

REPORT NO.

76



सत्यमेव जयते

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

RAJYA SABHA

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

SEVENTY-SIXTH REPORT

(Presented on the 21st December, 2022)



Rajya Sabha Secretariat, New Delhi
21st December, 2022 / 30 Agrahayana, 1944 (Saka)

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COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

(Constituted on 20.04.2021)

1. Shri A. Navaneethakrishnan[@] - Chairman

MEMBERS

2. Shri Birendra Prasad Baishya
3. Shrimati Ramilaben Becharbhai Bara
4. Shri Md. Nadimul Haque
5. Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad[#]
6. Shri Sakaldeep Rajbhar
7. Shri K.T.S. Tulsi
8. Shrimati Sampatiya Uikey^{\$}
9. Shri Vaiko
10. Shrimati Seema Dwivedi^{*}

SECRETARIAT

Shri Surendra Tripathi, *Joint Secretary*

Shri Vidya Sagar Prasad Singh, *Director*

Shri Jayanta Kumar Mallick, *Additional Director*

Shri P C Maharana, *Deputy Secretary*

Shri Vijay Kumar Rai, *Under Secretary*

Shri Saurabh Chaudhari, *Assistant Committee Officer*

@ Retired on 29th June, 2022

Retired on 4th July, 2022

\$ Retired on 29th June, 2022

* Nominated *w.e.f.* 15th November, 2022

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

(Constituted on 02.11.2022)

1. Dr. M. Thambidurai - Chairman

MEMBERS

2. Shri Birendra Prasad Baishya
3. Shri Mohammed Nadimul Haque
4. Shri Hishey Lachungpa
5. Shri Akhilesh Prasad Singh*
6. Shri Sakaldeep Rajbhar
7. Shrimati Ramilaben Becharbhai Bara
8. Shrimati Seema Dwivedi
9. Shri M. Mohamed Abdulla
10. Shri Gulam Ali

SECRETARIAT

Shri Jagdish Kumar, *Additional Secretary*

Shri Arun Sharma, *Joint Secretary*

Shri Vidya Sagar Prasad Singh, *Director*

Ms. Catherine John L., *Deputy Secretary*

Shri Saurabh Chaudhari, *Assistant Committee Officer*

* Nominated *w.e.f.* 5th December, 2022 *vice* Shri K.T.S Tulsi on his nomination to the Committee on Subordinate Legislation

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Committee on Government Assurances, having been authorized by the Committee to present the report on its behalf, hereby present this Seventy-sixth Report on the status of culling, part-fulfilment, fulfilment and dropping of assurances undertaken by the Committee from 1st December, 2021 to 30th November, 2022. The report contains Ministry-wise deliberations and recommendations of the Committee.

2. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at its meeting held on the 19th December, 2022.

NEW DELHI;

19TH DECEMBER, 2022

28 Agrahayana, 1944 (Saka)

Dr. M. Thambidurai

Chairman,

Committee on Government Assurances,

Rajya Sabha.

ACRONYMS

AYUSH	Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy
AAI	Airports Authority of India
ABs	Autonomous Bodies
AP	Andhra Pradesh
APMDCL	Andhra Pradesh Mineral Development Corporation Limited
ARHCs	Affordable Rental Housing Complexes
ASI	Archaeological survey of India
BARC	Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
BDC	Beekeeping Development Committee
BPPI	Bureau of Pharma PSUs of India
BSNL	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited
BWA	Broadband Wireless Access
CAPFs	Central Armed Police Forces
CBI	Central Bureau of Investigation
CBIC	Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs
CCL	Central Coalfields Limited
CCS	Cabinet Committee on Security
C-DOT	Centre for Development of Telematics
CDSCO	Central Drugs Standards Control Organization
CGPDTM	Controller General of Patents, Designs & Trade Mark
CIRP	Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process
CSS	Centrally Sponsored Scheme
CTO	Consent to Operate
CWC	Central Water Commission
DES	Delhi Earth Station
DGH	Directorate General of Hydrocarbons

DGHS	Directorate General of Health Services
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic Acid
DO Letter	Demi Official Letter
DoLA	Department of Legal Affairs
DoP&PW	Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare
DoPT	Department of Personnel and Training
DoR	Department of Revenue
DoT	Department of Telecommunications
DPEPP	Defence Production & Export Promotion Policy
DPR	Detailed Project Report
DSF	Discovered Small Field
EAC	Environmental Appraisal Committee
EC	Empowered Committee
ECA	Exam Conduction Agency
ED	Enforcement Directorate
EIA	Environment Impact Assessment
EIL	Engineers India Limited
FCI	Food Corporation of India
GADs	General Arrangement Drawings
GDAM	Green Day Ahead Market
GI tags	Geographical Indication tags
GoI	Government of India
GPS	Global Positioning System
HLC	High Level Committee
ICBRs	Indo-China Border Roads
ICERT	Indian Computer Emergency Response Team
ICH	Indian Council for Hospitality
IICPT	Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology
IIH	Indian Institute of Hospitality

IIMC	Indian Institute of Mass Communication
IITTM	Indian Institute Of Tourism and Travel Management
IMCT	Inter-Ministerial Central Team
IPC	Indian Penal Code
IR	Implementation Report
IREDA	Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency
ISRO	Indian Space Research Organisation
ISTS	Inter-State Transmission System
J&K	Jammu & Kashmir
JSW	Women Judicially Separated
JV	Joint Venture
LAC	Land Acquisition Committee
LIMBS	Legal Information Management and Briefing System
LoUs	Letters of Undertakings
LWE	Left Wing Extremism
MDO	Mine Developer and Operator
MFA	Ministry of External Affairs
MoEF&CC	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
MoP	Memorandum of Procedure
MoPNG	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
MP	Member of Parliament
MTPA	Million Ton Per Annum
NBWL	National Board of Wild Life
NCF	National Curriculum Framework
NCHMCT	National Council for Hotel Management and Catering Technology
NCLT	National Company Law Tribunal
NDRF	National Disaster Response Fund
NE States	North Eastern States

NELP	National Exploration Licensing Policy
NEP	National Education Policy
NGDRS	National Generic Document Registration System
NHAI	National Highways Authority of India
NHs	National Highways
NIPER	National Institute of Pharmaceutical Educational Research
NIT	Notice Inviting Tender
NITI Aayog	National Institution for Transforming India
NJAC	National Judicial Appointments Commission
NMC	National Monitoring Committee
NMPB	National Medicinal Plants Board
NRIDA	National Rural Infrastructure Development Agency
NOCC	Network Operation & Control Centre
NOFN	National Optical Fibre Network
NPPA	National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority
NPS	National Pension System
NSAP	National Social Assistance Programme
NSCS	National Security Council Secretariat
NSFs	National Sports Federations
NWC	National Water Commission
OFC	Optical Fibre Cable
OPS	Old Pension Scheme
OTR	Out-Turn Ratio
PAC	Project Approval Committee
PDS	Public Distribution System
PF	Provident Fund
PLMA	Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002
PM MITRA	PM Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel

PMA	Project Management Agency
PMAY-U	Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban
PMBJP	Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana
PMC	Project Approval Committee
PMGSY	Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana
PML	Petroleum Mining Lease
PPP	Public-Private Partnership
Pre-EC	Pre-Empowered Committee
PRIs	Panchayati Raj Institutions
PSBs	Public Sector Banks
PSGA	Public Services Guarantee Act
RCPLWEA	Road Connectivity Project for Left Wing Extremism Affected Areas
RERA	Real Estate Regulatory Authority
RETS	Reconnaissance cum Engineering and traffic Survey
RFCTLARR	Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement
RIL	Reliance Industries Limited
RMSA	Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan
RTIS	Real-time Train Information System
SACFA	Standing Advisory Committee on Radio Frequency Allocation
SAGY	Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana
SCCL	Singareni Collieries Company Limited
SPV	Special Purpose Vehicle
TRAI	Telecom Regulatory Authority of India
UPSC	Union Public Service Commission
VBM	Vande Bharat Mission
WCL	Western Coalfields Limited
WPC	Wireless Planning and Coordination

REPORT

CHAPTER I

FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee on Government Assurances scrutinizes the assurances, promises, undertakings, etc. given by the Ministers on the floor of the Rajya Sabha. Though it is obligatory on the part of the Ministries to fulfil the promises made to the House, however, with a view to ensuring timely fulfilment of the assurances, the Committee takes them up with the administrative Ministries. In the process of scrutiny and monitoring the fulfilment of assurances, the Committee determines its own procedure and reports to the House to the extent such assurances, promises, undertakings, etc. have been fulfilled by the Ministries along with other activities undertaken by it. The Committee works as one of the Parliamentary Institutions to ensure the accountability of the executive to the legislature. This report covers deliberations of the Committee from 01.12.2021 to 30.11.2022.

2. The assurances arise when during a reply to any question or discussion on the floor of the House, the Minister makes a promise which entails certain actions on the part of the Minister / Ministry. These assurances are culled out by the Rajya Sabha Secretariat and the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs from the daily proceedings of the House generally on the basis of a standard list of expressions, constituting assurances. Thereafter these assurances are communicated to the concerned Ministry for their fulfilment. The Secretariat and the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, culled out, in all 253 assurances from the proceedings of the Rajya Sabha during the 255th, 256th and 257th Sessions.

3. As per the laid down procedure, an assurance given on the floor of the Rajya Sabha is to be fulfilled within a period of three months. If the Ministry is unable to fulfil the assurance within the stipulated period, it is required to seek extension of time from the Committee, giving cogent reasons and the progress made towards fulfilment of the assurance. Generally an extension of three months is granted by the Committee to fulfil the assurance, but if a Ministry is unable to fulfil the assurance due to reasons beyond its control, it can approach the Committee for granting further extension of time. The Committee grants

further extensions after considering the grounds furnished by the Ministry and at times asks for a detailed 'Status Note.'

4. With a view to expediting the implementation of assurances, the Committee also undertakes study visits to interact with various State Governments and Public Sector Undertakings and other Government Organisations involved in the fulfilment of the assurances to obtain first-hand information about the issues involved in the fulfilment of the assurances. These visits help the Committee in knowing the views of the Central and State Governments and other agencies involved at the ground level and to understand the difficulties in fulfilment of the assurances. Besides, interaction with the State Governments by the Committee generally has the desired effect in expediting information and resolving the long pending issues between the Centre and the State Governments.

5. For fulfilment of the assurances, the Ministries forward 'Implementation Reports' (IRs) to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs which get them laid on the Table of the House and thereafter forward them to the Rajya Sabha Secretariat for their examination. These IRs are duly examined to ascertain whether all aspects of the assurances given on the issue have been covered or not. In case the Committee observes any shortcoming in the IRs, the observations are communicated to the Ministries along with direction to furnish a revised 'Implementation Report'. A total of 563 IRs were laid on the Table of the House, out of which the Committee considered 559 IRs.

6. The Committee also possesses inherent power to drop an assurance, on being convinced about genuine difficulties faced by the Ministries in fulfilling the assurance. Accordingly, the Ministries approach the Committee for dropping an assurance in case there are problems in fulfilling the assurances which are beyond their jurisdiction or if the Ministry has decided in principle to drop a particular project / scheme on which assurance was given. The Committee considered 39 requests for dropping of assurances received from various Ministries and also decided to consider 11 other assurances *suo-moto*, which were pending for more than 15 years and dropped a total of 42 assurances during the period of the report. The details of the assurances considered and dropped by the Committee are given in Chapter III.

CHAPTER II

DELIBERATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE: MINISTRY-WISE

A total of 563 Implementation Reports (IRs) were laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha on 03.12.2021, 13.12.2021, 20.12.2021, 22.12.2021, 09.02.2022, 21.03.2022, 04.04.2022, 26.07.2022 and 08.08.2022. However, on scrutiny of the 563 IRs, it was found that 4 of the IRs had already been laid on the Table of the House and had been treated as fulfilled. Therefore, the Committee effectively considered 559 IRs furnished by the Ministries concerned. Out of these 559 IRs, 125 IRs were fulfilled within a period of one year, 177 were fulfilled between 2 to 5 years and 101 were fulfilled after a period of 5 years. This also included 156 IRs which were treated as part fulfilled by the Committee. The Ministries were, accordingly, asked to fulfil these assurances in totality.

The Committee also undertook study visit to Srinagar from 10th to 11th May, 2022 on issues pertaining to some pending assurances. During the course of the study visits, the Committee interacted with the representatives of the Government of UT of Jammu and Kashmir and the Administration of UT of Ladakh and various organisations of the Central Government on related assurances. The Committee did not take any oral evidence during the period covered in this report i.e. from 01.12.2021 to 30.11.2022. A Ministry-wise analysis of deliberations of the Committee in relation to pending assurances during the period of this report is as follows:

Sub-heading 'A' denotes – Part fulfilled IR

Sub-heading 'B' denotes – Deliberations during Study Visits

1. DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY

A. Part Fulfilled IR

- (i) ***USQ 162 dated 03.02.2022 regarding “development of indigenous rare earth minerals.”***

- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether Government intends to privatise the rare earths mining sector either partially or fully’, if so, the detail thereof; whether Government intends to address the gap in indigenous processing units for rare earth minerals in India and reduce the reliability on Chinese processors; if so, the detail thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; whether Government has or intends to frame any policies to support the development of an indigenous lab-to-product ecosystem to support India’s strategic and commercial interests in the rare earth minerals sector; and if so, the detail thereof and if not, the reasons therefor’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘as regards lab-to-product ecosystem, a Rare Earth Theme park is being set up which will upscale the scientific principles proven at laboratory to pilot scale and demonstrate the same to aspiring industries willing to set up commercial operations’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Department of Atomic Energy, wherein it was *inter-alia stated that* a project had been initiated in October 2020, to set up pilot plant in the value chain of rare earths with the lab scale technology development by BARC, Mumbai, completion of which is scheduled in March, 2024.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as Rare Earth Theme Park was still pending for completion.
- (d) **The Committee observes that rare earth minerals Sector has the potential to play an important role in serving the country’s commercial and strategic interests and hence all necessary steps for their promotion and development both in public and private sector need to be taken in a time bound manner. Rare Earth Theme park aimed at developing a lab to produce ecosystem will go a long way in**

encouraging industries to establish commercial operations for processing of rare earth minerals and thus reduce our dependence on other countries. The Committee, therefore, recommends the Ministry to ensure that Rare Earth Theme park project being developed by BARC, Mumbai is completed as per the schedule and any delay in this be avoided.

2. MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS' WELFARE

A. Part Fulfilled IR

(i) ***USQ 687 dated 21.07.2017 regarding “agitation by farmers in Madhya Pradesh”.***

(a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether Central Government has taken note of the farmers’ agitations in the country, particularly in Madhya Pradesh where five farmers have been killed in police firing; if so, the details thereof and the reasons for their agitation; whether Government has sought any report from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh in this regard, if so, the details thereof; and the action taken by State Government against the police officials for killing of farmers and also for mitigating the hardships faced by them’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘the report has been sought from the State Government on farmers’ agitation. No report has been received from the State Government, so far’.

(b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 07.02.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers’ Welfare wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that as per the available information, 6 adult male persons were killed and 6 adult male persons were injured during the farmers’ agitation in Mandsaur, Madhya Pradesh in June, 2017. The Committee would complete its probe within three month and submit its report to the Government of Madhya Pradesh.’

(c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as action taken against guilty officials as sought in part (c) and (d) of the question i.e. “whether Government has sought any report from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh in this

regard, if so, the details thereof; and the action taken by State Government against the police officials for killing of farmers and also for mitigating the hardships faced by them”, was still pending.

(d) **The Committee observes that resorting to extreme punitive actions such as firing by the Police on farmers holding civil agitations is not at all justified and the guilty officials must be held accountable and brought to justice for committing such an offence. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry should furnish a revised Implementation Report furnishing the details of action taken/proposed to be taken against the guilty officials at the earliest for the consideration of the Committee.**

(ii) *SQ 140 dated 10.12.2021 regarding “compensation for crop loss due to hailstorm and natural calamities”.*

(a) On a supplementary question asked to know, ‘there was a lot of damage to the paddy crop in a large part of Bihar. Did you get information in this direction and if information was received, what positive initiative has been taken by the Centre’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘you have asked me a specific question related to Bihar, so I will make available to you by taking information about it in the office today’.

(b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 15.03.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers’ Welfare wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the Government of Bihar had submitted Memorandum seeking financial assistance from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for flood during 2021. M/o Home Affairs constituted an Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT). As per the existing procedure, based on the report of the IMCT and recommendations of Sub-Committee of National

Executive Committee (SC-NEC), the High level Committee (HLC) considered the final quantum of financial assistance from NDRF.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as Ministry had not clarified whether Member had been informed in this regard or not. The Ministry was again requested to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the final decision in the matter, vide this Secretariat's O.M. dated 04.04.2022.
- (d) In pursuance to this Secretariat's O.M. dated 04.04.2022, the Ministry furnished a revised Implementation Report, which was laid on the Table of the House on 26.07.2022, incorporating the extent of information sought. Accordingly, the Implementation Report was treated as fulfillment of the assurance.
- e) **The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards early fulfillment of the assurance.**

(iii) USQ 3033 dated 19.07.2019 regarding "development of infrastructure for beekeeping".

- (a) On a question asked to know, 'whether Government has received any report from the Beekeeping Development Committee, if so, by when the recommendations given in the said Report would be implemented; the definition of a farmer and whether Government will accept the suggestion of the said committee to recognise landless beekeepers as farmers; whether Government plans to develop National and State-specific infrastructure for storing, processing and marketing of honey and other products sourced from bees; and if so, the details of standards laid down to facilitate the export of honey and other bee products', it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that 'the report from Beekeeping Development

Committee has been received and is currently under examination. Action on the report will follow thereafter’.

- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers’ Welfare wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that out of 14 recommendations of Beekeeping Development Committee (BDC) of NITI Aayog, 9 recommendations had already been implemented. Further, regarding remaining 5 recommendations of BDC, Ministry had mentioned that those were either related to policy matters of other Departments/Ministries/Organisations or were duplication with existing policy/infrastructure.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as Ministry had not provided any concrete reply to part (b) of the question i.e. ‘the definition of a farmer and whether Government will accept the suggestion of the said committee to recognize landless beekeepers as farmers’. The Ministry was again requested to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the final decision in the matter, vide this Secretariat’s O.M. dated 27.12.2021.
- (d) In pursuance to this Secretariat’s O.M. dated 27.12.2021, the Ministry furnished a revised Implementation Report, which was laid on the Table of the House on 21.03.2022, incorporating the extent of information sought. Accordingly, the Implementation Report was treated as fulfillment of the assurance.
- e) **The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards early fulfillment of the assurance.**

3. MINISTRY OF AYUSH

B. Deliberations during Study Visits

- (i) ***USQ 1605 dated 09.03.2021 regarding “promotion of herbal cultivation in the country”.***
- (a) The Committee interacted with the representatives of the Government of UT of Jammu and Kashmir, the Administration of UT of Ladakh and representatives of the Ministry of AYUSH at Srinagar on 10th May, 2022 in connection with examination of the issues involved in USQ 1605 dated 09.03.2021 regarding promotion of herbal cultivation in the country.
- (b) On a question asked to know ‘whether Government is planning to extend herbal cultivation to 10 Lakh hectares in the coming two years with an investment of Rs 4000 crores under Atmanirbhar Bharat package, if so, the details thereof’, the Minister had replied that ‘draft scheme namely ‘Pradhan Mantri Vriksh AYUSH Yojana’ for cultivation and marketing of medicinal plants was yet to be approved by Cabinet’.
- (c) The Committee enquired from the representatives of the Ministry of AYUSH the details of present status regarding the approval of the scheme by the Cabinet. Further, the Committee also desired to know whether Ministry had any plan to engage the farmers, locals etc., so that they may also reap the benefits of the scheme. The Committee also wanted to know the support being given to J&K under National AYUSH Mission scheme keeping in view the fact that substantial area was under cultivation of medicinal plants. The Committee also desired to hear the views of the representatives of the Government of UT of Jammu and Kashmir and the Administration of UT of Ladakh in the matter particularly with respect to increasing the cultivation area and how well the scheme was being received by the cultivators.

- (d) The representative of Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India informed the Committee about the latest position in the matter which is as under:-

“A Revised Concept Note as per discussion during the meeting held between Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and Secretary, Ministry of AYUSH on 3rd January, 2022 was prepared and submitted to PMO on 21.01.2022.

National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB) has received correspondence on 25.02.2022 with following observations:

- i. With respect to the revised Concept Note, it may be noted that promotion of medicinal plant cultivation may be done within the framework of existing schemes and budget allocations of other Departments like Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change and Ministry of Rural Development.
 - ii. Efforts need to be made to mobilise the industry to create backward linkage with farmers for quality raw material.
 - iii. Further, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare; Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change and Ministry of Rural Development may be requested to identify scheme under which cultivation of medicinal plants can be encouraged. It may not be advisable to have scheme where overlap of functions may occur.
 - iv. In view of the above, the Cabinet Note on Vriksh-AYUSH Yojana may be withdrawn as it cannot be considered in the present form.”
- (e) Representative UT of J&K informed that the Government of J&K had initiated a number of steps to boost the herbal cultivation viz. launching scheme like ‘Ayush Aapke Dwar’ and gifting of medicine plants to farmers, etc., 03 nurseries of medicinal plants were being established at

Bandipore, Doda and Samba district of J&K for growing quality medicinal plants for further distribution to farmers/growers. Besides, a number of steps had also been taken for marketing and processing of medicinal plants.

- (f) Representative of UT of Ladakh informed the Committee that special emphasis was being given to develop the Medicinal Plants, for which State Medicinal Plants Board was established and project management team was also appointed recently. The UT of Ladakh had also provided funds under the Special Development Package (SDP) to National Institute of Sowa Rigpa (NISR), Ministry of AYUSH, Leh Ladakh for developing Trans Himalayas Herbal Garden at Leh Ladakh on 10 Hectare of lands. The Institute had already established around 100 Plants species at the garden and various cultivation methods were also developed for several plants.
- (g) **The Committee appreciates the efforts that are being put in for the promotion of herbal cultivation in the country. Loans, subsidies etc. that are being forwarded would extended motivate local farmers and others for cultivation of medicinal plants. The Committee further directs the Ministry to furnish an Implementation Report incorporating the final decision taken with regard to Vriksh-AYUSH Yojana, to fulfill the assurance at the earliest.**

4. MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS

A. Part Fulfilled IR

- (i) *SQ 185 dated 03.08.2018 regarding "illegal diversion of urea by fertilizer companies"*.
- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether Government has any information about the fertilizer companies involved in illegal diversion of urea for non-agricultural purposes; if so, the detailed list thereof; if there is no such information, the reasons therefor; and whether any action has been taken/ notices been issued, so far, by the Government in this regard along with the outcome thereof’, it was *inter alia* stated in the reply that ‘this department had also asked the concerned companies to furnish the status report to this Department. It has been informed by the concerned companies that they had submitted reply to Show Cause Notices to respective commissionerate of Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) and are awaiting the decision on the matter’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 15.03.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the Show Cause Notices have been adjudicated *vide* their respective orders. In view of this, it may be established that the CBIC has given its decision on the Show Cause Notices. The assurance stand fulfilled.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as Ministry did not share any details regarding decision/ adjudicating orders by CBIC and the action taken against the erring companies as sought in Part (d) of the question i.e. “whether any action has been taken/ notices issued so far by the Government in this regard along with the outcome thereof”.

- (d) **The Committee expresses its displeasure over the fact that the Ministry did not furnish the details asked in the question. The Committee recommends that the Ministry should carefully examine all the aspects of the question and provide a comprehensive Implementation Report covering all parts of the question and fulfill the assurance at the earliest.**
- (ii) *USQ 1973 dated 12.03.2021 regarding "medical device park in Auric-Bidkin".*
- (a) On a question asked to know, 'whether Government of Maharashtra has submitted proposal to seek approval of grant-in-aid to the proposed development of Medical Device Park in 350 acres of land in Auric-Bidkin; if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto; and by when the approval for the grant-in-aid would be sanctioned', it was *inter alia* stated in the reply that 'the Government has received 16 proposals from States/UTs under the scheme "Promotion of Medical Device Park". The proposals are under evaluation'.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the Department had, under the scheme for "Promotion of Medical Device Parks", received sixteen proposals from sixteen State Governments. After appraisal of all these proposals, as per scheme guidelines, 'in-principle' approval had been granted on 24th September, 2021 to four states.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the question was about approval for grant-in-aid and not in principle approval. Further, the fate of the rest of the 12 proposals had not been clarified. The Ministry was, therefore, requested to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the final decision in the matter, vide this Secretariat's O.M. dated 27.01.2022.
- (d) In pursuance to this Secretariat's O.M. dated 27.01.2022, the Ministry furnished a revised Implementation Report, which was laid on the Table of the House on 21.03.2022, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that "the Department of Pharmaceuticals under the scheme 'Promotion of Medical Device Parks' had received 16 proposals including the proposal from State Government of Maharashtra to seek approval of grant-in-aid to the proposal development of Medical Device Park in 350 acres of land in Auric-Bidkin. Ministry further mentioned that all the 16 proposals were evaluated by Project Management Agency (PMA) of the scheme on the basis of Evaluation Criteria for Selection, mentioned in the Scheme Guidelines and after evaluation, the Scheme Steering Committee in its meeting held on 14.9.2021, accorded the in-principle approval to the proposal from 4 States i.e. Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.
- (e) On examination, the Implementation Report was again treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the fate of proposals from Maharashtra had not been mentioned in the Implementation Report which was the thrust of the question. The Ministry was again requested to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the final decision in the matter, vide this Secretariat's O.M. dated 28.03.2022.

- (f) In pursuance to this Secretariat's O.M. dated 28.03.2022, the Ministry forwarded an Implementation Report, which was laid on the Table of the House on 26.07.2022, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that based on the evaluation, as per Scheme Guidelines, of the Detailed Project Reports (DRPs) submitted by these 4 States, the SSC accorded the "final approval" to the proposal of Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh, Further, Rs. 30 crore had been released to each of the four States as 1st grant-in-aid. The proposal received from State Government of Maharashtra had not been approved under the Scheme guidelines. Accordingly, the Implementation Report was treated as fulfilment of the assurance.
- (g) **The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards fulfillment of the assurance.**
- (iii) ***USQ 2903 dated 29.03.2022 regarding "information regarding PMBJP and BPPI".***
- (a) On a question asked to know, 'number of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) outlets across the country, State-wise; whether Government has conducted State-wise analysis for implementation of scheme, including block or district level; if so, the details thereof, if not, reasons therefor; whether Government has considered nominating eminent medical administrators or expert industry representatives to Bureau of Pharma PSUs of India (BPPI) which has only two experts in Pharmaceuticals; if so, details thereof, if not, reasons therefor; whether Government considered giving grants to BPPI for meeting administrative expenses of scheme, such as salaries, since it does

not have financial self-sufficiency; and if so, details thereof, if not, reasons therefor’, it was *inter alia* stated in the reply that ‘a committee has been constituted to consider augmentation to the product basket under the scheme having representative from National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA), National Institutes of Pharmaceutical Education Research (NIPER), Central Drugs Standards Control Organization (CDSCO) and Directorate General of Health Service (DGHS)’.

- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the Committee constituted by the Department of Pharmaceuticals on 09.03.2022 to consider augmentation of the product basket under the scheme having expert members from NPPA, NIPER, CDSCO and DGHS, held its first meeting on 31.05.2022. Further, the Committee would meet periodically to review the product basket of Medicine and Surgical Devices and would recommend addition/ deletion in the product basket.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the report of the Committee and the action taken thereon to include more experts Members were not given in the Implementation Report.
- (d) **The Committee recommends that the Ministry should furnish a revised Implementation Report giving the details regarding the report of the committee constituted by the Department of Pharmaceuticals and the action taken thereon to include more experts Members, so that the pending assurance could be liquidated.**

5. MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

A. Part Fulfilled IR

(i) *USQ 1786 dated 04.08.2021 regarding “construction and commissioning of new international airport at Pune”.*

(a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether Government plans to construct a new international airport at Pune to handle the air traffic; if so, the details thereof including the site of the new airport in relation to the existing airport; whether the land has been acquired and agency short-listed for the construction of airport; and if so, the time-frame fixed for construction and commissioning of new international airport’; it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘the fresh proposal of the State Government is being examined by concerned Departments’.

(b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Civil Aviation, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the fresh proposal of the State Government for setting up Greenfield International Airport at Purandar, Pune, Maharashtra had been examined by the concerned Departments and their observations had been sent to the State Government/Maharashtra Airport Development Company.

(c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the Ministry did not give concrete reply to set up new international airport at Pune and details of site of the new airport in relation to existing airport.

(d) The Ministry had requested to drop the assurance. However, upon examination it was found that the information furnished, *vide* its O.M.

dated 04.07.2022, by the Ministry was towards the fulfilment of the assurance and accordingly, Ministry was advised to furnish requisite copies of 'Implementation Report' in the prescribed format, to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and to pursue for laying of the same on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

(e) **The Committee desires that the Ministry should furnish an Implementation Report in the prescribed format to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs for its laying on the Table of the House thereof, in order to liquidate the assurance, at the earliest.**

(ii) *USQ 998 dated 28.07.2021 regarding "international airport at Puri".*

(a) On a question asked to know, 'whether Government of Odisha has requested the Central Government to set up an international airport at Puri; whether Government has agreed to that proposal; and if so, the steps initiated so far for the same and by which year the airport is likely to come up, if not, the reasons therefor'; it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that 'the final report from the team is being compiled'.

(b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Civil Aviation, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that Airport Authority of India (AAI) had compiled the pre feasibility study report and the same had been sent to the Government of Odisha *vide* Ministry of Civil Aviation's DO letter dated 5th August, 2021.

(c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the new Greenfield Airport at Puri was yet

to come up and submission of the Ministry that requisite action in the matter was to be taken by the State Government and no action is pending on the part of the Ministry, did not amount to fulfilment of the assurance.

(d) **The Committee recommends that the final decision on the establishment of the airport at Puri should be taken at the earliest in consultation with the State Government to liquidate the assurance.**

(iii) ***SQ 31 dated 20.11.2019 regarding “new international airport at Bhubaneswar”.***

(a) On another supplementary question by Dr. Sasmit Patra, MP to know ‘whether the Ministry is considering to construct a new international airport near Bhubaneswar; if so, what is the status of the said project; how much of budgetary allocation has been made towards this project and by when this project would be commissioned’; it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘Airports Authority of India (AAI) has asked the State Government to identify a suitable site for a Greenfield Airport near Bhubaneswar. The State Government is, however, yet to finalise the details of land requirement’.

(b) On a supplementary question asked by Shri Prasanna Acharya, MP to know ‘when this Veer Surendra Sai Airport at Jharsuguda is going to be a full-fledged Airport’; it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘the fourth site is under discussion. We will look at it’.

(c) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communications dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report with respect to supplementary question asked by Dr. Sasmit Patra, MP, furnished by the

Ministry of Civil Aviation, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that State Government had conveyed that they intended to develop a new Greenfield airport at Puri and as per the Greenfield Airport Policy, the applicant proposing to set up an airport would make an application to the Ministry of Civil Aviation in the prescribed format first for 'site clearance' and thereafter for 'In Principle' approval. Ministry had also mentioned that it had not received any proposal for development of airport at Puri, as per Greenfield Airport Policy, as yet.

- (d) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communications dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report with respect to supplementary question asked by Shri Prasanna Acharya, MP, furnished by the Ministry of Civil Aviation, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that Veer Surendra Sai Airport was an operational domestic airport of AAI spread over an area of 1027.5 acres and was equipped with Instrument Landing System. Regarding fourth site, Ministry had mentioned that State Govt. of Odisha had conveyed that they intended to develop the new Greenfield airport at Puri.
- (e) On examination, the Implementation Reports were treated as part-fulfillment of the assurances as new Greenfield Airport at Puri was yet to come up.
- (f) The Ministry of Civil Aviation had requested to drop the assurances vide its O.M.s dated 19.01.2022 and 21.04.2022. **The Committee considered and acceded to the requests of the Ministry to drop the assurances at its meeting held on 23.06.2022.**

6. MINISTRY OF COAL

A. Part Fulfilled IR

(i) *USQ 2244 dated 09.08.2021 regarding “environmental clearance to coal mines”.*

(a) On a question asked to know ‘whether it is a fact that the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, has not given environmental clearance to hundreds of years old Kabribad reorganised mines which comes under CCL Giridih Project (former regional office) under Central Coalfields Limited, an auxiliary unit of Coal India Limited while the process for Terms of Reference has been completed and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘process for obtaining Environment Clearance has been started and Terms of Reference recently issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change on 27.04.2021 to Kabribad Open cast project. Additional documents required for Public Hearing and Environment Clearance are under preparation’.

(b) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report furnished by the Ministry of Coal wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that Kabribad mine was operating since pre-nationalization period on the basis of Consent to Operate obtained from State Pollution Control Board. However, in compliance to Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) notification dated 14.03.2017; Central Coalfields Limited has applied for Environmental Clearance on 13.04.2018. Terms of Reference had been issued by MoEF&CC on 27.04.2021. Ministry had

further mentioned that the collection of one-season (non- monsoon) baseline data on ambient air quality & noise, water regime, flora & fauna, socio-economic study and other important attributes had been completed.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as environmental clearance was then pending.
- (d) **The Committee observes that environmental clearance to Kabribad reorganised mines has been pending for more than a year now while on the flip side, the country has been struggling to cope with the huge pressure on the domestic coal supply. If environmental clearance is granted, these mines can augment the coal production in the country and cater to the domestic demands/needs. The Committee, therefore, recommends that Ministry should expedite the process for granting environmental clearance to Kabribad coal mines to fulfil the assurance at the earliest.**

(ii) *USQ 2248 dated 09.08.2021 regarding “opencast coal mines”.*

- (a) On a question asked to know ‘the total number of functional and non-functional underground and opencast coal mines in the country, location-wise and State-wise, whether Government proposes to revive the non-functional mines and if so, the details thereof, whether Government proposes to open new coal mines and/or start mining in some new coal blocks during the current year, and if so, the details thereof, location-wise/State-wise along with the names of the companies, public and private to whom these mines were likely to be assigned for development’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that Project report for amalgamation of Pimpalgaon open cast mine of Western Coal Fields Limited with Ukni

Deep property was under preparation. Further, an opencast patch named Bharat Open cast Phase III was planned for Ghorawari No. II open cast mine of Western Coal Fields Limited and necessary forestry clearance for the same was under process. The Ministry, in response to part (c) and (d) of the question had *inter-alia* stated that the application for mine opening permission of Suliyari Coal Mine of Andhra Pradesh Mineral Development Corporation Limited (APMDC) is under process. Ministry had, further, mentioned that Notice Inviting Tender for Naini Coal Mine (10.0 MTPA), to be developed on Mine Developer and Operator model by Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) in Odisha was under preparation.

- (b) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, *vide* their communication dated 07.02.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report furnished by the Ministry of Coal wherein it had *inter-alia* mentioned that with respect to Pimpalgaon OC Mine, the coal reserves of Ukni Pimpalgaon were deep seated having very high stripping ratio and not viable at notified price of Coal. However financial viability was being explored on Mine specific price model. Further, for Ghorawari No. II OC, an opencast patch named Bharat OC Ph III was planned and necessary Proposal for diversion of 14.00 Ha. forest land for Bharat Opencast Mine of WCL, Kanhan Area in Chhindwara District of Madhya Pradesh State was submitted *vide* Proposal No. FP/MP/MIN/26356/2017. The Proposal was under consideration at MOEF & CC New Delhi for Stage-I Forest Clearance. Ministry had also mentioned that mine opening permission for Suliyari Coal Mine of Andhra Pradesh Mineral Development Corporation Limited (APMDCL) had been accorded on 13.08.2021. Further, regarding Naini Coal Mine, proposed to opened by Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL), Ministry had submitted that in Odisha State - Stage-I forest

clearance was received and Environmental Appraisal Committee (EAC) had recommended for grant of environmental clearance and Notice Inviting Tender was under finalization for Mine Developer and Operator (MDO) model. The mine was likely to be grounded in first quarter of 2022-23.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the proposals mentioned in the assurance were under process at that time.
- (d) **The Committee observes that while production of coal in the country has been steadily increasing, sufficient boost to achieve the country's coal production target of 1.2 billion ton by 2023-24 will be achieved only with the optimal functioning of all available coal mines at their best capacity. The Committee, therefore, recommends that Ministry should strive to expedite the revival of the non-functioning coal mines in view of severe coal crisis and shortage of coal supply faced by the country during 2022 and fulfil the assurance at the earliest.**

7. MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

A. Part Fulfilled IR

- (i) ***USQ 1338 dated 30.07.2021 regarding “GI tags for the products of Kerala”.***
- (a) On a question asked to know ‘the number of products that have been accorded a GI tag from the State of Kerala and whether there are any pending applications for the GI tag; and the details thereof’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘as on 26.07.2021, Thirty Two products from the State of Kerala have been registered under the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999 and Seven applications are pending for disposal with Geographical Indication’s Registry’.
- (b) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report furnished by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that seven applications were in the process of registration and would be registered as per the statutory time frame and the guidelines mentioned in the concerned Act and Rules.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the fate of pending applications had not been decided by then.
- (d) **The Committee expresses its concern over the long pendency of the process of registration of GI tags. These tags give recognition to the**

products resulting in boosting their demand and hence, ultimately it benefits the economy of the region as well as the whole country. The Committee, therefore, recommends that Ministry should pursue with the Geographical Indications Registry, under the Office of Controller General of Patents, Designs & Trade Mark (CGPDTM) and expedite the fulfilment of the assurance.

8. MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

A. Part Fulfilled IR

(i) ***USQ 417 dated 29.07.2010 regarding “wireless broadband connectivity in HP”.***

(a) On a question asked to know ‘whether Government is working on a scheme called ‘Wireless Broadband Connectivity in Rural and Remote Areas’ of the country including Himachal Pradesh; if so, the details thereof; the number of villages covered under the scheme, so far, and by when the rest of the villages are likely to be covered; whether Government has issued any guidelines for auction of Broadband Wireless Access (BWA) spectrum; and if so, the details thereof’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘the technical consultant for this scheme i.e. C-DOT, has submitted the draft Technical Report and the formulation of the scheme is in progress in consultation with all the stakeholders. In this connection a meeting was held with Telecom Service Providers and Manufacturers for seeking their inputs; and that the scheme was yet to be finalized and implemented’.

(b) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, *vide* their communication dated 09.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report furnished by the Ministry of Communications, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that BharatNet project, earlier known as National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) project was being implemented in phased manner to provide broadband connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats (GPs) (approx. 2,50,000) in the Country including Himachal Pradesh. Ministry had further mentioned that the Phase-1 of the BharatNet project for

connecting 1 lakh GPs, through broadband infrastructure, had been completed in December 2017. The work under Phase-1I of BharatNet was under implementation and as on 25.10.2021, a total of 1,65,786 GPs were made service ready for High speed broadband services.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the scheme was still pending for completion at that time.
 - (d) **The Committee expresses its displeasure over the fact that the Ministry has not been able to fulfil the assurance even after twelve years. The Committee observes that internet/broadband connectivity has now become an essential service for every citizen of the country and therefore, Ministry should prioritize the project and work with renewed vigor to facilitate internet connectivity in the remaining 5% of the population. The Committee further directs the Ministry to ensure completion of the scheme at the earliest to facilitate Wireless Broadband connectivity in Rural and Remote Areas of the country to liquidate the assurance.**
- (ii) *USQ 493 dated 06.02.2020 regarding “length of optical fibre under Phase-2 of BharatNet”.*
- (a) On a question asked *inter-alia* ‘what length of optical fibre has been laid down under Phase-2 of BharatNet as of December 31, 2019; what is the target set down for the same until such time; if there is a lag, the reasons therefor; and by when the target of connectivity to 1.5 lakh Gram Panchayats would be completed, at current rate’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘all out efforts are being made to expeditiously

implement the project and connectivity to a total of 2 lakh GPs under BharatNet are targeted to be completed by March, 2020’.

- (b) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report furnished by the Ministry of Communications.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as Phase-II of BharatNet was yet to be completed then, as against the target of March, 2020.
- (d) **The Committee expresses its displeasure over the fact that even after the passage of the deadline for more than two years the Ministry has not been able to complete the project which shows serious laxity on the part of the Ministry towards the project of providing internet connectivity to all Gram Panchayats. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry should prioritize the completion of the project on war footing and in a time bound manner to liquidate the assurance at the earliest.**

(iii) *USQ 684 dated 04.12.2015 regarding “probe into 2G spectrum scam”.*

- (a) On a question asked *inter-alia* ‘whether investigations made by various investigative agencies in the 2G spectrum scam are fully completed or nearing completion and whether charge sheet is filed against all the accused; if so, the details thereof and the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon; if not, the reasons for delay and the time by which investigations are likely to be completed; whether there has been any delay in conducting investigations on some of the accused and foreign companies and their owners involved in the scam; and if so, the details

thereof along with the reasons and reaction of Government thereto’, it was *inter-alia* stated in response to part (a) & (b) of the question that ‘in respect of Tata Teleservices Limited/ Tata Teleservices (Maharashtra) Limited, further investigation is also in progress ... Further investigation on some issues is still underway; and in respect to part (c) of the question it was stated that ‘further investigation is being conducted by CBI u/s 173(8) Cr.PC in RC.45(A)/2009 and RC.22(A)/2011-DLI and are likely to be completed soon’; and also, in respect to part (d) & (e) of the question it was stated that ‘the execution of the same is still awaited’.

- (b) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report furnished by the Ministry of Communications, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that as per response from CBI, the investigation into most of the cases had been completed and charge sheets filed. However, another charge sheet had been filed u/s 120-B 1PC on 19.07.2018 against 18 accused persons. The case was pending before the court at the stage of cognizance and the execution of the sent LRs was yet awaited. Further investigation on certain issues in the case was also underway. As per the ED’s response, investigations being carried out under PLMA were very sensitive in nature and disclosure of entire process of investigation would not be in larger public interest and may adversely impact such investigation. ED was taking all the necessary steps under PMLA Act, 2002.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as although CBI had completed investigations in all cases and charge sheets had been filed, investigation by Enforcement Directorate was still pending then.

- (d) **The Committee recommends the Ministry to pursue the matter with the Enforcement Directorate to expedite the investigation and thereafter, furnish a revised Implementation Report containing the final status of investigation by the Enforcement Directorate and to liquidate the assurance at the earliest.**
- (iv) *USQ 1451 dated 05.12.2014 regarding “laying out of cables for Digital India”, and*
- (v) *USQ 1458 dated 05.12.2014 regarding “connecting panchayats with internet facility”.*
- (a) On similar questions asked *inter-alia* ‘whether Government has launched a project for connecting all Panchayats in the country with internet facility, if so, the details thereof; the allocation of funds made for this purpose and the quantum of funds released so far; and the status of the work taken up so far and the estimated time to be taken for completion of the project’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘the scheme to connect all the Gram Panchayats with respective blocks on Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) to facilitate broadband services is envisaged to be completed in a phased manner by December 2016’.
- (b) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded Implementation Reports furnished by the Ministry of Communications wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that Bharat Net project was being implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband connectivity to all Gram Panchayats in the country.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Reports were treated as part-fulfillment of the assurances as the project to connect all gram panchayats with respective blocks on OFC to facilitate broadband services was still pending for completion at that time.
- (d) **The Committee expresses its anguish over the fact that the Ministry has not been able to fulfil the assurances even after a lapse of more than 8 years. The Committee is of the view that internet/broadband connectivity has now become a necessity for every citizen of the country and therefore, recommends that Ministry should make all out efforts to connect all gram panchayats with respective blocks on OFC to facilitate broadband services in a time bound manner and liquidate the assurance at the earliest.**
- (vi) *USQ 2067 dated 15.03.2013 regarding “telecommunication services in villages”.*
- (vii) *USQ 4093 dated 03.05.2013 regarding “telephone facilities to Gram Panchayats”.*
- (a) On similar questions asked *inter-alia* ‘the number of villages where BSNL was providing telecommunication services; the number of villages where these facilities are not yet available, State-wise; whether all the villages are targeted to be covered by the services; and if so, by when this target would be achieved’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘the target in respect of providing VPTs in remaining villages deemed feasible by BSNL is likely to be achieved by September, 2013. With respect to mobile services, a scheme would be envisaged after receiving the report from C-Dot (Centre for Development of Telematics) for extending

financial support from USO (Universal Service Obligation) Fund for provisioning mobile communication services in balance inhabited uncovered villages of the country’.

- (b) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded Implementation Reports furnished by the Ministry of Communications wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that as per recent status of uncovered villages in the country, 25067 villages were not connected with mobile or any other services, mobile coverage to these uncovered was likely to be provided in a phased manner subject to availability of financial resources. Government had awarded schemes for provision of mobile services in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas, NE states, Aspirational District Scheme, VIP and Border State Schemes and Scheme related to cover Islands. Most of these uncovered villages would be covered by these schemes.
 - (c) On examination, the Implementation Reports were treated as part-fulfillment of the assurances as Ministry had not given any reply to Part (d) of the question i.e. ‘by when this target would be achieved’.
 - (d) **The Committee expresses its displeasure over the fact that the Ministry has furnished Implementation Reports in a very casual manner. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry should carefully examine all the aspects of the question and provide a comprehensive Implementation Report covering all parts of the question.**
- (viii) *USQ 2144 dated 15.04.2010 regarding “fines on violation by telecom companies”.*

- (a) On a question asked *inter-alia* ‘whether it is a fact that Government has taken a lenient view on seven telecom companies who failed to fulfil their pointed out obligations; whether it is a fact that the telecom commission is supporting the seven telecom companies and covering up their violations; the reasons for Government adopting a benign and kind attitude towards the illegal activities of telecom points; the steps proposed to study the impact of such leniency on PSU telecom companies; and the steps proposed to impose maximum fines on violation’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘the matter is under consideration for final decision on the amount of penalty to be imposed for violations of certain terms and conditions by private and PSU Telecom companies’.
- (b) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report furnished by the Ministry of Communications, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that in the consideration of Telecom Commission decision, a committee was constituted on 22.6.2011 to recommend penalty for each of the category of violations. 10 different cases of violations were referred to the committee. The recommendation on 8 cases had been approved by the competent authority and demand notices had been issued. Ministry had further mentioned that only remaining 2 cases were under consideration.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as 2 cases were still under consideration at that time.
- (d) **The Committee is anguished to note that even after a period of twelve long years, the Ministry has not been able to fulfil the assurance. The**

Committee, therefore, recommends that the assurance be fulfilled at the earliest.

(ix) USQ 3410 dated 31.03.2017 regarding “vacant posts in Telecom Commission”.

(a) On a question asked *inter-alia* ‘whether it is a fact that currently, all the posts of Member, Telecom Commission are vacant; if so, since how long and reasons therefor; and when are these posts going to be filled’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘a Proposal to fill up the post of Member (Finance) has been forwarded for approval of the competent authority and it is expected to be filled up shortly. While going through the recruitment process for the post of Member (Services), the need for amendment in Recruitment Rules for the post of Member (Services) and Member (Technology) is felt. Accordingly, amendment in Recruitment Rules for the posts is under process. The posts of Member (Services) and Member (Technology) will be advertised after finalization of Recruitment Rules for the post’.

(b) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, *vide* their communication dated 16.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report furnished by the Ministry of Communications, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that *after* the retirement of the previous incumbent, selection of next incumbent with effect from a short-list of candidates, was underway then. Ministry had further mentioned that amendments to the Recruitment Rules for the posts of Member (Services) and Member (Technology) were under consultation with Department of Personnel & Training. Also, in the meantime, the posts were being operated on additional charge basis by

the senior most eligible officers of the relevant cadres thus ensuring that there was no functional vacuum on this account.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as amendments to the Recruitment Rules was still under consultation with Department of Personnel & Training and recruitment of Member (Services) and Member (Technology) was also pending.
- (d) **The Committee recommends the Ministry to expedite consultation with the Department of Personnel and Training for amendment to the Recruitment Rules for recruitment to the post of Member (Services) and Member (Technology) and to ensure early advertisement and appointment against these posts to fulfill the assurance.**
- (x) *SQ 244 dated 04.01.2019 regarding “action against cellular companies for call drop”.*
- (a) On a supplementary question asked ‘I want to point out one big gap in the way they are approaching call drops; it is that there is no compensation being paid out in any of these to the consumer. The consumer is the one who is suffering. Penalising the telecom company is a disincentive for the telecom company. For example, in RERA, there is compensation to the consumer. The last time it was tried by the TRAI is in 2015. The Supreme Court ruled that the TRAI did not have the powers under the Act. So, the question to the Minister is: What steps is he taking or proposing to take to amend the TRAI Act to give powers to the TRAI so that compensation to the consumer, who is the aggrieved party, is made possible?’, it was

inter-alia stated in the reply that ‘if need arises to make amendments in TRAI Act in that direction, the Government may consider’.

- (b) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, *vide* their communication dated 31.03.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report furnished by the Ministry of Communications, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that issue of call drops directly affects the quality of service. Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) had issued regulations to maintain better quality of service and non-compliance of regulations issued by TRAI might attract financial disincentive.
 - (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as amendment to TRAI Act was still pending then and issue of call drop had not improved.
 - (d) **The Committee observes that the issue of call drops is being faced by every citizen of the country. The Committee, therefore, recommends that either the Ministry should bring legislation for the Amendment to TRAI Act empowering TRAI to award compensations to consumers facing call drops at the earliest to fulfill the assurance.**
- (xi) ***USQ 677 dated 05.08.2011 regarding “strengthening of TRAI”.***
- (xii) ***USQ 3509 dated 06.08.2009 regarding “penalty on Telecom Operators”.***

- (a) On similar questions asked *inter-alia* ‘whether current structure of telecom regulator, TRAI working with or through Telecom Ministry/DoT, poses a serious conflict of interest and influences the TRAI’s ability, independence and willingness to set and meet measurable results; whether Government has received any suggestions/representations for strengthening the TRAI and making it more accountable to people of the country and Parliament; if so, the details thereof; the action Government has taken thereon; and the steps Government proposes to take to ensure appropriate review of TRAI’s outcomes based on rigour of process, legality, economic accuracy and propriety’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘the target in respect of providing VPTs in remaining villages deemed feasible by BSNL is likely to be achieved by September, 2013. With respect to mobile services, a scheme would be envisaged after receiving the report from C-Dot (Centre for Development of Telematics) for extending financial support from USO (Universal Service Obligation) Fund for provisioning mobile communication services in balance inhabited uncovered villages of the country’.
- (b) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, *vide* their communication dated 15.03.2022, forwarded Implementation Reports furnished by the Ministry of Communications wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that TRAI Act, 1997 as amended from time to time fully empowered TRAI to deal with Telecom Service providers. As per sections 12 & 13 of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) Act, 1997, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) was already vested with the powers to call for information, conduct investigations, and inspect the books of account or other documents and to issue directions from time to time to service

providers. Further, as per section 29 of the TRAI act, TRAI had the power to impose fine for contravention of its directions.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Reports were treated as part-fulfillment of the assurances as amendments to TRAI Act was not yet done and Ministry had not given any details of the fate of revised proposal received from TRAI which had been examined by the Department. The Ministry was further requested to furnish revised Implementation Reports incorporating the extent of information sought, vide this Secretariat's O.M. dated 30.03.2022.
- (d) In pursuance to this Secretariat's O.M. dated 30.03.2022, the Ministry had furnished revised Implementation Reports incorporating the above mentioned information to the extent of information sought , which were laid on the Table of the House on 26.07.2022. Accordingly, Implementation Reports were treated as fulfillment of the assurance.
- (e) **The Committee, however, notes that the Ministry took almost thirteen years to fulfil the assurance.**

9. MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

A. Part Fulfilled IR

(i) *USQ 1354 dated 21.12.2018 regarding “establishing working standard laboratories in Kerala”.*

(a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether Decentralized Paddy Procurement Scheme is withdrawn by Central Government, if so, the details thereof; whether any request has been received from Kerala Government to re-fix the out-turn ratio from 68 per cent to 64 per cent, if so, details and action taken thereon; whether any proposal from Government of Kerala has been received to establish working standard laboratories in Kollam and Kottayam; and if so, the details of fund allocated for the above proposals’; it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘a study on trial milling of paddy for fixation of Out-turn Ratio (OTR) has been entrusted to Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology (IICPT), Thanjavur by Food Corporation of India (FCI). It has carried out the study in 11 States including Kerala. The final report of the study is awaited’.

(b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the final report had been received from the Food Corporation of India (FCI).

(c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as no mention was made regarding whether

the final report received from the FCI had been examined by the Department of Food and Public Distribution and whether any final decision had been taken in the matter.

(d) **The Committee expresses its displeasure over the incomplete and vague information furnished in the Implementation Report by the Ministry. The Implementation Reports furnished by the Ministry should consist of comprehensive and complete information as sought and assured on the floor of the House. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry should furnish a revised Implementation Report covering all aspects pertaining to the assurance.**

(ii) *USQ 551 dated 23.07.2021 regarding “Supply of poor quality wheat and rice under PDS”.*

(a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether Government has received several complaints and representations regarding supply of poor quality wheat and rice under PDS; and if so, the details thereof; the details of steps taken by Government to improve the quality of wheat and rice under PDS’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘the complaint has been forwarded to the Principal Secretary, Food and Consumer Protection Department, Government of Bihar for investigation’.

(b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the complaint had been investigated and remedial measures had also been taken by the State Government of Bihar.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the Ministry had not shared the details of the investigation and remedial measures taken by the State Government of Bihar.
- (d) **The Committee expresses displeasure over the fact that Ministry has prepared the Implementation Report in a very casual manner as it does not cover the assurance in its entirety. The Committee, therefore, directs the Ministry to furnish revised Implementation Report incorporating the complete details as has been sought in the question and liquidate the assurance at the earliest.**

10. MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS

A. Part Fulfilled IR

- (i) *Point raised on 08.08.2013 regarding “Amendment to companies Bill, 2013”.*
- (a) On a Point raised, ‘I, therefore strongly propose and request the Hon’ble Minister that the Bill, in the larger interest of the Nation, the State and the Sikkimese people, and in direct conflict with the spirit of article 371 F of the constitution, be reconsidered and amended, it was *inter-alia* replied that ‘in Article 371K of the Constitution, it is said, "All laws in force immediately before the appointed day in the territories comprised in the State of Sikkim or any part thereof, shall continue to be in force until amended or repealed by a competent legislative authority. The competent legislative authority is the Parliament of India. I want to assure our colleague from Sikkim that before the notifications are issued, I will personally consult the State Government of Sikkim, the Chief Minister and him and see if there are any issues that have not been addressed; we will certainly take them into account”.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 07.02.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, which on examination was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the consultation with the State Government of Sikkim and resolution of the issue was still pending.
- (c) The Ministry had also requested to drop the assurance *vide* its O.M. dated 12.10.2021, which was considered by the Committee at its meeting held

on 23.03.2022. The Committee, however, did not accede to the request of the Ministry and **decided that it would hear the views of the Chief Secretary/representatives of the State of Sikkim before taking a view in the matter.**

11. MINISTRY OF CULTURE

B. Deliberations during Study Visits

- (i) ***USQ 828 dated 09.02.2021 regarding “preservation of historical monuments”.***
- (a) The Committee interacted with representatives of the Government of UT of Jammu and Kashmir, representatives of the Administration of UT of Ladakh and representatives of the Ministry of Culture at Srinagar on 10th May, 2022 in connection with examination of the issues involved in USQ 828 dated 09.02.2021 regarding preservation of historical monuments.
- (b) On a question asked to know ‘whether Government has received any proposal seeking the inclusion of more monuments to the list of centrally protecting monuments and if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of Government thereof’, Minister had *inter-alia* replied that ‘the details of protection proposals so received for inclusion of more monuments were under examination’.
- (c) The Committee observed that out of the 19 proposals received for protection of monuments, 05 proposals pertained to the UT of Ladakh such as Rock Art Site Murgu at Rdanag, Ancient Caves Saspol, etc. It was informed that the subject matter was under active consideration with the Ministry of Culture, Government of India. It was further informed that there were 3693 monuments of national importance under protection of Archaeological survey of India (ASI) out of which 56 monuments were in J&K and Ministry of Culture, Government of India take all necessary measures for protection and preservation of these monuments.

- (d) Secretary, Culture, Government of J&K informed that no proposal has been received for inclusion of more monuments under ASI, Srinagar Circle. It was also informed that no monuments under ASI Srinagar circle has been encroached. The monuments when undertaken by ASI Srinagar Circle have been maintained as per conservation norms without changing its authentic value. The restoration/conservation has been carried out as and when required.
- (e) **The Committee is satisfied with the submission of the Secretary, Culture, Government of J&K that no monuments under ASI, Srinagar Circle, have been encroached and are being maintained as per conservation norms. The Committee further appreciates the proactive approach of the Government towards preserving the heritage monuments.**
- (ii) *USQ 171 dated 03.02.2022 regarding “ancient monuments in tentative list of World Heritage sites”.*
- (a) The Committee interacted with representatives of the Government of UT of Jammu and Kashmir, representatives of the Administration of UT of Ladakh and representatives of the Ministry of Culture at Srinagar on 10th May, 2022 in connection with examination of the issues involved in USQ 171 dated 03.02.2022 regarding ancient monuments in tentative list of World Heritage sites.
- (b) On a question asked to know ‘whether it is necessary that potential heritage and cultural site appear in the tentative list first for their consideration for nomination in World Heritage List of UNESCO, if so, the list of heritage properties for India which already figure in the

tentative list and the fresh heritage sites that have been proposed in the tentative list for inclusion in the last two years’, Minister had *inter-alia* furnished a tentative list of 46 cultural and natural sites from India and a list of six Heritage properties from India which was proposed for inscription in tentative list during the year 2021. The Committee observed that out of 46 list, two (2) centrally protected sites from J&K i.e. Mughal Garden and Cold Desert Cultural Landscape were included in the tentative list in the year 2010 and 2015 respectively.

- (c) The Committee was apprised that at present no monuments from J&K were in the UN world Heritage list. However, 3 monuments of ASI Srinagar Circle have been included in the tentative list of UNESCO World Heritage list. Mughal Garden has been included as single entry which includes two monuments *viz* the Verinag spring and Pari Mahal. It was also informed that six (06) monuments are classified as Mughal Gardens of Kashmir. The two are with ASI Srinagar and remaining four (04) are under the Government of J&K.
- (d) **The Committee directed the representatives of Ministry of Culture to send a detailed note in this regard.**

12. MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

A. Part Fulfilled IR

- (i) *USQ 642 dated 17.12.2018 regarding "draft defence production Policy".*
 - (ii) *USQ 1444 dated 24.12.2018 regarding "applicability of defence production policy".*
- (a) On similar questions asked *inter-alia* to know 'whether the provisions of the Draft Defence Production Policy, 2018 apply retrospectively; if so, the details thereof; with respect to the upcoming purchase of 114 new planes, will the New Defence Production Policy, 2018 be applicable in the determination of eligible Indian Offset Partners; and if so, details of the applicable provisions', it was *inter alia* stated in the reply that 'the new Defence Production Policy, 2018 has not yet been finalized'.
 - (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 09.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Defence, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that Draft Defence Production & Export Promotion Policy (DPEPP) had been formulated and was under inter-ministerial consultation as per the laid down procedure.
 - (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as Defence Production and Export Promotion Policy was still pending for finalization.

(d) **The Committee observes that the draft Defence Production Policy, 2018 envisages to provide a focused, structured and significant thrust to defence production capabilities of the country for self-reliance and exports and to develop a dynamic, robust and competitive defence industry, including aerospace and naval shipbuilding industry to cater to the needs of Armed forces with quality products. Further, the thrust is also to reduce dependence on imports through domestic design and development, to promote the export of defence products and become part of the global defence value chain. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry should finalize the draft Defence Production and Export Promotion Policy as soon as possible, to realise the desirable objectives soon.**

(iii) *USQ 46 dated 14.09.2020 regarding "sainik schools in the country"*

(a) On a question asked to know, "the details of the number of Sainik Schools currently functional in the country, State/ UT-wise; the details of funds allocated, released and utilised by these schools in the last five years, year-wise; the details of new Sainik Schools proposed to be set up in the country; whether Government proposes to set up new Sainik School in the State of West Bengal; and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor." it was *inter alia* stated in the reply that "Memorandum of Agreement signing was pending with the State Government after in principle approval was given for the new Sainik Schools proposed to be set up, at Darjeeling, West Bengal; Golaghat, Assam; Godda, Jharkhand; Bhind, Madhya Pradesh and Kokrajhar, Assam".

- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 07.02.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Defence, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the issue was pending at the end of State Government of West Bengal, Assam, Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh and not with the Ministry of Defence.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the setting up of Sainik Schools at Darjeeling, Golaghat, Godda and Kokrajhar was still pending.
- (d) **The Committee recommends that the Ministry should strive to pursue the matter with the State Governments of West Bengal, Assam, Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh for early establishment of the proposed Sainik Schools for early liquidation of assurance and also keep the Committee apprised of the development that would take place in the matter.**

B. Deliberations during Study Visits

- (iv) *USQ 1012 dated 25.07.2017 regarding “CAG’s observations on strategic road construction”.*
- (a) The Committee interacted with representatives of the Government of UT of Jammu and Kashmir, Administration of UT of Ladakh, Ministry of Defence, at Srinagar on 10th May, 2022 in connection with examination of the issues involved in USQ 1012 dated 25.07.2017 regarding CAG’s observations on strategic road construction.
- (b) On a question asked to know ‘the length of the Indo-China border Roads (ICBRs) that has been constructed so far and by when the remaining

construction work will be completed’, Minister had *inter-alia* replied that ‘the balance 34 ICBRs will be completed by December, 2022’.

- (c) The Committee noted that Ministry had vide OM dated 14.09.2021 informed that work of remaining 19 ICBRs was in progress. The Committee enquired from the representative of Ministry of Defence whether work of remaining 19 ICBRs would be completed by December, 2022. Further, it also enquired that out of 12 roads in Ladakh, only 7 had been completed and what was the status of the remaining 5 roads.

The Committee also asked about the status of these roads from the representatives of J&K and Ladakh.

- (d) The Committee was informed the out of 61 ICBRs having length 3323.57 km entrusted to BRO, 46 ICBRs of length 1915.33 km have been completed. 938.10 km of road has also been completed in remaining 15 ICBRs and work on only 441.34 km is balance. The Committee was informed about the reasons for delay in progress of ICBRs which were as under:-

- (a) Delay in Environment and Forest Clearance.
- (b) Delay in Land Acquisition.
- (c) Non-allocation of stone/sand quarries by State Government
- (d) Damages due to natural disasters such as flash flood of Leh in 2010, Earthquake in Sikkim in 2011, Uttarakhand floods in 2013, J&K Floods of 2014 and COVID-19 pandemic etc.
- (e) Hostile activities by locals.

- (f) Poor performance of contractors.
 - (g) Non adequate air efforts.
- (e) Further Ministry gave the measures that had been taken to address delays and ensure early completion, which was as follows:-
- (a) It was planned to hand over approx 4886.83 Km of roads in hinterland and redeploy resources on strategically important roads like ICBR. Out of the above 4447 Km road had been handed over.
 - (b) Fast tracking of Environment and Forest clearances was being pursued with MoEFCC. Defence Secretary, had written a DO letter to Chief Secretaries of States requesting that an Empowered Committee be set up for early resolution of such issues.
 - (c) Delegation of Administrative and Financial powers to executive staff Pers had further revised by MoD (BR) vide letter No. MoD.(BR) F.No.04/696/2015/D&P(BR-1) dated 02 & 03 Feb 2022 for speedy sanction and execution of works.
 - (d) BRO had been allowed to outsource works, if required, for early completion of road projects.
 - (e) Government had approved guidelines for adoption of new technology initiatives in road construction by BRO on 19 Mar 2015. Further, modern equipment had been procured to enhance the capability.

- (f) Revised Long Term Roll On Works Plan (LTROWP) 2018-2023 had been sanctioned vide MoD (BR) ID No. (1) 04/815/2013/D (BR-1) (P-2) dated 23 Nov 2021 to address less budgetary support and to concentrate and accelerate progress of ICBRs.
- (g) All interlocutory application filed in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India for wanting wild life clearance had been disposed by the court saying that the clearance could be accorded as per recommendation of National Board of Wild Life (NBWL). Accordingly, all pending wild life clearance cases had been cleared by then.
- (d) On the issue of observations/recommendations made by CAG, the representatives of Ministry of Defence informed that they had been taken seriously by it and the replies had been furnished to CAG. Ministry had further mentioned that it had delegated more power to BRO to take decision on its own considering the urgency involved in the matter.
- (e) **The Committee expresses its satisfaction over the reply furnished by the Ministry of Defence and advises the Ministry to complete the work of remaining Indo-China Border Roads within the stipulated time frame. The Committee also desires that CAG observations should be settled by the Ministry of Defence soon.**

13. MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

A. Part Fulfilled IR

- (i) *SQ 63 dated 21.02.2003 regarding “grants and aids to fraudulent educational institutions”.*
- (a) On a supplementary question asked that out of 18 fake institutions, 5 institutions have been closed down; whether these five institutions have closed down voluntarily, or they have been closed down subsequent to a Government order; what action has been taken to close down the rest of the 13 fake institutions; whether UGC had any statutory control over such institutions, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘we are bringing an amendment to that regulations of University Grants Commission. We want to tighten this system so that fake university is not created in such manner’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the University Grants Commission Act, 1956, under Section 22 (I) provided that a degree could be awarded only by a University established under a Central, State/Provincial Act or an institution deemed to be University under section 3 of UGC Act or an institution especially empowered by an Act of Parliament to confer the degree. Further, Section 23 of the UGC Act prohibited the use of the word ‘University’ by any institution other than a university established as stated above.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as there was no mentioned of the amendment

to the provisions of the UGC Act in the Implementation Report as assured by the Minister.

(d) **The Committee is astonished to note that the assurance is pending for around 18 years, but the Ministry has not fulfilled the assurance, so far. The Committee, therefore, recommends the Ministry to take immediate steps to amend the UGC Act and to furnish a revised Implementation Report clearly mentioning the progress that had taken place regarding amendment to the provisions of the UGC Act and to liquidate the assurance at the earliest.**

(ii) *USQ 2512 dated 18.02.2014 regarding “fraudulent withdrawal from state-run schemes”.*

(a) On a question asked to know, ‘the details of loss suffered by public sector banks during the last three years due to fraudulent withdrawal from banks under various schemes run by Government, scheme-wise and bank-wise; whether banks have suffered loss of more than 22,000/- crore during the last three years due to fraudulent withdrawal under Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA); if so, the details thereof, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘in West Bengal, an amount of Rs. 5.18 crore was fraudulently withdrawn by eight officials in one district, where the CID has arrested seven persons and proceedings are under way; in 2010-11 in Kerala, there was unauthorized withdrawal of Rs. 10.00 lakhs and the case was under investigation; in 2010-11 in Bihar, an embezzlement of Rs. 80.39 lakhs was reported in Nalanda Bihar Sharif and the matter was under investigation by the State Vigilance Department...; in Maharashtra, an embezzlement of Rs. 89.42 lakhs in 2010-11 and fraudulent withdrawal of 10 lakhs in 2011-12 was reported where the State has ordered investigation and FIR had also been lodged; in Assam during 2010-11,

fraudulent transaction of Rs. 140 lakhs had been reported and the case was under investigation even though the amount had been credited back and in Uttar Pradesh during 2011-12, in District Pratapgarh, an amount of Rs. 2.41 lakhs was fraudulently withdrawn and inquiry had been ordered and the matter was under investigation’.

- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the erstwhile Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) was implemented through State Implementing Societies (SIS) for improvement in the quality of elementary education under which funds were provided to the States and UTs for various components as defined in the SSA Framework. Now the SSA along with other two centrally sponsored schemes of Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and Teacher Education (TE) had been subsumed under a new Integrated Scheme for School Education-Samagra Shiksha, launched in the country from 2018-19. The matter related to misappropriation of funds under SSA was followed up regularly with these States, for providing the updated information.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as action taken against culprits was still pending in respect of cases in UP and Kerala.
- (d) **The Committee observes that misappropriation of funds meant for improving the quality of elementary education is a matter of grave concern and should be taken very seriously. These cases not only hamper the efforts made by State to provide quality education to the**

children, but also jeopardise their career, growth and overall development. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the culprits should be brought to justice at the earliest and the Ministry should pursue the matter with the State Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Kerala and ensure that suitable actions are taken against the culprits to liquidate the assurance.

(iii) *USQ 2332 dated 15.03.2018 regarding “passing of absent students in Bhopal”.*

- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether Government has taken any action against the permanent and contractual staff at NIOS, Bhopal regional office responsible for passing the absent students in 2017 examination; if so, the details thereof; and the details of passed students who were absent in the examination’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘CBI has registered the complaint on 24.10.2017 which is under verification’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that during investigation two accused person namely, Shri Ashish Massey and Shri Manoj Jyoti Borah were arrested and after completion of investigation against them, a chargesheet dated 13.05.2019 was filed in the Ld. Court of Special Judge, CBI Cases, Bhopal.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as Ministry had not mentioned anything about the pending CBI enquiry against officials of NIOS and other private individuals.

- (d) **The Committee recommends the Ministry to furnish a revised Implementation Report containing information regarding the pending CBI enquiry against the officials of NIOS and other private individuals and also the enquiry had been completed or not, to fulfil the assurance at the earliest.**
- (iv) *USQ 10 dated 02.02.2022 regarding “schools and colleges on India’s ancient and recent history”.*
- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether the Ministry has finalized the textbooks on India’s ancient and recent history for schools and colleges; if so, when was it finalized; and if not, the reasons for delay in preparing the new history textbooks,’ it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘consequent upon announcement of the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020, a new National Curriculum Framework (NCF) is under preparation.’
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the new National Curriculum Framework will be ready within the year 2022.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as development of National Curriculum Framework was still under process and was expected to be ready within the year 2022.
- (d) **The Committee observes that the launch of National Education Policy, 2020 paves the way for the transformative reform in school and higher education system. The preparation of National Curriculum Framework is imperative to achieve the goals envisaged**

under the NEP, 2020. The Committee recommends the National Steering Committee to expedite and complete the process for development of National Curriculum Framework in a time bound manner while taking into consideration the views of concerned stakeholders and furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the details of development that had taken place regarding the National Curriculum Framework.

14. MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

A. Part Fulfilled IR

- (i) *USQ 1193 dated 11.02.2021 regarding “introduction of new Cyber Security Policy”.*
- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether Government propose to introduce a new cyber security policy; if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and the time by when the said policy is likely to be implemented and the steps taken by Government in this regard’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘Strategy document has now been forwarded to Empowered Technology Group for consultation. On receipt, the document will be placed before the Cabinet Committee on Security for deliberations and approval’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the matter was with the National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) and the NSCS had submitted that the action of the Empowered Technology Group had been completed, the comments had been incorporated in the Draft Cabinet Committee for Security (CCS) Note and forwarded to the Cabinet Secretariat on 17th March, 2021.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as Part-fulfillment of the assurance as it was not categorically mentioned in the Implementation Report, whether New Cyber Security Policy has been implemented or not.

- (d) **The Committee observes that cyber attacks designed to access, alter, delete, or destroy sensitive data of an organization's or user's systems has increased manifold and it is high time that strong cyber security measures are taken to protect against such unauthorized access. The Committee appreciates that Government is pro-active in this regard and New Cyber Security Policy was being envisaged. The Committee recommends the Ministry to furnish a revised Implementation Report categorically mentioning whether New Cyber Security Policy has been implemented or not, and if not, by when it would be done.**

15. MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

A. Part Fulfilled IR

- (i) ***USQ 2122 dated 16.12.2021 regarding 'amendment to Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980'.***
- (a) On a question asked to know, 'whether consultations with experts and stakeholders were conducted on the proposed amendments to the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980; if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor; it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that 'more than 5600 comments has been received in the Ministry from various stakeholders, including those in vernacular languages. These comments are being examined in the Ministry and a considered decision would be taken'.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Environment, Forest And Climate Change, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that after examination of the comments/views, the necessary action had been taken by the Ministry.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the Ministry did not categorically mention as to what decision was taken after examination of comments/views of experts.
- (d) **The Committee expresses its displeasure over the fact that the Ministry did not furnish the details asked in the question and accordingly, recommends that the Ministry should carefully examine**

all the aspects of the question and provide a comprehensive Implementation Report covering all parts of the question.

(ii) USQ 210 dated 03.02.2022 regarding "revision of air quality standards".

(a) On a question asked to know, 'reasons for not revising Air Quality Standards by Government which were last revised in the year 2009; whether Government will consider making Air Quality Standards binding on States; if not, the reasons therefor; and whether it is a fact that the WHO has recently released new air quality guidelines and, if so, whether Government will consider adopting WHO's new guidelines'; it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that 'With changes in fuel, technology and demographics as well as advances in air pollution measurement techniques, risk and exposure assessment, review of Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) are carried for better improvement in public health. Review of NAAQS has been sanctioned to a joint team lead by IIT Kanpur'.

(b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Environment, Forest And Climate Change, wherein it was *inter-alia* that Steering Committee had been constituted by CPCB for guiding the project and 02 meetings had been held to track the progress and suggest improvements, so far.

(c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the Implementation Report was silent on the report of IIT Kanpur on National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

- (d) **The Committee recommends that the Ministry should furnish a revised Implementation Report giving the details of report with respect to the report of review of National Ambient Air Quality Standards sanctioned to the joint team led by IIT Kanpur and outcome thereof.**
- (ii) *SQ 95 dated 10.02.2022 regarding “funds for tiger conservation in Madhya Pradesh”.*
- (a) On a supplementary question asked to know, ‘what are the provisions made by the Government for the protection of tigers in the National Park Kanha, Bandhavgarh and Pench’; it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘the work of counting of tigers, which is carried out in a completely scientific way, is in progress. When this report comes, we will also inform the Hon’ble Member’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Environment, Forest And Climate Change, wherein it was *inter-alia* that the All India Tiger Estimation (5th Cycle) which was the work of counting tigers, was under progress and the report would be released by November, 2022.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the report with respect to counting of tigers had not been released by then.

- (d) **The Committee recommends that the Ministry shall expedite the process of counting of tigers and release the report at the earliest to fulfil the assurance.**

B. Deliberations during Study Visits

- (iii) *SQ 145 dated 06.03.2021 regarding “expenditure incurred on forest cover by Government”.*

- (a) The Committee interacted with representatives of the Government of UT of Jammu and Kashmir, Administration of UT of Ladakh and representatives of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change at Srinagar on 11th May, 2022 in connection with the examination of the issues involved in SQ 145 dated 06.03.2021 regarding expenditure incurred on forest cover by Government.
- (b) On question asked to know ‘the actual expenditure incurred by the Forests and Wildlife Ministries of Central and respective State Governments during the last three years; the contribution of salaries and establishment costs in this and percentage of it actually spent on protecting and increasing forest cover; the per hectare expenditure during the last three years on forest and wildlife area and the percentage of the annual State budget for this; (d) whether allocated budget is sufficient to protect this vital national resources; and the steps being taken by Government to increase budgetary allocation to this sector’, the Minister had assured that ‘the information is being collected for states/UTs’.

- (c) The Committee desired to know from the representative of UTs of J&K and Ladakh the development that had taken place in the matter along with the reasons for not furnishing the requisite information so far.
- (d) Representative of Ministry of Environment & Forest and Climate Change informed that the Ministry had written to the State Government/UTs on 05.05.2022, 08.09.2021, 24.01.2022, 31.01.2022 and 22.04.2022 to provide the necessary information relating to this assurance. Further, the Rajya Sabha Secretariat had granted extension of time up to 4th July, 2022 for fulfillment of the assurance. Till date, information had been provided by 26 states/UTs which was as under:

“State-wise information on “the per hectare expenditure during the last three years on forest and wildlife area and the percentage of the annual State budget”

S. No.	Name of States/UTs	2017-18	Percentage of annual State Budget	2018-19	Percentage of annual State Budget	2019-20	Percentage of annual State Budget
1	Andhra Pradesh			290.38	0.34	176.47	0.24
2	A & N Islands	3517.67	5.92	3793.17	05.92	3943.75	05.62
3	Delhi	32971	0.12	55732	0.14	54423	0.13
4	Goa			3000.00	0.008	3000.00	0.008
5	Gujarat			84744.26	0.69	104920.75	0.69
6	Haryana			130341.00		143556.00	
7	Kerala	2889.39		3095.17		3135.88	
8	Maharashtra	4353.67	2.22	6228.30	2.83	5522.76	2.72
9	Nagaland	320.20	0.24	139.96	0.1	422.14	0.29

10	Odisha	8000.00		20000.00		37000.00	
11	Punjab	85700	0.32	85700	0.32	102564	0.34
12	Tamil Nadu	2271.54	0.25	2403.90	0.24	2708.79	0.25
13	Telangana	1812.58	0.33	2079.21	0.33	2915.76	0.55
14	Tripura	67000	0.6047	68000	0.7106	72000	0.669
15	West Bengal			5446.53		5256.77	
16	Bihar	86000	0.32	179000	0.27	550000	0.13
17	Himachal Pradesh	1144	1.17	1257	1.11	1349	1.08
18	Karnataka	417500	0.67	457200	0.71	375100	0.61
19	Rajasthan	900	0.363	500	0.259	700	0.211
20	Uttar Pradesh	5018	0.22	5716	0.22	7568	0.26
21	Arunachal Pradesh	58	0.18	67	0.20	22	0.06
22	Chandigarh	16520	18.53	19040	18.53	23060	18.53
23	Jammu and Kashmir	3660	1.013%	4570	1.195%	3910	1.009%
24	Lakshadweep	9125	0.21	7219	0.18	5063	0.12
25	Meghalaya	41742.7	1.44	41742.7	1.44	41742.7	1.44
26	Assam	813	0.835	813	0.835	813	0.832

(e) Representative of Government of UT of Ladakh informed that the per hectare expenditure during the last three years on forest and wildlife area was Rs. 2.50 Lakhs and the percentage spent for protecting and increasing forest cover is 42.81%.

(f) **The Committee noted the reply of the representatives of Ministry of Environment & Forest and Climate Change and UTs of J&K and Ladakh in the matter and expressed its satisfaction with the hope that the said assurance will be fulfilled by July, 2022 within the extended period of time sought by the Ministry.**

(iv) *SQ 151 dated 09.05.2016 regarding “development activities on river fronts and floodplains”.*

(a) The Committee interacted with representatives of the Government of UT of Jammu and Kashmir, Administration of UT of Ladakh and representatives of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change at Srinagar on 11th May, 2022 in connection with the examination of the issues involved in SQ 151 dated 09.05.2016 regarding development activities on river fronts and floodplains.

(b) On question asked to know ‘whether any State has objected to the Draft River Regulation Zone Notification’, the Minister had assured that ‘some States have several objections while some gave new suggestions. We will definitely consider’. In response to another supplementary question by Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya, MP, on SQ 151 wherein it was *inter-alia* asked to know ‘State Governments, Local Organizations and NGOs would also have participation in the implementation of River Regulation Zone Notification, what are the plans to make this effective’, the Minister had assured that ‘a decision would be taken as soon as response from the remaining 19 States is received’. Further, in response to two supplementary questions on SQ 151 by Shrimati Vandana Chavan, MP, wherein it was *inter-alia* asked ‘is the Government planning to adopt same kind of measures to have a better preparedness for the floods and whether Government would take steps to protect the floodplains, how would they sensitize the State and local Governments in this behalf’, the Minister had *inter-alia* assured that ‘we have come out with a draft River Regulatory Zone Notification, that we have circulated to the States for

their comments. Whatever decision we take, we will convey it to the House’.

- (c) The Committee notes that the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change had requested for transfer of the assurances to the Ministry of Jal Shakti, however the same has not been yet accepted by them.
- (d) Representative of Ministry of Environment & Forest and Climate Change informed that *vide* notification SO1972 (E) dated 14.06.2019, Government of India allocated the business related to conservation, development, management and abatement of pollution of rivers to Ministry of Jal Shakti and that Ministry has to take timely decision in the matter. The Committee was apprised about the steps taken by Ministry of Environment & Forest and Climate Change so far in the matter viz, writing D.O. letter by Secretary, Ministry of Environment & Forest and Climate Change to Secretary, Ministry of Jal Shakti, and even letters were also written by the Minister of Environment & Forest and Climate Change to Minister Jal Shakti to take urgent steps in the matter. However, Ministry of Jal Shakti has shown some reservations in the matter and their reservations were still under examination.
- (e) **The Committee takes a serious view in the matter and expresses its anguish over the long delay made by the Ministry of Jal Shakti to accept this matter. The Committee suggests that the Ministry should take up the matter with the Cabinet Secretariat so that a final decision in the matter could be taken.**

(v) *USQ 136 dated 14.09.2020 regarding “mining projects without environmental clearance”.*

(a) The Committee interacted with representatives of the Government of UT of Jammu and Kashmir, Administration of UT of Ladakh and representatives of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change at Srinagar on 11th May, 2022 in connection with the examination of the issues involved in USQ 136 dated 14.09.2020 regarding mining projects without Environmental clearance.

(b) On question asked to know ‘the estimated number of existing mining projects that will come under the scanner or will apply for clearance if the draft Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2020 comes into force’, Minister had replied that ‘the EIA Notification, 2020 was yet to be finalized by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change’.

(c) The Committee observed that environmental impact assessment was essential to protect our environment. In order to achieve the goals of sustainable development it was necessary to assess the impact that development projects would have on the environment. In this backdrop, the Committee desired to know from the representatives of the Ministry, the details of progress made in this regard and by when EIA Notification, 2020 would be finalized and how would the EIA notification, 2020 be different from the EIA notification of 2006. The Committee further desired to know the status of mining projects in the UTs of J&K and Ladakh, whether they were operating with due environmental clearance and the details of the monitoring mechanism in this regard, etc.

- (d) Representative of the Ministry of Environment & Forest and Climate Change informed that the draft EIA notification 2020 was still under finalisation due to the following reasons:-
- (i) The draft EIA Notification, 2020 vide S.O. 1199 (E) dated 23/03/2020 was published in the official gazette on 11/04/2020, in accordance with Rule 5 (3) of the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, for the information of the public likely to be affected thereby and for giving suggestions on the proposals contained in the draft notification within a period of 60 days.
 - (ii) However, the draft notification was available for public comments up to 11/08/2020 taking into account COVID19 pandemic restrictions and court directions. More than 20 lakh comments had been received.
 - (iii) The work related to compilation and collation of the comments / suggestions received from all the stakeholders on the draft EIA Notification, 2020 was granted to NEERI, Nagpur. NEERI has submitted the final report.
 - (iv) Subsequently, the translated versions of draft EIA Notification 2020 in twenty two vernacular languages, were placed in the public domain through website of the Ministry as well as on the websites of State Environment Department and SPCBs, as per direction of Hon'ble High court of Delhi and a time period of 60 days was provided for sending comments / objections on the notification.

- (v) The time period for sending comments/objections came to an end on 15/12/2021. About 725 comments had been received.
- (vi) Work Order dated 14/02/2022 for additional work of compilation and collation of the comments received on draft EIA Notification, 2020 had been issued to NEERI and they had submitted the draft report.
- (vii) In the meanwhile , due to the amendment of Environment Protection Rules dated 16/06/2021 the draft EIA Notification 2020 which was due to expire on 06/04/2022 [end of 725 days from publication on gazette] is now valid till 30/10/2022.
- (e) Representative of UT of Ladakh informed that it would ensure implementation of the said notification in due course as it had initiated steps for the constitution of Environment Impact Assessment Authority and other Committees. It was also informed that in the UT of Ladakh no major mining was carried out and only mining of minor mineral falling in 'B' category was done.
- (f) **The Committee expressed its satisfaction over the reply furnished by the representative during the course of discussion and hope that the said assurance will be fulfilled by the Ministry soon.**

16. MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

A. Part Fulfilled IR

(i) ***USQ 565 dated 17.09.2020 regarding “Vande Bharat Flights for Indian Nationals”.***

- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘the details of authorities which are responsible to take decisions on Vande Bharat Mission (VBM) flight destinations, their numbers, criteria used to shortlist passengers, cost of the tickets; how many grievances were received from VBM passengers, the nature of common grievances; and when was the exemption from institutional quarantine for VBM passengers introduced, how many incoming VBM passengers have been exempted, so far, how many of these tested Covid-19 positive later’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘the data on the number of individuals exempted under the above-mentioned guidelines may be available with the State Governments’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of External Affairs wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that as per the allocation of business rules, MEA does not deal with the subject matter of maintaining database of passengers.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as Ministry did not give any information regarding the assurance given on the floor of the House i.e. the data on the number of individuals exempted under institutional quarantine for VBM passengers carrying negative RT-PCR test effective from August, 2020 and how many of these tested Covid-19 positive later. The Ministry was further requested to furnish a revised Implementation Report

incorporating the final decision in the matter, vide this Secretariat's O.M. dated 27.12.2021.

- (d) In pursuance to this Secretariat's O.M. dated 27.12.2021, the Ministry furnished a revised Implementation Report, which was laid on the Table of the House on 21.03.2022, incorporating the extent of information sought. Accordingly, the Implementation Report was treated as fulfilment of the assurance.
- e) **The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards fulfilment of the assurance.**

17. MINISTRY OF FINANCE

A. Part Fulfilled IR

- (i) *SQ 263 dated 20.03.2018 regarding “Amount involved in LoUs issued by Banks”.*
- (a) On a question asked *inter-alia* ‘how many Letters of Undertaking (LoUs) were issued since 2011, year-wise, as well as number of LoUs issued till May 26, 2014 and thereafter; the amount involved in each LoU; the period for which the LoU was valid according to the LoUs for 90 days, 180 days and 365 days or more; how much money was withdrawn from the foreign branch of the other banks against each LoU; and in how many LoUs issued were the transactions completed by paying the LoU amount to the Punjab National Bank and how many LoUs were not honoured’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘PNB has informed that the details regarding money withdrawn from the foreign branch of the other banks against each LoU is presently not available as the matter is under investigation’.
- (b) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report furnished by the Ministry of Finance, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that as per inputs received from Punjab National Bank (PNB), during the years 2011 to 2014, an aggregate amount of Rs.1,06,825 crore were withdrawn against 21,372 letter of undertakings (LoUs) from the foreign branches of the other banks.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as there was no mention of the amount withdrawn against LoUs after 2014.
- (d) **The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry to provide the information in its Implementation Report. However, Ministry has not given complete details as sought in the question. The Committee, therefore, directs the Ministry to furnish revised Implementation Reports incorporating the complete details including the total amount withdrawn against LoUs after the year 2014 and also the details of money withdrawn against each LoUs, and liquidate the assurance at the earliest.**
- (ii) *USQ 3662 dated 27.03.2018 regarding “independent agency to manage seized assets”.*
- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘the amount of assets seized by Enforcement Directorate (ED) in 2015, 2016 and 2017; whether it is a fact that Government is planning to appoint an independent agency to manage the seized assets; and if so, the details thereof and the agency identified for the purpose’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘a proposal to engage an independent agency for managing the confirmed attached immovable properties under PMLA, 2002 was under consideration of the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Department of Revenue (DoR), Ministry of Finance, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that Enforcement Directorate (ED) was in discussion with NBCC, a PSE, for management, maintenance and security of confirmed

attached properties with Directorate of Enforcement. Several rounds of meetings/discussions had happened between ED and NBCC and also with DoR on the issue. Further, on the request of NBCC, an updated and amended list of properties as on 31.12.2020 was again provided to NBCC in March, 2021. After thorough discussion, it was decided by both sides to take up a Pilot Project in Chennai for the purpose of management, maintenance and security of the confirmed attached properties under possession of the Directorate.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as independent agency to manage the seized assets was still pending for appointment.
 - (d) **The Committee observes that more than 4 years have lapsed since the assurance was made on the floor of the House, but the final decision regarding appointing an independent agency to manage the seized assets has not been arrived at, yet. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry should expedite the process for appointing the agency and also keep the Committee apprised of the development that would take place in the matter.**
- (iii) *USQ 55 dated 02.02.2021 regarding “selling of majority stakes in National Banks”.*
- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether there is any plan to further reduce the number of public sector banks (PSBs); if so, the rationale behind it; whether there is a proposal to sell majority stakes in some of the nationalised banks as strategic disinvestment plan; if so, the details thereof; whether there is a partial disinvestment plan which will lead to gradual privatisation of these public sector undertakings in due course; and whether any objection has come from the stakeholders like the

employees, customers, etc., if so, the response of Government thereto', it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that 'representations/suggestions have been received in this regard which would be examined under extant legal frame work and Government policies'.

- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the, Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the Finance Minister, in her speech on the Union Budget for the year 2021-22, had announced that Government was intended to take up privatization of two Public Sector Banks and approval of a policy of strategic disinvestment of Public Sector Enterprises (PSE). Ministry had further mentioned that as per the New PSE policy for Atmanirbhar Bharat issued by the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management, recommendations should be made by NITI Aayog with regard to Central PSEs under Strategic Sectors, which included the Banking, Insurance and Financial Services Sector, and recommendations should be considered and Central PSEs to be, *inter-alia*, retained under Government control or considered for privatization or merger or subsidiarisation with another PSE should be approved by an Alternative Mechanism that has been approved by the Government.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as Part-fulfillment of the assurance as no specific reply to the selling of the majority stakes in some of the Nationalized Banks had been given by the Ministry.
- (d) **The Committee recommends that the Ministry should furnish a comprehensive 'Implementation Report' incorporating specific information with regard to the assurance given in reply to the question.**

(iv) ***USQ 49 dated 02.02.2021 regarding “expenditure incurred on implementation of Atmanirbhar Packages”.***

- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘the quantum of revenue expenditure incurred in the 2020-21 financial year to implement components of the Atmanirbhar Packages 1.0, 2.0 and 3.0; the quantum of revenue expenditure incurred to implement components of Atmanirbhar Bharat packages 1.0, 2.0 and 3.0 upto December 31, 2020 as a proportion of the total Budget Estimates for the year 2020-21 financial year; and the quantum of capital expenditure incurred to implement components of the Atmanirbhar packages 1.0, 2.0 and 3.0 upto December 31, 2020 as a proportion of total Budget Estimates for the year 2020-21 financial year’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that Scheme was yet to be notified for Production Linked Incentive Scheme for Pharmaceuticals, Department of Pharmaceuticals; Prime Minister’s Atmanirbhar Swasth Bharath Yojana, Ministry of Health and family Welfare; Advance Chemistry Cell Battery, Department of Heavy Industries and Automobiles and Auto Components, Department of Heavy Industries’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 07.02.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that Schemes at S. Nos. 12, 14, 15, and 16 were notified on 03.03.2021, 09.06.2021, 23.09.2021 and 29.07.2021 respectively.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as allocation and expenditure had not been given in the Implementation Report. The Ministry was again requested to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the final decision in the matter, *vide* this Secretariat’s O.M. dated 05.04.2022.

- (d) In pursuance to this Secretariat's O.M. dated 05.04.2022, the Ministry furnished a revised Implementation Report, which was laid on the Table of the House on 26.07.2022, incorporating the extent of information sought. Accordingly, the Implementation Report was treated as fulfillment of the assurance.
- e) **The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards early fulfilment of the assurance.**
- (v) ***USQ 1665 dated 09.03.2021 regarding "buyback of shares of GSTN and NPCI from private organisations".***
- (a) On a question asked to know, 'the current status of GSTN ownership; whether Government plans to complete the buyback of shares from private organizations, if so, the details thereof and timeline for buyback; similar to the case of GSTN, whether Government intend to buying back the shares from private organisations of National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), if so, the details thereof; and whether Government is working with RBI on the New Umbrella Entity framework proposed by RBI, if so, the details thereof', it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that 'the execution of necessary documentations is under process amongst Centre, States and Non-Government Institutions. The acquisition of shares by the Centre and the States from the Non-Government Institutions is in advance stage'.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Finance wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the conversion process of GSTN would be completed by 01.04.2022.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the conversion process was still pending. The Ministry was further requested to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the final decision in the matter, vide this Secretariat's O.M. dated 04.02.2022.
- (d) In pursuance to this Committee's OM dated 04.02.2022, the Ministry furnished a revised Implementation Report, which was laid on the Table of the House on 26.07.2022, incorporating the information to the extent of information sought. Accordingly, the Implementation Report was treated as fulfilment of the assurance.
- e) **The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards early fulfilment of the assurance.**

B. Deliberations during Study Visits

- (vi) *USQ 1810 dated 14.12.2021 regarding "bank loan frauds".*
- (vii) *USQ 881 dated 09.02.2021 regarding "cases of bank fraud registered".*
- (a) The Committee interacted with representatives of the Public Sector Banks and representatives of the Ministry of Finance at Srinagar on 11th May, 2022 in connection with the issues involved in USQ 1810 dated 14.12.2021 regarding bank loan frauds, and USQ No. 881 dated 09.02.2021 regarding cases of bank fraud registered.
- (b) On similar questions asked to know 'how many prosecutions have been launched and how many have been fined, imprisoned or property seized and the ten biggest promoters of entities involved in such frauds, the

details thereof', the Hon'ble Minister had assured that 'the information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House'.

- (c) The Committee observed that since liberalization of economy in 1991, banking sector of the country had experienced significant growth and changes. However, along with this growth, the banking sector had faced many challenges, one of them being banking frauds. In recent years, instances of such frauds had regularly been reported in the country. In this backdrop, the Committee desired to know from the representatives of the Banks, whether it had collected the details of prosecutions launched, number of persons fined, imprisoned, etc. Further, what progress had been made, so far, regarding collection of names and details of companies, the functionaries and top banks officials involved in such cases. The Committee also desired to have the views of the representatives of the Department of Financial Services present in this meeting regarding the mechanism available to check banking frauds and loopholes that needed to be plugged to provide for robust mechanism.
- (d) The Committee was informed that RBI has issued Direction on frauds in 2016 and Government of India had initiated wide ranging structural and procedural reforms to check frauds in Banks. Systematic and comprehensive checking for frauds including of the legally stack of NPA, led to unearthing of frauds perpetuated over the years. It was informed that comprehensive steps had been taken to keep a check on frauds in banks including step to address security flaws and to ensure investigation of such frauds. Representatives of the Public Sector Banks present in the meeting informed the Committee that following steps have been introduced in the Banks as per the guidelines issued by Department of Financial Services:-

- (i) An online searchable database of frauds reported by Banks, in the form of Central Fraud Registry, had been set up to enable timely identification, control and mitigation of fraud risk and also to carry out due diligence during the credit sanction process.
- (ii) RBI had issued Master Directions on Frauds, which required Banks, to report frauds beyond a threshold amount to the police, monitoring and follow-up of cases by a special committee, quarterly placement of information before Audit Committees of bank Boards and annual review of frauds by banks. These reviews cover, inter-alia, preventive measures, fraud detection systems, systemic lacunae, remedial action, monitoring of progress of investigation and recovery, and staff accountability.
- (iii) For management of fraud risk and for early detection of loan frauds, prompt reporting to RBI and investigative agencies, and timely initiation of staff accountability proceedings, RBI had issued a framework for dealing with loan frauds and red flagged accounts (RFA), requiring Banks to classify potential fraud accounts as RFAs based on observation or evaluation of early warning signals noticed.
- (iv) RBI had issued a circular to all Banks in February 2018 to implement security and operational controls , such as straight - through process between the Bank's core banking solution or accounting system and the SWIFT messaging system , enable time - based restrictions in SWIFT, review logs at regular intervals, undertake reconciliation, etc. in a time - bound manner.

- (v) RBI had instructed Banks to report deficient third - party services (such as legal search reports, property values' reports, etc.) and collusion of these service providers with fraudsters to the Indian Banks Association, which maintained a caution List of such service providers.
- (vi) Issuance by the Government in 2015 of "Framework for timely detection, reporting, investigation etc. relating to large value bank frauds" to PSBs for dealing with suspected frauds involving sum of money in excess of Rs 50 crore.
- (vii) A National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal had been launched by the Ministry of Home Affairs to enable public to report incidents pertaining to all types of cybercrimes, and a toll - free number had also been operationalised to get assistance in lodging online complaints.
- (viii) For immediate reporting of financial feuds and to stop siphoning - off of funds by the fraudsters, Financial Cyber Fraud Reporting and Management System module had been made operational by the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre, working under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- (ix) The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT IN) under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology issue alerts and advisories regarding latest cyber threats and countermeasures on regular basis to ensure safe usage of digital technologies, and was working in coordination with service

providers, regulators and LEAs to track and disable phishing websites and facilitate investigation of fraudulent activities .

- (x) Public Sector Banks (PSBS) had been advised to strictly ensure rotational transfer of officials/employees.

In addition, measures had also been taken to deter fraudsters, which included, inter-alia the following:-

- (i) The Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, 2018 had been enacted to provide for attachment of property of a fugitive economic offender, confiscation of such offender's property and disentitlement of the offender from defending any civil claim.
- (ii) Heads of PSBs had been empowered to issue requests for issuance of Look - Out Circulars.
- (iii) Advisory had been issued by Government to PSBS to decide on publishing photographs of wilful defaulters, in terms of RBI's instructions and as per their Board - approved policies.
- (iv) PSBs had been advised to obtain certified copy of the passport of the promoters/directors and other authorised signatories of companies availing loan facilities of more than Rs. 50 crore.
- (vi) The representatives of public sectors Banks present during the meeting informed the Committee that major factors contributing to advance related frauds were (i) diversion of funds, (ii) fake financial statements, (iii) sale of assets, (iv) multiple finance, (v)

false/fabricated stock statements, (vi) assets not created, (vii) fake documents, (viii) fake title deeds and (ix) impersonation. To mitigate such frauds, the steps as stated above were taken by the PSBs. Most of the Banks are monitoring the GST statements, forensic audit of borrowers, issues warning signal, making of red flags to the accounts of the defaulters.

(vii) Representative of Bank of Baroda informed that taking these measures as well as monitoring the related parties accounts of the borrowers whose credit was above Rs 150 Crore, the number of credit frauds had come down. Members of the Committee enquired about the relief likely to be given by PSBs to customers who had been cheated. The Committee suggested the representative of PSBs that apart from upgrading their system, they should also conduct extensive investigation in order to overcome such frauds and if they find any problem/lacuna in the charge sheet framed by the investigating agency, they should bring such lacuna to the knowledge of prosecutor, so that conviction rate in bank fraud cases may be rationalised.

(h) The Committee observes that such banking frauds are putting a dent on our progressing economy and hence, the need of the hour is to put in place a robust and dependable system, so that such cases of frauds can be stopped or curtailed. Further, the Committee is satisfied to note that the measures adopted by the PSBs will definitely reduce such bank frauds in future and desires that PSBs should give thrust on the prosecution part of the litigation which will definitely help to punish the defaulters. The Committee further advises the representatives of the Ministry to keep the Committee apprised of

the development that would take place towards fulfilment of the assurance.

18. MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

A. Part Fulfilled IR

- (i) *USQ 2169 dated 06.12.2019 regarding “expenditure on welfare of cows”.*
- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘the amount of money that has been spent for the welfare of cows in the last three years; the amount of money allocated per day for fodder of cows in the Government cow shelters; the number of cows that died in cow shelters run by Government, religious organisations and NGOs; and the reasons for death of cows in these cow shelters, State-wise’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘information in respect of other states will be laid on the Table of the House after collection of information from them’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that 16 States had provided the information, however, some states were yet to provide the information.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as Part-fulfillment of the assurance since the information from some States was still awaited.
- (d) **The Committee recommends the Ministry to pursue the matter with the remaining States and obtain the requisite information and liquidate the assurance at the earliest.**

19. MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE

A. Part Fulfilled IR

(i) *SQ 62 dated 08.02.2022 regarding "death of health workers due to COVID-19".*

(a) On a supplementary question asked inter-alia to know 'what action the Government will take against hospitals which are refusing to issue certificate in the prescribed format and what action will be taken by the Government against those hospitals which refuse to report these cases', Hon'ble Minister had inter-alia stated in the reply that 'Sir, if a hospital has not declared all its data, then it needs to be examined by the state government and after compiling, the State Government sends the information to us. I expect that the State Government also issue an advisory again and we will also issue an advisory to all states, requesting for all the hospital to submit their data'.

(b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that All States/ UTs had been regularly urged for correct and timely reporting of all COVID-19 deaths during multiple video conferences. The same had also been reiterated by Central teams which were deployed to States/UTs from time to time. Further, Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare had also written to all States/UTs reiterating the need for appropriate recording of all COVID-19 deaths in prescribed formats as

per Indian Council for Medical Research's 'Guidance for appropriate recording of COVID-19 related deaths in India', issued in May 2020.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as Ministry did not give any categorical reply to supplementary question asked by the Member i.e. regarding action against hospitals which were refusing to issue certificate in prescribed format and the action taken against those hospitals which refuse to report the COVID cases instead it gave vague and obsolete details in the IR. Further, there was no mention about fresh advisory to be issued by Centre as assured by the Minister.

- (d) **The Committee observes that the Ministry has not furnished specific reply to the question and furnished an incomplete Implementation Report, which is not a healthy practice. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry should furnish revised Implementation Report giving complete information covering all aspects of the question and liquidate the assurance at the earliest.**

20. MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

A. Part Fulfilled IR

- (i) ***USQ 2137 dated 16.03.2016 regarding “cases of sedition registered for anti-India slogans”.***
- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘the State-wise details of the incidents of anti-India slogans raised and reported in the country during last two years; the State-wise details of the cases of sedition registered for anti-India slogans during 2015 and 2016; the details of the cases in which Delhi Police has registered cases of sedition for anti-India slogans on the basis of morphed videos/audios during 2015 and 2016; and the details of action Government has taken against culprits of doctored video’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘the cases registered by the Delhi Police are under investigation’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Home Affairs, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that two cases were filed in Delhi in the year 2016 and investigations were completed in both the cases. Further, charge sheet had been filed in one case and the matter was sub-judice. Ministry had also mentioned that investigation and legal proceedings were conducted independently as per procedure and the Government does not interfere in any manner.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the Ministry was silent about the details of charge-sheet/closure report in respect of one case and reply to part (d) of the question i.e. “the details of action Government had taken against culprits of doctored video”. The Ministry was further requested to

furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the final decision in the matter, vide this Secretariat's O.M. dated 20.01.2022.

(d) In pursuance to this Secretariat's O.M. dated 20.01.2022, the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 31.03.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, which was laid on the Table of the House on 04.04.2022, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that in the year 2016 two cases had been registered by Delhi Police for raising anti-India slogans. Delhi Police had said that the investigation had been completed in both the cases. Further, charge sheet had been filed in one case and the matter was before the court. In the second case the main accused had died. After completing the investigation in this case, preparations had been made to file the charge sheet. Delhi Police had informed that no case of morphed video/audio had come to their notice during 2015 and 2016'. On examination, the revised Implementation Report was treated as fulfilment of the assurance by the Committee.

(e) **The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards the fulfilment of the assurance.**

(ii) ***USQ 1963 dated 11.05.2016 regarding "integrated check posts (ICPs) at Hili and Changrabandha in West Bengal".***

(a) On a question asked to know, 'whether Government has decided to set up Integrated Check Posts (ICPs) at Hili and Changrabandha on Indo-Bangladesh border in West Bengal; if so, the present status thereof; and the time by which these ICPs are likely to be operational', it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that 'the land acquisition for both these integrated check posts is under process'.

- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Home Affairs, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the Ministry and Land Ports Authority of India (LPAI) had been requesting the State Government of West Bengal from 2017 to advise the concerned authorities to hand over the identified parcels of land to the LPAI for starting the construction works of Integrated Check Posts at Hili and Changrabandha. Union Home Secretary had reviewed the pending land acquisition cases in West Bengal with the Chief Secretary, West Bengal at Kolkata on 12.11.2021. As per the directions of the Union Home Secretary, the LPAI visited the proposed sites for fresh land survey with the local District Administration from 6th to 20th December, 2021 and identified the stretch of land. Accordingly, a new DPR for land acquisition had been prepared by the Authority and submitted to the Government of West Bengal on 07.02.2022. Ministry had further submitted that the Secretary (Border Management), *vide* D.O. letter dated 17.05.2022, had requested to the State Government of West Bengal to issue directions to the concerned officials to facilitate early acquisition of land. Ministry had further mentioned that since the matter was under the purview of the State Government, it was not possible to fix any concrete time frame for fulfilment of the assurance and hence, the Implementation Report may be treated as fulfilled.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the process of land acquisition for both the ICPs, i.e. Hili and Changrabandha in West Bengal were still under process and pending.
- (d) **The Committee observes that time and again, it has been conveyed to the Ministry that the Central Government and the State Governments are parts of our cooperative federal structure and both together form the Executive. As per our constitutional scheme, executive as a whole is responsible to the Legislature. Hence, it is the duty of Central Government to pursue the matter with the State Government and expedite the process of land acquisitions for both the ICPs and also keep the Committee apprised of the development taking place in the matter.**
- (iii) *SQ 185 dated 11.05.2016 regarding “UN Convention against torture”.*
- (iv) *USQ 1680 dated 30.11.2016 regarding “guidelines to prevent torture of individual in custody”.*
- (v) *USQ 543 dated 07.02.2018 regarding “ratifying UN Convention against Torture”.*
- (a) On similar questions asked *inter-alia* ‘whether Government has prepared guidelines to prevent torture and inhuman treatment to individuals in custody, if so, the details of frame-work, and if not, the reasons therefor and the agreement of the United Nations Convention Against Torture, 1997, etc.’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘the proposal to suitably amend section 330 and section 331 of Indian Penal Code to define the words "Torture" and "Public Servant" is under active examination in this Ministry in consultation with the concerned Ministries’.

- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded Implementation Reports, furnished by the Ministry of Home Affairs, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs, in its 146th Report dated 23.06.2010 had recommended that there was a need for a comprehensive review of the Criminal Justice System of the country. Earlier the Parliamentary Standing Committee in its 111th and 128th Report had also stressed upon the need to reform and rationalize the criminal law of the country by introducing a comprehensive legislation in Parliament rather than bringing about piecemeal amendments in respective Acts. The Government agreed with the recommendations of the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs regarding need to reform and rationalize the criminal laws and introduction of comprehensive legislation in the Parliament. There was no proposal to make piecemeal amendments in the criminal always on the basis of 273rd Report of the Law Commission on Torture.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Reports were treated as part-fulfillment of the assurances as proposed amendments to Section 330 and 331 of IPC were still pending.
- (d) **The Committee observes that around 6 years have passed since the assurances were made and the Ministry has furnished two Implementation Reports, still the proposed amendments to Section 330 and 331 of IPC have not been done, so far. The Committee reiterates its recommendations made in the 75th Report to expedite the process for amendments to section 330 and section 331 of Indian**

Penal Code to define the words "Torture" and "Public Servant", at the earliest to fulfil the assurances.

- (vi) ***USQ 78 dated 18.07.2018 regarding "human rights violations in J&K".***
- (a) On a question asked to know, 'whether as per the recent report of United Nations, there are excessive human rights violations in Jammu and Kashmir since 2016; if so, the details thereof; the number of civilians killed and injured since 2016, till date in Jammu and Kashmir and the number of inquiries initiated for human rights violation since 2016, till date; and the details of persons found guilty and punished in this regard, case-wise', it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that 'up-to-date information is being collected'.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Home Affairs, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the number of civilians killed in 2016 was 85, in 2017 was 20 and till 30th June, 2018 was 10 and total injured in year 2016 was 8932, in 2017 was 139 and till 30th June, 2018 was 72 in law and order incidents in Jammu and Kashmir. As regards initiating enquiries against the person found guilty and the action thereon, Ministry had stated that there was robust established procedure to handle such cases in the Government of J&K and any body found guilty in this regard had been punished as per law.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the Ministry had not given any details of number of inquiries initiated since 2016 and the details of persons found guilty and punished in this regard, case-wise.

- (d) **The Committee recommends that the Ministry should furnish the requisite details of number of inquiries initiated since 2016 and the details of persons found guilty and punished in this regard, case-wise, at the earliest to fulfil the assurance.**
- (vii) *USQ 2446 dated 08.08.2018 regarding “lynching in the name of Cow vigilantism and child lifting”.*
- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether there is rampant lynching of people across the country in the name of cow vigilantism and child lifting; if so, the details of the incidents in the last two years; what action has been taken by Government to prevent the incidents of mob lynching taking place in various parts of the country; whether Government intends to enact a law in this regard; and if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘in order to formulate appropriate measures to address the situation, Government has set up a high level Committee chaired by the Union Home Secretary to deliberate in the matter and make recommendations within four weeks’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Home Affairs, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the Government had constituted a Group of Ministers to consider the recommendation of the high level committee. Ministry had further mentioned that lynching incidents could be dealt with Sections 300 and 302 of Indian Penal Code (IPC), which provided that whoever committed murder should be punished with death or imprisonment for life and should also be liable to fine. Further, offence of murder was a cognizable, non-bailable and non-compoundable offence.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the Ministry had not given details of the recommendations of High Level Committee to formulate appropriate measures to address the situation. The Ministry was further requested to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the final decision in the matter, vide this Secretariat's O.M. dated 20.01.2022.
- (d) In pursuance to this Secretariat's O.M. dated 20.01.2022, the Ministry of Home Affairs had furnished a revised Implementation Report, which was laid on the Table of the House on 26.07.2022, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that 'the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs in its 146th Report dated 23.06.2010, had recommended that there was a need for a comprehensive review of the Criminal Justice System of the country. Earlier the Parliamentary Standing Committee in 111th and 128th Reports had also stressed upon the need to Reform and rationalise the criminal law of the country by introducing a comprehensive legislation in Parliament rather than bringing about piece meal amendments in respective Acts. The Government agrees with the recommendations of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs regarding need to reform and rationalize the criminal laws and introduction of comprehensive legislation in the Parliament. The process for comprehensive amendments to the criminal laws in consultation with all stakeholders is a long drawn one and no time-limit can be fixed or given for enacting such legislation.
- (e) On examination, the Implementation Report was again treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as enacting of legislation as asked in part (d)

and (e) of the question i.e. “what action has been taken by Government to prevent the incidents of mob lynching taking place in various parts of the country; and whether Government intends to enact a law in this regard”, was pending. Further, the Ministry had also not furnished the recommendations of High Level Committee chaired by Union Home Secretary which deliberated in the matter.

(f) The Committee recommends the Ministry to furnish a revised Implementation Report addressing all parts of the question along with recommendations of High Level Committee chaired by Union Home secretary at the earliest to fullfill the assurance.

(viii) USQ 213 dated 12.12.2018 regarding “raising more battallions of BSF for borders”.

(a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether Government has approved the proposal to raise more battalions of Border Security Force for Pakistan and Bangladesh borders; what is the total amount involved therein; the time by when these new battalions will be ready for action, especially on the Punjab borders; whether more battalions of Indo- Tibetan Border Police are also to be raised; and if so, by when and the details thereof’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘a proposal for raising some additional battalions in ITBP is also under consideration’.

(b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Home Affairs, wherein it was stated that raising of new Battalions in Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) including ITBP was a dynamic and continuous process. Further, new Battalions were raised in CAPFs from time to time keeping in view the prevailing security

scenario as well as assessment of requirement of the force concerned. Therefore, no time frame could be prescribed for such raising of battalions.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as raising of some additional battalions in ITBP was still pending.
- (d) **The Committee observes that the subject matter of the assurance pertains to the matter of national security and therefore, recommends the Ministry to expedite the process for raising of new Battalions in Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) including ITBP and in the meantime, to keep the Committee apprised of the development taking place in the matter.**
- (ix) *USQ 391 dated 05.02.2020 regarding “Committee on banning lottery”.*
- (x) *USQ 392 dated 05.02.2020 regarding “Revenue generated from lotteries”.*
- (a) On similar questions asked *inter-alia* to know ‘the details of any committee formed by Government on banning or regulating lottery throughout the country; what recommendations have been made with respect to the online lottery or received by such Committees; and whether Government is planning to formulate guidelines or regulations on online lottery in the country, if so, the details thereof’; it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘amendments to the Lotteries (Regulation) Rules, 2010 are under consideration which would also include regulatory provisions relating to online lotteries’.

- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communications dated 02.12.2021, forwarded Implementation Reports, furnished by the Ministry of Home Affairs, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that Government had enacted the Lotteries (Regulation) Act, 1998 and framed the Lotteries (Regulation) Rules 2010 under the Act. As per the Act, the State Governments were authorized to organize conduct or promote or run a lottery. Union Government did not run any lotteries on its own. Ministry had further stated that amendment in laws or rules required consultation with various stakeholders including the State Governments and changes in laws was an ongoing process.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the Ministry had not stated anything about regulatory provisions relating to online lotteries. The Ministry was further requested to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the final decision in the matter, *vide* this Secretariat's O.M. dated 20.01.2022.
- (d) In pursuance to this Secretariat's O.M. dated 20.01.2022, the Ministry of Home Affairs had furnished a revised Implementation Report, which was laid on the Table of the House on 26.07.2022, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that in respect of online lotteries, Government had issued instructions under section 10 of the Lotteries (Regulation) Act, 1998 to all the Lottery running States *vide* letter F.No.V/17013/2/2011-CSR-I dated 18.07.2018. Further, *vide* letter dated 28.10.2020 instructions had also been issued to all lottery running States, which contains instructions for regulation of online lotteries. On examination, the revised

Implementation Report was treated as fulfilment of the assurance by the Committee.

(e) **The Committee appreciates the efforts taken by the Ministry towards the fulfilment of the assurance.**

(xi) ***USQ 2767 dated 18.03.2020 regarding “amendment in IPC on CrPC in respect of Bail”.***

(a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether Government is working on changes for time limit on advance bail that violates personal liberty and sought guidelines and working on changes in this regard with the setting up of any Task Forces/Committees in this regard to make suitable changes by amending the IPC and CrPC and to plug the loopholes in the system; if so, the details thereof and suggestions received along with changes made in the last five years and the current year, case-wise and State-wise; and if not, the reasons therefor and by when changes will be made’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘a Committee has also been constituted recently to suggest reforms in criminal laws and Acts’.

(b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Home Affairs, wherein it was stated that the Departmental-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs in its 146th Report dated 23.06.2010, 23.06.20210 had recommended that there was a need for a comprehensive review of the Criminal Justice Systems of the country. Earlier the Parliamentary Standing Committee in its 111th and 128th Report had also stressed upon the need to reform and rationalize the criminal law of the country by introducing a

comprehensive legislation in Parliament rather than bringing about piecemeal amendments in respective Acts. The Government agreed with the recommendations of the DRPSC on Home Affairs regarding need to reform and rationalize the criminal laws and introduction of comprehensive legislation in the Parliament. There was no proposal to make piecemeal amendment in the criminal laws in respect of bail provisions as recommended in 268th Report of the Law Commission.

(c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the Ministry was silent on the Committee and its recommendations, if any, which was constituted to suggest reforms in CrPC and CPC as per the assurance.

(d) **The Committee recommends the Ministry to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the details regarding recommendations of the Committee constituted to suggest reforms in CrPC and CPC as assured in the August House to fulfill the assurance at the earliest.**

(xii) *USQ 360 dated 16.09.2020 regarding “submission of recommendations on Assam Accord”.*

(a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether the recommendations on Assam Accord has been submitted by the Panel to Government; what are the broad recommendations of the Panel; how much time Government is likely to take to examine and accept the recommendations; and whether any timeline is proposed to be set for implementation of the recommendations, if accepted’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘the High Level Committee constituted by the Ministry of Home Affairs on Clause 6 of Assam Accord has submitted its report to Government of

Assam and its recommendations are under examination of the State Government.’

- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Home Affairs, wherein it was stated that the committee had submitted its report to Government of Assam, and further action was to be taken by the Government of Assam in the matter.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the Ministry had not given any details about the recommendations and timeframe for its implementation as asked in part (b) to (d) of the question i.e. “ how much time Government is likely to take to examine and accept the recommendations and whether any timeline is proposed to be set for implementation of the recommendations, if accepted”.
- (d) **The Committee expresses its displeasure over the fact that the Ministry did not furnish the details as asked in the question and assurance given in the House. The Committee recommends that the Ministry should carefully examine all aspects of the question and provide a comprehensive Implementation Report covering all parts of the question and fulfill the assurance at the earliest.**

B. Deliberations during Study Visits

- (xiii) *USQ 2769 dated 27.12.2021 regarding “investments and land sale in J&K and Ladakh”.*

- (a) The Committee interacted with representatives of the Government of UT of Jammu and Kashmir, representatives of the Administration of UT of Ladakh, Ministry of Home Affairs at Srinagar on 10th May, 2022 in connection with examination of the issues involved in USQ 2769 dated 27.12.2021 regarding investments and land sale in J&K and Ladakh.
- (b) On a question asked to know ‘whether any commercial land deal has been done after August, 2019 in Jammu & Kashmir (J&K) and Ladakh; if so, the details of such deals like date, name of the party/company who purchased, etc; the details of investments made in J&K and Ladakh after August, 2019; and the new employment generated after August, 2019 in J&K and Ladakh’, it was *inter-alia* stated that ‘the Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House’.
- (c) The Committee asked the representatives of Government of U T of J&K and Ladakh whether any information in this regard was collected and supplied to the Ministry of Home Affairs, and if so, the same may be apprised to the Committee. In response thereto, representatives of UT of Ladakh informed that no commercial land deal in Ladakh had been reported/registered after August, 2019 because domicile law had not been finalized for UT of Ladakh by Government of India. With regard to data relating to UT of J&K, the I.G. (Stamp Registration), Government of J&K informed the Committee that the registration of documents in the erstwhile State of J&K commenced during the regime of Maharaja Pratap Singh in the year 1920. Under the J&K Registration Act, 1977 Bikrami and extant revenue laws; the registration was done by judiciary. After enforcement of the J&K Reorganization Act, 2019, the Registration Act 1908 (Central Act) was made applicable to the U T of J&K under administrative control of the Revenue Department.

- (d) As on date a network of 109 Registration offices has been set up in the UT of J&K and registration is being done through e-stamping with effect from 18.09.2020. The Committee was informed that despite in its early stages and notwithstanding the Covid-19 pandemic, the Registration Department, since its inception 01.11.2019, has up to April, 2022 registered 1,73,780 documents and in the process generated revenue amounting to ₹ 958 Cr.
- (e) The Committee was informed that Government of J&K has switched over to the online mode of Registration with effect from 18.09.2020 and the registration services had been brought under the preview of J&K public Services Guarantee Act, (PSGA) 2011 stipulating a time period of two days for Registration of a document. The online registration services are being provided through the National Generic Document Registration System (NGDRS).
- (f) On a query made by the Committee regarding employment generation in the UT of J&K, it was informed that the Government of J&K has initiated a massive exercise to undertake recruitment against various vacant posts existing at various levels along with slew of reform measures in the recruitment process. With regard to situation of employment in UT of Laddakh, it was informed that administration of UT of Ladakh has made investment in Hotel and Home Stay after making Home Stay policy. Each Home Stay was given incentives of ₹90000 to ₹100000 for promoting tourism in the UT of Laddakh.
- (g) **The Committee expresses its satisfaction with the submission of the representative of Government of UT of J&K and Ladakh and**

advises the representatives of Ministry of Home Affairs to furnish the detailed reply on the Assurances to the Committee.

21. MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS

A. Part Fulfilled IR

- (i) *USQ 2287 dated 15.03.2018 regarding “recovering unauthorized land from education society”.*
- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘the measurement of land, in excess of the allotted land, which is in possession of various education societies in Delhi including that of Sri Aurobindo Education Society at Delhi, where it is having Mother’s International School, Mirambika School, Aurobindo Ashram and the Aurobindo Ashram Complex and the steps Government proposes to take to recover such land from those societies’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that no such data regarding the excess land in possession with Education Society was maintained by DDA. Ministry had also *inter-alia* given the details of allotments to Aurbindo Education Society with respect to schools, college, Aurbindo Ashram etc.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance since, on reconciliation of records with respect to the entire land in possession of Aurbindo Society, a mismatch was found in revenue records, Total Station Survey (TSS) and layout plan. Further, detailed survey to reclaim excess land from the society was not completed.

- (d) **The Committee recommends the Ministry to complete the collection of data regarding land from the concerned agencies, reconcile the revenue records and also complete the required survey to reclaim excess land from the society at the earliest so that the assurance is fulfilled.**
- (ii) ***USQ 1832 dated 04.08.2021 regarding “demolition of government buildings”.***
- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether Government has announced the demolition of certain buildings like the Shastri Bhawan, Nirman Bhawan etc; if so, whether Government is aware that some of these buildings are adorned by priceless murals on their facades, executed by internationally acclaimed Indian artists; and what steps are being taken to ensure that these priceless pieces of art are not damaged and preserved for the future generations’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘the buildings to be demolished under Central Vista Redevelopment Master Plan have not yet been finalized’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that till date, only 2 projects viz. construction of New Parliament Building with tendered cost of Rs. 862 crore and redevelopment of Central Vista Avenue with tendered cost of Rs. 477 crore had been awarded and works were underway. Ministry had further mentioned that no decision on demolition of any building had been taken by the Government.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance decision regarding demolition of buildings under Central Vista Development/Redevelopment Master Plan was still pending.
- (d) **The Committee recommends the Ministry to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the final decision taken regarding the demolition of certain Government buildings to fulfil the assurance.**

(iii) USQ 2625 dated 11.08.2021 regarding “ARHCs Scheme”.

- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether any positive development has taken place with respect of Affordable Rental Housing Complexes (ARHCs) Scheme in metropolitan cities that accommodate fairly large population of migrant labourers; if so, the details thereof; whether Government has identified cities and towns where the scheme is proposed to be implemented; and what mechanism Government has laid down to fix the rent of the dwelling units’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘under Model-2, 66 proposals have been received from public/private entities for construction of 1,02,019 units in 18 States/Union Territories (UTs), which are being evaluated by the respective Urban Local Body (ULB) and are in the process of getting necessary approvals’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that ARHC was a sub-scheme under existing Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban (PMAY-U) to provide affordable rental housing to urban migrants/poor, close to their workplace. Ministry had further mentioned

that the scheme of ARHC was being implemented through two models. Model-1 was utilizing existing Government funded vacant houses to convert into ARHCs through PPP or by Public Agencies. Model-2 was construction, operation and maintenance of ARHCs by Public/Private Entities on their own available vacant land. Ministry had also furnished the details of development that had taken place in both the Models.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the Ministry did not clearly mention that how many proposals, out of 66 proposals received for construction of 1,02,019 units which were being evaluated by the respective Urban Local Bodies and were in the process of getting necessary approvals under Model-2, were approved.
- (d) **Reverse migration of millions of migrant workers and the poor from cities back to villages during the Covid-19 pandemic had exposed the harsh reality of those invisible millions who live in cities and are an integral part of the urban economy, but have no place in urban planning and housing programmes. These schemes such as Affordable Rental Housing Complexes (ARHCs) may give them a ray of hope and instill faith in the country's governance. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry should pro-actively complete the construction of these affordable pro-poor rental houses under the scheme and furnish the revised Implementation Report incorporating the details of number of proposals received from public/private entities for construction of 1,02,019 units in 18 States/UTs approved and to liquidate the assurance at the earliest.**

22. MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

A. Part Fulfilled IR

- (i) *USQ 1428 dated 28.11.2016 regarding “merging of CWC and CGWB”.*
 - (ii) *USQ 3020 dated 12.12.2016 regarding “restructuring of CWC”.*
 - (iii) *USQ 217 dated 24.06.2019 regarding “optimum utilization of water for irrigation”.*
- (a) On similar questions asked to know, ‘with the consolidation of all water management Ministries into an omnibus new Jal Shakti Ministry, whether Government would consider kick-starting the work on the new National Water Commission as recommended by the Mihir Shah Committee’; it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘Mihir Shah Committee, in its Report, *inter-alia*, recommended setting up of a National Water Commission. Matter is under consideration of the Government’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 15.03.2022, forwarded Implementation Reports, furnished by the Ministry of Jal Shakti, wherein it *inter-alia* gave the details of deliberations and discussions held by various Committees, Working Groups, IIM-Ahmedabad etc. to implement the suggestions made in the Report submitted by Mihir Shah Committee. Ministry had further mentioned that the department had engaged dedicated teams of Officers, including Chairman of CWC (Central Water Commission) and Chairman of CGWB (Central Ground Water Board), to study and disseminate action points from the Report and to sort out various issues in implementing the Report, however, it required approval/consultation of different Nodal Departments, multiple stakeholders etc, which was a complex issue and it was not possible to provide a time-bound commitment for the establishment of National Water Commission.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Reports were treated as part-fulfillment of the assurances as the final decision regarding the establishment of National Water Commission had not been taken.

- (d) **The Committee recommends that the Ministry should expedite the process of establishment of National Water Commission (NWC) which would act as the nation's top facilitation organisation dealing with water policy, data and governance and fulfil the assurance at the earliest.**

- (iv) ***USQ 725 dated 26.07.2021 regarding “construction of check dams on Markandeya River”.***
- (v) ***USQ 737 dated 26.07.2021 regarding “objections to Markandeya River Dam”.***
- (a) On similar questions asked to know, ‘whether Government will intervene and stop the construction of check dams across Markandeya river a tributary of Thenpennai river constructed by Upper Riparian State Government of Karnataka to protect and safeguard the well being of the farmers in State of Tamil Nadu; and if so, the details of the measures taken by Government thereof; whether Government has any proposal to constitute a tribunal under Article 262 to resolve the inter-State Thenpennai river water dispute between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu; and if so, the details thereof’; it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘to proceed further on the issue, CWC vide letters dated 16.03.2021 and 08.07.2021 requested party States i.e. Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and UT of Puducherry to furnish some additional information. The same is still awaited’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 31.03.2022, forwarded Implementation Reports, furnished by the Ministry of Jal Shakti, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that under the Chairmanship of Secretary (WR, RD and GR) a meeting was held on 01.09.2021 with the representatives of the Governments of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Puducherry. The representatives of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka agreed to share detailed notes on the issue with each other as well as to share the responses thereto and to further engage mutually with a view to arrive at an appropriate resolution of the dispute.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Reports were treated as part-fulfillment of the assurances as they were silent on the response/information from Andhra Pradesh and UT of Puducherry.
- (d) **The Committee recommends that the Ministry should apprise the Committee of the submissions made by Andhra Pradesh and UT of Puducherry before the Negotiations Committee and also take further necessary steps to fulfil the assurance at the earliest.**

23. MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

A. Part Fulfilled IR

- (i) *USQ 1039 dated 10.02.2021 regarding “all India migrant workers survey”.*
- (a) On a question asked *inter-alia* ‘whether Government has initiated the All-India Migrant Workers Survey; if so, the details thereof including the expected timeline of completion; if not, the reasons therefor; whether Government will collect detailed disaggregated data through the survey; and if so, the details of categories and themes along which data will be collected, including gender, community, SC/ST/OBC’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘an Expert Group has been constituted by the Government of India on 9th September, 2020 to examine and finalize the schedule sampling design and other technical details of the aforesaid survey being conducted by Labour Bureau’.
- (b) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report furnished by the Ministry of Labour and Employment, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that *survey work had started from 01.04.2021.*
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as survey work was pending for completion and Ministry had not given any details of the data. The Ministry had been further requested to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the final decision in the matter, *vide* this Secretariat’s O.M. dated 25.01.2022.

- (d) In pursuance to this Secretariat's O.M. dated 25.01.2022, the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded a revised Implementation Report furnished by the Ministry of Labour and Employment, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that Government of India had entrusted Labour Bureau to conduct All India Survey on Migrant Workers with the objective to generate basic quantitative information on migrant workers and the impact of Covid-19 pandemic on their work. The survey also aimed to throw light on the socio-economic conditions of migrant workers, their education level, vocational/technical training, gender, social group, accommodation (housing), consumption expenditure, income, financial inclusion, and change in income after migration. The survey was launched on 1st April, 2021.
- (e) On examination, the Implementation Report was again treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the survey was still incomplete and its data was also still pending.
- (f) **The Committee expresses its displeasure over the long delay in the completion of the survey which, even after a lapse of more than 18 months, is yet to be completed. This shows lack of seriousness about the survey on the part of the Labour Bureau. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry should collect and collate the data without any further delay and furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the information sought to liquidate the assurance at the earliest.**
- (ii) *USQ 1060 dated 10.02.2021 regarding "complaints by central trade unions".*

- (a) On a question asked *inter-alia* ‘whether Government has responded or intends to respond to complaints made by Central Trade Unions on rules framed under the four Labour Codes; if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; whether Government will undertake remedial measures on the complaints raised by Central Trade Unions; and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘suggestions received during such tripartite meetings is being suitably considered before finalizing the rules’.
- (b) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report furnished by the Ministry of Labour and Employment, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that as a step towards implementation of four Labour Codes, the Government had pre-published the four (4) Rules, namely: the Code on Wages (Central) Rules, 2020; the Industrial Relation (Central) Rules, 2020; the Code on Social Security (Central) Rules, 2020 and the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions (Central) Rules, 2020 for seeking stakeholders comments including general public. Three Tripartite meetings, inviting representatives of all Central Trade Unions and Employers Associations, were also convened. Suggestions received in such consultations have been duly considered by the Committees formed by the Government, to prepare the Rules under the Labour Codes.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as neither the details of the suggestions made by the unions nor the steps taken on those suggestions had been given in the Implementation Report. The Ministry was further requested to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the details to the extent of information sought, *vide* this Secretariat’s O.M. dated 28.01.2022.

(d) In pursuance to this Secretariat's O.M. dated 28.01.2022, the Ministry furnished a revised Implementation Report, which was laid on the Table of the House on 26.07.2022, incorporating the details to the extent of information sought. Accordingly, the Implementation Report was treated as fulfilment of the assurance.

(e) **The Committee appreciates the efforts of the Ministry made towards early fulfilment of the assurance.**

(iii) *USQ 1072 dated 19.12.2018 regarding "provident fund trusts".*

(iv) *USQ 252 dated 03.02.2021 regarding "provident fund trusts".*

(a) On similar questions asked to know 'the details of the number of Provident Fund (PF) trusts existing in the country under the PF Act, 1925; the details of the number of subscribers availing the services of the PF trusts; the details of the contributions by the subscribers in these PF trusts; and the details of the unclaimed amount lying in these trusts', it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that 'the information was being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House'.

(b) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded Implementation Reports furnished by the Ministry of Labour and Employment, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the total number of Provident Fund (PF) trusts under the Act is 157, *as per* the Schedule appended to the Provident Funds Act, 1925. Further, based on information received from institutions covered/notified under the PF Act, 1925, approximately 2,00,103 subscribers were availing the services of the PF trusts and the total fund size is approximately Rs.36814.02 crore. Ministry had also mentioned that the details of the unclaimed amount lying in these trusts were not available in the Ministry.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Reports were treated as part-fulfillment of the assurances as Ministry had not given details of unclaimed amount of provident fund.
- (d) **The Committee expresses its anguish that huge amount of hard earned savings and investments of subscribers are lying unclaimed with these Provident Fund Trusts and Government is not able to even collect the information regarding unclaimed amount lying in these trusts. The Committee, therefore, recommends that Ministry should strive to collect the details regarding unclaimed amount of Provident fund lying with these Trusts and take necessary steps to return the unclaimed amount to the account holders. The Committee further directs to furnish revised Implementation Reports incorporating the details to the extent of information sought and to fulfill the assurance at the earliest.**
- (v) *USQ 1343 dated 07.03.2018 regarding “information of residents of states working in other states”.*
- (a) On a question asked *inter-alia* ‘whether there is any information with the Government regarding residents of each State working/living in other States; if so, the details thereof; and whether such data are needed to help such people to assure them of minimum facilities and condition of living in the State where they reside’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House’.
- (b) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report furnished by the

Ministry of Labour and Employment, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that All India Survey of Migrant Workers had been launched with effect from 01.04.2021 by the Labour Bureau.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as Ministry had not furnished details of the All India Survey of Migrant Workers which had been initiated on 01.04.2021. The Ministry was further requested to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the final decision in the matter, *vide* this Secretariat's O.M. dated 24.01.2022.
- (d) In pursuance to this Secretariat's O.M. dated 24.01.2022, the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded a revised Implementation Report furnished by the Ministry of Labour and Employment, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that Government of India had entrusted Labour Bureau to conduct All India Survey on Migrant Workers with the objective to generate basic quantitative information on migrant workers and the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on their work. The survey also aimed to throw light on the socio-economic conditions of migrant workers, their education level, vocational/technical training, gender, social group, accommodation (housing), consumption expenditure, income financial inclusion, and change in income after migration. Ministry had further mentioned that the survey was launched on 1st April, 2021 and Labour Bureau was aiming to release the results of all India Survey on Migrant Workers by October, 2022.

- (e) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance again as the All India Survey on Migrant Workers was yet to be released.
- (f) **The Committee recommends that the Ministry should furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the details of All India Survey on Migrant Workers by Labour Survey to the extent of information sought and liquidate the assurance.**
- (vi) ***USQ 3301 dated 24.03.2021 regarding “national minimum wage”.***
- (a) On a question asked *inter-alia* ‘whether it is a fact that Government has suggested nine-hour normal working day in its draft wage code rules but refrained from fixing a national minimum wage; and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘the draft Code on Wages (Central) Rules, 2020 are pre-published in the Gazette of India on 07.07.2020. Comments received from stakeholders have been examined, and the Rules are under finalisation’.
- (b) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report furnished by the Ministry of Labour and Employment, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that in regard to the expression that the Central Government “refrained from fixing a national minimum wage”, it was mentioned that Section 9 of the Code on Wages, 2019 took care of the proposed requirement mentioned above as it provided for fixation of floor wage by the Central Government so as to bring uniformity at the national level. Ministry had further stated that it was incumbent on the Central Government to fix floor wage in terms of Section 9 of the Code. Further, an Expert Group had been

constituted for making recommendations on fixation of minimum wages and national floor level minimum wage.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as rules were still pending for finalization.
- (d) **The Committee is of the view that all the aspects of the question have not been gone through and incomplete Implementation Reports have been provided. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry should strive for early finalization of the pending rules and furnish a revised Implementation Report giving complete details therein to the extent of information sought and assured at the earliest to fulfill the assurance.**

24. MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE

A. Part Fulfilled IR

- (i) *USQ 208 dated 24.04.2015 regarding “implementation of national litigation policy”, and*
- (ii) *USQ 108 dated 02.02.2018 regarding “policy for cutting down inter-departmental litigations”.*
- (a) On similar questions asked to know ‘the steps taken by Government towards implementation of National Litigation Policy; the data pertaining to number of cases where Government is a litigant pending before different courts, Department-wise including duration of pendency and current stage of the cases; the steps taken by Government to encourage settlement *via* ADR by Government Departments and the number of cases in which ADR has been resorted to by Government Departments; the number of cases where action has been taken by Government Departments during the notice period u/s 80 of CPC; and whether Government would create a comprehensive database on pendency of cases’; it was inter-alia stated in the reply that ‘the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 15.03.2022, forwarded Implementation Reports, furnished by the Ministry of Law and Justice, wherein information regarding details of cases where Government was a litigant were given. Ministry had further given details of instructions issued by Government for cutting down inter-departmental litigation.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Reports were treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as National Litigation Policy was still pending for formulation.
- (d) **The Committee notes that the Governments, both Central and State, are the biggest litigants in the country, accounting for nearly half of all pending court cases which is not only causing undue delay in dispensing justice to common people but also a huge undue financial burden to the Government exchequer. The Committee, in this backdrop, recommends the Ministry to expedite the formulation of the National Litigation Policy at the earliest which has been pending since 2015 in order to avoid undue litigation and unnecessary burden on Government resources and fulfill the assurance at the earliest.**
- (iii) *USQ 588 dated 21.11.2019 regarding “ongoing litigation cases in courts”.*
- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘the number and percentage of ongoing litigation cases in courts where Government is a party to the dispute; the percentage of such litigation that has been initiated by Government; the number and percentage of such litigation for an inter-se dispute between Ministries/Departments of Government and PSUs: and whether the Legal Information Management and Briefing System (LIMBS) platform comprehensively tracks all such litigations’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 07.02.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the

Ministry of Law and Justice, wherein information regarding ongoing litigation cases in Courts was provided.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the Ministry did not give the number and percentage of ongoing litigation cases in courts where Government was a party to the dispute. The Ministry was further requested to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the complete information as sought in the question, *vide* this Secretariat's O.M. dated 17.03.2022.
- (d) In pursuance to this Secretariat's O.M. dated 17.03.2022, the Ministry furnished a revised Implementation Report, laid on the Table of the House on 26.07.2022 wherein it *inter-alia* provided revised information regarding ongoing litigation cases in Courts along with the details of information to the extent of information sought. Accordingly, the revised Implementation Report was treated as fulfilment of the assurance by the Committee.
- (e) **The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards the fulfillment of the assurance.**
- (iv) ***USQ 3449 dated 25.03.2021 regarding "recruitment of Judges".***
- (a) On a question asked to know, 'whether out of the sanctioned strength of 1080 Judges in various High Courts of the country, there are just 660 Judges working thereby leaving 40 per cent vacancies; if so, the efforts being made by the Ministry to recruit judges as early as possible; and the details of proposals from various High Courts pending with the Ministry and the SC Collegium', it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that 'there

were 211 vacancies in various High Courts for which recommendations were yet to be received from respective High Court Collegiums’.

- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Law and Justice, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that filling up of vacancies in the High Courts required consultation and approval from various Constitutional Authorities both at State and Central level. Hence, the process of filling up the vacancies of Judges in the higher judiciary became time-consuming. While every effort was made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies do keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges and also due to increase in the strength of Judges. Ministry further mentioned that in various High Courts, 101 Judges had been appointed with effect from 01.01.2021 till 25.10.2021.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the vacancies of Judges were still lying vacant and the Ministry had not given any details of proposals from various High Courts pending with the Ministry and the Supreme Court collegiums. The Ministry was further requested to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the complete details in this regard, *vide* this Secretariat’s O.M. dated 27.12.2021.
- (d) In pursuance to this Secretariat’s O.M. dated 27.12.2021, the Ministry furnished a revised Implementation Report, which was laid on the Table of the House on 26.07.2022, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the number of appointments notified in the year 2016 in respect of High Court Judges was 126, in year 2017 was 115, in year 2018 was 108, in

year 2019 was 81, in year 2020 was 66, in year 2021 was 120 and in year 2022 was 79 (up to 09.06.2022). As per the existing Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) for appointment and transfer of Judges in the High Courts prepared in 1998 pursuant to the Supreme Court judgement of October 6, 1993 (Second Judges case) read with their Advisory Opinion of October 28, 1998 (Third Judges case), the Chief Justice of High Court was required to initiate the proposal for appointment of a judge in the High Court six months prior to the occurrence of vacancy the Government appoints only those persons as Judges of High Courts who were recommended by High Court Collegium/Supreme Court Collegium (SCC). On examination, the revised Implementation Report was treated as fulfilment of the assurance by the Committee.

(e) The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards the fulfilment of the assurance.

(v) *USQ 2024 dated 05.08.2021 regarding “tribunals in the country”.*

(a) On a question asked to know, ‘the number of tribunals functioning as on date; the total number of cases pending in various tribunals as on date, tribunal-wise; the present status of progress made with regard to the merger of various tribunals in the country; whether Government has consulted various Ministries under which the said tribunals are functioning and their responses in this regard; if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government in this regard; and whether these tribunals have been successful in achieving their objectives and if not, the steps taken/being taken by Government to review/improve their functioning’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House’.

- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 16.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Law and Justice.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as Ministry had not given the total number of tribunals functioning as on date and the total number of cases pending in various tribunals, tribunal-wise. The Ministry was advised to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the final decision in the matter, *vide* this Secretariat's OM dated 20.01.2022.
- (d) In pursuance to this Secretariat's O.M. dated 20.01.2022, the Ministry furnished a revised Implementation Report, which was laid on the Table of the House on 26.07.2022, wherein, it *inter-alia* furnished the details of the total number of tribunals and total number of cases pending in various tribunals as on date. On examination, the revised Implementation Report was treated as fulfillment of the assurance by the Committee.
- (e) **The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards the fulfillment of the assurance.**
- (vi) ***USQ 1872 dated 17.03.2022 regarding "stand of Government on appointment of Judges".***
- (a) On a question asked to know, 'details of the stand of Government on National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) vis-à-vis Collegium for appointment of judges; whether Government is contemplating against legislating NJAC and if so, the present status thereof; and the demerits in the Collegium due to which NJAC was considered', it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that 'the Memorandum

of Procedure is under finalization by the Government in consultation with the Supreme Court Collegium’.

- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Law and Justice, wherein Ministry had inter-alia stated that Judges of the Supreme Court of India and High Courts were appointed as per the procedure laid down in the Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) prepared in 1998 pursuant to the Supreme Court Judgement of October 6, 1993 (Second Judges case) read with their Advisory Opinion of October 28, 1998 (Third Judges case). Ministry had further *inter-alia* given the details of development that had taken place in the matter.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) had not been finalized as assured to the House and the MoP of 1998 was still being followed for appointment of judges as stated in the Implementation Report.
- (d) **The Committee expresses its concern over the long delay in the finalization of the Memorandum of Procedure (MOP) which has been pending since 2015. The Committee, therefore, directs the Ministry to expedite consultation with the Supreme Court Collegium for finalization of Memorandum of Procedure and furnish a revised Implementation Report to liquidate the assurance at the earliest.**
- (vii) *USQ 1068 dated 10.02.2022 regarding “creation of Legislative Councils in States”.*

- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘the States in the Union of India where State Legislative Councils are in existence; the State Legislative Assemblies having adopted resolutions for creation of Legislative Councils in their respective States; whether Odisha Legislative Assembly has adopted unanimous resolution for creation of Legislative Council and whether Central Government would move to create such councils under Article 169 of the Constitution, if so, by when, and if not, the reasons therefor’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘the information is being collected from the State Government of Odisha as regards adoption of resolution’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Law and Justice, wherein it was stated that the said resolution had been received from the State Government of Odisha. Further, the creation of the Legislative Councils in States was a lengthy process, which required the approval of the Central Government and thereafter, the said proposal was required to be passed from both the Houses of the Parliament and hence no rigid time frame could be given in the matter.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the Ministry had not given any categorical reply to part (c) of the Question, i.e. “whether Central Government would move to create Legislative Council under Article 169 of the Constitution and if so, by when and if not the reasons therefor”.
- (d) **The Committee agrees with the Ministry that the process for the fulfilment of the assurance is lengthy and that no rigid time frame**

could be given. However, it feels that the matter may not be considered as genuine reasons to treat an assurance as fulfilled. The Committee, therefore, directs the Ministry to obtain the necessary approval from Central Government and place the proposal before both Houses of Parliament for consideration and passing at the earliest and to furnish a revised Implementation Report to fulfill the assurance.

25. MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

A. Part Fulfilled IR

(i) ***SQ 163 dated 03.12.2019 regarding “loan defaulters of Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency”.***

(a) On a question asked to know, ‘the details of loan defaulters, wilful loan defaulters of Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) during the last three years and the current year and the names of such defaulting companies as per the latest estimate; the details of total amount of loan outstanding against the said companies till date, company-wise; the total amount of subsidy given by Government to loan defaulter companies for non-renewable energy projects, company-wise/amount-wise; and the action taken against the loan defaulters/wilful defaulters, company-wise’, it was *inter alia* stated in the reply that recovery action including action under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act is under examination, recall notice issued and filling of application is under process, the company made a representation for reconsideration, which was under examination, etc.

(b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 03.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, wherein it *inter-alia* gave year wise reply to the information sought and details of actions taken/being taken. However, in most of the cases, action taken/being taken was pending for completion.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as action taken was pending by then.

- (d) **The Committee recommends the Ministry to keep pursuing the matter with the National Company Law Tribunal, so that final decision can be arrived at, at the earliest and also keep the Committee apprised of the development that would take place in the matter.**

26.

NITI AAYOG

A. Part Fulfilled IR

- (i) ***USQ 598 dated 20.07.2017 regarding “review of autonomous bodies by Niti Aayog”.***
- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether it is a fact that the National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog is carrying out a review of the autonomous bodies under various Ministries/Departments of Government of India; if so, the details thereof and by when this exercise would be completed; whether it is also a fact that based on this review, the Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC) is to be merged with either Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) or Jamia Milia Islamia; and if so, the reasons therefor and whether the concerned stakeholders were consulted’, it was *inter alia* stated in the reply that ‘the report of the Committee is yet to be finalized’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the NITI Aayog, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that based on the recommendations of the Expenditure Management Commission chaired by Dr. Bimal Jalan, the Ministry of Finance had requested NITI Aayog to undertake a comprehensive review of Autonomous Bodies under various Ministries/Departments. Accordingly, a Committee was set up in 2017 by NITI Aayog. In July, 2018 the Committee submitted Phase-I report in two parts. In Phase-I of the Review, the Committee examined 114 Autonomous Bodies under 7 Ministries/Departments of Government of India. In April, 2019 the Committee submitted Phase-II report in two

parts. In Phase-II, 171 Autonomous Bodies under 21 Ministries/ Department were covered.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as Implementation Report was silent about the merger or otherwise of IIMC. The NITI Aayog was, further, requested to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the final decision in the matter, vide this Secretariat's O.M. dated 27.01.2022.
- (d) In pursuance to this Secretariat's O.M. dated 27.01.2022, the Ministry furnished a revised Implementation Report, which was laid on the Table of the House on 21.03.2022, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the Committee reviewed Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC), an autonomous body under Ministry of Information and Broadcasting under Phase I. The Committee considered that the Institute runs post-graduate diploma courses in development journalism, courses for Indian Information Services, seminars and workshops. Also, research efforts are directed to understand the reach and impact of mass media and communication strategies and programmes are deployed for awareness generation. The Committee had recommended that the IIMC, New Delhi be upgraded and consolidated into a deemed to be University in the longer term, consistent with updated Department of Higher Education (DHE) guidelines. Accordingly, the Implementation Report was treated as fulfillment of the assurance by the Committee.
- (e) **The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards fulfillment of the assurance.**

27. MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ

A. Part Fulfilled IR

(i) *USQ 1828 dated 14.03.2016 regarding “reservation in PRIs”.*

- (a) On a question asked to know ‘Whether Government proposes to bring a legislation to enhance the reservation of women to fifty percent in the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and if so, the details and the present status thereof; the details of States which have introduced fifty percent reservation for women in PRIs; whether the Government proposes to double the tenure of wards reserved for women in Panchayats and if so, the details and the present status thereof; and whether the Government has assessed the performance of PRIs vis-a-vis objectives set and if so, the outcome thereof, State/UT-wise’; it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘proposals in this regard are under consideration of the Government’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that Ministry had, in 2016, considered the proposal to bring a legislation to enhance the reservation for women to fifty percent (50%) in the Panchayati Raj Institutions and to double the tenure of wards reserved for women in Panchayats. Ministry had further mentioned that the matter came within the purview of States and considering the fact that in 25 States which are in Part-IX areas, 21 States had already legislated to enhance the reservation of women to fifty percent (50%) in the Panchayati Raj Institutions. As such, there is no justification to legislate in this matter. This assurance needs to be therefore, dropped from the list of assurances.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as Ministry did not give the outcome of the proposal which was considered in 2016 to bring a legislation to enhance the reservation of women to 50% in PRIs and to double the tenure of wards reserved for women in Panchayats. Ministry was also advised to submit request for dropping the assurance citing convincing reasons therefor.
- (d) In pursuance to the directions of the Committee, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj had vide its O.M. dated 08.06.2022 requested to drop the assurance, which is to be considered by the Committee.
- (e) **The Committee will consider the request for dropping the assurance in its upcoming meeting and the decision taken therein, will be conveyed to the Ministry accordingly.**
- (ii) ***SQ 168 dated 06.03.2020 regarding “sale and control of alcohol and narcotic substances in scheduled areas”.***
- (a) On a question asked to know ‘whether it is a fact that the responsibility of sale and control of alcohol and narcotic substances in Scheduled Areas under the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 (PESA) has been handed over to local Panchayats and Gram Sabhas; whether it is also a fact that this provision is yet to be implemented in the State of Jharkhand; if so, the reasons therefor; and if not, the details of the steps taken by Government to implement the provision in Jharkhand’; it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘State PESA rules of Jharkhand are yet to be approved by the State Government of Jharkhand’.

- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that in terms of Section 4(m)(i) of the provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996, the State Legislature of Jharkhand was to ensure that the Panchayats at the appropriate level and the Gram Sabha were endowed with the power to enforce prohibition or to regulate or restrict the sale and consumption of any intoxicant. Central Government had no jurisdiction in the matter. Further, since the matter was not within the purview of the Central Government, this Assurance needed to be dropped.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as Implementation Report was silent regarding approval of State PESA rules by Government of Jharkhand. Ministry was also advised to submit request for dropping the assurance citing convincing reasons therefor.
- (d) In pursuance to the directions of the Committee, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj had requested to drop the assurance vide its O.M. dated 10.05.2022. **The Committee considered and acceded to the request of the Ministry to drop the assurance at its meeting held on 23.06.2022.**
- (iii) ***SQ 221 dated 13.03.2020 regarding “reservations for SCs/STs in Panchayati Raj Institutions”.***
- (a) On a question asked to know ‘whether the mandatory provision of reservation for persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) under the Constitution (73rd

Amendment) Act are not being observed in certain States / UTs; if so, the details thereof; whether the provisions of the Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act had been extended to Scheduled Areas by an Act passed in 1996 and States were expected to enact the required laws in this regard within one year; and if so, names of the States/UTs which have not enacted the required laws within the prescribed time along with the reasons therefor'; it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that 'Jharkhand, Odisha, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh are yet to frame their State PESA Rules.'.

- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that part (d) of the question had sought factual information regarding names of States/UTs which had not enacted the required laws within the prescribed time and the Ministry had furnished factual information mentioning that Jharkhand, Odisha, Chattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh were yet to frame their State PESA Rules. Ministry had further mentioned that no assurance was given and only the reply had been given according to the nature of the question. The matter of enacting the required laws comes under the purview of States. Only State Legislature were competent to enact required laws and Central Government had no jurisdiction in a matter which comes under the purview of State Legislature.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the Ministry did not furnish reasons for non-enactment of State PESA rules within the prescribed time limits by the states of Jharkhand, Odisha, Chattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh.

Ministry was also advised to submit request for dropping the assurance citing convincing reasons therefor.

- (d) In pursuance to the directions of the Committee, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj had vide its O.M. dated 10.05.2022 requested to drop the assurance, which is to be considered by the Committee.
- (e) **The Committee will consider the request for dropping of the assurance in its upcoming meeting and the decision taken therein, will be conveyed to the Ministry accordingly.**

28. MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS

A. Part Fulfilled IR

- (i) ***USQ 251 dated 25.02.2016 regarding “changes in Civil Services examination”.***
- (ii) ***USQ 258 dated 17.11.2016 regarding “report of Committee on change in pattern of Civil Services examination”.***

(a) On similar questions asked to know *inter-alia* ‘whether Government is contemplating to introduce changes in the pattern, criteria, eligibility, syllabus, etc. of the Civil Services examination conducted by Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), if so, the details thereof; whether any modifications regarding optional papers in mains examinations are being proposed, if so, the details thereof; and whether Government proposes to discontinue the optional papers in mains examinations, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘an Expert Committee had been constituted by Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) under the chairmanship of Shri B.S. Baswan to comprehensively examine the various issues, raised from time to time regarding the Civil Service examination, with respect to the eligibility, syllabus, scheme and pattern of the examination *vide* notice dated 12.08.2015. The Committee has been given extension of time till August 2016 to submit its report’.

(b) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, *vide* their communications dated 02.12.2021, forwarded Implementation Reports furnished by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the recommendations of UPSC on the Baswan Committee had been received in the Department.

(c) On examination, the Implementation Reports were treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as Ministry did not give the details of the recommendations of the Committee along with its outcomes, recommendation-wise.

(d) **The Committee recommends that the Ministry should furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the details of the recommendations of the Committee along with its outcomes, recommendation-wise for its consideration at the earliest and to liquidate the assurance.**

(iii) USQ 537 dated 08.08.2013 regarding “autonomy of CBI”.

(a) On a question asked *inter-alia* ‘whether Union Cabinet has green signalled the enhancing of autonomy of Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in response to Hon’ble Supreme Court’s directions, if so, the details thereof; and whether Government has prepared the draft bill for autonomy of CBI, if so, the details thereof’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘the Government has not yet finalized the draft bill for autonomy of CBI’.

(b) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report furnished by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that following provisions of the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946 had been amended through the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013, which came into force on 16.01.2014. Going in to the details, Ministry had mentioned that Section 4A of the DSPE Act,

1946 was amended to provide for constitution of Selection Committee comprising of the Hon'ble Prime Minister as Chairperson and Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha, the Chief Justice of India or Judge of the Supreme Court nominated by him as Members for appointment of the Director of CBI. Also, a new section, namely section 4BA was inserted providing for a Directorate of Prosecution to be headed by a Director of Prosecution. Section 4C of the DSPE Act was also amended, providing for appointment of the officers at the level of Superintendent of Police and above, except Director, CBI, after recommendation of a Committee consisting of the CVC as the Chairperson and the Vigilance Commissioners, Secretary MHA and Secretary DOP&T as Members, in consultation with the Director of CBI.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as it only gave information about the amendment to Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013, which was made in 2014. The Ministry had been seeking extensions of time on the ground that the draft bill for autonomy of CBI had been sent to Department related Committee and was also being considered by Inter Ministerial Group. But, the Implementation Report was silent on the issue whether the draft bill for autonomy of CBI had been finalized or not.
- (d) **The Committee expresses its displeasure over the fact that the Ministry had side-tracked the core issue related to the assurance by furnishing an evasive and vague Implementation Report. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry should furnish a revised Implementation Report giving the details and status of the draft bill for autonomy of CBI and liquidate the assurance at the earliest.**

(iv) ***USQ 1046 dated 09.03.2017 regarding “compensation to Civil Service aspirants”.***

(a) On a question asked *inter-alia* ‘whether it is a fact that civil service aspirants have demanded compensation in the form of additional attempts; whether it is also a fact that they had lost the chance for additional attempts due to a discriminatory civil service aptitude test paper during the preliminary examination; whether the civil service aspirants have demanded that there should be a level playing field for all aspirants across the country, irrespective of their background; and if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘the report of the Baswan Committee is currently under the consideration of the UPSC and the recommendations of the UPSC on the report are yet to be received’.

(b) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report furnished by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that *the UPSC had submitted its recommendations on Baswan Committee report to the Department.*

(c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the details of the report and the recommendations accepted by the Government had not been given in the Implementation Report.

(d) **The Committee recommends the Ministry to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the details of the recommendations of the Committee alongwith their outcome,**

recommendation-wise for its consideration at the earliest and to liquidate the assurance.

(v) ***USQ 3326 dated 31.03.2022 regarding” representations on Old Pension Scheme”.***

(a) On a question asked *inter-alia* ‘whether Government has received representation from MPs/ex MPs regarding issuing of general orders to revert those officials from National Pension System (NPS) to Old Pension Scheme (OPS) whose advertisements for recruitment were issued before 01/01/2004 but joining occurred after 31/12/2003 in pursuance of various judgments of the Supreme Court whereby date of joining has been rejected as criteria for OPS, to avoid unnecessary litigation; if so, the details of action taken thereon to revert them to OPS, MP-wise; and the details of present status for final decision to revert these officials to Old Pension Scheme (OPS) as on date’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘a reference has been made to Department of Financial Services and Department of Legal Affairs in view of judgments from Hon’ble High Courts allowing benefit of old pension scheme to those Government servants whose selection process is completed after 01.01.2004 and dismissal by Hon’ble Supreme Court, of some of the SLPs filed by Union of India against the orders of Hon’ble High Court of Delhi’.

(b) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report furnished by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, wherein it was stated that “*Comments from Department of Financial Services and Department of Legal Affairs have been received. Department of Financial Services in their comments have conveyed that Department of Pension*

and Pensioners Welfare (DoP&PW) may take appropriate decision in regard to excluding the employees whose recruitment advertisement was issued on or before 01/01/2004 from the purview of NPS and cover them under OPS.

Department of Legal Affairs have furnished their comments on the reference made by this Department, stating that it appears that the Department is seeking our advice to implement a proposal for extending the benefit of CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972 to similarly placed Government servants appointed on or after 01/01/2004 on the basis of date of advertisement or notification of the posts against which they were appointed happens to be prior to notification of NPS for Central Government employees in view of the various judgments of Hon'ble High Courts and Hon'ble Supreme Court. That whether to abide by the directions issued by the judicial forum or challenge the directions issued by the judicial forum before the higher judicial authority in case the directions issued to the Ministry/Department are against the policies of the Ministry/Department are the sole discretion of the Ministry/Department. That in case the issue has attained finality in the Hon'ble Supreme Court then the Ministry/Department has to abide by the directions issued by the apex court otherwise the senior officers of the Ministry/Department may face personal contempt before the apex Court.

Hon'ble High Court have allowed benefit of old pension scheme in respect to some Government servants whose selection process was completed after 01/01/2004. After dismissal of SLPs / Review Petitions filed by Union of India, by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in these cases, it was decided to implement the orders of Hon'ble High Court. However, in view of the specific provisions of the Notification dated 22/12/2003, the

date of advertisement for the vacancies is not considered relevant for determining the eligibility for coverage under the Old Pension Scheme or the National Pension System.”

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as final decision/general orders regarding reverting similarly placed officials to OPS, as asked in part (b) and (c) of the question i.e. “the details of action taken thereon to revert them to OPS, MP-wise; and the details of present status for final decision to revert these officials to Old Pension Scheme (OPS) as on date”, was still pending.
- (d) **The Committee observes that issuing of general executive orders to revert similarly placed officials of Central Government from National Pension System (NPS) to Old Pension Scheme (OPS) who were appointed to Central Government on or after 01.01.2004 on the basis of advertisements/notifications for recruitment issued prior to 01.01.2004, is still pending in spite of the fact that Hon’ble Supreme Court has dismissed a number of SLPs and Review Petitions filed by the Government and has allowed OPS to thousands of employees. Further, Department of Legal Affairs (DoLA), Ministry of Law and Justice, has categorically advised DoP&PW *vide* their note dated 19.05.2022 that the notification dated 22.12.2003 is silent about the date which would determine the applicability of NPS; the date of joining or the date of notification/advertisement. DoLA further states that the examination of the issue in this Department to the effect that an administrative decision to issue executive instructions providing coverage of similarly placed Government servants under Old Pension Scheme appears to be in order. The Committee expresses its**

displeasure over the prolonged inter-Departmental/inter-Ministerial consultation and pending final decision in the matter.

Accordingly, the Committee recommends that DoP&PW should expedite its consultation process, obtain pending concurrence from Department of Expenditure and issue general executive orders in a time bound manner to revert similarly placed Central Government servants from NPS to OPS on the line of judgements of Hon'ble Supreme Court and advice of DoLA dated 19.05.2022, to fulfil the assurance at the earliest and to avoid undue litigation against its own officials along with unnecessary burden on the Government exchequer. Further, the Committee directs that it may be kept apprised of the development taking place in the matter.

29. MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS

A. Part Fulfilled IR

- (i) *USQ 2750 dated 10.08.2016 regarding “expenditure on setting up of mega oil refinery on West Coast”.*
- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether India’s biggest oil refinery that state-run IOCL, BPCL, HPCL and EIL plans to set up on the West Coast will cost 30 million US dollars or ₹2 lac crores, if so, the details thereof; whether the 60 million tonnes a year refinery and a mega petrochemical complex will be set up in two phases, if so, the details thereof and progress made; and whether it is also a fact that being on the West Coast will provide the unit a natural advantage of easily sourcing crude oil from the Middle-East, Africa and South America, if so, the details thereof’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘Engineers India Limited (EIL) is carrying out detailed feasibility study’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, wherein it was stated that the Refinery project was conceived in 2016 and Joint Venture (JV) agreement was signed in 2017 between IOC, BPCL and HPCL. Pre feasibility study report was prepared by EIL and submitted in December, 2018 on the identified land in Ratnagiri and Singhudurg district. However, setting up of the project was held up due to non-allocation of suitable land by the State Government. Therefore, since the matter was beyond the purview of the Ministry, it may please be considered for dropping by the Committee.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the Ministry had in its Implementation Report made a request to drop the assurance and had not given any details about the report prepared by EIL.
- (d) **The Committee observes that the Ministry has not furnished the complete information as sought and assured on the floor of the House. The Committee, therefore, directs the Ministry to furnish revised Implementation Report giving details about the report prepared by EIL and outcome thereof and to liquidate the assurance at the earliest.**
- (ii) *SQ 236 dated 07.12.2016 regarding “probe into inaction by officials on gas flowing into RIL field”.*
- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether it is a fact that Government has launched a probe into the role played by ONGC executives and officials in the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) for their alleged inaction on information about gas from the State run block in the Krishna-Godavari Basin flowing into an adjacent field of Reliance Industries (RIL); and what action is proposed to be taken against the officials who are found responsible for any lapse or lapses’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘while, accepting the recommendations of the Committee, the Government has decided that Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas will conduct an enquiry into the acts of omission and commission on the issue of prior knowledge about the continuity of the reservoirs’.

- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG), wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that based on the recommendation of A.P Shah Committee Report, Addl. Secretary, MoPNG was appointed to conduct enquiry into acts of omission and commission on the issue of prior knowledge about the continuity of the reservoirs. Since, the Addl. Secretary was transferred from this Ministry, Joint Secretary (E), P&NG, now Additional Secretary (E), was entrusted with the task to conduct enquiry in the matter. Additional Secretary (E), P&NG has conducted the enquiry and submitted its report on 16.04.2021.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the Ministry had not given any details of the probe report and specific answer to each part of the question asked. The Ministry was further requested to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the complete details to the extent of information sought in the question, *vide* this Secretariat's O.M. dated 07.02.2022.
- (d) In pursuance to this Secretariat's O.M. dated 07.02.2022, the Ministry furnished a revised Implementation Report, laid on the Table of the House on 26.07.2022, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the Additional Secretary (E), P&NG in his report found that the issues being enquired were part of the ongoing litigation relating to the block. The report concluded that it would not be appropriate to conduct an additional enquiry on over-lapping or parallel issues which were under consideration of the Court as the same would have serious implications for the on-going proceedings before the Court.

- (e) On examination, the Implementation Report was again treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the Ministry had not given details about action taken/proposed to be taken against the officials who were found responsible for any lapse or lapses as asked in part (b) of the question i.e. “what action is proposed to be taken against the officials who are found responsible for any lapse or lapses, the details thereof”.
- (f) **The Committee is of the view that subject-matter of the assurance is of sufficient public importance as it involves case of potential corruption and loss of Government revenue. The Committee, further, expresses its displeasure over the fact that assurance has been pending for more than 6 years. The Committee, therefore, directs the Ministry to furnish revised Implementation Report mentioning details about action taken/proposed to be taken against the officials who were found responsible for lapses on their part and to fulfill the assurance.**
- (iii) *USQ 2689 dated 11.12.2019 regarding “permission to private companies to sell subsidized LPG”.*
- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating on allowing private companies to sell subsidized LPG; if so, the details thereof; and whether the process has already started, if so, the details thereof’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘the Government has constituted an Expert Committee to study issues related to parallel marketing system of LPG in the country also taking into consideration the existing structure of LPG marketing in the country. So far, four meetings of the Expert Committee have been held’.

- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, wherein it was stated that the expert Committee had submitted its report.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the details of the report of the Expert Committee to study issues related to parallel marketing system of LPG in the country also taking into consideration the existing structure of LPG marketing in the country, had not been given.
- (d) **The Committee expresses its displeasure over the fact that the Ministry has not furnished complete information as sought in the question. The Committee, therefore, directs that Ministry should furnish revised Implementation Report giving details of the recommendations made in the report of the Expert Committee along with action taken thereon to fulfill the assurance.**
- (iv) *SQ 167 dated 04.08.2021 regarding “drilling operation for hydrocarbons in Cauvery Delta”.*
- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘how many drilling operations for hydrocarbons were permitted by Government before declaration of Cauvery Delta as agriculture zone by the State Government of Tamil Nadu; how many drillings are being operated in the Cauvery Delta area, Ariyalur and Pudukkottai districts after being declared as agriculture zone; whether bid process for drilling in Cauvery basin has been started recently; if so, the details thereof; and whether permissions for new extraction in the area has been sought and if so, the response of

Government thereto’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘Permission for the following activities in the ongoing projects have been sought in the Cauvery Delta region’. i. Petroleum Mining Lease (PML) for two blocks (CY-ONN-2002/2 and CY-ONN-2004/2), awarded under National Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) have applied for development activities, and the same has been recommended by the Government of India to the State Government for consideration. ii. PML for two Contract Areas (CY/ONDSF/NEDUVASAL/2016 and CY/ONDSF/KARAIKAL/2016), awarded under Discovered Small Field (DSF) Bid Round-I in 2017 have applied for development activities, and the same has been recommended by the Government of India to the State Government for consideration’.

- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the contracts had been signed between the Government of India and contractors of two blocks. Further, as per Rules of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Rules, 1959 in case of an on land block, the State Government was empowered to grant Petroleum Mining Lease after approval of the Central Government. Government of India had conveyed its prior approvals to the concerned State Government for grant of PML in respect of above said four contracts. For on land blocks, the contractor under contractual obligation applied for PML to the concerned State Government. The operator of respective Block/contracts had applied for grant of PML to the State Government. Ministry had further mentioned that further action in the matter was required to be taken by the respective State Government.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the Ministry had not given details of the final decision in respect of permission for new extraction/activities in the Cauvery Delta region as assured on the floor of the House. The Ministry was further requested to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the details of the final decision in the matter, *vide* this Secretariat's O.M. dated 20.01.2022.
- (d) In pursuance to this Secretariat's O.M. dated 20.01.2022, the Ministry furnished a revised Implementation Report, which was laid on the Table of the House on 26.07.2022. However, the Implementation Report furnished by the Ministry was the same as furnished earlier and accordingly, it was again treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the Ministry had not given details of the final decision in respect of permission for new extraction/activities in the Cauvery Delta region as assured on the floor of the House.
- (e) **The Committee expresses its displeasure over the furnishing of similar Implementation Report which had already been examined and treated as part-fulfilled by the Committee. The Committee directs the Ministry to furnish revised Implementation Report giving details of the final decision in respect of permission for new extraction/activities in the Cauvery Delta region and liquidate the assurance at the earliest.**

30. MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

A. Part Fulfilled IR

- (i) *SQ 166 dated 14.03.2016 regarding “setting up a Maritime Board in Andhra Pradesh”.*
- (a) On a supplementary question asked to know, ‘after approval to Andhra Pradesh Maritime Board, will the Central Government give logistic support to the State Government’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘this is an important issue regarding procedure for which a Secretary level Review Committee will be appointed and State Government will be consulted to examine the changes that can be brought out in this Act. We will think over this.’
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 07.02.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that Andhra Pradesh Maritime Board Act, 2018 was then in force, therefore assurance may be treated as fulfilled.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as Part-fulfillment of the assurance as assurance was on logistic support to the State Government by the Central Government and Implementation Report was silent regarding logistic support to the State Government.
- (d) **The Committee observes that although the Andhra Pradesh Maritime Board Act, 2018 is in force now, no mention has been made regarding providing logistic support to the State Government. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry should furnish a revised Implementation Report giving complete information as**

sought in the question regarding the provisions with respect to providing logistic support to the State Government.

(ii) *USQ 951 dated 10.02.2020 regarding “Sagarmala and Bharatmala Programme at Nellore”.*

- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘details of each of the five projects proposed under Sagarmala and two projects under Bharatmala Programme in Nellore district of Andhra Pradesh; status of preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for each of the above project; details of funds that Government is planning to get for each of the above project, project-wise; and by when the projects are likely to be completed and what would be the employment potential that is likely to be created’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘a total of 12 projects worth Rs. 8,320 crore have been identified in Nellore district in the State of Andhra Pradesh under Sagarmala Programme.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that out of 8 projects, 1 was completed and 7 were at various stages of apprising/approval and implementation.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as Part-fulfillment of the assurance as 7 out of 8 projects were pending.
- (d) **The Committee observes that the projects under Sagarmala and Bharatmala Programme envisage to build world-class port capacity in terms of quality and quantity, improve infrastructure development leading to better competitiveness in logistics, increase industrialization and job creation. In view of the significance and importance attached to these projects, the Committee recommends**

that the Ministry should expedite the process for completion of these projects and in the meantime, also keep the Committee apprised of the development taking place in this regard.

31. MINISTRY OF POWER

A. Part Fulfilled IR

(i) ***USQ 1104 dated 20.09.2020 regarding “reforms in the power sector”***

- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether Government has taken a decision to bring power reforms in the country; if so, the details thereof; whether the State Governments have been consulted in this regard; if so, the details of suggestions put before the Union Government by the State Governments’, it was *inter alia* stated in the reply that “the details of these reforms are still in a draft stage and no final decision been taken. The Tariff Policy and Amendment Bill will be finalised after taking into consideration the suggestions made by the State Governments’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 07.02.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Power, wherein Ministry had *inter-alia* given the details of reforms which were taken on the suggestions of the stakeholders.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the fate of Tariff Policy and Amendment Bill to be finalized after taking into consideration the suggestions by the State Governments had not been mentioned in the Implementation Report.
- (d) **The Committee expresses its displeasure over the fact that the Ministry in its Implementation Report had not addressed the core issues involved in assurance given on the floor of the House. The Committee, therefore, recommends the Ministry to furnish a revised**

Implementation Report giving the details regarding the fate of Tariff Policy and Amendment Bill which was to be finalized after taking into consideration the suggestions by the State Governments, to fulfil the assurance.

32. MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

A. Part Fulfilled IR

- (i) *SQ 322 dated 27.04.2012 regarding "gauge conversion under Western Railway".*
- (a) On a supplementary question asked *inter-alia* to know, 'what is the status of work of Somnath to Kodinar and by when will it be completed'; it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that 'this is under preparation. We will try to complete this work as soon as possible'.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Railways, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the land acquisition papers for the project for 206 hectare land had been submitted to the State Government in December, 2015. Land acquisition process was held up due to agitation of local public and the matter had been discussed at various levels for expediting land acquisition. The execution and completion of this new line depended on land acquisition, which was a State matter and beyond the control of Railways.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the land acquisition process for the project had not been completed.
- (d) **The Committee is astonished to note that around 10 years have lapsed since assurance was made; however, it is still pending for fulfillment. The Committee also notes that land acquisition process for the project has been stuck due to agitation by the local public and observes that after a lapse of such long duration, some amicable**

solution should have been arrived at by now. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry should engage with all stakeholders to arrive at a consensus so that the execution and completion of this new line is completed soon.

(ii) *USQ 2302 dated 31.08.2012 regarding "connecting border areas of Nepal with new railway lines".*

(a) On a question asked to know, ‘the initiatives being taken by Government to connect the border areas of Nepal with new railway line; whether survey related to these projects have been completed; and if so, the steps being taken by Government towards construction of these projects in view of the survey’; it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘two projects namely Jogbani-Biratnagar new line and Jayanagar-Bijalपुरा gauge conversion with extension to Bardibas have been included in the Railway Budget in the year 2010-11 and are in different stages of execution’.

(b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Railways, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the Jaynagar-Bijalपुरा, including extension between, Bijalपुरा-Bardibas (Nepal)(69.08 km) project covered 2.99 Km in India and balance 65.729 Km in Nepal. This project was sanctioned in the year 2009-10 and being executed as deposit work of Ministry of External Affairs (MBA). Executing agency for this work was IRCON. The original cost of this project was Rs 470 crore. Detailed estimate was sanctioned at a cost of Rs 548 crore. Latest sanctioned cost of the project was Rs 784 crore. Cumulative expenditure of Rs 550 crore had been incurred. Work had been completed between Jayanagar and Kurtha (34 kilometer) section and work had been taken up

in Kurtha-Bijalpura Section. Further, 65 hectare land between Bijalpura to Bardibas (16.554 Km) was yet to be handed over by the Nepal Government. Regarding Jogbani-Biratnagar (Nepal) (18.60 kilometer) new line project, Ministry had submitted that project covers 5.50 kilometer in India and 13.50 kilometer in Nepal. That project was being executed through 100 percent funding by Ministry of External Affairs. Anticipated cost of that project was Rs 402 crore and executing agency for this work was IRCON. Land acquisition was complete in Indian as well as Nepal portion. Expenditure of Rs 311 crore had been incurred. Bathnaha-Nepal custom yard (8 kilometer) section had been completed and work in remaining section of Nepal custom yard - Biratnagar (10.60 kilometer) had been taken up.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the work on Kurtha-Bijalpura section and remaining section of Nepal custom yard – Biratnagar was yet to be completed. The Ministry was further requested to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the final decision in the matter, vide this Secretariat's O.M. dated 07.02.2022.
- (d) In pursuance to this Secretariat's O.M. dated 07.02.2022, the Ministry furnished a revised Implementation Report, which was laid on the Table of the House on 26.07.2022, incorporating the details to the extent of information sought. Accordingly, the Implementation Report was treated as fulfillment of the assurance.
- (e) **The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards fulfillment of the assurance.**

(iii) *USQ 277 dated 23.11.2012 regarding "converting single line railway track into double line".*

- (a) On a question asked to know, 'whether Government proposes to convert single line railway track passing through Lakhimpur in Uttar Pradesh into double line; if so, by when this line would be converted into double line; and if not, the reasons therefor'; it was *inter-alia* in the reply stated that 'the gauge conversion work will be completed in coming years subject to availability of resources'.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Railways, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the work was held up in Shahgarh to Pilibhit section for want of wildlife clearances in Tiger Reserve. Further, wildlife clearance was in process by the State Government and Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, which was beyond the control of Railways.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the project has not been completed yet.
- (d) **The Committee is astonished to note that around 10 years have passed since the assurance was given on the floor of the House, however, the project has not been completed yet. The Committee further notes that the work for the project has been held up for want of the wildlife clearances and the Ministry has submitted that the matter is beyond its control as it is being dealt with by the State Government and the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. The Committee observes that since all the**

Ministries/Departments are collectively responsible, the submission of the Ministry of Railways i.e. the matter is beyond its control, is not tenable. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry shall keep pursuing the matter with the State Government and the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to expedite the process of wildlife clearances and shall also keep the Committee apprised of the development that would take place in the matter.

(iv) USQ 1082 dated 13.12.2013 regarding “strategic railway line projects”.

- (a) On a question asked to know ‘whether there is a plan to lay strategic railway lines close to border with China and Pakistan to facilitate movement of army and armaments in time of urgency; and if so, the details of the plan indicating the expenditure likely to be incurred and the time-frame within which the project is likely to be completed’; it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘survey has been taken up for the rest of proposals. Proposals would be considered after completion of survey and arrangement of funds’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 07.02.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Railways, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that out of the 14 identified strategic railway lines, surveys had been completed for all the projects. Ministry had also mentioned that out the 14 projects, 3 projects namely Murkongselek-Pasighat-Rupai new line etc. were already sanctioned.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the surveys of remaining 11 projects were yet to be sanctioned.

B. Deliberations during Study Visits

- (d) The Committee interacted with representatives of the Ministry of Railways at Srinagar on 10th May, 2022 in connection with examination of the issues involved in USQ 1082 dated 13.12.2013 regarding strategic railway line projects pertaining.
- (e) On a question asked to know ‘whether there is a plan to lay strategic railway lines closer to border with China and Pakistan to facilitate the movement of army and armaments in time of urgency, if so, the details of the plan indicating the expenditure likely to be incurred and time frame within which the project is likely to be completed’, the Railway Minister had replied that ‘13 ongoing railway projects comprising 1 project in Jammu and Kashmir, 1 project of Uttarakhand, 11 projects of North East region were in the vicinity of border areas and were identified as railway projects in border areas with strategic importance. The projects were progressing as per availability of resources and hence the likely date of their completion cannot be fixed. Further, Ministry of Defence had identified 14 strategic railway lines for sanction. Out of these Rishikesh-Karanprayag & Firozpur-Patti projects have been sanctioned. Survey has been taken up for the rest of proposals. Proposals would be considered after completion of survey & arrangement of funds’.
- (f) The Committee noted that laying such strategic railway lines for connecting border areas with the rest of the mainland is of paramount

importance as it would enable swift movement of our Army and other requisite resources in times of urgency. Also from overall socio-economic point of view, connecting the border areas with the mainland is very important. The assurance pertains to the year 2013. It is more than 8 years old. In this background, the Committee desired to know from the Ministry of Railways regarding the details of progress made, so far, in respect of all the projects in general and Udhampur-Baramulla project in J&K in particular and by when those projects were likely to be completed. The Committee also enquired whether the lone project in J&K was running as per the schedule. The Committee further desired to hear the views of the representatives of the Government of UT of Jammu and Kashmir on the latest development that had taken place in the matter.

- (g) Representative of the Ministry of Railways informed the Committee that the Ministry of Defence had identified 14 strategic railway lines. Out of the 14 identified strategic railway lines, surveys had been completed for all the projects. Out of above mentioned 14 projects, 3 projects namely Murkongselek Pasighat New Line (30.61 km), Patti- Ferozpur new line (25 km) and Rishikesh -Karnprayag (125 km) new line had been sanctioned. The Ministry also gave the status of all the 14 strategic railway lines identified by Ministry of Defence, as under:

S. N.	Description of Strategic Line	Survey/FLS/Project	Funded by	Estimated Cost (in Cr)	Remarks

1	Murkon gselek- Pasighat - Rupai NER	Murkong selek - Pasighat new line (26.15 Km)	Project	MoR	414.8 5	Acquisition of balance land (around 129 Ha.) is pending since April, 2017 due to higher compensation rate fixed by G/O Arunachal Pradesh.
						Revised rate of land submitted to G/O Arunachal Pradesh in first week of Feb' 2022. Approval of land estimate accorded by G/O Arunachal Pradesh on 09.04.2022.
						Thereafter, as per demand received from DC, Pasighat on 13.04.2022, total amount of Rs. 185 Cr. deposited on 19.04.2022.
						Handing over of balance land

						awaited.
		Pasighat-Parasurra mkund-Rupai new line (217.83 Km.)	Final Location Survey (FLS)	MoD	8985.22 (2020-21)	Estimate and report submitted to Rly. Bd. Vide L/No.W/348/Con/Survey?Rupai-Pasighat/FLS dtd. 31.01.20. Observation complied & sent to Rly. Bd. On 31.03.21.
2	Misamari-Tenga-Tawang new line NFR (201.46Km)	FLS	MoD	54,474	Estimate vetted by finance and DPR is under approval of GM/CON. TDC-May' 2022	
3	North Lakhimpur-Along-Silapathar new line NFR (96.02 Km)	FLS	MoD	30,531	Estimate sent to finance for vetting. TDC- May' 2022	
4	Patti- Firozpur new line (25 Km.) NR	Project	MoD	299	Project sanctioned Land free of cost to be provided by Punjab Government A total of 165 hectare of land to	

					be acquired by State Government
					Assured by Aug' 2022.
					TDC Jun' 25
5	Jodhpur-Jaisalmer Doubling (290 Km.) NWR	Preliminary Survey	MoD	1032 ((2012)	RECT survey of Jodhpur to Jaisalmer. Doubling project (290 Km) was carried out in 2012. Survey report was sent to Railway Board on 13.12.2012 with following details: Lenght = 290.46 Km Cost = 1032.17 Cr. ROR = (-) 0.02% Railway Board has shelved the report on 04.09.2013.
6	Pathankot – Leh New Line (664 Km.) NR	Preliminary Survey	MoR	70308 (2017)	Pathankot – Leh The Reconnaissance cum Engineering

			and traffic survey (RETS) report has been submitted to Railway Board on 02.05.2017 with following details: Length : 664.94 Km
			Cost: Rs. 70308.08 Cr.
			ROR: (-) 4.64%
			It was decido provide connectivity to Leh via Pathankot – Mukerian – Talwara – Bhanupalli – Bilaspur – Manali – Leh
			The report for Final Location for Survey for Bilaspur (Beri) – Manali – Leh new BG Rail line has been submitted to railway Board on

				19.04.2022 with following details Lenght: 489.434 Km
				Cost: Rs. 99,201.4 Crore
	Bilaspur-Manali – Leh NR (489.43 Km)	Final Location Survey (FLS)	99201 (2021)	ROR: (-) 14.16%
			MoD	The present anticipated cost for Final Location Survey from Bilaspur (Beri) to Leh is 120 cr.
7	Tanakpur-Bageshwar new line (155 Km.) NER	Preliminary Survey	MoR 6967 (2021)	FLS Survey is in progress by IRCON infrastructure and services Ltd. ROR (-) 5.93% Target- Nov' 22
8	Jammu – Akhnoor – Poonch new line – (223 Km) NR	Preliminary Survey	MoR 22772 (2018)	The Updating report of Reconnaissance cum Engineering

					and traffic survey (RETS) has been submitted to railway Board in Sept, 2017 with following details:
					Lenght: 223.075 Km
					Cost: Rs. 22,771.55 Crore
					ROR: (-) 4.54%
					Project Report submitted to Rly. Bd. On 15.09.2017. Report shelved by Rly. Bd. Vide Letter No. 2017/W-2/NR/SY/NI/38 dated 03.05.2019.
9	Dehradun – Uttarkashi new line (83 Km) NR	Reconnais sance Engineer Cum traffic Survey (RET)	MoR	4653 (2017)	Reconnaissance Engineer um traffic Survey (RET) report has been submitted to Railway Board on 05.07.2017 with following details:

						Lenght: 82.837 Km
						Cost: Rs. 4,652.85 Crore
						ROR: (-) 5.53%
						Project Report submitted to Rly. Bd. On 05.07.2017.
10	Rishikesh Karanprayarag - Chamoli NR	Rishikesh Karanprayarag new line (125 Km)	Project	MoR	24,659	Work sanctioned and being executed by RVNL.
						Progress- 30%
						TDC- Dec' 24
		Karanprayarag- Chamoli new line (28 Km)	Preliminary Survey	MoR	1301 -2013	Survey completed in 2014.
11	Anupgarh- Chattargarh- Motigarh- Bikaner new line (151 Km) NWR		Preliminary Survey	MoR	973 (2013)	Updating RECT survey of Anupgarh- Chattargarh- Motigarh- Bikaner new line project (151 Km) was carried out in 2015 which was initially conducted by NR in year 2005.

					Updated survey report was sent to railway Board on 05.08.2015 with following details:
					Lenght = 154.23 Km
					Cost = 972.92 Cr.
					ROR = (-) 6.42%
12	Tanakpur – Jauljibi new line (107 Km) NER	Preliminary Survey	MoR	5276 (2014)	Survey report submitted to RB's on 25.08.2014. Presently, the project was deleted from Blue book 2015-16.
13	Jodhpur – Agolai – Shergarh – Phalsund new line (116 Km) NWR	Preliminary Survey	MoR	429 (2012)	RECT survey of Jodhpur – Agloi-Shergarh- Phalsund new line project (116 Km) was carried out in 2011-12 with following details: Lenght= 116 Km Cost= 428.59 Cr. ROR = (-) 8.04%

					Survey report was sent to Railway Board on 26.04.2012
14	Srinagar – Kargil – Leh new line (480 Km) NR	Reconnais sance Engineer Cum traffic Survey	MoR	55896 (2016)	<p>The Reconnaissance cum Engineering and traffic Survey (RETS) report has been submitted to Railway Board on 01.03.2017 with following details:</p> <p>Lenght: 501.34 Km</p> <p>Cost: Rs. 55,895.79 Crore</p> <p>ROR: (-) 3.51%</p> <p>Project Report submitted to Rly. Bd. On 01.03.2017.</p>

- (h) **The Committee observes that the lack of adequate infrastructure on the borders is one of India’s most pressing strategic vulnerabilities. These strategic railway lines will definitely strengthen India’s borders as it would ease movement of our army across the borders during contingencies. In the wake of China’s aggressive building of infrastructure near border areas, it has become more important than ever that these strategic railway lines are completed soon. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry shall make all**

out efforts for the completion of strategic railway lines as per schedule and also keep the Committee apprised of the development that would take place in the matter.

(v) ***USQ 3071 dated 21.02.2014 regarding “suburban railway corridors in Bengaluru”.***

(a) On a question asked to know, ‘the details of under construction /pending rail over bridge (ROB)/rail under bridge (RUB) and manned and unmanned level crossings in Madhya Pradesh; whether implementation of these projects is being carried out as per schedule; if not, project-wise reasons for delay therefor; the number of sanctioned and operational ROB/RUBs in Madhya Pradesh and present status thereof; and by when above said projects are likely to be completed’; it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘remaining ROB/RUBs are at various stages of planning, estimation and execution’.

(b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Railways, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that as on 01.04.2014, 56 ROB and 368 RUBs were sanctioned in Madhya Pradesh. Out of 56 ROB, 25 ROB had been completed, 8 ROB would be executed by MoRTH, 15 ROB were pending due to issues pertaining to the State Government and work was under progress on 8 ROB. Further, out of 368 RUB, 293 RUB had been completed, 9 LCs had been permanently closed, for 65 locations, RUB work not feasible and work was in progress at 1 location.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as several ROBs and RUBs are pending for execution.
- (d) **The Committee expresses its displeasure over the fact that around 8 years have already passed since the assurance was given on the floor of the House, but several ROBs and RUBs are still pending for consideration. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry shall expedite and complete the process for execution of ROBs and RUBs on priority basis and apprise the Committee accordingly.**
- (vi) *USQ 1395 dated 31.07.2015 regarding "opposition of Bibek Debroy Committee recommendations".*
- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether the report of Bibek Debroy Committee on large-scale reform and restructuring of Railways is under consideration of Government; whether the report, inter-alia, calls for separation of the Railway Board and the Ministry; whether the confederation of railway workmen unions have come out strongly against the Committee recommendations; and how Government plans to push through the Debroy Committee reform measures in the face of status-quoist attitude of thirteen lakh strong workforce bent upon rejecting the same’; it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘the views of the employees including that of the railway unions need to be considered before acceptance/implementation of the recommendations of the Debroy Committee’.

- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 07.02.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Railways, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated the views of the major Federations representing 95% of the total Railway employees had been taken into consideration before taking a view on implementation of the recommendations of the Debroy Committee.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the Ministry had given vague response to part (d) of the question i.e. ‘how Government plans to push through the Debroy Committee reform measures in the face of status-quoist attitude of thirteen lakh strong workforce bent upon rejecting the same’. Further, it was not clear from the Implementation Report whether the Debroy Committee recommendations have been accepted and implemented or not. The Ministry was further requested to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the final decision in the matter, *vide* this Secretariat’s O.M. dated 04.02.2022.
- (d) In pursuance to this Secretariat’s O.M. dated 04.02.2022, the Ministry of Railways had furnished a revised Implementation Report which was laid on the floor of the House on 25.07.2022 *inter-alia* stating that 17 recommendations had already been implemented and acted upon. Further, for 10 recommendations, part of the recommendations was considered implementable and the same had been implemented, balance part of these 10 recommendations were not found suitable due to administrative reasons. 6 recommendations were found suitable for implementation. Accordingly, the Implementation Report was treated as fulfillment of the assurance as the Ministry had furnished the details to the extent of information sought.

- (e) **The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards early fulfillment of the assurance**
- (vii) ***SQ 137 dated 11.12.2015 regarding “expansion of Dehradun railway station”.***
- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether Railways have planned for expansion of Dehradun railway station; if not, whether they are aware that Dehradun railway platform is not equipped for halting of a train with 18 coaches; and by when trains with 18 coaches will be operationalized from Dehradun railway station; and if not, the reasons therefor’; it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘work in this regard has already been taken up and 18 coach services will be introduced after completion of the work.’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Railways, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that under the works for running of 18 coach trains involved development of 5 stations. The work at three stations i.e. Raiwala, Harrakwala & Doiwala had already been completed and commissioned and at balance two stations i.e. Dehradun & Motichur, the work was in advance stage of completion and was likely to be completed and commissioned by this financial year.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the 18 coach service was pending for introduction.

(d) **The Committee expresses its displeasure over the fact that 18 coach service at Dehradun railway station is still pending in spite of the fact that around 7 years have passed since the assurance was given on the floor of the House. The Committee, therefore, recommends the Ministry to expedite and complete the process for completion of the projects and also keep the Committee apprised of the development that would take place in the matter.**

(viii) *USQ 428 dated 18.11.2016 regarding “eliminating railway level crossings on national highways”.*

(a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether Railways have signed an MoU with the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways to eliminate railway level crossings on National Highways; if so, the number of railway level crossings eliminated by construction of ROBs/RUBs during the last two years of signing of the MoU; the reasons for very slow pace of implementation of the MoU; and the fresh steps taken by Government to expedite the process of eliminating railway level crossings on national highways’; it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘out of total 319, 166 were General Arrangement Drawings approved by Railways, 126 are under examination with MORTH/NHAI and balance 27 are under examination with Railways’.

(b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Railways, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that all the General Arrangement Drawings (GADs) pursued by NHAI had been approved.

(c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the Ministry did not give the figure of

ROBs/RUBs constructed to eliminate railway level crossings on National Highways and even after a lapse of almost 5 years, it had stated that GADs had been approved.

(d) **The Committee recommends the Ministry to furnish comprehensive details and facts in the matter while furnishing an ‘Implementation Report’ incorporating all details as sought in the question and assured in the House. The Committee further directs that the details regarding the figure of ROBs/RUBs constructed to eliminate railway level crossings on National Highways should be provided to fulfil the assurance at the earliest.**

(ix) *SQ 123 dated 29.11.2019 regarding “installation of Real-time Train Information System”.*

(a) On a supplementary question asked to know, ‘whether the Department has already tested this Real-Time Train Information System (RTIS), after introducing it; has it been able to prevent trains accidents’; it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘as of now, we have been able to introduce it in 2649 out of 8700 locomotives. We are focusing first on the Golden Quadrilateral because that has the maximum traffic. Trials have not yet got completed. They are still underway’.

(b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Railways, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the implementation of the Phase-I of Real-time Train Information System (RTIS) Project for installation of these devices on 2700 locomotives was completed in December 2019 as per the target timelines. The system was

presently operational on ISRO's (Indian Space Research Organisation) Satcom hub at Delhi Earth Station (DES). S.P. Marg, New Delhi. The RTIS system trials should be considered as complete after the system was operationalized using RTIS Satcom hub co-located with CRIS' data center at Chanakyapuri, New Delhi; and recommendations of ISRO for operating RTIS system with 2.4 kbps data rate & 500 msec slot duration were implemented. Although RTIS Satcom hub was ready in all respects, it could be made operational only after statutory clearances were given by DoT/WPC/NOCC/SACFA {Department of Telecommunications (DoT) / Wireless Planning and Coordination(WPC)/Network Operation & Control Centre (NOCC)/ Standing Advisory Committee on Radio Frequency Allocation (SACFA)}. The work for installation of RTIS devices on 6000 more devices had been sanctioned and the implementation process had been initiated. The tender for implementation of RTIS in 6000 more electric locomotives was in advance stage of finalisation. RTIS system was introduced in Railways leveraging satellite technologies, for tracking the real-time movement of locomotives and thus the train to which the locomotives are attached. This real-time monitoring of locomotives/trains helps Railways in better planning of running, accuracy in reporting of running and better utilization of running staff. This system provides an additional means of communication to Loco Pilots to report the unusual /abnormalities in emergency to the control office, while the train is "on run". This additional feature combined with the ability to have precise location of the locomotive will lead to quick restoration in case of any unusual occurrence. Thus there will be an overall improvement in safety situation on Indian Railway.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as RTIS system trials as assured on the floor of the House were still pending for completion.
- (d) **The Committee observes that RTIS system would enable automatic acquisition of train movement timings at the stations, including that of arrival & departure or run-through, and would enable the train controllers to track the location and speed of trains more closely, without any manual intervention. Accordingly, the Committee recommends the Ministry to complete the trials of RTIS systems at the earliest, so that this system could be introduced/implemented on the Railways across the country and assurance could be fulfilled.**
- (x) *USQ 2982 dated 13.12.2019 regarding “status of condition of ROB in Uttar Pradesh”.*
- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether construction of road over bridge at Anjhi Shahabad and Sandila stations of Hardoi district in Uttar Pradesh is long overdue and pending; if so, the reasons therefor; the progress of the projects and the anticipated time for completion of the above project’; it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘further action will be taken after receipt of detailed estimate of approaches for ROB at Anjhi Shahbad and consent of the State Government in case of ROBs of Sandila Station’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Railways, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that for Anjhi-Shahbad ROB, work for construction of ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 300 had been sanctioned in 2018-19. General Arrangement Drawing for

the work had been approved and consolidated detailed estimate was under examination for sanction. Further, for Sandila ROB, Ministry had stated that the consent for cost sharing had been received from the State Government and the proposal was under process for sanction by Railways.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the Ministry did not state the anticipated time for completion of the projects. The Ministry was further requested to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the final decision in the matter, vide this Secretariat's O.M. dated 11.02.2022.
- (d) In pursuance to this Secretariat's O.M. dated 11.02.2022, the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded a revised Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Railways, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that work at Anjhi-Shahbad ROB and Sandila ROB had been sanctioned and generally, there was no problem of construction of ROBs/RUBs in railway's portion. However, the problem was faced in construction of approaches because of many factors such as fixing of alignment of approaches, land acquisition etc. and therefore, it was not feasible to fix timelines for completion of these ROBs.
- (e) On examination, the IR was again treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance in view of part (c) of the question i.e. 'the anticipated time for completion of the above project' and pendency of completion of ROBs/RUBs.

(d) **The Committee recommends the Ministry to expedite and complete the process for completion of the ROBs/RUBs and also keep the Committee apprised of the development that would take place in the matter and to fulfill the assurance at the earliest.**

(xi) *USQ 1896 dated 06.03.2020 regarding “private trains in the country”.*

(a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether Railways would provide private trains with train compartments, engine, loco running staff etc. for its operation; if so, charges levied on each private train for its operation using the infrastructure provided by Railways; whether it is a fact that normal train services would be affected by private trains as the normal trains are delayed to make the private trains run on time; and the profit Government has received, so far, from private players by allowing them to operate trains using the infrastructure of Indian Railways’; it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘the details in this regard including charges payable by the Operators have not been finalized and the likely profit to be generated can be estimated only after the completion of the bidding process’.

(b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Railways, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that no passenger train service over Indian Railways was being operated by private train operators.

(c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the details of charges that would be levied on each private train for its operation using infrastructure provided by

Railways had not been furnished by the Ministry by then. The Ministry was further requested to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the final decision in the matter, vide this Secretariat's O.M. dated 07.02.2022.

- (d) In pursuance to this Secretariat's O.M. dated 07.02.2022, the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded a revised Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Railways, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that no passenger train service over Indian railways was being operated by private train operators; as such, the question of charges levied on each private train for its operation using the infrastructure provided by Railways did not arise.
- (e) On examination, the Implementation Report was again treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the Ministry did not give the details about the progress made on private operators of Indian Railways.
- (d) **The Committee notes that recently on 14th June, 2022, under Bharat Gaurav Scheme, Indian Railways' Southern Railway Zone has started the service of privately-run 'Bharat Gaurav trains' from Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu to Shirdi in Maharashtra. In view of this fact, the submission of the Ministry in its Implementation Report i.e., 'no passenger train service over Indian Railways is being operated by private train operator appears to be misleading. The Committee, therefore, recommends the Ministry to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the information as sought in the question and also the details of progress made on private operators in Indian Railways, at the earliest to fulfill the assurance.**

(xii) **USQ 2358 dated 13.03.2020 regarding “Railway Recruitment Notification, 2019”.**

- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘the details of number of applications received against Notification for Group D and Non-Technical Popular Categories posts released in 2019, category-wise; the details of total amount collected against payment of application fee for above-mentioned recruitment drive; whether it is a fact that the exam date of the above-mentioned recruitment drive has been postponed many times; if so, the details thereof along with reasons for postponement; and the details of steps taken by Railways to complete this recruitment drive in a time-bound manner’; it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘for recruitment under Level-1 notification CEN RRC-01/2019, tendering process for engaging Exam Conduction Agency (ECA) is underway. After selection of ECA, dates for the examinations will be announced’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 07.02.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Railways, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that Computer Based Test for Level-1 recruitment under CEN RRC-01/2019 would commence tentatively from 23rd February, 2022.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the final dates for examinations were yet to be decided/finalized.
- (d) **The Committee expresses its anguish over the fact that the recruitment exam for the vacancies notified in the year 2019, has not been completed so far. The future of lakhs of students of the country is dependent on this exam and delaying the recruitment exam**

amounts to jeopardizing their career and human resource of the country. The Committee, therefore, recommends the Ministry to make all out efforts to conclude the recruitment exam at the earliest in a time bound manner to fulfill the assurance.

(xiii) *USQ 1560 dated 23.09.2020 regarding "doubling of Penukonda-Dharamavaram Railway line".*

- (a) On a question asked to know, 'the dates on which Railways and Government of Andhra Pradesh (AP) entered into MoU for doubling of Penukonda-Dharamavaram railway line; whether it is a fact that Government of AP is sharing 50 per cent of the cost; if so, the details thereof and the present status of the project; whether there is any cost and time overrun due to COVID-19; and by when it is likely to be completed'; it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that '1.11 hectare land is still to be acquired by the State Government'.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Railways, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the land to an extent of Rs 45.46 Acre was to be acquired in Ananthpura District of Andhra Pradesh. Further, land acquisition was in advance stage and price fixation committee was to be convened and work had been taken up in available land.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the land acquisition process had not been completed.

(d) **The Committee recommends the Ministry to expedite and complete the land acquisition process so that further works for doubling of Penukonda-Dharamavaram Railway line can be taken up. The Ministry shall also keep the Committee apprised of the development that would take place regarding fulfillment of the assurance.**

(xiv) *USQ 595 dated 05.02.2021 regarding “Ratlam-Dungarpur via Banswara new rail line project”.*

(a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether Government intends to complete the “Ratlam-Dungarpur via Banswara new rail line project” in Rajasthan through its own resources in a time-bound manner; if so, the details thereof; whether Government has taken note of the increase in the cost of the proposed project and acquisition; and if so, the actions that were taken or intended to fast track the execution of the above project at the financial resources of the Railway itself, the details thereof’; it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘Government of Rajasthan has been requested to consider implementing the project on SPV/Joint Venture route and making it viable by providing land free of cost to SPV/JV route. Response of Government of Rajasthan is awaited’.

(b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Railways, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that Chief Secretary, Government of Rajasthan had been requested to explore the possibility for implementation of the project either through Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) or State Joint Venture (JV) and to consider providing land free of cost to SPV/JV to make project viable.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the Ministry had reiterated the same, which was given in the original reply to the question.
- (d) **The Committee recommends that the Ministry shall pursue the State Government of Rajasthan to expedite and complete the process and take a decision regarding implementation of the project either through Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) or State Joint Venture (JV) as soon as possible so that the proposed new rail line can see the light of the day soon and liquidate the assurance at the earliest.**
- (xv) *USQ 2838 dated 19.03.2021 regarding “Survey for new rail link between Raxaul and Kathmandu”.*
- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether it is a fact that the initial survey for the new railway line between Raxaul (Bihar) and Kathmandu (135 km) at the cost of Rs 16,721.4 crore has been completed in the year 2018; and if so, the details of the progress thereof and the timeline by which the said work would begin’; it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘the project is not yet sanctioned’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 07.02.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Railways, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the instant project being a cross border project across India and Nepal, the decision on sanction of the project had to be done by Ministry of External Affairs. Ministry had also mentioned that Final Location Survey had already been sanctioned for preparation of Detailed Project Report.

- (c) On examination, the IR was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the project was still not sanctioned.
- (d) **The Committee recommends the Ministry to take up the matter with the Ministry of External Affairs and to expedite the process for sanction and completion of the project and to fulfill the assurance in a time bound manner.**
- (xvi) *USQ 2203 dated 06.08.2021 regarding “requests received for underpass and flyovers”.*
- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether it is a fact that Government has received ample requests for underpass and/or flyover to replace railway crossings in the country; if so, the State-wise total demand and the DPRs made since 2018 to June 2021; their present status; and the details of proposals of underpass/flyover projects and DPRs made for Assam since 2018 and the status therein’; it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘requests for underpasses are under process’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Railways, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that for out of 582 valid proposals received from various State Governments, 336 feasible proposal had been sanctioned. Balance 246 proposals mainly in 3 States (Gujarat, Odisha and Telangana) were under scrutiny and the same should be taken up based on feasibility.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as several demands for underpasses were still under process.
- (d) **The Committee recommends the Ministry to expedite the process for completion of the remaining underpasses/flyover and keep the Committee apprised of the development that would take place. The Committee further directs the Ministry to fulfill the assurance at the earliest in time bound manner.**

(xvii) USQ 1391 dated 30.07.2021 regarding “privatization of long distance trains”.

- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether Government has decided to hand over long distance train services to private sector in the country, if so, the details thereof; the rail-route-wise details of such services and the names of the companies the said services are likely to be allotted’; it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘the bids are under financial evaluation’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Railways, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the meeting demand supply gap in passenger segment was an ongoing process over Indian Railways and various measures were taken to meet the same including, production of Vande Bharat, Tejas, Vistadome etc. types of coaches in trains. In addition, Indian Railways also invited for private participation to induct trains through Public Private Partnership (PPP) in addition to the existing train services. The details of these train services spread across the entire Indian Railway network was on Ministry of

Railways

website,

i.e. <http://www.indianrailways.gov.in/IndicativeRoutesfor12clusters.pdf>.

Ministry further stated that Bid/Tender was a mechanism in this direction and was an ongoing process, results of which were available in public domain once the activity was completed.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the Ministry did not give requisite information with regard to decision of the Government to hand over long distance train services to private sector in the country and the rail-route-wise details of such services and the names of the companies said services were likely to be allotted. The Ministry was further requested to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the final decision in the matter, vide this Secretariat's O.M. dated 11.02.2022.
- (d) In pursuance to this Secretariat's O.M. dated 11.02.2022, the Ministry furnished a revised Implementation Report, which was laid on the Table of the House on 26.07.2022, incorporating the final decision in the matter. Accordingly, the Implementation Report was treated as fulfillment of the assurance in view of the details given therein to the extent of information sought.
- (e) **The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards fulfillment of the assurance.**

33. MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

A. Part Fulfilled IR

(i) *SQ 307 dated 01.12.2010 regarding “Feasibility Study of Surat-Mumbai National Express Highway Project”.*

(a) On a question asked to know, ‘the progress of the feasibility study of the Surat-Mumbai national express highway project which was submitted in the year 1991 in view of its National importance and was finalised by the then Union Government on priority basis; the outcome of the study as on date and the reasons for undue delay; whether the final decision had been taken by the Cabinet Committee in 1991 and Government of Gujarat had frozen land in 300 meters width along with proposed alignment in that year only; and by when the proposal is likely to be finalised’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) of the proposed Vadodara- Mumbai Expressway is underway; the State Government of Gujarat had frozen a width of 600m land along the proposed alignment of the Vadodra-Mumbai Expressway in the year 1993. On completion of the DPR, action will be initiated for procurement of a Concessionaire under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode.’

(b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 07.02.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that construction of this expressway had been taken up by the Ministry under 18 packages. All 18 packages had already been sanctioned for execution. Out of 18 Packages, 1 had been awarded. The entire Expressway was targeted to be completed by March, 2024.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as Part-fulfillment of the assurance as the work was pending and would be completed by March, 2024.
- (d) **The Committee expresses its displeasure over the fact that almost 12 years have passed since the assurance was made, but the construction of Surat-Mumbai national express highway project has not been completed, so far. The Committee also notes that the Ministry has set the target to complete it by March, 2024 and accordingly, recommends the Ministry to complete the construction of the highway within the stipulated time and in the meantime, keep the Committee apprised of the development taking place in the matter.**
- (ii) *USQ 1055 dated 21.08.2012 regarding “Vadodara-Mumbai expressway”.*
- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘when will the detailed project report of Vadodara-Mumbai expressway be completed; whether there has been any delay in the feasibility study and if so, the reasons therefor; and whether Government intends to combine various activities so as to complete the project by the scheduled date i.e. December, 2015 in case of delay in the feasibility study’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘the DPR preparation is in progress. On completion of preparation of DPR and land acquisition, the process for appointment of the concessionaire would be initiated for execution of the project’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways wherein it was *inter-alia*

stated that the development of Vadodara-Mumbai expressway had been taken up in 3 phases.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance since the projects for Phase I and Phase II were under construction/under progress or were expected to start soon. The Ministry was further requested to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the details to the extent of information sought, vide this Secretariat's O.M. dated 02.02.2022.
 - (d) In pursuance to this Secretariat's O.M. dated 02.02.2022, the Ministry furnished a revised Implementation Report, which was laid on the Table of the House on 26.07.2022, incorporating the details to the extent of information sought. Accordingly, the Implementation Report was treated as fulfilment of the assurance.
 - (e) **The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards early fulfillment of the assurance.**
- (iii) *USQ 85 dated 25.04.2016 regarding "construction of roads from Rajnangaon to Chandrapur".*
- (a) On a question asked to know, 'whether the Minister had made an announcement on the 29th January, 2015 for construction of a road from Rajnandgaon in Chhatisgarh to Chandrapur *via* Garhchirauli; if so, the total estimated cost to be incurred on the construction of the said road; and by when the construction work of the road would be started and by when it is likely to be completed', it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that 'the final decision for construction of the stretch will be taken based on the outcome of the detailed project report.'

- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 31.03.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the stretch from Rajnandgaon to Kusumkasa was part of an in-principal national highways and the policy for declaration of national highways was under finalization.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as Part-fulfillment of the assurance as the policy for declaration of national highways was still under finalization.
- (d) **The Committee observes that the development of road infrastructure is essential for economic development of our country. To achieve the objective of inclusive growth and development of the interior areas of the country, development of National Highways is imperative and any delay in the identification and completion of these highways due to non-finalization of policy is undesirable. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the process for finalization of policy for declaration of National Highways should be expedited so that further work for the construction of National Highways could be taken up at the earliest. The Committee further directs the Ministry to fulfill the assurance at the earliest.**
- (iv) *USQ 2812 dated 27.03.2017 regarding “Amritsar-Delhi expressway”.*
- (v) *USQ 1368 dated 30.07.2018 regarding “progress on Amritsar-Delhi expressway”.*

- (a) On similar questions asked to know, ‘whether Government has made any progress on Amritsar-Delhi expressway; if so, the details thereof; if not, the reasons therefor; what is the current status of the project; and by when the project is likely to start’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘proposals for preparation of project report for Delhi-Ludhiana-Amritsar-Katra expressway with connectivity to Chandigarh have been received. It is pre-mature to indicate project details including start time etc. till finalisation of the feasibility report and investment decision.’
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded Implementation Reports, furnished by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that land acquisition and Detailed Project Report (DPR) preparation for the approved alignment had been started and the work for a length of 590 kms including 99 kms for Spur to Amritsar had already been awarded. In addition, the work for a length of 120 km had already been started and the project would be funded under Bharatmala Pariyojana..
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as completion of work was still pending.
- (d) **The Committee recommends that the Ministry should expedite and complete the work of Amritsar-Delhi expressway and apprise the Committee of the progress made to fulfil the assurance.**
- (vi) ***USQ 2828 dated 07.01.2019 regarding “Regional Ring Road in Hyderabad”.***

- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether it is a fact that Government has agreed in principle for construction of six-lane Regional Ring Road encircling Hyderabad and its Outer Ring Road; if so, the details thereof; and the estimated cost of the project and by when it will be completed’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘the feasibility study / DPR for development of aforesaid road stretches has been initiated. Therefore, details such as finalized estimated cost, scheduled completion time etc. cannot be indicated at this stage’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that in the meeting held on 29.01.2019, it was decided that project i.e. Hyderabad Ring Road was required to be reviewed by the State Government. Ministry had further given the details of necessary steps that would be considered by the State Government while reviewing the project. Further, Ministry had *inter-alia* mentioned that it had given ‘in-principle’ approval to the two roads i.e. Sangareddy-Narsapur-Toopran-Gajwel-Jagdevpur-Bhongir-Choutuppall and Choutuppall-Shadnagar-Kandi, as new national highways. These two roads would form a ring road around Hyderabad city in addition to the existing inner and outer ring roads. The Consultancy work for preparation of DPR had been awarded on 14.7.2021 and contract agreement also concluded on 02.08.2021 with stipulated contract period of 10 months. As regards the cost of the project, the civil cost and other cost would be assessed based on the outcome of the DPR. Therefore, time of completion of the project should largely depend upon the completion of DPR and subsequent approval/award of the civil work and pro-active support of state government in providing encumbrance free land and clearance.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as estimated cost of the project was not given by the Ministry. The Ministry was further requested to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the final decision in the matter, vide this Secretariat's O.M. dated 02.02.2022.
- (d) In pursuance to this Secretariat's O.M. dated 02.02.2022, the Ministry furnished a revised Implementation Report, which was laid on the Table of the House on 26.07.2022, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that on 05.03.2021. M/s K&J Projects Private Limited had been appointed as DPR Consultant by the NHAI on 14.07.2021 and agreement concluded on 02.08.2021. Further, the alignment (LAC Stage-I) of length 158.645 km with 100-meter ROW had been approved during the 61st meeting of Land Acquisition Committee (LAC), NHAI HQs held on 06.12.2021. The estimated total capital cost of the project was Rs. 11590 cr. Ministry had also mentioned that the proposed alignment was passing through four districts viz., Sangareddy, Medak, Siddipet and Yadadri Bhuvanagiri and gazette notification for appointing the competent authority for land acquisition had been notified vide S.O. 1474 (E) dated 30.03.2022.
- (e) On examination, the Implementation Report was again treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as timeline for completion of the project was not given by the Ministry.
- (f) **The Committee expresses its displeasure over the fact that the Ministry has given incomplete details in the Implementation Report repeatedly in spite of categorical directions by the Committee. The Committee, therefore, recommends the Ministry to submit a revised and comprehensive Implementation Report addressing all parts of the question to fulfill the assurance.**

(vii) ***USQ 2233 dated 15.03.2021 regarding “construction of Over Bridge over Brahmaputra River”.***

- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether it is a fact that the Ministry is planning to construct a bridge over river Brahmaputra to connect Numaligarh to Gohpur; if so, the details thereof; whether there is any Detailed Project Report (DPR) that has been prepared; and by when it will be started’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘the consultancy services for preparation of DPR have been awarded and various options for providing connectivity between Numaligarh and Gohpur is under consideration’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that since the civil construction cost was more than Rs. 1000 crore, the project would require approval of the Cabinet before implementation starts. Therefore, it was too early to indicate when the project would be started.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as Survey for DPR and construction work of bridge over Brahmaputra was still pending.
- (d) **The Committee observes that the project envisages reducing the distance between the two banks of the river and will also protect the Kaziranga National Park by bypassing it. This project is also important from strategic point of view as it will cut travel time between Assam and Arunachal Pradesh, bordering China and would also aid in mobilizing arms, armaments and military forces in times**

of need. In view of the importance of this project, the Committee recommends the Ministry to complete the project as soon as possible to liquidate the assurance and in the meantime, keep the Committee apprised of the development that would take place in the matter.

(viii) USQ 775 dated 26.07.2021 regarding “implementation of road package for Bihar”.

- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether it is a fact that an amount of 54 thousand crore rupees was earmarked for the construction of roads, bridges and culverts in Bihar, out of the package announced by Hon’ble Prime Minister for the State of Bihar on 18th August 2015; the number of projects completed/under progress and at the tender or Detailed Project Report (DPR) stage; the amount of funds spent by Government, so far; and the reasons responsible for delay in implementation of the package, project-wise details thereof’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘out of 90 projects, 18 projects have been completed, 40 projects are under progress, 5 projects have been awarded however not started and 3 projects are under bidding stage. The balance 24 projects are at Detailed Project Report (DPR) stage.’
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 07.02.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the 24 projects were at Detailed Project Report (DPR) stage and had been sub-divided in 29 sub-projects. Ministry had further given the status of these projects and stated that DPR had been completed for 9 projects, while DPR for 16 projects was expected to be completed in

financial year 2021-22 and DPR for balance 4 projects should be completed by financial year 2022-23. Further, Tender for 9 projects was targeted to invite in financial year 2021-22. Ministry had also annexed the details status of DPR works with likely date of completion.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as Part-fulfillment of the assurance as Implementation Report was silent on 3 projects which were under bidding stage and DPRs in respect of many projects were also still pending. The Ministry was accordingly requested to furnish a revised Implementation Report vide this Secretariat's OM dated 28.02.2022.
- (d) In pursuance to this Secretariat's O.M. dated 28.02.2022, the Ministry had furnished a revised Implementation Report, which was laid on the Table of the House on 26.07.2022, wherein it had inter-alia in addition to the information furnished in the previous Implementation Report, annexed the updated details status of DPRs along with likely date of completion of projects.
- (e) On examination, the Implementation Report was again treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as several projects were still pending for completion.
- (f) **The Committee recommends the Ministry to expedite the process for finalization of DPRs which are still pending in respect of several projects, and to complete the bidding process where it is due, at the earliest, along with expediting the land acquisition process with respect to Saigarh-Lalganj-Ganpathanj project. The Committee**

further directs the Ministry to complete the pending projects and apprise the Committee to liquidate the assurance at the earliest.

(ix) USQ 2386 dated 09.08.2021 regarding “projects on NH-31 and 2 in Bihar”.

(a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether the project related to NH-31 Aunta-Simaria 4L/6L is pending in national highway headquarters due to change of scope; whether the physical progress of 6L Varanasi-Aurangabad Road at old NH-02 is just 60 per cent and the further work is on hold due to latency in taking decision by conciliation committee of independent expert; and if so, by when Government would resolve the pending cases of Aunta-Simaria and Varanasi-Aurangabad roads and start the works’, it was *inter-alia* stated that ‘independent engineer is examining the financial aspects for finalizing the financial implication arising due to change of scope. The project work is targeted for completion in the Year 2023.’

(b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that with regard to 4-laning of Aunta-Simaria section of NH-31, it was expected that the approval of Railways would be obtained by 30.04.2022 and the issue of change of scope was expected to be resolved by 31.05.2022. Further, with respect to 6 laning of Varanasi-Aurangabad section of NH-02, issues had been resolved and Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) contractor had been mobilised by the concessionaire with completion period of 27 months from the date of signing of settlement agreement in August 2021.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the work of both projects was still in progress and was pending.
- (d) **The Committee recommends that the Ministry should pursue the matter with the concerned authorities/stakeholders and expedite the process for completion of both the projects in a time bound manner as per the target date for completion i.e., 2023 to fulfill the assurance and also keep the Committee apprised of the development.**
- (x) ***USQ 78 dated 02.02.2022 regarding “status of national highways in Tamil Nadu.”***
- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘the details and the length of national highways(NHs) in Tamil Nadu, particularly in Namakkal district; whether Government has taken special steps for construction of more national highways in the State; whether it is a fact that some projects are pending for a very long time; if so, the details of such projects and reasons for delay; and by when these projects are likely to be completed’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘the details of projects delayed for a very long time alongwith likely completion date of these projects are given at Annexure-1.’
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the delay in timely completion of projects was mainly due to delay/non-granting of permission extraction of borrow earth, delay in land acquisition, forest and environmental clearances, shifting of utility

services, slow progress of works by contractors etc. Ministry had also given the status of the pending projects as on 05.06.2022 and their likely dates of completion.

(c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the work of all 9 projects was still in progress and was pending.

(d) **The Committee takes note of the submission of the Ministry that these projects are likely to be completed by mid 2023 and therefore, recommends the Ministry to adhere to this timeline for completion of all the projects. The Committee further desired to be apprised of the development taking place and fulfill the assurance within the targeted schedule for completion of projects.**

(xi) *USQ 849 dated 09.02.2022 regarding “status of in-Principally declared Highways in Rajasthan.”*

(a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether Government intends to consider necessary gazette notification for declaration of national highways for already in-principally declared 50 highways having length of 4772 kilometers in Rajasthan; if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor; when will Government declare these 50 highways in-principally as national highways and when will the required improvement works on these Highways be done’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that “the policy for declaration of new national highways (NHs) is in consultation process within Government for its finalization. The proposal on declaration of new NHs will be processed once new guidelines/criteria are finalized”

- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the policy for declaration of new national highways was at examination stage. The Ministry considered declaration of some state roads as new NHs from time to time based on requirement of connectivity, inter-se priority and availability of Funds. Ministry had further requested that on above grounds this may not be treated as assurance.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the reasons given therein could not be considered towards fulfillment of the assurance.
- (d) **The Committee would like to draw the attention of the Ministry to its 56th Report wherein it had been recommended that “an observation by a Minister on the floor of the House is viewed in a given context by way of giving information and is matched with the intention behind seeking such information in its entirety. Moreover, it should be clearly understood that it is the prerogative of the Committee alone to treat a reply as an assurance. The Committee, therefore, directs that the Ministries/Departments should desist from transgressing the exclusive domain of the Committee in the matter of treating a reply as an assurance”. The Committee, therefore, recommends the Ministry to expedite and complete the process for declaration of new National Highways and keep the Committee apprised of the development taking place. The Committee further directs the Ministry to fulfill the assurance in a time bound manner.**

(xii) ***USQ 879 dated 09.02.2022 regarding “status of Ram Janki Marg in Bihar”.***

- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘the details of extent of road length included under Ram-Janki Marg in Bihar; the details of the length of this road and the length of four-lane and two-lane roads separately; whether Government has decided to convert the two-lane roads into four-lane; the details of the estimated cost of the same, the current status of land acquisition for the same; and by when the work is likely to be started’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘Ministry has recently decided to convert complete length of Ram Janki Marg in the State of Bihar into four-lane and engagement of DPR consultant for the same is under process. The total cost for development of 4 laning of this section will be tentatively Rs. 5000 cr. Land acquisition for 4-laning from mehrouna Ghat-Siwan-Masrakh section is under process and for balance section shall start after engagement of DPR consultant i.e. after 2-3 months’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, wherein Ministry had *inter-alia* given the detail of work in progress of projects under Ram Janki Marg. Ministry had further mentioned that the DPR - for Mehraunaghat to Siwan, 4 lane configuration was targeted to be approved by August, 2022. For Siwan to Masrakh, the project was under DPR Stage and was targeted to be completed by June, 2022. Further, for Masrakh to Bithamore (Sitamarhi) tender for DPR consultancy work for development to 4 lane configuration had been invited and DPR work was targeted for award by September, 2022.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the work of projects was still in progress.
- (d) **The Committee observes that the Ram-Janki Marg Project is significant not only from religious point of view but also from tourism, infrastructural and economic points of view. The Committee, therefore, recommends the Ministry that the process for construction of several projects under Ram-Janki Marg shall be expedited and be completed within the targeted deadlines to fulfill the assurance.**

(xiii) USQ 787 dated 26.07.2021 regarding “Bharatmala Phase-II”.

- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether it is a fact that National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) is planning for Bharatmala Phase-II; if so, details of length in kilometres going to be constructed under Phase-II including Andhra Pradesh; the details of plan of execution and amount involved to complete Phase-II; the manner in which the Ministry can ramp up speed and complete road projects under Bharatmala Phase-II, particularly in Andhra Pradesh in view of huge allocation made for infrastructure and road sector in 2021-22 Budget; and the status of Phase-I projects in AP’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘Bharatmala Pariyojana Phase-II is yet to be approved’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, wherein it was *inter-alia*

stated that proposal of Bharatmala Pariyojana-II was in early stages of conception.

- (c) On examination, the IR was treated as non-fulfilment of the assurance as the Ministry did not give any details regarding part (a) to (d) of the questions i.e. ‘whether it is a fact that National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) is planning for Bharatmala Phase-II; if so, details of length in kilometres going to be constructed under Phase-II including Andhra Pradesh; the details of plan of execution and amount involved to complete Phase-II; the manner in which the Ministry can ramp up speed and complete road projects under Bharatmala Phase-II, particularly in Andhra Pradesh in view of huge allocation made for infrastructure and road sector in 2021-22 Budget; and the status of Phase-I projects in AP’.

B. Deliberations during Study Visits

- (d) The Committee interacted with representatives of the Government of UT of Jammu and Kashmir, Administration of UT of Ladakh and representatives of Ministry of Road, Transport and Highways, NHAI at Srinagar on 10th May, 2022 in connection with examination of the issues involved in USQ 787 dated 26.07.2021 regarding Bharatmala Phase-II.
- (e) The Committee felt that road infrastructure was the backbone of economic development and state of the art highway network was a necessity. The Committee further appreciated that the Government had launched an ambitious project “Bharatmala” which focused on improving upon the road network and optimizing the efficiency of road traffic movement across the country by bridging critical infrastructure gaps. However, timely construction and completion of the roads and highways were indispensable and need of the day and in this backdrop, the

Committee desired to know from the representatives of the Ministry of Road, Transport and Highways, the present status of the Bharatmala Project, the details of the length of roads completed during Phase-I of the project and also the status of approval of Phase-II of the project. The Committee also enquired to know the details regarding present status of the road projects particularly those falling in the UTs of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, whether some road projects of J&K and Ladakh were being included in Phase-II. The Committee further desired to hear the views of the representatives of the Government of UT of Jammu and Kashmir and the Administration of UT of Ladakh in the matter.

- (f) The representative of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways informed that Bharatmala Phase-II pariyojna was yet to be approved and hence the time frame of completion of projects cannot be predicted. The proposals of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways are under consideration of the Cabinet Committee in consultation with the Ministry of Finance. Representative of UT of Ladakh informed that there was no project in Ladakh under the Bharatmala Phase-II. However, the UT Administration had approached the Ministry vide its letter 17.09.2021 for inclusion of few projects of Ladakh under the scheme.
- (g) **The Committee observes that Bharatmala Projects focusses on improving the efficiency of freight and passenger movement across the country by bridging critical infrastructure gaps. It seeks to combine all the existing highway projects, including the mega National Highways Development Project along with providing for Border Road and International Connectivity, Port Connectivity and Coastal Road, Green Field Expressway etc. Hence, given the importance and objectives this project seeks to achieve, it is**

necessary that the process of approval of the Bharatmala Phase-II project shall be expedited. The Committee, therefore, recommends the Ministry to make all out efforts for completion of the project and keep it informed from time to time, about the development taking place in the matter.

34. MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

A. Part Fulfilled IR

- (i) *USQ 1991 dated 10.02.2014 regarding "increase in pension under Social Welfare Schemes".*
 - (ii) *USQ 2721 dated 04.08.2014 regarding "Social Security Programmes".*
- (a) On similar questions asked *inter-alia* to know ‘whether Government plans to initiate a Social Security Programme as functional in other countries; if so, the details thereof; whether Government plans to increase the scope and coverage of the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP); and if so, the details thereof; and if not, the reasons therefor’, it was *inter alia* stated in the reply that “a Task Force constituted by the Ministry of Rural Development under the Chairmanship of Member, Planning Commission to prepare a proposal for a Comprehensive National Social Assistance Programme, considered all the issues, demand and suggestions relating to social assistance / security, received from various quarters and submitted its report in March, 2013, inter – alia, recommending expanding the scope of coverage and increasing the quantum of pension. Further action has been initiated to process the recommendations of the Task Force’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communications dated 02.12.2021, forwarded Implementation Reports, furnished by the Ministry of Rural Development, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the report of the third party evaluation study of National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) would be shared with States/UTs and final decision to revamp NSAP would be taken in the light of the comments/suggestions so received. Ministry had further mentioned that it was an issue of sufficient public importance and it had not taken any action to

take the approval of the competent authority to implement the recommendations of the Task Force as assured. Further, the assurance pertained to the recommendations of the Task Force headed by Dr. Mihir Sen which were no more under consideration in view of the other related development.

(c) On examination, the Implementation Reports were treated as part-fulfillment of the assurances as the assurances pertained to the recommendations of the Task Force headed by Dr. Mihir Sen, which were no more under consideration in view of the other related development. The Ministry was, further, requested to move the Committee for dropping of the assurance, vide this Secretariat's O.M. dated 31.01.2022.

(d) In pursuance to this Secretariat's O.M. dated 31.01.2022, the Ministry furnished revised Implementation Report, which was laid on the Table of the House on 26.07.2022, incorporating the details of information to the extent of information sought. Accordingly, the IRs were treated as fulfilment of the assurance.

(e) **The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards fulfillment of the assurance.**

(iii) SQ 153 dated 09.05.2016 regarding "meeting of NMC on land acquisition issues"

(a) On a question asked to know, 'whether the National Monitoring Committee (NMC) on land acquisition issues had a meeting recently; the details of subjects that were discussed; whether any time frame was set up to obtain early outcomes for relief to displaced people in various areas; and if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to extend the benefits of

the new Land Acquisition law of 2013 to tribals and farmers’, it was *inter alia* stated in the reply that ‘the Committee has sought requisite data/information from all the State Governments and the Central Ministries/Departments in charge of implementation of the acts mentioned in the fourth schedule of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (RECTLARR) Act, 2013 in order to facilitate review and monitoring of the implementation of the Rehabilitation and Resettlement Schemes/Plans that may have been formulated’.

- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Rural Development, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the National Monitoring Committee constituted under the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (RFCTLARR) Act, 2013 *inter alia* deliberated on the issues relating to land acquisition, rehabilitation and resettlement aspects of the Polavaram project only in all its earlier meetings held in May 2015, September 2015, November 2015, 28th April 2016, 16th March, 2017, 9th December, 2019 and 24th July 2020. Ministry had further stated that the Polavaram project was located in the territorial jurisdiction of the Government of Andhra Pradesh, and was being implemented by agencies under the administrative control of Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the Implementation Report did not address the issue mentioned in the assurance. Further, Ministry did not give any concrete details regarding whether any time frame was set to obtain early

outcomes for relief to displaced people in various areas; if so, the steps taken / proposed to be taken to extend the benefits of the new Land Acquisition Law of 2013 to tribals and farmers.

(d) **The Committee observes that land acquisition for several projects and rehabilitation of the people displaced by such acquisition is a very sensitive and pressing issue in our country. It is understood that land acquisition is a pre-requisite for execution of any development project. The Committee feels that while acquiring land, the rights of people being displaced should not be violated and compensations given to them must be fair and reasonable enough. The Committee recommends that the Ministry should furnish a revised Implementation Report categorically giving the time-frame for relief to displaced people in various areas and also the steps taken / proposed to be taken to extend the benefits of the new Land Acquisition Law of 2013 to tribals and farmers at the earliest to liquidate the assurance.**

(iv) *USQ 617 dated 05.02.2021 regarding "roads built under PMGSY in Chhattisgarh"*

(a) On a question asked to know, 'the details of the roads built under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in Balrampur, Ramanujganj, Surguja and Surajpur districts of Chhattisgarh during the last two years; the number of villages in the said districts that are still not covered under PMGSY; the number of additional projects that are under consideration for Governments' approval under PMGSY during the current year; whether Government has received any complaint regarding widespread corruption in PMGSY in the State of Chhattisgarh; and; if so, the action

taken by the Government in this regard’, it was *inter alia* stated in the reply that ‘under Road Connectivity Project for Left Wing Extremism Affected Areas, the Ministry of Home Affairs in the month of June, 2020 has recommended additional proposal of 104 roads (539 km) and 16 Long Span Bridges (LSBs) at a value of Rs. 392 Cr. to the State DPRs of the same are yet to be received from the State Government and the Ministry has received one complaint regarding corruption in district Gariyabad, Chhattisgarh on 10.12.2020 on the same was forwarded to the State Government for further action’.

- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 16.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Rural Development, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the process of sanctioning of projects was an involved process, which required action on the part of states. Ministry has also mentioned that as and when DPRs were submitted by the State, the same were discussed in the meetings of Pre-Empowered Committee headed by Director General, National Rural Infrastructure Development Agency. Further, the proposal was then put in the Empowered Committee meeting held under the chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development. During these meetings, DPRs were discussed in details and observations were made to align the proposals to the programme guidelines and technical specifications. After receipt of the compliance report from the States on the observation of the Pre-Empowered Committee the matter was placed before the Empowered Committee. On receipt of the fully compliant reports based on the observations of Empowered Committee, the same were considered for sanction in accordance with the programme guidelines. Ministry had further submitted that the DPRs had not been

received from the State Government despite various reminders and hence, no action was pending on the part of this Ministry.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as Ministry did not give categorical reply to the question i.e. 'the number of additional projects that are under consideration for Governments' approval under PMGSY during the current year'. The Ministry was further requested to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the categorical reply of the question of Part (c) and the final decision in the matter, vide this Secretariat's O.M. dated 01.02.2022.
- (d) In pursuance to this Secretariat's O.M. dated 01.02.2022, the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded a revised Implementation Report, which was laid on the Table of the House on 26.07.2022, incorporating the details of information to the extent of information sought. Accordingly, the Implementation Report was treated as fulfillment of the assurance.
- (e) **The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards fulfilment of the assurance.**
- (v) ***USQ 2067 dated 12.03.2021 regarding "Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) Guidelines"***
- (a) On a question asked to know, 'the details of best practice, best charge officer, best District Collectors and best Adarsh Grams as per SAGY guidelines; the number of such awards distributed so far in Kerala; and the details of best practice selected and criteria for the selection', it was

inter alia stated in the reply that ‘the criteria for award is under finalization. No award has been distributed by the Ministry to any State/UT so far’.

- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Rural Development, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the criteria for award distribution under Saansad Adarsh Gam Yojana had been finalized.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the SAGY Guidelines were yet to be approved. The Ministry was further requested to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the final decision in the matter, *vide* this Secretariat’s O.M. dated 27.01.2022.
- (d) In pursuance to this Secretariat’s O.M. dated 27.01.2022, the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 15.03.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, which was laid on the Table of the House on 21.03.2022, furnished by the Ministry of Rural Development, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the criteria for award distribution under Saansad Adarsh Gam Yojana had been finalized. Accordingly, the Implementation Report was treated as fulfillment of the assurance.
- (e) **The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards early fulfillment of the assurance.**

35. MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

A. Part Fulfilled IR

(i) *USQ 3187 dated 23.03.2021 regarding “biotechnology parks”.*

- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘the details of bio-technology parks operating in the country, State/UT-wise; whether various State Governments have sent proposals to establish such parks; if so, the details of such proposals along with their status during each of the last three years and the current year; and the details of such parks proposed to be established in near future, State/UT-wise and location wise’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘at S.N. 4, Madhya Pradesh: DBT-SSC suggested revision of proposal. Revised proposal to be considered in next meeting of DBT-SSC. S.N. 5, Himachal Pradesh: DBT-SSC suggested revision of proposal. Revised proposal to be considered in next meeting of DBT-SSC. S.N. 6, Andhra Pradesh (AMTZ): The proposal is under consideration for support’
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Science and Technology, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that the necessary documents required for financial support/further processing of the proposal received from West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh were yet to be received.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as receiving of revised proposal against three states viz. Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal and Himachal Pradesh as assured to be considered were yet to be received and considered.

- (d) **The Committee recommends that the Ministry should pursue the State Governments of Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal and Himachal Pradesh to furnish the revised proposal at the earliest, for consideration to fulfill the assurance.**
- (ii) *USQ 4126 dated 07.04.2022 regarding “DNA based forensic technologies”.*
- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether Government has decided to expand the application of DNA-based forensic technologies to support and strengthen the justice delivery system of the country and if so, the details thereof; the steps taken by Government for the development and application of DNA technologies; whether Government proposes to set up DNA data banks across the country to store profiles; if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and by when these DNA data banks are likely to be set up’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘The DNA Technology (Use and Application) Regulation Bill to provide, regulation of the use and application of Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA) technology with the aim to establish the identity of certain categories of person including the victims, offenders, suspects, under trials, missing persons and unknown deceased person is under consideration’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Science and Technology, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that based on the recommendations of Parliamentary Standing Committee (PSC), draft Bill along with the formal amendments had been prepared in consultation with Ministry of Law and Justice. Ministry had further mentioned that Hon’ble Home Minister and Hon’ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology, held a meeting on

29thJuly, 2021 with the then Secretary, Department of Biotechnology, and the Home Secretary to discuss details of the draft Bill. Based on the discussion held, the Home Ministry had been asked to re-visit the draft bill as per their mandate. Accordingly a copy of the draft Bill along with formal amendment prepared (in consultation with Ministry of Law and Justice) based on the recommendations of Parliamentary Standing Committee had been submitted to the Ministry of Home Affairs for consideration.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as replies to part (d) & (e) i.e. “whether Government proposes to set up DNA data banks across the country to store profiles; if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and by when these DNA data banks are likely to be set up”, had not been given satisfactorily.
- (d) **The Committee recommends that the Ministry should address all aspects of the assurance before furnishing an Implementation Report. The Committee further directs the Ministry to furnish details regarding setting up of DNA data banks at the earliest and also a revised Implementation Report incorporating all aspects of assurance to the extent of information sought to liquidate the assurance.**

36. MINISTRY OF TEXTILES

A. Part Fulfilled IR

- (i) *USQ 623 dated 21.11.2019 regarding “Setting up of Mega Textiles Parks near Ports”.*
 - (ii) *USQ 607 dated 17.09.2020 regarding “Development of Textile Parks”.*
- (a) On similar questions asked inter-alia to know ‘whether Government propose to set up mega textile parks near ports; if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and the present status of this proposal and the time by when this will come into effect’, it was inter-alia stated in the reply that ‘the concept of Mega Textile Parks by the Ministry of Textiles is at a stage of discussion’.
 - (b) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, vide their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded Implementation Reports furnished by the Ministry of Textiles wherein it was inter-alia stated that the Union Cabinet has approved PM-MITRA Parks scheme with an outlay of Rs 4445 crore for a period from 2021-2022 to 2027-28.
 - (c) On examination, the Implementation Reports were treated as part-fulfillment of the assurances as although Cabinet has approved the scheme, setting up of Mega Textiles Parks was still pending. Further, Ministry had not given any details of Mega Textiles Parks to be set up along with their location.

B. Deliberations during Study Visits

- (d) The Committee interacted with representatives of the Government of UT of Jammu and Kashmir, Administration of UT of Ladakh, and representatives of the Ministry of Textiles at Srinagar on 10th May, 2022 in connection with examination of the issues involved in USQ 607 dated 17.09.2020 regarding development of textile parks.
- (e) On a question asked ‘whether Government is committed to develop textile parks in the country, whether Textile 'Industry' Federation from any State has submitted any representation for development of textile industry and textile parks in their State and the steps being taken by Government for development of textile parks in the country’, the Minister had *inter-alia* replied that ‘the proposal to set up Mega Textile Parks by the Ministry of Textiles is at the stage of discussion’.
- (f) The Committee noted that setting up of mega textiles parks would give certain boost to the textile sector in the country and would also create employment opportunities for the locals along with creating a positive growth in the State’s and overall Nation’s economy. In this backdrop, the Committee desired that the representatives of the Ministry of Textiles share with it the latest updates with regard to setting up of mega textiles parks and what parameters were taken in to account while finalizing the locations. Also, whether UTs of J&K and Ladakh had availed the benefit of the scheme.
- (g) Representative of Ministry of Textiles informed that the Union Cabinet approved setting up of 7 (Seven) PM Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel (PM MITRA) Parks in Greenfield/ Brownfield sites with an outlay of Rs. 4445 cr. for a period of seven years up to 2027-28 to develop world class infrastructure embracing entire textiles value chain

under one roof having plug and play facility under PPP mode. State Governments with ready availability of contiguous and encumbrance-free land parcel of 1000+ acres are eligible to submit proposal for setting up MITRA Parks. SPV, a Joint Venture of Centre and State Government will be the Implementing Agency for MITRA Parks Project Approval Committee (PAC), headed by Secretary (Textiles) would approve Detailed Project Report (DPR)/Master Plan, sanction projects and monitor expenditure. All State Governments were requested to send proposal along with Preliminary Project Report to the Ministry for consideration by 15th March 2022. A total of 17 Preliminary Project Proposals from 13 State Governments had been received. The proposals were under scrutiny for consideration by Project Approval Committee (PMC). He however informed that no proposal had been received from J&K and Ladakh Governments.

- (h) The Committee observes that setting up of integrated mega textile parks would be a huge boost to employment generation in the country. The Committee, further, expresses its satisfaction with the submissions of the representatives of the Ministry of Textiles and observes that setting up of integrated mega textiles parks would be immensely beneficial for the respective States as well as for the whole country and would like to advise the Ministry to expedite the process for setting of these mega textiles parks.**

37. MINISTRY OF TOURISM

A. Part Fulfilled IR

- (i) *USQ 1586 dated 11.03.2015 regarding “degree by ICH on the lines of IIT Council”.*
- (a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether Government proposes to give degree under the brand name Indian Council for Hospitality (ICH) on the lines of IIT council; if so, the salient features of the proposal’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘the Ministry of Tourism is considering to set up Indian Institute of Hospitality (IIH) as an institute of national importance with the power to promote and develop education and research in hospitality and catering management and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto including awarding of various degrees in that field in India’.
- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Tourism, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated it had already taken steps for providing statutory status for all its affiliated institutes for awarding degrees in the field of hospitality and tourism education respectively including National Council for Hotel Management and Catering Technology and Indian Institute Of Tourism & Travel Management.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as the Ministry had not mentioned about the details of the steps taken for providing statutory status for all its

affiliated institutes for awarding degrees in the field of hospitality and tourism education respectively including National Council for Hotel Management and Catering Technology (NCHMCT) and Indian Institute Of Tourism & Travel Management (IITTM), in the Implementation Report.

(d) The Committee observes that the hospitality industry uses a diverse workforce, which includes a variety of positions that may or may not have a strong educational component. A valet, cleaning personnel and restaurant servers have different requirement than check-in clerks and managers etc. Yet, the entire workforce is a reflection of a hotel's hospitality culture, which is why everyone needs to be trained from top to bottom on certain specific values and standards. Hence, it is very important that professional institutes imparting education and training in the field of hospitality and management get due attention from Government so that a positive ecosystem can be developed in this field. The Committee, further, recommends the Ministry to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the details of the steps taken for providing statutory status to all its affiliated institutes for awarding degrees in the field of hospitality and tourism education respectively, including NCHMCT and IITTM.

(ii) *USQ 1909 dated 17.03.2022 regarding “revamping of digital Platforms”.*

(a) On a question asked to know, ‘whether the ministry has any plan to revamp its digital platforms to make them one of the best in the world; if

so, the details in this regard particularly with regard to providing information and services to the tourists across the world; and the steps being taken to attract foreign tourists into the country’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘Ministry of Tourism is in the process of revamping the Incredible India Digital Platform and NIDHI Portal. Further, Ministry of Tourism is also developing a new portal to showcase various events and festivals of the country’.

- (b) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their communication dated 25.07.2022, forwarded an Implementation Report, furnished by the Ministry of Tourism, wherein it was stated that the new portal for events and festivals of the country, ‘utsav.gov.in’ had been developed and launched on 12th April, 2022. Further, Ministry of Tourism had also prepared country specific plans in partnership with India Missions for promotion of inbound travel.
- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as categorical reply to part (c) regarding the details of steps to attract foreign tourists had not been given.
- (d) **The Committee expresses its displeasure over the fact that the Ministry did not furnish the complete details as sought in the question. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry should carefully examine all the aspects of the question and provide a comprehensive Implementation Report covering all parts of the question and fulfill the assurance at the earliest.**

38. MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

A. Part Fulfilled IR

- (i) *SQ 87 dated 03.03.2016 regarding “age waiver for widows in exams”.*
- (a) On a question asked *inter-alia* ‘whether the Ministry has sought age waiver for widows allowing them to sit for competitive exams for Government and PSU jobs and tax rebates for single married women who are separated, divorced or widowed having children; and Government’s decision, if any, taken in the matter’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘the Ministry is considering taking up a proposal for age relaxation for widows for employment in Government and central PSUs. The Ministry is also considering moving a proposal for tax rebates for single women who are having children. These are at a preliminary stage and formal proposals have not yet been prepared’.
- (b) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, *vide* their communication dated 02.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report furnished by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that with regard to the issues relating to providing age relaxation and tax exemption for single women/widows, it had been informed by the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT), Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Government of India that relaxation of age up to 35 years (up to 40 years for members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) was admissible for the widows, divorced women and women judicially separated (JSW) from their husbands who were not re-married for employment to Group ‘C’ and erstwhile Group ‘D’ posts as per DoPT’s Office Memorandum (OM) No. 15012/13/79-Estt(D) dated 19.01.1980. Similar relaxation also existed for Group ‘A’ and Group ‘B’ posts except where recruitment was made through open competitive

Examination as per DOPT's OM No. 15012/1/87-Estt.(D) dated 05.10.1990. These instructions had been reiterated vide DoPT's OM No. 41034/1/2014-Estt.(D) dated 31.01.2014. However, these instructions were applicable only to Central Government civilian employees holding civil posts and were not applicable to employees of autonomous/statutory bodies, Public Sector Undertakings etc. Further, DoPT had informed that there was no proposal relating to further age relaxation to widows for employment in Government and Central PSUs under consideration at present.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as Ministry had not implemented the proposal for age relaxation for widows and tax rebates for single women.
- (d) **The Committee recommends that the Ministry should take up the matter again with DOPT and Ministry of Finance to implement the proposal for age relaxation for widows for employment in Government and Central PSUs and tax rebates for single women and fulfill the assurance at the earliest.**

39. MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

A. Part Fulfilled IR

(i) ***USQ 1111 dated 25.07.2017 regarding “Sports Association in Rajasthan”.***

(a) On a question asked *inter-alia* ‘whether Ministry is aware of the fact that most of the sports associations presently functional in the State of Rajasthan are faced with pending litigations in courts and administrators therein have been appointed by Government; whether Government has no such policy to have a direct control over them and the sports can be protected from getting ruined; and whether the Ministry has formulated any scheme whereby the senior players having retired from sports could be given the role and responsibility to lead these sports associations in future, if so, the details thereof’, it was *inter-alia* stated in the reply that ‘Government is considering to include sportspersons in the Boards of Sports Associations’.

(b) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, *vide* their communication dated 16.12.2021, forwarded an Implementation Report furnished by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that a Committee was constituted by the Ministry vide order dated 26.11.2019 to review the Draft National Code for Good Governance in Sports, 2017, however, the Delhi High Court vide its order dated 06.12.2019 had stayed the above-mentioned order dated 26.11.2019. Further, the provision of inclusion of prominent sportspersons of outstanding merit as members of the respective sports federations was already covered under the provisions of National Sports Development Code of India, 2011.

However, there had neither been proposal from the Government for framing any regulation for senior players to lead the sports associations nor has the Committee made any such recommendation. Positions in the National Sports Federations (NSFs) were filled up by way of elections and sportspersons were free to contest the elections. In fact, in a number of NSFs, reputed sportspersons were already holding positions of office bearers in the Management Committees.

- (c) On examination, the Implementation Report was treated as part-fulfillment of the assurance as inclusion of sportspersons in the Board of Sports Associations was still pending.
- (d) **The Committee expresses its anguish over the fact that in spite of there being a provision for inclusion of prominent sportspersons of outstanding merit as members of the respective sports federations under the National Sports Development Code of India, 2011, no action has been taken in this regard, so far. The Committee, in this backdrop, recommends the Ministry to expedite the process of inclusion of prominent sportspersons as members of the respective sports federations at the earliest to fulfill the assurance.**

CHAPTER – III

The Committee received 96 requests for dropping of assurances from various Ministries. 76 Memoranda with respect to dropping of assurances were prepared, out of which 42 Memoranda containing 62 requests for dropping were placed before the Committee for consideration. The Committee considered those Memoranda at its meetings held on 08.12.2021, 23.03.2022 and 23.06.2022 and agreed to drop the following 42 assurances:

LIST OF DROPPED ASSURANCES

S N	Question No.	Dated	Ministry	Subject	Dropped on
1	Point raised by Sh. Prasanta Chatterjee	05.12.2006	Culture	Jallianwala Bagh National Memorial (Amendment) Bill, 2006	08.12.2021
2	USQ 1118	22.08.2012	Culture	Delivery of Books Act	08.12.2021
3	(i) USQ 3161	04.05.2012	Communications	Guidelines for imposing penalty on telecom operators	08.12.2021
4	(ii) USQ 1516	06.05.2016	Communications	Graded penalty system for telecos	08.12.2021
5	USQ 2102	19.08.2011	Education	Science Magnet Schools	08.12.2021
6	USQ 2018	16.03.2015	Power	Bidding norms for Ultra Mega Power Projects (UMPPs).	08.12.2021
7	USQ 1528	03.08.2015	Power	Passing of fuel cost by Ultra Mega Power Projects (UMPPs) to	08.12.2021

				consumers.	
8	USQ 1539	03.08.2015	Power	Report of Expert Panel on Ultra Mega Power Projects (UMPPs).	08.12.2021
9	USQ 69	25.04.2016	Power	New norms for Ultra Mega Power Projects (UMPPs).	08.12.2021
10	USQ 1281	28.11.2016	Power	Insulation of Ultra Mega Power Projects (UMPPs) from fluctuation in prices of imported coal.	08.12.2021
11	USQ 2150	05.12.2016	Power	Regarding inquiry into coal imports	08.12.2021
12	USQ 1028	27.07.2016	Commerce and Industry	Development of IPAB, Chennai	08.12.2021
13	USQ 1836	06.03.2020	Commerce and Industry	Filing up of vacancies in Intellectual Property Appellate Board (IPAB), Chennai	08.12.2021
14	USQ 484	23.07.2018	Defence	Appointment Scam in Armed Forces	08.12.2021
15	USQ 625	23.07.2018	Jal Shakti	Central Assistance for CADWM Project Under ISBIG	08.12.2021
16	USQ 1924	12.03.2021	Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	Fraud under PM-Kisan Scheme	08.12.2021

17	USQ 3026	19.04.1999	Social Justice and Empowerment	Survey of destitute women	08.12.2021
18	USQ 2792	11.05.2005	Health	Parallel Health Insurance Scheme,	08.12.2021
19	USQ 3475	25.04.2008	Health	Health Insurance Scheme for CGHS Beneficiaries	08.12.2021
20	USQ 3047	30.08.2011	Health	Finalization of CGEPHIS	08.12.2021
21	USQ 943	03.03.2015	Health	Central Government Employees and Pensioners Health Insurance Scheme.	08.12.2021
22	USQ 119	03.12.2003	Defence	Chief of Defence Staff	08.12.2021
23	USQ 29	23.11.2005	Defence	Appointment of Chief of Defence Staff,	08.12.2021
24	USQ 353	03.08.2011	Defence	Appointment of CDS for single point military advice,	08.12.2021
25	USQ 3610	09.05.2012	Defence	Conclusion of consultations on appointment of CDS,	08.12.2021
26	USQ 966	06.03.2013	Defence	Action taken on Kargil Review Report	08.12.2021
27	USQ 1811	15.12.2015	Defence	Erosion in civil military relationship.	08.12.2021

28	USQ 2074	15.03.2013	Communications	Proposal to set up Telecom Finance Corporation	23.03.2022
29	USQ 3007	21.02.2014	Communications	Establishment of Telecom Finance Corporation	23.03.2022
30	USQ 684	04.12.2015	Communications	Probe into 2G Spectrum Scam	23.03.2022
31	USQ 157	05.02.2019	Corporate Affairs	CSR complying Companies	23.03.2022
32	USQ 191	19.07.2016	Finance	Seventh Pay Commission recommendations on Parity between IAS and non IAS officers	23.03.2022
33	USQ 2027	03.08.2018	Law and Justice	Creation of Integrated Legal Divisions	23.06.2022
34	USQ 204	12.12.2018	Commerce and Industry	Royalty payments on technology transfer and trademark usages	23.06.2022
35	SQ 81	25.07.2018	Civil Aviation	Restriction on check-in baggage	23.06.2022
36	SQ 31	20.11.2019	Civil Aviation	New International Airport near Bhubaneswar	23.06.2022
37	SQ 31 (supplementary question by Dr.SasmitPatra, MP)	20.11.2019	Civil Aviation	International Airport near Bhubaneswar	23.06.2022
38	SQ 31	20.11.2019	Civil Aviation	International	23.06.2022

	(supplementary question by Shri Prasanna Acharya, MP)			Airport near Bhubaneswar	
39	SQ 168	06.03.2020	Panchayati Raj	Sale and control of Alcohol and Narcotic Substances in Scheduled Areas	23.06.2022
40	USQ 3714	13.08.2014	Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises	Performance of Private Sector vis-à-vis Public Sector in Cement Sector	23.06.2022
41	USQ 2402	21.12.2015	Coal	Investigation of overvaluation of Coal Import	23.06.2022
42	USQ 2236	17.12.2015	Women and Child	Plan to recognize prenuptial agreements	23.06.2022

CHAPTER-IV

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. DELAYED REQUESTS FOR EXTENSION OF TIME FOR FULFILMENT OF THE ASSURANCES

The Committee, in its 75th Report, had observed that Ministries/Departments often do not seek extensions before expiry of the extended period for fulfillment of assurances granted by the Committee. They rather take the plea that they had sought extensions for a specific period or sent the OM to that effect to the Secretariat and, thereafter, think that they have automatically got the desired extension. However, the Committee finds that Ministries/Departments of Government of India have not taken the observation in its right spirit as they continue to seek extensions after expiry of the extended period for fulfillment of the assurances or do not seek any extension at all. On being reminded of the delay in seeking extension, they simply regret and seek to condone the delay.

The Committee expresses its displeasure over the fact that a large number of requests for extension are being sent after expiry of the extended period and in few cases, no extension has been sought in spite of communications sent in this regard to the Secretary concerned. The Committee, therefore, reiterates that merely seeking of extension for a specific period does not amount to granting of extension by the Committee. It is the exclusive discretion of the Committee to accede to the requests for extension based on the reasons cited for seeking extension. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry should either confirm from the Secretariat that the extension sought by them has actually been acceded to by the Committee or should check the details of extension granted on website rajyasabha.nic.in by following path www.rajyasabha.nic.in>[Home](#)>[Committees](#)>[StandingCommittees](#)>[Government Assurances](#)>[More Info](#)>[Statistical Analysis](#)>[Ministry-wiseSummary](#) or through www.rajyasabha.nic.in>[Home](#)>[Committees](#)>[StandingCommittees](#)>[Government Assurances](#)>[More Info](#)>[Search on Government Assurances](#).

2. REQUESTS FOR EXTENSION AND DROPPING TO BE SENT TO THE COMMITTEE DIRECTLY EITHER THROUGH E-MAIL OR PHYSICAL COPY

The Committee, in its 75th Report, had recommended, “The Committee, therefore, stresses that it is the prerogative of the Committee to consider and decide on any request for extension and dropping. The Committee, further, directs that all the requests for extension of time for fulfillment of assurances and dropping of assurances should be sent directly to the Committee on mandatory basis through e-mail i.e., rsc3as@sansad.nic.in or physically for taking a view thereon”.

However, it has been observed that the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, *vide* its O.M. dated 21.01.2022 addressed to all Ministries, has stated that, “Implementation Reports, Extension Requests and Dropping requests are required to be uploaded on OAMS Portal only. No physical copies or e-mails need to be sent to any authority. Implementation Reports need to be addressed to the Under Secretary of this Ministry while Extension Requests and Dropping Requests need to be addressed to the respective Committee on Government Assurances”.

3. DELAYED ACTION ON COMMUNICATIONS SENT FROM THE COMMITTEE

It has been observed that Ministries/Departments of Government of India do not respond promptly to the communications sent from the Committee.

The Committee, therefore, recommends all the Ministries/Departments concerned to look into it and ensure prompt action on communications sent from the Committee. The Committee, further, directs the Ministries/Departments to respond promptly to the communications sent from the Committee, covering all aspects of the directions of the Committee contained therein.

4. IMPLEMENTATION REPORTS FOR IDENTICAL/SIMILAR ASSURANCES TO BE SENT SIMULTANEOUSLY BY MINISTRIES/DEPARTMENTS

The Committee has observed that a number of Implementation Reports sent to Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs by various Ministries/Departments, remain pending for laying on the Table of the House, which unnecessarily delay the fulfillment and liquidation of assurances. Further, in many cases, it has also been observed by the Committee that Ministries/Departments send Implementation Reports for a few assurances which are laid on the Table of the House and are treated as fulfilled. While, some other identical/similar assurances which could also have been treated as fulfilled if identical/similar Implementation Reports had been laid on the Table of the House, but these remain pending for years.

The Committee, therefore, reiterates that all the Ministries/Departments should regularly and proactively pursue the laying of the Implementation Reports on the Table of the House with the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs for early liquidation of assurances. The Committee further directs that Union Ministries/Departments should regularly reconcile and update their data/records regarding assurances and Implementation Reports for identical/similar assurances to be sent and laid on the Table of the House simultaneously for early liquidation of all identical/similar assurances in one go.

5. MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS

It has been observed that sometimes Ministries/Departments do not seek extensions for fulfillment of a few assurances and when the Committee take up the matter with the Ministries/Departments concerned, they convey that either they do not have any information regarding the pending assurances or there is no record available in the Ministry/Department concerned.

The Committee expresses its displeasure over the casual approach of Ministries/Departments to have proper records of assurances and directs to reconcile and update their records from time to time regarding pending assurances from the list available on our website rajyasabha.nic.in.

CHAPTER-V

DELAYED EXTENSIONS

The Committee has observed that Ministries often do not seek timely extensions for fulfillment of the assurances and in a number of cases, requests for extension had been sent after the expiry of extended period. The Ministry-wise list indicating the number of instances wherein Ministries had sought delayed extensions, is as follows:

Sl. No.	Ministries	Delayed Extensions
1	Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare	1
2	Atomic Energy	1
3	Chemicals and Fertilizers	7
4	Civil Aviation	9
5	Communications	2
6	Consumer Affairs	1
7	Corporate Affairs	1
8	Culture	8
9	Defence	9
10	Development Of North Eastern Region	1
11	Education	3
12	Electronics & Information Technology	13
13	Environment, Forests and Climate Change	21
14	Finance	10
15	Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying	1
16	Health & Family Welfare	12
17	Home Affairs	1
18	Housing & Urban Affairs	1
19	Jal Shakti	2
20	Labour and Employment	7
21	Law and Justice	42
22	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises	3
23	New & Renewable Energy	4
24	NITI Aayog	1
25	Panchayati Raj	1
26	Parliamentary Affairs	1
27	Personnel, PG and Pensions	7
28	Ports, Shipping & Waterways	2
29	Power	1

30	Railways	64
31	Road Transport and Highways	3
32	Rural Development	7
33	Science and Technology	1
34	Skill Development and Entrepreneurship	1
35	Social Justice and Empowerment	18
36	Textiles	6
37	Tourism	10
38	Women and Child Development	2
39	Youth Affairs and Sports	15
	TOTAL	300

CHAPTER-VI

Ministry/Department-Wise List of Pending Assurances

In a parliamentary democracy, the executive is accountable to the legislature or Parliament for all its acts of omission and commission. The control which Parliament exercises over the executive emanates from the principle of parliamentary supremacy as it represents the will of the people. Parliament, as a watchdog of people's right, not only elicits information on various matters of public importance, but also extracts promises or undertakings for action through its various procedures and devises. It is the bounden duty of the executive to honour those promises and undertakings in right earnest.

2. The Committee on Government Assurances, in its First Report had stressed that Ministries/ Departments of Government of India need to take all necessary steps to implement assurances within the period of three months. In its Second Report, the Committee had observed that assurances/ undertakings made on the floor of the House would become obsolete and lose all its significance if their implementation was inordinately delayed. Delay in fulfillment of assurances beyond a reasonable period of one year or so ultimately results in denial of information that was assured to the House and through House to the people at large.

3. There may be many reasons for delay in implementation of the assurances which are better known to the Ministries but the Committee has, over the years, realized that one of the prominent of them is the failure of the Ministries to keep an account of all the assurances given by the Ministers on the floor of the House. They, rather, wait for communication from the Secretariat or Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.

4. In this background, the Committee has decided to append a separate chapter containing the list of Ministry/Department-wise list of assurances which are pending. The list also indicates the year since when they are pending. This list would facilitate the Ministries/Departments of Government of India to have a ready reckoner of the assurances pending against them, so that, they could proactively act to fulfill the assurances within the shortest possible time.

AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE				
S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	USQ	687	21.07.2017	Agitation by farmers in Madhya Pradesh
2	USQ	1785	06.03.2020	Deaths of Farmers due to spraying of pesticides in Maharashtra
3	USQ	663	18.09.2020	Impact of banning pesticides
4	USQ	2723	19.03.2021	Adverse effect Glyphosate Pesticide
5	USQ	1452	10.12.2021	Enactment of Law on MSP
6	USQ	1472	10.12.2021	Easy access to organic Fertilizers
7	SQ	32	04.02.2022	Legal Guarantee of MSP
8	SQ	32	04.02.2022	Legal guarantee of MSP
9	SQ	255	25.03.2022	Support measures for Agri-Tech led startups
10	SQ	214	05.08.2022	Spending on Agriculture
ATOMIC ENERGY				
S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	SQ	38	23.07.2015	Offer for Nuclear site from Andhra Pradesh
2	USQ	1598	16.03.2017	Construction of US Nuclear reactors
3	SQ	160	05.03.2020	Setting up of new Nuclear Power Plants
4	USQ	3364	25.03.2021	Public-Private partnership for the production of Nuclear medicines
5	USQ	164	03.02.2022	Establishment of indigenous reactor in Andhra Pradesh
6	USQ	167	03.02.2022	Indo-US Nuclear Deal
7	USQ	168	03.02.2022	Setting up of Atomic Power Station

8	USQ	4005	07.04.2022	Storage of spent nuclear fuel at Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plan
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AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMEOPATHY

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	DISCUSSION ON BILL		18.03.2020	The National Commission for Indian system of medicine bill, 2019 and the National Commission for Homeopathy Bill, 2019
2	USQ	1605	09.03.2021	Promotion of herbal cultivation in the country
3	USQ	2404	10.08.2021	National Institutes of Ayush in the Country
4	SQ	92	26.07.2022	Promotion of Ayush system of medicines in Rural areas

CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	USQ	2365	14.12.2012	Compensation to fertilizer companies
2	USQ	971	13.12.2013	Recovery of dues from GSFC
3	USQ	675	04.12.2015	Profit making PSUs
4	USQ	356	26.02.2016	Capping the share of margins on sale of medicines
5	USQ	1489	06.05.2016	Capping on trade margins of costly drugs
6	USQ	2287	13.05.2016	fixing the trade margin on sale of drugs
7	USQ	2292	13.05.2016	Legal action against chemists for overcharging
8	USQ	693	21.07.2017	Import of Urea
9	SQ	185	03.08.2018	Illegal diversion of urea by fertilizer companies

10	SQ	243	04.01.2019	Director benefit transfer in fertilizer sector
11	SQ	2125	06.12.2019	Proposed e-waste recycling plant at CIPT Bengaluru
12	USQ	1971	12.03.2021	Fertilizer subsidy for the year 2020-2021
13	SQ	61	08.02.2022	Revival of Gorakhpur fertilizer plant
14	SQ	61	08.02.2022	Revival of Gorakhpur fertilizer plant
15	USQ	655	08.02.2022	National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER)
16	USQ	2903	29.03.2022	Information regarding PMBJP and BPPI
17	USQ	184	19.07.2022	Integrated Plant Nutrition Management Bill, 2022
18	USQ	1778	02.08.2022	Energy demand of the country

CIVIL AVIATION

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	SQ	81	25.07.2018	Restriction on check-in baggage
2	USQ	1894	10.07.2019	Sale of real Estate of Air India
3	USQ	3513	24.07.2019	Impact of bilateral agreements between Qatar and UAE on Indian Airlines
4	USQ	989	28.07.2021	Expansion of Thoothukudi Airport
5	USQ	998	28.07.2021	International Airport at PURI
6	USQ	1786	04.08.2021	Construction and commissioning of New International Airport at Pune
7	SQ	191	21.03.2022	Development of Airstrips

COAL

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
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1	USQ	652	02.03.2015	Grant of mining lease in tribal areas
2	USQ	22	14.09.2020	Complaints regarding employment in lieu of land
3	USQ	1447	08.03.2021	Cases pending under appeal before AMRCD
4	USQ	2244	09.08.2021	Environmental clearance to coal mines
5	USQ	2248	09.08.2021	Opencast Coal Mines
6	USQ	3550	04.04.2022	Displacement due to coal mining

COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	SQ	104	06.03.2007	Rate of Consumer Price Index
2	USQ	1913	10.12.2014	Transfer of Salt Pan Lands of Mumbai
3	USQ	1146	26.07.2017	New Industrial Policy for Domestic Industries
4	USQ	497	20.12.2017	New Industrial Policy
5	USQ	4177	04.04.2018	Introduction of new industrial policy
6	USQ	2267	02.01.2019	New Industrial Policy
7	USQ	2295	02.01.2019	Report of Task Force on e-commerce Policy
8	USQ	1111	13.02.2019	New Industrial Policy
9	USQ	2133	06.12.2019	National e-Commerce Policy
10	USQ	2144	06.12.2019	e-Commerce Policy
11	USQ	1831	06.03.2020	Protection of Domestic E-commerce Industry
12	USQ	1491	23.09.2020	National Retail policy
13	USQ	1995	12.03.2021	New Foreign trade policy 2021-2026
14	USQ	2776	19.03.2021	National e-Commerce Policy, 2019
15	USQ	539	23.07.2021	Status of draft National e-Commerce Policy

16	USQ	1331	30.07.2021	Non-adherence to rules by e-Commerce companies
17	USQ	1338	30.07.2021	GI Tags for products of Kerala
18	USQ	1343	30.07.2021	Tightening rules for e-Commerce
19	SQ	35	04.02.2022	Setting up of New Industries in Rajasthan
20	USQ	359	04.02.2022	Priority nodes under VCIC
21	USQ	363	04.02.2022	Foreign Trade Policy
22	SQ	216	05.08.2022	Anti-dumping duty on import of Polyester Spun Yarn

COMMUNICATIONS

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	USQ	2144	15.04.2010	Fines on Violation by telecom companies
2	USQ	417	29.07.2010	Wireless broadband connectivity in H.P.
3	USQ	2067	15.03.2013	Telecommunication services in villages
4	USQ	4093	03.05.2013	Telephone facilities to gram panchayats
5	USQ	1451	05.12.2014	Laying out of cables for digital India
6	USQ	1458	05.12.2014	Connecting Panchayats with internet facility
7	USQ	1446	08.05.2015	Regulation of Over the Top services
8	USQ	567	24.07.2015	Status of TRAI consultations for over-the-Top Services
9	USQ	2156	07.08.2015	Report on NET Neutrality
10	USQ	372	18.11.2016	Finalisation of NET Neutrality Policy
11	USQ	3410	31.03.2017	Vacant posts in telecom commission
12	USQ	3264	23.03.2018	Allotment of backhaul spectrum Through auction

13	USQ	1343	21.12.2018	Regulation of Communication Service Providers by TRAI
14	SQ	244	04.01.2019	Action against cellular companies for call drops
15	USQ	635	27.06.2019	Telecom Companies going into insolvency proceedings
16	USQ	1932	05.12.2019	Sampoorna BIMA GRAM Yojana
17	USQ	493	06.02.2020	Length of Optical Fibre under Phase-2 of Bharatnet
18	USQ	373	04.02.2022	Mobile internet connectivity in Chhattisgarh
19	SQ	244	25.03.2022	Sharp decline in number of mobile subscribers
20	SQ	244	25.03.2022	Sharp decline in number of mobile subscribers
21	USQ	717	22.07.2022	Implementation of Bharatnet under PPP Model

CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	USQ	1354	21.12.2018	Establishing working standard laboratories in Kerala
2	USQ	551	23.07.2021	Supply of poor quality wheat and Rice under PDS

COOPERATION

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	USQ	2	02.02.2022	Sahkar se Samriddhi
2	USQ	3	02.02.2022	Data maintenance of Cooperatives
3	USQ	4	02.02.2022	State-wise DATA on Non-credit co-operatives
4	USQ	6	02.02.2022	Comprehensive plan for developing Co-operatives
5	USQ	2244	23.03.2022	National University on Cooperative Business

CORPORATE AFFAIRS				
S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1			08.08.2013	Amendment to Companies Bill, 2013
2	USQ	1785	10.05.2016	Audit of UB Group firms by global auditing firms
3	USQ	653	24.07.2018	Complaints received in SFIO
4	USQ	1745	09.07.2019	Amending IBC for cross border insolvency
5	USQ	813	09.02.2021	Sanction for prosecution under companies Act
CULTURE				
S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	USQ	769	16.07.2014	Thefts of Artifacts from Museums.
2	USQ	1473	15.03.2017	Classical language status to Marathi
3	USQ	1471	31.07.2018	Financial and administrative power in CCRT
4	USQ	661	24.07.2018	Multi crore scam at CCRT
5	USQ	163	05.02.2019	Annual Reports of the National Monuments Authority.
6	USQ	183	19.11.2019	Status of classical Language to Marathi
7	USQ	828	09.02.2021	Preservation of Historical monuments
8	USQ	2421	10.08.2021	Tagore cultural complex in Madhya Pradesh
9	USQ	2423	10.08.2021	Recognizing PAIKA BIDROHA; as the first war of Independence
10	USQ	2424	10.08.2021	Replacing Star with Ashok Stambh on Jaipur Column
11	SQ	22	03.02.2022	Classical language status to Marathi

12	SQ	22	03.02.2022	Classical language status to Marathi
13	SQ	22	03.02.2022	Classical language status to Marathi
14	SQ	27	03.02.2022	Inscription of Majuli island in world Heritage list
15	SQ	22	03.02.2022	Classical language status to Marathi
16	USQ	171	03.02.2022	Ancient monuments in tentative list of world Heritage sites
17	SQ	229	24.03.2022	Promoting Art and culture to provide employment
18	USQ	1291	28.07.2022	Facilitating further excavations in Tamil Nadu
19	SQ	201	04.08.2022	Research on PALA Dynasty

DEFENCE

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	USQ	202	23.11.2011	Need to amend provision regarding permission of C-In-C for transfer of property in Cantt. Areas
2	SQ	27	08.07.2014	Veterans Commission
3	USQ	3345	23.12.2014	Setting up of veterans commission
4	USQ	55	24.02.2015	Setting up of veterans Commission
5	SQ	229	11.08.2015	Delay in Setting up of INDU
6	SQ	92	26.07.2016	Implementation of OROP Scheme
7	USQ	683	22.11.2016	Complaints over OROP
8	USQ	1466	29.11.2016	Embraer Deal
9	USQ	4359	11.04.2017	Reduction in pension drawn by JWOs
10	USQ	1012	25.07.2017	CAG s observations on strategic road construction

11	USQ	2426	08.08.2017	Closure of Army Education Corps.
12	USQ	1779	12.03.2018	Establishment of Defence University
13	USQ	3844	02.04.2018	Restoration of Ex-servicemen category to MINS Officer
14	USQ	1302	30.07.2018	Corruption cases involving officers of MES BRO
15	USQ	642	17.12.2018	Draft Defence Production Policy
16	USQ	1444	24.12.2018	Applicability of Defence production policy
17	USQ	772	11.02.2019	Status of Internal committee to examine recommendations of OMJC
18	USQ	2415	16.03.2020	Setting up of Institutes affiliated to IDU
19	USQ	2417	16.03.2020	Vacancies in the armed forces
20	USQ	46	14.09.2020	Sainik Schools in the country
21	USQ	665	26.07.2021	Transfer of Defence property to successors
22	USQ	1458	02.08.2021	Compassionate Jobs
23	USQ	1466	02.08.2021	Amendment in Cantonment Act
24	USQ	846	06.12.2021	Anomalies in Salary and Pension of Senior Defence officials
25	USQ	1335	14.03.2022	Development of projects around Naval Establishments
26	SQ	185	21.03.2022	Recruitment in Armed Forces
27	SQ	185	21.03.2022	Recruitment in Armed Forces
28	USQ	1968	21.03.2022	Issue of retirement at lower rank
DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION				
S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject

1	USQ	1286	10.12.2015	Project under SIDE in North-Eastern States
2	USQ	2078	11.07.2019	Accruals under NLCPR
3	USQ	179	03.02.2022	North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme

EARTH SCIENCE

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	USQ	1316	30.07.2018	Installation of Doppler radars in Uttarakhand
2	USQ	184	03.02.2022	Deviation in Weather Forecasting
3	USQ	2101	04.08.2022	Erosion of coastal line
4	USQ	2103	04.08.2022	Accurate weather forecast for Jharkhand

EDUCATION

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	SQ	63	21.02.2003	Grants and aids to fraudulent educational institutions
2	USQ	1504	12.08.2011	Irregularities in DU medical college entrance exam
3	USQ	2512	18.02.2014	Fraudulent withdrawal from state-run schemes
4	DISCUSSION ON BILL		09.12.2014	The Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2014
5	USQ	1610	08.12.2014	Elections to student unions
6	POINT RAISED		13.03.2015	Need to expedite the process of granting patents for various research projects of DRDO
7	POINT RAISED		11.03.2016	The Self-Financing Professional Educational Institutions (Control and Regulation Bill, 2015)
8	USQ	2064	04.08.2016	Vacant positions in colleges of Port Blair

9	USQ	2332	15.03.2018	Passing of absent students in Bhopal
10	SQ	62	08.02.2018	Employment of teachers by more than one college/University
11	USQ	95	26.07.2018	Shortage of Teachers.
12	POINT RAISED		06.02.2019	The Constitution (One Hundred and Twenty fifth Amendment) Bill, 2019
13	USQ	2908	18.07.2019	Quality upgradation programme
14	USQ	542	21.11.2019	Merger of UGC and AICTE
15	USQ	581	21.11.2019	National Research foundation
16	USQ	556	06.02.2020	Changes to the system of higher education and vocational education
17	USQ	3399	25.03.2021	Setting up of Indian Institute of Translation and Interpretation (ITI)
18	USQ	365	22.07.2021	Students in Central Universities
19	SQ	15	02.02.2022	UGC fellowships
20	USQ	10	02.02.2022	Textbooks for schools and colleges on India's ancient and recent history
21	USQ	14	02.02.2022	Vacant posts in Universities of Bihar
22	USQ	24	02.02.2022	Fellowships given by UGC
23	USQ	26	02.02.2022	Introduction of RUSA 3.0
24	USQ	28	02.02.2022	Construction of campuses of central educational institutions in Andhra Pradesh
25	USQ	47	02.02.2022	IIM-Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
26	USQ	829	09.02.2022	Extension of RUSA 2.0
27	USQ	1605	16.03.2022	Filling of vacancy in Central Higher Educational Institutions

28	USQ	1613	16.03.2022	RUSA 3.0
29	USQ	2257	23.03.2022	Reservation in admission in BHU, Varanasi
30	USQ	2275	23.03.2022	Reservation for supernumerary seats at Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi
31	SQ	286	30.03.2022	Lateral entry at Professor level
32	USQ	3051	30.03.2022	Reservation in BHU, Varanasi

ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	USQ	538	25.11.2011	Jobs earmarked for SC/ST category
2	USQ	2836	12.12.2019	National strategy on Artificial Intelligence
3	USQ	2111	12.03.2020	Stolen DATA of Indian Facebook
4	USQ	552	17.09.2020	Status of DATA protection Legislation
5	USQ	553	17.09.2020	Personal DATA protection Law
6	USQ	599	17.09.2020	National strategy on Artificial Intelligenece
7	USQ	391	04.02.2021	finalization of the National Cyber Security Strategy for 2020-2025
8	USQ	1193	11.02.2021	Introduction of New cyber Security policy
9	USQ	2637	18.03.2021	Regulation of non-personal data
10	USQ	3426	25.03.2021	Increasing instances of data breaches
11	USQ	3433	25.03.2021	Data Centre Infrastructure in India
12	USQ	1194	29.07.2021	DATA centre parks
13	USQ	3446	01.04.2022	Safeguards in draft India DATA accessibility and use

				policy, 2022
14	USQ	3454	01.04.2022	Edge in it and ITeS Sector
15	USQ	738	22.07.2022	New Law relating to Information Technology and DATA protection
16	USQ	1531	29.07.2022	Protection of personal DATA of users making online payments

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE CHANGE

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	USQ	1626	31.07.2017	Finalisation of Coastal Zone Management plan
2	USQ	1318	30.07.2018	Biosphere reserve in catchment areas of Chambal
3	USQ	136	14.09.2020	Mining projects without Environmental clearance
4	SQ	110	11.02.2021	E-waste Management
5	SQ	145	08.03.2021	Expenditure incurred on forest cover by Government
6	USQ	1481	08.03.2021	Impact of draft Environment Impact Assessment Notification 2020
7	SQ	280	22.03.2021	Draft EIA Notification, 2020
8	USQ	2921	22.03.2021	Draft EIA Notification
9	USQ	36	19.07.2021	Finalization of Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP) for Goa Coast
10	USQ	2284	09.08.2021	Environment (Protection) Amendment Rules, 2020
11	USQ	2122	16.12.2021	Amendments to Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980
12	SQ	20	03.02.2022	Impact of air pollution on health
13	USQ	210	03.02.2022	Revision of Air Quality Standards

14	SQ	95	10.02.2022	Funds for tiger conservation in Madhya Pradesh
15	SQ	97	10.02.2022	Utilization of Compensatory Afforestation Fund
16	SQ	97	10.02.2022	Utilization of Compensatory Afforestation Fund
17	SQ	175	17.03.2022	Effectiveness of smog towers
18	USQ	4042	07.04.2022	Notification of ESAs in Western Ghat
19	SQ	56	21.07.2022	Elimination of single-use plastic

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	USQ	1905	30.08.2007	language for filling passport forms
2	USQ	2119	12.03.2020	Legislation for welfare of Non-resident Indians
3	SQ	49	21.07.2022	Fake agents sending Indians abroad

FINANCE

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	USQ	2812	05.08.2014	Provision of skill development
2	SQ	23	01.12.2015	Irregularities in Forex Transactions
3	USQ	1174	08.03.2016	Vacancy of MD & CEOs in PSBs
4	USQ	191	19.07.2016	Seventh Pay Commission recommendations on parity between IAS and Non-IAS Officers
5	USQ	2157	21.03.2017	Loss suffered by bank on account of mutilated and counterfeit notes
6	SQ	154	02.01.2018	Regulation cryptocurrencies
7	SQ	154	02.01.2018	Regulation of cryptocurrencies

8	SQ	154	02.01.2018	Regulation of cryptocurrencies
9	USQ	1971	13.03.2018	Law to control crypto currency
10	SQ	263	20.03.2018	Amount involved in LoUs issued by banks
11	USQ	3564	27.03.2018	Bank Scam under CBI investigation
12	USQ	3662	27.03.2018	Independent agency to manage seized assets
13	USQ	4103	03.04.2018	Bank scam cases under CBI investigation
14	SQ	202	01.01.2019	Funds released for Amaravati
15	USQ	196	19.11.2019	Strategic disinvestment of State-owned companies
16	USQ	209	19.11.2019	Reduction of Income Tax under Direct Tax Code
17	USQ	2431	10.12.2019	Disinvestment of PSUs
18	USQ	1040	11.02.2020	Making public the recommendations of Task Force on DTC
19	USQ	54	02.02.2021	Disinvestment of PSUs
20	USQ	55	02.02.2021	Selling of majority stakes in nationalised banks
21	USQ	881	09.02.2021	Cases of Bank Fraud registered
22	USQ	1029	07.12.2021	Undeclared assets detected from Panama Papers and Paradise Papers
23	SQ	94	26.07.2022	Change in GST Slabs

FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	USQ	2169	06.12.2019	Expenditure on Welfare of cows

HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	SQ	168	10.05.2016	Strict enforcement of prohibiting sale of Tobacco

				near schools
2	USQ	221	05.02.2019	AIIMs-Type Hospitals for Karnataka
3	USQ	1054	12.02.2019	Physiotherapists in Government Hospitals.
4	USQ	1164	02.07.2019	Attacks on Doctors and Medical Staff
5	USQ	3423	23.07.2019	Exports of Food items under purview of Food Regulation.
6	SQ	131	03.03.2020	Fixing of Uniform charges for Diagnostic Procedures
7	USQ	1365	03.03.2020	Re-introduction of COTPA Bill
8	USQ	912	09.02.2021	uniform bond policy for doctors trained in Government institutions
9	USQ	914	27.07.2021	Public comments and suggestion on draft COTPA Bill
10	USQ	2501	10.08.2021	Proposal to remove point of sale advertising under COTPA, 2003
11	USQ	262	30.11.2021	COTPA AMENDMENT BILL 2020
12	SQ	62	08.02.2022	Death of Health workders due to Covid-19
13	SQ	62	08.02.2022	Death of Health workers due to Covid-19
14	SQ	274	29.03.2022	Shortage of Administrative staff to handle disease outbreaks
15	SQ	348	05.04.2022	Incidents of corrupt practices in the purchase of Medical equipments

HOME AFFAIRS

S	Quest. Type	Quest.	Quest.	Subject
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No		No	Date	
1	SQ	185	11.05.2016	UN convention against torture
2	USQ	1963	11.05.2016	Integrated check posts at Hili and Changrabandha in West Bengal
3	USQ	1680	30.11.2016	Guidelines to prevent torture of individuals in custody
4	USQ	543	07.02.2018	Ratifying unconvetion against torture
5	USQ	78	18.07.2018	Human rights violations in J&K
6	USQ	2446	08.08.2018	Lynching in the name of cow vigilantism and child lifting
7	USQ	213	12.12.2018	Raising more Battallions of BSF for Borders
8	USQ	1942	10.07.2019	National Animal, National Bird and National Flower of India
9	USQ	2767	18.03.2020	Amendment in IPC and CrPC in respect of BAIL
10	USQ	360	16.09.2020	Submission of Recommendations on Assam accord
11	USQ	1000	10.02.2021	Rules under CAA
12	USQ	2769	22.12.2021	Investments and Land sale in J& K and Ladakh
13	USQ	48	02.02.2022	Amendments in Criminal Laws
14	USQ	49	02.02.2022	Implementation of Provisions of Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014
15	USQ	66	02.02.2022	Funds disbursed by NDRF
16	SQ	5	02.02.2022	Resolving issues related to Andhra Pradesh Reogranisation Act
17	SQ	5	02.02.2022	Resolving issues related to Andhra Pradesh Reogranisation Act

18	SQ	5	02.02.2022	Resolving issues related to Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act
19	USQ	2311	23.03.2022	Rehabilitation measures for Tibetan refugees
20	USQ		05.04.2022	Demand for signboard in Bengal
21	USQ	1200	27.07.2022	Complaints against Delhi Police
22	USQ	370	20.07.2022	Waiting for appointment in the Paramilitary Forces
23	USQ	387	20.07.2022	Accommodation for migrant workers in Kashmir
24	USQ	1196	27.07.2022	Statehood to Jammu and Kashmir

HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	USQ	2287	15.03.2018	Recovering unauthorised land from Education Society
2	USQ	217	03.02.2021	Cost of new Parliament project
3	SQ	234	17.03.2021	Central vista project model
4	USQ	1832	04.08.2021	Demolition of Government Buildings
5	USQ	2625	11.08.2021	ARHCs Scheme
6	USQ	2640	11.08.2021	Roads for Commercial purpose in Delhi
7	USQ	866	06.12.2021	Augmentation of city Bus Services Scheme
8	USQ	537	07.02.2022	Commercial dispute between HSCL and NTPC, Kahalgaon
9	USQ	1346	14.03.2022	Cadre Review of group A, B and C Officers and Staff
10	USQ	1977	21.03.2022	Drainage system of Delhi

INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
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1	USQ	2738	19.02.2014	Monopolies Practices by MSOs
2	USQ	2366	31.07.2014	Imposing restrictions on multi system operators
3	SQ	23	17.11.2016	Report of expert Committee headed by Shri Shyam Benegal
4	USQ	709	26.07.2021	Amendment in Cinematographic Act
5	USQ	2318	09.08.2021	Concerns about Cinematographic (Amendment) Bill, 2021

JAL SHAKTI

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	USQ	1428	28.11.2016	Merging of CWC and CGWB
2	USQ	3020	12.12.2016	Restructuring of CWC
3	USQ	3515	26.03.2018	Draft Policy on sediment management
4	USQ	217	24.06.2019	Optimum Utilisation of water for Irrigation
5	USQ	874	10.02.2020	Setting up of National Bureau of Water use efficiency
6	USQ	103	14.09.2020	New Legislation to keep the Ganga pollution free
7	USQ	104	14.09.2020	Consideration of Sri Kaleshwaram lift irrigation Project as National Project
8	USQ	724	26.07.2021	Constitution of Pancheshwar DAM
9	USQ	725	26.07.2021	Construction of check Dams on Markandeya River
10	USQ	737	26.07.2021	Objections to Markandeya River Dam
11	USQ	1382	14.03.2022	Status of Inter-linking of Rivers

LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

S	Quest. Type	Quest.	Quest.	Subject
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No		No	Date	
1	SQ	47	20.12.2017	Unemployment among youth
2	USQ	1343	07.03.2018	Information of residents of states working in other states
3	USQ	1072	19.12.2018	Provident Fund Trusts
4	SQ	170	04.12.2019	Violence against migrant labourers.
5	USQ	1226	21.09.2020	Death of Migrant labourers
6	USQ	252	03.02.2021	Provident fund trusts
7	USQ	1009	10.02.2021	Deaths of migrant workers
8	USQ	1039	10.02.2021	All India Migrant workers survey
9	USQ	1062	10.02.2021	Job security to Migrant Labourers
10	USQ	1864	10.03.2021	Data of migrant workers
11	USQ	2497	17.03.2021	Job data on migrant workers
12	USQ	3301	24.03.2021	National Minimum Wage
13	SQ	176	17.03.2022	Extension of Atal Bimit Vyakti Kalyan Yojana
14	USQ	4096	07.04.2022	Survey of migrant and domestic workers
15	SQ	200	04.08.2022	Shortage of manpower in ESIC hospitals

LAW AND JUSTICE

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	USQ	3055	21.02.2014	Legislation to check practice of black magic, witchcraft
2	USQ	1490	05.12.2014	Vacancies reserved for SCs/STs
3	USQ	2658	20.03.2015	National Litigation Policy
4	USQ	208	24.04.2015	Implementation of National Litigation Policy
5	USQ	1547	11.12.2015	Formulation of international treaties and agreements
6	USQ	1701	11.03.2016	Promotion of Law as a career for women

7	USQ	638	22.07.2016	Demand for constitution of AIJS
8	USQ	649	22.07.2016	Simultaneous elections for Lok Sabha and State Assemblies
9	USQ	2238	05.08.2016	National Litigation Policy
10	USQ	2017	02.12.2016	Electoral Reforms
11	SQ	263	09.12.2016	Simultaneous elections to the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies
12	USQ	254	03.02.2017	Regulating Finances for Political Parties
13	USQ	1227	10.03.2017	Electoral reforms
14	USQ	1223	10.03.2017	Electoral Reforms
15	USQ	2976	11.08.2017	Simultaneous Elections for Parliament and Assembly Constituencies, Urban Local bodies and Panchayats
16	USQ	2979	11.08.2017	Electoral reforms and Delimitation of parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies
17	USQ	926	22.12.2017	Simultaneous elections to Lok Sabha State Assemblies, Local Bodies and Gram Panchayats
18	USQ	2190	05.01.2018	Simultaneous elections for Lok Sabha and State Assemblies
19	USQ	108	02.02.2018	Policy for cutting down inter-Departmental litigations
20	USQ	3307	23.03.2018	Decriminalization of politics
21	USQ	1235	27.07.2018	Non-fling of Counter and Reply Affidavits by various Government Departments ad affiliates
22	USQ	2018	03.08.2018	Opposition to idea of holding simultaneous elections to LOK SABHA and State Legislative assemblies
23	USQ	2027	03.08.2018	Creation of Integrated Legal

				Divisions
24	USQ	2673	04.01.2019	Linkage of Aadhaar with Voter ID
25	USQ	704	08.02.2019	Framing of rules and regulations after passing of Acts
26	USQ	717	08.02.2019	Cases pending before Tribunals
27	USQ	2146	11.07.2019	Anonymous political funding
28	USQ	589	21.11.2019	National Litigation Policy.
29	SQ	182	05.12.2019	Delay in Criminal Justice System.
30	SQ	182	05.12.2019	Delay in Criminal Justice System
31	SQ	256	12.12.2019	Mobile application to read Supreme court judgments
32	USQ	2983	19.03.2020	Discussion with Ministry for electoral reforms
33	USQ	3456	25.03.2021	Tuition fee in National Law Universities
34	USQ	3460	25.03.2021	Voting for Domestic Migrant Workers
35	USQ	415	22.07.2021	Electronically transmitted Postal Ballot System
36	USQ	1210	29.07.2021	Electoral reforms
37	USQ	1213	29.07.2021	Abolition of Legislative Council in Andhra Pradesh
38	USQ	1217	29.07.2021	Proposal for implementing electoral reforms
39	USQ	2020	05.08.2021	Reforms in criminal justice system
40	USQ	2198	16.12.2021	Fast Track Special Courts for rape and POCSO cases
41	USQ	1068	10.02.2022	Creation of Legislative Councils in States
42	USQ	1872	17.03.2022	Stand of Government on appointment of judges

43	USQ	1884	17.03.2022	CAP on overall contributions
44	USQ	4110	07.04.2022	Legislation on concurrent list
45	USQ	2502	24.03.2022	Central legislations
46	USQ	1383	28.07.2022	Conduct of Annual Audit by Political Parties
47	USQ	1388	28.07.2022	Representation of women in Parliament and State Assemblies
48	SQ	199	04.08.2022	Cost of litigants
49	USQ	2174	04.08.2022	Judges vacancies in the High Court of AP
50	USQ	2183	04.08.2022	Appointment of judges in Supreme Court and High Courts

MICRO SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	USQ	2902	05.08.2014	New policy for MSME sector
2	USQ	1368	10.12.2015	Introduction of new MSME Policy
3	USQ	98	19.07.2021	World Bank funds for MSMEs

MINES

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	USQ	2361	09.12.2019	Extraction of Minerals in Andhra Pradesh.
2	USQ	914	25.07.2022	lithium projects undertaken by DER
3	USQ	1734	01.08.2022	Recovery from mining firms

MINORITY AFFAIRS

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	SQ	132	13.07.2009	Establishment of Equal Opportunity Commission
2	USQ	1156	08.03.2010	National Commission for Minorities and Equal Opportunity Commission

3	USQ	1517	22.07.2014	Equal opportunity commission
4	USQ	2908	05.08.2014	Annual reports of WAKF boards of UTs.
5	USQ	1862	12.05.2015	Equal opportunities commission

NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	SQ	163	03.12.2019	Loan defaulters of Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency.
2	USQ	1729	03.08.2021	Solar power generation in North Eastern States
3	USQ	3003	29.03.2022	National green Hydrogen Policy
4	USQ	1808	02.08.2022	Allocation for new National Biogas and organic manure programme

NITI AYOOG

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	USQ	1459	11.12.2015	Recommendations of task force on agriculture.
2	USQ	2523	03.01.2019	Eradication of Poverty
3	USQ	2069	21.03.2022	India innovation index report
4	USQ	2071	21.03.2022	Committee on definition of criteria of poverty

PANCHAYATI RAJ

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	USQ	1828	14.03.2016	Reservation in PRIS
2	SQ	221	13.03.2020	Reservations for SCs/STs in Panchayati Raj Institutions
3	USQ	74	02.02.2022	Status of Implementation of SVAMITVA Scheme in Gujarat

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	USQ	827	11.02.2019	Adherence to manual of Parliamentary procedure
PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS				
S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	USQ	537	08.08.2013	Autonomy of CBI
2	SQ	195	06.08.2015	Reducing the Numbers of CVOS
3	USQ	251	25.02.2016	Changes in Civil Services examination
4	USQ	258	17.11.2016	Report of Committee on change in pattern of Civil Service
5	USQ	1046	09.03.2017	Compensation of Civil Service Aspirants
6	USQ	131	27.07.2017	New Rules under RTI Act
7	SQ	198	03.08.2017	Inclusion of Ayurveda in Civil Services examination
8	USQ	424	04.02.2021	Baswan Committee Report on Civil Services Examination
9	USQ	287	03.02.2022	Shortage of IAS Officers
10	USQ	1014	10.02.2022	Amendments to IAS (Cadre) Rules, 1954
11	USQ	1082	10.02.2022	Civil Servants on Central Deputation
12	USQ	4123	07.04.2022	Comments of DLA on old pension scheme
13	USQ	3326	31.03.2022	Representations on old pension scheme
14	SQ	388	07.04.2022	Land acquired by Ministry in Adhra Pradesh
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS				
S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject

1	USQ	2750	10.08.2016	Expenditure on setting of MEGA oil refinery on west coast
2	SQ	236	07.12.2016	Probe into inaction by officials on gas flowing into RIL field
3	USQ	2689	11.12.2019	Permission to Private Companies to Sell Subsidized LPG
4	SQ	167	04.08.2021	Drilling operation for hydrocarbons in Cauvery Delta
5	USQ	1431	14.03.2022	CSR budget of GAIL
6	SQ	186	21.03.2022	Impact of Ukraine-Russia conflict on import of Natural Gas and Crude Oil
7	SQ	186	21.03.2022	Impact of Ukraine-Russia conflict on import of Natural Gas and Crude Oil.

PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	SQ	166	14.03.2016	Setting up a maritime board in A.P.
2	USQ	611	23.07.2018	Development of ports in Andhra Pradesh
3	USQ	951	10.02.2020	Sagarmala and Bharatmala Programme at Nellore
4	USQ	771	26.07.2021	Draft Indian Ports Bill, 2021
5	SQ	225	09.08.2021	Draft Indian Ports Bill, 2021
6	USQ	2370	09.08.2021	Draft Indian ports Bill 2021
7	SQ	360	05.04.2022	Vacancies in Visakhapatnam Port Trust
8	SQ	93	26.07.2022	Sagarmala programme in Andhra Pradesh
9	SQ	93	26.07.2022	Sagarmala programme in Andhra Pradesh

POWER

S	Quest. Type	Quest.	Quest.	Subject
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No		No	Date	
1	USQ	2749	30.04.2012	Eviction of Tenants by BBMB
2	USQ	1104	20.09.2020	Reforms in the power Sector
3	USQ	2715	21.12.2021	Roll back of Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2021
4	USQ	3836	05.04.2022	Installation of Hydroelectric power plants across the country
5	USQ	1108	26.07.2022	Development of pumped storage projects
6	SQ	169	02.08.2022	energy demand of the country

RAILWAYS

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	USQ	670	30.07.2010	Increase in incidents of crimes in trains
2	USQ	1461	06.08.2010	Increase in thefts and drugging in trains
3	USQ	1477	06.08.2010	Increase incidence of theft and robbery in trains
4	USQ	671	30.07.2010	Integrated security plan at railway stations
5	SQ	182	12.08.2011	Security and safety of passengers
6	USQ	1530	12.08.2011	Robbery incidents in Trains
7	USQ	2158	19.08.2011	Incident of theft/Robbery Etc. in Trains
8	SQ	150	23.03.2012	Railway coach factory at Palakkad, Kerala
9	USQ	2009	30.03.2012	Restructuring of RPF
10	SQ	322	27.04.2012	Gauge conversion under western Railway
11	USQ	2624	27.04.2012	Amendment to RPF Act
12	USQ	2630	27.04.2012	Status Kancharapara-Halisahar Railway Complex
13	USQ	277	23.11.2012	Converting single line Railway track into double line

14	USQ	143	22.02.2013	Setting up shops in trains
15	USQ	1082	13.12.2013	Strategic Railway line projects
16	USQ	3071	21.02.2014	Railway Projects in Madhya Pradesh.
17	USQ	1160	18.07.2014	Converting royapuram and tondiarpet railway stations into terminals
18	USQ	2295	12.12.2014	World class Railway stations
19	USQ	1518	08.05.2015	Empowering Railway protection force
20	SQ	137	11.12.2015	Expansion of Dehradun Railway Station
21	USQ	448	26.02.2016	Multiple security agencies for Security to Railways
22	USQ	428	18.11.2016	Eliminating Railway level crossing on National Highways
23	USQ	2856	09.12.2016	Pukhrayan train accident
24	USQ	957	22.12.2017	Railway projects in Tamil Nadu
25	USQ	2216	05.01.2018	contractual staff in Railways
26	USQ	4611	06.04.2018	Establishment of Rapid Rail from Hyderabad to New Capital City
27	USQ	475	20.07.2018	New Railway Zone in Andhra Pradesh
28	SQ	35	20.07.2018	Kakinada-Pithapuram Railway line project
29	USQ	1423	21.12.2018	Rising number of train accidents in the country
30	USQ	1910	28.12.2018	sanctioned strength of GRP in Karnataka
31	SQ	78	28.06.2019	Tri-Netra System for Trains
32	USQ	102	21.06.2019	Establishment of Railway zone with Headquarters at Visakhapatnam
33	SQ	123	29.11.2019	Installation of Real-Time Train Information System

34	SQ	128	29.11.2019	Conversion of Old Railway Engines into Twin Electric Engines
35	USQ	2181	06.12.2019	Corporatization of Production Units
36	USQ	2982	13.12.2019	Status of conditions of ROB in Uttar Pradesh
37	USQ	751	07.02.2020	Outsourcing of Railway Services
38	USQ	1896	06.03.2020	Private trains in the country
39	USQ	1897	06.03.2020	Semi-high speed railway project in Kerala
40	USQ	2339	13.03.2020	Bullet Train projects in the country
41	USQ	2355	13.03.2020	Pending Railway works in Konkan region
42	USQ	2358	13.03.2020	Railway Recruitment Notification, 2019
43	USQ	2373	13.03.2020	Vacancy position in Railways
44	USQ	3169	20.03.2020	Railway developmental works in Madhya Pradesh
45	USQ	1558	23.09.2020	Government Railways Police (GRP) in Karnataka
46	USQ	1560	23.09.2020	Doubling of Penukonda-Dharmavaram Railway Line
47	SQ	57	05.02.2021	Establishment of Visakhapatnam
48	USQ	595	05.02.2021	Ratlam-Dungarpur via Banswara New Rail Line project
49	USQ	2838	19.03.2021	Survey for new rail link between Raxaul and Kathmandu
50	USQ	603	23.07.2021	Operationalization of scor zone with Headquarters in Vishakapatnam

51	USQ	1393	30.07.2021	Detailed project Report (DPR) for South coast Railway (SCOR) Zone
52	USQ	1411	30.07.2021	Bargarh to NUAPADA Railway line
53	USQ	2184	06.08.2021	Yavatmal Railway Projects
54	USQ	2187	06.08.2021	Linking Railways with ports in Gujarat
55	USQ	2203	06.08.2021	Requests received for underpass and flyovers
56	USQ	439	04.02.2022	Bikaner express train accident
57	SQ	241	25.03.2022	Fraudulent inspection of Railway tracks
58	SQ	241	25.03.2022	Fraudulent inspection of Railway tracks
59	SQ	245	25.03.2022	Examination results withheld by RRB
60	SQ	245	25.03.2022	Examination results withheld by RRB
61	SQ	245	25.03.2022	Examination result withheld by RRB
62	USQ	2683	25.03.2022	Secret Ballot for recognizing Trade Unions at Zonal level
63	USQ	3503	01.04.2022	New Rayagada Division
64	USQ	763	22.07.2022	Nemom coaching Terminal in Kerala
65	USQ	768	22.07.2022	Nemom coaching terminal
66	USQ	2379	05.08.2022	Complaints against management of RVNL

ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	SQ	307	01.12.2010	Feasibility study of Surat-Mumbai National Express Highway Project
2	USQ	2743	21.03.2013	Complaints of substandard roads under National

				Highways
3	USQ	1866	14.03.2016	Review of provisions relating to HIT-and Run cases
4	USQ	85	25.04.2016	Construction of Road from Rajnandgaon to Chandrapur
5	USQ	91	25.04.2016	Land Acquired for National Highways
6	USQ	888	02.05.2016	Construction of elevated road on Ratu Road
7	USQ	2812	27.03.2017	Amritsar-Delhi Expressway
8	USQ	2823	27.03.2017	Beautification of surroundings of Mumbai-Goa National Highway
9	USQ	1368	30.07.2018	Progress on Amritsar-Delhi Expressway
10	USQ	1527	24.12.2018	CAG Audit of NHAI Projects
11	USQ	2828	07.01.2019	Regional Ring Road in Hyderabad.
12	USQ	2233	15.03.2021	construction of over bridge over brahmaputra river
13	USQ	775	26.07.2021	Implementation of Road package for Bihar
14	USQ	787	26.07.2021	Bharatmala Phase-II
15	SQ	222	09.08.2021	NHS in Guntur and Prakasam districts in AP
16	USQ	2380	09.08.2021	Expansion and Development of Atmakur-Srisailam Ghat Road in Kurnool, AP
17	USQ	2386	09.08.2021	Projects on NH-31 and 2 in Bihar
18	SQ	8	02.02.2022	Status of construction of Char Dham Road Project
19	USQ	22	02.02.2022	Progress of declared National Highways in Kerala
20	USQ	82	02.02.2022	Widening of NHS in Kerala

21	USQ	86	02.02.2022	Status of NH Projects under BharatMala Phase-I
22	USQ	91	02.02.2022	Incomplete National Highways in Odisha
23	USQ	101	02.02.2022	Status of Project on NH-527E in Bihar
24	USQ	102	02.02.2022	Status of Danapur-Bihta elevated corridor
25	USQ	78	02.02.2022	Status of National Highways in Tamil Nadu
26	USQ	849	09.02.2022	Status of In-Principally Declared Highways in Rajasthan
27	USQ	879	09.02.2022	Status of Ram-Janki Marg in Bihar
28	USQ	1690	16.03.2022	Mandatory Airbags in Vehicles
29	USQ	410	20.07.2022	Vishakhapatnam-Bhogapuram beach corridor project
30	USQ	1214	27.07.2022	Replacement of old Petrol vehicles with electric vehicles
31	SQ	181	03.08.2022	Closure of Toll plazas
32	SQ	181	03.08.2022	Closure of Toll plazas
33	SQ	181	03.08.2022	Closure of Toll plazas
34	USQ	1223	27.07.2022	Time-bound filing of responses by Government/NHAI in high courts

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	SQ	153	09.05.2016	Meeting of NMC on land acquisition issues
2	USQ	1237	27.07.2022	Pending dues under MNREGA

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	USQ	1703	12.03.2015	Establishment of Innovation Complex

2	USQ	893	03.03.2016	Increasing resources for scientists
3	USQ	3187	23.03.2021	Bio-technology parks
4	USQ	3188	23.03.2021	Revision of DNA Technology Regulation Bill, 2019
5	USQ	2551	10.08.2021	Timeline for STI policy release and increasing GERD
6	USQ	4126	07.04.2022	DNA based forensic technologies
7	USQ	4129	07.04.2022	Delay in work of shore-based laboratory
8	USQ	611	21.07.2022	5th National science, technology and innovation policy

SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	USQ	118	02.02.2022	Review of National Policy on Skill Development
2	USQ	918	09.02.2022	Amending apprentices Act, 1961

SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	USQ	2405	31.07.2014	Separate budget for OBC
2	USQ	125	07.05.2015	Global age watch index for Elderly people
3	SQ	77	03.03.2016	Reservation for OBCS in Private Sector
4	SQ	77	03.03.2016	Reservation for OBCS in Private Sector
5	SQ	77	03.03.2016	Reservation for OBC in Private Sector
6	SQ	77	03.03.2016	Reservation for OBCS in Private Sector
7	USQ	443	13.12.2018	Misappropriation of Funds in Post-Matric Scholarship in

				Pubjab
8	SQ	238	03.01.2019	Misappropriation of Funds under Post Matric Scholarship Scheme
9	SQ	189	10.07.2019	Challenges in OBC Reservation
10	USQ	2835	17.07.2019	Creamy layer Formula for OBC
11	USQ	458	05.02.2020	Review of creamy layer for SC/ST and OBCs
12	USQ	2059	11.03.2020	Funding ratio in POST-MATRIC scholarship for SC
13	USQ	2868	18.03.2020	Committee to examine issues related to creamy layer
14	USQ	2872	18.03.2020	Creamy layer formula for OBCs
15	USQ	465	16.09.2020	Creamy layer limit for OBCs
16	USQ	1261	21.09.2020	Welfare and rehabilitation of PWDs
17	USQ	1097	10.02.2021	Rohini commission Report
18	SQ	226	17.03.2021	Schemes for upliftment of scheduled caste
19	USQ	2546	17.03.2021	Action plan for backward classes
20	USQ	1914	04.08.2021	Caste certificates of Nomadic, Semi-Nomadic and De-Notified Tribes
21	USQ	2710	11.08.2021	Income limit of OBCs and creamy layer

SPACE

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	USQ	2530	24.03.2022	Threats posed by Space debris
2	USQ	3337	31.03.2022	India-Singapore Technology Summit
3	USQ	2211	04.08.2022	Project posts in ISRO

STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION				
S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	USQ	1723	05.03.2020	Implementation of Rangarajan Commission Report
TEXTILES				
S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	USQ	2783	19.02.2014	National Policy for handicraft industry
2	USQ	1547	05.12.2014	Market for handloom products
3	USQ	635	27.02.2015	New Textiles policy
4	USQ	1918	13.03.2015	New Textiles Policy
5	USQ	1488	29.07.2016	New textiles policy
6	USQ	1278	25.11.2016	National Textile Policy
7	USQ	313	03.02.2017	New Textiles Policy
8	USQ	623	21.11.2019	Setting up of Mega Textiles Parks Near Ports.
9	USQ	607	17.09.2020	Development of Textile Parks
10	USQ	2055	05.08.2021	Setting up of textile parks
11	USQ	3519	01.04.2022	Plans to close Textile Committee
12	USQ	793	22.07.2022	NTC Mills
13	USQ	794	22.07.2022	Slowdown of demand for textile exports
TOURISM				
S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	USQ	1579	11.03.2015	Comprehensive Tourism Development policy
2	USQ	1586	11.03.2015	Degree by ICH on the lines of IIT council
3	USQ	738	29.04.2015	New Tourism Policy, 2015
4	USQ	460	02.12.2015	Innovative means for promotion of Tourism in West Bengal

5	SQ	12	16.11.2016	New Tourism Policy
6	USQ	2552	07.12.2016	working of India Tourism offices Abroad
7	USQ	1271	26.07.2017	National Tourism Authority
8	USQ	1270	26.07.2017	National Tourism Policy
9	USQ	2683	16.07.2019	PRASAD scheme in Chhattisgarh
10	USQ	1440	03.03.2020	National Tourism Policy
11	USQ	949	27.07.2021	Development of Konark temple as an iconic tourist site
12	SQ	21	03.02.2022	Aqua Tourism in Andhra Pradesh
13	USQ	1909	17.03.2022	Revamping of Digital platforms
14	USQ	4148	07.04.2022	Development of Konark temple as an iconic Tourist site
15	USQ	4151	07.04.2022	New Tourism Policy
16	SQ	227	24.03.2022	Development of Iconic Tourist sites of Odisha
17	USQ	3342	31.03.2022	Iconic Tourist Sites in Tamil Nadu

TRIBAL AFFAIRS

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	USQ	1909	05.08.2015	Professor Virginius XAXA Committee on Tribal Communities
2	USQ	465	02.12.2015	Implementation of recommendation of Prof. Virginius XAXA Committee
3	USQ	1741	05.03.2020	Formulation of National Tribal Policy
4	USQ	1257	11.02.2021	Vacant posts under Tribal Sub-plan
5	USQ	451	22.07.2021	Memorials of Tribal freedom fighters

6	USQ	138	02.02.2022	Displacement of Tribal due to Polavaram Dam
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WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	SQ	87	03.03.2016	Age waiver for widows in Exams
2	USQ	312	17.11.2016	Special police force to tackle child prostitution
3	SQ	167	02.08.2018	Requests for exemption to women from Tax on gifts
4	SQ	167	02.08.2018	Requests for exemption to women from Tax on gifts
5	USQ	2076	05.12.2019	Abandoned children living in Children Homes
6	USQ	2077	05.12.2019	Vacancies in Rashtriya Mahila Kosh
7	USQ	3033	19.03.2020	National children protection policy
8	SQ	1	02.02.2022	Expenditure for Beti Bachao Beti Padhao
9	SQ	6	02.02.2022	Sexual violence within marriages
10	SQ	6	02.02.2022	Sexual violence within marriages
11	USQ	951	09.02.2022	Anganwadi centres in the country

YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS

S No	Quest. Type	Quest. No	Quest. Date	Subject
1	USQ	2726	26.04.2007	Lack of modern infrastructure for sports
2	USQ	4608	06.05.2010	Source of money used in IPL matches
3	USQ	4611	06.05.2010	Cricket as lucrative business
4	SQ	380	19.08.2010	Financial irregularities in preparation of CWG

5	USQ	1328	05.08.2010	Investigation against Lalit Modi
6	USQ	1326	05.08.2010	Enquiry into IPL controversy
7	USQ	465	24.02.2011	Erring IOA officials in CWG.
8	USQ	1695	10.03.2011	Outcome of CBI inquiry into CWG, 2010
9	USQ	1703	10.03.2011	Sports policy to check corruption
10	USQ	2025	10.12.2014	Poor state of sports
11	USQ	473	02.12.2015	Law to make spot fixing and match fixing criminal offences
12	USQ	155	24.02.2016	Launch of Youth Leadership Development-Ek Saal, Desh ke Naam
13	USQ	1818	02.08.2016	Essential sports infrastructural facilities through PPP in Urban cities
14	USQ	1111	25.07.2017	Sports Associations in Rajasthan
15	SQ	16	03.02.2022	Decisions for improving performance of sportspersons
16	SQ	16	03.02.2022	Decisions for improving performance of Sportspersons
17	USQ	2560	24.03.2022	Functioning of Youth Commissions

APPENDICES

(i)
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON
GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES**

III

(THIRD MEETING)

The Committee on Government Assurances, Rajya Sabha met at 03.00 PM on Wednesday, the 8th December, 2021 in Committee Room No. 63, First Floor, Parliament House, New Delhi.

PRESENT

1. Shri A. Navaneethakrishnan - Chairman

MEMBERS

2. Shri Birendra Prasad Baishya
3. Shrimati Ramilaben Becharbhai Bara
4. Shri Vaishambhar Prasad Nishad
5. Shrimati Sampatiya Uikey
6. Shri Vaiko
7. Shrimati Seema Dwivedi

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Surendra Tripathi, Joint Secretary
2. Shri VSP Singh, Director
3. Shri Jayanta Kumar Mallick, Additional Director
4. Shri P.C. Maharana, Deputy Secretary
5. Shri Vijay Kumar Rai, Under Secretary

2. At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the members to the meeting of the Committee and informed them that as on date 840 assurances were pending against various Ministries/Departments of Government of India. He also named a few Ministries against which maximum number of assurances was pending. The Committee, thereafter, considered Memoranda nos. 49 to 65 on requests

received from various Ministries for dropping of pending assurances. In addition to these, the Committee also considered 3 other Memoranda pertaining to assurances pending for more than 15 years and took decisions thereon as indicated below against each:-

S. No	Memorandum No.	Ministry	Question No./date/Subject	Remarks
1.	Memorandum No. 49	Culture	Point raised by Sh. Prasanta Chatterjee dated 05.12.2006 regarding Jallianwala Bagh National Memorial (Amendment) Bill, 2006	The Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry and the assurance was dropped as the Ministry had informed that the rules and procedures for nomination of three Eminent Persons in the Trust were not mentioned in the Jallianwala Bagh National Memorial Act, 1951.
2.	Memorandum No. 50	Culture	USQ 1118 dated 22.08.2012 regarding Delivery of Books Act	The Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry and the assurance was dropped as the Indian Culture Portal was launched on 10.12.2019 and that the Ministry had decided to keep the existing Delivery of Books Act, 1954 functional in its

present form.

3.	Memorandum No. 51	Commun ications	USQ 417 dated 29.07.2010 regarding wireless broadband connectivity in Himachal Pradesh	The Committee did not accede to the request of the Ministry to drop the assurance and directed that the Ministry be asked to furnish updated 'Status Note' on implementation of BharatNet in the country, State-wise.
4.	Memorandum No. 52	Commun ications	(i) USQ 3161 dated 04.05.2012 regarding guidelines for imposing penalty on telecom operators (ii) USQ 1516 dated 06.05.2016 regarding graded penalty system for telecos	The Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry and the assurances were dropped as the matter was sub-judice before Hon'ble Supreme Court.

5. Memorandum No. 53 Education USQ 2102 dated 19.08.2011 regarding Science Magnet Schools The Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry and the assurance was **dropped** as no mentoring institute had come forward to set up such Science Magnet Schools on their premises and so, there was no likelihood of such Science Magnet Schools in immediate future.

6. Memorandum No. 54 Coal USQ 652 dated 02.03.2015 regarding grant of mining lease in Tribal areas The Committee did not accede to the request of the Ministry to drop the assurance and decided that the Committee may ask Chief Secretary, Government of Jharkhand to appear before the Committee in Delhi or hear his views during any of its study visits to Ranchi or nearby State.

7.	Memorandum No. 55	Power	<p>(i) USQ 2018 dated 16.03.2015 regarding bidding norms for Ultra Mega Power Projects (UMPPs).</p> <p>(ii) USQ 1528 dated 03.08.2015 regarding passing of fuel cost by Ultra Mega Power Projects (UMPPs) to consumers.</p> <p>(iii) USQ 1539 dated 03.08.2015 regarding report of Expert Panel on Ultra Mega Power Projects (UMPPs).</p> <p>(iv) USQ 69 dated 25.04.2016 regarding new norms for Ultra Mega Power Projects (UMPPs).</p> <p>(v) USQ 1281 dated 28.11.2016 regarding insulation of Ultra Mega Power Projects (UMPPs) from fluctuation in prices of imported coal.</p>	<p>The Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry and the assurances were dropped since the Ministry had deferred formulation of UMPP Bidding framework as the country was making energy transition from fossil fuel to non-fossil fuel.</p>
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8.	Memorandum No. 56	Power	USQ 2150 dated 05.12.2016 regarding inquiry into coal imports	The Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry and the assurance was dropped as inquiry into most of the cases had been closed.
9.	Memorandum No. 57	Law and Justice	<p>(i) USQ 2658 dated 20.03.2015 regarding National Litigation Policy</p> <p>(ii) USQ 208 dated 24.04.2015 regarding implementation of National Litigation Policy</p> <p>(iii) USQ 2238 dated 05.08.2016 regarding National Litigation Policy</p> <p>(iv) USQ 108 dated 02.02.2018 regarding policy for cutting down Inter Departmental Litigations</p> <p>(v) USQ 589 dated 21.11.2019 regarding National Litigation Policy</p>	The Committee did not accede to the request of the Ministry to drop the assurances since Government had not taken any final view on the formulation of the National Litigation Policy, so far, and directed that Ministry may be asked to furnish a 'Status Report'.

10. Memorandum No. 58	Commer ce and Industry	(i) USQ 1028 dated 27.07.2016 regarding development of IPAB, Chennai (ii)USQ 1836 dated 06.03.2020 regarding filing up of vacancies in Intellectual Property Appellate Board (IPAB), Chennai	The Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry and the assurances were dropped as the Intellectual Property Appellate Board (IPAB), had already been dissolved vide The Tribunals Reforms Act, 2021, notified by Ministry of Law and Justice in the Gazette vide notification dated 13.08.2021.
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11. Memorandum No. 59	Railways	USQ 957 dated 22.12.2017 regarding Railway Projects in Tamil Nadu	The Committee did not accede to the request of the Ministry to drop the assurances and directed that the Ministry be asked to furnish a ' Status Note ' on the details of progress made in acquisition of land and completion of projects.
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12. Memorandum No. 60	Railways	USQ 595 dated 05.02.2021 regarding Ratlam-Dungarpur via Banswara New Rail line Project	The Committee did not accede to the request of the Ministry to drop the assurance and directed that the Ministry be asked to pursue it with the Government of Rajasthan and furnish a 'Status Note' on progress made in this regard.
13. Memorandum No. 61	Defence	USQ 484 dated 23.07.2018 regarding appointment Scam in Armed Forces	The Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry and the assurance was dropped as the investigations had been completed and the matter was sub-judice.
14. Memorandum No. 62	Jal Shakti	USQ 625 dated 23.07.2018 regarding Central Assistance for CADWM Project Under ISBIG	The Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry and the assurance was dropped as the Cabinet Secretariat had dropped the scheme of Incentivisation for Bridging Irrigation Gap (ISBIG).

15.	Memorandum No. 63	Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	USQ 1924 12.03.2021 fraud under PM-Kisan Scheme	dated regarding	The Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry and the assurance was dropped keeping in view the fact that C&AG shall submit the audit report to the President of India under Article 151 of the Constitution who shall cause it to be laid before each House of Parliament.
16	Memorandum No. 64	Power	USQ 2749 30.04.2012 eviction of tenants by BBMB	dated regarding	The Committee did not accede to the request of the Ministry to drop the assurance and directed that the Chief Secretary of the State of Punjab may be called to appear before the Committee to brief the Committee or the Committee may hear the Chief Secretary whenever it visits Chandigarh.

17	Memorandum No. 65	Defence	USQ 669 dated 22.11.2016 regarding role of London based arms dealers in Defence deals	The Committee did not accede to the request of the Ministry to drop the assurance and directed that the Ministry be advised to pursue for obtaining approval from Income Tax Department for fulfilment of the assurance and also furnish a ' Status Note ' in this regard for consideration of the Committee.
18	Memorandum No. 66	Social Justice and Empowe rment	USQ 3026 dated 19.04.1999 regarding survey of destitute women	The Committee <i>suomoto</i> decided to drop the assurance as it had been pending for twenty years and issue had lost its relevance and importance.
19	Memorandum No. 67	Health	(i) USQ 2792 dated 11.05.2005 regarding parallel Health Insurance Scheme, (ii) USQ 3475 dated 25.04.2008 regarding Health Insurance Scheme for CGHS	The Committee <i>suomoto</i> decided to drop the assurance as they had been pending for over fourteen years and the issue was no more relevant.

Beneficiarie,

- (iii) USQ 3047 dated 30.08.2011 regarding finalization of CGEPHIS, and
- (iv) USQ 943 dated 03.03.2015 regarding Central Government Employees and Pensioners Health Insurance Scheme.

20	Memorandum No. 68	Defence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) USQ 119 dated 03.12.2003 regarding Chief of Defence Staff,(ii) USQ 29 dated 23.11.2005 regarding appointment of Chief of Defence Staff,(iii) USQ 353 dated 03.08.2011 regarding appointment of CDS for single point military advice,(iv) USQ 3610 dated 09.05.2012 regarding	The Committee decided to drop the assurances <i>suomoto</i> as appointment of Chief of Defence Staff had already been made with effect from 01.01.2020.
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conclusion of
consultations on
appointment of
CDS,

(v) USQ 966 dated
06.03.2013
regarding action
taken on Kargil
Review Report,
and

(vi) USQ 1811 dated
15.12.2015
regarding erosion
in civil military
relationship.

3. The Committee decided to hold its next meeting to consider and adopt its Draft 75th Report at 03.00 PM on Wednesday, the 15th December, 2021.

5. The meeting adjourned at 04.08 PM

IV

(FOURTH MEETING)

The Committee on Government Assurances, Rajya Sabha met at 3.00 PM on Monday, the 15th December, 2021 in Committee Room No. 67, First Floor, Parliament House, New Delhi.

PRESENT

1. Shri A. Navaneethakrishnan - Chairman

MEMBERS

2. Shri Birendra Prasad Baishya
3. Shrimati Ramilaben Becharbhai Bara
4. Shri Md. Nadimul Haque
5. Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad
6. Shri Sakaldeep Rajbhar
7. Shri K.T.S. Tulsi
8. Shrimati Sampatiya Uikey
9. Shri Vaiko

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Surendra Kumar Tripathi, Joint Secretary
2. Shri VSP Singh, Director
3. Smt. J.K. Mallick, Additional Director
4. Shri Vijay Kumar Rai, Under Secretary

2. * * * * *
3. * * * * *

4. The Committee thereafter discussed its future programme and decided to undertake a study visit to Mumbai, Kochi, Lakshadweep and Port Blair during the second half of January, 2022 in connection with examination of issues

* * * * * pertain to other matter

involved in some of the pending assurances. The Committee after some discussions directed to work out a tour program accordingly and authorized the Chairman to seek permission of Hon'ble Chairman, Rajya Sabha for its proposed study visit.

5. The meeting adjourned at 03.25 P.M.

V

(FIFTH MEETING)

The Committee on Government Assurances, Rajya Sabha met at 03.30 PM on Wednesday, the 23rd March, 2022 in Committee Room No. 63, First Floor, Parliament House, New Delhi.

PRESENT

1. Shri A. Navaneethakrishnan - Chairman

MEMBERS

2. Shri Birendra Prasad Baishya
3. Shrimati Ramilaben Becharbhai Bara
4. Shri Md. Nadimul Haque
5. Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad
6. Shri Sakaldeep Rajbhar
7. Shrimati Sampatiya Uikey

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Surendra Tripathi, Joint Secretary
2. Shri VSP Singh, Director
3. Shri Dharmendra Mohley, Deputy Secretary
4. Shri Vijay Kumar Rai, Under Secretary

2. At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the members to the meeting of the Committee and informed them that as on date 667 assurances were pending against various Ministries/Departments of Government of India. He also named a few Ministries against which maximum number of assurances was pending. The Committee, thereafter, considered Memoranda nos. 69 to 83 on requests received from various Ministries/Departments for dropping of assurances, Implementation Reports laid on the Table of the House and Status Notes furnished by the Ministries/Departments in response to directions of the Committee and decided as follows:-

S. No	Memorandum No.	Ministry	Question No./date/Subject	Remarks
1	Memorandum No. 69	Communications	(i) USQ 2074 dated 15.03.2013 regarding proposal to set up Telecom Finance Corporation, and (ii) USQ 3007 dated 21.02.2014 regarding establishment of Telecom Finance Corporation	The Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry and the assurances were dropped as Ministry had decided that creation of sector specific finance corporation i.e. Telecom Finance Corporation was not a feasible proposition at present.
2	Memorandum No. 70	Communications	USQ 684 dated 04.12.2015 regarding probe into 2G Spectrum Scam	The Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry and the assurance was dropped as the investigations in the 2G spectrum were being monitored by the Hon'ble Supreme Court.
3	Memorandum No. 71	Corporate Affairs	Point raised by Sh. HisheyLachungpa dated 08.08.2013 regarding Amendment on Companies Bill, 2013	The Committee did not accede to the request of the Ministry to drop the assurance and decided that the Committee would hear the views of Chief Secretary/representatives of the State of Sikkim before taking any view in the

matter.

4	Memorandum No. 72	Corporate Affairs	USQ 157 05.02.2019 regarding complying Companies	dated CSR	The Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry and the assurance was dropped as the process of scrutiny and filing prosecution for non-compliance was a continuous process.
5	Memorandum No. 73	Culture	USQ 769 16.07.2014 regarding theft of artifacts Museums	dated	The Committee did not accede to the request of the Ministry to drop the assurance and decided that the Committee may undertake an on the spot visit to Red Fort museum to see the security arrangement and thereafter take decision.
6	Memorandum No. 74	Culture	USQ 683 02.03.2016 regarding assistance to States for conservation of Memorials and New Museums	dated	The Committee did not accede to the request of the Ministry to drop the assurance and directed that the Ministry be asked to furnish updated ' Status Note '. Moreover, the Committee decided to hear the views of Chief Secretary, Government of Madhya Pradesh.
7	Memorandum No. 75	Finance	USQ 191 19.07.2016 regarding Seventh Pay Commission	dated	The Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry and the assurance was dropped as DoPT being the

			recommendations on Parity between IAS and non IAS officers	cadre controlling authority for IAS and other All India Services had expressed its inability to deal with the issue.
8	Memorandum No. 76	Environment, Forest & Climate Change	USQ 1571 dated 12.03.2013 regarding construction of Dam on Godavari River in Andhra Pradesh	The Implementation Report laid on the Table of the House was treated as fulfilment of the assurance.
9	Memorandum No. 77	Home Affairs	USQ 2153 dated 16.03.2016 regarding progress on NAGA Accord	The Implementation Report laid on the Table of the House was treated as fulfilment of the assurance.
10	Memorandum No. 78	Defence	USQ 669 dated 22.11.2016 regarding role of London based arms dealer in Defence deals	The Implementation Report laid on the Table of the House was treated as fulfilment of the assurance.
11	Memorandum No. 79	Law & Justice	USQ 2141 dated 11.07.2019 regarding Compulsory Voting	The Implementation Report laid on the Table of the House was treated as fulfilment of the assurance.
12	Memorandum No. 80	Defence	(i) SQ 27 dated 08.07.2014 regarding Veterans Commission (ii) USQ 3345 dated 23.12.2014 regarding setting	The Committee did not accede to the request of the Ministry to drop the assurances and directed that the Ministry be asked to furnish a ' Status Note ' in response to the views

			up of Veterans Commission	expressed by the Veterans/Ex-Servicemen Organizations regarding redressal of grievances.
			(iii) USQ 55 dated 24.02.2015 regarding setting up of Veterans Commission	
13	Memorandum No. 81	Defence	USQ 683 dated 22.11.2016 regarding complaints over OROP	The Committee did not accede to the request of the Ministry to drop the assurance and directed that the Ministry be asked to furnish a fresh ' Status Note ' in the light of the recent judgement of the Supreme Court regarding OROP.
14	Memorandum No. 82	Defence	USQ 1466 dated 29.11.2016 regarding Embraer Deal	The Committee did not accede to the request of the Ministry to drop the assurance and directed that the Ministry be asked to pursue the matter with CBI to expedite the investigation and furnish the latest ' Status Note '.
15	Memorandum No. 83	Women and Child Development	USQ 2236 dated 17.12.2015 regarding plan to recognize pre-nuptial agreements	The Committee did not accede to the request of the Ministry to drop the assurance and directed that the Ministry be asked to furnish a ' Status Note ' giving details regarding efforts made to fulfil the assurance.

3. The Committee thereafter discussed its future programme and decided to undertake a study visit to Srinagar sometime in May, 2022 on issues pertaining to some pending assurances. The Committee asked the Secretariat to prepare a study visit programme and authorized its Chairman to seek permission of Hon'ble Chairman, Rajya Sabha for the proposed study visit.

4. The meeting adjourned at 4.06 P.M.

VI

(SIXTH MEETING)

The Committee on Government Assurances, Rajya Sabha met at 03.30 PM on Thursday, the 23rd June, 2022 in Committee Room - 4, A-Block, Parliament House Annexe Extension Building, New Delhi.

PRESENT

1. Shri A. Navaneethakrishnan - Chairman

MEMBERS

2. Shrimati Ramilaben Becharbhai Bara
3. Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad
4. Shri Sakaldeep Rajbhar
5. Shri K.T.S Tulsi
6. Shrimati Seema Dwivedi

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Surendra Tripathi, Joint Secretary
2. Shri VSP Singh, Director
3. Shri Vijay Kumar Rai, Under Secretary

2. At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the Members to the meeting of the Committee and mentioned that two Members of the Committee, namely, Shrimati Sampatiya Uikey and Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad were retiring on 29th June, 2022 and 4th July, 2022 respectively briefly mentioning about their political careers and contribution in the Committee. He, on his own behalf and on behalf of the Committee, extended best wishes to them for their future assignment in public life. He further mentioned that he himself was retiring on 29th June, 2022 and pointed out that during 4 years of his stint as Chairman of the Committee, the volume of pendency of assurances had considerably come down and the period of pendency had also been reduced. He gave a brief outlines of the works undertaken by the Committee during his chairmanship. The retiring Members were then offered bouquet.

3. The Committee, thereafter, considered Memoranda nos. 84 to 95 and decided as follows:-

S. No	Memorandum No.	Ministry	Question No. /Date/Subject	Remarks
1	Memorandum No. 84	Law and Justice	USQ 2027 dated 03.08.2018 regarding creation of Integrated Legal Divisions	The Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry and the assurance was dropped as Ministry had decided to keep the issue of Integrated Legal Division in abeyance till the Indian Legal Service was strengthened by way of regular recruitment and sufficient number of officials become available in the service.
2	Memorandum No. 85	Commerce and Industry	USQ 204 dated 12.12.2018 regarding royalty payments on technology transfer and trademark usages	The Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry and the assurance was dropped as the reintroduction of cap on royalty payment under Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) might not be appropriate and would appear repressive and may dampen investors' sentiments.
3	Memorandum No. 86	Civil Aviation	SQ 81 dated 25.07.2018 regarding restriction on check-in baggage	The Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry and the assurance was dropped as the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi had stated that Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) could determine the tariff for specified

flight product.

4	Memorandum No. 87	Civil Aviation	SQ 31 dated 20.11.2019 regarding new International Airport near Bhubaneswar	The Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry and the assurance was dropped as the Ministry had submitted that further necessary action in the matter would be taken by the State Government of Odisha.
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5	Memorandum No. 88	Civil Aviation	SQ 31 dated 20.11.2019 (supplementa ry question by Dr.SasmitPat ra, MP) regarding new International Airport near Bhubaneswar	The Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry and the assurance was dropped as commencement of operation from Bhubaneswar to Dubai was a commercial decision of the airlines. It was expected that airlines would commence operation when the route becomes commercially viable and the Ministry had provided an overall enabling environment for the same by way of Air Services Agreement (ASA) between India and UAE and any effort in this regard was beyond the purview of the Ministry.
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6	Memorandum No. 89	Civil Aviation	SQ 31 dated 20.11.2019 (supplementa	The Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry and the assurance was dropped as the
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			<p>ry question by Shri Prasanna Acharya, MP) regarding new International Airport near Bhubaneswar</p>	<p>Ministry had submitted that further necessary action would be taken by the State Government of Odisha.</p>
7	Memorandum No. 90	Panchayati Raj	<p>SQ 168 dated 06.03.2020 regarding sale and control of Alcohol and Narcotic Substances in Scheduled Areas</p>	<p>The Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry and the assurance was dropped as legislation for State Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 (PESA) rules comes under the jurisdiction of the Legislature of the State of Jharkhand and, therefore, fulfilment of assurance was not within the purview of Union Ministry of Panchayati Raj.</p>
8	Memorandum No. 91	Communications	<p>(i) USQ 2067 dated 15.03.2013 regarding telecommunication services in villages, and</p> <p>(ii) USQ 4093 dated</p>	<p>The Implementation Reports laid on the Table of the House were treated as part-fulfilment of the assurances as all the villages have not yet been covered and target for covering all the uncovered villages with mobile services would be achieved by the end of year 2024. The Committee further observed that the subject-matter of these assurances was of national</p>

			03.05.2013 regarding telephone facilities to Gram Panchayats	importance and is about modernising rural India by providing mobile communication services. The Committee further directed that Ministry may be asked to furnish ' Status Note ' giving the details of development taken place in the matter.
9	Memorandum No. 92	Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises	USQ 3714 dated 13.08.2014 regarding performance of Private Sector vis-à- vis Public Sector in Cement Sector	The Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry and the assurance was dropped as the process of disinvestment of Cement Corporation of India had been undertaken by the Ministry in coordination with the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM).
10	Memorandum No. 93	Coal	USQ 2402 dated 21.12.2015 regarding investigation of overvaluation of Coal Import	The Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry and the assurance was dropped as the matter was sub-judice.
11	Memorandum No. 94	Women and Child	USQ 2236 dated 17.12.2015 regarding plan to recognize	The Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry and the assurance was dropped as no proposal regarding prenuptial agreements was under

prenuptial agreements consideration of the Government.

12	Memorandum No. 95	Communications	USQ 635 dated 27.06.2019 regarding telecom companies going into insolvency proceedings	The Committee deferred its decision on the request of the Ministry. However, the Committee directed that the Ministry be asked to furnish the latest ' Status Note ' giving the details of development that have taken place in the matter.
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4. The meeting adjourned at 4.17 P.M.

I

(FIRST MEETING)

The Committee on Government Assurances, Rajya Sabha met at 11.00 AM on Tuesday, the 22nd November, 2022 in Committee Room - 4, A-Block, Parliament House Annexe Extension Building, New Delhi.

PRESENT

1. Dr. M. Thambidurai- Chairman

MEMBERS

2. Shri Birendra Prasad Baishya
3. Shri Sakaldeep Rajbhar
4. Shrimati Seema Dwivedi
5. Shri Gulam Ali

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Surendra Tripathi, Joint Secretary
2. Shri VSP Singh, Director
3. Shri Dharmendra Mohley, Deputy Secretary
4. Shri Vijay Kumar Rai, Under Secretary

2. At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the Hon'ble Members to the first meeting of the newly re-constituted Committee on Government Assurances and extended warm welcome to all the Members particularly to those who have been re-nominated to the Committee. The Chairman informed the Committee that 645 assurances were pending against various Ministries/Departments of Government of India and mentioned 3 Ministries against which the maximum number of assurances were pending namely Ministry of Railways (66), Ministry of Law and Justice (50), and Ministry of Road, Transport and Highways (34). The Chairman also mentioned that the oldest pending assurance was an assurance given in reply to Rajya Sabha SQ 63 dated 21.02.2003 regarding

‘Grants and aids to fraudulent educational institutions’ pertaining to the Ministry of Education.

3. The Chairman, thereafter, briefly introduced himself to the Committee and requested all the Hon’ble Members to introduce themselves and give their views and suggestions regarding the future course of action and the agenda to be taken up by the Committee in its next meeting. Thereafter, the Members introduced themselves one by one and assured the Chairman of their full cooperation in deliberations of the Committee. The Members also expressed concern over long list of pending assurances and desired to have deliberations first on those assurances which were of sufficient public importance and related to policy matters.

4. ***

5. The meeting then adjourned at 11.43 AM.

*** Pertain to other matter.

III*
(THIRD MEETING)

The Committee on Government Assurances, Rajya Sabha met at 10.30 AM on Monday, the 19th December, 2022 in Committee Room No. - 4, A-Block, Parliament House Annexe Extension Building, New Delhi.

PRESENT

1. Dr. M. Thambidurai - Chairman

MEMBERS

2. Shri Birendra Prasad Baishya
3. Shrimati Ramilaben Becharbhai Bara
4. Shrimati Seema Dwivedi
5. Shri M. Mohamed Abdulla
6. Shri Gulam Ali

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Jagdish Kumar, Additional Secretary
2. Shri Arun Sharma, Joint Secretary
3. Ms. Catherine John L., Deputy Secretary

2. At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the Members of the Committee and apprised that the Committee would consider and adopt its draft 76th Report in the meeting.

* Minutes of the second meeting of the Committee after its reconstitution, will be covered in the next Report of the Committee.

3. The Committee then considered the draft 76th Report and adopted the same without any amendment. The Committee, however, authorized the Chairman, to correct any patent errors or make consequential changes, if any, in the Report. The Committee also decided to present the Report in the House on the 21st December, 2022 and authorized the Chairman and in his absence, Smt. Seema Dwivedi and in their absence, Smt. Ramilaben Becharbhai Bara, MPs, Rajya Sabha, to present the Report.

4. ***

5. The meeting adjourned at 10.38 AM.

*** Pertain to other matter.

(ii)

STATISTICAL INFORMATION

1.	No. of assurances culled out	253
2.	No. of assurances fulfilled	403
3.	IRs treated part-fulfilled	156
4.	No. of requests for dropping considered	62
5.	No. of assurances dropped	42
6.	No. of assurances pending	645
7.	Evidence held	0
8.	No. of meetings held	05
9.	Study Visits	01

(iii)

STATEMENT OF OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

Page No.	OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS
4-5	The Committee observes that rare earth minerals Sector has the potential to play an important role in serving the country's commercial and strategic interests and hence all necessary steps for their promotion and development both in public and private sector need to be taken in a time bound manner. Rare Earth Theme park aimed at developing a job to produce ecosystem will go a long way in encouraging industries to establish commercial operations for processing of rare earth minerals and thus reduce our dependence on other countries. The Committee, therefore, recommends the Ministry to ensure that Rare Earth Theme park project being developed by BARC, Mumbai is completed as per the schedule and any delay in this be avoided.
7	The Committee observes that resorting to extreme punitive actions such as firing by the Police on farmers holding civil agitations is not at all justified and the guilty officials must be held accountable and brought to justice for committing such an offence. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry should furnish a revised Implementation Report furnishing the details of action taken/proposed to be taken against the guilty officials at the earliest for the consideration of the Committee.
8	The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards early fulfillment of the assurance.
9	The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards early fulfillment of the assurance.
12	The Committee appreciates the efforts that are being put in for the promotion of herbal cultivation in the country. Loans, subsidies etc. that are being forwarded would extended motivate local farmers and others for cultivation of medicinal plants. The Committee further directs the Ministry to furnish an Implementation Report incorporating the final decision taken with regard to Vriksh-AYUSH Yojana, to fulfill the assurance at the earliest.
14	The Committee expresses its displeasure over the fact that the Ministry did not furnish the details asked in the question. The

	Committee recommends that the Ministry should carefully examine all the aspects of the question and provide a comprehensive Implementation Report covering all parts of the question and fulfill the assurance at the earliest.
16	The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards fulfillment of the assurance.
17	The Committee recommends that the Ministry should furnish a revised Implementation Report giving the details regarding the report of the committee constituted by the Department of Pharmaceuticals and the action taken thereon to include more experts Members, so that the pending assurance could be liquidated.
19	The Committee desires that the Ministry should furnish an Implementation Report in the prescribed format to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs for its laying on the Table of the House thereof, in order to liquidate the assurance, at the earliest.
20	The Committee recommends that the final decision on the establishment of the airport at Puri should be taken at the earliest in consultation with the State Government to liquidate the assurance.
23	The Committee observes that environmental clearance to Kabribad reorganised mines has been pending for more than a year now while on the flip side, the country has been struggling to cope with the huge pressure on the domestic coal supply. If environmental clearance is granted, these mines can augment the coal production in the country and cater to the domestic demands/needs. The Committee, therefore, recommends that Ministry should expedite the process for granting environmental clearance to Kabribad coal mines to fulfil the assurance at the earliest.
25	The Committee observes that while production of coal in the country has been steadily increasing, sufficient boost to achieve the country's coal production target of 1.2 billion ton by 2023-24 will be achieved only with the optimal functioning of all available coal mines at their best capacity. The Committee, therefore, recommends that Ministry should strive to expedite the revival of the non-functioning coal mines in view of severe coal crisis and shortage of coal supply faced by the country during 2022 and fulfil the assurance at the earliest.
26-27	The Committee expresses its concern over the long pendency of the process of registration of GI tags. These tags give recognition to the products resulting in boosting their demand and hence, ultimately it

	<p>benefits the economy of the region as well as the whole country. The Committee, therefore, recommends that Ministry should pursue with the Geographical Indications Registry, under the Office of Controller General of Patents, Designs & Trade Mark (CGPDTM) and expedite the fulfilment of the assurance.</p>
29	<p>The Committee expresses its displeasure over the fact that the Ministry has not been able to fulfil the assurance even after twelve years. The Committee observes that internet/broadband connectivity has now become an essential service for every citizen of the country and therefore, Ministry should prioritize the project and work with renewed vigor to facilitate internet connectivity in the remaining 5% of the population. The Committee further directs the Ministry to ensure completion of the scheme at the earliest to facilitate Wireless Broadband connectivity in Rural and Remote Areas of the country to liquidate the assurance.</p>
30	<p>The Committee expresses its displeasure over the fact that even after the passage of the deadline for more than two years the Ministry has not been able to complete the project which shows serious laxity on the part of the Ministry towards the project of providing internet connectivity to all Gram Panchayats. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry should prioritize the completion of the project on war footing and in a time bound manner to liquidate the assurance at the earliest.</p>
32	<p>The Committee recommends the Ministry to pursue the matter with the Enforcement Directorate to expedite the investigation and thereafter, furnish a revised Implementation Report containing the final status of investigation by the Enforcement Directorate and to liquidate the assurance at the earliest.</p>
33	<p>The Committee expresses its anguish over the fact that the Ministry has not been able to fulfil the assurances even after a lapse of more than 8 years. The Committee is of the view that internet/broadband connectivity has now become a necessity for every citizen of the country and therefore, recommends that Ministry should make all out efforts to connect all gram panchayats with respective blocks on OFC to facilitate broadband services in a time bound manner and liquidate the assurance at the earliest.</p>
34	<p>The Committee expresses its displeasure over the fact that the Ministry has furnished Implementation Reports in a very casual manner. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry</p>

	should carefully examine all the aspects of the question and provide a comprehensive Implementation Report covering all parts of the question.
35	The Committee is anguished to note that even after a period of twelve long years, the Ministry has not been able to fulfil the assurance. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the assurance be fulfilled at the earliest.
37	The Committee recommends the Ministry to expedite consultation with the Department of Personnel and Training for amendment to the Recruitment Rules for recruitment to the post of Member (Services) and Member (Technology) and to ensure early advertisement and appointment against these posts to fulfill the assurance.
38	The Committee observes that the issue of call drops is being faced by every citizen of the country. The Committee, therefore, recommends that either the Ministry should bring legislation for the Amendment to TRAI Act empowering TRAI to award compensations to consumers facing call drops at the earliest to fulfill the assurance.
40	The Committee, however, notes that the Ministry took almost thirteen years to fulfil the assurance.
42	The Committee expresses its displeasure over the incomplete and vague information furnished in the Implementation Report by the Ministry. The Implementation Reports furnished by the Ministry should consist of comprehensive and complete information as sought and assured on the floor of the House. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry should furnish a revised Implementation Report covering all aspects pertaining to the assurance.
43	The Committee expresses displeasure over the fact that Ministry has prepared the Implementation Report in a very casual manner as it does not cover the assurance in its entirety. The Committee, therefore, directs the Ministry to furnish revised Implementation Report incorporating the complete details as has been sought in the question and liquidate the assurance at the earliest.
47	The Committee is satisfied with the submission of the Secretary, Culture, Government of J&K that no monuments under ASI, Srinagar Circle, have been encroached and are being maintained as

	per conservation norms. The Committee further appreciates the proactive approach of the Government towards preserving the heritage monuments.
48	The Committee directed the representatives of Ministry of Culture to send a detailed note in this regard.
50	The Committee observes that the draft Defence Production Policy, 2018 envisages to provide a focused, structured and significant thrust to defence production capabilities of the country for self-reliance and exports and to develop a dynamic, robust and competitive defence industry, including aerospace and naval shipbuilding industry to cater to the needs of Armed forces with quality products. Further, the thrust is also to reduce dependence on imports through domestic design and development, to promote the export of defence products and become part of the global defence value chain. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry should finalize the draft Defence Production and Export Promotion Policy as soon as possible, to realise the desirable objectives soon.
51	The Committee recommends that the Ministry should strive to pursue the matter with the State Governments of West Bengal, Assam, Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh for early establishment of the proposed Sainik Schools for early liquidation of assurance and also keep the Committee apprised of the development that would take place in the matter.
54	The Committee expresses its satisfaction over the reply furnished by the Ministry of Defence and advises the Ministry to complete the work of remaining Indo-China Border Roads within the stipulated time frame. The Committee also desires that CAG observations should be settled by the Ministry of Defence soon.
56	The Committee is astonished to note that the assurance is pending for around 18 years, but the Ministry has not fulfilled the assurance, so far. The Committee, therefore, recommends the Ministry to take immediate steps to amend the UGC Act and to furnish a revised Implementation Report clearly mentioning the progress that had taken place regarding amendment to the provisions of the UGC Act and to liquidate the assurance at the earliest.
57-58	The Committee observes that misappropriation of funds meant for improving the quality of elementary education is a matter of grave concern and should be taken very seriously. These cases not only hamper the efforts made by State to provide quality education to

	the children, but also jeopardise their career, growth and overall development. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the culprits should be brought to justice at the earliest and the Ministry should pursue the matter with the State Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Kerala and ensure that suitable actions are taken against the culprits to liquidate the assurance.
59	The Committee recommends the Ministry to furnish a revised Implementation Report containing information regarding the pending CBI enquiry against the officials of NIOS and other private individuals and also the enquiry had been completed or not, to fulfil the assurance at the earliest.
59-60	The Committee observes that the launch of National Education Policy, 2020 paves the way for the transformative reform in school and higher education system. The preparation of National Curriculum Framework is imperative to achieve the goals envisaged under the NEP, 2020. The Committee recommends the National Steering Committee to expedite and complete the process for development of National Curriculum Framework in a time bound manner while taking into consideration the views of concerned stakeholders and furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the details of development that had taken place regarding the National Curriculum Framework.
62	The Committee observes that cyber attacks designed to access, alter, delete, or destroy sensitive data of an organization's or user's systems has increased manifold and it is high time that strong cyber security measures are taken to protect against such unauthorized access. The Committee appreciates that Government is pro-active in this regard and New Cyber Security Policy was being envisaged. The Committee recommends the Ministry to furnish a revised Implementation Report categorically mentioning whether New Cyber Security Policy has been implemented or not, and if not, by when it would be done.
63-64	The Committee expresses its displeasure over the fact that the Ministry did not furnish the details asked in the question and accordingly, recommends that the Ministry should carefully examine all the aspects of the question and provide a comprehensive Implementation Report covering all parts of the question.
65	The Committee recommends that the Ministry should furnish a revised Implementation Report giving the details of report with respect to the report of review of National Ambient Air Quality

	Standards sanctioned to the joint team led by IIT Kanpur and outcome thereof.
66	The Committee recommends that the Ministry shall expedite the process of counting of tigers and release the report at the earliest to fulfil the assurance.
68	The Committee noted the reply of the representatives of Ministry of Environment & Forest and Climate Change and UTs of J&K and Ladakh in the matter and expressed its satisfaction with the hope that the said assurance will be fulfilled by July, 2022 within the extended period of time sought by the Ministry.
70	The Committee takes a serious view in the matter and expresses its anguish over the long delay made by the Ministry of Jal Shakti to accept this matter. The Committee suggests that the Ministry should take up the matter with the Cabinet Secretariat so that a final decision in the matter could be taken.
73	The Committee expressed its satisfaction over the reply furnished by the representative during the course of discussion and hope that the said assurance will be fulfilled by the Ministry soon.
75	The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards fulfilment of the assurance
77	The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry to provide the information in its Implementation Report. However, Ministry has not given complete details as sought in the question. The Committee, therefore, directs the Ministry to furnish revised Implementation Reports incorporating the complete details including the total amount withdrawn against LoUs after the year 2014 and also the details of money withdrawn against each LoUs, and liquidate the assurance at the earliest.
78	The Committee observes that more than 4 years have lapsed since the assurance was made on the floor of the House, but the final decision regarding appointing an independent agency to manage the seized assets has not been arrived at, yet. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry should expedite the process for appointing the agency and also keep the Committee apprised of the development that would take place in the matter.
79	The Committee recommends that the Ministry should furnish a comprehensive 'Implementation Report' incorporating specific information with regard to the assurance given in reply to the

	question.
81	The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards early fulfilment of the assurance.
82	The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards early fulfilment of the assurance.
87-88	The Committee observes that such banking frauds are putting a dent on our progressing economy and hence, the need of the hour is to put in place a robust and dependable system, so that such cases of frauds can be stopped or curtailed. Further, the Committee is satisfied to note that the measures adopted by the PSBs will definitely reduce such bank frauds in future and desires that PSBs should give thrust on the prosecution part of the litigation which will definitely help to punish the defaulters. The Committee further advises the representatives of the Ministry to keep the Committee apprised of the development that would take place towards fulfilment of the assurance.
89	The Committee recommends the Ministry to pursue the matter with the remaining States and obtain the requisite information and liquidate the assurance at the earliest.
91	The Committee observes that the Ministry has not furnished specific reply to the question and furnished an incomplete Implementation Report, which is not a healthy practice. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry should furnish revised Implementation Report giving complete information covering all aspects of the question and liquidate the assurance at the earliest.
93	The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards the fulfilment of the assurance.
95	The Committee observes that time and again, it has been conveyed to the Ministry that the Central Government and the State Governments are parts of our cooperative federal structure and both together form the Executive. As per our constitutional scheme, executive as a whole is responsible to the Legislature. Hence, it is the duty of Central Government to pursue the matter with the State Government and expedite the process of land acquisitions for both the ICPs and also keep the Committee apprised of the development taking place in the matter.
96-97	The Committee observes that around 6 years have passed since the assurances were made and the Ministry has furnished two

	Implementation Reports, still the proposed amendments to Section 330 and 331 of IPC have not been done, so far. The Committee reiterates its recommendations made in the 75th Report to expedite the process for amendments to section 330 and section 331 of Indian Penal Code to define the words "Torture" and "Public Servant", at the earliest to fulfil the assurances.
98	The Committee recommends that the Ministry should furnish the requisite details of number of inquiries initiated since 2016 and the details of persons found guilty and punished in this regard, case-wise, at the earliest to fulfil the assurance.
100	The Committee recommends the Ministry to furnish a revised Implementation Report addressing all parts of the question along with recommendations of High Level Committee chaired by Union Home secretary at the earliest to fullfill the assurance.
101	The Committee observes that the subject matter of the assurance pertains to the matter of national security and therefore, recommends the Ministry to expedite the process for raising of new Battalions in Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) including ITBP and in the meantime, to keep the Committee apprised of the development taking place in the matter.
103	The Committee appreciates the efforts taken by the Ministry towards the fulfilment of the assurance.
104	The Committee recommends the Ministry to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the details regarding recommendations of the Committee constituted to suggest reforms in CrPC and CPC as assured in the August House to fulfill the assurance at the earliest.
105	The Committee expresses its displeasure over the fact that the Ministry did not furnish the details as asked in the question and assurance given in the House. The Committee recommends that the Ministry should carefully examine all aspects of the question and provide a comprehensive Implementation Report covering all parts of the question and fulfill the assurance at the earliest.
107-108	The Committee expresses its satisfaction with the submission of the representative of Government of UT of J&K and Ladakh and advises the representatives of Ministry of Home Affairs to furnish the detailed reply on the Assurances to the Committee.
110	The Committee recommends the Ministry to complete the collection of data regarding land from the concerned agencies,

	reconcile the revenue records and also complete the required survey to reclaim excess land from the society at the earliest so that the assurance is fulfilled.
111	The Committee recommends the Ministry to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the final decision taken regarding the demolition of certain Government buildings to fulfil the assurance.
112	Reverse migration of millions of migrant workers and the poor from cities back to villages during the Covid-19 pandemic had exposed the harsh reality of those invisible millions who live in cities and are an integral part of the urban economy, but have no place in urban planning and housing programmes. These schemes such as Affordable Rental Housing Complexes (ARHCs) may give them a ray of hope and instill faith in the country's governance. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry should pro-actively complete the construction of these affordable pro-poor rental houses under the scheme and furnish the revised Implementation Report incorporating the details of number of proposals received from public/private entities for construction of 1,02,019 units in 18 States/UTs approved and to liquidate the assurance at the earliest.
114	The Committee recommends that the Ministry should expedite the process of establishment of National Water Commission (NWC) which would act as the nation's top facilitation organisation dealing with water policy, data and governance and fulfil the assurance at the earliest.
116	The Committee recommends that the Ministry should apprise the Committee of the submissions made by Andhra Pradesh and UT of Puducherry before the Negotiations Committee and also take further necessary steps to fulfil the assurance at the earliest.
118	The Committee expresses its displeasure over the long delay in the completion of the survey which, even after a lapse of more than 18 months, is yet to be completed. This shows lack of seriousness about the survey on the part of the Labour Bureau. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry should collect and collate the data without any further delay and furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the information sought to liquidate the assurance at the earliest.
120	The Committee appreciates the efforts of the Ministry made towards early fulfilment of the assurance.

121	The Committee expresses its anguish that huge amount of hard earned savings and investments of subscribers are lying unclaimed with these Provident Fund Trusts and Government is not able to even collect the information regarding unclaimed amount lying in these trusts. The Committee, therefore, recommends that Ministry should strive to collect the details regarding unclaimed amount of Provident fund lying with these Trusts and take necessary steps to return the unclaimed amount to the account holders. The Committee further directs to furnish revised Implementation Reports incorporating the details to the extent of information sought and to fulfill the assurance at the earliest.
123	The Committee recommends that the Ministry should furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the details of All India Survey on Migrant Workers by Labour Survey to the extent of information sought and liquidate the assurance.
124	The Committee is of the view that all the aspects of the question have not been gone through and incomplete Implementation Reports have been provided. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry should strive for early finalization of the pending rules and furnish a revised Implementation Report giving complete details therein to the extent of information sought and assured at the earliest to fulfill the assurance.
126	The Committee notes that the Governments, both Central and State, are the biggest litigants in the country, accounting for nearly half of all pending court cases which is not only causing undue delay in dispensing justice to common people but also a huge undue financial burden to the Government exchequer. The Committee, in this backdrop, recommends the Ministry to expedite the formulation of the National Litigation Policy at the earliest which has been pending since 2015 in order to avoid undue litigation and unnecessary burden on Government resources and fulfill the assurance at the earliest.
127	The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards the fulfillment of the assurance.
129	The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards the fulfilment of the assurance.
130	The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry

	towards the fulfillment of the assurance.
131	The Committee expresses its concern over the long delay in the finalization of the Memorandum of Procedure (MOP) which has been pending since 2015. The Committee, therefore, directs the Ministry to expedite consultation with the Supreme Court Collegium for finalization of Memorandum of Procedure and furnish a revised Implementation Report to liquidate the assurance at the earliest.
132-133	The Committee agrees with the Ministry that the process for the fulfilment of the assurance is lengthy and that no rigid time frame could be given. However, it feels that the matter may not be considered as genuine reasons to treat an assurance as fulfilled. The Committee, therefore, directs the Ministry to obtain the necessary approval from Central Government and place the proposal before both Houses of Parliament for consideration and passing at the earliest and to furnish a revised Implementation Report to fulfill the assurance.
135	The Committee recommends the Ministry to keep pursuing the matter with the National Company Law Tribunal, so that final decision can be arrived at, at the earliest and also keep the Committee apprised of the development that would take place in the matter.
137	The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards fulfillment of the assurance.
139	The Committee will consider the request for dropping the assurance in its upcoming meeting and the decision taken therein, will be conveyed to the Ministry accordingly.
142	The Committee will consider the request for dropping the assurance in its upcoming meeting and the decision taken therein, will be conveyed to the Ministry accordingly.
144	The Committee recommends that the Ministry should furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the details of the recommendations of the Committee along with its outcomes, recommendation-wise for its consideration at the earliest and to liquidate the assurance.
145	The Committee expresses its displeasure over the fact that the Ministry had side-tracked the core issue related to the assurance by furnishing an evasive and vague Implementation Report. The

	Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry should furnish a revised Implementation Report giving the details and status of the draft bill for autonomy of CBI and liquidate the assurance at the earliest
146-147	The Committee recommends the Ministry to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the details of the recommendations of the Committee alongwith their outcome, recommendation-wise for its consideration at the earliest and to liquidate the assurance.
149-150	<p>The Committee observes that issuing of general executive orders to revert similarly placed officials of Central Government from National Pension System (NPS) to Old Pension Scheme (OPS) who were appointed to Central Government on or after 01.01.2004 on the basis of advertisements/notifications for recruitment issued prior to 01.01.2004, is still pending in spite of the fact that Hon'ble Supreme Court has dismissed a number of SLPs and Review Petitions filed by the Government and has allowed OPS to thousands of employees. Further, Department of Legal Affairs (DoLA), Ministry of Law and Justice, has categorically advised DoP&PW vide their note dated 19.05.2022 that the notification dated 22.12.2003 is silent about the date which would determine the applicability of NPS; the date of joining or the date of notification/advertisement. DoLA further states that the examination of the issue in this Department to the effect that an administrative decision to issue executive instructions providing coverage of similarly placed Government servants under Old Pension Scheme appears to be in order. The Committee expresses its displeasure over the prolonged inter-Departmental/inter-Ministerial consultation and pending final decision in the matter.</p> <p>Accordingly, the Committee recommends that DoP&PW should expedite its consultation process, obtain pending concurrence from Department of Expenditure and issue general executive orders in a time bound manner to revert similarly placed Central Government servants from NPS to OPS on the line of judgements of Hon'ble Supreme Court and advice of DoLA dated 19.05.2022, to fulfil the assurance at the earliest and to avoid undue litigation against its own officials along with unnecessary burden on the Government exchequer. Further, the Committee directs that it may be kept apprised of the development taking place in the matter.</p>
152	The Committee observes that the Ministry has not furnished the complete information as sought and assured on the floor of the House. The Committee, therefore, directs the Ministry to furnish

	revised Implementation Report giving details about the report prepared by EIL and outcome thereof and to liquidate the assurance at the earliest.
154	The Committee is of the view that subject-matter of the assurance is of sufficient public importance as it involves case of potential corruption and loss of Government revenue. The Committee, further, expresses its displeasure over the fact that assurance has been pending for more than 6 years. The Committee, therefore, directs the Ministry to furnish revised Implementation Report mentioning details about action taken/proposed to be taken against the officials who were found responsible for lapses on their part and to fulfill the assurance.
155	The Committee expresses its displeasure over the fact that the Ministry has not furnished complete information as sought in the question. The Committee, therefore, directs that Ministry should furnish revised Implementation Report giving details of the recommendations made in the report of the Expert Committee along with action taken thereon to fulfill the assurance.
157	The Committee expresses its displeasure over the furnishing of similar Implementation Report which had already been examined and treated as part-fulfilled by the Committee. The Committee directs the Ministry to furnish revised Implementation Report giving details of the final decision in respect of permission for new extraction/activities in the Cauvery Delta region and liquidate the assurance at the earliest.
158-159	The Committee observes that although the Andhra Pradesh Maritime Board Act, 2018 is in force now, no mention has been made regarding providing logistic support to the State Government. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry should furnish a revised Implementation Report giving complete information as sought in the question regarding the provisions with respect to providing logistic support to the State Government.
159-160	The Committee observes that the projects under Sagarmala and Bharatmala Programme envisage to build world-class port capacity in terms of quality and quantity, improve infrastructure development leading to better competitiveness in logistics, increase industrialization and job creation. In view of the significance and importance attached to these projects, the Committee recommends that the Ministry should expedite the process for completion of these projects and in the meantime, also keep the Committee apprised of the development taking place in this regard.
161-162	The Committee expresses its displeasure over the fact that the

	<p>Ministry in its Implementation Report had not addressed the core issues involved in assurance given on the floor of the House. The Committee, therefore, recommends the Ministry to furnish a revised Implementation Report giving the details regarding the fate of Tariff Policy and Amendment Bill which was to be finalized after taking into consideration the suggestions by the State Governments, to fulfil the assurance.</p>
163-164	<p>The Committee is astonished to note that around 10 years have lapsed since assurance was made; however, it is still pending for fulfillment. The Committee also notes that land acquisition process for the project has been stuck due to agitation by the local public and observes that after a lapse of such long duration, some amicable solution should have been arrived at by now. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry should engage with all stakeholders to arrive at a consensus so that the execution and completion of this new line is completed soon.</p>
165	<p>The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards fulfillment of the assurance.</p>
166-167	<p>The Committee is astonished to note that around 10 years have passed since the assurance was given on the floor of the House, however, the project has not been completed yet. The Committee further notes that the work for the project has been held up for want of the wildlife clearances and the Ministry has submitted that the matter is beyond its control as it is being dealt with by the State Government and the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. The Committee observes that since all the Ministries/Departments are collectively responsible, the submission of the Ministry of Railways i.e. the matter is beyond its control, is not tenable. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry shall keep pursuing the matter with the State Government and the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to expedite the process of wildlife clearances and shall also keep the Committee apprised of the development that would take place in the matter.</p>
178-179	<p>The Committee observes that the lack of adequate infrastructure on the borders is one of India's most pressing strategic vulnerabilities. These strategic railway lines will definitely strengthen India's borders as it would ease movement of our army across the borders during contingencies. In the wake of China's aggressive building of infrastructure near border areas, it has become more important than</p>

	ever that these strategic railway lines are completed soon. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry shall make all out efforts for the completion of strategic railway lines as per schedule and also keep the Committee apprised of the development that would take place in the matter.
180	The Committee expresses its displeasure over the fact that around 8 years have already passed since the assurance was given on the floor of the House, but several ROBs and RUBs are still pending for consideration. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry shall expedite and complete the process for execution of ROBs and RUBs on priority basis and apprise the Committee accordingly.
182	The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards early fulfillment of the assurance
183	The Committee expresses its displeasure over the fact that 18 coach service at Dehradun railway station is still pending in spite of the fact that around 7 years have passed since the assurance was given on the floor of the House. The Committee, therefore, recommends the Ministry to expedite and complete the process for completion of the projects and also keep the Committee apprised of the development that would take place in the matter.
184	The Committee recommends the Ministry to furnish comprehensive details and facts in the matter while furnishing an 'Implementation Report' incorporating all details as sought in the question and assured in the House. The Committee further directs that the details regarding the figure of ROBs/RUBs constructed to eliminate railway level crossings on National Highways should be provided to fulfil the assurance at the earliest.
186	The Committee observes that RTIS system would enable automatic acquisition of train movement timings at the stations, including that of arrival & departure or run-through, and would enable the train controllers to track the location and speed of trains more closely, without any manual intervention. Accordingly, the Committee recommends the Ministry to complete the trials of RTIS systems at the earliest, so that this system could be introduced/implemented on the Railways across the country and assurance could be fulfilled.
188	The Committee recommends the Ministry to expedite and complete the process for completion of the ROBs/RUBs and also keep the Committee apprised of the development that would take place in the matter and to fulfil the assurance at the earliest.
189	The Committee notes that recently on 14th June, 2022, under Bharat Gaurav Scheme, Indian Railways' Southern Railway Zone

	has started the service of privately-run 'Bharat Gaurav trains' from Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu to Shirdi in Maharashtra. In view of this fact, the submission of the Ministry in its Implementation Report i.e., 'no passenger train service over Indian Railways is being operated by private train operator appears to be misleading. The Committee, therefore, recommends the Ministry to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the information as sought in the question and also the details of progress made on private operators in Indian Railways, at the earliest to fulfill the assurance.
190-191	The Committee expresses its anguish over the fact that the recruitment exam for the vacancies notified in the year 2019, has not been completed so far. The future of lakhs of students of the country is dependent on this exam and delaying the recruitment exam amounts to jeopardizing their career and human resource of the country. The Committee, therefore, recommends the Ministry to make all out efforts to conclude the recruitment exam at the earliest in a time bound manner to fulfill the assurance.
192	The Committee recommends the Ministry to expedite and complete the land acquisition process so that further works for doubling of Penukonda-Dharamavaram Railway line can be taken up. The Ministry shall also keep the Committee apprised of the development that would take place regarding fulfillment of the assurance.
193	The Committee recommends that the Ministry shall pursue the State Government of Rajasthan to expedite and complete the process and take a decision regarding implementation of the project either through Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) or State Joint Venture (JV) as soon as possible so that the proposed new rail line can see the light of the day soon and liquidate the assurance at the earliest.
194	The Committee recommends the Ministry to take up the matter with the Ministry of External Affairs and to expedite the process for sanction and completion of the project and to fulfill the assurance in a time bound manner.
195	The Committee recommends the Ministry to expedite the process for completion of the remaining underpasses/flyover and keep the Committee apprised of the development that would take place. The Committee further directs the Ministry to fulfill the assurance at the earliest in time bound manner.

196	The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards fulfillment of the assurance.
198	The Committee expresses its displeasure over the fact that almost 12 years have passed since the assurance was made, but the construction of Surat-Mumbai national express highway project has not been completed, so far. The Committee also notes that the Ministry has set the target to complete it by March, 2024 and accordingly, recommends the Ministry to complete the construction of the highway within the stipulated time and in the meantime, keep the Committee apprised of the development taking place in the matter.
199	The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards early fulfillment of the assurance.
200	The Committee observes that the development of road infrastructure is essential for economic development of our country. To achieve the objective of inclusive growth and development of the interior areas of the country, development of National Highways is imperative and any delay in the identification and completion of these highways due to non-finalization of policy is undesirable. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the process for finalization of policy for declaration of National Highways should be expedited so that further work for the construction of National Highways could be taken up at the earliest. The Committee further directs the Ministry to fulfill the assurance at the earliest.
201	The Committee recommends that the Ministry should expedite and complete the work of Amritsar-Delhi expressway and apprise the Committee of the progress made to fulfil the assurance.
203	The Committee expresses its displeasure over the fact that the Ministry has given incomplete details in the Implementation Report repeatedly in spite of categorical directions by the Committee. The Committee, therefore, recommends the Ministry to submit a revised and comprehensive Implementation Report addressing all parts of the question to fulfill the assurance.
204-205	The Committee observes that the project envisages reducing the distance between the two banks of the river and will also protect the Kaziranga National Park by bypassing it. This project is also important from strategic point of view as it will cut travel time between Assam and Arunachal Pradesh, bordering China and would also aid in mobilizing arms, armaments and military forces

	in times of need. In view of the importance of this project, the Committee recommends the Ministry to complete the project as soon as possible to liquidate the assurance and in the meantime, keep the Committee apprised of the development that would take place in the matter.
206-207	The Committee recommends the Ministry to expedite the process for finalization of DPRs which are still pending in respect of several projects, and to complete the bidding process where it is due, at the earliest, along with expediting the land acquisition process with respect to Saigarh-Lalganj-Ganpathanj project. The Committee further directs the Ministry to complete the pending projects and apprise the Committee to liquidate the assurance at the earliest.
208	The Committee recommends that the Ministry should pursue the matter with the concerned authorities/stakeholders and expedite the process for completion of both the projects in a time bound manner as per the target date for completion i.e., 2023 to fulfill the assurance and also keep the Committee apprised of the development.
209	The Committee takes note of the submission of the Ministry that these projects are likely to be completed by mid 2023 and therefore, recommends the Ministry to adhere to this timeline for completion of all the projects. The Committee further desired to be apprised of the development taking place and fulfill the assurance within the targeted schedule for completion of projects.
210	The Committee would like to draw the attention of the Ministry to its 56th Report wherein it had been recommended that “an observation by a Minister on the floor of the House is viewed in a given context by way of giving information and is matched with the intention behind seeking such information in its entirety. Moreover, it should be clearly understood that it is the prerogative of the Committee alone to treat a reply as an assurance. The Committee, therefore, directs that the Ministries/Departments should desist from transgressing the exclusive domain of the Committee in the matter of treating a reply as an assurance”. The Committee, therefore, recommends the Ministry to expedite and complete the process for declaration of new National Highways and keep the Committee apprised of the development taking place. The Committee further directs the Ministry to fulfill the assurance in a time bound manner.

212	The Committee observes that the Ram-Janki Marg Project is significant not only from religious point of view but also from tourism, infrastructural and economic points of view. The Committee, therefore, recommends the Ministry that the process for construction of several projects under Ram-Janki Marg shall be expedited and be completed within the targeted deadlines to fulfill the assurance.
214-215	The Committee observes that Bharatmala Projects focusses on improving the efficiency of freight and passenger movement across the country by bridging critical infrastructure gaps. It seeks to combine all the existing highway projects, including the mega National Highways Development Project along with providing for Border Road and International Connectivity, Port Connectivity and Coastal Road, Green Field Expressway etc. Hence, given the importance and objectives this project seeks to achieve, it is necessary that the process of approval of the Bharatmala Phase-II project shall be expedited. The Committee, therefore, recommends the Ministry to make all out efforts for completion of the project and keep it informed from time to time, about the development taking place in the matter.
217	The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards fulfillment of the assurance.
219	The Committee observes that land acquisition for several projects and rehabilitation of the people displaced by such acquisition is a very sensitive and pressing issue in our country. It is understood that land acquisition is a pre-requisite for execution of any development project. The Committee feels that while acquiring land, the rights of people being displaced should not be violated and compensations given to them must be fair and reasonable enough. The Committee recommends that the Ministry should furnish a revised Implementation Report categorically giving the time-frame for relief to displaced people in various areas and also the steps taken / proposed to be taken to extend the benefits of the new Land Acquisition Law of 2013 to tribals and farmers at the earliest to liquidate the assurance.
221	The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry towards fulfilment of the assurance.
222	The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the Ministry

	towards early fulfillment of the assurance.
224	The Committee recommends that the Ministry should pursue the State Governments of Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal and Himachal Pradesh to furnish the revised proposal at the earliest, for consideration to fulfill the assurance.
225	The Committee recommends that the Ministry should address all aspects of the assurance before furnishing an Implementation Report. The Committee further directs the Ministry to furnish details regarding setting up of DNA data banks at the earliest and also a revised Implementation Report incorporating all aspects of assurance to the extent of information sought to liquidate the assurance.
228	The Committee observes that setting up of integrated mega textile parks would be a huge boost to employment generation in the country. The Committee, further, expresses its satisfaction with the submissions of the representatives of the Ministry of Textiles and observes that setting up of integrated mega textiles parks would be immensely beneficial for the respective States as well as for the whole country and would like to advise the Ministry to expedite the process for setting of these mega textiles parks.
230	The Committee observes that the hospitality industry uses a diverse workforce, which includes a variety of positions that may or may not have a strong educational component. A valet, cleaning personnel and restaurant servers have different requirement than check-in clerks and managers etc. Yet, the entire workforce is a reflection of a hotel's hospitality culture, which is why everyone needs to be trained from top to bottom on certain specific values and standards. Hence, it is very important that professional institutes imparting education and training in the field of hospitality and management get due attention from Government so that a positive ecosystem can be developed in this field. The Committee, further, recommends the Ministry to furnish a revised Implementation Report incorporating the details of the steps taken for providing statutory status to all its affiliated institutes for awarding degrees in the field of hospitality and tourism education respectively, including NCHMCT and IITTM.
231	The Committee expresses its displeasure over the fact that the Ministry did not furnish the complete details as sought in the question. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry should carefully examine all the aspects of the question and provide

	a comprehensive Implementation Report covering all parts of the question and fulfill the assurance at the earliest.
233	The Committee recommends that the Ministry should take up the matter again with DOPT and Ministry of Finance to implement the proposal for age relaxation for widows for employment in Government and Central PSUs and tax rebates for single women and fulfill the assurance at the earliest.
235	The Committee expresses its anguish over the fact that in spite of there being a provision for inclusion of prominent sportspersons of outstanding merit as members of the respective sports federations under the National Sports Development Code of India, 2011, no action has been taken in this regard, so far. The Committee, in this backdrop, recommends the Ministry to expedite the process of inclusion of prominent sportspersons as members of the respective sports federations at the earliest to fulfill the assurance.

APPENDIX-III

(iv)
RAJYA SABHA
VISIT OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
TO SRINAGAR

FROM 10th TO 11th MAY, 2022

PROGRAMME

09.05.2022 (Monday)	Assembly at Srinagar (Stay at Srinagar)		
10.05.2022 (Tuesday)	09.30 AM	Meeting with Chief Secretary/representatives of the Government of UT of Jammu and Kashmir, Advisor to LG/representatives of the Administration of UT of Ladakh, Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Culture	Assurances arising from (i) USQ 2769 dated 22.12.2021 reg. investments and land sale in J&K and Ladakh, (ii) USQ 828 dated 09.02.2021 reg. preservation of historical monuments, and (iii) USQ 171 dated 03.02.2022 reg. ancient monuments in tentative list of World Heritage Sites
	11.00 AM	Meeting with representatives of the Government of UT of Jammu and Kashmir, Administration of UT of Ladakh, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Railways and Ministry of Textiles	Assurances arising from (i) USQ 1012 dated 25.07.2017 reg. CAG's observations on strategic road construction, (ii) USQ 1082 dated 13.12.2013 reg. strategic railway line projects, and (iii) USQ 607 dated 17.09.2020 reg. development of textile parks
	12.00 Noon	Meeting with representatives of the Government of UT of Jammu and Kashmir, Administration of UT of Ladakh and representatives of Ministry of Road, Transport	Assurances arising from (i) USQ 787 dated 26.07.2021 reg. Bharatmala Phase-II, and (ii) USQ 1605 dated 09.03.2021 reg. promotion of herbal

		and Highways, NHAI, and Ministry of AYUSH	cultivation in the country
(Stay at Srinagar)			
11.05.2022 (Wednesday)	10.00 AM	Meeting with representatives of Government of UT of Jammu and Kashmir, Administration of UT of Ladakh and representatives of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change	Assurances arising from(i) SQ 145 dated 08.03.2021 reg. expenditure incurred on forest cover by Government, (ii) SQ 151 dated 09.05.2016 reg. development activities on river fronts and flood plains, and (iii) USQ 136 dated 14.09.2020 reg. mining projects without environmental clearance
	11.00 AM	Meeting with representatives of Ministry of Finance, Jammu and Kashmir Bank, State Bank of India, Punjab National Bank, Punjab and Sind Bank, Bank of Baroda, Union Bank of India and Bank of India	Assurances arising from(i) USQ 1810 dated 14.12.2021 reg. bank loan frauds, and (ii)USQ 881 dated 09.02.2021 reg. cases of bank fraud registered
Dispersal			