

concerns of the Doha Round of trade negotiations at the World Trade Organisation (WTO), namely, the development concerns of developing countries, have to be addressed. During recent international meetings, where the Doha Round was discussed, India expressed support for the early resumption of negotiations on the basis of the two texts circulated in December 2008 by the Chairs of the WTO Negotiating Groups on Agriculture and Non-agricultural Market Access (NAMA).

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise. The principal aim of India's negotiating strategy in the agriculture negotiations has consistently been to protect the interests of farmers particularly with regard to their food and livelihood security.

#### **Revamping of intelligence agencies**

\*270. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received a blue print for revamping of intelligence agencies;

(b) if so, whether internal security reforms have been proposed;

(c) the main points that have been considered to revamp intelligence agencies; and

(d) by when necessary steps will be taken to implement suggestions made for revamping intelligence agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (d) As part of an ongoing exercise several steps have been taken to strengthen and upgrade the capabilities of intelligence agencies both at the Central level and the State level, as well as to enhance information sharing and operational coordination between the Central agencies and the State Governments. These measures include, inter alia, creation of new posts in intelligence Bureau; strengthening \_\_\_\_\_ and re-organising Multi-Agency Centre in the Intelligence Bureau to enable it to function on 24X7 basis for real time collation and sharing of intelligence with all other intelligence and security agencies of the Central and State Governments/Union Territories; decision to set up a Research and Technology Centre in the Intelligence Bureau, etc.

In the light of emerging threats, the intelligence agencies will be continuously upgraded to be able to counter such threats.

#### **Nation wide strike in 2008 by transport operators**

\*271. SHRI RAHUL BAJAJ:

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state the progress that has been made on resolution of issues on which the Transport Operators went on a nation wide strike in 2008?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): The Government has taken all necessary steps to implement the agreements signed with the All India Motor Transport Congress (AIMTC) to resolve the issues raised by them during their nationwide strike in July 2008. There has been significant progress on each of the issues as agreed upon between the Government and the AIMTC. The detailed progress in this regard is given in the Statement.

**Statement**

*Detailed progress on the issues as agreed upon between the Government and AIMTC to resolve their demands during the strike in July 2008*

<b>1. Agreement with this Ministry</b>	<b>Action taken</b>
<p>i) To roll back the increase in toll effective from 1.12.2007 in respect of public funded National Highways controlled and managed by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and there will be no increase in toll for a period of one year for such National Highways stretches from the date of signing of this Agreement.</p>	<p>The Government rolled back the increase in toll effective from 1.12.2007 in respect of public funded National Highways controlled and managed by NHAI with effect from 5.7.09. The toll rates for such National Highway stretches had also not been increased for a period of one year.</p>
<p>ii) To constitute a Committee to look into all toll related issues including user fee rates.</p>	<p>A Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Member (Finance), NHAI.</p>
<p>iii) To set up a permanent mechanism by constituting a Committee under Chairman, NHAI, for monitoring, reviewing and overseeing the functioning of toll system.</p>	<p>A Committee under Chairman, NHAI has been set up for monitoring, reviewing and overseeing the functioning of toll system. AIMTC is involved in both the Committees.</p>
<p><b>2. Agreement with Department of Revenue</b></p> <p>To issue specific clarifications on the issues relating to service tax such as exclusion of subcontract services of Goods Transport Agency (GTA) from the purview of service tax, consideration and dropping of departmental proceedings initiated against some GTA etc.</p>	<p><b>Action taken</b></p> <p>The Government has exempted the subcontract services of GTAs from the purview of service tax. Further, necessary clarifications have also been issued by Department of Revenue to mitigate any ambiguity concerning levy of service tax on transporters.</p>