

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The Ashok Chawla Committee on Allocation of Natural Resources (CANR) which submitted its Report on 31st May, 2011, gave 81 recommendations covering eight natural resources *viz.* coal, minerals, petroleum, natural gas, spectrum, forests, land and water. The detailed recommendations of the CANR are at Annexure. [See Appendix 226 Annexure No. 4]

(2) Government has accepted 69 recommendations of the Ashok Chawla Committee on Allocation of Natural Resources (CANR). One recommendation has not been accepted by the Government. Eleven Recommendations of CANR are under consideration.

#### **Smuggling fake Indian currency**

209. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan is clandestinely smuggling fake Indian currency notes to destabilise our economy;

(b) in this connection whether India is planning to make a request to the USA to divulge their strategies involved in checking counterfeit dollars;

(c) whether the Centre is planning support to top class research in right earnest to come up with a paper that is unique for our country in identifying notes; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir, under the Indo-US Homeland Security Dialogue, one of the areas prioritized for co-operation is combating the menace of counterfeit currency.

(c) Presently, no such proposal is made.

(d) "Nil" in view of (c) above.

#### **Revision of 'A' and 'B' category cities**

†210. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has received any proposal for putting some new cities of the State of Uttarakhand under 'A' and 'B' category;

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the names of these cities and by when this proposal is likely to be approved; and

(c) if not, whether Ministry is ready to consider such proposals of the State in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No, Sir. Consequent upon the decision taken by the Government on the recommendations of the Sixth Central Pay Commission, the earlier classification of cities for grant of House Rent Allowance to the Central Government employees has been revised *viz.* A-1 to "X"; A, B-1 and B-2 to "Y" and C and Unclassified to "Z" w.e.f. 01.09.2008. In determining the revised classification, the population of Urban Agglomeration area of the city as per latest decennial census report *i.e.* 2001 census has been taken into consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Action for revision of such classification is initiated based on the population as per latest final decennial census report. In case of reorganization of a city resulting in changes in the population figures of that city, action is initiated only upon receipt of information in this regard from the concerned State Government.

#### Slow growth rate

‡211. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the annual growth rate of the development in the country stands at lowest level as against the last several years;

(b) if so, the estimated lowest level of this growth rate;

(c) whether feedback on the reasons of level of growth being the lowest has been received; and

(d) if so, reasons mentioned in the feedback?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) As per the revised estimates of annual national income, 2011-12 released by the Central Statistics Office (CSO) on May 31, 2012 the growth rate of India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at factor cost at constant (2004-05) prices for the year 2011-12 is 6.5 per cent. This is the lowest rate of GDP growth recorded during the years 2003-04 to 2011-12.

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‡ Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.