

unit of the Indian Council of Medical Research into a department headed by an officer of the Secretary level. They can now push for genetic research in India also. When the genome research was going on, India did not participate. That is the hindrance. I would like to know from the Minister what he proposes to do in the coming years to give a boost to genetic research.

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: Sir, the hon. Member is a doctor and he had an illustrious innings in this particular Ministry. We have started a new department which is known as "Department of Health Research". Earlier many researches were taking place in this country. India is very proud, as far as knowledge is concerned. The entire world looks at India because this is a country of knowledge. But, unfortunately, that knowledge has not been channelised. Dr. Sahib was the one who had created the base when he was the Health Minister. Genome is something in which we have experts in this country. To answer this question, we already have a new department since September, 2007 and this department will channelise all the research which is taking place so that all the results can be coordinated.

SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY: Sir, it is apprehended that genetic research seeds, which have been distributed with or without the knowledge of the Government, will affect the genome type of the Indian population. Is there any institutional mechanism to regulate the same?

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: Sir, at the moment, there is no mechanism; there are only guidelines. Whenever we send some samples abroad for scientific study or diagnosis, it comes under these guidelines for exchange of human biological material for biological research purpose of 1997. But, again, I repeat that once we pass this particular Bill into an Act, your concern will be covered by that.

Railway projects in Rajasthan

*402. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:††

SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that certain Railway projects, which were announced 10 years, 15 years and 20 years ago, are still incomplete in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extra amount spent by the Railways, project-wise, besides the cost of the original project due to the above delay; and

(d) by when these delayed projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

††The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Dr. Gyan Prakash Pilania.

Statement

(a) and (b) There are two ongoing projects in Rajasthan which were taken up more than 10 years back. These include new line from Dausa-Gangapur City (92.6 kms) and Gauge Conversion of Sriganganagar-Sarupsar Canal loop (116 kms) both included in Budget 1997-98. However, for the later project the approval of Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) was received in January, 2003.

(c) The original cost and latest anticipated cost of the above mentioned two projects is as under:—

Sl. No	Name of the Project	Original Cost at the time of inclusion in Budget (Rs in crore)	Latest anticipated Cost (Rs in crore)
1.	Dausa-Gangapur City new line	151.84	410.08
2.	Sriganganagar-Sarupsar Canal loop gauge conversion	47	168.80

Railways have a huge throwforward of ongoing projects with limited availability of resources, as a result of which the projects take long time in completion. This coupled with other reasons e.g. escalation, change in standards of construction and technology, scope of the work and conditions of the areas etc. during the intervening period lead to increase in cost of projects.

(d) The aforesaid projects would be completed in the coming years as per availability of resources.

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Sir, my first query is: For delay and cost escalation, which has affected adversely the revenue of the State, was any inquiry held in respect of each project? Was anyone held accountable? Was anyone punished? This is my first query, your Honour?

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Sir, I have already replied to the question in the statement laid on the Table of the House. The Railways have a huge throwforward of ongoing projects with limited availability of resources, as a result of which the projects take a long time for completion. There are many such projects in the whole country. We have been trying to adjust the available resources to take up the projects and complete them as early as possible.

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Sir, a reply has not been given to my specific query. Has any inquiry been held? Has anyone been held responsible? Has anybody been punished? It is a travesty, your Honour. Rajasthan is only symptomatic. If the whole India figures are taken, then billions of dollars have been wasted only because of delay. Delay is as harmful in the completion

of projects as it is harmful in the decision of court cases also. It is something surprising. Why has somebody not been held accountable when the nation's money has been wasted?

SHRI E. AHAMMED: I have mentioned that one reason is the limited availability of resources. There are some other reasons too like escalation, change in standard of construction and technology, scope of the work and conditions of the areas, etc. So far as these two projects are concerned, I would like to inform the hon. Member that there are certain reasons. This has not been taken up earlier because several clearances had to be obtained from the Government to start the work. It is not because of any default of an individual. For example, this new line Dausa-Gangapur City project was included in the Railway Budget of 1997-98, at the cost of Rs. 151.84 crores. The detailed estimate was sanctioned in May, 2002....(Interruptions)... The increase in the revised detailed estimate was 96.45 per cent. The anticipated cost of the project is Rs. 410.08 crores, instead of Rs. 151 crores. Due to the provision of....

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: This is all written here. There is no need of repeating it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Ask your second supplementary please.

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Sir, my second supplementary is ..

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Was it not his second supplementary?

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: No, it was not second supplementary. Sir, I had asked specifically....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Second supplementary please.

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: I am asking my second supplementary. I had asked specifically as to when these projects would be completed. Such a vague, dateless, timeless assurance has been given 'as per availability of resources'. If resources were not there, why were these projects announced? Why was such an assurance given to the public?

SHRI E. AHAMMED: I would like to inform the hon. Member that these are not the only two projects that have been delayed in the country.

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: This is the regret. Hundreds and hundreds of projects are there.

SHRI E. AHAMMED: There are many other projects also. I do admit that these projects have been delayed due to various reasons. Sir, I may be permitted to answer for the information of the hon. Member that these projects are pending for more than 10 years. In the country, four new lines and one M.T. project which were announced 20 years ago, are still incomplete. The total number is five. In the 15 to 20 years category, there are five new lines, five gauge conversions, one doubling and two electrification; there are 13 works. In the 10 to 15 years

category, there are 39 new lines, 22 gauge conversions, 9 doublings, etc. and the total is 72 works, all over the country. As a matter of fact, in Rajasthan, there are only two projects which have been delayed. If the hon. Member wants more details as to why it has been delayed, I have this information with me...

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Mr. Chairman, let him give the details to the nation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right, the details will be made available.

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि: सभापति जी, यह सिर्फ राजस्थान का प्रश्न नहीं है, यह पूरे हिंदुस्तान का प्रश्न है...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: पाणि जी, आप बैठ जाइए...(व्यवधान)...यह आपका प्रश्न नहीं है...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Sir, proper answer is not coming.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no, this is not your question. ...*(Interruptions)*... The answer is being given to the Member concerned.

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have given the information which is with me. That is all I can share with the hon. Members of the House. These are the reasons. In Rajasthan, the number of ongoing projects is 16, new lines — 4, gauge conversions — 7, doublings — 4, and RE-1, for which the Government has spent about Rs. 1,500 crores....

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Sir, this information is not required. I have not asked for this information. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI E. AHAMMED: In Rajasthan, works completed in the last 10 years new line — 111 kilometres, doubling — 55 kilometres, gauge conversion — 1199 kilometres for which Rs. 2,500 cores have already been spent. The total amount required for these projects in Rajasthan is about Rs. 3,200 crores. I do not know when the Government will be able to provide the funds. However, this year, in the Budget, Rs. 780.25 crores have been provided. So, Rajasthan is not neglected. Whatever money is allocated, it will also be made available to Rajasthan.

श्री ललित किशोर चतुर्वेदी: सभापति महोदय, माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने दो लाइंस की चर्चा की है, जो 11 साल पहले शुरू हुई थीं और जिनकी date of completion गए बहुत समय हो गए। मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि उसी प्रकार राजस्थान में रामगंज मंडी से भोपाल, अजमेर से पुष्कर, दौसा से गंगापुर, भिलड़ी से संदरी, उदयपुर-हिम्मतनगर आमान परिवर्तन, अजमेर-फुलेरा, इन सब लाइनों की date चली गई। मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ, उन्होंने resources की बात की, मुझे भी पीडब्ल्यूडी मिनिस्टर रहने का अवसर मिला था, कि क्या यह सम्भव नहीं है कि आप जब प्रोजेक्ट्स स्वीकृत करते हैं, तो date of completion स्वीकृत कर दीजिए और अगले सालों का बजट स्वीकृत कर दीजिए, बाकी बजट में शेष परियोजनाओं को स्वीकृति दीजिए, तो देरी नहीं होगी? क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि मैंने जिन लाइंस की चर्चा की है, उन्हें किस दिन, कौन से वर्ष में आप पूरी कर देंगे?

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Sir, I do appreciate the hon. Member's concern and sentiment. But we also have, all over the country, ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री ललित किशोर चतुर्वेदी: माननीय सभापति महोदय, 'all over the country' का क्या मतलब है? हमें समझ में नहीं आता।

MR. CHAIRMAN: The supplementary is on Rajasthan...*(Interruptions)*... I understand it; the supplementary is on Rajasthan.

SHRI E. AHAMMED: As for projects pertaining to Rajasthan, which the hon. Member has also referred to, I would like to mention that in Rajasthan, the work on four new lines is in progress. If the hon. Member wants the details, I can give him one-by-one. But it is a lengthy one. Again, the gauge conversion work is going on in seven lines; like, Ajmer to Phulera...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री ललित किशोर चतुर्वेदी: सभापति महोदय, आपके मार्फत मेरा बड़ा specific सवाल है। क्या आप उनके जवाब से संतुष्ट हैं? वे तो सारा वर्णन बता रहे हैं कि उन्होंने क्या-क्या किया।

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Sir, I will read out the entire thing...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Can this information not be made available to the hon. Member?

श्री ललित किशोर चतुर्वेदी: सर, ठीक है, वे information दे दें।

SHRI E. AHAMMED: If the hon. Member writes to me, I will give him ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: I have put a supplementary in the House? मंत्री महोदय, आप कमाल कर रहे हैं!

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Please permit me to read it out. I have the details with me. The new line,...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री ललित किशोर चतुर्वेदी: माननीय मंत्री महोदय, मैंने केवल उनकी चर्चा की है, जो delayed हो गई हैं।

SHRI E. AHAMMED: The projects, which you have referred to, are in progress. I will not be able to say when it will be completed. But the work is in progress. I have already told you that about Rs. 780 crores have been allocated to Rajasthan ...*(Interruptions)*... If the hon. Member wants the details of each and every project, I will read out everything...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: I want a specific answer from you as to what the date of completion is.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think the specifics of the projects, which the hon. Member wanted to know, would be made available to him.

SHRI E. AHAMMED: If he wants to know any other thing also, I will give him.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you...*(Interruptions)*... Just a minute, please. The hon. Members have read this question which relates to railway projects in Rajasthan. So, I will allow supplementaries on this specific subject. Shri Baishya, do you have a supplementary on railway projects in Rajasthan? If it is 'No', then, please don't ask...*(Interruptions)*... I am sorry, please read the question. एक मिनट सुन लीजिए! ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति: आप पूरी बात सुन लीजिए ...**(व्यवधान)**... I Mr. Baishya, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...
Listen to me. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Sir, I want to know... ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सभापति: एक मिनट, पाणि जी ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप मेरी बात सुन लीजिए ...**(व्यवधान)**... I Mr. Baishya, please.

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि: सर, चौदह दिन पहले मैंने आपके माध्यम से उड़ीसा के लिए जी.एम. की मांग की थी ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति: देखिए एक मिनट आप बैठ जाइए ...**(व्यवधान)**... I आप मेरी बात सुन लीजिए ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि: सर, चौदह दिन हो गए हैं ...**(व्यवधान)**... ईस्ट कोस्ट जनरल मैनेजर के लिए हमने बोला था ...**(व्यवधान)**... सर, चौदह दिन पहले, in this House, through you, ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सभापति: पाणि जी, मेरी बात सुन लीजिए ...**(व्यवधान)**... I एक मिनट, मिस्टर वैश्य, प्लीज़, आप भी बैठ जाइए ...**(व्यवधान)**... साबिर अली साहब, आप भी जरा बैठ जाइए ...**(व्यवधान)**... देखिए, आप पहले सवाल की वर्डिंग्स देखिए। यह सवाल सिर्फ राजस्थान में रेलवे प्रोजेक्ट पर है, इसलिए जो सप्लीमेंटरीज़ होगी, वे भी इसी पर होगी। अगर किसी को राजस्थान के बारे में पूछना है, तभी प्रश्न पूछिए। Mr. Bagrodia, do you have a question on Rajasthan? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Sir, in his reply, the hon. Minister mentioned about ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री राम नारायण साहू: सर, मुझे लखनऊ के बारे में पूछना है ...**(व्यवधान)**... I

श्री सभापति: क्या वह राजस्थान में है?

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि: सर, मुझे चौदह दिन हो चुके हैं, in this House ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सभापति: सुनिए, सुनिए ...**(व्यवधान)**... प्लीज़, पाणि जी, देखिए इससे क्या फायदा होगा ...**(व्यवधान)**... नहीं-नहीं ...**(व्यवधान)**... I

श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया: राजस्थान को बचने दो, भाई ...**(व्यवधान)**... I

श्री सभापति: देखिए, इससे क्या फायदा होगा ...**(व्यवधान)**... दूसरे मੈम्बर्स का समय वेस्ट हो रहा है ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप बैठिए, प्लीज़ ...**(व्यवधान)**... I

श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया: राजस्थान को बचने दो ...**(व्यवधान)**... मत मारो राजस्थान को ...**(व्यवधान)**... पाणि जी, प्लीज़ ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप चेयरमैन की बात सुनते ही नहीं हो ...**(व्यवधान)**... I

श्री सभापति: प्लीज़, आप बैठ जाइए ...**(व्यवधान)**... Mr. Baishya, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... I would request you, please resume your place ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया: आप चेयरमैन की रूलिंग नहीं सुनते हो ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not expected of you. ...*(Interruptions)*... Are you asking a question about Rajasthan? If it is on Rajasthan, you ask the question after him. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Mr. Bagrodia. ...*(Interruptions)*... One at a time.

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Sir, in his reply, the hon. Minister has mentioned about ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you please resume your place? Now, Mr. Bagrodia. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let us have the supplementary question. साहू जी, प्लीज़ ...**(व्यवधान)**... I

श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी: सर, हम राजस्थान के बारे में पूछना चाहते हैं।

श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया: चेयरमैन साहब बोल रहे हैं न, आपका भी नम्बर आएगा ...**(व्यवधान)**... ।

श्री सभापति: आप बैठ जाइए, प्लीज़ ...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister has mentioned that there are projects which are beyond 10 years, 15 years and 20 years. Because of paucity of funds, they could not be completed. So, I would not ask him as to why more projects are not coming up in the State. We understand it. But, there are projects which are already there, like Udaipur-Delhi Chetak Express; another one, 2996, 2995, Ajmer-Udaipur City-Bandra. These trains are running only thrice a week. Can you make it daily? Similarly, ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: This is not a question on railway projects. This is about railway. ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: This supplementary is not on railway projects. The question is about railway projects. ...**(Interruptions)**... Please read the question. It is about railway projects. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Railway projects? All right. I will ask the supplementary about railway projects. ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. Good. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: I will abide by the ruling of the Chairman. Because he said that he could not do these projects, I thought I would ask a supplementary about, at least, ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no;

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Regarding projects, I would like to know from the hon. Minister what are the State-wise data about rail network in the country, whether it...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You ask the supplementary about Rajasthan.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: I have not completed. ...**(Interruptions)**... Let me complete my sentence. ...**(Interruptions)**... Sir, let me complete my sentence. ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right; go ahead. ...**(Interruptions)**... Please, go ahead. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, Rajasthan is the largest State in the country. What I would like to know from the hon. Minister is this. How does it stand in comparison to railway network *vis-a-vis* other States, as far as the railway network is concerned? That is related to the railway network. I mean, this is...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी: सर, हम राजस्थान के बारे में पूछना चाहते हैं।

श्री सभापति: आप बैठ जाइए, आपका नम्बर आएगा।

SHRI E. AHAMMED: I would like to inform the hon. Member that Rajasthan is having the second largest rail network in the country; the first being UP. Rajasthan has 5802 kilometers and in Rajasthan there are around sixteen works which are now on-going and 8 works are completed. Rajasthan is given the largest consideration also which they rightly deserve to have it. It is such a big State and they have a lot of requirement and the Railway works have been going on. The only thing is, there is limited availability of the resources, especially in view of the fact that more projects are being taken up and more gauge conversion is required and the other requirement is railway development throughout the country. Therefore, whatever resources are available we will be taking up all these projects with the help of those resources and we will try to see as far as possible that the old projects are completed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Avtar Singh Karimpuri. Please ask a supplementary on the question. Please don't go on a fishing expedition. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री राम नारायण साहू: सर, ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति: आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आपकी बारी नहीं आई है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप बैठ जाइए।

SHRI AVTAR SINGH KARIMPURI: Sir, my question is very specific. सर, जो दोनों प्रोजेक्ट्स हैं, वे 10 सालों से लम्बित पड़े हैं। इसके कारण देश को 370 करोड़ रुपए का नुकसान हो रहा है। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि पिछले 10 सालों में से 5 साल एन.डी.ए. ने सरकार चलाई है और 5 साल यू.पी.ए. ने भी सरकार चलाई है ...*(व्यवधान)*... इस प्रकार इन 370 करोड़ में, ये दोनों इस पाप में हिस्सेदार हैं। क्या माननीय मंत्री जी इसकी enquiry के लिए कोई Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) बनाएँगे? ...*(व्यवधान)*... मैं मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ। इसकी enquiry तो होनी चाहिए न? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति: आप सुन लीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... सुन लीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप बैठ जाइए।

श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी: इसके लेट होने के कारण का पता तो लगे? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति: रेलवे बजट पर पूरा discussion इस सदन में हो चुका है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री विजय कुमार रूपाणी: सर, ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी: सर, ...*(व्यवधान)*... मंत्री जी को बोलिए तो सही। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति: थैंक यू डा. प्रभा ठाकुर। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

डा. प्रभा ठाकुर: सभापति जी, पर्यटन की दृष्टि से राजस्थान एक बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण राज्य है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूँगी कि जितने माननीय सांसदों ने यहाँ पूछा है, क्या उनको राजस्थान के बारे में इसकी पूरी जानकारी से अवगत कराने का कष्ट करेंगे कि 10 वर्ष, 15 वर्ष और 20 वर्षों पूर्व ऐसी कौन-कौन-सी रेलवे परियोजनाएँ हैं, जो घोषित की गईं, लेकिन उसके अनुसार पूरी नहीं की गईं? वे कब तक पूरी की जाएँगी तथा उसके लिए कितने रुपए आवंटन का लक्ष्य आपने रखा है?

श्री सभापति: आप भी वही सवाल पूछ रही हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

डा. प्रभा ठाकुर: सर, ...*(व्यवधान)*... जो अजमेर-पुष्कर रेलवे लाइन है, वह बहुत समय से लम्बित है ...*(व्यवधान)*... अजमेर को विश्वस्तरीय रेलवे स्टेशन बनाने की जो घोषणा की गई है, इस पर कब से कार्रवाई होगी? अजमेर से पुष्कर की जो रेलवे लाइन है, वह बहुत समय से लम्बित है। उस बारे में कब तक कार्रवाई पूरी होगी?

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Mr. Chairman Sir, I have a long list of work in progress in Rajasthan and also the work completed in Rajasthan. If you permit me it will be made available to the hon. Member.

Global recession in international market

*403. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:††
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is working out a Rs. 62,000 crore financial plan for micro, small and medium enterprises to gain an edge in the international market, as many enterprises have closed down in the United States and European Union in the wake of global recession;

(b) if so, what are the details of the plan;

(c) whether Skill Development Corporation has been set up with Rs. 1000 crore corpus to be topped up every year; and

(d) whether a national fund has been set up for the unorganized sector with a corpus of more than Rs. 1000 crore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) There is no specific financial plan of Rs. 62,000 crore for the micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs). For the promotion and development of MSMEs and to enhance their competitiveness, the Government is implementing a number of schemes/programmes, which include the National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme and schemes relating to credit, infrastructural development, technology upgradation, marketing, entrepreneurial/skill development, etc. The Government and the Reserve Bank of India have also taken several recent measures to augment the credit flow to the MSMEs to address their credit needs.

(c) To coordinate and stimulate skill development efforts, the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) has been constituted as a "not for profit" company under Section 25 of the Companies' Act, 1956 with an initial authorised capital of Rs. 10 crore. In addition, the National Skill Development Fund (NSDF) has been registered as a Trust under the Indian Trusts Act, 1982 to act as a receptacle for contributions from Government/multilateral and bilateral agencies/private sector organisations. A sum of Rs. 995.10 crore has been transferred from the Government Budget to the NSDF, in order to fund the schemes/programmes forwarded by the NSDC.

††The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Rajeev Shukla.