Starred Questions

Protest by sugarcane farmers

*259. SHRI PANKAJ BORA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that sugarcane farmers from North India, under the banner of Bhartiya Kisan Union, have recently protested in the Capital and pressed their demand for higher cane price; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) Representations are received from various Farmers' Associations for higher support price for various agricultural commodities, including sugarcane, from time to time.

A Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) at Rs. 145 per quintal, linked to a basic recovery rate of 9.5%, subject to a premium of Rs. 1.53 for every 0.1 percentage point increase in recovery above that level of sugarcane for 2011-12 have been fixed by the Government based on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). Moreover, the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966 (SCO) provides for payment of an 'agreed price' by the sugar mill to the farmers, which can not be lower than the FRP fixed by the Central Government.

Loss to exchequer in 2G SCAM

*260. SHRI SABIR ALI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of financial loss caused to the exchequer due to favouring Anil Dhirubhai Ambani Group (ADAG) in the 2G scam *vis-a-vis* CAG's report in the matter;

(b) the quantum of penalty imposed on ADAG and the basis of deciding the quantum of penalty; and

(c) the relationship established between Reliance Telecom and Swan Telecom?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Based on the values determined through various indicators, the Report of CAG on "Issue of Licences and Allocation of 2G Spectrum by the Department of Telecommunications", has made four different assessments of the loss to the Government on account of grant of permissions for usage of dual technology spectrum in 2007-08 in different service areas. These range from Rs. 12,433 crores to Rs. 37,154 crores. The permissions accorded include permissions to M/s. Reliance Communications Ltd.

According to the charge sheet filed by CBI in FIR No. RC DAI 2009 A 0045 in the court, additional revenue of Rs. 8,448.95 crores could have accrued to the