passed final Order on 30.10.2012, concluding that there was no violation of the Competition Act, 2002.

Bad condition of Science Museums and Science Centres

*270. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a)   whether the Ministry is aware that many of the Science Museums and Science Centres in the country are in bad condition as many of its galleries are not functioning well; and

(b)   if so, the steps Government proposes to take to improve their condition?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI KATOCH): (a) and (b) National Council of Science Museums (NCSM), an autonomous organisation under the Ministry of Culture, is engaged in establishment of science museums and science centres throughout the country. The science museums and centres are running very efficiently and successfully with the objective of popularization of science and technology. The improvement and maintenance of the conditions of science museums and science centres is a continuous and ongoing process. NCSM takes all possible measures for periodic upgradation and modernization of science museums and centres. Through these efforts, there has been a continuous and substantial increase in footfall of visitors to science museums and centres. However, some galleries and exhibits in science centres are periodically closed for upgradation, repair and modernization.

Ill-Treatment to students and people from North-East

*271. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a)   whether it is a fact that students and people from North-East are being ill-treated in different States of India, especially in Delhi;

(b)   if so, the details thereof; and

(c)   the steps being taken by Government to stop such type of problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (b) No Sir, it is not a fact that people from North Eastern States are being ill-treated in different States of India including Delhi. Some incidents of

crime against people from the North East have been reported in some States and in Delhi but those have been random and isolated in nature and action has been taken immediately to book the miscreants.

(c) The Union Government attaches highest importance to the matter of prevention and control of crime.

In order to specifically address the problems faced by the students and other residents from North-Eastern States in Delhi, 7 officers of the rank of Addl. CP/DCP *viz.* DCPs North, North-West, South, South-East, South-West, West and East districts are designated as Nodal officers. These Nodal Officers hold periodic meetings with the students and residents of the North-Eastern States staying in their respective areas and address the issues raised in such meetings. One Jt. CP rank officer has also been nominated as co-ordinator to oversee efforts made by the district nodal officers and DCP/PCR.

Amendment to the contract labour Act

*272. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to amend the Contract Labour Act to bring wage parity between permanent and contractual workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the progress made in this regard;

(c) whether this will curb the tendency among employers to recruit more and more workers on contract basis; and

(d) if so, in what manner?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) and (d) Yes, Sir. In this regard, the proposal for amendment in the Act is under consideration of the Government.

(c) and (d) Engagement of the contract worker is determined by a number of factors, including the nature of the task. It is expected that the proposal under consideration would eliminate wage difference as a factor for engaging contract worker.

Bringing members of Jarawas tribe into mainstream

*273. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether tribals in Andaman Islands are exploited, as has been shown in