

banks to put in place additional authentication/validation for all on-line transactions. So, a number of steps are being taken. As technology develops, even the fraudsters acquire capability to misuse technology. We must try to remain one step ahead. But there are enough technically-qualified people who are looking into the matter and try to remain one step ahead of the fraudsters.

DR. YOGENDRAP. TRIVEDI : Sir, the hon. Minister has mentioned about the steps that are being taken. But, like in all criminal matters where cases are registered and charge-sheets are filed, what is the rate of conviction in cyber crimes? The rate of conviction in normal criminal cases is almost close to one to two per cent. In the cyber crime, which is highly technical, what is the rate of conviction?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, this information is not maintained Centrally. These cases are prosecuted by the State Police. I would have to collect the information regarding convictions and fraud cases. Maybe, the Ministry of Home Affairs may have that information, but I do not have the information Centrally.

### **Package for development of NER**

\*282. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Centre has sanctioned a package for overall development of North-Eastern Region;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the action plan under this project to create employment opportunities in this region to improve the economy of the people of this area; and
- (d) the action plan to ensure fast mobility of the people of this region both by rail, road and air, to achieve the above end?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) : (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### ***Statement***

(a) to (c) Central Government has not sanctioned any special package for overall development of North Eastern Region (NER). However, depending upon the requirements and state-specific needs, Central Government has taken up various schemes/projects from time to time in NER. Ministry of Development of North Eastern

Region also monitors effective utilization of 10% Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) earmarked for North Eastern States by non-exempted Ministries. The unspent balance of 10% GBS accrues in Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR), which is utilized for various developmental projects in NER.

Large number of projects encompassing various social and physical infrastructural sectors undertaken in North Eastern States generates direct and indirect employment opportunities leading to overall improvement of economy of the Region. In addition, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region under the plan scheme “Capacity Building & Technical Assistance” (CB&TA) supports skill-development projects in NER.

(d) North Eastern Region being strategically important, the Central Government has taken important initiatives for ensuring connectivity through road, rail and air etc. Apart from East West Corridor and several roads under Special Accelerated Road Development Programme-North East (SARDP-NE) in road sector, various railway projects viz. new railway lines, gauge conversion and doubling projects have been taken up in NER which include eleven National Projects as well. Similarly, Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim - the only two States without air connectivity have been awarded Greenfield airports.

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Sir, I have received the answer from the hon. Minister. I express my thanks for the Government’s generous attitude towards the development of the North-Eastern part of India. In this connection, I would like to say that my State, Odisha, is one of the under-developed and backward States in the country. It is afflicted with the highest poverty and also afflicted by hunger. The nature is also unkind to the State, as many areas like Kalahandi and Bolangiri are drought prone. These areas remain drought affected consistently. More than 47 per cent of the people are below poverty line and the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe population is 39 per cent.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is the question?

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Sir, the State faces serious financial crisis in view of the unsustainable burden of debt and is not in a ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please don’t read. Ask the question. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : To tide over the financial crisis, the Chief Minister of Odisha has made a proposal to the Centre to grant special...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Will you please ask the question?

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Sir, the hon. Chief Minister of Odisha made an appeal. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Does this relate to the question you have asked? No or yes.

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : it will not be answered.

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Sir, I want to know what is the position ...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Parida, please sit down. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please sit down.

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Sir, I want to know the status of this proposal which was sent by my State Chief Minister. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please read the question that you have submitted. This is not related to it. This is not related to it. Sorry. You ask another supplementary. If you don't have it, then I will ask another Member.

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Sir, for the development of my State, I want to know about it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, no; this has nothing to do with the development of your State. Your question is about North-East. Thank you. Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : Sir, in July 2007, the Prime Minister released a North-East Region Vision 2020 Document, and I do not know whether the Action Plan that is now being referred to has been conceived within the framework of that long-term plan which was to look into the progress of the North-East Region from the Eleventh Plan onwards and right into the Thirteenth, and, possibly, tipping over into the Fourteenth Plan. Could the hon. Minister please confirm that the 'Vision 2020' document is still a valid document, and, if so, what are the measures that the Ministry are taking to monitor developments within the framework of that document?

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR : Sir, the distinguished Member was my distinguished predecessor in that Ministry, and the 'Vision 2020' was made at that time. In the Ministry of Development of North-Eastern Region, we are working and taking the points from the Vision document. It is definitely a valid document and that document give us important input in formulating the Plan programme of our Ministry.

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर : सभापति जी, नॉर्थ-ईस्ट का जो पुरा क्षेत्र है, वह भारत का अभिन्न हिस्सा होने के बावजूद लगातार महसूस करता है कि उसके साथ न्याय नहीं हो रहा है। यह उसके विकास पर एक प्रश्न है। जो जवाब आया है, वह बहुत ही रटा-रटाया है, उसमें कुछ नया नहीं है। You are saying that connectivity and everything is important. My question is about the National Highway No. 39 and National Highway No. 57 in Manipur. I want to know what is the status of both these Highways. The answer was so crude, crude in the sense that it said that it is a continuous work which is going on and there are many difficulties. What steps is the Government taking to complete the projects on time? This is the real issue. There are 'n' number of projects sanctioned, but not completed — 'n' number of projects are sanctioned; but there are leakages and widespread corruption.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is your question?

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR : So, my question is: is Government thinking of taking the North-East development seriously on a mission-mode basis and is it going to complete the on-going projects in a time-bound manner?

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the first part of the question is related to the MoRST because they deal with the National Highways. The hon. Member has mentioned about leakage and corruption. I don't know about the leakage and corruption part. I don't think that is based on the facts. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please let the answer be completed.

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR : Sir, the Government of India under the leadership of our hon. Prime Minister in UPA-I and UPA-II has increased the allocation for the different Ministries. Sir, our Ministry works with all the Ministries; the 52 Ministries have to spend the 10 per cent of their budget allocation for the development of North-Eastern Region.

We monitor all that in our Ministry. Also, the allocation made in the Tenth Plan to the North-Eastern Region was more than Rs. 81,000 crores, while the amount allocated in the Eleventh Plan was more than Rs. 1,84,000 crores. So, increased allocation was made and development work is going on. Also, the hon. Prime Minister has announced some packages, appreciating the difficulties in the North-Eastern Region. We have geographical disadvantage and the development work is not proceeding very fast. I must say that it is not as fast as it is in other parts of the country because we have geographical and logistical difficulties in that region, but the North-Eastern Region is on the path of growth.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Sukhendu Sekhar Roy.

**श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर :** सर, इन्होंने मेरे प्रश्न का जवाब नहीं दिया। मैंने सीधा प्रश्न पूछा है कि सरकार नॉर्थ-ईस्ट के डेवलपमेंट के प्रोजेक्ट्स को time-bound mission mode में लेगी या नहीं? प्रधान मंत्री जी खुद वहीं से इस सभागृह में आते हैं। यह टाइम बाउंड मिशन मोड में जाए बगैर पूरा नहीं होगा। वे वही बात नहीं बता रहे हैं, जबकि उसे छोड़ कर वे सारी बात बता रहे हैं। आप किसी से भी पूछिए, जो नॉर्थ-ईस्ट से सम्बन्धित है। अगर आप mission mode में नहीं जाएँगे, तो वहाँ कुछ नहीं होगा, क्योंकि वहाँ कुछ नहीं हो रहा है।

**SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY :** Sir, the hon. Minister has stated in his reply that as many as eleven national projects have been taken up for conversion and laying of new railway lines. My question is, since development should include preservation of the flora and fauna and protection of all wildlife, what action has been taken by the Government to prevent recurrence of elephant deaths due to the speeding trains running between North Bengal and the North-Eastern Region?

**SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR :** Sir, surely, everybody is concerned about the harm and death caused to innocent wildlife in the North-Eastern Region. But this is looked after by the Forest Department of the respective State Governments and the Ministry of DoNER does not have any direct role to play in this regard.

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** Question No. 283.

**श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी :** सर, मैंने सबसे पहले हाथ उठाया था।

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** The questions have to be rotated around the House. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. आप डिबेट करवाइए, इसके लिए नोटिए दीजिए।

### **Whistleblower Protection Bill, 2011**

\*283. **SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR :** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to fast track passing of the Whistleblower Protection Bill, 2011, which in the long-run can dilute corruption in bureaucracy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) :** (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.