

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is what I am saying, do not create a bad precedent. Please, please. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, *

MR. CHAIRMAN: That will not go on record. Please do not argue unnecessarily, please. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: *

MR. CHAIRMAN: Everything with the permission of the Chair will go on record. ...(Interruptions)... Please. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: *

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is totally an unfair comment unbecoming of you as the Deputy Leader. I know the rules. ...(Interruptions)... The rule says that three supplementaries are allowed. ...(Interruptions)... You had not given the name and now you are making a charge against the Chair also. ...(Interruptions)... You are making a sweeping remark on the Chair. This will not be allowed. Please, this will not be allowed. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: *

MR. CHAIRMAN: You said, "In the insensitive manner." Who is insensitive? Please, ...(Interruptions)... Nothing will go on record.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: *

पूर्वोत्तर क्षेत्र में आधारभूत अवसंरचना का विकास

*185. श्री राम नाथ ठाकुर: क्या उत्तर-पूर्वी क्षेत्र विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) सरकार द्वारा पूर्वोत्तर क्षेत्र (एनईआर) की आधारभूत अवसंरचना के विकास के लिए बनाई गई योजनाओं का ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ख) सरकार द्वारा चीन की सीमा से सटे क्षेत्रों में सड़क परिवहन तथा हवाई यातायात को सुगम बनाए जाने के लिए क्या-क्या पहल की जा रही है; और

(ग) सभी पूर्वोत्तर राज्यों की राजधानियों को रेल संपर्क से जोड़े जाने की दिशा में अब तक कितनी प्रगति हुई है?

उत्तर पूर्वी क्षेत्र विकास मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (डॉ. जितेंद्र सिंह): (क) से (ग) विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

विवरण

(क) भारत सरकार द्वारा पूर्वोत्तर क्षेत्र में मूलभूत अवसंरचना विकास एवं सड़क, रेल, जल, दूरसंचार एवं हवाई संपर्क प्रदान करने के लिए कई कदम उठाए गए हैं, जिनमें अन्य के साथ-साथ उत्तर पूर्व के लिए विशेष त्वरित सड़क विकास कार्यक्रम (एसएआरडीपी-एनई), ब्रॉडगेजिंग एवं कैपिटल कनेक्टिविटी रेल परियोजनाएं, व्यापक दूरसंचार विकास कार्यक्रम, ट्रांसमिशन एवं वितरण प्रणाली को सुदृढ़ बनाने के लिए स्कीमें शामिल हैं। उत्तर पूर्वी क्षेत्र विकास मंत्रालय ने अपनी अव्यपगत केंद्रीय संसाधन पूल (एनएलसीपीआर) स्कीम, पूर्वोत्तर परिषद (एनईसी) की स्कीमें, उत्तर पूर्वी सड़क क्षेत्र विकास स्कीम (एनईआरएसडीएस) के माध्यम से पूर्वोत्तर क्षेत्र में सामाजिक एवं भौतिक अवसंरचनागत अंतरों को पाटने के लिए भी कदम उठाए हैं। हाल ही में मंत्रालय द्वारा 100% केंद्रीय वित्तपोषित उत्तर पूर्वी विशेष अवसंरचना विकास स्कीम (एनईएसआईडीएस) अनुमोदित की गई है ताकि पूर्वोत्तर क्षेत्र के विह्वित इलाकों में मूलभूत अवसंरचना के विकास के लिए अंतरों को पाटा जा सके।

(ख) सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्रालय ने संपर्क को बेहतर बनाने के लिए राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों तथा राजकीय सड़कों के विह्वित किए गए सड़क स्ट्रेचों के उन्नयन के लिए उत्तर पूर्व के लिए विशेष त्वरित सड़क विकास कार्यक्रम (एसएआरडीपी-एनई) तैयार किया है। एसएआरडीपी-एनई के चरण-क के तहत क्रियान्वयन के लिए सरकार द्वारा अनुमोदित 4099 किमी में से 585 किमी सड़क सिक्किम में पड़ती है। इसके अलावा सड़कों एवं राजमार्गों का अरुणाचल प्रदेश पैकेज (एपीपीआरएच) के तहत 2319 किमी की कुल 26 सड़कों का कार्य प्रारंभ किया गया है। कार्य पूरा हो जाने के बाद ये सड़कें अरुणाचल प्रदेश के पश्चिम में तवांग से पूर्वी हिस्से में लॉगडिंग को जोड़ेगी। सरकार ने भारतमाला परियोजना को भी मंजूरी दे दी है, जिसके तहत उन्नयन के लिए एनईआर में लगभग 5301 किमी की कुल सड़क स्ट्रेचों को अनुमोदित किया गया है, जिसमें सिक्किम में 165 किमी की सीमावर्ती सड़कें शामिल हैं।

इसके अतिरिक्त सीमा सड़क संगठन को अरुणाचल प्रदेश में 5267.51 किमी और सिक्किम में 910.17 किमी सहित 10046.95 किमी के सड़क मार्ग के निर्माण/सुधार का कार्य सौंपा गया है। एटीआर-72 प्रकार के वायुयान के प्रचालन के लिए उपयुक्त नया ग्रीनफील्ड हवाई अड्डा सिक्किम के पेकियोग में (गंगटोक) में निर्मित किया गया। भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण ने एटीआर-72 प्रकार के वायुयान के प्रचालन के लिए अरुणाचल प्रदेश के तेजु हवाई अड्डे को विकसित किया है। अरुणाचल प्रदेश में एक नए हवाई अड्डे के निर्माण के लिए प्रस्ताव है, जिसके लिए राज्य सरकार से भूमि अधिग्रहण तथा संबंधित व्यय का ब्यौरा उपलब्ध कराने का अनुरोध किया गया है। सात अत्याधुनिक लैंडिंग ग्राउंडों को उन्नत किया गया है और उनका असैनिक प्रचालनों के लिए उपयोग किया जा सकता है जिसमें से पासीघाट का उपयोग एटीआर 72 प्रचालनों के लिए किया जा सकता है। उत्तर पूर्वी क्षेत्र विकास मंत्रालय ने पूर्वोत्तर परिषद के माध्यम से भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण को हवाई अड्डों की सुविधाओं को उन्नत करने और हवाई प्रचालनों को प्रोत्साहन देने के लिए व्यवहार्यता अंतर को पाटने हेतु निधियां प्रदान की हैं।

(ग) पूर्व में राज्य की एकमात्र राजधानी अर्थात् गुवाहाटी में बड़ी लाइन थी। इटानगर को हरमुती से नाहरलागुन तक नई लाइन चालू करके बड़ी रेल लाइन से युक्त किया गया है। अगरतला को हाल ही में बड़ी रेल लाइन से जोड़ा गया है। एक और जहां बड़ी रेल लाइन का

नेटवर्क वर्ष 2016-17 में मिजोरम एवं मणिपुर में भी पहुंच चुका है, वहीं इंफाल एवं आइजोल के नजदीकी स्थानों को बड़ी रेल लाइन से जोड़ने का कार्य प्रारंभ कर दिया गया है तथा यह पूर्ण होने के विभिन्न चरणों में है। कोहिमा तक बड़ी रेल लाइन प्रदान करने का कार्य भी प्रारंभ कर दिया गया है। रैंगपो तक कार्य को संस्वीकृति प्रदान कर दी गई है, जहां से गंगटोक 40 किमी की दूरी पर है। एक ओर जहां शिलांग तक रेल लिंक को मंजूरी दे दी गई है, वहीं कुछ स्थानीय समस्याओं के कारण कार्य रुका हुआ है।

Development of basic infrastructure in North Eastern Region

†*185. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes formulated by Government towards development of basic infrastructure of North Eastern Region (NER);

(b) the initiatives undertaken by Government to make road transport and air traffic more accessible in the regions bordering China; and

(c) the progress made so far, towards connecting the capital cities of all North Eastern States through Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Several initiatives have been taken by the Government of India for basic infrastructure development and providing road, rail, water, telecom and air connectivity in the North Eastern Region which, *inter alia*, include the Special Accelerated Road Development Programme for North East (SARDP-NE), Broad Gauging and Capital Connectivity Rail Projects, Comprehensive Telecom Development Programme, Schemes for Strengthening of Transmission and Distribution system. The Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), through its schemes of Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR), schemes of North Eastern Council (NEC), North East Road Sector Development Scheme (NERSDS) has also taken steps to bridge the social and physical infrastructure gaps in North Eastern Region (NER). Recently, a 100% Central funded North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme (NESIDS) has been approved for implementation by the Ministry of DoNER to meet the gaps for development of basic infrastructure in identified sectors.

(b) The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has formulated the Special

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Accelerated Road Development Programme for North-East (SARDP-NE), for upgradation of identified road stretches of National Highways and State Roads, to improve connectivity. Out of 4099 kms approved by the Government for implementation under Phase 'A' of SARDP-NE, 585 kms falls in Sikkim. In addition, 26 numbers of roads totalling 2319 kms has been undertaken under the Arunachal Pradesh Package of Roads and Highways. After completion, these roads would link Tawang in the west to Longding in the eastern part of Arunachal Pradesh. The Government has also approved the Bharatmala Pariyojana, where road stretches aggregating to about 5301 kms in NER have been approved for improvement which includes 165 kms of border roads in Sikkim.

In addition, 10046.95 kms. of roads has been entrusted to Border Roads Organisation for construction/improvement including 5267.51 km. in Arunachal Pradesh and 910.17 kms in Sikkim.

A green field airport has been constructed at Pakyong in Sikkim suitable for operation of ATR-72 type of aircraft. Airports Authority of India (AAI) has developed the Tezu Airport in Arunachal Pradesh, which is suitable for ATR-72 operations. There is a proposal to construct a new airport in Arunachal Pradesh for which the State Government has been requested for details of land acquisition and cost involved. Seven advanced landing grounds have been upgraded and can be used for civil operations, out of which Pasighat can be used for ATR-72 operations. Ministry of DoNER, through NEC, has provided funds to AAI for upgradation of facilities in the airports and also for meeting the viability gap to incentivise air operations.

(c) Earlier only one State capital viz. Guwahati was on broad gauge. Itanagar has been provided with Broad Gauge connectivity by commissioning of new line from Harmuti to Naharlagun. Agartala has recently been connected with Broad Gauge railway. While broad gauge network has also reached Mizoram and Manipur in 2016-17, works on providing broad gauge connectivity to locations near Imphal and Aizawl have been taken up and are at different stages of execution. Work on providing Broad Gauge connectivity to Kohima has also been taken up. Work upto Rangpo, 40 kms. short of Gangtok, has been sanctioned. While rail link to Shillong has been sanctioned, work is stalled due to some local issues.

श्री राम नाथ ठाकुर: सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से जानना चाहता हूँ कि इम्फाल एवं आइज़ॉल के नजदीकी स्थानों को बड़ी रेल लाइन से जोड़ने का काम कब और किस तिथि से शुरू हुआ है और वह काम कब तक पूरा हो जाने की संभावना है?

डा. जितेंद्र सिंह: सभापति महोदय, आदरणीय सदस्य का धन्यवाद है कि उन्होंने यह प्रश्न पूछा। पिछले तीन-चार वर्षों में अद्भुत क्रांतिकारी ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Sir,... (Interruptions)...

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Sir,... *...(Interruptions)...*

श्री सभापति: प्लीज़, बैठिए। *...(व्यवधान)...* For asking a supplementary, you have sent a slip and I will see. *...(Interruptions)...* You can't demand कि सर, मेरा क्या हुआ? ऐसा कैसे हो सकता है? ऐसा कैसे होता है? सब नाम नोट कर रहे हैं। And, I am trying to cover the entire House. Please, Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy, what you are speaking is not going on record, please.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: *

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why are you getting so angry? *...(Interruptions)...* You are such a senior leader, Shri Anand Sharma. नाम में भी आनन्द है, हाउस में भी आनन्द होना चाहिए। *...(व्यवधान)...*

डा. जितेंद्र सिंह: सभापति महोदय, पिछले तीन-चार वर्षों में अद्भुत क्रांतिकारी परिवर्तन कार्य हुए हैं पूर्वोत्तर को लेकर, in fact, this has been a journey from a State of relative neglect to high prioritization. और यह कहने में कोई झिझक नहीं कि प्रधान मंत्री जी की व्यक्तिगत प्राथमिकता के कारण ही इसको काफी बढ़ावा मिला है। The Members, whether they like it or not know, that it was after 40 years that a Prime Minister has visited Shillong to attend the Plenary Meeting of NEC. If it is laughable, that is a different thing but that is a fact. That is the high priority and more than a dozen times, the Prime Minister has visited in the last three years and there was a roster formed for each of the State to be visited by at least one Union Minister, at least, once in a fortnight. So, the Government has tried to give very high priority to the issues related to the North East. We have come out with an Amendment in the Forest Act which was pending for the last 90 years to take out bamboo from the non-forest areas. But, coming specifically to what has been asked, आदरणीय सदस्य ने रेल के संबंध में पूछा है, जब यह सरकार 2014 में सत्ता में आई, यदि हमारे ध्यान में है कि नहीं, कम से कम दो प्रदेश ऐसे थे, जहां लोगों ने कभी रेलगाड़ी नहीं देखी थी, मेघालय और अरुणाचल प्रदेश।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay, please complete.

डा. जितेंद्र सिंह: सर, आज यह स्थिति है कि in the next one year, we will have a double gauge rail track in all the States except, perhaps, Sikkim, because of its topographic reasons.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay, thank you.

डा. जितेंद्र सिंह: सर, जहां तक इन्होंने स्पेसिफिक इम्फाल का कहा है, वहां पर डबल ट्रैक का काम शुरू हो गया है और वह अगले साल तक संपन्न हो जाएगा। उसके लिए 5,606 करोड़ रुपए का बजट है, 15 नई रेल लाइनें हैं और 6 डबल ट्रैक के प्रोजेक्ट्स हैं। राजधानियों में गुवाहटी, ईटानगर और अगरतला पहले से ही डबल ट्रैक से कनेक्टेड हो चुके हैं, इम्फाल शीघ्र हो जाएगा। *...(व्यवधान)...*

* Not recorded.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Minister. You are giving more than the required information. Now, the second supplementary.

श्री राम नाथ ठाकुर: सभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि शिलांग तक रेल लिंक कब से और किस कारण से रुका हुआ है?

डा. जितेंद्र सिंह: सभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने एक महत्वपूर्ण प्रश्न सदन में पूछा है। आपके माध्यम से माननीय सदस्य और पूरे सदन के साथ यह जानकारी साझा करते हुए मुझे प्रसन्नता है कि हमने एक योजना बनाई थी कि तमाम राजधानियों को डबल ट्रैक के साथ कनेक्ट कर दिया जाए। Despite all the constraints, like the constraints of topography, constraints of climate, constraints of geographical regions, हमारे सामने जो constraints हैं, उनका अन मान आप इस बात से लगा सकते हैं कि 31 अगस्त तक, डेढ़ महीने तक हमें सारी रेलगाड़ियों का यातायात वहां बंद करना पड़ा, क्योंकि इस बार वहां भारी बारिश हुई थी। इन सब constraints के बावजूद गोहाटी, ईटानगर, अगरतल्ला तो connect हो गए, लेकिन शिलांग specifically connect नहीं हो पाया, क्योंकि वहां कुछ local protests हुए हैं। I don't want to go into that but Imphal 2020 तक connect हो रहा है, आइजॉल भी 2020 तक connect हो रहा है, कोहिमा में थोड़ा समय लगेगा और गेंगटॉक through रेंपो connect हो जाएगा। सारी राजधानियों और शिलांग तक काम जारी है। वहां जो थोड़ा स्थानीय गतिरोध है, उसका समाधान निकालने का प्रयास किया जा रहा है। हम जल्दी से जल्दी सभी राजधानियों को upgrade करने का प्रयास कर रहे हैं।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, thank you. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: Thank you, Sir.

श्री सभापति: मंत्री जी, समय का ध्यान होना चाहिए। बाकी लोगों को भी मौका मिलना चाहिए। श्री रिपुन बोरा जी, क्योंकि यह प्रश्न पूर्वोत्तर राज्यों से संबंधित है। ...(व्यवधान)... This question relates to North-East. Please sit down. Shri Ripun Bora.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: The entire House should be given a chance. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have given him priority as he comes from North East. ...(Interruptions)... No arguments, please. If anybody has got any grievance, they can come to the Chairman's Chamber. This is not the way ...(Interruptions)... Mr. Reddy, please, you are a senior Member, you know what the rule is.

SHRI RIPUN BORA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister has given in his reply a very long description of the activities taken up for the infrastructure development in the Region. But I want to say that all these will be a futile attempt. The North East Industrial Promotion Policy was suspended by this Government in the year 2014. So, I want to know without the Industrial Promotion Policy as to how the North Eastern Region be developed. This is one. Secondly...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Only one supplementary.

SHRI RIPUN BORA: This is a related question. The two public sector undertakings in Assam are only profit-making undertakings.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have raised a question, you will get the answer.

SHRI RIPUN BORA: Cachar Paper Mill and Nowgong had been closed by your Government. What is your reply about the development of the North East?

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am glad that the hon. Member has expressed his concern for giving a boost to the industrial sector in North East which is, of course, the priority of the Government as well. But I hope he would appreciate that in order to promote industry, to promote entrepreneurship, it is not a single factor venture, it is related to several other factors, including connectivity, including transport, of course, related to the policy that he is referring to. As far as the North East Industrial Promotion Policy is concerned, to which the hon. Member has referred to, it is not being discontinued. There was some thinking going on. We engaged ourselves with the Ministry of Commerce. We had some constraints of financial resources but it is continuing.

Having said that, in order to promote entrepreneurship, you would realize that this Government has brought in Startup India Programme which is unique in the form that it has provision for a tax holiday, provision for an exit period of three months. To that the Ministry of DoNER has added one more feature that of a venture fund which means any youngster who wishes to try his fortune or luck in North East and set up an entrepreneurship there would be given a venture fund for which we have already deposited ₹ 1,000 crores with NEDFi which is the banking authority over there. So, in other words, we are already into an effort to promote entrepreneurship industry. I am sure if we succeed in this direction; the day is not far when the North East would become one of the favourite destinations for young startups from all over India. This will be combined with the network of rail tracks and the Udan-related air connectivity that we are trying to plan in the next one or two years.

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Sir, the hon. Minister has, of course, provided a lot of information in his reply and he has also said that the new schemes, the startup and stand-up companies, would take care of the entrepreneurial concerns. But here, the question is specific. It is about infrastructure. Now, the broad-gauging and critical connectivity of railway lines is one of the projects, which has been confirmed by the hon. Minister. But even now, the Capital cities of Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland and

Sikkim are yet to be connected. And the Minister says that Guwahati and Itanagar are connected. It was connected earlier; the broad-gauging had been done earlier.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Put the question.

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Sir, what new is the Government going to do? That is the (a) part of my question.

श्री सभापति: ऐसे ए, बी नहीं होता है।

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Sir, 100 per cent Centrally funded special infrastructure development schemes have been approved and...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question, please.

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: A few sectors have been identified. I would like to know from the hon. Minister the total allocation under this scheme and the sectors that have been identified.

SHRI JITENDRA SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Member is a senior Member from the Region and knows the Region quite well. He has asked the question in two parts.

As far as the first part of the question is concerned, I had partly answered it while answering to the earlier question. Specifically coming to the connectivity of Shillong, for example, which is one of the stations that he has pointed out, as I said, there are some local issues which have stalled the work of setting up a railway station with a broad gauge. Once those are resolved, we would start the work immediately. As far as the airport is concerned, it would be unfair to say that this Government has not done anything and that everything was done by the earlier Government. Although I don't want to say that everything was done by us; we are just continuing the good work on a priority basis. But, yes, I would definitely not hesitate in taking credit in saying that Shillong was the original Capital of the erstwhile Assam and, till date, it does not have a full-fledged airport. It was this Government that took this into consideration and on the part of the Ministry of DoNER, I take pride in... *...(Interruptions)...* No, no. Let me complete, please. *...(Interruptions)...* From the Ministry of DoNER, in order to be active participants, we are contributing to the lengthening of the airstrip and the Civil Aviation Ministry would take up the rest of the case.

Besides that, the rail station connectivity between Aizawl and Imphal would be in place by 2020; Kohima may take some time; Gangtok, of course, we have Rangtuk. And if you want me to give you the Budget figures, if the hon. Chairman permits me, I would give that too.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may send it to the hon. Member. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: Sir, this was the second part of the question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please; why are you worried? I am saying this. Please send those details to the hon. Member. Now, Dr. Subbarami Reddy.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Sir, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has formulated a Special Accelerated Road Development Programme for the North-East, for upgradation of identified road space and for improving connectivity. The Minister mentioned about Arunachal Pradesh, but not about Nagaland and Mizoram. I would like to know what the plans are in this regard. Recently, the hon. Prime Minister announced ₹ 96,000 crores to...

MR. CHAIRMAN: One supplementary, please.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: What is the actual line of action with regard to the Prime Minister's programme?

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: Thank you, Dr. Reddy. Actually, I did mention that as far as Mizoram is concerned, Aizawl would be connected by rail by 2020. Now, at the risk of sounding like we did it, let me tell you that in the last two years we have had a direct flight from Delhi to Aizawl.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: By roads, not... ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: For roads, we have already sanctioned more than ₹ 5,500 crore for the entire Region, including Mizoram. As far as Nagaland is concerned, as I have mentioned already, in Kohima we are coming up with a railway station. As far as the airport is concerned, of course, we still have the Lilabari pending. We have already started the process of acquiring land in Itanagar. But this is all being taken up in parts in spite of all the constraints that I mentioned. The hon. Prime Minister himself was there just last month in Aizawl, and a 60 MW power project was also dedicated... ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, Dr. Subbarami Reddy. ऐसा नहीं होता है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Mr. Minister, you need not answer questions like that. ऐसा होता नहीं, मि. मिनिस्टर. You have to go by the Chair. I am telling every Minister and also every Member. There is a procedure. If everyone stands up, and then ask something, and the Minister starts reacting and all ...*(Interruptions)*... Your first question has been answered please. You cannot have two questions. I have to go by some rules and regulations and also procedure and practice. I am ready to do it. I do not know why people are

becoming impatient. Now. Q.No. 186. I want everyone to get an opportunity. Other questions are there. Otherwise, I have no problem. Let the Rules Committee decide only three questions. I will go by that only. "सब का साथ सब का विकास"

Child sexual abuse in schools

*186. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has taken any initiatives to chalk out a new strategy to address the issue of child sexual abuse in schools; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA): (a) to (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Education comes under the concurrent list of the Constitution and the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations have the direct responsibility to address the issue of child sexual abuse in schools under their territorial control. The Ministry of Human Resource Development has issued guidelines in October, 2014 to State Governments for ensuring safety and security of school children, including provision on eve teasing and sexual abuse. Further, Sub-sections 1 and 2 of Section 17 of the Right of Children to Free and compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 state that, "No child shall be subjected to physical punishment or mental harassment. Whoever contravenes the provisions of sub-section (1) shall be liable to disciplinary action under the service rules applicable to such person." Under the centrally sponsored scheme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), there is a provision for giving training to School Management Committees (SMCs) on all aspects of safety and security of children in schools.

The CBSE has issued a circular on 12.09.2017 directing the schools affiliated with the Board to take measures such as safety audit of premises, CCTV monitoring, character antecedents verification, visitor management, training of staff and constitution of internal complaints committee on sexual harassment and committees under POCSO (Protection of Children from Sexual Offence) Act, 2012 etc. to ensure safety of children.

Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan, grants are given to the States/UTs to conduct the adolescent education program for