Their opinion is that the farmers will get the insurance claim only in case the entire tehsil, district or commissioner is affected with the hail storm and the crops get destroyed due to it. This is an irony. Madam, the sitting Members of Parliament, who have rural background and belongs to the farmers must be aware that hailstorm may affect a small area but not the other one, which is adjacent to it. Since the entire tehsil, district or commissioner is not affected, the farmer will not get insurance benefits. As per the present condition of insurance, if the entire tehsil, district or commissioner is affected from hail storm, only then the farmer will get insurance benefit, otherwise not. The farmer who has invested all his efforts and resources in the field to grow crop, he and his entire family depends on this, but he does not get any insurance claim in case his crop get destroyed. Similarly, if the crop and house get destroyed due to fire and the members living there get wounded, cattle dies, his entire earnings and wealth is lost, even though the farmer does not get any insurance claim.

Madam, even after 58 years of independence, today if the crop of a farmer is destroyed due to fire, neither the Central Government nor the State Government is ready to share the responsibility of providing assistance to the farmer. I do not know much about other States but I can tell you about my State where if the crop, house, cattle etc. are destroyed due to fire you will be surprised to know that the farmer will get Rs.500/- only from the administration for the construction of house. Rs.1500/- is given against the crop but crop is not insured. They knock at every other door but in vain. There is no provision of any financial help for the person whose crop, cattles and house are destroyed. A farmer comes under crisis within no time. No one is available to help him.

The fertilizers, seeds, means of irrigation, electricity, diesel etc. are essentially required by the farmers. Since electricity is not available, therefore, the farmer have to run the pumps on diesel which helps in irrigation. The prices are hiked once again but there is no rise in the price of crop of farmers. He has to suffer since his crop get destroyed. Floods registers losses of crores of rupee, of houses and families have to suffer, crops get destroyed due to it. The irony is that there is a Ministry for it but any of the Government have not made necessary arrangements for cleaning of any river. Lakhs of acres of land get destroyed in minor floods whether it may hit any region

but there is no arrangement for cleaning of the river. There is a provision that after floods arrangement would be made, after flood, allotment of budget would be made after drought, but Government does not make any preventive measures earlier. The Government should pay attention towards these things.

Apart from it, I want to say that arrangements should be made to provide insurance cover to the marginal farmers or the persons living below poverty line. They should also be covered under health insurance. The workers and small farmers does not find funds for treatment, if they fall sick. They die in the absence of treatment. Today we get news that farmers who are on the verge of starvation are committing suicide in every region of the country. Almost 80 percent population of India depends on agriculture but on the contrary, if those farmers are committing suicide due to poverty, debt or to avoid humiliation, it is indeed a matter of shame for us.

I, through you, through this House request the Government that Hon'ble Finance Minister should make such provisions in this budget so that there should be a provision in Constitution of India that the Central Government may be held responsible for the death of a citizen, whether they are committing suicide due to poverty, starvation, loss of crop or fire. This responsibility should not be entrusted to the regional governments. There should be such a provision that the regions should be provided sufficient funds. The regional Governments may be or may not be in a position to provide funds but the Government must provide funds to them. The farmers and the poor should get full protection from the Government of India. Therefore, provisions should be made in this regard, they should get complete protection through our budget. He should get protection for farming health and education of their children. Hon'ble Minister is sitting here. When he delivered his speech in the House, it was welcomed by patting the tables. ...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): Madam, I would like to inform the hon. Member that we have recently told all the State Governments that if the house of any person is burnt, he should be provided house under Indira Awas Yojana immediately and thereafter funds taken from the Central Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA (Jalaun): This provision is only for Bihar or for any other State also?

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: I am talking

about the entire country. Is any law mad for Bihar alone? As the hon. Member was saying that if the house of any person is burnt in a fire and his entire property is destroyed he is given a patry sum of Rs. 200 or 500 only. Relief is also given for utensils, clothes and foodgrains for a week. However, the Ministry of Rural Development has provided that such victims in villages, remote and rural areas should be immediately provided houses under the Indira Awas Yojana and funds taken from the Central Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR (Bareilly): Is this provision means for all the people residing in rural areas or is there any discrimination on it? ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: The District Magistrate has been authorised for this purpose. This is a good question. Please have the information. As per the rules of Indira Awas Yojana, the Gram Sabha will decide about the beneficiaries. We have given authority to the District Magistrate/District Collector to identify and take immediate action in the cases in which houses of the poor people have been burnt. We have said even to the extent that the collector may visit the house while it is still emitting smoke and give a sanction for the house so that bricks can be off loaded the very next day and the house is constructed at the earliest. Our funds are already available in each district. It could be spent in making such houses and later on the funds could be taken from the Centre separately. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no Question Hour just now. So no discussion will be held on this issue.

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH: Please raise the issue when there is a discussion of Home Ministry. Now let me speak. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIVANKAR (Chimur): You are also a farmer, have you made any provision in it for providing shelter for their livestock? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: He will be disclosing it later.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: We have given information that the provision is made for the house only. Now if the verandah is burnt or something else is burnt, there is no provision for all these things.

SMT. ARCHANA NAYAK (Kendrapada): Have you made the provision for BPL also? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, this is the provision for BPL.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Though a provision is made for BPL only but if someone's house is burnt, he instantly becomes poor because his entire property is burnt. We have told the State Governments to consider such cases on their own discretion. ...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH: I am grateful to the hon. Minister for Rural Development that you have made provision for construction of the houses of those ones whose houses have burnt and destroyed in fire by generating and compensating fund under your Ministry. I welcome the provision which you have made.

Through you, I would like to tell the hon. Minister for Finance that he should issue strict instructions to the banks in this regard as they avoid to give insurances. If the farmers go to the banks to talk about insurance, they are not entertained, it does not matter whether they come or do not come under that scheme. Insurance cover is provided to big factories owners in which lot of fraud takes place. Insurance cover is given even to those big industries which are established merely on paper, but the helpless farmers are not entertained by the banks and even denied entry in the banks. We receive a lot of grievances in this regard.

This happens even in our constituencies as well. Hon'ble Members of Parliament are sitting here. They all are apprised of the facts. Bank Managers have to be given threatenings. Not to speak of insurance they even create problem in giving loans to the farmers. So, the strict instruction should be given to them on behalf of the Ministry of Finance in this regard notwithstanding what kind of crops are there; whether they are horticulture, vegetables, agriculture produces and they are destroyed in any condition whether due to hailstorms, severe cold, drought, insurance cover should be provided to them. As the hon. Members were saying we sow crops and expect that it will rain, but there is no rain. In these circumstances, paddy crop is destroyed, therefore it should be provided insurance cover. We sow cotton crops, paddy crops, fruits or vegetables, but they get infected by worms and they are destroyed. Therefore, they should also be insured. Farmers toil hard and invest money for crop production. The Ministry of Agriculture should take up this matter with the Ministry of Finance and the other Ministries that the Central Government should bear the burden of compensation against the loss of crops so that the farmers could get rid of these adverse situations.



[Kunwar Manvendra Singh]

At the same time, it is a big irony that the farmers produce crops, crops yield well, but when they go to market for the sale of their produces they are exploited by the stockist, as a minimum support price is not fixed by the Government. The crops are purchased on arbitrary prices and the farmers do not get the proper price of their crops. They sell their crops on compulsion and price is fixed after the farmer has sold the crops. The middlemen after purchasing the crops on cheap prices, sell these crops on high prices. In this way, farmers do not get full benefits. So, I would request the hon. Minister for Agriculture that the support prices of crops may be fixed well in time. Besides this, prices of seeds, fertilizers and other agricultural inputs should also be fixed. I have said this earlier also in the Budget session. Nowadays, prices of diesel, oil on global basis are fixed by the OPEC. Now, we are listening in TV that prices of diesel and petroleum are going to be hiked because oil companies are incurring heavy losses.

[English]

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now. At 5.30 p.m. we have to take up Half-an-Hour Discussion.

[Translation]

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH: I had said earlier also that the farmers must be issued cards by the District Magistrates, SDMs in each State. They should be given diesel on control rates so that they could get diesel on cheap rates even in the time of price rise. They should get diesel through cards so that they could get relief in farming.

Madam, the situation in Uttar Pradesh is such that there is no power in the rural areas up to from 12 to 16 hrs. If there is no power at the time of crops and seed sowing, the farmers are compelled to run diesel engines for irrigation. Due to high cost of diesel, they have to bear high expenses at the time of price rise and they do not get remunerative prices for their yield or produce. Farmers are getting drowned into debt. I, therefore, would like to request the hon. Finance Minister through the House and through you that in the coming budget more attention should be paid on these issues and more funds should be allocated so that the farmers could come out of this adverse situation and there should not be even a single farmer who have to commit suicide.

With these words, I express my heartfelt thanks to you and also to the hon. Member of Parliament who has brought this Bill on behalf of the farmers of the country.

[English]

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Mr. Suravaram Sudhakar Reddy will speak next time.

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY (Nalgonda): All right.

17.30 hrs.

#### HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

##### Closure of Post Offices

[English]

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Now, we will take up Half-an-Hour Discussion. Shri Hansraj G. Ahir has to raise a discussion on the points arising out of the answer given by the Minister of Communication and Information Technology on 10.03.2006 to Starred Question No.284 regarding Closure of Post Offices.

[Translation]

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR (Chandrapur): Madam Chairman, with your kind permission I raise this Half-An-Hour discussion. The reply given by the Hon'ble Minister of Communications to my Starred Question asked on 10th March, 2006 stated that neither any of the communication centres was closed nor any communication agent dismissed. I had said about closing of 30 Panchayat Communication Centres and dismissing equal number of Communication agents. I have with me the list provided by officials. The Minister in his statement said that no communication centre has been closed due to which rural areas will be affected or services interrupt. It has also been stated that Communications Ministry are not going to close any of the centres which are incurring loss. In my opinion providing Postal Services in rural areas, tribal dominated areas, remote areas by the Communications Ministry is the social responsibility of the Government. Accepting this the Minister is saying that he is not closing communication centre which are incurring loss. But the reply I got from the officials clearly states that 30 centres incurring loss have been closed down.

17.32 hrs.

(SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN *in the Chair*)

Through you, I want to state that providing Communi-

cation Services, Postal services to rural areas is a necessity. The agents were delivering money orders, telegrams in rural areas. The agencies were deprived of employment who were working in communication centres in rural areas. Now he is saying that we have not closed any communication centre or dismissed any agent. We have just merged them. What is the meaning of merger? Merger means closing one centre and merging it into another. Due to this the villagers that are attached to one centre will have to go to another centre in another village. That means that we are doing injustice in providing services in rural areas by creating difficulty for the people. The way communication services, postal services are being given to urban areas, it does not come that easily to rural areas. I would like to tell the Minister that the communication centres that are closed in this period should not have been closed. But according to me if this matter is in court then closing such centres by court's orders no one can have an objection. But this is not the matter. 30 Centres have been closed down in my area. Like that thousands of centres have been closed down through out the country on some pretext or the other. They should be started again. And the agents that are dismissed should be reinstated. Through you I want to submit to the Minister that they should do this work considering it their responsibility. As I said earlier I had the list of closed centres. I will provide the list to you. I would also like to say that the last reply you have given was proper or not but now I hope to receive correct reply from you.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Only one clarificatory question can be asked as per the rules.

*...(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR (Bareilly): Mr. Chairman, Sir, my friend Shri Ahir had raised a very important subject. He said in his statement that "Department has a social obligation in extending its services" that is why there is deficit also. They have shown deficit continuously for three years i.e. for year 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04 Rs.1400 crore, Rs.1364 crore and Rs.1375 crore respectively were shown as deficit. It is a social obligation. In my opinion you do not want to restore the postal services so that the deficit does not increase further. Population of our country is growing. We have introduced courier services and today they are doing tremendous business. Lakhs of people are

employed therein, but Government have taken a decision to scrap the small courier services. You are rendering lakhs of people jobless by doing so I can understand that you are not willing to open new post offices. In urban areas, everyone want to vacate the post office from rental buildings. For that they are approaching courts, contacting us, writing us letters. New post offices are not being opened commensurate with rise in population. And there is no facility of work in post offices in rural areas. Until and unless you revamp the present postal department or rectify the system nothing is going to happen. If you think that there is no relevance of post office due to arrival of mobile telephones it is a totally wrong. Where there are six lakh villages in the country even today rural people know the importance of post offices. They still want to depend on post cards and envelopes.

I can understand your problem. Do you have any action plan to improve the postal services everywhere, be it urban or rural areas. Postman is an important person in other countries. He has his distinct identity. There is a need for change in our country also.

I would like to urge you that it should be ensured that no post office is closed. Where post offices are needed, should be opened. We are not alleging that you closed the post offices. The court ordered and these post offices were closed. The EDEs in rural areas know well the method of work. Despites expanding in urban areas the post offices are in a pathetic condition. There is no electricity, no fan or other equipments in some post offices. I would like to ask the Minister as to how he is going to improve situation elaborately? I want that Minister should look into it.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Shailendra Kumar, you can only ask one question.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): Mr. Chairman, Sir, you have given me an opportunity to raise a question in Half-An-Hour-Discussion. I thank you for that I would like to submit to the hon. Minister for Communications that at the time of independence there were 23000 post offices in our country. I think today the number of post offices must be between 1 lakh 55 or 65 thousand. If we see the increasing population then whatever Gangwarji has said is true. Hon'ble Ahirji has also said that 45 post offices have been closed. He has authentic information with him and he is ready to give the list of those post offices. I

[Shri Shailendra Kumar]

would like to ask the Minister whether the courier services, SMS or mobile services are affecting these post offices? On the other hand Government are contemplating an action plan to close these small couriers services. In my opinion on the line of PCO opened everywhere small courier services should be registered taking some fees so that common people can benefit from it. Thirdly post office is only hope in rural areas be it tribal or hilly areas. There is a Government scheme to implement Rashtriya Gramin Rojgar Guarantee Yojana through Post Office only. Now Minister is saying that they will be paid in cash, some arrangement should be made in this regard. Rightly, it would be better if payments in respect of various schemes like scholarship, pension, old age pension, disabled pension, Rural Employment Guarantee scheme etc. are made through post - offices.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude, you are not allowed to make a speech.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Secondly, the number of telegraph offices has been increased and a provision of Rs. 260 crore has been made for the modernization of 1.5 lakh post offices. Efforts are also being made for the computerization of these telegraph offices. Facilities like telephone, mobile, SMS are available in urban areas but post office is the only important means of communication in rural areas. Therefore, this facility should be made available in a proper manner in rural areas especially in hilly, forest and tribal areas.

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA (Ujjain): Sir, it is a very important issue in the interest of the common man. As has been stated that post offices are not being closed but the Mahitpur post office is being merged with the nearby post office. This facility is widely used by every body. Post Card is essential for the villagers and the poor people. Courier facilities are confined to cities only. Moreover, their charges are so high that poor people can afford post cards and inland letters only. Merger of Mahitpur post office has been postponed by three months. I request that this post office should not be shifted from there. Similarly, the post office situated at municipality area of Ujjain Nagar should be made permanent. This should also be applicable for the post offices situated at Alhot, Tal, Baravada, Ujjain, Mahitpur Nagar, Badnagar, Khachrod, Tarana, Nagada, Unhail and Ghatia also. Remuneration given to the employees engaged as extra-departmental employees who

have been serving this department for long, should be revised. Those who do this job irrespective of the adverse weather condition should be provided with better facilities and amenities.

Sir, I would like to submit that while maintaining the status quo of ongoing services, also the services withdrawn during the past one or two years should also be restored. I would like to know about the efforts being made by the Government to provide new building, electricity etc., to improve the postal services.

[English]

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN (Trichur): Sir, I just want to put a question to the hon. Minister. In the name of merger, the existing post offices are closed. There is a similar problem in Chavakkad area in Trichur district. The problem has been brought to the notice of the Ministry through mass deputations and so many other things but no reasonable reply has been given. I would request the hon. Minister to please look into it and to reopen the post office which was existing there for decades and which has been closed now. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Only four Members are allowed to put questions. But as a matter of concession I am allowing you. Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat to speak now.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Sir, through you, I would like to ask the hon'ble Minister whether it is appropriate that in place of opening new ones, the existing post offices which were opened on demand of the people and the people's representatives in several years are being closed down? At least we, the Members should have been taken into confidence in this regard. 5-6 post offices in Ajmer Distt. of my constituency have been closed in the name of merger and some others have been merged with the nearest post offices. The situation becomes embarrassing when people hold us responsible for closing of post offices as we are Members of Parliament and the subject pertains to the Central Government. Earlier, post offices were established on the basis of some norms and those are providing services for the last 25-30 years. These post offices were operating all types of accounts like pension, saving, schools etc. However, all the transactions have been stopped suddenly and a chaos like situation has arisen. Therefore, I would submit to the hon'ble Minister that considering it as a service to the nation, the telecommunication services, despite suffering losses,

should be provided in rural areas with the help of the funds received through USO. I would also like to know whether any scheme is being implemented in the same manner to revive the post offices with the help of the funds through USO.

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR (Chimur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to tell the hon'ble Minister that a letter of Superintendent, Chandrapur Post Office dated 25.3.2005 is lying with me wherein the deptt., with reference to a letter dated 13.12.04, declares closure of 30 service centers. Just now Shri Hansraj Ahir has also mentioned the same. I am giving the list of these 30 service centers which includes Anobali in Nagbeer, Colari in Chimur and Ambali in Shindewari. These 30 service centers have been closed. Will, the hon'ble Minister reopen these post offices and whether the orders in this regard will be issued today? I will send the list to the hon'ble Minister.

SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD (Yavatmal): One postman is appointed for to cater to around 10 villages in rural areas. Today, the Department of Posts has earned a reputation and faith among the people. In such a scenario, the number of post offices should be increased, but the Government is closing them down. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether it is appropriate? The Government is owning a huge property in the shape of post offices. Post offices are a big source of income and a large number of employees are working therein. Then, why it is not being run on the lines of private organizations to facilitate the people. Therefore, I would like to know whether the Government will contemplate to modernize the post offices and to implement a new policy.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for allowing me to participate in half an hour discussion on this important issue. I am also grateful to hon'ble Shri Hansraj Ahir who has given a notice on this subject. I would like to apprise this House, and through this House to the people of the country, of the actual situation and the Planning of the Department of Post in the entire country.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the network of Indian Postal Department is one of the largest Postal Networks of the world. There are more than 1,55,000 post offices in the country. Postal service was first started during the regime of Shershah Suri. But Deptt. of Post was set up in 1854 with 701 post offices. At the time of Independence, the

number of post offices increased to 23,000 and at present it is more than 1,55,000. Not only have we the largest postal network but we are also leading other countries in providing services to the people. I will not mention all the countries while comparing this situation but I would like to mention the names of two countries - America and China. These two countries also have a large postal network. Area-wise and population-wise China is bigger than us. However, the number of post offices there is around 1,12,000. America too has extensive postal system network and there are nearly 38,000 post offices there. Not only this, on an average one post office caters to nearly 6600 people in India while in China one post office serves nearly 11,100; however, in America that number is nearly 7000. As far as the area is concerned, one post office services nearly 21 square kms in India while the same figure for China is about 85 square kilometers and in America nearly 245 square kms. Thus, the Indian standard of postal system from the point of view of the number of persons served and the service area in physical terms is the best as on date. I have a copy of the question and first of all hon'ble Ahirji had referred about it. There is confusion regarding post office and PSSK. Post Office and PSS Kendra are different things. There is an agreement in PSSK. No post offices have been shut down but PSS have been closed down. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Four five post offices have been closed in my constituency itself.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please listen to the reply of the hon. Minister.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, all your queries are being answered by the hon. Minister.

*[Translation]*

DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD: Please listen to me attentively. PSSK is run on an agreement. An agreement is done between the Panchayat and the Department that there will be a post office in its area. Which so ever PSSKs have been closed down have had nil transaction. The Panchayats do an agreement and depute someone of their choice there to work. He or she gets Rs. about 600. The post office is there and it is functioning; however, the PSSK which have been closed have had nil transaction. Only then they have been closed down. If it is not so then whatever action is required will be taken by us.

[Dr. Shakeel Ahmad]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, our department wants that postal network should further expand and cater to more and more people which is also our social responsibility. However, it is essential to mention some points in this regard. When our Tenth Five Year Plan was being formulated around the year 2002 the Government was of NDA. The Five Year Plan was formulated with the cooperation of the Planning Commission and hon'ble Jatiyaji was the Minister at that time. Hon'ble Gangwar Saheb was also the Minister. I am quoting from the decision that was taken at that time in this regard. "New post offices will not be opened, post offices will be closed." The hon'ble Members will be surprised to know that though target was fixed for the first two years of the Five Year Plan, however, in the last three years the N.D.A. Government did not fix any target for setting up of new post offices. Along with that, it was also said that the post offices should also be merged, closed or relocated. Courier services are operating in our country and it will cater to only those areas that have business where as the post offices want to serve the remote areas as well to provide postal services to the people. I am the Minister of Telecom and also the Minister of Information Technology. Even today, 70 percent people of our country are dependent on our postal services. We are committed to provide them postal services. We will certainly want that our services should be good. However, recently there is a decline in the mail services of the postal department. But our business in other sectors has increased. We have made progress in speed post. We have also progressed in PLI, RPLI. Our revenue has certainly increased. It is a fact that the allowances have increased. DA and emoluments have also increased. We have to pay Rs. 1100 crore as pension. Despite that we have made progress in revenue generation. The figures for the last three years have been demanded. There is progress in revenue of the country during these three years. We want that the post offices should be the hub of multi activities and several types of services should be provided by the post offices so that the revenue earning of the post offices may increase. Our hon'ble Members have given suggestions. For example Shri Santosh Gangwar ji have discussed about Courier Services. I am not against courier service. The people of our country are operating small Courier Services. In the proposed Bill we want to give some relaxation to the courier service. Our present Postal Act was formulated in the year 1898. This Act is 108 year old. Many things of the Acts have become

irrelevant. As per the present law courier services have not been permitted to carry any letter irrespective of its weight. So many people send it in the form of parcel or packet to evade restriction as there is no restriction on parcel or packet. Everyone does not do it; however, some people do so. We want to provide opportunity to the courier services also. There are many international level players, however, the people of our country are also flourishing in this industry. I would like to submit categorically that I am not against courier services. The persons employed in this industry are our countrymen. However, the courier services will cater to only those areas where they will earn profit. The Hon'ble Members whether they are from the treasury benches or in opposition know that we daily get applications requesting for setting up of new post offices. Shri Shailendra Kumarji has mentioned about RLEGP. It has been done in some of the districts that the payment will be made through the post offices. Thus there will be no middlemen in it. The money of the labourers will be directly transferred to their account. If this practice is successful in some places then we will implement it in some more districts. Hon'ble Jatiya Saheb have discussed about post offices of Manipur and Ujjain. I will certainly instruct the officers of my department to consider this matter to ascertain what can be done in this regard. I will try to inform you as to what can be done in this regard. There are 1,55,000 post offices so it is not possible to make reply about each of the post office.

[English]

In regard to the point made by Shri C.K. Chandrappan's about Trichur, I will ask my officials to look into the matter, and I will respond to him in the near future.

[Translation]

As far as the submission of hon'ble Rasa Singh Rawat about the USO fund is concerned, his concerns are certainly genuine. In our proposed Bill, efforts have been made to constitute a USO fund in the Postal Department on the lines of the Telecom Department so that postal services may be sustained in those areas which are economically not viable.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Five-seven post offices have been closed.

DR. SHAKEEL AHMED: I would like to submit to the hon'ble Member that perhaps he has some confusion in this regard. Last time too, I had submitted in the House that he had asked in his notice whether the post office is a profit earning organization.

18.00 hrs.

I am giving reply to that. Not even a single post office has been closed because it is not earning profit. They are being closed because of our postal norms. Normally, post offices are set up in rural areas by the postal department of the Government of India. We provide more than 66 percent subsidy for that. 85 percent subsidy is given for opening post offices in the hilly and tribal areas. That means if Rs. one lakh is spent for setting up post offices Rs. 85 thousand rupees is given as subsidy by the Government of India. If Rs. one lakh is spent on setting up of offices in a normal rural area, nearly Rs. 66,500 is given by the Government of India.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, it is six o' clock. After the Minister's reply we will have to sit for some more time for 'zero hour'.

DR. SHAKEEL AHAMED: I will conclude in two-three minutes, Sir.

*[Translation]*

We certainly want that the services of post offices should be made better. I would like to tell one more thing. Two-three points have been raised in the notice that has been given by the hon'ble Member. I would like to discuss on that PSS having nil transactions have been closed only. The concerned party, be it Panchayat or Postal Supdt. of the concerned district serves notice within a month in accordance with the agreement entered into. If the transaction is nil, then what is the rationale behind keeping them in existence?

I would like to say about hilly and tribal areas. There are over one lakh and fifty thousand post offices in the country. Out of it, 4 post offices located in hilly areas under North-East circle have been closed down. These were not closed because these were financially non-viable or running into losses. These were closed as these were non-functional, because of insurgency effect or some other reason. There was no function of these. Therefore, these were closed. Apart from it, one post office located in desert area of Haryana was also closed. It was not fulfilling the criteria of distance between nearest post offices. Also, the High Court had ordered vacation of building occupied by the said post office. I would like to state the reasons for closure of post offices in hilly areas out of one lakh and fifty thousand post offices in the country. The Govt. of India

provides 85 per cent subsidy. ...*(Interruptions)* He should ask the question after I finish my statement. The Government provides 85 per cent subsidy and it has no intention of closing down post offices. Most of the Members, who have raised this issue belong to NDA.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Post Offices have actually been closed down.

DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD: This decision was taken by his Government.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: He and Shri Dayanidhi Maran have replied that the post offices have been closed because of financial unviability. The Officers of Postal Deptt. deliberately lose the case as they engage weak lawyers and thus lose the case. Post offices have to be closed in case of non-availability of building.

DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD: Rasa Singh Rawatji, we are forced to take decisions like merger, relocation or closure. These are the decisions of NDA regime. The Government is a continuous process. Tenth Five Year Plan period is from 2002 to 2007. We will have to follow the same policy during said period. Guidelines have been issued in this regard. UPA Government has certain commitments and we still have attachment with rural areas. We would ensure that the post offices are closed only in rarest of the rare cases when there is lack of any other option. We are not just mad after earning profit. Last year the department suffered a loss of Rs. 1400 crore. We would try to bring it down. This year we expect it to bring down to Rs. 1100 crore.

Therefore, I would like to say that the present UPA Government under the leadership of Dr. Manmohan Singh and the guidelines of Shrimati Sonia Gandhi is committed to make the service of the Postal Department easily accessible to common men of this country. We would give all the facilities. As and when we get an opportunity, we'd make amends in wrong decisions taken by the previous NDA Government.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: No questions, please.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)...*\*

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Not recorded.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, you need not answer. The time allotted for the discussion is over.

...(Interruptions)

18.06 hrs.

## BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### Twenty-fifth Report

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, presentation of the Business Advisory Committee Report – Shri Gangwar.

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR (Bareilly): Sir, I beg to present the 25th Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the House shall take up Special Mentions. Shri Shailendra Kumar. Please be brief and to the point only.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): For the last two days, I have been giving notice for this Special Mention. This evening I have got an opportunity when most of the Members have gone. Some MPs of NDA are sitting here. I would like to draw attention of the Government to the Act passed by the Parliament in 1993. It was Placement of Warship Protection Act. The Act provided that no major religious site will either be changed or shifted. Recent incident in Vadodara has grossly violated the said Act and the House is concerned about it. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please speak on the subject. After all, your matter is about the Placement of Warship Protection Act. There is nothing about Gujarat or anybody else.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: It is related to this Act only. An Act enacted under the Constitution has been violated. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH (Rajgarh): The religious places of both the religions have been removed. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Sir, he is talking about

that. Two hundred years old Dargah of Sufi Saint Sayyed Rasiduddin Chisti, which is being maintained and worshiped by the Hindus these days, was demolished by Municipal Committee. It resulted in violence, wherein 6 persons died and 40 injured. It was demolished on the pretext of widening of road, whereas it was not so. The public became so furious and violent that the Army had to be called in. Repetition of incident of Gujarat of year 2002 was apprehended.

The situation could be controlled only after the Army was called in. Several states have been violating said law enacted by the Parliament. My submission is that everyone, howsoever high he may be should be, punished, if, he acts in contravention of said Act, so that such incident do not recur.

SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD (Yavatmal): Sir, Maharashtra was flooded on 26th July last year and as a result there was large-scale destruction. You noticed that a city like Mumbai was submerged in water. We had seen that houses in villages on the banks of the river were devastated. We have seen such people who were left with nothing but the clothes they were wearing. Except the clothes, they were bereft of all the worldly possessions. All the MPs of Maharashtra were present when I had presented this case before the hon'ble Prime Minister; we had a discussion at that time also. It was decided that on the lines of the rehabilitation process carried out for the people ruined by the Tsunami waves, we would assist Maharashtra. Wide publicity was given to this. I would like to inform that monsoon is about to start there in the month of June, till date, there are so many people without a place of shelter. This fact speaks itself about the amount of work done there by the Government. In the name of immediate relief, the Government distributed 10 litre kerosene and 10 kilogram rice among the people. Subsequently an amount of Rs. one thousand per member was distributed. Government while providing assistance of thousand rupees per member put a ceiling that it would not provide assistance exceeding Rs. Five thousand. Later on it was decided that houses would be provided to the people on the lines of Tsunami Rehabilitation process and such people whose houses have been completely destroyed, will be given Rs 40 thousand and those whose houses have been partly washed away or destroyed, will be given Rs. Twenty thousand. But still there are many such families who have not received even a penny. In my Yavatmal district especially in Digras many people have taken shelter

in a school. The monsoon is about to commence now. Through you I would like to ask the Government as it is always making tall claims about the poor people.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You cannot make a speech. You may conclude now. It is a mention under 'Zero Hour' to be made in two sentences.

*[Translation]*

SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD: Sir, I am going to conclude. I would like to know whether the Government is going to provide relief to the affected people by proper means or they only wish to garner publicity by mere assurances or they want to make known to the public that they are in fact going to talk such steps. But nothing of that sort has happened. Even today there are many people left in ruined state. The Sweepers, the Rickshaw-pullers, whose earnings are below thousand or thousand and five hundred rupees, when their houses are destroyed, when their utensils are washed away, when their entire household articles are lost, how can they manage to survive, how can they run their homes, how can they lead their lives — this is a matter of concern. I vividly remember that the hon'ble Prime Minister himself has assured us not to worry about the money factor, saying that the Central Government will provide as much money as required.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am sorry. You are making a speech. That is not required. Only a point is to be made.

*[Translation]*

SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD: My point is whether the Government is in fact going to rehabilitate these people. The monsoon is going to start in the month of June. My request to the Government is that the promises made by the Government and the messages which were given to the public that they were going to provide assistance and like the Tsunami affected people, here also they are going to rehabilitate people, I am of the opinion that Government should fulfil their promises before the advent of monsoon. Through you, this is my request to the Government.

*[English]*

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, hon. Ministers Rural Development and Parliamentary Affairs are present here.

In Andhra Pradesh, the farmers are not getting remunerative prices for paddy crops. They are in distress. They are at the mercy of the money lenders. So, I am requesting, through you, Sir, the Government of India to please instruct the FCI to open more centres to purchase paddy. The State Government has totally failed to procure paddy. Previously, in the earlier Government, the Civil Supplies Corporation also had procured paddy and then, later they were handed over to the FCI. But this time, the State Government has not taken any action. Even the Government has announced Minimum Support Price of Rs.600 per quintal for 'A' Grade and Rs.560 per quintal for 'B' and 'C' Grades.

Due to the intervention of the middlemen and the agents, they are now reducing it by Rs.100. The farmers have no agency to purchase and so, they are compelled to sell for Rs.500 per quintal. Under these circumstances, I am requesting the hon. Minister to put it before the hon. Agriculture Minister so that FCI is instructed. Otherwise, the farmers will die. In the last two years, nearly 3300 farmers committed suicide.

They have taken loans from the banks, as also the private money-lenders. It is very difficult for them to now re-pay those loans. Such an alarming situation is there in Andhra Pradesh. It has appeared as a headline in almost all the newspapers. This situation is prevalent in the whole of Andhra Pradesh.

*[Translation]*

SHRI PANNU LAL MOHALE (Bilaspur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the honorarium given to the female attendants and workers of Anganwadi Centres in the entire country ranges between Rs. 1000 and Rs. 500 which is insufficient. Under the employment guarantee scheme at the rate of 60 rupees per day, a labourer has to be given Rs. 1800 per month. If we consider the collector rate, wages are given in the range of fifty to seventy five rupees per day. In that scenario, Rs. 1800 to 2500 are given to each labourer. The Anganwadi workers play their roles from Patwari to the administrative levels, be it in works related to any programmes or supervision works or any other works they handle it effectively. I request that their honorarium be increased by 5000 to 10000 rupees per month. They should be given employment according to their qualifications. They should be declared employees of the state in which they are presently working. They should be given preference in appointments to the supervisory and other posts lying vacant as per their qualifications. Along with



this, I would also like to request the Government that all the Anganwadi workers should either be considered as Central Government employees or State Government employees so as to enable them to work in a regular manner.

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, there are some positive and also some negative points in the World Trade Treaty which we have signed. There were contemplations in the entire country regarding this matter. In the House, in media and during elections many times, there were discussions about how we can protect our agricultural products. I am unhappy to say that today this fact is not being taken into account on the free trade agreement. 991 items were put in the negative list as importing of those items would have adversely affected our agriculture and small scale industries, that is why this were classified as thus. Today the Government is thinking of reducing the number of items under that list from 991. Why do they want to reduce the number of items, the answer is for projecting India as a prosperous nation in international seminars. We want to become rich but we do not want to project a hypocritical image of ours. Today our farmers are committing suicides; we will have to pay our attention to that also. With your permission I would like to quote a few lines. I would like to read out what a former official has said because today the most important obstacle in our path is bureaucracy. An officer himself is saying that:

*[English]*

Notwithstanding our claims about economic liberalization procedural simplification and debureaucratization, India ranks poorly in the index presented in the Asian Development Outlook 2006 on 'Doing Business.' China is at seven, Pakistan is 60 and Bangladesh is 65. India is ranked 116.

*[Translation]*

We are unable to create an apt atmosphere in our country so that we could enter into a free trade agreement. The chairperson of Congress party Smt. Sonia Gandhi herself is opposing this move. I wish that the hon'ble Prime Minister who himself is a bureaucrat should reform the bureaucratic structure of his officers. We cannot entrust the future of our farmers at the hands of a few bureaucrats. Through you I would like to urge the Government if we sign the free trade agreement then we should protect the interests of the farmers and small industries.

*[English]*

SHRIMATI ARCHANA NAYAK (Kendrapara): Sir, I may kindly be permitted to raise the following matter today.

One of the world's largest ship called "S.S. Norway" with 900 tonnes of asbestos is heading for Alang, India's ship breaking yard in Gujarat. The ship better known as Blue Lady is expected to reach the ship breaking yard of Alang in Gujarat any time between May 16 and 25.

The Indian environmentalists including Green Peace once again have raised an alarm, claiming that SS Norway is seen to be three times more toxic than Clemenceu as it is carrying over 900 tonnes of asbestos contaminated materials on board which will make dismantling extremely hazardous. Dealing with the Blue Lady would involve recycling of 40,000 tonnes of waste material besides acids, heavy metals in paint coatings and cabins.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to take immediate action to save the country from becoming a dumping ground for hazardous toxic material.

*[Translation]*

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the rising prices of cement in the country. Today, the prices of cement have risen to sky-high. Owing to the increase in prices of cement, construction work in the country has come to a halt. The demand for cement is on the rise not only in our country but in foreign countries also. Keeping in view this rising trend in demand of cement, the Cement Industry is misguiding the Government and public by forming an organization named Cement Association Manufacturing of India. They are resorting to black marketing by increasing the price of cement.

All the developmental works have been affected due to the increasing price of cement. I think this is the largest employment generating sector as compared to any other sector, public sector or private sector. It is the sector where daily wagers work and earn livelihood for their families. The source of livelihood of these daily wagers has also been affected. Cement industries are making efforts to put the development of their country into jeopardy only to axe their own grind by forming association. I ask the government for taking this matter seriously into account and the Minister of Industry and Finance Minister should pay heed to control the prices of cement and enforce the decision of the government for the determination of the

price of cement. Only in the case of surplus production of cement, it should be exported and if it is required in our own country, its export should be stopped.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the current session the Government of India is going to introduce a Bill to amend Indian Post Office Act in order to regulate the courier services. The proposed Bill will not only harm the interests of the courier companies of the country but also more than 20 lac families. My opinion regarding the proposed amendment is that under the bill proposed, by the Department of Posts, Postal booking of merely upto 300 gms will be permitted whereas the weight of 90 per cent of all the document ranges from 1 to 200 gms. If delivery of the documents upto 300 gms of weight are not permitted through courier under the new Bill, the courier business will completely be closed which consequently will render 20 lac people jobless. As you know, the section 9 (3) of the Civil Procedure Code, 1908 provides that summons can be served through speed post or the courier services approved by the High Courts. Thus even the High Courts have accorded recognition to the courier services as such and Speed Post may also be included in this very sector. Under the universal service obligation the courier services will have to give 10 per cent revenue of their annual turnover to the Department of Posts; whereas courier industries have already been paying revenue of more than one thousand crores to the government in the form of service tax, professional tax, shop and establishment tax and other taxes which is spent towards the development of the country. So, what is the reason for imposing the provision of payment of 10 percent revenue? If the courier industries come to closure, the government will incur the loss of one thousand crores every year.

Most important aspect of this Bill is that the courier companies having 51 percent foreign investment have been kept out of the purview of this provision which begets a simple question i.e. whether it is a conspiracy to close the Indian courier companies and to promote the foreign courier companies? Government's new economic policy considerably promote private sectors.

At present, the participation of the private companies in a number of sectors such as education, health care, environment and communication is increasing. In these schemes, why are the courier services being treated in this manner? My submission is that persons working in India should work in the interest of the country. The postcards, envelops and packets of upto 300 gm of weight,

which were so far usually sent through courier services are being restricted today and exemptions are being given to the foreign companies. Certainly, it will render a number of people jobless. Each and every courier company has provided jobs to 50-60 persons who deliver letters and packets and get the receipts signed. If the vicious associations of UPA constituents work in this way, the number of jobless persons will certainly go up. So, I would like to request that such a step should not be taken by the UPA Government and the status quo regarding the extant exemption upto 300 gm for the courier services should be maintained.

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR (Bareilly): Mr. Chairman, Sir, just now my colleague Shri Laxman Singh was expressing concern over the plight of farmers. As a matter of fact, the present UPA government is not the well-wishers of farmers. I would like to raise the matter of wheat. The government has determined Rs. 650/- as support price for wheat and provided incentive of Rs. 50/-. It is very unfortunate that our government is importing 48 million tones of wheat at the rate of Rs. 950 per quintal in this very year. The private companies in the country are purchasing wheat at the rate of Rs. 750 to Rs. 800 per quintal. I want the government to take all these things into stock and provide maximum support price to the farmers and put a moratorium on the import. At the same time, the farmers should be encouraged and provided a remunerative price. I want the government should give a statement citing the reasons determining rate of wheat at Rs. 700/- per quintal being provided to the farmers as compared to the rate of Rs. 750/- to Rs. 800 per quintal at which the private companies are purchasing wheat within country.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your subject is purely a State matter. This is not the forum to raise it. Your subject relates to the brutal killing of a wife and daughter of a late fireman in Uttar Pradesh and it cannot be discussed in the House. It is a State matter.

[Translation]

SHRI MUNSHI RAM (Bijnor): Mr. Chairman, Sir, let me say my point. ...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Chairman, Sir, if anything is not being complied with by the police in Uttar Pradesh. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I cannot allow it. Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

SHRI MUNSHI RAM: The UP police have gone out of control to the extent that they are doing nothing even in the case of murder and members of a family are continuously being murdered. I have sought CBI enquiry in the case. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I cannot allow it. Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: He is seeking CBI enquiry.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: He can go and meet the hon. Home Minister about it and he will do whatever is necessary.

...(Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

SHRI MUNSHI RAM: I have already met him but no action was taken which resulted in the murder of two members of a single family and nobody knows how many members of the same family will be murdered.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI MUNSHI RAM: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I raised a matter in 2005 during the zero hour. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Speaker has taken a decision in this regard. It is not permissible as per rules. It is a State matter. If you want to raise it, you may kindly meet the hon. Speaker and take his permission. I cannot allow you.

[Translation]

SHRI CHHATTAR SINGH DARBAR (Dhar): Mr.

Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the government to the plight of farmers.

[Translation]

The cases of suicide by farmers are coming to light. Thereby it can be presumed how poor is the condition of the farmers of the country and the farming is continuously proving to be a business of loss. I would like to attract your attention to the news item published in The Free Press Journal from Mumbai dated 15th April 2006 which says that four hundred farmers committed suicide within eight months. Four hundred farmers died due to burden of debt. It is a very shameful chapter in the history of Independent India. The farmers who are the bread earner for the entire country are embracing death due to their plight. I am just giving details of the farmers committed suicide in the Vidarbha region of Maharashtra. 108 farmers in Yavatmal, 91 farmers in Amravati, 40 farmers in Vashim, 34 farmers in Akola, 29 farmers in Wardha and 22 farmers in Nagpur have committed suicide and the situation is same in the other States of the country.

Sir, I am also a farmer. A lot has been said during the discussion on a private members' Bill in this regard. I have come to know that these people have committed suicide but such is the condition of many farmers in my constituency, my State and my area also. I am also a farmer and this is my bread and butter. I therefore, understand their sufferings. I deem it necessary to mention the condition of farmers of the Punjab State which is called father of Green Revolution in the country. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Farmers are committing suicide in many States. It is not only so in your State.

[Translation]

SHRI CHHATTAR SINGH DARBAR: Baisakhi is now no longer a festival of harvesting because every farmer of Punjab is in debt and every farmer is under the debt of Rs. 45000/- ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may place your papers on the Table, if you want.

[Translation]

SHRI CHHATTAR SINGH DARBAR: Sir, through you, I would like to attract the attention of the Government that

\* Not recorded.

the loan of the farmers should be waived and loan with low interest rates should be made available to them for agriculture and such plans should be made so that could become a profit making venture. This much I would like to request you. Thank you.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Dr. Karan Singh Yadav may please make a brief submission. He is the last Member to make the Special Mention today.

*[Translation]*

DR. KARAN SINGH YADAV (Alwar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to a point that purchasing is not being made on support price from the mustard growing farmers. Procurement was started late. It was closed some time back due to non-availability of proper storage arrangement and storage capacity. The State Government made a rule that only the produce of six mound per Bigha would be procured while mustard is also produced fifteen mound per Bigha in mustard

producing areas of Alwar, Rajasthan. As a whole the issue is that the mustard growers there are in distress. Their crops are lying in their houses. The State Government sometimes makes procurement and sometimes not. I, therefore, would like to draw the attention of hon'ble Minister for Agriculture through this House that the procurement of mustard in Rajasthan should be regulated and adequate budget should be provided for it and State government and the Government agencies should be directed to procure entire crop of mustard of farmers. I am very much thankful to you for having given me a chance to speak.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 11. a.m. on Monday, the 15 May, 2006.

18.32 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, May 15, 2006/Vaisakha 25, 1928 (Saka)*

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**ANNEXURE-I****Member-wise Index to Starred Questions**

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**Published under Rules 379 and 382 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in  
Lok Sabha (Eleventh Edition) and Printed by Sunlight Printers, Delhi - 110006**

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