which will be equally shared by Government of India (GoI) and respective State Government/Union Territory. GoI's contribution will be capped at Rs. 750 per ha. The scheme would operate till 30th September, 2012 in the following areas:—

(i) Districts where rainfall deficit was more than 50% as on 15th July, 2012, as per India Meteorological Department (IMD) data; or

(ii) Talukas and districts declared as drought affected areas by the respective State Governments; or

(iii) Areas with prolonged dry spell with rainfall deficit of 60% or more, for any continuous 15 days period, beginning from 15th July, 2012.

Drought in Jharkhand

†*113. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to drought in a few States, particularly in Jharkhand, there is a famine like situation; and

(b) if so, the effective steps Government is taking to deal with this situation and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) As per report of India Meteorological Department (IMD), as on 12th August, 2012, overall rainfall in the country was 16% below Long Period Average (LPA). Details indicating the Met Sub-Division-wise rainfall status is given in Statement. [Refer to Statement-I Appended to the Answer to SQ. 106, Part (a) to (d)]. Jharkhand has so far received 563.7 mm of rainfall which is about 16% less than the average rainfall of 667.9 mm and comes under the normal category.

(b) Against an average area of 105.70 million hectare under kharif cultivation, 85.4 million hectare is normally sown by 8th August. This year 80.2 million hectare has been covered under various crops by this time. However, area coverage under various crops in Jharkhand is reported to be 1.27 million ha as on 8th August, 2012 which is 0.22 million ha more than normal area of 1.05 million ha for the corresponding period.

Ministry of Agriculture is closely monitoring monsoon and crop sowing situation in consultation with IMD and State Governments. Contingency plans involving, *inter-alia*, changes in cropping pattern in forms of appropriate drought tolerant crops/varieties and short duration crops, etc. have been prepared for 343 districts for location specific interventions. Decisions have been taken for introduction of diesel subsidy scheme, enhancement of seed subsidy, up-scaling the central sector scheme on feed and fodder, waiver of import duty on oil cakes, release of interim assistance under calamity component of National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), release of funds under NRDWP and Integrated Watershed Management Programme etc. Government will

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

continue to render required assistance to all States including Jharkhand as may be necessary to mitigate the effects of deficiency in rainfall.

Railway tracks and coaches in use

*114. SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of railway tracks in the country, gauge-wise as on 1 January, 1990 and 1 January, 2012, respectively; and

(b) the number of coaches in use as on 1 January, 1990 and 1 January, 2012, respectively?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MUKUL ROY): (a) The length of railway track of Indian Railways is maintained as on 31st March of each financial year.

The gauge-wise length of running track kilometres as on 31st March, 1990 and 2011 (latest available) is as under:—

Year	Broad gauge	Metre gauge	Narrow gauge	Total
1990	49,447	24,805	4,068	78,320
2011	77,421	7,219	2,474	87,114

(b) The total number of coaches as on 31.03.1990 and 31.03.2011 (latest available) are 37,953 and 59,713 respectively.

Impediments to implementation of RTE Act

*115. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the status of implementation of Right to Education (RTE) Act in various States of the country, State-wise;

(b) whether any impediments are being faced in implementation of the Act; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 is being implemented by all the States and Union Territories. All States and UTs with legislature have notified the State RTE Rules and the Central RTE Rules have been notified for the five Union Territories (UTs) without legislature. The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) has been revised to correspond with the provisions of the RTE Act, with Centre-State funding pattern revised in a 65:35 ratio (90: 10 for the States of the NE Region) for the period 2010-11 to 2014-15. Further, the 13th Finance Commission earmarked Rs. 24,068 crore for the period 2010-11 to 2014-15, for elementary education, to assist States in meeting RTE commitments.