

over their counters or through ATMs only if these banknotes are duly checked for authenticity/genuineness and fitness by machines.

- II. The banks have been advised to streamline the system of reporting and detection of counterfeit notes in a manner so as to safeguard the interest of the common man who unknowingly comes into possession of such notes.
- III. Awareness programmes are conducted by RBI to make the public aware of the features of Indian banknotes and ways to identify genuine Indian banknotes.
- IV. The Reserve Bank regularly conducts training programmes on detection of counterfeit notes for employees/officers of banks and other organisations handling large amount of cash.

Fast tracking of infrastructural projects

*28. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is embarking on fast tracking of infrastructural projects which were stalled due to various bottlenecks and clearances from Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of projects identified so far for fast tracking; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to clear the hindrances in getting clearances for their early execution?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) The Government has set up the Cabinet Committee on Investment (CCI) with the Prime Minister as the Chairman to expedite decisions on approvals/clearances for implementation of projects. The CCI monitors and reviews the implementation of major projects to ensure accelerated and time bound grant of various licenses, permissions and approvals.

As on 1st August 2013, 167 projects entailing an investment of about Rs. 6.57 lakh crore have been identified for fast tracking.

The stalled projects are initially tracked by a Project Monitoring Group (PMG), wherein Ministries/Departments concerned discuss issues that are adversely impacting implementation of the identified projects. A web based information system has also been put in place wherein entrepreneurs can provide the details of their project (s) as well as the issues that are inhibiting smooth implementation. Based on the discussions, efforts are made to expedite clearance/approvals. Final decisions on unresolved policy issues and clearances are taken by CCI.

Influence of oil import lobbies on decision making

†*29. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that oil import lobbies somehow influence the decisions of the Ministry which has also been recently acknowledged by the Minister himself;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any action is being taken or has been taken against those persons who influenced the decisions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Detection of a new polio case in Maharashtra

*30. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that contrary to the claims of Government and WHO,

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi