

Further, GAIL is also laying Chainsa — Jhajjar — Hissar pipeline. GAIL plans to expand its existing/new pipelines up to Bhilwara, Chittorgarh and Jaipur in Rajasthan.

Apart from the above, Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) has invited bids for laying of Mallavaram (Andhra Pradesh) to Bhilwara (Rajasthan) pipeline, which is proposed to pass through the States of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. GAIL proposes to participate in the bidding process for the same.

Investigation into Violations by ADAG

*372. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL:
SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Enforcement Directorate (ED), Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), Customs and Excise, Mumbai and Income-tax Department, Mumbai are investigating FEMA violations, violations of SEBI guidelines, violations of ECB/FCCB guidelines, evasion of customs duty, and evasion of Income Tax by Anil Dhirubhai Ambani Group (ADAG) of companies; and

(b) if so, the details of investigation so far, department-wise?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The Directorate of Enforcement under Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (FEMA), and the Income Tax Department under Income Tax Act, 1961 are conducting investigations in respect of certain companies of ADAG. Investigations by Central Excise authorities are also in progress. Since investigations are currently underway, disclosure of the details thereof may compromise the investigations.

Impact of rising Government Borrowings

*373. SHRI N.K. SINGH:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has recently expressed concern on huge Government borrowings during the current fiscal year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such huge borrowings have disturbed the balance between fiscal and monetary policies and could potentially militate against Financial stability; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has referred to the management of the large Government borrowing programme in 2009-2010 in a non-disruptive manner as a major challenge in its Annual Policy Statement for the year 2009-2010 (April 2009), First Quarter Review of Monetary Policy for the Year 2009-2010 (July 2009) and Second Quarter Review of Monetary Policy for the Year 2009-2010 (October 2009).

- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.

Introduction of Polymer Currency

†*374. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating to introduce polymer currency as an alternative to the menace of counterfeit currency notes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the total number of counterfeit currency notes seized since the year 2004 till date.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The Government has decided to introduce 1 billion pieces of polymer banknotes in Rs.10/- denomination on trial basis. The primary intention behind introduction of polymer notes is to increase the life of banknotes.

(c) As per the information furnished by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), the details of the total number of counterfeit currency notes seized since the year 2004 is as follows:

Year	Total number of Counterfeit currency notes seized
2004	2,26,922
2005	2,19,914
2006	2,50,943
2007	2,31,338
2008	2,17,328
2009 (upto 30.09.2009)	1,31,098

Sub-Standard and Spurious Drugs in the Country

†*375. SHRI RANJITSINH VIJAYSINH MOHITE PATIL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research in its study had confirmed the presence of sub-standard and spurious drugs in the country and recommended that necessary steps should be taken to stop their circulation by 2006;
- (b) whether the Central Drug Standard Control Organisation has failed to check spurious and sub-standard drugs;
- (c) the number of drugs manufacturers/marketing companies against whom legal action has been initiated for manufacturing/selling spurious and sub-standard drugs during the last three years;
- (d) whether Government is aware of their harmful effects on the lives of citizens; and