

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Second Session
(Twelfth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. II contains Nos. 1 to 10)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

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LOK SABHA DEBATE
(English Version)

Thursday, 28 May, 1996/7 Jyaishta, 1920 (Saka)

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Thursday, May 28, 1998/Jyaistha 7, 1920 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER *In the Chair*]

[English]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I have to inform the House about the passing away of Shri M.R. Masani.

Shri M.R. Masani was a Member, Legislative Assembly (Central) during 1945-47 and was a Member of the Constituent Assembly of India during 1947-48 and Provisional Parliament during 1949-52. Later on, he was elected to Second Lok Sabha from Ranchi-East Parliamentary constituency of Bihar during 1957-62 and Fourth Lok Sabha from Rajkot Parliamentary constituency of Gujarat during 1967-70.

A renowned nationalist, Shri Masani participated in the Civil disobedience and Quit India Movement and suffered imprisonment for several years.

An outstanding Parliamentarian, Shri Masani left an indelible imprint of his contribution on the proceedings of the House.

A widely travelled person Shri Masani was the Ambassador of India in Brazil during 1948-49 and Chairman of the U.N. Sub-commission for Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities during 1950-52.

Shri Masani passed away on 27th May, 1998 at Mumbai at the age of 92. With his death, the country has lost a great patriot and nationalist of great repute.

We deeply mourn the loss of this friend and I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved family.

The House may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the departed soul.

11.03 hrs.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

11.04 hrs.

Renewal of Railway Track

[English]

*21 PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total length in kilometres of track renewed during the Eighth Five Year Plan as against the target, and expenditure incurred thereon;

(b) the total length of track which needs urgent renewal during the Five Year Plan;

(c) the details of the action plan being prepared therefor alongwith estimated amount required therefor; and

(d) the States where such tracks exist ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) During the Eighth Plan 14203 kms. of track was renewed as against the target of 13089 kms and a amount of Rs. 7231 crores (gross) was spent on the same.

(b) 19250 kms.

(c) The main objective of track renewal planning for the 9th Plan is to wipe out track renewal arrears and current arising of high speed trunk routes and suburban routes and to reduce arrears on less important routes. To achieve these objectives, it is targeted to carry out 19250 kms. of track renewals and funds required for track renewal will be Rs. 13200 cr. (gross) at 1996-97 price level.

(d) Information about track renewal overdue is not compiled Statewise but Railway wise.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has now said that a statement is laid on the Table of the House. But that statement does not contain answers to parts (c) and (d) of my question. They are the two important parts of my question. In those two parts, I have asked whether the Government has an action plan for renewal of the old tracks; I have also asked about the State-wise details and also asked to supply the State-wise list of renewals, if available. But both parts of the question have not been answered.

Sir, the answer says that during the Eighth Five Year Plan, the target fixed for track renewal was 13,089 kilometres and there has been an achievement of 14,203 kilometres. I pay my compliments to the previous Government. They have gone beyond the target. But I am sorry to say that you have not mentioned that you have an Action Plan for track renewal in spite of the fact that, according to your answer, 19,250 kilometres of track have to be renewed.

One of the reasons for major and minor accidents are old tracks also. Further, you are introducing high speed trains and nobody is bothered whether these tracks can withstand these high speed trains or not.

MR. SPEAKER : Please be brief because we have to accommodate other Members also.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Yes, Sir, I will cut short.

So, in view of these things, track renewal has become very important and is of paramount importance. Why is it that you are not having an Action Plan? What is your Action Plan? By what time you would like to complete the track renewal for 19,250 kilometres which, according to me, is of paramount importance?

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as far as Action Plan is concerned, the target of track renewal for the Ninth Five Year Plan is 19,250 kms. Every year targets are fixed and the work is done accordingly. The complete figures for the year 1997-98 are not available with me but even then I would like to inform the House that the work was satisfactory and some more targets are also being set. In the interim budget itself some indication was given about this and our intention is that track renewal arrear of all A, B and C routes be cleared and current arising may be renewed every year. As regards 'D' and 'E' routes, the speed of 'D' route is 100 km/hr and 'E' route is below 100 km/hour. In the same way, we are considering to renew tracks gradually in this action plan. As far as question of statewide figures is concerned which the hon'ble Member has asked, I would like to state that railway is divided into zones and we are presenting figures zone-wise, we do not present figures state-wise... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You please ask afterwards.

[English]

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : If the hon. Minister does not maintain State-wise figures, then I would request him, through you, that he should maintain State-wise figures also because we Members come from States and we would like to know the State-wise figures also.

Coming to my second supplementary, there had been proposals in the State of Kerala for doubling of tracks from Trivandrum to Calicut, mainly, Shoranur-Calicut-Mangalore sector and also Kollam-Kottayam-Ernakulam sector. These demands are long pending with the Ministry. I think we have been demanding these a couple of years. Some meagre funds have been allotted for for Shoranur-Mangalore sector and also for Trivandrum-Kollam sector. This is a very dense line because a large number of passengers travel in this sector from Kerala. You know that ticketless passengers are the least in Kerala. You may find it, if you go through the statistics.

MR. SPEAKER : Prof. Kurien, please put the question.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : It is a very important area. I seek your protection, Sir. If you do not protect us, then who will protect us? I seek your protection.

MR. SPEAKER : It is there always.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : *Ticketless travellers are the least in Kerala. As far as we are concerned, if we have to come*

from Trivandrum to Delhi, we have to travel the maximum and we pay the maximum to the Railways. But I am sorry to say that we are being neglected as regards railway investments, track renewal, doubling, new trains or whatever it is. But I would like to thank you that after you came to power, you did some small things because you are an experienced Parliamentarian and you have a consideration for the State of Kerala. I know that.

You have a consideration for the backward areas also. I thank you for that. So, I would like to know specifically whether the doubling of Trivandrum-Kollam-Kottayam-Ernakulam and Shoranur-Mangalore line will be taken up this year and adequate funds will be allotted for this doubling work.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Sir, Prof. Kurien is a very good friend of mine. I also know his capability. But whatever he has put through a supplementary is not at all related to his original question. He should either wait till tomorrow or put a separate question.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : All right. You say something tomorrow. I will be very happy if he says something tomorrow. For tomorrow, you can give some commitment now.... *(Interruptions)* Sir, that is an assurance.... *(Interruptions)* Thank you for the assurance.

[Translation]

SHRI MOTILAL VORA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has been stated in reply that 19,250 km. rail track will be renewed or improved. Madhya Pradesh is the largest state of the country. A large number of Rail accidents occurred in the year 1997-98 in which 300-400 people were killed. I would like to inform the Hon'ble Minister through you that the main reason for it is that these rail tracks are quite obsolete and they are not even repaired. I would like to know from Hon'ble Minister whether the Madhya Pradesh Government which is considered as country's biggest state has been involved in renewal of 19,250 Km. of rail track to prevent rail accidents. The hon'ble Minister has stated that they do not have state-wise information. I would request the Hon'ble Minister to furnish statewide details in this regard.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true that there is a need for track renewal and every year targets are fixed for this. It is also a fact that it is not possible to renew all the track which is due for renewal. The main reasons for this is the lack of resources. I fully share the concern of Hon'ble Members in this regard. There are many reasons for accidents. Many accidents occur due to weak tracks and lack of proper welding. There is no doubt in this. Considering this as priority sector the intention of our government is that by the end of Ninth Five Year Plan all tracks in A, B and C routes should be renewed and there will be no backlog. Along with this the problem of track renewal which arises every year should be solved. The Government are also considering to renew routes of 'D' and 'E' tracks.

[English]

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Sir, the Status Paper

on Indian Railways presented by the hon. Minister yesterday shows a great concern about the track renewal. I am just bringing one sentence to the notice of the hon. Minister. He says:

"Track forms the backbone of the Railway infrastructure and thus needs to be maintained in a safe and healthy condition."

As per the information given, the track renewal arrears have increased from the Eighth Plan period to the beginning of the Ninth Plan period. That means, either this particular sector has been totally neglected or the Railways are not able to provide sufficient funds.

I would like to have a specific answer from the hon. Minister about safety. Just now, he has been making a mention about that. The track between Shoranur and Mangalore is the oldest one....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please ask your supplementary.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : This is only a supplementary.

The track between Shoranur and Mangalore has become very weak and it requires immediate renewal. Specially, with the opening of the Konkan Railway line, this line has become all the more important. There is already an effort for doubling this track.

MR. SPEAKER : Please ask your supplementary, because we are not discussing the Railway Budget here.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : My specific question is whether this line is on top priority with the Railways or not; and whether or not the hon. Railway Minister would provide sufficient funds for the immediate track renewal of the Shoranur-Mangalore line.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to thank Hon'ble Member Shri Dhananjaya Kumar because he has quoted and discussed the status paper which was laid only yesterday and by agreeing that this problem is very serious we have decided to accord priority to it. As far as question of Ninth Five Year plan is concerned, which I am discussing again and again, we require an amount of Rs. 13,200 crore to achieve the targets fixed. Last year also, as I had told we have gone beyond the target fixed for track renewal and similar efforts will be made in future also. As the hon'ble Member has specially mentioned about Mangalore-Shoranur section, it is true that the work of doubling is going on and with the opening of Konkan Railway load will increase on that section.

[English]

SHRI P. SANKARAN : The work on this line has come to a standstill because of lack of funds.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : The Konkan Railway has

already started. Due to opening of the Konkan Railway, new load and pressure has been generated on this section and that is what I am answering now.

[Translation]

Therefore, our plan is to give priority to it. The work of doubling is going on but that work is not related with this.

SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir there are no details with regard to the states in the statement which was presented here. Hon'ble Minister has replied that the details of states cannot be made available because zone-wise details is given. Due to this large states face problems. Just now Voraji has mentioned that more rail accidents occur in Maharashtra. In Uttar Pradesh also the number of rail accidents are more. It will be easier for us if we can get some information as to how many km. was kept under track renewal in our state.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : In which state ?

SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA : In Uttar Pradesh, you can find out zone-wise also. If you are unable to give reply today, you can give us in writing. If we get this information, we will also come to know about the problems which can arise there is in future. Now Rail Services is also connected with Security and development in our lives. We have achieved the target fixed for the 8th Five Year Plan but in bigger states problems are still persisting. I would request Hon'ble Minister that priority should be given to bigger states and more funds should be allocated for them. If we can get the list of targets fixed for track renewal in our states, it will be convenient for us, as well as for you.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Hon'ble Member was in government upto now, he must be knowing is better. Earlier also, I have also discussed this, it is not a matter of today that railway is divided into zones, therefore, we are maintaining only zone-wise figures.

SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA : Please make these things practical.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : There is no question of making it impractical. If you make some efforts then you can collect figures statewise. It is not very difficult. Formally railways are divided into zones, therefore, we maintain figures zone-wise and provide the same.

SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA : Zone-wise figures are also not given. Even if you give us zone-wise figures, it will be easier for us.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Zone-wise figures will be made available. I have no problem in it.

SHRI AJIT JOGI : If you can give us statewise figures then it will be easier.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : If hon'ble Member desire, after giving zone-wise figures, division-wise figures can also be given.

SHRIMATI SUKHDA MISRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Delhi-Hawrah railway line passing through Uttar Pradesh is the oldest one. Initially a train named as 'one Down' which was commonly known as 'mail train' started running on this track. It is now renamed as Kalka-Hawrah mail. Delhi-Hawrah line is the first rail line of the country on which super fast trains like Delux, Rajdhani, Shatabdi and Neelanchal are running today. Delhi-Hawrah railway track is a very busy track and many goods trains run on this track. We have come to know that after almost every three minutes a train passes through this track...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Madam, you have to ask one supplementary only.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUKHDA MISRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir through you I would like to inform the Hon'ble Minister that this track is so busy that on an average after every three minutes a train passes through this track. We have also noticed that some construction work is also going on there. Will the hon'ble Minister like to state whether the plan for the strengthening and extension of this track is going on steadily and promptly ?

My second question is that in the year 1990-91, the construction of a bridge was started in Etawah..*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Not like that.

SHRIMATI SUKHDA MISRA : My second question is linked to it. The construction of a bridge in Etawah which started in 1990 is still incomplete. Will the Minister like to give information about its progress ?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this question is not related to the original one.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please understand the question. You will be discussing the Railway Budget next week. It is already 1120 hours.

(Interruptions)

Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1976

*22 DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA :

SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT :

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government contemplate to amend the Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1976;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its repercussion.

(c) whether some State Governments have also sent their views in this regards;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Union Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) No, Sir. The Government has decided to repeal the Act. The Repealing Bill will be introduced in the Parliament.

(b) The objective of repealing the Act is to increase the availability and affordability of urban land which will facilitate in solving shelter problem as promised in the National Agenda.

(c) and (d) The State Legislature of Karnataka and Government of Uttar Pradesh have suggested amendments to the Act. Government of West Bengal has stated that it has no objection to repealing this Act if it can have its own Act. State Legislature of Haryana have recommended repeal or amendment of this Act. The State Legislature of Punjab has recommended repeal of this Act.

(e) Under Article 252 of the Constitution this Government is almost under an obligation political and moral to comply with the demand for repeal. States will be free to adopt or not adopt the repeal. As stated above the repealing Bill is ready to be introduced during the Session itself.

DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA : Sir, I would like to know how many hectares of land is actually possessed by the Government till now and how many hectares of land is distributed to the poor sector under this Act. I would also like to know the exact figure of availability of land up to the scrapping of land in the State of Gujarat.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI : I must confess that the performance of this Act has absolutely been a failure. It has been a disaster. I would request the hon. Members to look at the performance of Delhi.

In Delhi, 9173 intimations of vacancies were received, out of which 7974 were scrutinised. The estimated vacant land supposed to have been acquired was 344.67 hectares. As against 344.67 hectares, only 25.80 hectares was subjected to a notice under sub-Section 5, namely a threat to take it over. Look at the last figure which shows the tragedy of this Act. The tragedy is that out of so many hectares only 1.99 hectares was ever taken charge of by the Delhi Government. I must inform the Members of this House that I do not want to take credit for this. I am only executing a decision of the previous Government. The previous Cabinet had decided to almost repeal it by Ordinance.

I am only carrying out the mandate of the previous Government. The Bill is going to be introduced very soon and the hon. Members will have complete opportunity to dis-

cuss this whole problem in its depth.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, please give me a chance.

MR. SPEAKER : Only 'urban Members' will get a chance.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : I am 'Urban Member', Sir. I am from Visakhapatnam.

SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Sir, the question put was "Whether the Government contemplates to amend the Urban Land Ceiling Act?" The answer given is that it is decided by the Government to repeal it.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI : The question asked was whether we intend to(Interruptions)...

SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Let me complete the question, Sir!

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI : I thought he has completed the question.

SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Let the Minister not be in a hurry.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI : I am in no hurry at all.

SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : The specific question was as to whether the Government is willing to amend the Act, whereas the Minister has stated that he is willing to repeal it. Repealing provision was not asked for at all.

This Act was passed in 1976, keeping in view the Directive Principles of the State Policy, contained in articles 46 of the Constitution of India, read with articles 38 and 39. The Government is, in fact, willing to repeal all these fundamental provisions of the Constitution by repealing this Act. I want to know from the hon. Minister specifically as to whether these Constitutional provisions are being kept in mind while repealing this Act and whether an alternative arrangement is being made by the Government.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI : With all respect for the hon. Member, I think the hon. Member is labouring under some terrible misconception about the Constitutional position. The Constitutional position is that if two or more States ask for legislation, then alone, the Centre becomes competent to legislate on what is essentially a State subject. Thus, the Centre has no jurisdiction....(Interruption)

SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Sir, the Minister has not read article 46 of the Constitution. He should read it.

MR. SPEAKER : Let him complete his reply.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI : Sir, even my worst enemies have not accused me of this ignorance of the Constitution.

SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : I am your friend.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI : I am surprised.

Therefore, when two or more States make a request for legislation, we legislate. Similarly, when two or more States request us for repeal or amendment, it is almost a Constitutional mandate and we have to carry out that mandate. In this case, two States have expressly asked for repeal. Other States have asked for amendments. Now the request for amendment itself is based upon a Constitutional misapprehension because we have no real jurisdiction to amend and then enforce it on every other State unless all the original requesting States agree upon that amendment. Now the position of this repeal is going to be that after this repeal, every State is absolutely free to enact its own law. They need not even adopt the repeal. This repeal will be binding only on the two States which have expressly requested for it. The others are free to adopt the repeal. If they do not adopt the repeal, the same law will continue. We are restoring the Constitutional freedom of each State to bring about its own law with the expectation, however, that the policies and guidance of the Central Government, which are in accord with the universal policies of all political parties practically, will be adhered to. There may be some disagreement here and there but the States will follow suit. But we are not going to impose anything upon any State. They are free to do whatever they like.

SHRI MURLI DEORA : Sir, the hon. Minister stated rightly, that the Act of 1976 did not achieve even one per cent of the target and that it was time for the Government to repeal it. I would like to congratulate the Government for that. Even the Congress had decided it earlier. The Minister stated, and it is there in the Constitution also, that the States will be free to adopt or not to adopt repeal.

Then the purpose of repealing will not be served. If some bigger States like Maharashtra, Delhi, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu continue to have, in some way, the same Urban Land Ceiling, then how would you achieve the target of getting more and more land for urban housing ?

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI : The hon. Member has raised a very vital question. I entirely agree that if the repeal is not adopted by various States, the policy to some extent in those States will fail. But, we are expecting that with our persuasion, we will persuade the State, freely and voluntarily, to accept the guidance that we are willing to offer to them. And, of course, if the States do not fall in line, then necessarily the work of this Ministry under the Act is confined really to the Union Territory. Wherever there are full-fledged State Governments on the federal principle, they have the autonomy. If they do not fall in line, well, it is good luck to them. Then, the concentration upon housing activity will be in the Union Territories, particularly, the biggest Union Territory of Delhi. Then we will concentrate on building these two million houses(Interruptions)

SHRI MURLI DEORA : What about Mumbai and Delhi and Mumbai and Calcutta ?

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI : Frankly, I expect that Mumbai will follow suit. I hope, Sir, I am not letting out a secret. I have consulted the Leader of the Opposition. He is

a very great leader from Maharashtra. In fact, I had consultations with him. I have the assurance of the Chief Minister of Maharashtra that they will follow suit.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in 1976 when this act was enacted, it was termed as progressive Act. It was stated that now it would be the responsibility of the Government to construct low cost houses on the remaining land for the poor people. However, due to conspiracy of influential urban people, this Act was never implemented in the right manner. There is problem among the states that the day Urban Ceiling Act is abolished, there will be pressure on government to abolish the same in the rural areas also. This Ceiling Act has helped in the settlement of land disputes in the rural areas. I would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister as to what measures are being contemplated by the Government to tackle this problem? What steps are going to be taken by the Government to achieve its target of providing the low cost dwelling units and land holdings to the poor people in the urban areas?

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI : Sir, we recognise that the original social purpose of this Act still remains a valid purpose. It is because that good social purpose was not accomplished. The experience has shown that it was not accomplished. That is why now we are resorting to the new economics and we wish to build the houses now in accordance with the new policy, The Act has failed. There is no doubt about it....(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : No, the Act has not failed ... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI : The expert opinion says this. The Reports of Committees say this. This matter had been examined in the old National Housing Policy of 1994. There, it was confessed that this whole Act had failed. This matter was considered in the Istanbul Conference where the representatives of the United Nations and the Government of India's Ministry were there. They said that the Act is a total failure. Today, our whole expert opinion is unanimous that this Act should go. This Act is being called today an 'ulcer'. This 'ulcer' has to be removed before any housing activity will start. The housing industry is dead in this country. People have gone out of business. People have become insolvent. They have closed their shops. Only a few builders now remain. If it is to be revived, we will revive it only for the purpose of building houses for the economically weaker sections and that is our promise. The two million houses that are going to be constructed are all going to be for the poor people and none for the rich.

[Translation]

SHRI VITHAL TUPE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I congratulate the Hon'ble Minister for repealing this Act. Hon'ble Minister has just now stated that in Delhi no land could be acquired under this Act. It happened in all the states. In Maharashtra also no land could be acquired by the Government under this act. Farmers are being harassed by the Ceiling Offices

which have become centres of corruption. If the states are now allowed to have new act, the same story will be repeated. My question is that when the land could not be acquired in the past 20 years then how it could be done by enacting a new act now? And is there any restriction of National Agenda on the Government of Maharashtra where you are in power?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please put your supplementary question.

[Translation]

SHRI VITHAL TUPE : What steps are being taken to ensure that the States do not legislate this act again?

[English]

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI : Sir, I accept the hon. Member's anxiety as wholly valid. I wish the Central Government or the Central Parliament had the power to impose its will upon any State. When we tried to impose any will upon the State, people talked of federalism and State autonomy. We have no intention of forcing things, but I am quite sure the strong expressions of opinions in this House are going to be repeated when the Bill comes to be debated. The strong expressions of opinions will themselves generate pressure upon the State Governments to fail in line and those State Governments which do not fall in line will suffer some consequences which will be brought to their notice. One of these consequences will be that there will be no Central assistance forthcoming if the States do not fall in line ... (Interruptions) I wish I could impose some sanctions.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Before the hon. Minister talks of sanctions, I would like to know about those factories where there is extra land. If that land of the sick factories is sold then the first liability they own is to the workers who are not paid their due. If that be the case, then they should not be allowed to exercise that provision. This is also a very important point. When the hon. Minister talks of federalism he should also guarantee this as well. What does the hon. Minister think about this?

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI : I accept what you said. The interest of workers shall always be paramount in the mind of this Government. Nothing will be done to sacrifice their interest. If at all they will profit by the building activity that will take place, the houses will probably be primarily for their benefit.

[Translation]

SHRI ADITYANATH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, what are the steps taken by the Government to check illegal land grabbing in various metro cities by the nexus between bureaucrats and politicians on *Nazul* land and community ponds. The condition of Gorakhpur city in this context is terrible. I would like to ask the Hon'ble Minister through you whether the Government are going to get this matter investigated through C.B.I.?

[English]

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI : I would require adequate notice to specifically speak about the problem of Gorakhpur. But in general I can say that this House can trust me that I am a believer in justice and justice is blind and the law will be enforced against everybody irrespective of how he looks like.

[Translation]

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon'ble Minister has said that he was prepared to provide justice to the victims. He belongs to Mumbai, sometimes he is in Delhi, sometimes in Pune and sometimes in Switzerland also.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI : I do not know where I Live.

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I would like to ask about the two acts been passed in this country. One is related to the rural land ceiling which aims at acquiring the surplus land from the farmers with a view to distribute that land among the villagers who are not farmers but want to do farming. After that late Smt. Indira Gandhi thought that as justice was done to the poor rural people, it might also be done to poor Urban people living in huts. They must have the houses to live. Therefore, this urban ceiling act came into force. These two acts were meant for the poor people which you are now going to repeal. I am afraid that you are going to give full autonomy to the states in this regard. West Bengal has stated.

[English]

'We are agreeing for the repealing but at the same time the right must be given to the States'. Some States have said, yes we are agreeing for the repealing but you see the right should be given to the Centre.' So, still there is a confusion.

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, just now my sister Smt. Geeta Mukherjee has suggested that with a view to do justice to the workers of the sick and closed mills or whose cases are pending under B.I.F.R., the land of such mills should be sold to arrange money to pay the dues of workers. I want to know whether the Government are considering to make such arrangements ?

Sir, secondly, I would like to say that the rights which are being given to the States, should not be misused. A similar policy cannot be implemented in all the States as different parties are in power in different States. At some places capitalists will enjoy the benefit of this policy and at others poor will get its benefit...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please put your supplementary. It is already 11.40 a.m. Since this is an important question, I have given a lot of time.

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : I am specifically ask-

ing this question because this is an important question. I am yet to talk about the Bill.

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask whether the Government would constitute a committee for overall supervision of the implementation of repealing of this act ? As the hon. Minister has just now stated about the sanctions that it will not make much difference if centre does not help or does not impose restrictions upon the states.

[English]

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI : Sir, the two points mentioned by the hon. Member are again valid. We will bear them in mind. You will please appreciate the limitations of our powers. If your advice is that this Government has to be very careful, I can only tell you that I will be very careful.

SHRI K.S. RAO : Sir, I just want to put a straight question to the hon. Minister, who is very learned. You have said that the States will be free to adopt or not adopt the repeal. Now, you are repealing the Act. That means, the Act will not be in existence. What would be the position of this Act before the State Government makes another Act if they wanted to make ? Between the transition period of your repealing the Act and their making the Act there is no Act in the country. What could be the position of this Act during that period ?

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI : The position is very very clear. The repeal of this Act will immediately apply only to two States which have expressly asked for the repeal. So far as the other States are concerned, until their Assemblies passed the requisite Resolution of adoption, this repeal shall not affect them and the Act will continue to exist for their purposes as if it has not been repealed at all. That is the legal position...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MURLI DEORA : I want to know whether the Maharashtra State has asked for it...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI : No, not formally...*(Interruptions)*

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I just want to know one thing....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat. Your name is already in the Question List.

[Translation]

Safe Drinking Water

+
*23. SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHRY :

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various Rural Water Supply Schemes sponsored by the Government during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the fund provided under the schemes during the above period State-wise; and

(c) the progress of the schemes as on date, State-wise?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) to (c) Rural Water Supply is a State subject. The schemes for providing safe drinking water facility to rural habitations are being implemented under the State Sector Minimum Needs Programme (MNP). The Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments by providing Central assistance under the Centrally Sponsored Rural Water Supply Programme.

Funds provided under the schemes during the last three years State-wise are given in the attached Annexure-I in respect of State Sector Minimum Needs Programme and Annexure-II in respect of Central Sector Rural Water Supply Programme.

As per the reports received from the States, as on 1.4.1998, 1389675 villages/habitations out of 1430663 villages/habitations have been covered fully or partially with safe drinking water facilities. The State-wise details are given in the attached Annexure-III.

Annexure - I

Statement showing provision under MNP for Rural Water Supply Programme for 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98

		(Rs. in Lakhs)		
Sl No.	State/UT	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pr.	6340.26	6618.00	8811.18
2.	Arun. Pr.	1140.00	1953.00	2656.00
3.	Assam	5992.00	5992.00	6417.80

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Bihar	7248.00	8634.00	8634.00
5.	Goa	380.00	375.00	305.00
6.	Gujarat	5405.00	6680.00	10200.00
7.	Haryana	2490.00	2640.00	2625.00
8.	Himachal Pr.	4703.00	5290.00	5691.42
9.	J & K	4349.15	4349.15	5238.36
10.	Karnataka	6587.38	6572.67	8495.81
11.	Kerala	5164.00	5164.00	5164.00
12.	M.P.	6673.00	7452.64	6575.87
13.	Maharashtra	20489.00	23096.35	23461.60
14.	Manipur	771.00	1423.00	1510.89
15.	Meghalaya	1000.00	1700.00	1200.00
16.	Mizoram	340.00	650.00	600.00
17.	Nagaland	450.00	500.00	422.00
18.	Oriasa	3376.00	4270.00	4504.00
19.	Punjab	2450.00	2900.00	2235.00
20.	Rajasthan	12265.00	14450.00	18070.00
21.	Sikkim	742.00	839.97	817.00
22.	Tamilnadu	6390.00	5333.00	7200.00
23.	Tripura	1188.00	3500.00	1147.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	12346.59	24170.87	23116.00
25.	West Bengal	4316.50	4000.00	7500.00
26.	A & N Islands	410.00	410.00	450.00
27.	D & N Haveli	99.00	134.00	283.00
28.	Daman & Diu	63.00	92.00	62.00
29.	Delhi	500.00	500.00	750.00
30.	Lakshadweep	47.50	56.20	70.00
31.	Pondicherry	70.00	70.00	125.23
Total		23825.38	150215.85	164338.34

Annexure - II

Statement Showing Release under ARWSP and Submission for 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl No	State/UT	1995-96				1996-97				1997-98			
		Release under ARWSP (Normal)	DDP	Submission	Total	Release under ARWSP (Normal)	DDP	Submission	Total	Release under ARWSP (Normal)	DDP	Submission	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	Andhra Pr.	6380.26		5248.95	11627.21	6672.18		3489.49	10181.67	8711.18	95.6	6602.33	15809.11
2.	Arun. Pr.	1082.00		1082.00	1200.00				1200.00	2476.00		18	2494.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
3.	Assam	2246.00			2246.00	2363.57			2363.57	2376.52		30	2406.52
4.	Bihar	3549.50			3549.50	3113.00			3113.00	0.00		18	18.00
5.	Goa	255.00			255.00	550.35			550.35	196.50			196.50
6.	Gujarat	3735.00	316	1705.97	5755.97	3882.00	315		4197.00	5540.12	346.5	40.92	5927.54
7.	Haryana	1522.00	1047.09		4 2573.09	1580.00	990	100	2850.00	2269.18	990	350.65	3609.81
8.	Himachal Pr.	1633.22	28	32	1693.22	1906.00	28		1934.00	1680.97	28		1708.97
9.	J & K	3815.00	78.91		3893.91	3669.00	66		3735.00	4676.00	18	6	4700.00
10.	Karnataka	6544.00		8	6552.00	6720.74		243.75	6964.49	9285.00	652.7	645.5	10583.20
11.	Kerala	2919.00			2919.00	3263.70			3263.70	3584.65		514.56	4079.21
12.	M.P.	6673.00			6673.00	7313.61		325.67	7839.28	8345.68		811.86	9157.54
13.	Maharashtra	7474.88			7474.88	9181.00			9181.00	12087.19			12087.19
14.	Manipur	401.00			401.00	478.56			478.66	907.00		12	919.00
15.	Meghalaya	220.79		121.91	342.70	572.00		2	574.00	743.20		129.09	872.29
16.	Mizoram	340.00			340.00	428.91			428.91	583.63		129.3	712.93
17.	Nagaland	211.00			211.00	422.00			422.00	211.00		12	223.00
18.	Orissa	3376.00			3376.00	4153.83			4153.83	5038.39		412	5450.39
19.	Punjab	1806.00		742.66	2248.66	1989.00		600.00	1889.00	1713.99		218	1931.99
20.	Rajasthan	6908.00	3131	522.5	10561.60	8456.00	3131	969.63	12556.63	10737.53	3045.69	334	14117.22
21.	Sikkim	572.00			572.00	472.00			472.00	435.60		6	441.60
22.	Tamilnadu	5282.00		200	5482.00	5333.00		1408	6741.00	5834.38		646.75	6481.13
23.	Tripura	760.00		57	817.00	850.00		27	877.00	762.00		30	792.00
24.	Uttar Pr.	11334.38			11394.38	11728.19		692	12420.19	15182.66		233.74	15416.40
25.	West Bengal	3495.63		2897.79	6393.42	4521.25		2342.46	8863.71	4411.46		666.58	5078.04
26.	A & N Islands	0.00			0.00	0.00			0.00	0.00			0.00
27.	D & N Haveli	0.00			0.00	3.00			3.00	0.00			0.00
28.	Daman & Diu	0.00		0.81	0.81	0.00			0.00	0.00			0.00
29.	Delhi	0.00			0.00	0.00			0.00	0.00			0.00
30.	Lakshadweep	0.00			0.00	0.00			0.00	0.00			0.00
31.	Pondicherry	60.00			60.00	10.00			10.00	10.00			10.00
Total		82284.66	4600.00	11539.49	98424.15	90102.89	4530.00	10200.00	104832.89	107779.81	5178.49	12067.26	125023.56

Annexure - III

Status of Habitation as on 1.4.98

SI No.	State/UT	NC Habs.	PC Habs.	FC Habs.	Total Habs.
1	2	10	11	12	13
3.	Assam	8623	23485	38561	70669
4.	Bihar	2874	13488	189074	205436
5.	Goa	35	55	315	405
6.	Gujarat	1131	6091	23047	30269
7.	Haryana	15	482	7048	7545
8.	Himachal Pr.	4590	14047	26730	45367
1.	Andhra Pr.	0	28083	41649	69732
2.	Arun. Pr.	666	1248	2384	4298

1	2	10	11	12	13
9.	J & K	3063	4397	8266	15726
10.	Karnataka	1940	10190	44552	56682
11.	Kerala	994	6889	2880	9753
12.	M.P.	0	13374	146494	159868
13.	Maharashtra	0	32082	45042	77124
14.	Manipur	244	681	1866	2791
15.	Meghalaya	1005	1621	6013	8639
16.	Mizoram	24	462	425	911
17.	Nagaland	463	751	311	1525
18.	Orissa	1112	14247	98740	114099
19.	Punjab	6105	3018	4326	13449
20.	Rajasthan	7077	41328	55661	104066
21.	Sikkim	0	862	817	1679
22.	Tamilnadu	0	24945	41686	66631
23.	Tripura	888	2052	4472	7412
24.	Uttar Pradesh	0	48087	226554	274641
25.	West Bengal	0	22879	57498	80377
26.	A & N Islands	11	21	472	504
27.	D & N Haveli	128	216	172	516
28.	Daman & Diu	0	3	26	29
29.	Dalhi	0	62	138	200
30.	Lakshadweep	0	9	1	10
31.	Pondicherry	0	0	276	276
32.	Chandigarh			24	24
Total		40988	315155	1074520	1430663

Note:

ARWSP stands for Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme. Central assistance is given subject to minimum 50% contribution by the States under the Minimum Needs Programmes (MNP).

DDP stands for Desert Areas Development Programme. Central assistance is given as 100% grant for providing water supply in these areas.

Sub Mission. The Share of Central Government and the State Government is 75 : 25 for providing safe water to quality affected habitations for all the Projects approved up to 31.3.98.

[Translation]

SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHRY : Mr. Speaker, Sir scarcity of drinking water has become the problem of the whole country. As per the statement given, on the basis of population, Uttar Pradesh has been provided less amount of money as compared to other States. I would like to know whether

separate funds will be allocated by the Government to Uttar Pradesh taking into account the fact that it is a very big State and ground water level of its Tarai region which is adjacent to Nepal has gone down ?

[English]

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the matter of rural water supply is the State subject. On the basis of the survey of the State Government, we are allotting money. This is purely, the State Government's programme. We are assisting the States under ARWSP, DDP and Sub-Mission programmes. The figures that are shown in the survey report pertain to not covered, partially covered and fully covered villages. On the basis of this, we are allotting money and not on the basis of population.

[Translation]

SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHRY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister whether the Government has initiated any project to convert the Saline water into potable water; if so, the details thereof and the names of the States in which the project has been initiated ?

[English]

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL : Under the Technology Mission, up-till now, we have identified some States and allotted money. Now the powers have been devolved to the States.

[Translation]

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue of safe drinking water is a very serious one. We are grateful to Shri Vajpayee who after becoming Prime Minister announced that within five years safe drinking water would be provided to each and every person of the country. My submission is that there are more than 15 thousand villages in Uttar Pradesh where safe drinking water is not available. Has the Government any action plan to provide safe drinking water in all those villages ? If so, the time, by which it will be implemented and the amount of funds likely to be spent thereon ?

My second submission is that as per norms regarding installation of handpumps for drinking water, the pipe should be 120 feet deep in the earth, but the same is not being done anywhere in the country. If water is found after digging 40-60 feet deep, the handpumps are being installed there only. Hence it does not fulfil the conceptual requirement of providing safe drinking water. The same polluted water is being supplied to the people. My submission to the hon'ble Minister is that with regard to the maintenance, boring and irregularities therein....

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please ask your supplementary.

[Translation]

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : I am just asking the question. My question is whether the Government has any action plan in this regard and if so, the time by which it will be implemented ?

[English]

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL : Hon. Speaker, Sir, all the

powers of implementation have already been given to the States. We are allotting money for these programmes. So, in Uttar Pradesh there is one scheme called 'Peypjal Karyakram'. A sum of Rs. 300 crores has been allotted.

[Translation]

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, step-motherly treatment is being given to Uttar Pradesh. Funds are not being allocated to it in proportion to its population ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Let him speak.

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL : it is left to the State Government ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Do not disturb him. Let him speak. He is replying.

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL : It is left to the State Government to implement the programmes.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SAHU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, according to the figures given by the hon'ble Minister in his reply, Rs. 6,575 lakh and Rs. 23,461 lakhs were given to Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra respectively for the year 1997-98. I would like to know whether any norms have been fixed for Rural Water Supply ?

If norms have been fixed, what are these norms ? I would also like to know through you whether KMW Scheme for the supply of tap water has been closed?

[English]

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL : Presently, 40 LPCD is the norm. So we are providing 40 per day per capita ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat. Shri Virendra Singh.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat. I am coming to you. I have called Shri Virendra Singh.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now I have called Shri Virendra Singh. I am coming to you. Please take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon'ble Minister has in his reply given the figures relating to arrangements made in villages to meet the scarcity of potable water. In states one scheme for potable water is being implemented through Rajiv Foundation. Being a voluntary organisation when Rajiv Foundation was set up, it was given around Rs. 1500-1600 crore by the government through this House and providing potable water in villages was also included in that scheme. Basically funds are allocated to Rajiv Foundation by the Ministry of Rural Development. I would like to know from hon'ble Minister in what manner is the Rajiv Foundation making arrangement for providing potable water in villages, what are its norms, and whether the

Government has made any effort to conduct an enquiry into it ? if not, the time by which such an enquiry would be conducted and what arrangements are being made to provide potable water through Rajiv Foundation? Is there any report with the government in this regard ?

[English]

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL : The Rajiv Gandhi technology mission is for problematic villages with brackish water and fluoride water. This scheme is now with the State Government. We have delegated the powers to the State Governments .

SHRI A.C. JOS : Sir, the list given by the Minister is not at all clear. Please look at the list tabled by the Minister. It is not clear. Nobody can read it. Some abbreviations are used. We do not know what are the abbreviations and what are the figures. It is being provided in a scanty way.

MR. SPEAKER : He will give a clear statement.

SHRI A.C. JOS : So far as Kerala is concerned, the amount given is not at all clear. Because of this, we do not know how to ask a question. The list is not at all clear.

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister is going to supply a clear statement. Please take your seat. You please take your seat first.

SHRI A.C. JOS : We do not know how much money has been provided for Kerala. I am asking a simple question. How much money has been provided for Kerala ?

MR. SPEAKER : I will come to you. Please take your seat first.

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : In Annexure II, the hon. Minister has given some figures. I would like to invite the Minister's attention to the fact that under the ARWSP, Sub-Mission Scheme and DDP, my district, that is Rann of Kutch is wholly covered by desert. Half of the Rann of Kutch is in my district. The only grant is given under the DDP. In the year 1995 only Rs. 315 lakhs was allotted, in 1996 Rs. 315 lakhs and in 1997 only Rs. 346 lakh, that is hardly an increase of 31 million.

My district is facing acute shortage of drinking water. That is why a number of deaths are there; many people are dying. My only question to the hon. Minister is whether he is going to increase the DDP grant or not for Gujarat State.

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL : We are asking for more funds.

And the Member's concern will be taken up. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have called Shrimati Prabha Thakur.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, half-an-hour discussion should be allowed on this.

MR. SPEAKER : Not like this, you please sit down.

DR. PRABHA THAKUR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, even today people are drinking water, containing fluoride in many villages of Rajasthan. I would like to mention about Aimer

Out of 1000 villages there, people of around 700 villages are compelled to drink water containing fluoride. Till today the first phase of the work which was started five years back for the solution of this problem has not been completed. This was shown not only on Doordarshan but on foreign television network also. Today we are standing on the threshold of 21st century.

MR. SPEAKER : You ask question.

DR. PRABHA THAKUR : People are compelled to become humpbacked and disabled by drinking this water. This problem is very serious, and therefore, I would like to know from the Minister of Water Resources the time by which this problem will be solved and the steps he is taking on priority basis in this regard ?

[English]

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL : Sir, for this purpose, we held the meeting of the State Secretaries and State Ministers. In that connection, we are making some exercise. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have called Shri Manoranjan Bhakta.

(Interruptions)

SHRI AJIT JOGI : Kindly allow half-an-hour discussion on this... (Interruptions).

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Sir, as you know, Andaman and Nicobar Islands is one of the island territories in the country which is facing acute drinking water problem.

Now, the hon. Minister in his reply has stated that it would be the responsibility of the State and the Central Government would supplement to the State. But so far as the Union Territories are concerned, it is the domain of the Central Government. What action have you taken in this regard ? It is because in your statement for all the three years you have mentioned that not a single rupee has been allocated. That is why, I would like to know categorically from the hon. Minister what programme, what action you are going to take for providing drinking water supply to the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL : If this is so, I will consider it.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Thank you Sir.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAVNA KARDAM DAVE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, problem of drinking water is acute in my Constituency Surendranagar. All our villages are facing shortage of water and the level of ground water is going down as a result of which the people have to dig deep wells for getting water. There is no other source of water. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This problem is acute for women, hence, they are being given a chance to put questions.

SHRIMATI BHAVNA KARDAM DAVE : When I went to my Constituency women raised this problem with tears in their eyes. They told that for digging ponds machines are required but we do not get those machines. If we can get bulldozer and other machines then we can collect rain water by digging ponds in villages. I would like to know from the government whether machines can be supplied by setting up some Machinery Department so that there is no water

problem in Gujarat ? Can such an arrangement be made and what is the policy of the government in this regard ?

[English]

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is no provision for using such big machines for digging *talaabs*.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ramdas Athawale. Please ask your Supplementary straightaway, otherwise you will lose the reply.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask as to how many people have been benefited under the I.R.D.P. Scheme till date ?

[English]

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL : Sir, it is not related to this Question.

MR. SPEAKER : If the House is serious about the importance of this subject, we can have a Half-an-hour discussion on this.

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

MR. SPEAKER : The Question Hour is over now.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Revival of IISCO

*24. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :

SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal for revival/modernisation of ailing Indian Iron and Steel Co. (IISCO) has been inordinately delayed causing significant cost escalation;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the present status of the modernisation proposal for IISCO and details of the broad features of the plan proposal finalised, its economics implications and implementation schedule ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI NAVEEN PATNAIK) : Indian Iron & Steel Co. Ltd. (IISCO) was referred to BIFR in June 1994. Various schemes/proposals for revival and modernisation of IISCO were considered but could not be finalised due mainly to fund constraints. A proposal for modernisation of IISCO by utilisation of funds from the Steel Development Fund (SDF) is under consideration of the Government.

As IISCO has been referred to the BIFR, any scheme to be taken up for modernisation will have to be in accordance with the orders of the BIFR in this regard.

Review of Rural Development Schemes

*25. SHRI CHANDU LAL AJMEERA :

SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have reviewed the rural development schemes scientifically and systematically;
- (b) if so, the outcome thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for streamlining the rural development schemes so as to provide its maximum benefits to the rural people ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT : (SHRI BABAGOUA PATIL) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

A scientific and systematic review of the programmes of this Ministry is being done through mechanisms such as, (a) Periodical Progress Reports, (b) Financial Returns (annually)/Release Procedures (c) Inspections, (d) Reviews and Monitoring by various Committees, Secretaries, Commissioners etc. at the State level as well as at the Central level, (e) Holding periodical meetings at Delhi with the State Secretaries, Commissioners, Project Directors and Chief Engineers, to review progress & secure feedback, (f) visits by area officer, (g) Concurrent Evaluation Reports and Standing Committees/Consultative Committees of the Parliaments; and (h) appointment of expert Committees/Groups to intensively and systematically review the programmes of the Ministry. The outcome of these review mechanisms and the feedback received, has been the re-designing and restructuring of the schemes from time to time to maximize intended benefits to the rural people.

The Government of India restructured and streamlined the Jawahar Rozgar Yojna (JRY) with effect from 1.1.96 . The sub-schemes of JRY i.e. Indira Awaas Yojna (IAY) and Million Wells Scheme (MWS) were made independent and separate schemes. Now, JRY is being implemented as a separate scheme in the rural areas of the country. For better implementation and involvement of all the three levels of Panchayats 15% of JRY funds have been earmarked for intermediate level Panchayats. Now, the funds are allocated among the Zila Parishad/DRDA, block and village Panchayats in the ratio of 15:15:70. Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), which was introduced with effect from 2nd October, 1993 in 1778 rural blocks of 261 districts in which the Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) was in operation, has now been extended to all the blocks of the country. The review mechanisms and feedback received have brought out into focus the need to further re-structure wage employment programmes to create better infrastructure and wage employment opportunities in the rural areas.

As regards the self-employment programmes, the recommendations of the Mehta Committee (1993) and Hashim Committee (1997) have brought out the need to restructure them by providing a definite objective of improving the family incomes of the rural poor as well as providing for flexibility of design at the grass-roots level to suit the local needs and resources and to merge the present self-employment programmes i.e. training of Rural Youth for Self-employment (TRYSEM), Supply of Improved Toolkits to Rural Artisans (SITRA), Development of Women and Children in Rural Area (DWCRA) and Ganga Kalyan Yojna (GKY) into the Integrated Rural Development Programme.

Tatkal Reservation Scheme

*26. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have introduced Tatkal Reservation Scheme;
- (b) if so, the main objectives of the Scheme;
- (c) whether the scheme has been introduced for every train; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main objectives of the scheme are to provide confirmed reservation at short notice to bonafide passengers and to discourage activities of "touts".

(c) and (d) The scheme has been presently introduced only in a few trains and will be progressively extended to other trains after taking into account demand pattern, operational constraints etc.

Third Stream of JRY

*27. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether third stream of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana has been launched since 1993-94;
- (b) if so, the programme taken up so far under this phase;
- (c) the names of districts particularly in Karnataka and Maharashtra which have been selected for this phase;
- (d) the allocation made during the last two years and current year; State-wise;
- (e) the performance of the implementation of the Scheme in each State during the above period; and
- (f) the details of target fixed for 1998-99 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGAU PATIL) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (e) Special and Innovative projects which aim at prevention of migration of labour, enhancing women's employment drought proofing as well as watershed and wastelands development etc. and projects which result in sustained employment generation are sanctioned under this scheme. There is no State/UT-wise allocation or fixation of annual targets under the Scheme. The projects received from the States/UTs are examined and approved by the Central Level Sanctioning Committee headed by the Secretary, Rural Employment and Poverty Alleviation. The details of State/district-wise and year-wise projects sanctioned and implemented and progress made are in the enclosed Statement-I

- (f) No target is fixed under the Scheme for 1998-99.

Statement

Progress under Innovative JRY during 1993-94

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Approved Total Cost	Approved Centre Share	Central Share Field. Till Date	Total Funds Available	Exp. Reported	% Age of Exp. Against Total Fund Available	% Age Against Total Proj. Cost	Major Activities	Physical
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	ANDHRA PRADESH									
1.	Construction of 6275 IAY Houses for SC/ST flood victims of Medaksarani in ANANTPUR Distt.	514.04	411.22	411.22	514.03	501.28	97.52	97.52	Houses (Nos.)	Completed - 3982 Under Progress-463
2.	Improvement of Eco-system by Semi-intensive sheep management leading to goatless in ANANTPUR Distt.	370.00	120.00	120.00	150.00	75.00	50.00	20.27	Shed Construction (Nos.) Distribution of 2000 units No. of beneficiaries	Completed -2000 1450 750
	BIHAR									
3.	Special Project for development for Fish culture in MADHUBANI Distt.	135.69	108.55	54.78	68.47	54.45	79.52	40.13	Houses Constructed (Nos.) Sanitary Latrines (Nos.) Link Road constructed (Nos.) Social Forestry (Hectt.)	20 Completed-3 1 2
4.	Housing and Income Generation Programme for primitive tribals of LOHARDAGGA Distt.	92.15	73.72	73.72	92.15	71.6	77.69	77.59	House constructed (Nos.) Solar Latrain distributed (Nos.) Open Wells (Nos.) Trees Planted (Nos.) Plantation Areas (Hectt.)	532 273 completed-4 6408 32.08
	HIAMCHAL PRADESH									
5.	Towards self reliance by 2000-A.D. in KANGRA Dist	200.00	160.00	160.00	200.00	142.69	71.35	71.34	Building Constructed (Nos.) Medicinal Plants (Hectt.) Floriculture (Fectt.)	2 11.88 7.17
	JAMMU & KASHMIR									
6.	Integrated Special Programme in KUPWARA, ANANTNAG, PULWAMA & BARAMULLAH	600.00	480.00	480.00	600.00	483.72	80.62	80.62	Houses constructed (Nos.)	1331
7.	The Comprehensive Sanitation Programme for Border Villages of J & K and SUCHETGARH Panchayat in Jammu & Kashmir	184.15	120.00	120.00	150.00	82.39	54.92	44.73	Sanitary Latrines Constructed (Nos.)	630

KARNATAKA

8.	Development & Dissemination of rural building technologies	14.82	9.01	9.01	5.93	65.81	40.01	Project under progress in terms of local people demonstration building & technologies, lime pozzolone, cement manufacture, demonstration of timber species plantation, preparation of manuals etc.
9.	Biomass & Energy & Water System for electrification & Sustainable development	15.16	11.82	11.82	13.66	115.57	90.23	Plantation (Nos.) & fencing (Hect.) 2000 & (3 Completion) Irrigation Wells & Pumps (Nos.) 4 Certificate Generator Engine (Nos.) 1 assembled Piping for Irrigation (farmers) 20 Drinking water tank/Piping (Nos.) 43 Employment (Mandays) 7495
10.	Biomass Rural Energy Centres implemented by IIS BANGALORE in distt Tumkur.	21.21	6.27	6.27	0.29	4.63	1.37	Energy centres (Nos.) 4
11.	Development of Yennahole watershed under JRY Karkala taluk of DAKSHINA KANADA Distt.	304.14	243.31	304.13	226.89	74.60	74.60	Arable land (Hect.) 572 Farm ponds (Nos.) 45 Non-arable land (Hect.) 1310 Plantation (Nos.) 100000 Diverson Channels (Nos.) 16276 School gardening (Nos.) 2364 Drainage line treatment (Nalla) 468 Rivment (Metres) 6790 Nursery (Nos.) 150 Graft horticulture (No. in lakhs) 0.31
12.	Farmer's unique irrigation project Pattadakal barrage Jankhundi Bijapur by Krishna Teer Rayat Sangh	105.00	55.00	55.00	0.00	0.00		The project was cancelled & cost the release recovered was Rs. 73,66,855/- on 24-12-97. The Project was not implemented due to objection of Archeological Survey of India
13.	Production of Agava Seeding in SHIMOGA Distt	80.50	66.00	27.50	0.00	0.00		The Projects at Sl. No. 13, 14 & 15 been cancelled due to undue delay in grounding. The State govt. requested for refund the fund released.
14.	Raising bamboo seeding in CHICKMANGALUR, SHIMOGA & DHARWAR Distt.	67.04	53.63	22.35	0.00	0.00		
15.	Tail Seeding for production of tamarind in BANGALORE & KOLAR Distt.	8.22	6.58	2.74	0.00	0.00		

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
27. Special I.A.Y. Project in BANDA Dist.			345.20	276.19	276.19	345.24	341.43	98.09	98.90	House Constructed under (IAY) (N)	703 & 558 under progress Completed-113
WEST BENGAL											
28. Special Employment Scheme in SUNDERBAN Region			2500.00	2000.00	2000.00	2500.00	2095.62	83.24	83.82	Improvement of Embankment (K) Development of minor irrigation (K) Development of Horticulture (Hect)	50 44 50 & also 1 lakh trees planted
Total			8109.23	5997.53	5113.43	7002.05	5557.85	79.37	68.54		

Progress Under Innovative IRY During 1994-95

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	(Rs. Lakhs)										Physical Achievements
		Approved Total Cost	Approved Centre Share	Central Share released (Till Date)	Total Funds Available Includ. State	Exp. Reported	% age of Exp. Against Total Available	% Age Exp. Against Total Proj. Cost	Major Activities			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
	ANDHRA PRADESH											
1.	Public Distribution system through community grain funds	95.88	95.88	81.77	81.77	53.72	71.81	61.24		This project is for village level food production & distribution system as a substitute to public distribution system in 30 villages with coverage of 100 acres in each	2675 acres of land protection in progress with positive impact income & loan recover.	
	ASSAM											
2.	Strengthening of village markets under the Gram Panchayats	500.00	400.00	400.00	500.00	500.00	100.00	100.00		Market Yards	90 Hect. Project is Completed. Report awaited	
	BIHAR											
3.	Upliftment of Primitive tribes (Bifrons) of West Singhbhum	73.09	37.90	18.95	23.69	13.32	55.23	18.22		Bldgs. Pumpset Rope/Leaf/Baskets Agro farm forestry Goat/Piggery & Bee keeping Land levelling	Project is under progress	
4.	100% irrigation for SC/ST through Bamboo boring in four districts of Purnea division	600.00	480.00	400.20	500.25	297.61	59.49	49.60		Bamboo boring Pump sets	Project under progress	

5.	Development of Primitive tribal groups of Bihar	1695.65	1356.53	904.36	1130.45	1123.51	99.39	66.26	Inci. Benefi. Scheme	3402 persons
6.	Horticulture Development in the tribal Sub-Plan area of Ranchi	46.78	37.42	18.71	23.39	17.87	76.40	38.20	Horti. Training	402 persons
7.	HARYANA Employment generation & Eco-Fisculture on duckweed Fed Faridabad district	15.59	15.59	9.54	9.54	8.25	83.48	52.92	Research in progress at Damama dist. of Gurgaon & Badkhal, Solani & Faridabad	Project is under Progress
8.	GUJARAT Water Resources Development in Sabarkunda Taluka, Distt. Bhavnagar	296.30	241.18	241.18	296.30	351.74	118.71	118.71	Nala Plug, Check dam Percolation Tank Land leveling	806 & 78 Project is 30 Nos. completed. Report 3711 Hectt. awaited.
9.	Water Resources Development in Sarpsara Taluka of Bhavnagar Distt	133.50	106.40	45.70	64.50	52.79	81.84	39.54	Nala Plug, Check dam	
10.	Community Manages Water Resources Development in the Tribal Areas of Panch Mahal Distt.	471.90	330.33	330.33	412.91	404.04	97.86	85.62	Lift irrigation Checkdam Flood protection structure	16 Nos. 12 Nos. 1 Km
11.	HIMACHAL PRADESH Integrated Dairy Development Project in Solan Distt.	220.51	176.40	113.12	141.40	139.01	98.31	63.04	Insemination Gun Alkali Urea treatment Milk collection vehicles	Projects under Progress
12.	JAMMU & KASHMIR Development of Ladaikh Village DRDO(Min of Defence)	43.00	28.00	25.10	25.10	20.65	82.27	48.02	Green Houses	Projects under Progress
13.	Construction of Green Houses in Leh Distt.	160.00	120.00	120.00	150.00	135.00	90.00	90.00		1500 Nos. Project is Complitd. Report awaited
14.	KARNATAKA Bio-mass Energy System to enhance Rural Employment & sustainable development	4.74	4.74	3.23	3.23	1.46	45.20	38.80	Estab. Coop Society Handpump Water Reservoir Agro animal technical prod.	Project is under progress
15.	KERALA Drought Proofing Wasteland Development & Soil Conservation measures in Pliyadarsheri Tea Estate in Waynrad Distt.	31.86	23.70	23.70	81.86	42.03	51.38	51.35	Soil Conservation tea tree plantation	Project is under progress

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
16.	Development of two model paddy fields in Haripad Block of Alappuzha Distt.	87.86	65.49	35.15	43.94	42.24	96.13	48.08	Paddy field dev.	Project is under progress
17.	MADHYA PRADESH Skill Upgradation for sustainable of Hoshangabad Distt. (NGO)	67.90	51.56	38.15	47.69	33.03	69.26	48.72	Workshed Approach Road Stop dam, Eco-resto	Project is under progress
18.	MAHARASHTRA Deepening of paddy farmers for improved fish farming in Gad Chiroli Distt.	300.00	240.00	240.00	300.00	225.96	75.32	75.32	Deeping of Water bodies Assets provided to benef	214 Nos 428
19.	Bio-diversity conservation in Pune Distt.	21.66	17.26	5.75	7.19	14.37	199.86	66.34	This project of raising of medical plants, local fruits organic farming & nursery etc. The plantation has been done in 5 hect. area No. of trees planted is 0284 52 benef have been provided with income gen Assets. 2400 sapling of medical plants planted.	
20.	MANIPUR Rehabilitation of floating Fishermen of Loktak Lake in Bishnupur	232.52	186.02	93.01	116.26	26.05	22.41	11.20		Project is under Progress
21.	NAGALAND Mass Farm Forestry Programme through Jhuming	231.00	184.80	184.80	231.00	101.64	44.00	44.00		Project is under Progress
22.	RAJASTHAN Sehans Development in Baran Distt.	500.00	400.00	78.00	97.50	93.50	95.90	18.70	Industrial beneficiaries prog. Hostel Nursery Agri programme given to benefitt Anticus	4 Nos. 2 Nos. 501 5
23.	TRIPURA Innovative project under JRY at Longaivalley in North Tripura	169.15	98.04	98.04	122.55	122.55	100.00	77.00		Under progress
24.	UTTAR PRADESH Overall Development of Masauli Village of Barabanki Distt.	70.62	56.50	56.50	70.62	70.62	100.00	100.00	IAY houses Brick paving Hand pump	Project is completed. Report awaited.
25.	Housing project for Handloom Weavers of Varanasi Distt.	299.72	239.73	119.89	149.86	87.48	58.37	29.19	Flood protection Houses, 2000	Project is under progress
26.	Housing project for 1000 Kol families of Halla Block Mirzapur Distt.	250.00	200.00	66.67	83.34	77.70	93.23	31.08	IAY houses	333 Nos.
Total		6649.12	6193.50	3751.85	4714.33	4061.14				

Sl. Name of the Project No.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Approved Total Cost	Approved Central Share	Central Share released till Date	Total available Funds Incd. State Share	Exp. Reported	% age of Exp. to Available Fund	% age of expendt. to Proj. Cost	Physical Performance Major Activities	Achievements		
ANDHRA PRADESH											
1. Sericulture project for employment generation in Kurmool dist.	50.00	40.00	20.00	25.00						i) individual house-cum worksheds ii) civic amenities iii) silk development iv) charitra distribution v) land development	Under Progress
2. Integrated Habitat Development amongst Poverty Group in Kurmool dist.	229.00	239.96	119.99	149.99						Construction of houses	Under Progress
3. Comprehensive Development SC/ST & BC families in Kurmool dist.	299.99	240.00	92.46	115.57							Under progress
4. Sheep Production under Semi Intensive Management System Cross Breeding in Melhob Neger	300.00	240.00	80.00	100.00						i) Infrastructure dev. i) Sheep procurement & distribution	Under progress
BHAR											
5. 100 per cent irrigation through Bamboo Borings in Supaul district	144.96	115.57	57.98	72.47						Bamboo boring of 8886 Nos. for 1.3 lakh acres	Under Progress
6. 100 per cent irrigation through Bamboo Borings in Saharsa district	28.50	22.80	22.80	28.50						1500 nos. & 300 diesel pumpeets	Under Progress
7. 100 per cent irrigation through Bamboo Borings in Madhepura district	172.00	137.60	68.60	86.00						4000 nos. & 800 diesel pumpeets	Under Progress
GUJARAT											
8. Increasing irrigation Potential by constructing water harvesting structures in Dharangpur and Vansada Talukas of Balsad district	300.00	240.00	240.00	300.00	16.66	5.55	5.55			73 check-dams	Under Progress 58 check-dams
HIMACHAL PRADESH											
9. Project for Diversification of Simla	306.72	245.38	118.60	148.50						Nurseries, horticulture development, training of farmers, inputs distribution infrastructure development etc.	Under progress

10. Of Season Vegetable Production in Sirmour district	100.00	80.00	27.85	34.81	27.20	78.14	27.20	i) Training & Seminar ii) Distribution of vege Minikits iii) Demonstration iv) Plant Production equipments & plastics v) Const. of greenhouses vi) Const. Water storage vii) Veg. Seeds distribution	680 80 1000 15 10 100 persons
11. Development of Ban Industry in Una district	70.00	56.00	33.63	42.04	15.81	37.61	22.59	Building & machinery training	Under Progress
JAMMU & KASHMIR									
12. Construction of Polygreen houses in Kargil district	150.00	120.00	60.00	75.00	75.00	100.00	50.00	Green Houses	3000
KARNATAKA									
13. Integrated Development of JOIDA taluka of Uttar Kannada district.	136.20	108.96	72.64	90.80	39.11	43.07	28.72	i) Diversion channel ii) Bench terrace plantation, land levelling iii) Irrigation manage iv) Drinking water v) Rural energy vi) Communication vii) Rural Industry viii) Agri. Seed distri. ix) Agri input distri. x) supply pesticides xi) Storage bins	10432 74.77 hec. 3 nos. 5 nos. 298 nos. 6.5 kms. 20 nos. 68 quintals 1504 nos. 312 hec. 346 nos.
14. Development of Bomanaahli Watershed in Haliyal Taluka, Uttar Kannada distt.	235.70	188.56	50.00	62.50	22.28	35.65	9.45	i) Arable land treatment ii) Drainage line treat. iii) Horticulture	1178 hec 866 hec 27 hec
15. Sustainable approach for alleviation of drought in Hadagali taluk of Belari district	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	6.29	62.90	62.90	This is a research project has been completed & final report awaited.	
MADHYA PRADESH									
16. Special Project for Sironj & Lateri blocks of Vidisha districts	300.00	240.0	70.72	88.40	27.66	31.29	9.22	i) worksheds ii) fencing iii) Irrigation iv) plantation v) watershed development	10 nos. 36 hec 36 hec 6000 nos. work in progress in 7 watersheds

17. Soil to Silk Project in Bastar district MAHARASHTRA	284.85	231.00	129.86	162.32	78.00	48.05	27.38	Sericulture development	Under progress	
18. Sericulture project in Bhandara distt. MAHARASHTRA	17.50	14.00	1.75	2.86	2.86	100.00	16.34	Sericulture activities identified 30 nos.	i) Plantation 12.5 hects. ii) Beneficiaries iii) Training completed.	
NAGALAND										
19. Rural Reconstruction programme through people's participation	100.00	80.00	80.00	100.00				i) Nurseries ii) irrigation channels iii) fish ponds iv) assets created	20 nos. 27 nos. 20 nos. 26 hects.	
ORISSA										
20. Spices cultivation in Phootbari distt.	309.45	247.56	119.44	149.30	15.21	10.19	4.92	i) turmeric ii) ginger iii) floriculture	48.5 hects 14.8 hects. 0.40 hects.	
21. Development of Niladari & Demia Barabara Gram Panchayats in Khurda district	66.00	52.80	52.80	96.00	1.20	1.82	1.82	i) horticulture dev. ii) minor irrigation & fish ponds iii) roads culverts iv) solar lighting v) training	The project is in progress	
22. Construction of Water-harvesting structures in Soro blocks, Balasor distt.	13.60	10.88	10.88	13.60	13.60	100.00	100.00	i) construction of bridges ii) water-harvesting structure	4 nos. 3 nos. 1500 hects.	
23. Sisal Plantation in Koraput district RAJASTHAN	189.48	151.58	55.58	69.47	69.48	100.01	36.67	Plantation		
24. Development of Kathodi Community in Udaipur district	233.58	186.86	93.43	116.79				Agri. Dev. seed & agri implements distt. watershed dev., regeneration of degraded forests, digging of wells, energization of agri wells construction of houses, medical health centre facilities etc.	Project is under progress	
TAMIL NADU										
25. Innovative project for Peepalkhunt Panchayat Samiti in Baranwara distt.	100.00	80.00	40.00	50.00					Under progress	
26. Action Plan for Tribal Development in Annamalaiyandra Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary Coimbatore	300.00	240.00	132.00	165.00	145.28	88.05	48.43	i) Housing ii) land dev. iii) drinking water supply iv) approach road	459 nos. 160 hects. 2 nos. 6 nos.	
Total	4447.53	3619.91	1861.41	2324.92	555.64	23.90	12.48			

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Approved total Cost	Approved Central Share	Central Share released till date	Total available funds Includ. State Share	Expt. Reported	% age of Exp. to available fund	% age of expdt. to project Cost	Physical Performance Major Activities	Achievements
HIMACHAL PRADESH										
1.	Mandi district on the Green Gold Track	100.26	80.21	58.56	94.51	87.36	92.45	87.13	i) Processing centre cum-grading & packing of cut flowers ii) Demonstration farms (2) houses iii) Installation of irrigation sprayers iv) Power lifters for farm houses v) Cold storage vi) Co-operative societies	completed & functioning Demonstration is in progress in two green works completed works completed works completed 6 Nos.
KARNATAKA										
2.	Sustainable Development of Melani region of Hasan district	20.00	16.00	16.00	20.00	1.41	7.05	7.05	i) Approach road ii) Soil & water conservation progress	2 5 The Project is in
MANIPUR										
3.	Improvement of Rural Economy of Tamenglong district through cultivation & distribution of citronella grass	25.00	20.00	15.00	25.00	14.36	57.44	57.44	i) cultivation of citronella	68 hecfs.
UTTAR PRADESH										
4.	Community development project for Saharia in Lalipur district	100.00	80.00	40.00	50.00	41.75	83.50	41.75	i) Construction of irrigation wells ii) goat rearing iii) soil conserv.	21 nos. 100 nos. 17 works
5.	Integrated watershed development for the Ghararea of Saharanpur district	209.81	167.84	167.84	209.80	67.82	41.88	41.86	i) soil & water conservation ii) check dams & other works	2029 hecfs. in progress
Total		455.07	364.05	297.40	399.31	232.70	58.28	51.13		

Translation]

Corruption in Railway Recruitment Boards

*28 SHRI MOTILAL VORA :

SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received a large number of complaints of corruption in recruitment of staff against the Chairmen of Railway Recruitment Boards during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of action taken by the Government on these complaints;

(d) whether there is any proposal to conduct CBI enquiry in the matter;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government have decided to revamp the Railway Recruitment Boards; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) and (b) During the last two years 64 complaints of corruption in recruitment of staff against the officials, including Chairmen of Railway Recruitment Boards (RRBs), have been received. Broadly, these complaints relate to selection by taking money, involvement of brokers in selection process, leakage of question papers, manipulation of answer papers etc.

(c) to (e) Departmental action has been initiated in three cases. The allegations could not be substantiated in 18 cases. Regular cases have been registered in three cases by CBI. Three other cases have been referred to CBI for undertaking investigations. The remaining 37 are at various stages of vigilance inquiry. In addition, based on vigilance enquiries, the services of Chairmen RRB, Allahabad and Bhopal have been terminated.

(f) and (g) The functioning of the RRBs has been reviewed recently and a number of important measures, as enumerated below, have been taken to revamp them :

(i) To constitute an apex body named Railway Recruitment Control Board (RRCB) at Ministry of Railways (Railway Board) level with Members Staff, Railway Board, Additional Members (Staff) and Additional Members (Vigilance), Railway Board as Members and Executive Director, Establishment (RRB), Railway Board as Secretary, to issue policy guidelines and to oversee the functioning of Railway Recruitment Boards;

(ii) To terminate the services of all adhoc non-Railway Chairmen and repatriate all serving Railway Officers in Selection/Junior Administrative Grade working on adhoc basis as Chairmen/RRBs;

(iii) To fill up the posts of Chairmen/RRBs by serving Senior Administrative Grade Railway Officers from Zone! Railways except two posts of Chairmen of RRBs at Chandigarh and Jammu-Srinagar presently held by UPSC selected incumbents;

(iv) To replace incumbents of the posts of Member Secretary & Assistant Secretary with serving Railway Officers in appropriate grades, and also to replace the group "C" and "D" staff of all the RRBs;

(v) To change the practice associating non-official members belonging to SC/ST, OBC and Minority community in the Interview Committees and to revert back to the earlier practice of associating serving Railway Officers belonging to these communities, with the provision that in case of non-availability of serving Railway Officers of these communities, State/Central Govt./P.S.U./Bank Officers belonging to these communities and in case of further difficulty, retired Railway Officers of proven integrity belonging to these communities will be associated;

(vi) To introduce the system of duplicate carbonless Answer Sheets, the duplicate answer sheets being sent to the RRCB for independent evaluation, as considered necessary; and

(vii) To set up a grievances redressal machinery to deal systematically with various complaints and representations regarding the functioning of the RRBs' and selections conducted by them.

[English]

Fund Allotted under Rural Development Programmes

*29. SHRI BIJOY KUMAR "BIJOY" :

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the projects made in terms of achievement of targets under the Rural Development Programmes so far;

(b) the funds allocated, released and utilised under the Rural Development Programmes during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the State Governments have sought additional allocation of funds for completing the rural developments;

(d) If so, the additional funds allotted during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(e) whether the amount allocated during the said period are commensurate with the demand made by the State Governments; and

(f) If not, the steps taken by the Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) and (b) Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), Million Wells Scheme (MWS), Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment (TRYSEM), Development of Women & Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA) and Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) are the major employment and rural development programmes being implemented

by this Ministry throughout the country. The details of funds allocated, released, utilised and physical targets fixed and achieved in respect of the above schemes during last three years i.e. 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 are given in enclosed Statement I to XVI.

(c) to (f) Under JRY, MWS, IAY and IRDP the allocation of funds to the States/UTs is made on the basis of incidence of Poverty as estimated by the Planning Commission. EAS is a demand driven scheme and the States/UTs can ask for release of next instalment on 50% utilisation of the available funds. However, some additional funds have been released under IRDP, DWCRA, TRYSEM and IAY. The details of additional funds released under these programmes for the last three years i.e. 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 State-wise are given in enclosed Statement-XVII.

The demands of the State Governments were met to the extent possible keeping in view the resource availability of resources and other related matters.

Statement-I

*Name of Programme : JRY
Statement showing allocation release and utilisation of funds during
last three years i.e. 1995-96, 1996-97 (Rs. Lakhs)*

Sl. No.	State/UT	1995-96*			1996-97			1997-98@		
		Total Allocation	Total Release	Utilisation	Total Allocation	Total Release	Utilisation	Total Allocation	Total Release	Utilisation
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	37232.40	35933.21	34558.00	17372.39	18243.70	17488.47	19410.49	20857.30	12487.24
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	329.88	304.48	357.12	178.30	129.85	198.33	199.21	127.58	168.56
3.	Assam	10820.18	9649.70	9683.33	5718.18	3983.66	4543.21	6389.03	6905.19	3885.19
4.	Bihar	78598.18	68022.66	62281.95	34075.58	28570.09	30563.53	38073.25	36653.46	36250.75
5.	Goa	356.09	356.09	363.47	192.65	146.10	236.26	215.25	130.48	155.77
6.	Gujarat	14754.11	13857.04	12824.42	6376.25	5524.16	6280.49	7124.30	7184.65	6999.43
7.	Haryana	3398.28	3735.78	3304.78	1531.81	1494.23	1371.79	1711.53	2030.94	1365.60
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1149.09	1221.28	1001.19	612.16	1485.15	745.94	683.98	504.33	555.89
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	3381.00	2554.36	2534.38	1243.93	1499.69	994.37	1389.86	1218.28	1044.68
10.	Karnataka	24422.41	23860.96	24908.76	11665.34	11091.48	12015.31	13033.90	12942.49	12578.33
11.	Kerala	8029.34	9731.81	8888.24	4244.16	4108.25	4458.15	4742.08	4667.65	3666.38
12.	Madhya Pradesh	51119.46	44104.58	42377.25	2014.51	19316.44	19724.06	24597.23	23721.44	19260.22
13.	Maharashtra	41658.79	40876.70	39801.56	18937.55	17923.14	18664.14	21159.28	21020.11	21422.21
14.	Manipur	425.45	344.79	506.22	228.53	162.40	186.36	255.34	310.65	114.80
15.	Meghalaya	496.31	415.25	200.28	267.40	133.69	365.90	298.78	199.48	168.63
16.	Mizoram	208.04	229.00	284.56	112.65	105.26	138.25	125.86	128.59	124.18
17.	Nagaland	526.28	749.36	264.07	286.64	263.33	485.57	320.26	303.91	276.18
18.	Orissa	30642.94	27522.29	28671.48	14093.11	13387.43	14426.64	15746.50	16776.65	10145.68

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
19. Punjab		1969.93	964.96	408.38	1089.39	1011.58	705.83	1217.19	1115.99	1310.34
20. Rajasthan		20825.10	18825.93	18204.39	9146.40	9039.76	8766.70	10219.44	10439.83	10330.83
21. Sikkim		341.33	553.15	618.83	104.36	101.71	167.26	116.60	120.98	100.54
22. Tamil Nadu		32634.06	36774.35	39415.70	15704.96	15110.64	18040.03	17547.45	18205.48	20698.98
23. Tripura		558.65	839.60	788.23	296.83	296.81	588.91	331.65	595.44	351.51
24. Uttar Pradesh		87188.55	86920.98	63562.16	42334.91	40553.36	42123.49	47301.56	44867.69	48122.11
25. West Bengal		33287.71	31870.59	30492.80	15569.34	11956.08	12637.59	17396.93	11333.74	8302.70
26. A & N Islands		154.18	151.14	161.26	84.41	42.21	54.95	94.31	50.70	12.21
27. D & N Havell		63.92	93.92	33.18	45.81	44.57	49.75	51.18	50.22	24.71
28. Daman & Diu		49.28	59.28	55.02	26.99	26.99	27.61	30.16	16.21	30.28
29. Lakshadweep		76.70	86.70	40.86	42.32	21.16	49.22	47.28	25.41	78.98
30. Pondicherry		151.86	77.12	199.85	82.64	64.68	121.96	92.34	74.37	52.20
Total		484869.77	460706.85	446690.62	223679.48	204837.60	216397.87	249921.18	242579.19	220086.09

Note : Release made to States/U. Ts. only

* Including I. JRY.

@ Provisional. Upto March'98

Statement-II

Name of Programme : JRY

Statement showing Physical targets, achievements & percentage achievements during last three years i.e. 1995-96, 1996-97 & 1997-98

Sl. No.	State/ UT	1995-96*			1996-97			1997-98 **		
		Target	Achievement	% age Achv.	Target	Achievement	% age Achv.	Target	Achievement	% age Achv.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	700.88	701.57	100.21	373.67	329.75	88.25	336.97	219.31	65.08
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	7.99	8.24	103.13	4.42	2.79	63.32	4.94	2.23	45.14
3.	Assam	178.63	178.08	100.25	98.77	91.54	92.60	110.36	73.29	66.41
4.	Bihar	1245.86	1197.03	96.08	489.25	460.02	94.03	546.64	533.05	97.51
5.	Goa	7.94	8.30	105.54	4.39	5.30	120.73	3.32	2.55	76.81
6.	Gujarat	213.23	209.42	98.21	109.14	105.28	96.39	69.00	92.81	120.01
7.	Haryana	34.83	33.50	96.74	15.73	13.08	83.15	16.11	11.12	69.03
8.	Himachal Pradesh	24.27	21.45	88.38	7.63	10.62	139.19	8.57	9.13	107.16
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	90.94	48.23	53.03	47.27	19.36	38.84	22.64	15.71	69.39
10.	Karnataka	491.56	524.89	106.78	255.74	250.94	98.12	222.78	265.91	119.36
11.	Kerala	100.01	127.75	118.28	59.73	55.45	92.83	66.74	41.82	62.66

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12.	Madhya Pradesh	849.29	759.46	89.42	444.97	349.02	78.44	329.89	281.69	85.39
13.	Maharashtra	910.75	1014.47	111.39	469.32	455.00	96.97	524.38	527.74	100.64
14.	Manipur	5.78	9.34	161.59	3.20	3.49	109.06	3.15	2.16	68.57
15.	Meghalaya	7.88	4.06	61.68	4.35	6.96	160.00	4.87	3.30	67.76
16.	Mizorem	4.15	5.20	125.30	2.29	2.46	107.42	1.59	1.91	120.13
17.	Nagaland	11.82	5.76	48.73	6.54	11.65	178.13	7.30	7.71	105.62
18.	Orissa	623.47	678.31	108.80	321.32	314.19	97.78	299.18	201.02	67.46
19.	Punjab	28.25	6.44	22.00	15.62	7.85	50.26	11.95	12.83	107.36
20.	Rajasthan	300.39	361.72	120.22	162.92	168.12	103.19	182.03	196.14	107.75
21.	Sikkim	5.38	9.27	172.30	1.49	2.63	176.51	1.66	1.34	80.72
22.	Tamil Nadu	853.09	1069.75	175.40	406.90	488.60	120.08	312.56	388.31	124.40
23.	Tripura	12.48	18.43	148.63	6.35	10.38	163.46	5.91	7.31	123.69
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1320.54	1532.46	116.85	603.21	658.18	109.11	561.71	599.49	106.73
25.	West Bengal	433.39	414.75	95.70	221.86	170.53	80.47	206.50	84.60	40.95
26.	A & N Islands	2.26	2.59	14.60	1.25	8.82	65.60	1.04	0.13	12.50
27.	D & N Haveli	1.42	0.84	45.07	0.85	1.02	156.92	0.73	0.49	67.12
28.	Daman & Diu	1.55	1.11	71.61	0.65	0.50	58.82	0.45	0.56	124.44
29.	Lakshadweep	1.45	1.05	72.41	0.80	0.88	110.00	0.90	1.46	162.22
30.	Pondicherry	3.16	3.10	99.10	1.74	2.91	167.14	1.00	0.51	51.00
Total		8480.05	8958.25	105.64	4141.37	4006.32	96.74	3064.90	3576.92	92.55

*Including I. JRY

** Provisional, Up to March '98

Statement-III

Name of Programme : EAS
Statement showing Release & utilisation of funds during last
three years i.e. 1995-96, 96-97 & 97-98.

Sl. No.	Name of the State/ UT	1995-96		1996-97		1997-98	
		Release (C+S)	Utilisation	Release (C+S)	Utilisation	Release (C+S)	Utilisation
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	18187.50	12249.50	25137.50	25509.86	20925.00	29338.06
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2323.75	1956.55	2126.25	2054.94	2362.50	1757.23
3.	Assam	10025.00	9822.98	13525.00	8790.06	10740.00	8543.86
4.	Bihar	20287.50	12901.12	26556.25	20868.18	22792.50	29085.62
5.	Goa	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	175.00	246.90

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
6.	Gujarat	8712.50	5751.65	7312.50	7570.86	5400.00	6608.27
7.	Haryana	4150.00	3814.72	3350.00	2447.56	3337.50	2629.20
8.	Himachal Pradesh	562.50	455.55	1987.50	1161.23	3187.50	2871.59
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	8425.00	6715.49	4825.00	5318.68	5950.00	6439.88
10.	Karnataka	13712.50	12144.91	14450.00	14307.22	13250.00	16628.38
11.	Kerala	2312.50	2241.91	3562.50	2063.44	4986.25	4371.43
12.	Madhya Pradesh	28675.00	22951.66	28337.71	24229.95	26884.81	23959.32
13.	Maharashtra	14325.00	10295.49	8412.50	11876.27	14168.14	14935.95
14.	Manipur	1125.00	1337.11	1350.00	1131.87	1012.50	712.33
15.	Meghalaya	312.50	499.80	612.50	368.40	275.00	514.08
16.	Mizoram	1500.00	2023.87	1500.00	1509.46	1000.00	901.24
17.	Nagaland	2600.00	1800.70	3482.50	3159.48	2625.00	2840.45
18.	Orissa	14325.00	13133.80	20534.44	19778.34	18401.98	18865.57
19.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	1225.00	NR	2300.00	1055.11
20.	Rajasthan	17537.50	14770.06	12987.50	12609.31	11581.25	14417.75
21.	Sikkim	412.50	778.31	275.00	322.40	275.00	552.96
22.	Tamil Nadu	10512.50	7581.23	18406.25	17014.19	23400.00	29363.46
23.	Tripura	1950.00	2085.78	2700.00	1995.08	1800.00	2904.92
24.	Uttar Pradesh	19450.00	16731.98	26630.94	19833.03	39310.08	40865.55
25.	West Bengal	11550.00	9929.18	12712.50	11943.84	9737.50	11467.13
26.	A & N Islands	40.00	10.28	0.00	25.23	80.00	13.64
27.	D & N Haveli	30.00	20.17	60.00	51.05	30.00	32.51
28.	Daman & Diu	20.00	13.05	20.00	0.98	0.00	19.46
29.	Lakshadweep	100.00	44.33	140.00	100.36	0.00	78.98
30.	Pondicherry	NA	0.00	60.00	NR	60.00	7.71
Total		213163.75	172061.22	242379.34	216041.27	246047.51	271828.54

Statement-IV

Name of Programme : EAS

Statement showing physical target & achievement during last three years i.e. 1995-96, 96-97 & 97-98.

Sl. No.	Name of the State/ UT	1995-96		1996-97		1997-98	
		Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh		62.42		437.35		505.06
2.	Arunachal Pradesh		3.64		39.05		28.58
3.	Assam		31.75		162.38		141.53
4.	Bihar		31.44		324.49		420.45
5.	Goa		0.00		0.00		2.92
6.	Gujarat		6.75		122.98		92.71

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7.	Haryana		15.20		24.10		18.45
8.	Himachal Pradesh		0.05		13.44		35.65
9.	Jammu & Kashmir		3.64		91.64		90.84
10.	Karnataka		32.12		314.18		349.41
11.	Kerala		2.60		28.76		47.26
12.	Madhya Pradesh		51.26		379.22		328.71
13.	Maharashtra		31.53		309.72		363.24
14.	Manipur		3.06		16.72		13.75
15.	Meghalaya		Nil		5.90		9.46
16.	Mizoram		8.52		32.26		17.88
17.	Nagaland		33.92		72.65		68.17
18.	Orissa		31.43		439.36		382.14
19.	Punjab		0.00		NR		4.55
20.	Rajasthan		50.00		212.65		250.06
21.	Sikkim		0.02		4.45		7.41
22.	Tamil Nadu		10.96		468.42		558.28
23.	Tripura		16.14		44.73		54.46
24.	Uttar Pradesh		15.00		319.94		522.76
25.	West Bengal		52.53		162.76		138.60
26.	A & N Islands		0.10		0.32		0.14
27.	D & N Haveli		0.04		0.47		0.35
28.	Daman & Diu		Nil		0.02		0.34
29.	Lakshadweep		Nil		2.06		1.48
30.	Pondicherry		0.00		NR		0.14
Total			494.74		4030.02		4454.76

Statement-V

*Name of Programme - Million Wells Scheme
Statement Showing Allocation, Release and utilisation of funds during last
three years i.e. 1995-96, 1996-97 & 1997-98.*

(Rs. lakhs)

Sl. No.	State/ Uts	1995-96			1996-97			1997-98		
		Allocation	Release	Utilisation	Allocation	Release	Utilisation	Allocation	Release	Utilisation
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4342.14	4342.13	2608.25	4342.14	4342.14	3950.53	4342.14	4280.93	2197.23
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	44.58	36.28	71.46	44.58	25.56	36.89	44.58	28.61	21.48
3.	Assam	1429.41	1429.41	666.70	1429.41	1312.68	852.99	1429.41	1512.78	846.08

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
4.	Bihar	8516.94	8516.94	5791.22	8516.94	5811.98	6351.13	8516.94	5836.15	7057.44
5.	Goa	48.16	48.16	12.23	48.16	24.09	9.12	48.16	13.13	10.15
6.	Gujarat	1593.91	1593.91	1494.06	1593.91	1442.70	1182.96	1593.91	1216.18	1454.36
7.	Haryana	382.88	382.88	168.40	382.88	267.01	151.64	382.88	225.79	164.85
8.	Himachal Pradesh	153.04	153.04	184.29	153.04	112.15	200.15	153.04	120.43	169.97
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	310.99	236.28	216.89	310.99	294.76	258.81	310.99	241.18	199.52
10.	Karnataka	2915.55	2915.55	3241.76	2915.55	2835.64	2750.86	2915.55	2550.56	2799.97
11.	Kerala	1060.71	1910.34	1542.52	1060.71	890.94	1075.77	1000.71	1029.53	1028.08
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5502.11	5502.11	4766.37	5502.11	4296.14	3864.57	5502.11	4221.40	3438.96
13.	Maharashtra	4733.53	4733.53	3416.04	4733.53	4128.54	4604.17	4733.53	4096.46	4855.69
14.	Manipur	57.14	47.06	99.18	57.14	52.25	46.70	57.14	33.76	26.10
15.	Meghalaya	66.85	52.75	42.126	66.85	37.68	54.96	50.95	42.10	46.71
16.	Mizoram	28.16	28.16	40.27	28.10	28.16	42.82	28.16	28.19	27.74
17.	Nagaland	71.66	71.66	0.00	71.65	61.76	19.90	71.66	71.66	92.35
18.	Orissa	3522.49	3522.49	4322.29	3522.49	2373.35	4176.51	3522.49	3581.61	3132.66
19.	Punjab	272.28	0.00	0.00	272.28	243.84	46.09	272.28	107.71	61.53
20.	Rajasthan	2285.93	2285.93	825.77	2285.93	1272.96	891.96	2285.93	1603.99	780.71
21.	Sikkim	26.09	52.16	104.46	26.09	21.70	44.94	26.09	26.09	48.40
22.	Tamil Nadu	3925.23	3925.20	4814.56	3925.23	3459.71	4341.06	3925.23	3925.23	4205.41
23.	Tripura	74.21	111.33	123.77	74.21	74.21	88.89	74.21	74.21	107.21
24.	Uttar Pradesh	10581.64	13706.63	11988.78	10581.64	8686.26	11672.94	10581.64	9669.41	9629.94
25.	West Bengal	3891.19	4041.18	7341.71	3891.19	3381.56	3507.65	3891.19	2170.89	2766.20
26.	A & N Island	21.11	16.56	9.35	21.11	10.55	5.17	21.11	0.00	3.78
27.	D & N Haveli	11.46	4.16	8.24	11.46	11.07	4.20	11.46	5.73	3.52
28.	Daman & Diu	6.76	6.76	0.00	6.76	3.38	0.00	6.76	0.00	2.17
29.	Lakshadweep	10.58	10.60	0.00	10.58	5.29	0.00	10.58	5.29	17.85
30.	Pondicherry	20.66	10.32	0.16	20.66	10.32	0.00	20.66	0.00	1.38
Total		55907.36	59693.48	53828.85	55907.36	45288.37	50233.38	55907.36	48745.96	45217.44

Statement-VI

*Name of Programme : Million Wells Scheme
Statement showing Physical targets & achievement during last
three years i.e. 1995-96, 96-97 & 97-98.*

Sl. No.	State/ UT	1995-96		1996-97		1997-98	
		Target	Achievement (Nos.)	Target	Achievement (Nos.)	Target	Achievement (Nos.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh		10899		13169		7952
2.	Arunachal Pradesh		130		89		19
3.	Assam		1865		2332		993
4.	Bihar		25476		22911		23307

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5.	Goa		37		33		16
6.	Gujarat		4107		3148		2773
7.	Haryana		572		363		483
8.	Himachal Pradesh		138		670		602
9.	Jammu & Kashmir		1673		1544		1182
10.	Karnataka		5238		3004		3096
11.	Kerala		3468		2268		3976
12.	Madhya Pradesh		35654		19950		15296
13.	Maharashtra		8770		8002		8324
14.	Manipur		520		429		218
15.	Meghalaya		732		885		468
16.	Mizoram		425		483		325
17.	Nagaland		0		80		608
18.	Orissa		24263		18349		15798
19.	Punjab		0		0		0
20.	Rajasthan		2457		2389		2128
21.	Sikkim		364		91		89
22.	Tamil Nadu		10899		5962		3626
23.	Tripura		2049		1221		801
24.	Uttar Pradesh		518		43		44
25.	West Bengal		2402		1461		403
26.	A & N Islands		6		13		4
27.	D & N Haveli		24		8		16
28.	Daman & Diu		0		0		2
29.	Lakshadweep		0		0		140
30.	Pondicherry		1		0		0
Total			142685		108897		92689

Statement-VII

*Name of Programme - Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY)
Statement Showing allocation, Release and utilisation. of funds during last
three years i.e. 1995-96, 96-97 & 97-98*

(Rs. lakhs)

Sl.	State/ UTs	1995-96*			1996-97			1997-98**		
		Allocation	Releases	Utilisation	Allocation	Releases	Utilisation	Allocation	Releases	Utilisation
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8764.21	2191.05	6317.95	8870.30	11260.90	8213.28	8970.34	9603.38	11524.94
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	79.71	19.93	56.00	79.71	159.82	72.55	80.71	103.21	166.00
3.	Assam	255.95	638.99	3381.70	2919.68	3157.45	2680.2	2952.83	2931.07	2917.77

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
4.	Bihar	17079.21	4269.80	19168.71	17398.92	15737.76	19507.79	17597.09	15130.72	17498.76
5.	Goa	86.12	21.53	31.51	86.12	71.82	85.33	87.63	51.46	86.47
6.	Gujarat	3450.09	862.52	3669.26	3255.70	3308.95	4396.14	3292.97	3424.02	2907.01
7.	Haryana	1084.63	271.16	1233.81	782.14	696.28	1107.24	790.96	758.55	586.36
8.	Himachal Pradesh	273.65	68.41	244.55	273.65	269.16	428.19	276.72	467.78	452.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1056.07	264.02	543.04	556.07	1071.39	1176.76	562.96	607.12	584.22
10.	Karnataka	5213.33	1303.33	5812.80	5958.29	6883.09	8484.65	6024.43	5620.36	9206.40
11.	Kerala	1896.68	474.17	4864.14	2167.06	2351.03	2817.36	2191.85	2148.56	2975.78
12.	Madhya Pradesh	11338.39	2834.60	11807.75	11240.56	11372.21	11384.56	11368.56	11695.62	10084.22
13.	Maharashtra	9064.06	2266.02	10606.35	9669.47	7367.12	15589.12	9779.75	9968.74	16856.95
14.	Manipur	102.16	25.54	141.18	102.16	265.32	81.6	103.77	56.69	229.78
15.	Meghalaya	119.54	29.89	30.01	119.54	46.7	113.55	121.07	46.73	54.04
16.	Mizoram	50.36	12.59	87.68	50.36	54.78	76.73	50.73	54.47	66.54
17.	Nagaland	128.13	32.03	74.26	128.13	275.31	137.53	129.14	435.83	1933.00
18.	Orissa	6296.60	1574.65	7494.88	7195.91	7943.55	9012.73	7277.74	7443.57	6178.58
19.	Punjab	486.85	121.71	96.50	556.24	582.29	347.78	562.65	478.32	629.90
20.	Rajasthan	5087.49	1271.87	4701.44	4670.13	4032.7	6317.99	4723.84	3688.40	5642.80
21.	Sikkim	166.65	41.66	163.76	46.65	27.42	188.24	47.27	41.21	51.13
22.	Tamil Nadu	7468.73	1867.18	14396.41	8018.92	9222.31	15892.9	8110.20	8708.09	20681.44
23.	Tripura	132.69	33.17	144.77	132.82	144.47	211.58	134.90	144.84	266.55
24.	Uttar Pradesh	20400.14	5100.04	17039.77	21616.11	23733.55	24816.18	21863.19	22995.15	16899.07
25.	West Bengal	6957.87	1739.47	4468.87	7949.67	7668.93	5545.87	8039.87	4547.01	5350.71
26.	A & N Islands	47.17	0.00	15.96	47.17	28.26	54.79	47.27	47.27	20.26
27.	D & N Haveli	25.61	0.00	1.19	25.61	27.86	17.58	25.37	11.63	14.18
28.	Daman & Diu	15.08	0.00	9.25	15.08	7.54	15.1	14.99	7.49	7.70
29.	Lakshadweep	23.65	0.00	5.18	23.65	11.83	11.94	24.21	0.00	12.52
30.	Pondicherry	46.18	0.00	25.74	46.18	103.23	26.94	47.27	93.86	120.27
Total		109499.00	27335.33	116636.44	114000.00	117925.83	138592.42	115300.00	111711.14	134580.39

* IAY was a sub-scheme of JRY

** Provisional

Statement-VIII

Name of Programme : *Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY)*
Statement showing physical targets, achievements and percentage achievement during last three years i.e. 1995-96, 96-97 & 97-98

(Units Nos.)

Name of State	1995-96*			1996-97			1997-98**		
	Target	Achievement	% age Ach.	Target	Achievements	% Age Ach.	Target	Achievement	% age Ach.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Andhra Pradesh	87642	69086	78.83	84640	46181	54.56	96066	68311	157.82
Arunachal Pradesh	797	420	52.70	631	367	61.33	459	291	63.40

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Assam	22560	24871	97.30	29197	13401	45.90	18455	10570	57.27
Bihar	217292	114506	52.70	151453	133244	87.98	109982	85740	77.96
Goa	661	967	112.31	1736	466	26.84	548	512	93.43
Gujarat	34501	31770	92.06	33633	30481	90.63	20581	17854	86.75
Haryana	10646	9024	83.20	6983	6153	88.11	4943	3042	61.54
Himachal Pradesh	2736	1727	63.12	2165	2373	109.61	1572	1843	117.24
Jammu & Kashmir	10561	3554	33.65	5347	10197	190.71	3197	4306	134.69
Karnataka	52133	37460	71.85	53181	45503	85.56	37653	43522	115.59
Kerala	24624	29368	119.27	18554	23202	125.05	12454	12834	103.05
Madhya Pradesh	113384	125757	110.91	147902	87371	59.07	71054	65804	92.33
Maharashtra	86776	66648	74.24	81120	58244	71.80	61123	60709	99.32
Manipur	1022	781	76.71	808	715	88.49	590	1096	185.76
Meghalaya	1195	207	17.32	946	646	68.29	688	305	44.33
Mizoram	504	569	112.90	398	369	92.71	288	302	104.86
Nagaland	1261	470	36.69	1014	3691	364.00	734	1933	263.35
Orissa	62966	51033	81.02	62248	54612	87.73	45488	35834	78.78
Punjab	7047	1121	15.91	4966	1709	34.14	3517	3235	91.98
Rajasthan	50675	41756	82.06	50325	46682	92.78	29524	34688	117.49
Sikkim	1491	1065	71.43	369	760	205.96	269	448	166.64
Tamil Nadu	74205	56885	76.66	71596	63959	89.33	50689	55830	110.14
Tripura	1327	1348	101.58	1051	983	93.53	766	1665	217.36
Uttar Pradesh	204003	159073	77.96	241251	139801	57.95	136645	80958	59.25
West Bengal	69579	34278	49.26	70979	34722	48.92	50249	29490	58.69
A & N Islands	377	21	5.57	337	78	23.15	236	6	2.54
D & N Haveli	205	13	6.34	278	50	17.99	127	100	78.74
Daman & Diu	121	62	51.24	120	92	76.67	75	38	60.67
Lakshadweep	189	10	5.29	0	105	0.00	121	60	49.59
Pondicherry	369	36	9.76	330	113	34.24	236	199	84.32
Total	1147489	663889	75.29	1123560	806290	71.76	718328	641326	89.28

* IAY was a sub-scheme of JRY.

** Provisional.

Statement-IX

Statement showing allocation, releases and funds utilised during 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98, IRDP

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl. No.	State/UTs.	1995-96*			1996-97			1997-98		
		Total Allocation	Total Release	Total Expenditure	Total Allocation	Total Release	Total Expenditure	Total Allocation	Total Release	Total Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8336.41	8221.72	8624.01	8336.41	12065.74	12810.19	8612.22	9634.21	8843.36
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	623.43	582.86	582.56	623.43	471.59	249.26	644.06	651.30	373.84
3.	Assam	2743.50	3186.62	3409.02	2743.50	2400.47	1600.68	2834.24	2038.38	2058.86

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
4. Bihar		16218.24	8297.84	10784.51	16218.24	10999.78	13092.28	16754.8	9090.27	12398.34
5. Goa		141.87	128.25	116.30	141.87	90.33	83.78	148.58	120.89	130.20
6. Gujarat		3059.22	3153.11	3077.68	3059.22	3213.83	3026.53	3160.44	3850.61	3398.75
7. Haryana		735.33	1411.52	1683.74	735.33	787.80	1111.65	759.96	938.04	811.98
8. Himachal Pradesh		239.78	212.26	412.28	239.78	242.50	529.90	247.72	386.04	414.89
9. Jammu & Kashmir		999.09	680.71	701.26	999.09	786.69	556.17	1032.16	777.17	851.46
10. Karnataka		5594.91	5766.37	5574.60	5594.91	4072.57	3083.14	5780	4695.63	5470.63
11. Kerala		2036.15	2654.58	2268.90	2036.15	2061.12	2700.13	2103.5	2226.81	2531.98
12. Madhya Pradesh		10565.39	12846.52	11305.57	10565.39	9929.21	13469.83	10914.94	9328.36	11995.66
13. Maharashtra		9087.73	7785.50	9837.30	9087.73	7281.26	9406.32	9388.4	8541.07	9398.08
14. Manipur		449.59	355.71	312.64	449.59	501.56	416.33	464.48	235.15	286.88
15. Meghalaya		477.57	383.47	301.54	477.57	497.86	429.39	493.36	323.10	374.82
16. Mizoram		201.82	286.04	288.74	201.82	206.07	101.81	206.5	240.56	213.58
17. Nagaland		335.69	445.23	221.48	335.69	451.40	211.52	346.8	206.71	156.16
18. Orissa		6763.85	7058.80	7266.29	6763.85	6129.85	6972.15	6987.62	6178.52	6037.88
19. Punjab		521.53	401.26	731.71	521.53	516.81	592.38	538.78	716.31	572.29
20. Rajasthan		4388.01	3924.24	4730.24	4388.01	4020.59	4102.25	4533.18	3743.08	3929.19
21. Sikkim		55.95	169.99	129.25	55.95	81.75	108.44	57.8	126.92	112.41
22. Tamil Nadu		7537.14	5936.32	8515.03	7537.14	4517.82	7087.35	7786.5	6981.61	9283.85
23. Tripura		641.42	850.00	766.73	641.42	959.87	914.06	682.64	779.58	494.44
24. Uttar Pradesh		20316.50	23220.92	19266.98	20316.50	20212.39	21456.55	20988.66	18884.17	21286.36
25. West Bengal		7472.20	4544.13	6693.99	7472.20	3577.38	5474.89	7719.42	4525.15	4778.49
26. A & N Islands		70.94	0.00	49.92	70.94	51.94	17.73	73.29	41.70	31.35
27. D & N Haveli		14.99	7.49	13.68	14.99	14.99	13.56	15.49	31.13	12.37
28. Daman & Diu		27.97	13.98	16.67	27.97	13.98	11.32	28.9	28.91	13.69
29. Lakshadweep		6.99	4.08	4.38	6.99	6.99	3.58	7.22	17.78	3.83
30. Pondicherry		57.95	28.98	49.20	57.95	50.13	55.90	59.87	83.62	56.73
Total		109721.16	102558.52	107716.20	109721.16	96174.27	112689.09	113351.23	95424.68	106998.56

Note . Expenditure during 1996-97 and 1997-98 is provisional.

Total releases includes State share released so far. State releases for 1997-98 are provisional.

Statement X

Statement showing total families benefited under IRDP During 1995-96 to 1997-98

(Number of Families)

State/UTs	Total Families Assisted		
	1995-96	1996-97*	1997-98*
1	2	3	4
1. Andhra Pr.	122863	203135	127776
2. Arunachal Pr.	14381	10695	5744
3. Assam	59030	38087	26560

	1	2	3	4
4. Bihar		265525	244764	196685
5. Goa		1486	1982	897
6. Gujarat		55686	47545	41822
7. Haryana		29771	17202	10853
8. Himachal Pr.		6606	7990	5548
9. J & K		13189	11474	8487
10. Karnataka		119685	116900	94888
11. Kerala		43357	48690	44191
12. Madhya Pradesh		210692	188123	138810

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
13. Maharashtra	181597	161018	147640	23. Tripura	14657	13725	4911
14. Manipur	6077	7258	4258	24. Uttar Pradesh	355916	364552	351146
15. Meghalaya	4534	6822	5187	25. West Bengal	161724	110280	73770
16. Mizoram	5085	3059	2976	26. A & N Islands	832	591	480
17. Nagaland	2531	2064	835	27. D & N Haveli	274	168	179
18. Orissa	120669	102741	75343	28. Daman & Diu	310	304	181
19. Punjab	11786	7180	6107	29. Lakshadweep	18	30	27
20. Rajasthan	92818	70304	45408	30. Pondicherry	1563	1293	898
21. Sikkim	2843	2249	1792	Total	2089400	1922800	1603775
22. Tamil Nadu	183895	152597	180696				

Note : Since 1995-96 no physical targets fixed under IRDP.

*= Provisional

Statement-XI

State-wise Allocation & Utilisation under TRYSEM during 1995-96 to 1997-98

Sl. No.	State/UTs	1995-96			1996-97			1997-98		
		Total Allocation	Release	Utilisation	Total Allocation	Release	Utilisation	Total Allocation	Release	Utilisation
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	684.92	1028.37	1318.69	290.64	499.67	1517.59	684.92	669.10	593.92
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	51.22	0.00	39.16	9.06	17.06	24.87	51.22	8.49	21.59
3.	Assam	225.40	107.34	237.83	105.45	210.90	152.08	225.40	104.33	198.61
4.	Bihar	1274.48	424.99	685.37	248.30	747.25	968.55	1274.48	402.62	604.65
5.	Goa	11.66	2.92	38.96	5.84	5.84	53.62	11.66	15.92	26.00
6.	Gujarat	251.340	279.52	366.64	302.39	431.66	299.36	251.34	238.96	119.20
7.	Haryana	60.40	60.38	162.30	25.69	51.38	119.27	60.40	38.07	54.97
8.	Himachal Pradesh	19.80	14.85	25.73	65.23	72.88	20.19	19.80	10.56	15.12
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	140.00	115.96	116.19	27.84	97.84	117.32	140.00	75.11	64.75
10.	Karnataka	459.84	566.66	666.27	164.55	315.35	594.75	459.84	373.44	456.71
11.	Kerala	167.28	279.46	237.66	65.16	130.32	158.65	167.28	131.48	88.82
12.	Madhya Pradesh	867.96	938.17	1090.86	360.40	801.53	1086.76	867.96	684.30	552.35
13.	Maharashtra	746.64	804.44	398.38	256.17	514.84	782.90	746.64	412.22	392.52
14.	Manipur	36.94	0.00	15.91	9.24	26.35	14.79	36.94	4.20	13.08
15.	Meghalaya	39.24	74.62	10.97	5.34	30.50	27.26	39.24	11.21	15.91
16.	Mizoram	16.58	35.60	35.52	8.30	22.24	7.89	16.58	11.63	8.78
17.	Nagaland	57.58	0.00	83.05	13.78	13.78	15.05	27.58	12.06	24.74
18.	Orissa	555.72	202.47	250.12	199.51	372.26	557.00	555.72	355.81	342.21
19.	Punjab	43.00	58.76	73.72	16.46	34.14	45.06	43.00	30.46	43.79

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
20. Rajasthan		360.52	587.38	330.71	72.80	146.19	215.12	360.52	186.35	367.00
21. Sikkim		4.60	24.00	17.00	2.30	14.30	22.99	4.60	3.07	1.33
22. Tamil Nadu		619.24	335.64	547.30	235.67	521.99	694.82	619.24	531.99	629.71
23. Tripura		52.68	33.52	60.35	19.36	50.70	52.65	52.68	43.95	42.62
24. Uttar Pradesh		1669.12	1253.94	1970.77	752.00	1504.00	1813.10	1669.12	1065.26	991.91
25. West Bengal		613.84	383.10	644.97	187.75	354.86	645.20	613.84	352.68	357.31
26. A & N Islands		11.74	9.89	7.15	7.72	7.72	7.23	11.74	5.87	2.42
27. D & N Haveli		2.48	1.60	1.49	1.24	1.24	2.85	4.82	0.00	2.20
28. Daman & Diu		4.62	4.62	0.00	2.31	2.31	1.07	2.48	0.00	0.00
29. Lakshadweep		1.16	0.58	2.57	0.58	7.16	2.17	1.16	0.58	0.54
30. Pondicherry		5.00	2.50	19.72	5.00	5.00	6.84	5.00	5.00	3.26
All India		9025.00	7331.27	9455.35	3466.08	7011.25	10027.01	9025.00	5784.72	6036.02

Statement-XII*Physical Progress Under TRYSEM (Rs)
During 1995-96 to 1997-98*

(in numbers)

Sl. No.	State/UTs	1995-96*			1996-97			1997-98		
		Targets	Achi.	%age	Targets	Achi.	%age	Targets	Achi.	%age
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	38271	19846	51.858497	38534	83716	217.252297	38534	14214	36.89
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1000	1277	127.7	1200	739	61.5833333	750	252	33.60
3.	Assam	9000	10317	114.633333	9000	6277	69.7444444	9278	2290	24.68
4.	Bihar	56370	26287	46.632961	56370	34477	61.1619656	56370	24146	42.83
5.	Goa	3000	3896	129.86667	2000	3863	193.15	2000	1339	66.95
6.	Gujarat	8976	10958	122.08111	7500	9371	12.4946667	5700	7284	127.79
7.	Haryana	1010	3582	354.65347	0	3519		0	1379	
8.	Himachal Pradesh	707	894	126.44979	0	803		707	545	77.09
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	5023	4326	86.12383	0	4294		0	1847	
10.	Karnataka	18251	16602	90.964879	16422	18096	110.193643	16422	15914	96.91
11.	Kerala	6080	4860	79.934211	6080	5036	82.8289474	6080	3019	49.65
12.	Madhya Pradesh	68850	60107	87.30138	34425	39806	115.631082	18360	8785	47.85
13.	Maharashtra	14290	5764	40.335899	21500	21447	99.7534884	20100	18234	90.72
14.	Manipur	717	117	16.317992	717	362	50.488145	NR	766	
15.	Meghalaya	791	292	36.915297	0	352		0	258	
16.	Mizoram	770	692	89.87013	1200	445	37.0833333	501	370	73.85

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
17. Nagaland		617	227	36.980924	720	486	67.5	0	0	
18. Orissa		18840	6388	33.906582	18840	18555	98.4872611	18840	10354	54.96
19. Punjab		3210	2870	83.17757	2376	1824	76.7676768	1800	1656	92.00
20. Rajasthan		10000	9269	92.69	10000	5766	57.66	10000	3179	31.79
21. Sikkim		633	408	64.454976	0	660		600	0	0.00
22. Tamil Nadu		0	11561		0	7687		NF	7280	
23. Tripura		2500	3838	153.52	2000	2597	129.85	2500	2776	111.00
24. Uttar Pradesh		60400	63721	105.49834	604006	69272	114.688742	55330	32662	59.03
25. West Bengal		23704	22557	95.161154	0	24199		23560	16088	68.29
26. A & N Islands		420	279	66.428571	420	486	115.714288	320	58	18.13
27. D & N Haveli		0	0		0	75		0	120	
28. Daman & Diu		0	87		75	107	142.666667	75	82	109.33
29. Lakshadweep		50	3	6	50	12	24	0	0	
30. Pondicherry		500	625	125	250	8	3.2	200	138	69.00
Total		353980	291450	82.33516	290079	364337	125.599233	288027	17534	60.77

NR - Not reported

NF - Not fixed by State

Statement - XIII

Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA)
Statement showing allocation, release and utilisation of funds during
last three years i.e. 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98

(Rs.in lacs)

Sl. No.	State/Union Territories	1995-96			1996-97			1997-98		
		Allocation	Releases	Expenditure	Allocation	Releases	Expenditure	Allocation	Releases	Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	431.25	1941.25	2655.93	540.82	1441.44	3446.12	359.38	362.250	868.19
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	26.85	16.20	27.70	22.38	14.37	24.35	22.38	12.478	23.41
3.	Assam	170.25	158.85	182.81	213.70	190.89	182.99	141.88	133.012	14.30
4.	Bihar	456.30	225.00	218.07	380.25	332.75	571.55	380.25	226.778	455.04
5.	Goa	5.40	2.70	5.60	4.50	4.54	9.07	4.50	3.150	4.79
6.	Gujarat	154.95	117.30	263.79	194.65	195.64	275.56	129.13	127.636	262.14
7.	Haryana	87.90	80.50	139.87	98.45	74.00	163.00	73.25	63.382	96.22
8.	Himachal Pradesh	45.60	34.25	31.89	44.30	36.32	29.29	38.00	30.866	47.30
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	132.00	67.50	106.85	110.00	26.46	99.07	110.00	59.974	93.49
10.	Karnataka	232.20	123.00	149.71	290.52	282.74	452.81	193.50	169.332	406.26

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
11.	Kerala	108.00	98.90	147.95	135.36	135.08	202.07	90.00	88.826	171.83
12.	Madhya Pradesh	418.25	202.50	207.62	349.68	114.66	161.25	349.38	332.892	584.34
13.	Maharashtra	343.20	270.50	473.73	286.00	288.29	573.71	286.00	239.148	310.22
14.	Manipur	36.75	36.75	52.08	30.63	18.77	44.11	30.63	12.222	21.41
15.	Meghalaya	68.00	10.50	23.65	55.00	18.90	47.68	55.00	16.126	25.63
16.	Mizoram	10.20	10.20	20.19	8.50	6.80	16.80	8.50	8.664	8.57
17.	Nagaland	18.30	18.30	4.20	15.25	15.37	48.10	15.25	8.190	3.99
18.	Orissa	243.45	220.20	268.48	202.88	187.11	428.31	202.88	179.126	276.55
19.	Punjab	99.45	79.13	143.58	82.80	72.45	115.24	82.86	60.610	88.68
20.	Rajasthan	185.70	139.50	7.560	154.74	2.78		154.74	7.560	38.44
21.	Sikkim	26.10	18.00	20.52	21.75	10.08	3.80	21.75	10.982	12.92
22.	Tamil Nadu	292.65	273.90	284.72	243.88	216.86	399.22	243.88	245.194	265.51
23.	Tripura	13.50	13.50	28.82	11.25	11.34	28.85	11.25	11.340	26.24
24.	Uttar Pradesh	610.20	600.90	335.21	764.28	768.35	865.15	508.50	491.274	975.50
25.	West Bengal	270.90	81.00	57.05	225.75	100.30	131.71	225.75	82.026	100.77
Union Territories										
1.	A & N Islands	5.80	4.00	3.64	9.77	9.83	11.85	7.25	5.292	1.01
2.	D & N Haveli	3.20	2.00	2.86	3.50	0.00	0.15	3.50	0.000	0.19
3.	Daman & Diu	2.80	2.00	2.64	4.00	0.00	1.45	4.00	0.000	
4.	Lakshadweep	3.20	2.00	0.09	4.00	0.00	0.47	4.00	0.000	0.69
5.	Pondicherry	30.20	2.00	0.000	4.00	0.00		4.00	0.000	0.04
		4504.550	4881.43	5866.83	4512.370	4596.11	8313.73	3761.405	2988.81	5183.67

Statement - XIV

Development of Women And Children In Rural Areas (DW CRA)

Statement showing physical targets, achievement and percentage achievement during last three years i.e. 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98

		1995-96			1996-97			1997-98		
Sl. No.	State/Union Territories	Physical Target (No. of Groups)	Groups Formed	%age Ach.	Physical Target (No. of Groups)	Groups Formed	%age Ach.	Physical Target (No. of Groups)	Groups Formed	%age Ach.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2875	17164	597.01	2875	17737	616.74	2875	7178	249.67
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	179	174	97.21	179	126	70.39	179	103	57.54
3.	Assam	1135	856	75.42	1135	823	72.61	1135	29	2.54
4.	Bihar	3042	2697	88.66	3042	2415	79.39	3042	1767	58.09

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
5.	Goa	36	36	100.00	36	36	100.00	36	36	100.00
6.	Gujarat	1033	1092	105.71	1033	1026	99.32	1033	1194	114.62
7.	Haryana	586	571	97.44	586	711	121.33	586	442	75.43
8.	Himachal Pradesh	304	285	87.17	304	129	42.43	304	283	93.09
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	880	642	72.95	880	705	80.11	880	472	53.64
10.	Karnataka	1548	755	48.77	1548	2128	137.47	1548	2229	143.99
11.	Kerala	720	797	110.69	720	762	133.61	720	1201	166.81
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2795	1592	56.96	2795	1136	40.64	2795	2747	97.21
13.	Maharashtra	2288	2175	95.06	2288	2522	110.23	2268	1699	74.26
14.	Manipur	245	259	105.71	245	265	108.16	245	90	36.73
15.	Meghalaya	440	182	41.36	440	360	81.82	440	201	45.68
16.	Mizoram	68	46	67.65	69	66	97.06	68	68	100.00
17.	Nagaland	122	106	86.89	122	170	139.34	122	18	14.75
18.	Oriasa	1623	1730	106.59	1623	2094	129.02	1623	1340	82.56
19.	Punjab	663	625	94.27	663	482	72.70	663	439	66.21
20.	Rajasthan	1238	962	77.71	1238	600	48.47	1236	173	13.97
21.	Sikkim	174	135	77.59	174	25	14.37	174	85	48.85
22.	Tamil Nadu	1951	1363	69.86	1951	1549	79.40	1951	1271	65.15
23.	Tripura	90	143	158.89	99	149	165.58	90	139	154.44
24.	Uttar Pradesh	4068	2252	55.36	4968	3404	83.68	4068	5574	137.02
25.	West Bengal	1806	888	49.17	1806	1758	97.34	1806	1619	89.65
Union Territories										
1.	A & N Islands	29	26	89.66	29	59	203.45	29	19	65.52
2.	D & N Havell	14	20	142.86	14		0.00	14	0	0.00
3.	Daman & Diu	16	16	100.00	16	9	56.25	16	0	0.00
4.	Lakshadweep	16	7	43.75	16	2	12.50	16	6	37.50
5.	Pondicherry	16		0.00	16	14	87.50	16	14	87.50
		30000	37576	125.25	30000	41462	138.21	30000	30396	101.32

Statement - XV*Statement showing allocation, release and expenditure under ARWSP for last three years*

(Rs. in lacs)

State/Union Territories	1995-96				1996-97				1997-98			
	Allocation	Total Release	Additional Release	Expenditure	Allocation	Total Release	Additional Release	Expenditure	Allocation	Total Release	Additional Release	Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Andhra Pradesh	60.270	63.803	3.533	60.270	66.180	66.792	0.542	80.335	79.640	88.068	8.428	87.821
Arunachal Pradesh	10.920	10.920		6.907	12.000	12.000		16.706	14.440	24.760	10.320	19.592
Assam	18.450	22.450	4.000	18.450	20.260	23.535	3.275	14.458	24.380	23.765		18.018
Bihar	70.990	35.495		22.740	77.950	31.130		34.237	93.800	0.000		0.454
Goa	1.700	2.550	0.850	0.850	1.890	5.504	3.614	3.671	2.270	1.965		3.263

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Gujarat	38.500	40.500	2.000	29.805	41.970	41.970		42.861	49.870	58.866	8.998	44.418
Haryana	23.120	25.691	2,571	22.042	24.410	25.500	1.090	32.084	27.360	32.592	5.232	34.061
Himachal Pradesh	12.150	16.612	4.462	17.218	13.310	19.340	6.030	19.976	15.960	17.060	1.130	11.577
Jammu & Kashmir	33.820	38.939	5,319	40.998	36.880	37.350	0.470	27.385	44.310	46.940	2.630	23.500
Karnataka	55.440	65.440	10.000	58.792	60.870	67.207	6.337	67.773	73.250	99.377	26.127	91.466
Kerala	28.190	29.190	1.000	31.833	30.950	32.637	1.687	32.385	37.240	35.847		27.737
Madhya Pradesh	66.730	66.730		60.702	73.270	73.136		76.096	88.170	83.457		51.128
Maharashtra	80.230	74.749		57.700	88.100	91.810	3.710	72.921	106.020	120.872	14.852	104.650
Manipur	4.010	4.010		3.306	4.400	4.786	0.386	6.373	5.290	9.070	3.780	2.247
Meghalaya	4.300	2.208		5.592	4.220	5.720	1.000	3.205	5.680	7.432	1.752	7.309
Mizoram	3.070	3.400	0.330	3.087	3.370	4.289	0.919	3.656	4.060	5.835	1.776	4.901
Nagaland	4.220	2.110		1.801	4.220	4.220		4.275	4.220	2.110		2.110
Orissa	31.590	33.760	2.170	32.475	32.680	41.538	6.058	32.925	41.730	50.384	8.654	34.669
Punjab	10.060	15.060	5.000	12.463	11.050	12.890	1.840	12.308	13.300	17.140	3.840	17.843
Rajasthan	97.390	100.390	3.000	105.190	103.870	115.870	12.000	118.894	118.630	137.832	19.202	109.607
Sikkim	3.720	5.720	2.000	5.711	3.720	4.720	1.000	5.720	3.720	4.356	0.636	4.356
Tamil Nadu	47.790	52.620	4.830	33.737	52.470	53.330	0.860	34.277	63.140	58.344		79.470
Tripura	3.800	7.600	3.800	10.198	4.180	8.500	4.320	8.602	5.030	7.620	2.590	9.946
Uttar Pradesh	111.820	113.344	1.524	136.162	122.790	117.282		104.906	147.750	151.827	4.077	74.031
West Bengal	43.170	34.956		34.953	47.400	45.213		36.017	57.040	44.115		44.224
A & N Islands	0.440	0.000		0.000	0.250	0.000		0.000	0.125	0.000		0.000
D & N Haveli	0.250	0.000		0.000	0.150	0.030		0.000	0.125	0.000		0.000
Delhi	0.290	0.000		0.000	0.300	0.000		0.000	0.050	0.000		0.000
Lakshadweep	0.120	0.000		0.100	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.125	0.000		0.000
Pondicherry	0.300	0.600	0.300	0.400	0.200	0.100		0.285	0.050	0.100	0.050	0.018
Daman & Diu	0.150	0.000		0.000	0.100	0.000		0.000	0.125	0.000		0.000
Total	866.800	868.846	56.668	813.488	945.900	946.329	55.938	892.131	1126.900	1129.563	124.071	906.676

Statement - XVI*Physical Target and Coverage Habitations during 1997-98*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Month	(No. of Habitations/Villages)														
			Target			Coverage									Percentage Coverage No. (15/6)×100		
			NC	PC	Total	ARWSP			MNP			Total (ARWSP+MNP)					
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17				
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3/98	380	2817	3197	192	1259	1451	188	1258	1446	380	2517	2897	90.62	1	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3/98	199	135	334	160	64	224	37	56	93	197	120	317	94.91	2
3.	Assam	3/98	1550	125	1675	769	192	961	723	68	791	1492	260	1752	104.60	3
4.	Bihar	2/98	3663	12804	16467	204	2044	2248	585	2787	3372	789	4831	5620	34.13	4
5.	Goa	12/97	13	23	36	1	0	1	2	3	5	3	3	6	16.67	5
6.	Gujarat	2/98	800	700	1500	310	200	510	300	267	567	610	467	1077	71.60	6
7.	Haryana	3/98	60	750	810	0	219	219	45	386	431	45	605	650	80.25	7
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3/98	1100	0	1100	498	102	600	494	313	807	992	415	1407	127.91	8
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1/98	630	1037	1667	0	111	111	0	34	34	0	145	145	8.70	9
10.	Karnataka	3/98	2664	6179	8993	837	4506	5343	0	4164	4164	837	8670	9507	105.72	10
11.	Kerala	2/98	574	652	1226	1	105	106	153	147	300	154	252	406	33.12	11
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2/98	2289	6122	8411	1145	5307	6452	1144	5307	6451	2289	10614	12903	153.41	12
13.	Maharashtra	3/98	173	5434	5807	30	712	742	143	5536	5679	173	6248	6421	114.52	13
14.	Manipur	11/97	393	183	576	73	36	109	76	38	114	149	74	223	38.72	14
15.	Meghalaya	3/98	338	185	523	174	57	231	95	156	251	269	213	482	92.16	15
16.	Mizoram	3/98	54	131	185	10	102	112	20	53	73	30	155	185	100.00	16
17.	Nagaland	2/98	70	0	70	1	5	6	0	0	0	1	5	6	8.57	17
18.	Orissa	3/98	6000	2000	8000	3224	2915	6130	475	736	1211	3699	3651	7350	91.88	18
19.	Punjab	3/98	353	0	353	73	105	178	90	0	90	163	105	268	75.92	19
20.	Rajasthan	3/98	4673	600	5273	3773	275	4048	1150	238	1388	3923	513	5436	103.09	20
21.	Sikkim	3/98	0	126	126	0	58	58	0	63	63	0	121	121	96.03	21
22.	Tamil Nadu	3/98	0	3000	3000	0	1772	1772	0	2759	2759	0	4531	4531	151.03	22
23.	Tripura	3/98	982	1085	2067	0	256	256	94	92	186	94	348	442	21.38	23
24.	Uttar Pradesh	11/97	2451	21821	24272	1227	5503	6730	1224	8643	9867	2451	14146	16597	68.38	24
25.	West Bengal	3/98	932	3116	4048	466	1619	2085	466	1643	2109	932	3262	4194	103.61	25
26.	A & N Islands	3/98	11	3	14	0	0	0	0	11	11	0	11	11	78.57	26
27.	D & N Haveli	12/98	0	50	50	0	0	0	0	45	45	0	45	45	90.00	27
28.	Daman & Diu	6/97	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	25.00	28
29.	Delhi	2/98	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	29
30.	Lakshadweep	2/98	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	33.33	30
31.	Pondicherry	3/98	0	26	26	0	0	0	0	10	10	0	10	10	38.46	31
Total			30562*	69061	99613	13168	27524	40692	7504	34815	42319	20672	62339	83011	83.33	

* Includes the following N-Cat PYS of 1985 list

State	Target	Coverage
Assam	3	1
Gujarat	9	
J & K	12	

Maharashtra 12

Meghalaya 30 (Under Progress)

Rajasthan 4 8 (16 under progress & disputed)

Total	70	10
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Statement - XVII

Statement showing details of additional released irrespective of
IRDP, TRYSEM, DW CRA and IAY

Name of the State	(Rs. in lakhs)								
	IRDP		TRYSEM			DW CRA		IAY	
	1995-96	1997-98	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1995-96	1996-97	1996-97	1997-98
Andhra Pradesh	1565.95	599.25	133.69	144.00	287.45	1510.00	181.44	2478.10	561.30
Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	44.81						105.37	59.31
Assam	516.00	197.21			32.18		71.82	256.11	169.15
Bihar	0.00	116.73						1848.22	897.80
Goa 48.16	0.00	0.00						7.55	1.45
Gujarat	172.50	219.91		137.70			65.52	285.59	242.76
Haryana	369.00	52.86					25.20	68.61	58.31
Himachal Pradesh	78.00	12.59		54.35			6.30	24.00	220.40
Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	54.03						426.78	178.20
Karnataka	920.50	285.31	53.43				97.02	1815.99	362.88
Kerala	309.03	134.73	93.30				45.36	190.09	181.58
Madhya Pradesh	1445.22	300.60	604.11	471.49	188.25			986.01	1238.10
Maharashtra	0.00	192.26	484.00					772.31	637.51
Manipur	0.00	5.57						208.00	2.24
Meghalaya	0.00	4.29	68.42					5.54	0.00
Mizoram	43.00	14.51	9.51					4.42	3.74
Nagaland	145.04	21.34						211.24	309.52
Orissa	817.05	418.51	19.39					1131.20	484.08
Punjab	0.00	37.49						48.79	22.39
Rajasthan	342.00	165.87						409.65	208.80
Sikkim	52.11	4.02						4.09	3.48
Tamil Nadu	0.00	541.80						1203.41	597.89
Tripura	159.89	183.00						11.65	9.94
Uttar Pradesh	2414.00	574.84					255.78	2396.15	1486.00
West Bengal	468.50	14.22						595.52	21.07
A & N Islands	0.00	0.00						4.14	0.00
D & N Haveli	0.00	2.16						2.25	0.00
Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00					2.52	0.00	0.00
Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00						0.00	0.00
Pondicherry	0.00	9.33						0.00	0.00
								57.05	52.73
Total	10018.79	4208.64	1485.85	807.48	517.99	1510.00	750.96	15555.84	8057.63

* IAY was a Sub-scheme of JRY.

** Provisional

Haj Pilgrims

*30. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the flights schedule of Air India at Jeddah got upset, particularly in April, 1998, causing great hardships to the Haj pilgrims on return journey;

(b) if so, the details thereof and causes for the same;

(c) whether attention of the Government have been drawn to a report under the caption "Many Indian Hajjis stranded at Jeddah" published in "Times of India", Mumbai issue dated April 23, 1998;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of any enquiry made in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (e) The news item is mainly about inconvenience caused to Indian Haj Pilgrims at Jeddah Airport reportedly due to dislocation of schedules of charter flights.

Out of 174 flights operated from Jeddah to India, 44 flights were delayed between 6-24 hours due to congestion at Jeddah Airport and technical snags developed by the airport weteased by Air India. In addition, three flights were delayed due to late reporting of pilgrim at Jeddah airport. All the pilgrims were carried to their respective destinations by re-scheduling of flights and no flight was cancelled on account of technical snags or delays. Further the pilgrims of the affected aircraft were accorded the usual facilitation including serving of meals and refreshments till their departure.

Mobilisation of Funds

*31. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :

SHRI AJIT JOGI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways has mobilised a huge amount from public through the Indian Railway Finance Corporation;

(b) if so, the total amount and the year in which it has been mobilised alongwith the rate of interest and the date of maturity thereof and the projects for which this amount was mobilised; and

(c) the manner in which the Railways propose to utilise this huge amount ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) : The following amounts were mobilised through bond issues in the domestic market, by way of Public Issue and Private Placement:

Year	Amount mobilised (Rs. in Crore)	Rate of Interest Per Annum	Date of Maturity	Year-wise total (Rs. in crore)
1	2	3	4	5
1987-88	250.00	10%	15.04.1997	
	309.40	9%	15.04.1997	
1988-89	400.00	9%	26.02.1998	959.40
	100.00	9%	23.03.1999	
1989-90	500.00	9%	07.02.1999	600.00
	100.00	9%	12.01.2000	
(d)	300.00	9%	16.12.1999	
	50.00	9%	22.12.1999	
(e)	165.00	9%	28.12.1999	
	35.00	9%	30.12.1999	
1990-91	350.00	9%	01.01.2000	1000.00
	100.00	9%	18.03.2001	
1991-92	1070.00	9%	28.08.2000	1170.00
	800.00	9%	15.07.2001	
1992-93	700.00	9%	30.11.2001	1500.00
	0.00			0.00
1993-94	85.71	10.50%	04.03.2001	
	200.00	16%	04.03.1999	
1994-95	130.00	14%	28.03.1999	
	20.00	14%	30.03.1999	
1995-96	200.00	10.50%	09.03.2001	
	35.00	10.50%	22.03.2001	
1996-97	3.00	10.50%	26.03.2001	
	54.00	10.50%	28.03.2001	
1997-98	8.00	10.50%	30.03.2001	
	5.00	10.50%	31.01.2001	740.71
1998-99	176.50	10.50%	05.10.2001	
	30.00	9%	17.01.2002	206.50
1999-00	5.00	10.50%	15.09.2002	
	5.00	10.50%	16.09.2002	
2000-01	30.00	10.50%	22.09.2002	
	10.00	10.50%	27.10.2002	
2001-02	11.00	10.50%	17.11.2002	
	0.98	10.50%	24.11.2002	
2002-03	10.00	10.50%	30.11.2002	
	2.73	10.50%	01.12.2002	
2003-04	0.73	10.50%	08.12.2002	
	0.94	10.50%	15.12.2002	

1	2	3	4	5
	13.68	10.50%	22.12.2002	
	0.15	10.50%	29.12.2002	
	6.28	10.50%	15.01.2003	
	0.40	10.50%	19.01.2003	
	0.51	10.50%	02.02.2003	
	0.01	10.50%	09.02.2003	
	161.91	16.50%	29.03.2003	259.32
1996-97	130.59	10.50%	27.08.2003	
	11.75	10.50%	07.10.2003	
	292.25	16.50%	27.08.2003	
	58.85	16.50%	07.10.2003	
	147.24	10.50%	21.05.2003	
	61.90	16.50%	21.05.2001	
	13.39	16.50%	21.05.2001	
	38.39	16.50%	21.05.2006	
	190.47	10.50%	04.03.2004	944.83
1997-98	386.02	10.50%	27.06.2004	
	60.50	10.50%	30.03.2008	
	50.00	10.50%	31.03.2005	
	500.00	14.25%	29.07.2004	
	458.47	13.50%	29.07.2004	1454.99
			TOTAL	8835.75

The funds so raised are utilised to finance the acquisition of Rolling Stock assets which are given on lease to Indian Railways.

Reservation in Armed Forces

*32. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD :

SHRI C.P.M. GIRIYAPPA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal to introduce reservation for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and OBC for recruitment in the Armed Forces is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Appointments and selection to Armed Forces are made strictly on merit and no reservation on the basis of Caste, Community, area or class is provided.

[Translation]

Menace of Touts

*33. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the menace of touts and unauthorised travel agents dealing with the reservation of railway tickets throughout the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the railway officials act in league with the touts for extraneous benefits;

(d) if so, the number of raids conducted in each zone during the last year and the current year till date and action taken against the guilty officials;

(e) the existing provisions in regard to action/punishment against the persons found in illegal reservation;

(f) whether the Government are aware that present provisions are not adequate to check the said blackmarketing legal reservations;

(g) whether the Government contemplate to amend the existing provisions so as to make them more effective; and

(h) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) to (d) Yes Sir, Some cases of cornering of train accommodation by anti-social elements and later selling it on premium to needy passengers have been reported.

In order to check this menace, regular checks are conducted to nab the touts and unauthorised Travel Agents by RPF, Vigilance and Commercial Departments in the Railways.

Checks are also conducted on the premises of authorised rail travel agents to see if any irregularities are committed by them. These raids and checks are intensified during summer rush.

In the year 1997-98, 43603 raids were conducted against touts. As a result of the above checks, 4808 touts and anti-social elements have been detected and various actions against them like fining, prosecution, forfeiting of tickets, etc. have been taken. In some instances, licences of defaulting RTSAs have also been suspended/cancelled. Apart from this, the passengers who have purchased tickets from unauthorised agents are also checked on trains and 19095 cases of transferred tickets have been caught during this period and an amount of Rs. 84.50 lakhs realised from them. 646 railway staff have also been taken up for various irregularities including complaints in booking/reservation.

In addition, a Tatkal Scheme of reservations has since been started in a few trains for providing instant reservations to the intending passengers 24 hours in advance of the schedule departure of the train on a nominal extra charge. During the peak season, officers and inspectors are also deputed in the reservation offices to regulate the entry of unauthorised persons, monitoring the queue lengths and ensuring that only genuine passengers purchase the tickets for reservation. CCTV cameras have also been installed at a few major reservation offices to keep an eye on the activities of anti-social and unscrupulous elements indulging in malpractices in reservations.

(e) Existing provisions are contained under Section 142 and 143 of Railway Act, 1989 prescribing the penalties for transferring a reserved ticket or travelling on a transferred ticket and carrying on unauthorisedly the business of procuring and selling of railway tickets.

(f) to (h) The matter of adequacy of existing provision of Railway Act in under examination.

[English]

Action Plan for Water Supply

*34 DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to draw up an action plan for supply of drinking water to the needy people in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government have assessed the latest position about the areas where for the last 50 years drinking water has not been provided;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government have urged the State Government to formulate the action plans in this regard;

(e) whether the Government have also agreed to provide funds to meet the plans; and

(f) if so, the details of the amount and other facilities provided to the State Governments in achieving this aim, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) Water supply being a State subject, it is the responsibility of the State Governments/urban local bodies to plan, formulate, execute water supply schemes and to provide safe drinking water. The Working Group on Urban Water Supply & Sanitation constituted by the Government for formulation of the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002) has recommended to provide water supply facilities to 100% of the urban population by the end of 9th Plan.

(b) No, Sir. However, as per the information furnished by the State Agencies and local bodies dealing with

urban water supply & sanitation, it has been assessed that as on 31.3.93, about 85% of the urban population had been provided with safe drinking water supply facilities.

(c) The State-wise coverage of population with water supply facilities in urban areas is given in the Statement-I attached.

(d) The Central Government has been emphasising the need for providing safe drinking water to all and this has been more than once repeated at the conference of Chief Ministers and in the report of the Working Group.

(e) It is the responsibility of the State Governments to plan and provide funds for safe drinking water supply. The Central Government has been supplementing the efforts of the State Governments to a limited extent, under the Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) initiated during March, 1994 for towns having population of less than 20 thousand (as per 1991 Census). The cost of the schemes approved under the programme is shared by the Central and the State Governments in the ratio of 1:1.

(f) Under the AUWS Programme, 258 schemes at an estimated cost of Rs. 250.72 crores have been approved and Central share of Rs. 96.57 crores has been released to the State Governments so far. State-wise break up of the schemes approved is given in Statement-II enclosed.

Statement-I

Status of Urban Water Supply and Sanitation - India Population Coverage as on 31.3.93 (Popln. in' 000)

Sl. No.	Name of State/ U.T.	Estimated Popln. by end of March 1993	Population served with Water Supply through			
			H.S.C.	Stand Post	Total Popln.	%
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15339	8953	3853	12806	83.48
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	111	78	33	111	100.00
3.	Assam @ n &	2593	185	110	295	11.37
4.	Bihar	11892	4187	5327	9514	80.00
5.	Delhi &	10300	4730	4540	9270	90.00
6.	Goa	506	311	135	446	88.14
7.	Gujarat	15127	11910	2977	14887	98.41
8.	Haryana	3864	2705	1159	3864	100.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	480	274	206	480	100.00
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	2030	1421	609	2030	100.00
11.	Karnataka	14039	10247	2888	13135	93.56
12.	Kerala	8217	2360	2690	5050	61.45
13.	Madhya Pradesh	15851	9064	5216	14280	90.08

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
14.	Maharashtra	32115	20284	11296	31580	98.33
15.	Manipur	548	402	60	462	84.30
16.	Meghalaya	302	107	111	216	72.16
17.	Mizoram	175	40	60	100	57.14
18.	Nagaland	214	63	151	214	100.00
19.	Orissa	4332	688	1617	2305	53.20
20.	Punjab §	6217	2922	560	3482	86.00
21.	Rajasthan	10864	8503	2361	10864	100.00
22.	Sikkim	195	95	25	120	61.53
23.	Tamil Nadu	22941	8720	2514	11234	48.98
24.	Tripura n	344	128	55	183	53.19
25.	Uttar Pradesh	29470	19643	8416	28061	95.21
26.	West Bengal	19412	9493	7167	16660	85.62
Total		227478	127513	64136	191651	84.25
UNION TERRITORIES						
1.	A & N Islands	90	55	22	77	85.55
2.	Chandigarh	617	617	0	617	100.00
3.	D & Nagar Haveli	14	9	4	13	92.85
4.	Daman & Diu ?	27	10	17	27	100.00
5.	Lakshadweep	29	0	29	29	100.00
6.	Pondicherry	517	349	168	517	100.00
Total U. Ts.		1294	1040	240	1290	98.91
Grand Total		228772	128553	64376	192941	84.33

Remarks

H.S.C. - HOUSE SERVICE CONNECTION

L.C.S. - LOW COST SANITATION

? - Discrepancy in figures. Letter has been written to the concerned agency.

@ - The figures for from Assam State is less than those furnished in 1985. In regard to sanitation, Director, MPL, Admn. Dept. Govt. of Assam has been requested to furnish the data.

§ - Punjab W. S. & S. Bd. has furnished revised figures for the period ending 31.12.91. The figures from L.C.S. as of 31.3.93 is shown as less than for 31.12.91.

n - The information of these states are of previous year - viz. Ar. Pradesh-1990, Tripura-1988 and A & N Islands - 1991.

& - Data on Sewerage and Sanitation is yet to be received from these agencies.

Statement-II**Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP)**

S. No.	Name of the State	No. of Schemes Approved	Estimated Cost	Central Share Released (Rs. in Lakhs)
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	2467.00	104.45
2.	Assam	6	867.35	334.11
3.	Bihar	4	315.82	94.56
4.	Goa	2	51.13	25.58
5.	Gujarat	8	506.09	255.62
6.	Haryana	6	630.25	316.13
7.	Himachal Pradesh	4	326.10	163.05
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	3	467.61	105.56
9.	Karnataka	12	1213.26	417.81
10.	Kerala	3	712.62	203.22
11.	Madhya Pradesh	54	3687.29	1802.92
12.	Maharashtra	10	1371.10	658.71
13.	Manipur	7	468.36	234.18
14.	Meghalaya	1	195.63	97.82
15.	Mizoram	2	149.63	74.82
16.	Nagaland	1	219.70	86.99
17.	Orissa	8	1158.62	446.35
18.	Punjab	5	299.51	184.13
19.	Rajasthan	20	1792.64	975.21
20.	Sikkim	-	-	0.00
21.	Tamil Nadu	16	885.65	401.41
22.	Tripura	-	-	5.16
23.	Uttar Pradesh	61	6778.53	2807.91
24.	West Bengal	3	325.86	162.94
Total		258	25072.17	9657.40

[Translation]**Visit of Siachen Glacier by Defence Minister**

*35. SHRI MOHAN SINGH :

SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he visited Siachen Glacier on 30th April, 1998 when the Pakistani troops indiscriminately opened fire on Indian post without any provocation during the inspection;

(b) the number of casualties Indian army suffered therein; and

(c) the efforts made to ensure that our troops posted there are well equipped to retaliate the indiscriminate firing often taking place from across the Pak border ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) Unprovoked firing by Pakistan along the borders in J & K (Siachen sector, Line of Control and IB) is a regular phenomenon and has been continuing over the years. Raksha Mantri visited the Siachen sector on 29 and 30 April, 1998. On 29 April, 1998. Pakistani troops resorted to unprovoked firing on some of the posts in this sector. Our one soldier was killed in Siachen sector due to Pakistani firing.

Our troops deployed along the borders in J & K are well equipped and trained. Appropriate response is given by our troops to Pakistani unprovoked firing, taking due care that the incident remains localised and our casualty is minimal.

[English]

Drinking Water in Delhi

*36. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL :

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the drinking water in Delhi is highly contaminated;

(b) If so, whether the Union Government and the State Government jointly propose to take any steps to provide non-polluted water to its residents; and

(c) If so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. Government of NCT of Delhi has informed that the drinking water being supplied conforms to the laid down norms. However, certain instances of contamination of water had come to the notice of the Delhi Jal Board recently. The cause of contamination was investigated and the same rectified. In order to ensure potability of water being supplied to consumers and to avoid any possibility of contamination, the work of flushing and cleaning of reservoirs, over-head tanks and dead-ends in distribution system is done regularly. All concerned agencies like NDMC, CPWD, Delhi Cantonment Board, Cooperative Societies and bulk consumers are also advised from time to time to take similar preventive action. Quality control measures are taken right from the raw water

stage upto the consumers end, including random checking of 250-300 samples daily.

Credit Fee Structure of Airlines

*37. SHRI S.S. OWAISI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have proposed a credit fee structure of airlines on the basis of routes;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether routes have been divided into different categories for the credit fee;

(d) If so, the details thereof;

(e) whether due to this decision smaller airlines are to be benefited; and

(f) If so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (f) No, Sir. There is no proposal under consideration for a credit fee structure of airlines on the basis of routes. However, various suggestions for providing concessions/incentives to air operators connecting small stations of various regions particularly far-flung, remote and inaccessible areas like the North-Eastern region, J & K, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep are under consideration.

Policy to Augment Employment

*38. SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have framed any new policy to augment employment opportunities in the country; and

(b) If so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) Yes Sir, a new scheme "Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana" (SJSRY) has been launched on 1.12.97.

(b) The SJSRY seeks to rationalise all urban poverty initiatives in the country. While providing opportunities for self and wage employment, the scheme gives a special impetus to empowering and uplifting the urban poor women through a special programme titled "Development of Women and Children" (DWAC) under which groups of urban poor women setting up self employment ventures are eligible for a subsidy of upto 50% of the project cost or Rs. 1,25,000 whichever is less. Special incentives are also being given for organising Thrift & Credit Societies and creation of missing infrastructure and basic minimum services in urban poor/slum areas through provision of wage employment.

Missing Indian Soldiers

*39. SHRI K. S. RAO : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether a large number of Indian soldiers involved in 1971 Indo-Pak war are still missing;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the steps taken so far to have these soldiers traced, released or repatriated;
- (d) whether the families/dependents of these missing/imprisoned soldiers are getting any benefits from the Government;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether Missing Defence Personnel Relatives Association have recently brought to the notice of the Government the plight of the families/dependents of these soldiers; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government to their demands ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (g) As per information available, which has been compiled on the basis of various representations received from the family members of the missing defence personnel including representation from Missing Defence Personnel Relatives Association, there appear to be 54 defence personnel as prisoners of war in the custody of Pakistani authorities. As the nodal Ministry for this subject is the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), this Ministry has been requesting MEA to raise the issue at the highest level with Pakistani authorities. MEA, from time to time, had been raising the issue at the Prime Ministerial level and also during the Foreign Secretary level talks. The matter was last raised by the Prime Minister in Male with the Prime Minister of Pakistan in May 1997. Pakistan has, however, been consistently maintaining that there are no prisoners of war in their custody.

The official position in this case is that all the missing defence personnel of 65 to 71 wars, after lapse of 7 years, have been presumed to be killed and their families are given liberalised pensionary awards, which include liberalised family pension, gratuity, children allowance and education allowance for children.

Modernisation of Indian Railways

*40. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government propose to allow private participation in modernisation and technological upgradation of the Indian Railways; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) and (b) Private participation in Indian Railways is mainly under 2 schemes :

(i) BOLT (Build, Own, Lease and Transfer)/BOOL (Build, Own, Operate and Lease) BOT (Build, Operate and Transfer) scheme (started in 1994).

Turn-key execution of the Railway projects under Gauge-conversion, Doubling, Rolling Stock, Telecommunication and Civil Engineering are being taken up under BOLT/BOOL/BOT scheme.

Under BOLT scheme, 4 projects (2 Gauge-conversion and 2 Rolling Stock) worth Rs. 400 crores (approx.) have been awarded and processing of proposals for 24 projects worth Rs. 1877 crores (approx.) has been initiated, but due to high rates quoted, all the tenders except one have been discharged.

(ii) OYWS (Own Your Wagon Scheme)

OYWS was conceived to help supplement the resources available with the Railways for acquisition of wagons. The scheme was launched in September 1992 and has been recently revised to make it more attractive.

Till 1996-97, orders for 13,568 wagons Four Wheeler Units (FWUs) worth Rs. 793.26 crores have been placed and a total of 9,298 wagons (in FWUs) worth Rs. 452.66 crores have been supplied under this scheme.

Construction of Residential and Non-Residential Buildings

183. SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Govt. propose to award the construction of residential and non-residential buildings, embankment work, bridges, tunnels, etc. to National Project Construction Corporation; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir. National Project Construction Corporation is however free to participate in the tenders invited for various works by the Railway and to compete with other tenderers for the award of contracts.

(b) Does not arise.

Survey for Naupada to Gunupur Rail Line

184. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the survey for conversion of Naupada-Gunupur (South-Eastern Railway) narrow gauge rail line into broad gauge has been completed; and

(b) If so, the funds allocated for construction of above line after the techno-economic clearance, sor far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The work has been included in the Supplementary Budget. 1997-98 to be taken up after obtaining the requisite clearances for which action has been initiated.

Construction of Over Bridge in Khammam

185. SHRI NADENDLA BHASKARA RAO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a survey has been conducted with regard to construction of an over-bridge in Khammam town:

(b) If so, the results thereof;

(c) whether there are any hurdles in executing the above work; and

(d) If so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Problems faced by passengers at Netaji Subhash Chandra Airport

186. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether passengers are facing problems, both at the domestic and international terminals at Netaji Subhash Chandra Airport, Calcutta;

(b) if so, the measures that are proposed to be taken to provide more facilities to passengers;

(c) whether any expansion work at terminals are proposed to be undertaken; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (d) Airports Authority of India has undertaken, at an estimated cost of Rs. 33.6 crores, works such as modification of existing terminal building, construction of airside corridor and security hold area, new apron for remote bays, canopy on city side, reconstruction of bay and taxi track, etc. in a phased manner to be completed by the year 2000 A.D. Action has also been taken to improve the acoustics of the public address system and streamline the working of the pre-paid taxi service.

Financial Irregularities in Indian Airlines

187. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have noticed serious irregularities, including financial mismanagement, in the service of Indian Airlines which has been affecting safety of the air passengers badly;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken to improve its service and to make the Airline a profitable one ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Indian Airlines has taken/proposes to take the following measures to improve its services as well as financial position :- (i) Restructuring of routes; (ii) Creation of profit centres; (iii) Increase in international operations; (iv) Change in training pattern of pilots; (v) Creation of Alliance Air; (vi) Improvement in customer services; (vii) Improvement in corporate image by disseminating information about Company's strengths; (viii) Aggressive marketing strategies to improve market share; (ix) Strict control on recruitment and on capital expenditure; (x) Turn-around strategies suggested by the Kelkar Committee.

The Airline (alongwith its subsidiary Alliance Air) is already out of the red and is expected to earn a net profit of Rs. 50.1 crores (Provisional) during the year 1997-98.

[Translation]

Committee for Air Safety

188. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Committee has been constituted to review the air safety arrangements of all the airports located in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details of the report/ recommendations of the Committee alongwith shortcomings in each these airports;

(c) the action taken by the Government on the above report ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No such Committee has been set up by the Government of India.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Indo-China Talks for resolving pending issues

189. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the level of dialogue between India and China to resolve the issues that have been pending for a long time is proposed to be raised;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Chief of Army Staff from China also visited India recently;

(d) if so, the outcome of the talks held with him; and

(e) the outstanding issues that have not yet been settled between both the countries ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) There is no such proposal for the present.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) During the visit, two sides reiterated their commitment to build a constructive and cooperative relationship.

(e) Various issues of mutual interest are being discussed in the framework of the India-China Joint Working Group and the India-China Expert Group. The last meeting of the JWG (10th) was held in New Delhi in August 1997.

Committee for Route Rationalisation

190. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Air India Board has called for route rationalisation with a view to ease the financial crunch that Air India is facing;

(b) if so, whether any Committee has been set up to formulate a viable longterm strategy; and

(c) if not, the time by which the Committee is likely to be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) A Sub-Committee of the Board of Air India has been set up to give its recommendations on the route rationalization between Air India and Indian Airlines. Government have also constituted a committee of experts under the Chairmanship of Dr. Vijay K. Kelkar, Chairman, Tariff Commission to undertake a comprehensive examination of the reasons for the losses incurred by the Air India and to suggest a strategy for turning around the company.

(c) Does not arise.

Delhi Rent Control Act

191. SHRI K. S. RAO : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the stage at which the Delhi Rent Control Act, 1995 stands at present;

(b) whether the Government have received any representations from the landlords and also the trader tenants in regard to the Act;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) The Delhi Rent Bill, 1994 was passed by the Rajya Sabha on 29.5.95 and by the Lok Sabha on 3.6.95. It was assented to by the President on 23.8.95 and it become Delhi Rent Act, 95. The Delhi Rent Act, 95 has not been brought into force so far.

(b) and (c) The Government has received a large number of representations both from the landlords and tenants (including trader tenants). While the landlords have been requesting for bringing the said Act into force immediately, the tenants have been demanding changes in some of the provisions of the Act before it is brought into force. These changes pertain to the clauses relating to deemed rent, compulsory registration of tenancies, inheritability of tenancies of non-residential premises, enhancement of rent and eviction of tenants.

(d) The Government decided after examining the matter in detail to amend the Delhi Rent Act, 1995 before it is brought into force. Delhi Rent (Amendment) Bill, 1997, was introduced in Rajya Sabha on 28.7.97 which at present is pending in the Rajya Sabha.

[Translation]

Export of Granite

192. SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether India exports granite and fine quality of granite is available in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, whether efforts made by Government to increase the export of granite have not brought good results;

(c) whether the recommendations made in the Conference of State Minister's held last year to increase export of the processed granite have been implemented; and

(d) if so, the outcomes thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The efforts made by the Government to increase the Export of Granite has borne good results as would be evident from the steady growth of exports during the years 1994-95 to 1996-97.

(c) and (d) Some of the recommendations have already been implemented. In that direction, Granite Development Council has been reconstituted for overseeing the overall development of granite industry including its export. In addi-

tion to this, an Expert Committee has also been constituted to examine the taxation regime on granite and to suggest measures for development and export of granite.

[English]

**Conversion of Darbhanga to
Jaynagar Railway Line**

193. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (JHANJIHARPUR) : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have considered the demand for conversion of Dharbhanga-Jaynagar metre gauge line into broad gauge line;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the time by which the above line is likely to be converted ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir. The work has already been included in the budget 1997-98.

(b) Work will be taken up after necessary clearances have been obtained for which action has been initiated.

(c) Target can be decided only after the clearances are obtained and the project is taken up.

[Translation]

**Stoppage of Express Trains at
Khurja City Station**

194. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received representations from the Members of Parliament for providing stoppage of all Express trains at Khurja City station which are passing through Khurja Junction, during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (c) All trains passing through Khurja City station are already stopping there.

[English]

Modernisation of Steel Plants

195. SHRI K.P. NAIDU : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the Steel Plants being modernised ;

(b) the estimated cost involved plant-wise;

(c) whether there has been cost over runs in the implementation of modernisation scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has undertaken the modernisation of the following three steel plant;

1. Durgapur Steel Plant (DSP)

2. Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP)

3. Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL)

(b) Approved costs of modernisation programmes are as given below :

DSP : Rs. 2,668 crores (Based : 3rd Qtr.' 88)

RSP : Rs. 3,954 crores (Base : 1st Qtr.' 92)

BSL : Rs. 1,783 crores (Base : 1st Qtr.' 94)

(c) Yes Sir,

(d) The details of cost overrun are as follows :

DSP : Approved cost : Rs. 2,668 crores (Base : 3rd Qtr.' 88)

Anticipated cost : Rs. 4,867 crores (Base : 3rd Qtr.' 97)

Cost overrun : Rs. 2,199 crores

77% of the cost overrun is due to monetary and fiscal reasons and remaining 23% is due to physical reasons.

RSP : Approved cost : Rs. 3,954 crores (Base 1st Qtr.' 92)

Anticipated cost : Rs. 5,112 crores (Base : 4th Qtr.' 97)

Cost overrun : Rs. 1,158 crores

95% of the cost overrun is due to monetary and fiscal reasons and remaining 5 % is due to physical reasons.

BSL : Approved cost : Rs. 1,783 crores (Base : 1st Qtr.' 94)

Anticipated cost : Rs. 2,235 crores (Base : 3rd Qtr.' 97)

Cost overrun : Rs. 442 crores

83% of the cost overrun is due to monetary and fiscal reasons and remaining 17% is due to physical reasons.

[Translation]

Approval to Aluminium Projects

196. SHRI JOGENDRA KAWADE : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the absence of mining lease, the Government of Maharashtra has submitted any Aluminium Project for approval;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the present status of the project and the reasons for delay in granting approval to this project; and

(d) the time by which the approval is likely to be given ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) No proposal has been received from Government of Maharashtra for setting up of an Aluminium Project.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[English]

Strike by the Staff at Trivandrum Airport

197. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the staff of the Airport Authority of India (AAI) at Trivandrum Airport in Kerala had gone on a strike on 27th April, 1998 to the inconvenience of the air passengers; and

(b) if so, the remedial measures taken to avoid such incidents in future ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) As a result of some altercation between two agencies operating at the airport, there was disruption of operations for two to three hours.

(b) Efforts are being made to improve the relations through the Airport Coordination Committee.

Passenger Amenities at Trivandrum Division

198. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the need for undertaking more passenger amenities works including extension of platform and construction of foot over bridge at Alleppey, Mararikulam, Ambalapuzha, (Chenthalal), Haripad and Turgur Railway Station of Trivandrum Division; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) Passenger amenities at railway stations are provided as per norms based on the volume of traffic handled. Adequacy of amenities at stations are reviewed periodically and deficiencies if any detected are made good, depending on the availability of funds. Foot over bridge is already available at Alleppey and for the other stations there is no proposal for the present. As a measure of augmenting the amenities, following works have been taken up:

Station	Particulars of works	Cost in lakh Rs.
1. Alleppey	Extension of shelter on Platform Nos 1,2 & 3	45.00
	Ladies & gents waiting hall, refreshment room, crew rest room	27.00
	Parcel office, cloak room and reservation office	28.00
2. Ambalapuzha	Extension of platform	13.82
3. Shertallai	Raising of island platform	16.48
4. Thuravur	Shelter on island platform	13.00
	Raising of platform No. 2	11.45
	Extension of platform No. 1	15.00

Execution of Works on 10% Charges

199. DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the roads and service roads are in bad state and also acute shortage of water in R.K. Puram, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in regard thereto;

(c) whether the amount sanctioned for execution of works on 10% charges have remained the same while the contractors have doubled/tripled the charges;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to enhance the money limits to undertake works in the Government quarters; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) Roads/Service roads in the Colony are under the maintenance of MCD. Approach roads/paths to quarters from the roads are under the maintenance of CPWD.

Both the agencies have reported that roads under their respective jurisdiction are in a satisfactory condition. Water supply in R.K. Puram is maintained by Delhi Jal Board. Who have reported the position to be satisfactory. However, it sometimes gets affected due to power fluctuations.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Annual limit for works for additions/alterations in general pool accommodation was last revised in January, 1995 and since then building cost index has gone up by 24% (approximately).

(d) and (e) The proposal to enhance the limit shall be considered by the Government subject to the availability of funds.

Environmental Improvement of Slums

200. SHRI C. D. GAMIT : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether several States are lagging behind in the implementation of the programme of environmental improvement of slums, as envisaged in the Eighth Five Year

Plan;

(b) if so, the details of progress with special reference to amount allocated and spent, State-wise and year-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to fulfil the backlog of Eighth Five Year Plan targets ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) to (c) Environmental Improvement of Urban Slums (EIUS) was made an integral part of Minimum Needs Programme and transferred to State Sector in 1974. The Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment is monitoring the physical progress of EIUS. Under EIUS, during the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-93 to 1996-97), 79.178 lakhs beneficiaries accounting 111.24 % of the total targets of 71.179 lakhs were covered. Planning Commission has allocated an amount of Rs. 32928.04 lakhs for the first four years (1992-93 to 1995-96) of the Eighth Plan under the scheme. Government has increased per capita expenditure from Rs. 525 in 1991 to Rs. 800 in 1995. State-wise details of the physical progress and financial allocation are given in the enclosed Statement-I and II.

Statement-I

State/UT wise physical progress made under EIUS for 1992-93 to 1996-97

State/UT	1992-93			1993-94			1994-95			1995-96			1996-97		
	Target	ACH.	%	Target	ACH.	%	Target	ACH.	%	Target	ACH.	%	Target	ACH.	%
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1. Andhra Pradesh	75333	201194	267	225000	314705	140	225000	305064	136	225000	279168	124	225000	350851	156
2. Assam	7000	6340	91	7000	5860	81	7000	7000	100	7000	4950	71	7000	2886	41
3. Bihar	25000	7464	30	25000	2810	11	11000	3438	31	11000	3401	31	11000	1295	12
4. Delhi	133000	23424	18	133000	85434	64	133000	188972	142	133000	114375	86	133000	77211	58
5. Goa	150	250	167	150	—	0	150	—	0	150	—	0	150	—	0
6. Gujarat	40000	40971	102	80000	92915	116	100000	125942	126	100000	211670	212	100000	283608	284
7. Haryana	34285	37045	108	45334	58840	130	50000	55095	110	50000	95448	191	50000	85491	171
8. Himachal Pradesh	10800	10847	100	14000	14019	100	14000	14014	100	10125	10128	100	11250	12504	111
9. J & K	18000	18000	100	18000	4521	25	5000	2971	59	6000	17687	295	6000	9304	155
10. Karnataka	80000	85185	109	80000	70475	117	80000	55310	92	66000	66500	101	49000	49375	101
11. Kerala	25000	26818	107	25000	25962	104	25000	22684	91	25000	25304	101	25000	37849	151
12. M.P.	83809	83920	100	79237	107069	135	100000	135360	135	116233	94910	82	116232	119372	103
13. Maharashtra	250000	237259	95	250000	225797	90	368000	371479	101	520000	472214	91	522000	643538	123
14. Manipur	3390	—	0	3560	3714	104	100	4761	4761	5714	—	0	5000	—	0
15. Meghalaya	7620	7600	100	7800	7633	100	5000	7610	152	5000	4930	99	5000	4683	94
16. Mizoram	10000	2000	20	2000	2000	100	2000	2000	100	2000	2000	100	2000	2000	100
17. Orissa	9556	9697	101	9556	10118	106	10510	13885	132	10000	14162	142	10000	8932	89
18. Pondicherry	10000	10025	100	10000	10059	101	10000	10033	100	10000	10169	102	10000	10289	103

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
19. Punjab	70000	74226	106	40000	—	0	40000	6341	21	12500	9201	74	12500	6018	72
20. Rajasthan	57377	66917	117	57143	63466	109	60000	66075	110	43750	52181	119	40000	117067	289
21. Sikkim	1200	1200	100	1200	1200	100	1000	1200	21	1500	1500	100	1500	1501	100
22. Tamil Nadu	28000	34111	131	28000	30287	108	28500	42440	110	31500	35649	113	31500	36410	116
23. Tripura	10000	10000	100	10000	8025	80	10000	12850	129	10000	10000	100	10000	10000	100
24. U.P.	150000	161532	108	150000	148761	100	15000	172371	115	150000	147355	98	150000	117288	78
25. West Bengal	60000	57636	98	37000	7206	19	37000	42644	115	37000	57517	155	37000	36342	106
26. A & N Islands	250	250	100	250	250	100	400	400	100	400	400	100	400	400	100
Total	1177770	1193910	101	1312030	1300981	99	1432860	1671939	114	1566671	1740819	110	1570632	2010142	128

Statement-II

State/UT Wise Outlay and Expenditure under EIUS for 1992-93 to 1995-96

(Rupees in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	State/UT	1992-93		1993-94		1994-95		1995-96	
		Outlay	Expend.	Outlay	Expend.	Outlay	Expend.	Outlay	Expend.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	433.00	433.00	191.50	191.00	291.50	291.50	191.50	191.50
2.	Assam	35.00	35.00	35.00	35.00	40.00	40.00	60.00	60.00
3.	Bihar	350.00	150.00	19.00	19.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
4.	Goa	5.00	3.00	—	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Gujarat	20.00	220.00	300.00	300.00	325.00	325.00	600.00	600.00
6.	Haryana	200.00	180.00	238.00	238.00	253.00	253.00	500.00	500.00
7.	Himachal Pradesh	63.00	63.00	73.00	73.00	73.00	73.00	81.00	81.00
8.	J & K	90.00	90.00	72.00	72.00	88.00	88.00	100.00	100.00
9.	Karnataka	145.00	760.00	912.00	912.00	839.00	859.00	859.00	859.00
10.	Kerala	90.00	130.00	133.54	133.54	110.00	110.00	180.00	180.00
11.	Madhya Pradesh	675.00	439.00	530.00	530.00	582.00	582.00	598.00	598.00
12.	Maharashtra	1217.00	580.00	974.00	974.00	1500.00	1500.00	4182.00	4182.00
13.	Manipur	25.00	25.00	19.50	19.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
14.	Meghalaya	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
15.	Mizoram	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
16.	Orissa	90.00	58.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	80.00	80.00
17.	Punjab	175.00	—	—	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
18.	Rajasthan	365.00	365.00	370.00	370.00	400.00	400.00	445.00	445.00
19.	Sikkim	6.00	5.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	0.00	0.00
20.	Tamil Nadu	280.00	260.00	280.00	230.00	330.00	330.00	526.00	526.00
21.	Tripura	50.00	—	8.00	8.00	55.00	55.00	60.00	60.00
22.	Uttar Pradesh	785.00	785.00	737.00	737.00	785.00	785.00	794.00	794.00
23.	West Bengal	1050.00	2900.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	270.00	270.00
Total States		7079.00	7229.00	5454.54	5454.54	6603.50	6603.50	9626.50	9626.50

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	A & N Islands	10.00	10.00	—	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Chandigarh	—	—	—	—	300.00	300.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Delhi	820.00	895.00	785.00	785.00	900.00	900.00	980.00	980.00
4.	Lakshadweep	5.00	—	—	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Pondicherry	50.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	45.00	45.00
6.	Daman & Diu	—	5.00	4.50	4.50	3.50	3.50	1.30	1.30
Total UTS		885.00	950.00	829.50	829.50	1243.50	1243.50	1006.50	1006.50
Grand Total		7964.00	8179.00	6284.04	6284.54	7847.00	7847.00	10833.00	10833.00

Gold Reserve in Kerala

201. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken note of the gold reserve in many parts of Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

(c) whether any survey was conducted to find out the extent of gold reserve; and

(d) the details of the survey ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Geological Survey of India on the basis of several investigations and mineral surveys has located three small gold deposits in the State of Kerala which are as under :-

1. **Kappil Sector, Malappuram District** 0.065 Million Tonnes (MT) of Gold Ore with Average Grade of 1.75 g/t.

2. **Chaliyar River Bed, Nilambur Valley, Malappuram District** A possible 8.5 million cubic metres of Gravel containing approximately 2188 Kg. of Gold.

3. **Attapady Valley, Palakkad District** 0.56 million cubic metre of Gold bearing Gravel with average grade of 0.78 g/m³ of Gold.

[Translation]

Housing Construction Scheme

202. SHRI JAYSINHJI CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Gujarat has submitted any housing construction schemes to the Union Government for its approval and financial assistance;

(b) if so, the details alongwith the amount of financial assistance likely to be provided by the Government, scheme-wise;

(c) the present status thereof, scheme-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) No, Sir. The State Government of Gujarat has not submitted any urban housing construction scheme to the Government for financial assistance, as presently there is no scheme to provide direct financial assistance for urban housing schemes. However, Housing and Urban Development Corporation Ltd. (HUDCO), which has been providing assistance for housing in urban and rural areas in the country has received housing schemes from the various State Government agencies of Gujarat for loan assistance.

(b) and (c) HUDCO has received 22 schemes from the various State Government agencies of Gujarat for total loan assistance of Rs. 19.55 crores, which are in pipeline of HUDCO. Details of these schemes are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Housing Schemes from the State of Gujarat and in the pipeline of HUDCO As on 30.4.98

(Rupees in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Agency	Scheme Name	Dwelling Units	Loan Amount
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Baroda Municipal Corporation	EWS plotted at Baroda	920	61.02
2.	Gujarat Housing Board	EWS (U) Housing Scheme at Kathawada, Ahmedabad	438	99.99
3.	Gujarat Housing Board	EWS (U) Housing Scheme at Mehmdavad	116	29.00
4.	Gujarat Housing Board	EWS (U) Housing Scheme at Vadodara	750	234.38
5.	Gujarat Housing Board	LIG Housing Scheme at Bapunagar, Ahmedabad	162	113.40

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Gujarat Housing Board	EWS Housing Scheme at Kathwada, Ahmedabad	355	101.26
7.	Gujarat Housing Board	EWS Housing Scheme at Hathijan, Ahmedabad	303	90.14
8.	Gujarat Housing Board	EWS Housing Scheme at Nikol, Ahmedabad	307	79.40
9.	Gujarat Housing Board	EWS Housing Scheme at Sanand, Ahmedabad	282	70.50
10.	Gujarat Housing Board	EWS Housing Scheme at Dehgam, Ahmedabad	298	74.50
11.	Gujarat Housing Board	EWS Housing Scheme at Patan	272	68.00
12.	Gujarat Housing Board	EWS/Urban Hsg. Sch. at Gorwa Distt. Vadodara	374	116.88
13.	Gujarat Housing Board	EWS (U) at Surat Distt.	177	55.31
14.	Gujarat Housing Board	EWS Housing Scheme at Ganteshwar, Rajkot	2087	521.75
15.	Gujarat Rural Housing Board	LIG Cash Loan Scheme at Ambardi, Amreli Distt.	39	31.20
16.	Gujarat Rural Housing Board	LIG Cash Loan Scheme at Gohilin Khan, Amreli Distt.	25	15.50
17.	Gujarat Rural Housing Board	LIG Housing Scheme at Galpadar Distt. Kutch	50	35.00
18.	Gujarat Rural Housing Board	EWS (R) Housing Scheme at Pansar, Mehsana Distt.	76	19.00
19.	Gujarat Rural Housing Board	EWS (R) Housing Scheme at Mathak, Bhundel and Sardhar, Kutch Distt.	54	13.50
20.	Gujarat Rural Housing Board	EWS (R) Housing Scheme at Distt. Bharuch and Surat	141	35.25
21.	Gujarat Rural Housing Board	LIG Housing Scheme at Varamgam and Gadh Distt. Ahmedabad and Banaskantha	90	62.20
22.	Sardar Nagar Development Corporation	LIG Housing Scheme at Mehdabad, Distt., Kheda	56	28.00
Total			7372	1955.18

Houses under Indira Awas Yojana

203. SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the targets set up and achieved regarding construction of pacca houses for the poor under Indira Awas Yojana and Basic Minimum Service in the country by the year 1997-98;

(b) the targets set up for construction of houses under the above projects in Bihar by 1997-98 indicating the number of constructed and incomplete houses separately;

(c) the number of incomplete houses under the project involving amount worth fourteen thousand five hundred rupees lasted in the year 1996-97 and the time by which and how these projects likely to be completed; and

(d) the details of the targets set up and funds provided for the construction of houses in Bihar during the Ninth Five Year Plan, year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Serving of Food/Water in recycled packs

204. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that railways are serving food, water in recycled packs;

(b) if so, whether Government have enquired into this matter; and

(c) if so, the results of the enquiry and the steps taken to check it ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (c) Recycling of disposable packs is not permitted on the Railways. Recently on a press report about recycling at New Delhi station, an enquiry conducted by Northern Railway revealed that unscrupulous elements and rag pickers are reported to be indulging in recycling. Regular checks are undertaken by the Railways to control collection of such items by rag pickers. Railways have with the assistance of Railway Protection Force intensified their drives to curb this menace. Efforts are also made for creating awareness amongst the passengers to crush such items after use.

Deployment of Army in States

205. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of defence personnel deployed currently for the maintenance of internal law and order, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have assessed the impact of such deployment on the moral as well as overall performance of defence forces;

(c) if so, the findings of such assessment; and

(d) the details of the Government's policy in regard to deployment of defence personnel in maintaining law and order ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) At present 72,000 defence personnel are directly deployed in counter insurgency/ internal security in J & K, while about 47,000 are deployed in north-eastern States. In addition, there are also personnel of supervisory and other formations who are involved in supervisory and supporting roles whose number is not included in the above figures.

Prolonged employment of Army for such duties, besides adversely affecting the Army's preparation for its main task also imposes an extra burden on the defence budget which, in turn, affects Army's modernisation programmes. In addition, casualties suffered by the Army in peace time affects the morale of the Army personnel.

The maintenance of law and order is basically the responsibility of the State Governments and the defence forces are deployed for counter insurgency/internal security duties only against a specific requisition by the State administration and/or when they are statutorily required to render such duties under the provisions of the relevant laws such as Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958, etc.

The consistent policy of the Government in this regard has been that the defence forces should be deployed for internal security duties very sparingly and only if the State Government is not in a position to handle the situation and the deployment of defence forces becomes absolutely necessary. The Rashtriya Rifles was sanctioned by the Government to relieve the Army, to the extent possible, from counter insurgency duties. This has, however, helped only to a limited extent in view of the increased commitment of the Army in counter-insurgency operations.

Late running of Venada Express

206. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Venada Express plying from Trivandrum to Shoranur and back, is always running late causing much inconvenience to passengers; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ensure the timely running of this train ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir. The punctuality of 6301/6302 Venada Express is satisfactory.

(b) The punctuality of this train is being monitored both at Divisional and Headquarter levels.

Installation of Statue

207. DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from Members of Parliament for installation of the statue of the Tamil Freedom Fighter and Netaji Subhash Bose associate Muthuramalingam Thevar near Parliament House;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) and (b) A representation has been received from Dr. Subramanian Swamy, M.P., for installation of the statue of Muthuramalingam Thevar near Parliament House. Recalling that Muthuramalingam Thevar was a great Freedom Fighter from Tamil Nadu who had joined Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and remained true to him till the very end and that he was a Member of the Lok Sabha in Independent India, the Honourable M.P., has urged that a proposal should be initiated for installing a statue of Muthuramalingam Thevar in the vicinity of the Parliament or at one of the traffic roundabouts near the Parliament.

(c) The matter is under consideration and a decision thereon will be taken in accordance with the policy laid down by the government in this regard.

Khusro Committee Report

208. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the report of the Agriculture Credit Review Committee, 1987 (headed by Prof. A.M. Khusro) called for major changes in the concept and practice of Integrated Rural Development Programme;

(b) if so, the details of those changes; and

(c) steps taken by the Government to achieve the success ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The major changes proposed by the Committee were adoption of project approach, preparation of viable projects to be a precondition for release of funds to DRDAs, involvement of local bodies at village/block/district level, involvement of banks in identification process, preparation of Master List of below poverty line families after 3 years and furnishing the same to Banks for achieving the targets,

fixation of realistic target at the level of VII Plan, fixing targets for the blocks in two parts as per available potential keeping subsidy in fixed deposit account of the beneficiary and its adjustment in the last few instalments and integrated approach to all anti poverty programmes.

(c) After the Khusro Committee Report, several steps have been taken by the Government to achieve success under IRDP. Subsequently, an Expert Committee on IRDP under the Chairmanship of Shri D.R. Mehta, the then Governor of Reserve Bank of India also went into various aspects of IRDP. Based on various findings, the steps taken include involvement of bankers in the selection process of beneficiaries by Gram Sabhas, preparation of viable schemes/projects by formation of District Level Technical Groups at DRDA level, involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions, emphasis on credit mobilisation rather than fixing physical targets, encouragement of group activities, higher subsidy for trained educated youths and implementation of back end subsidy system. Recently, a Committee set up under the Chairmanship of Prof. S.R. Hashim, Member, Planning Commission has also recommended integration of various Self-Employment Programmes.

Running Allowance

209. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railway Board Order's extending 75% running allowance as emoluments for pension, gratuity, commutation etc. to running staff who retired between January 1, 1973 to December 5, 1988 has been implemented by various DRMs;

(b) if so, the number of applications claiming benefits were received by DRMs of South Eastern and Central Railways, Nagpur;

(c) the number of application processed for payment of arrears and revising their pensions etc.;

(d) if not, the reasons for delay and the time by which it is likely to be settled;

(e) the number of legal heirs of such retirees have submitted their claims and the number of cases have been settled; and

(f) if not, the reasons for delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Revised Demand Notices to Allottees

210. SHRI BHIM DAHAL : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether revised demand notices have been issued to the allottees/occupants of Swami Dayanand Colony, Sarai Rohilla, Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the number thereof;

(c) the time by which revised demand notices are likely to be issued to the remaining allottees/occupants;

(d) whether the Government are aware that many allottees/occupants have made part payments against the earlier demand notices;

(e) if so, whether the payments already made by some allottees/occupants is likely to be adjusted; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. MCD has reported that revised demand notices, as per the existing policy of the Government, have been issued in 290 cases who had not paid any amount so far.

(c) In the remaining 30 cases the demand notices are being issued shortly as reported by the Slum Department of MCD.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) The Slum Department of MCD has reported that the payment already made by 32 allottees /occupants will be taken into consideration and adjusted against the pre-revised demand notices.

Allotment of Houses

211. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the persons registered with DDA under the Vth S.F.S. Housing Scheme (category-III), 1982 have not been allotted houses;

(b) if so, the details and reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which the registrants are likely to be allotted houses ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) Delhi Development Authority has reported that all the eligible registrants of the Vth S.F.S. Housing Scheme (Category-III), 1982 have been allotted houses as per norms.

(b) and (c) Since the Vth SFS Scheme has already been closed in the year 1995, the question does not arise.

[Translation]

Action Plan for Steel Sector

212. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have formulated a national action plan for the steel sector;
- (b) if so, the main objects and details of the action plan;
- (c) whether any proposal to invite multinational investment is under consideration of the Government in order to organise steel industry; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) to (d) Based on reports of the Working Groups set up for various sectors of the economy, the Planning Commission prepares a National Plan for five years. The Working Group on Iron and Steel for the IX Five Year Plan set up by the Planning Commission has projected a likely domestic demand of 38.68 million tonnes of Finished Carbon Steel by 2001-02 including an export potential of 6 Million Tonnes. The main objective of the plan is to ensure that the demand for steel in the country is met indigenously. As per the projections made by the Working Group, the production of Finished Carbon Steel will reach 38.012 Million Tonnes by 2001-02 against the projected demand of 38.68 Million Tonnes. The increase in production of steel is expected to come from modernisation and expansion of existing Integrated Steel Plants and creation of new capacities in the private sector. The Working Group has also projected a total investment of about Rs. 52,498 crores in the steel sector during IX Five Year Plan with public sector investing around Rs. 20,005 crores. Keeping in tune with the present economic policy, Ministry of Steel is endeavouring to facilitate creation of new capacities by making realistic projections of demand, removal of bottlenecks through inter action with the entrepreneurs, financial institutions and State Government etc.

Requirement of Rail Engines

213. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) the total requirement of different types of rail engines in the country;
- (b) the total number of different type of rail engines are available in the country;
- (c) the total number of rail engines manufactured in the country and number of rail engines imported during the last three years country-wise; and
- (d) the total amount being spent on the import of rail engine from abroad ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) In the IX Plan document sent by Railways to Planning Commission, requirement of 800 Diesel locomotives and 950 Electric

locomotives was projected during the IX Plan period. Railways have projected an outlay of Rs. 65,000 crores for the IX Plan. However, Planning Commission has tentatively provided an outlay of Rs. 47,484 crores for the IX Plan period. Review of the requirement of locomotives in IX Plan period is being carried out keeping in mind the availability of resources and the traffic offerings.

- (b) The total number of different types of rail engines on Indian Railways as on 31st March, 1997 is given below:

Steam locas	85
Dsl. Hydraulic & Mech. locos	738
Diesel Electric Locos	3,625
Electric Locos	2,519

- (c) The total number of rail engines manufactured in the country during the last three years are as under :

Year	Dsl Locos	Elec. Locos
1995-96	138	155
1996-97	157	175
1997-98	164	195

The total number of rail engines imported from foreign countries during the last three years are as under:

Year	Dsl Locos	Elec. Locos
1995-96	Nil	6
1996-97	Nil	24+3*
1997-98	Nil	Nil

* as bank of spares.

- (d) Amount spent on import of 33 Electric Locos is Rs. 738 crores approx. In addition, a contract for import of 21 Diesel Electric freight locos has been placed in Oct'95. Supplies against this contract have not started so far. Total value of the contract is Rs. 167 crores (approx). Out of this, Rs. 9.75 crores has already been paid as advance.

[English]

Land reforms

214. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Chief Minister's Conference is being called shortly for concurrent review of the progress of land reforms; and
- (b) if so, the details of the action programme finalised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) No, Sir, there is no programme of calling Chief Minister's Conference shortly.

(b) Does not arise ?

Firing on Indo-Pak Border

215. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pakistani troops continued firing on Jammu and Kashmir border even after flag meetings of both sides;

(b) if so, the number of innocent people killed or injured by such shelling during the last two years and in 1998 till date; and

(c) the steps being taken to check the firing across the border of the state ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) Pak troops continued firing along Jammu and Kashmir border even after flag meetings of both sides. Details of civilian casualties suffered during Pakistani firing along International Border (IB) portion of J & K border are as follows :-

		Killed	Wounded
a)	1996	03	04
b)	1997	08	20
c)	1998	—	09

BSF is deployed along the IB portion of J & K and a suitable response is given to Pak fire. Border contacts at post level and flag meetings at sector commander level are held periodically to de-escalate the situations.

French Delegation

216. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a French delegation on Higher Defence studies visited India on April 7, 1998; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the deliberations arrived at ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) A delegation of the French Institute for Advanced Defence Studies visited India from April 5-11, 1998. During the stay of the delegation in Mumbai, it visited INS 'Delhi' and INS 'Shishumar' at the Western Naval Command. At New Delhi the delegation was given a briefing by the Director, Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses on "India's National Security and Strategic Concerns". The delegation also made a courtesy call on the Foreign Secretary.

[Translation]

Barren Land

217. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJI BHAI CHAUDHARI :

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :

DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL :

SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISHRA :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large area of land is lying barren in different States of the country ;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government are taking any concrete steps to make it fertile;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons, therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT : (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State-wise details are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) to (e) Barren Land includes exposed steep-mountains slopes, desert, snow cover and such other areas which can not be brought under cultivation at an economic cost and classed as unculturable land. There is no programme to make barren land fertile. However, the Department of Wastelands Development is implementing a Central Sector Scheme on Integrated Wastelands Development Project to develop non-forest wastelands in the country through holistic development of watershed. The scheme aims at checking land degradation, putting such wastelands to sustainable use and increasing bio-mass availability especially that of fuel wood and fodder. The schemes strives to increase rural employment besides ensuring people's participation in the wastelands development programmes at all stages.

Statement

Statewise Area of Barren Land in the country

Sl. No.	State	Total Geographical Area	(Area in Ha.)
			Barren/Stony/Sheet Rock Area
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	27506800	391944
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	8374300	97059
3.	Assam	7843800	0
4.	Bihar	17387700	108219
5.	Goa	370200	1121
6.	Gujarat	19802400	426165

1	2	3	4
7.	Haryana	4421220	9646
8.	Himachal Pradesh	5567300	453081
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	13894200	2672819
10.	Karnataka	19179100	261725
11.	Kerala	3886300	14169
12.	Madhya Pradesh	44344600	785905
13.	Maharashtra	30769000	246380
14.	Manipur	2232700	0
15.	Meghalaya	2242900	0
16.	Mizoram	2108100	0
17.	Nagaland	1857900	0
18.	Orissa	15570700	46642
19.	Punjab	5036200	0
20.	Rajasthan	34223900	424975
21.	Sikkim	709600	62978
22.	Tamil Nadu	13005800	76730
23.	Tripura	1048600	0
24.	Uttar Pradesh	29441100	156003
25.	West Bengal	8875200	15812
26.	Union Territories	1097300	104
27.	Unsurveyed	8329400	0
Grand Total		328726300	6251477

**Damage caused in Khamaria Ordnance
Factory due to earthquake**

218. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Khamaria Ordnance factory has been damaged by the earthquake which struck Jablapur on May, 22, 1997;

(b) if so, the extent thereof and whether a division of the production department is proposed to be shifted to other Ordnance factories of the country as a result thereof; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) 2650 buildings suffered major damages and 1473 buildings minor damages. These include production

facilities, residential quarters and public utility structure. About 100 persons of Ordnance Factory, Khamaria were injured in the earthquake, 7 of them seriously. The damages to the production building were of repairable nature and therefore there is no proposal to shift any division of the production department to other Ordnance Factories.

Shifting of SAIL Headquarter to Ranchi

219. DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the headquarter of the SAIL is proposed to be shifted to Ranchi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which it is proposed to be shifted ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Visit of U.S. Army Chief

220. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the U.S. Army Chief visited India in April, 1998 and had deliberations with him and the three Service chiefs; and

(b) if so, the details of the discussions held and the outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) General Dennis J. Reimer, Chief of Staff, U.S. Army visited India from April 13-17, 1998. During his visit General Reimer called on the Raksha Mantri, the Chiefs of Staff of the three Services, Defence Secretary and Foreign Secretary. General Reimer also met the GOC-in-C Northern Command, GOC-15 Corps as well as the GOC in-C Eastern Command. General Reimers visit was a ceremonial and goodwill visit. However, during his meetings with Indian dignitaries, he discussed defence-related aspects of Indo-US relations and some international issues.

Development of Ahmedabad Airport

221. SHRIMATI BHAVNA DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the latest position of development and upgradation of Ahmedabad Airport;

(b) whether a delegation of MPs from Gujarat had submitted a memorandum during October, 1997;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken so far in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Airports Authority of India has approved the project of expansion of runway, apron and associated works at Ahmedabad airport to make it suitable for the operation of B-747 type of aircraft. Notice inviting tenders is likely to be issued during August, 1998 and the work is expected to be completed within 24 months from the date of its award.

- (b) No, Sir.
(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Kapadvanj Modesa Railway Line Project

222. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA :

SHRI DINSHAW PATEL :

SHRI SHANTILAL PURSHOTTAMDAS PATEL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the work on the Kapadvanj-Modesa railway line project has been started;
(b) if so, the details thereof; and
(c) the time by which the above work is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) Work on formation, bridges and ballast collection is in progress.
(c) The work is likely to be completed within the 9th Five Year Plan.

[Translation]

**Introduction of Shuttle Train
between Mhow-Chittor**

223. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government propose to introduce an extra shuttle train from Mhow to Chittor on Ratlam Ajmer section of Western Railway in view of heavy rush of passengers; and
(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be started ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.

[English]

Udhampur-Baramulla Railway Line

224. PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the former Prime Ministers S/Shri H.D. Devegowda and I.K. Gujral had laid foundation stones on different dates at Udhampur, Qazigund and Baramulla in Jammu & Kashmir for extension of railway line upto Baramulla;
(b) if so, whether any work on the above line has been undertaken so far;
(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
(d) the steps Government propose to take for speedy extension of the line upto Baramulla ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

- (c) Does not arise
(d) The work is being progressed on priority. Substantial funds have been provided for this Project.

**Laying of Railway Line between
Jaina and Khamgaon**

225. SHRI MUKUL WASNIK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have conducted a survey for laying a railway line from Jaina to Khamgaon in Maharashtra; and
(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes Sir.

- (b) An updating of survey for Jaina-Khamgaon new BG line was carried out in 1994. The survey report revealed the cost of the 155 kms. long line as Rs. 228 crores with a negative rate of return.

[Translation]

Reserves of Minerals in UP

226. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA :

SHRIMATI KAMAL RANI :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether new reserves of minerals have been found in Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the action being taken for its prospecting;
- (c) the names of the places where the mining work is going on in Uttar Pradesh till date;
- (d) the achievements made thereof;
- (e) whether any technical assistance has been sought/likely to be sought from some foreign institutions in regard to mining work in Uttar Pradesh; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) Yes Sir. A possible reserve of 1.45 million tonnes of Basemetal ore with 6.63% Lead and Zinc has been estimated in Amtiyargad, Dehradun district. A total resource of 274.79 million cubic metre of dimension stone has been estimated in Lalitpur, Jhansi, Mahoba, Hamirpur and Banda districts and an inferred reserve of 0.35 million cubic metre (approx.) in Sonbhadra district.

(b) Seven items of mineral investigations comprising three items of Gold, two items for Basemetal and two items for Dimension Stone, have been taken up by Geological Survey of India (GSI) in Uttar Pradesh during the Field Season 1997-98.

(c) The names of the places where the mining work is going on in Uttar Pradesh is as under :

<i>District</i>	<i>Minerals Produced</i>
Almora	Magnesite, steatite
Allahabad	Silica sand
Banda	Silica sand
Dehradun	Phosphorite, Limestone
Hamirpur	Diaspore, Pyrophyllite
Jhansi	Diaspore, Pyrophyllite, Granite
Lalitpur	Diaspore, Phosphorite, Granite Phrophyllite.
Mirzapur	Limestone
Pithoragar	Magnesite, steatite
Sonebhadra	Dolomite, coal
Tehri Garhwal	Dolomite, coal
Singrauli Coal	
Field	Coal
Bina	Coal
Mahaba	Granite

(d) The total value of mineral production in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years indicates that it has maintained an increasing trend. The total value of mineral (including coal and minor minerals) which was Rs. 198 crores in 1995-96 has increased to Rs. 1086 crores in 1996-97 and further to Rs. 1103 crores in 1997-98.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Question does not arise.

[English]

Setting up of New Division at Ahmedabad

227. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided for setting up of New Division of Western Railway at Ahmedabad;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be set up and made functional ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Government has decided to set up 8 new Divisions including one at Ahmedabad.

(b) The inaugural function of Ahmedabad division was held on 10.3.1998. An Officer-on-Special Duty (OSD) has been positioned at Ahmedabad for smooth setting up of the proposed new division. The issue regarding acquisition of adequate land in a convenient location from the State Government of Gujarat is being actively pursued.

(c) The time frame can be decided after availability of suitable land and finalisation of territorial jurisdiction.

Laying of New Rail Lines

228. SHRIMATI KAMAL RANI :

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE :

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received some proposals from the various State Governments for laying new railway lines;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the details of the railway projects pending with the Union Government alongwith the reasons therefor, State-wise; and

(d) the details of the railway lines which are being laid at present, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Introduction of New Trains from Chandigarh

229. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce new trains to and from Chandigarh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the new trains are likely to be started ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Attachment of Coaches

230. SHRI LARANG SAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to attach two extra coaches each for Delhi and Bhopal bound trains from Vishrampur Railway Station;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) One Slip coach each is running between Bishrampur-Nizamuddin and Chirmiri-Bhopal by 403/8477/8478/404 and 405/8236/8235/406 respectively which is adequately catering to the present level of traffic.

[English]

Stock of Finished Steel

231. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the stock of finished steel is increasing in steel mills in the country; and

(b) if so, the details and reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At the end of March, 1998 the stocks of finished steel vis-a-vis stocks at the end of March, 1997 with the Main Producers of steel were as under :-

Company	(Quantity in 000' Tonnes)		% Increase
	Stocks as on 31.3.97	31.3.98 (Prov.)	
SAIL	1002	1249	25%
IISCO	24	36	50%
RINL (VSP)	158	245	55%
TISCO	92	107	16%
Total	1276	1637	28%

The major reasons for increase in the stocks include :

- i) sluggish demand in steel consuming sectors,
- ii) overall economic slow down in the country;
- iii) greater competition from imports due to reduction in Custom duties for finished steel; and
- iv) dumping of finished steel in the country, particularly from CIS & South East Asian countries.

Construction of Railway Bridge

232. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH :

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the projected time of initiation of work on railway bridge connecting Digha (Patna) to North Bihar;

(b) the reasons for delay; and

(c) the expected time of completion of the above project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (c) Detailed survey and investigations for construction of the bridge have been taken up. Model studies are also to be done to determine the best site for the bridge. These will take about 1½ to 2 years, after which the costs will be firmed up and nece-

sary clearances for taking up the work would be processed. Time of completion can be assessed only after the work content is determined by the survey and the time when the clearances are received and work is actually started.

[Translation]

Construction of Over Bridge at Gorakhpur

233. SHRI ADITYANATH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the low level and narrow road at railway bridge at Dharmashala in Gorakhpur resulting in serious water logging and traffic problems;

(b) whether the Government propose to construct railway overbridge to solve this problem; and

(c) if so, by when ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The work can be considered on deposit terms i.e. If State Govt. or Municipal Corporation of Gorakhpur sponsors proposal duly agreeing to bear the entire cost of construction and recurring maintenance under extant rules. No such proposal has been received so far.

[English]

Airport at Cannanore, Kerala

234. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :

SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN :

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA :

SHRI T. GOVINDAN

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the airports that are being developed or proposed to be developed in Kerala;

(b) whether the work has commenced on the proposed airport at Cannanore in Kerala;

(c) if so, the details of work completed as on March 31, 1998 and expenses incurred as on that date out of the total allocation made for this project; and

(d) the time by which the work is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Works relating to extension of runway to 9000'

for operation of AB-300 class of aircraft at an estimated cost of Rs. 102.80 crores have been taken up at Calicut Airport. These are expected to be completed by January, 2000. State Government has undertaken, in two phases, construction of a new airport of international standards at Nedumbassery near Cochin with private participation. In Trivandrum Airport, works such as extension of apron, interim modification to international terminal and airconditioning of Terminal-II have been undertaken at an estimated cost of Rs. 10.83 crores. There is a proposal to construct an international terminal complex at Trivandrum at an estimated cost. of Rs. 200 crores, subject to economic viability for the project and acquisition of land by the State Government.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. Government of India have accepted in principle the proposal for construction of an airport at Kannur under the Policy on Airport Infrastructure, with the State Government of Kerala acting as the promoter of the project which is to be executed through private participation. The Initiative now rests with the State Government.

[Translation]

Gauge conversion of Suratgarh-Sriganga Nagar-Hannumangarh Rail Line

235. Er. SHANKAR PANNU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to convert the Suratgarh-Sriganga Nagar-Hannumangarh-Jaipur metre gauge line into broad gauge; and

(b) if so, the time by which the above conversion work is likely to be started and completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Sri Ganganagar-Sarupsar gauge conversion is already included in the Railway budget 1997-98. The work is to be started after requisite clearances are obtained for which action has been initiated. Sri Ganganagar-Hannumangarh will be considered for conversion when the next phase of project uni-gauge is taken up sometime in the 10th plan period.

(b) The target date will be fixed after the work is started.

[English]

Upgradation of Airports Infrastructure

236. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have approved the upgradation of the airports infrastructure to meet the passenger and cargo need in future;

(b) if so, the main feature thereof; and

(c) the time by which the upgradation of the airport infrastructure is likely to be taken up ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANNATH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It is the constant endeavour of the Government to develop and upgrade the airport infrastructure and to achieve this goal, it has recently formulated a policy on Airport Infrastructure which envisages;

- classification of airports into international and regional hubs to develop the capacity of airports in accordance with the future projections,
- constructions of new green field airports,
- participation of private sector (including foreign capital) in the development of airports.

(c) Upgradation of airport infrastructure is a continuing process.

[Translation]

Increase in Compensation Amount

237. SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA :

SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have recently increased the compensation amount to be paid to the victim of rail accidents;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by when the increase would be made effective ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The amount of compensation in case of death and permanent disability in train accident or 'untoward incident' has been raised from Rs. 2 lakhs to Rs. 4 lakhs. In case of injuries, the minimum amount has been raised from Rs. 16,000/- to Rs. 32,000/- and maximum from Rs. 1.80 lakhs to Rs. 3.60 lakhs. These have been made effective for train accidents or untoward incidents taking place on or after 1.11.97.

[English]

Central Assistance Under RSP

238. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Assam has sought Central assistance under the Rural Sanitation Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount made available so far under the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT : (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) to (c) Since the inception of the CRSP in Assam, an amount of Rs. 279.889 lakhs has been provided to the State as Central share.

Replacement of Ageing Aircraft

239. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether a large number of fighter aircraft with the Indian Air Force are nearing the end of their calendar life;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the measures taken to replace these ageing aircraft of the Indian Air Force; and
- (d) the number of aircraft of the Indian Air Force involved in accidents due to technical defects in ageing aircraft during each of the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Total Technical Life of the fleet of a particular aircraft included in the IAF in 70's will expire in next 4-5 years. It is not considered desirable to disclose the type and total number of the aircraft in the interest of the security.

(c) Action is being taken to replace these ageing aircraft of the Indian Air Force with new and better fighter aircraft during the 9th, 10th and 11th plan periods.

(d) 1995-96 1996-97 1997-98

4 7 2

Encroachment of Railway Land in Himachal Pradesh

240. SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of Railway land in Himachal Pradesh which is under illegal possession of the encroachers and the number of cases going on against the encroachers in the Courts as on April 30, 1998;
- (b) the total area of Railway land which has been allotted by the Railways on permanent or temporary basis in Himachal Pradesh; and
- (c) the total area of Railway land which is still lying unused with the Railways ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (c) Information about area of Railway land under encroachment is not maintained State-wise but Zonal Railway-wise as Railway zones span over more than one state.

However, the information in respect of Northern Railway, which covers the State of Himachal Pradesh, is as under :-

- (i) Railway Land under encroachment = 900 hectare.
- (ii) Number of cases pending in courts = 12,300
- (iii) Area of Railway land under leasing/licensing = 298 hectares.
- (iv) Area of Railway land lying unused at present, reserved for future, development/expansion = 1828 hectares.

Shuttle Train between Nasik-Mumbai

241. SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :

SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any demand for starting the Shuttle train between Nasik-Mumbai is pending with the Government for the last 15 years;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in this regard; and

(c) the time by which the Shuttle train between Nasik and Mumbai is likely to be started ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (c) 14 pairs of trains have been introduced/re-organised from Mumbai Dadar/Kurla serving Nasik Road during the last 15 years.

Introduction of a shuttle train between Mumbai and Nasik Road is not feasible due to non-availability of terminal/maintenance facilities at Nasik Road.

Production in NALCO

242. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantum of Alumina and Aluminium produced by the National Aluminium Company Ltd. (NALCO) in its plants in Orissa during 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98;

(b) the target of production fixed by NALCO in those years;

(c) the steps being taken by NALCO to increase the production of Alumina and Aluminium; and

(d) the projection made for 2000 A.D. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) and (b) The target of production and actual production in respect of Alumina and Aluminium produced by NALCO for the years 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 are given below :-

Year	Alumina (MT)		Aluminium (MT)	
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
1995-96	800000	807130	195000	192288
1996-97	800000	840062	218000	203823
1997-98	800000	883300	218000	200162

(c) NALCO is currently implementing two projects i.e. one for expansion of capacity of Bauxite mines and Alumina Refinery and second one for expansion of capacity of Aluminium Smelter and Captive Power Plant. After the expansion projects are completed the capacity of Alumina production will increase from 0.8 Million Tonnes Per Year (MTPY) to 1.575 MTPY and that of Aluminium from 2,30,000 Tonnes Per Year (TPY) to 3,45,000 TPY.

(d) The projected production of Alumina and Aluminium by the Company for the year 2000-2001 is 10,50,000 tonnes and 2,36,000 tonnes respectively.

Cargo Flights Facilities at HAL, Nasik

243. SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a great demand of cargo flight facilities at HAL aerodrome at Nasik;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a final decision with a view to provide Cargo flight facilities at HAL aerodrome, Nasik, is likely to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a), (b) and (c) The airport at Nasik belongs to Ministry of Defence. Being a defence airfield, cargo potential at this airport has not been studied so far.

Survey for Connecting Kolhapur with Konkan Railway

244. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBHA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has submitted any proposal to conduct a survey to connect the Kolhapur with Konkan railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) the present status of the proposal; and
 (d) the time by which Kolhapur is likely to be connected with Konkan railway ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A demand has been made for connecting Kolhapur with Ratnagiri.

(c) and (d) A survey for a new BG line from Kolhapur to Ratnagiri on Konkan Railway via Talwade (115 Kms) has been taken up. Further consideration of the project will be possible once the results of the survey become available.

[Translation]

Punctuality of Trains

245. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the several passenger trains in the country are not running as per their schedule;
 (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
 (c) whether insufficient supply of coal is also responsible for such a situation; and
 (d) the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the running of trains gets affected at times due to reasons such as accidents, agitations/bandhs, alarm-chain-pulling, equipment failures, miscreant activities, bad weather etc.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Adequate quantity of coal is available on Indian Railways for steam traction

[English]

Cut in Strength of Armed Forces

246. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to cut the strength of Army by about 50,000 soldiers by 1999;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure adequate and effective defence preparedness ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) The Army has formulated a plan for effecting under-posting of 50,000 personnel till 31.3.1999. This will be done in a phased manner covering all types of units and formations. The financial savings generated would help modernise the Army in some measure.

(c) The exercise has been planned in a manner that there will no adverse effect on the defence preparedness of the country.

[Translation]

Production of Steel

247. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE :

SHRI K.P. NAIDU :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of production of steel in the country during the last two years;
 (b) the quantity of steel imported during the last two years and so far in the current financial year indicating names of the countries from which it has been imported;
 (c) the field in which the imported steel is being used; and
 (d) the measures being taken to produce such steel in the country which is being imported at present ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) The details of production of finished steel (carbon) during the last two years is as under :-

	(In lakh tonnes)	
	1996-97	1997-98
Finished Steel	227.20	225.67 (Provisional)

(b) The quantity of finished steel (carbon) imported during the last two years and in the present financial year is as under :

	(In lakh tonnes)		
	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99 April '98
	15.62	17.50 (Prov.)	10.40 (Prov.)

The Countries from where steel is imported by India include Germany, Japan, France, Belgium, U.K. U.S.A. Iran, Korea, CIS countries etc.

(c) Sectors for which the imported steel is being used include cold Rolling Units, Auto/Cycle, Industry, Container Industry-Galvanising units, Engineering industry, Electrical industry, Re-rolling industry, Heavy industry etc.

(d) As per the existing policy, import of steel is freely allowed. It is neither cost effective nor economical for any country to produce all grades/specifications and qualities of steel specially where the quantities required are comparatively small. The producers of steel and constantly orienting their production to meet the market needs. Modernisation and expansion of steel plants of SAIL has been taken up towards this objective. Since 1991, Government has also adopted various policy measures to encourage creation of additional steel production capacities in the private sector. With the setting up of steel plants in the private sector, a major portion of the demand for steel which is presently imported is likely to be met by indigenous production.

Vacant Posts in Armed Forces

248. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of posts lying vacant in the various cadres of the defence services;

(b) whether any action plan has been chalked out in regard to filling up of these posts; and

(c) if so, the outline thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) The present vacancy position in respect of three services is given below :

	Officers	Personnel below Officers Rank (PBOR)
Army	13,324	38,000
Navy	1,060	3,498
Air Force	695	6,195

2. There is a deficiency of about 38,000 in the cadre of Personnel Below Officer Rank (PBOR) in the Army. However, approximately 71,000 recruits are currently under training, and hence this deficiency is national. Similarly in the case of Air Force, about 2,214 vacancies of airmen are planned to be filled up in the current financial year.

3. In the case of Army, where the magnitude of vacancy is large, the Government have launched an Image Projection Campaign during 1997-98 with the assistance of a professional advertising agency. In case of Navy and Air Force, the Government are making all out efforts to encour-

age induction of young people in Navy and Air Force by giving grater publicity in newspapers and media in order to get the best.

4. Various measures have been initiated to make up the shortage in the officer cadre in the Army, such as, University Entry Scheme, exemption from appearing in Combined Defence Service Examination for NCC 'C' certificate holders for induction as Short Service Commission Officer (SSCO), induction of women as officers, promotion of service JCOs/ORs into the newly created Special Commissioned Officer (SCO) cadre.

5. Implementation of the Fifth Pay Commission's recommendations in respect of defence services has resulted in improved pay scales, allowances and concessions to armed forces personnel. It is expected that the cumulative effect of all the measures will result in higher intake, making up vacancies to a considerable extent in the near future.

Electrification of Barasat-Basirhat Section of Sealdah

249. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps for electrification of Barasat-Basirhat section of Sealdah Division; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) Barasat-Basirhat section is a part of Barasat-Hasnabad electrification project, for which a cost-cum-feasibility survey report has been prepared. Final decision to electrify this section will be taken on appraisal of the survey report.

Expansion of NALCO

250. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal for the expansion of the Alumina Plant of the National Aluminium Company (NALCO) at Anugul in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details of the expansion posed;

(c) whether the smelter and captive power plants of the company are proposed to be expanded;

(d) if so, the fund earmarked therefor; and

(e) the steps taken in the expansion of the plant ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) and (b) Government have approved expansion of the capacity of NALCO's bauxite mines from 2.4 million tonnes per year

MTPY) to 4.8 MTPY and that of their alumina refineries at Jaman-jodi in Orissa from 0.8 MTPY to 1.575 MTPY at a cost of Rs. 1665 crores (June, 1996 price level) in December, 1996. The project is to be implemented in 51 months time from the date of Govt. approval. Currently, the project is under implementation by NALCO and is progressing on schedule.

(c) to (e) Govt. have approved expansion of the capacity of NALCO's aluminium smelter at Angul, Orissa from 230000 TPY to 345000 TPY and that of the captive power plant from 720 MW to 840 MW at a cost of Rs. 2062 crores (June, 1997 price level) in February, 1998. The project is to be funded through internal resources, suppliers credit, external borrowings etc. The project is to be implemented in 51 months time from the date of Government approval. The company has appointed engineering consultants for expansion of the aluminium smelter and also for expansion of the captive power plant. Currently, the project is under implementation by NALCO and is progressing on schedule.

[Translation]

Flights between Mumbai-Calcutta Via Ahmedabad, Indore and Bhopal

251. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether an Indian Airlines flight (No. I.C. 133) between Mumbai and Calcutta via Ahmedabad, Indore and Bhopal was in operation in 1992;

(b) if so, the reasons for its discontinuance; and

(c) by which date this flight is likely to be resumed ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This flight was withdrawn due to shortage of operating crew in 1992.

(c) The traffic on these sectors is not adequate for operations with the existing Jet aircraft fleet of Indian Airlines. Shortage of smaller capacity aircraft and the related operating crew also do not permit operation of service on this route by Indian Airlines. Private operators are being encouraged to include new stations such as Ahmedabad, Indore and Bhopal in their network, subject to viability.

[English]

Construction of Sitamarhi-Muzzaffarpur Railway Line

252. SHRI SITA RAM YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the construction of railway line between Sitamarhi and Muzzaffarpur has been approved by the Government;

(b) whether any survey work has been executed on this line;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the time by which the construction work of the above line is proposed to be taken up and completed; and

(e) the amount earmarked for this project so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Survey has been completed which has revealed that the cost of this 63 kms. line will be Rs. 100 crs. with a negative rate of return.

(d) Land acquisition is in progress by State Government. Work will be taken up once land becomes available.

(e) The amount earmarked for the year 1997-98 was Rs. 0.01 cr. The outlay proposed for 1998-99 will become known when the budget is presented on 29.5.1998.

Functioning of Computerised Booking Centres in Nagaland

253. SHRI K.A. SANGTAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that due to non-availability of direct Micro-wave link, the computerised booking centres in Nagaland remain in-operative for most of the times; and

(b) if so, the remedial steps being taken to make the system more effective ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) Passenger Reservation System at Nagaland (Kohima) has been functioning with an uptime of more than 90% in the last seven months excepting during November, 1997. Railways are maintaining constant touch with Department of Telecommunication (DOT) to sustain high degree of efficiency.

Profit Earned by Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd.

254. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the profit earned and losses suffered by the Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited, during each of the last two years;

(b) the reasons for the losses, if any; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check such losses ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) RINL has earned cash profits of Rs. 176 crore in 1996-97 and Rs. 15.60 crore in 1997-98. It, however, registered net losses during 1996-97 (Unaudited) 1997-98 (Unaudited & Prov.) to the tune of Rs. 246 crore and Rs. 419 crore, respectively.

(b) Despite cash profits during this period, RINL incurred net losses due to increase in input costs, sluggish market conditions, both in domestic and export markets, coupled with high incidence of capital related charges viz. interest and depreciation.

(c) Measures taken/contemplated to make the company viable are :

- (i) Introduction of appropriate technologies in critical areas to remove production bottlenecks;
- (ii) Improvement of the product mix; and
- (iii) restructuring of the capital base of RINL in order to reduce its interest burden.

[Translation]

Amendments in the Mines and Minerals

255. SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA :

SHRI RAMA NAND SINGH :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received the report of the Committee constituted under the Union Mines Secretary for suggesting amendments in the Mines and Mineral (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957;

(b) if so, whether the report includes the proposed amendment of the Madhya Pradesh Government having provision to charge extra amount on the fixed percentage of the royalty from the mines lease holders for local development ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The State Government of Madhya Pradesh did make a suggestion in this regard. However, charging extra amount as a fixed percentage on the royalty from the Mining Lease holders for local area development is legally not tenable in the light of several judicial pronouncements.

Drinking Water Problem at Meghnagar Station

256. SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is acute scarcity of drinking water for passengers at Meghnagar Railway Station of district Jhabua in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Development of Multi Barrel System 'Pinaka'

257. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has developed its own Multi-Barrel Rocket system "PINAKA"

(b) if so, the specification thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be inducted in the Indian Artillery ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNADES) : (a) The indigenously designed Multi-Barrel Rocket System PINAKA is in advanced stage of development.

(b) The system is capable of firing a salvo of 12 rockets upto a maximum range of 39 km in less than 1 minute. The rocket has various types of conventional warheads including sub-munition.

(c) The PINAKA weapon system is planned to be inducted in Indian Army during the IXth Plan period.

Gauge Conversion between Gonda and Bareilly

258. SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Gauge Conversion Work on Gonda-Bareilly line (NER) has already been started; and

(b) if not, the time by which the gauge conversion on above line is likely to be started and completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Of this route, only Gonda-Bahraich is yet included in the budget. The work is to be taken up after obtaining the requisite clearances for which action has been initiated. Rest of the section is not sanctioned for conversion at present.

Translation]

Powers to Panchayats

259. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the importance of the Panchayati Raj institutions in the country and whether Government have amended the laws to provide adequate powers to Panchayats;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the Government propose to provide such powers to the Panchayats so as to enable them to fulfil their duties towards society and function effectively ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government have introduced part IX to the Constitution through the 73rd Constitutional Amendment making panchayats constitutional entities. Further the provisions of Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 have come into force on 24 th December, 1996 extending panchayats to the Fifth Schedule areas of eight States of India viz. Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Rajasthan.

(c) As per the Constitution the Panchayati Raj Institutions have been endowed with such powers and authority as may be necessary to function as institutions of self government. Part IX of the Constitution contains provisions of devolution of powers and responsibilities upon panchayats at the appropriate level with reference to (a) the preparation of plans for economic development and social justice; and (b) the implementation of such schemes for economic development and social justice as may be entrusted to them. The extent of devolution of powers, functions and responsibilities upon the PRIs is left to the State/Union Territory Governments. The status of devolution of powers is being constantly monitored by the Ministry. The Conference of Chief Ministers was held on 2nd August, 1997 and also a meeting of State Ministers incharge of Panchayati Raj was held on 13th May, 1998 in this context.

Introduction on Extension of Trains

260. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce any new train between Gaya and Mumbai and if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether there is any proposal to extend 1093/1094 Varanasi-Mumbai Mahanagar Express and 8689/8690 Alapy-Bokaro train upto Gaya and if so, by when;

(c) whether there is any proposal to operate 8605/8606 Ranchi-Gaya-New Delhi Golden Jubilee Express daily and if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to increase reservation quota for Gaya and if so, the names of these trains and by when it is likely to be done and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir. Due to terminal/line capacity constraints.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. Due to operational and resource constraints.

(d) No, Sir. Reservation work at Gaya has been computerised and it has access to the entire general quota in trains defined on Calcutta PRS on first-come-first-served basis. Hence passengers at Gaya can get reservations for most of the trains, and need for additional separate quota is not justified.

[English]

Allotment of Plots to Petrol Pumps

261. DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications from Oil companies pending with DDA for allotment of plot to commission Petrol Pumps in Delhi, Company-wise;

(b) the details of the allotments made during the last three years, Company-wise;

(c) whether DDA maintained seniority-wise priority list;

(d) if so, the time by which the waiting list is likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) Delhi Development Authority has reported that 78 applications from Oil companies are pending with DDA for allotment of plots to commission Petrol Pumps in Delhi as follows :

I O C	47
H P C	14
B P C	10
I B P	7
Total	78

The Supreme Court has cancelled some allotments of Petrol Pumps. The actual pendency will be known after the cases cancelled by the Supreme Court are reported to DDA by the Oil companies.

(b) The company-wise allotments made during the last 3 years is as follows :

I O C	11
H P C	6
B P C	5
I B P	1
Total	<u>23</u>

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) It depends upon the availability of site and acceptance of allotment by the Oil companies.

Audit of Defence Establishments

262. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated a scheme for the safety audit of Defence Establishments; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) There is an ongoing scheme for annual safety audit of major Defence establishments handling ammunition and explosives, by experts of Centre for Environment and Explosive Safety (CEES), an establishment of Defence Research & Development organisation. Implementation of recommendations for ~~implementation~~ of safety is periodically monitored by CEES.

[Translation]

Government Railway Police

263. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways have contemplated disbanding the Government Railway Police (GRP) in its status paper;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Railways are taking any concrete steps to strengthen passengers safety arrangements and to protect its property; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Maintenance of law and order and control of crime on Railway premises including Railway stations and running trains is the responsibility of the State Government concerned. The RPF co-ordinates with the GRP for ensuring better security to the Railway passengers and their property. The following steps have been taken by RPF for improving the passenger safety:

1. RPF Officers have been directed to hold regular co-ordination meetings with their counter-parts on the GRP and Civil Police.

2. Sharing of Special Intelligence and Crime intelligence between RPF and GRP is being done at all levels.

3. Joint Strategies for dealing with anti-social elements operating on Railways have been chalked out by the GRP and RPF.

4. RPF Sniffer dogs, wherever available, are being deployed at Railway platforms, yards etc. to sniff out explosive substances. RPF men are being trained in the identification and detection of explosive devices.

Protection of Railway property is the responsibility of the RPF. The following steps are being taken by RPF to safeguard the Railway's own property and consignments being carried by the Railways;

1. Escorting of trains carrying valuable consignment over vulnerable sections as far as possible.

2. Intensive beat patrolling in yards and other affected areas/section.

3. Joint checking at interchange points to take stock of the conditions of wagons/seals, carrying consignments.

4. RPF armed pickets are posted/deployed in vulnerable sections as far as possible.

5. Plain clothed RPF personnel are also deployed to collect intelligence with a view to tracking down the criminals.

6. Based on criminal intelligence, raids and searches are conducted on the dens of criminals/receivers of stolen property in order to bring them to book.

7. Dog squads are deployed for patrolling vulnerable yards and areas.

8. Close coordination between RPF, GRP and Local Police is maintained at various levels to apprehend criminals and receivers of stolen property.

[English]

Funds to States under DW CRA

264. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state the total amount allotted to the States under the programme for development of women and children in rural areas during the year 1996-97 and 1997-98, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF

RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGAUDA PATIL) : Total allocation of Central assistance for DWCR programme during the 1996-97 and 1997-98.

Sl. No.	State/Union Territories	Total Allocation	
		Year	
		1996-97	1997-98
1.	Andhra Pradesh	624.82	396.38
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	68.38	55.38
3.	Assam	299.70	214.88
4.	Bihar	530.25	505.25
5.	Goa	18.50	11.50
6.	Gujarat	265.65	168.13
7.	Haryana	164.45	105.25
8.	Himachal Pradesh	98.30	60.00
9.	Jammu & Kasnmir	158.00	139.00
10.	Karnataka	360.52	238.50
11.	Kerala	193.36	119.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	479.38	449.38
13.	Maharashtra	394.00	340.00
14.	Manipur	66.63	38.63
15.	Meghalaya	89.00	62.00
16.	Mizoram	24.50	11.50
17.	Nagaland	49.25	22.25
18.	Orissa	292.88	262.88
19.	Punjab	146.88	99.88
20.	Rajasthan	246.74	215.74
21.	Sikkim	39.75	25.75
22.	Tamil Nadu	319.88	311.88
23.	Tripura	39.25	15.25
24.	Uttar Pradesh	950.28	635.75
25.	West Bengal	291.75	243.75
<i>Union Territories</i>			
1.	A & N Islands	15.77	11.25
2.	D & N Haveli	6.50	5.50
3.	Daman & Diu	7.00	8.00
4.	Lakshadweep	7.00	6.00
5.	Pondicherry	17.00	6.00
Total		6262.37	4785.41

[Translation]

Doubling of Rail Lines

265. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some hindrances are coming in the way of doubling of rail lines;

(b) if so, the nature of these hindrances being faced during the last two years; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government to remove these hindrances ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Constraints of resources has been the major hindrance.

(c) The funds for Plan Head 'Doubling' are proposed to be increased substantially this year.

Contracts Awards for Major Minerals and Kimberlite Pipes

266. SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SAHU : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kimberlite pipes have been found in the mines of Devbhog-Manpur area of Raipur district in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the major minerals for which contracts and lease awarded in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh for their mining, exploration and marketing during February 1, 1998 to April 30, 1998;

(d) the details of amount so fixed, mineral-wise; and

(e) the names of the firms engaged for mining, exploration survey and marketing of these minerals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Five Kimberlite pipes have been found in the Bahradih-Payalkhand Area, about 50 Km NNW (North North West) of Deobhog in Raipur district of Madhya Pradesh. Two of these Kimberlites are located at Payalkhand and one each at Bahradih, Jangra and Kodomali. The surface dimensions of the pipes are (i) Payalkhand I—100 M x 100 M (ii) Payalkhand II—50 M x 50 M (iii) Bahradih 300 M x 200 M (iv) Jangra 50 M x 50 M (v) Kodomali 300 M x 300 M. Of the five Kimberlite bodies, the Payalkhand and Bahradih Kimberlites are diamondiferous.

(c) to (e) To details of major minerals for which mining leases/prospecting licences have been granted in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh for their mining exploration and marketing during February 1, 1998 to April 30, 1998, alongwith the names of the firms are given in the enclosed Statements I, II, III, and IV respectively. As per the existing provisions made in MM (R & D) Act, 1957 and MCR, 1960, royalty, dead rent, etc. are levied.

Statement-I**Mining Lease for major Minerals in Rajasthan
(From 1.2.98 to 30.4.98)**

S.No.	State	Mineral	District	Village	Area (HCCT)	Dak of grant	Period	Date of Execution	Name of the Party
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Rajasthan	Quartz & Silica Sand	Sikar	Asepura	5.00	11.3.98	20	—	Radheshyam Park S/o Madan Lal Park, Bandiyawad Chandpole Gade Sikar
2.	-do-	Chinaclay	Chittorgar	Kantorla	5.00	24.2.98	20	—	J.K. White Cement Works Gotan, Distt. Nagaur (Raj.)
3.	-do-	Felspar & Quartz	Tonk	Gulgaon	5.00	13.2.98	20	—	Sanjay Basotiya, S/o Late Sabarmai Basotiya, Navaigadh House Zetwada Road, Jaipur (Raj.)
4.	-do-	-do-	Ajmer	Balewarat	5.00	17.2.98	20	—	Parasmal Jain, S/o Mangal Chand Jain 212, out of Nehru Gate Beawer 305901 Ajmer
5.	-do-	-do-	-do-	Piprol	34.00	17.2.98	20	—	Shankar Singh, S/o Chatar Singh At Piprol dt. Ajmer
6.	-do-	Gypsum	Shreeganga Nagar	Anandgadh	275.71	2.3.98	20	—	Rajasthan State Mines & Minerals Ltd. Sadul Club Bldg. Bikaner (Raj.)
7.	-do-	Limestone	Chittorgarh	Madho Bamniya	724.68	3.3.98	20	—	Orient Paper & Industries Ltd. Lawli Mansion 4th Floor 6-3-1090 K/1/A Raj Bhavan Road Samaj Guda, Hyderabad (A.P.)
8.	-do-	Bullclay, Chinaclay & Fireclay	Bikaner	Indo-Ka Bala	108.63	18.2.98 (R)	20	—	Chowdhary Mines & Minerals w.e.f. 2.3.98 Near Rao Bikaji School Ajmer Road Bikaner (Raj.)
9.	-do-	Limestone	Nagaur	Gotan	400.00	9.3.98 (A)	20 (w.e.f. 7.4.98)	—	J.K. White Cement Works Ltd. P.O. Gotan, Distt. Nagaur (Raj.)
10.	-do-	Mica, Felspar & Quartz	Ajmer	Sanad	42.66	26.2.98	20 (x) w.e.f. 11.3.97	—	Sunil Kumar Jain 613, Biharji & Road Nasarikdabad, Ajmer Dt.
11.	-do-	Quartz & Felspar	Bhilwara	Devipura	5.00	—	20	23.2.98	Shutham Minerals 39, Som Nath Colony College Marg Beawar Distt. Ajmer (Raj.)
12.	-do-	Emerald Soap Stone, Felspar & Quartz	Ajmer	Rajgadh	48.32	7.4.98	20	—	Mining & Mineral Industries Pors. A.K. Sethi 13-Parasnath Jain, Colony Danlot Ajmer (Raj.)

Statement - II**Prospecting Licence for Major Minerals in Rajasthan
(Period from 1.2.98 to 30.4.98)**

S.No.	State	Mineral	District	Village	Area (HCCT)	Dak of grant	Period	Date of Execution	Name of the Party
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Rajasthan	Mica, Quartz Felspar & Soapstone	Rajsamand	Morna	185.00	5.2.98	2	—	Kishan Lal Nai, S/o Amar Lal Nai Nai Hawal- Ka-Chowk Nathdwara dt-Rajsamand (Raj)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2.	-do-	Calcite & Quartz	Sirohi	Singa-K-P Pawli	81.20	11.3.98	1	-	Jayantilal Sindhi S/o Puanamchand Palace Road, Sirohi
3.	-do-	Bismuth & Associated Minerals	Sikar	Rajpur	257.35	4.2.98	2	-	Prerna Granites Pvt. Ltd. Premprakash Cinema Chowda Rasta, Jaipur-302003
4.	-do-	Rock Phosphate	Jaisalmer	Birmaniya	400.00	20.2.98	1	-	R.S.M.D.C. Ltd. Khanij Bhawan Tilak Nagar, Jaipur
5.	-do-	Felspar & Quartz	Rajsamand	Bhurwada	130.00	25.12.97	1	10.2.98	Jayamouorial Chhaganlal Keelal At Barala P.O. Anjana Ton. Durgarh.
6.	-do-	Felspar & Quartz	Ajmer	Lugana	140.00	-	1	2.2.98	Anuj Rastogi S/o Sahdev Rastogi 34/455 A, Geera Niwas Pal Bichhia, Ajmer
7.	-do-	Mica, Felspar & Quartz	Bhilwara	Asahil	187.50	-	2	7.2.98	Anwar Hussain S/o Sadiq Hussain Begore, Tal. Mandal dt. Bhilwara
8.	-do-	Mica, Felspar & Quartz	Bhilwara	Raghunath-pura	150.00	-	2	20.2.93	Smt. Nirmaladevi Prakashchand Chordiya ASIK, Bhilwara
9.	-do-	Jasper	Jalore	Dodiyali	420.00	-	1	6.3.98	Narayan Lal Rawataji At. Guda Balotan Tal. Ahore, dt. Jalore
10.	-do-	Soap Stone & China Clay	Bhilwara	Gogas	104.80	-	2	27.2.98	Smt. Gitadevi Laxmi Narayan Valenov. At-Sirsidiyal Bhilwara (Rajasthan)
11.	-do-	Mica Felspar & Quartz	Bhilwara	Sodor	123.60	-	2	5.3.98	H.P. Meena S/o L.C. Meena Nandweth, Tel. Aru-Jiya, Bara.
12.	-do-	Mica Felspar & Quartz	Bhilwara	Marewada	132.00	-	2	18.2.98	B.N. Mining Co. D-29, 2nd Floor New Delhi.
13.	-do-	Mica Felspar & Quartz.	Bhilwara	Ranal	130.00	-	2	21.2.98	Smt. Raisa Begam At Ajjmandil Begore, dt. Bhilwara
14.	-do-	Mica, Felspar & Quartz	Bhilwara	Kerkheda	200.00	-	2	7.2.98	Suresh Kumar Bharwarial Lamad, Purohit Kheda, Tel. Mandal, Dt. Bhilwara
15.	-do-	Soapstone	Bhilwara	Kalundiya	288.00	-	2	2.2.98	Surendra Singh, S/o Manoharsingh Chandaliya Manohar Kunj, Bhilwara
16.	-do-	Mica Felspar & Quartz	Bhilwara	Boriyapura	149.89	-	2	7.2.98	Liyskat Hussan, Bagora Tel. Mandal, Bhilwara
17.	-do-	Mica Felspar & Quartz	Bhilwara	Bharikheda	130.00	-	2	3.2.98	Ramgopal Govardhandas Valenov, At Narana Tel. As K. Dt. Bhilwara
18.	-do-	Emerald, Mica Granet, Quartz	Rajsamand	Gaoguda	275.83	-	2	12.2.98	Babulal Modi Lal Pandiyyar, Chhota Telipura, Naldara dt. Rajsamand
19.	-do-	Mica Felspar & Quartz	Bhilwara	Amil	130.00	-	2	11.2.98	Devilal Bhuralalji Nayak, Amil, Tel. Sahada Dt. Bhilwara
20.	-do-	Felspar & Quartz	Bhilwara	Sarsiya	150.00	-	2	21.2.98	Vinod Kumar Noramal Goyal At. Devil, Dt. Tonk.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
21.	-do-	Lead, Zinc Copper, Gold & Associated Mineral	Bhilwara	Bhilwara Rajsamand & Ajmer	1486.00.00 — (1486 sq km)	—	3	11.3.98	B.H.P. Mineral India (P) Ltd. 4th Floor, World Trade Tower World Trade Tower New Delhi-110001
22.	-do-	-do-	Bhilwara	Bhilwara	131000.00 — (1310 sq. km.)	—	3	11.3.98	-do-
23.	-do-	Mica Felspar & Quartz	Bhilwara	Ashaholi	148.50	—	2	21.2.98	Liyaket Hussan S/o Syed Hussan Shaikh, At. Bogore, dt. Bhilwara
24.	-do-	Mica Felspar & Quartz	Bhilwara	Mokhampura	240.00	—	2	9.3.98	Rameshwar Lal Sharma At Brohmapuri-Gangapur Dt. Bhilwara
25.	-do-	Felspar & Quartz	Bhilwara	Senunda	175.00	—	2	9.3.98	Mahavir Badola Near Large Temple Asind, dt. Bhilwara
26.	-do-	Mica Felspar & Quartz	Bhilwara	Bhadu	160.00	—	2	21.2.98	Bansilal Maglial Khatik, At Bagora Dt. Bhilwara

Statement - III*Mining Lease for Major Minerals in Madhya Pradesh**(Period from 1.2.98 to 30.4.98)*

Source		BMI (QML, grant, Execu. & Renewal)							
S.No.	State	Mineral	District	Village	Area (Hect.)	Date of grant	Period (Yrs.)	Date of Execution	Name & Address of the Party
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Madhya Pradesh	Dolomite	Raipur	Dhanell	3.24	5.2.98	20	—	Smt. Nella Chawla W/o I.N. Chawla 29, MIG, 2, Hudko Bhilal, Dt. Durg (MP)
2.	-do-	-do-	Mandia	Kekaliya	3.23	10.3.98	20	—	Vinod Kumar Agarwal At. Laki Automobiles Lalitpura Ward, Mandia (M.P.)
3.	-do-	Limestone	Durg	Nandani Kundani	1.92	10.3.98	20	—	Smt. Mohndevi Mishra W/o B.R. Mishra 48/5, East Bhilal Dt. Durg (MP)
4.	-do-	Orchra Lafelite	Satna	Pipriola	34.17	3.2.98	20	—	Sharad Kumar Bansal Jaitwara, distt. Satna (M.P.)
5.	-do-	Limestone	Jabalpur	Amchta	14.06	9.2.98	(R) 20	—	Ravu Kumar Grower Civil Lines, Katni Distt. Jabalpur (MP)
6.	-do-	Limestone Dolomite	-do-	-do-	16.66	23.2.98	(R) 20	—	G.K. Maltra Amehta Stone & Lime Co. Amehta, Tal. Katni Distt. Jabalpur (HP)

Statement -IV*Prospecting Licences for Major Minerals in Madhya Pradesh**(Period from 1.2.98 to 30.4.98)*

S.No.	State	Mineral	District	Village	Area (Hect.)	Date of grant	Period (Years)	Date of Execution	Name & Address of the party
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Madhya Pradesh	Calcite	Khargaon	Palona	9.00	13.2.98	1	—	Loyal Minerals Corporation 10, Bhagatasingh Marg Indore (M.P.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2.	-do-	Galena	Rajnandgaon	Karemtara	2.23	17.2.98	1	-	Agarwal Minerals, Prop : Manoj Agarwal Raipur (M.P.)
3.	-do-	Laterite & Clay	Jabalpur	Sahehar	23.22	17.2.98	1	-	Hement Gupta S/o N.K. Gupta Garg Chauraha, Katni Distt. Jabalpur (M.P.)
4.	-do-	Limestone	Damoh	Ghira & Others	763.35	17.3.98	2	-	Diamond Cements Prop : Mysore Cement Ltd. PO-Narasinhgad Distt. Damoh (M.P.)
5.	-do-	Pyrophyllite & Diaspore	Chhatarpur	Mugawari	7.00	27.2.98	1	-	1) Ritesh Kumar Khare Ward No. 5, Art School Rd. Chhatarpur 2) Deepak Kumar Khare Mugari, Tal Bijnwar Dt-Chhatarpur
6.	-	Silica Sand	Khargaon	Chandrapura	0.41	9.3.98	1	-	Shrae Enterprises (Firm) 6, Mahashwar Road Pagariya Bhawan, Badwada Distt. Khargaon (M.P.)
7.	-do-	White Clay	Jabalpur	Koniya	1.88	17.2.98	1	-	Sunil Agarwal Post Krupalpur dt. Satna (M.P.)

Housing Loan under Indira Awas Yojana

267. SHRIMATI OMVATI DEVI : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the criteria laid down by the Centre for providing Housing Loan to the poor villagers under Indira Awas Yojana is being violated in Bihar, particularly in Benipur, Darbhanga by processing the false loan files for the grant of loans to the illegible persons;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry to the matter has been conducted;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken against the guilty persons and the steps taken to curb recurrence of such activities in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT : (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) Under Indira Awas Yojana 100% grant/subsidy is provided to the BPL poor for construction of houses. There is no provision of extending housing loan under Indira Awas Yojana.

(b) to (d) In view of the reply at (a) above question does not arise.

BALCO

268. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULESTE : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (BALCO) in Mandla of Madhya Pradesh have sought the lease of mining in Hazari Dadar;

(b) if so, the time by which lease is likely to be granted to the Company;

(c) whether the term of this company is going to complete in September, 1999;

(d) if so, whether the Company has sent any proposal to the Government for the extension of time; and

(e) if so, the period for which it is likely to be extended with full details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) to (e) BALCO was granted mining lease for bauxite in April, 1977 in Hazaridadar area in Mandla District which was valid for 10 years. However, in November, 1986, when BALCO submitted application for renewal on mining lease. It was rejected by the State Govt. on the ground that the area in question falls in the forest area. BALCO went in appeal in December, 1989 against the order of the State Government and the Central Government Tribunal by its order dated 10th January, 1990 set aside the order of State Government and advised the State Government to decide the renewal of lease on merits. Mining lease period of Raktidadar, Nanhoodadar and Khurkhuridadar area of Mandla Distt. (MP), other mines of BALCO, will expire on 12.9.1999. No proposal for the extension of lease for these areas have been received since the bauxite reserves will be mined out before expiry of lease period.

[English]

Gauge Conversion of Rupa-Bangriposi Railway Line

269. SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) The gauge conversion of Rupsa-Bangriposi railway line in Orissa has abruptly stopped after its inauguration three years back;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to restore the above work; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. The work is in progress between Kms. 0 to 75. The work is being progressed as per availability of resources.

[Translation]

Linking of Tonk with Railway Network

270. SHRI DOWARKA PARSHAD BAIRWA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for closing down Jalpur-Malpura-Toda Rai Singh Section metre gauge line;

(b) whether the Government propose to take some effective steps to bring Tonk district headquarter in Indian Railways map;

(c) if so, whether the Government have conducted any techno-economic engineering survey in this regard; and

(d) if so, the time by which the above town is likely to be linked with railway network ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) The line was closed being an unremunerative branch line making losses.

(b) There is no proposal for rail linking Tonk at present.

(c) Surveys have been conducted in the past.

(d) Does not arise as the work is not sanctioned so far.

[English]

Setting up of Vijayanagar Steel Plant

271. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the foundation stone for setting up of Vijayanagar Steel Plant in Karnataka has been laid down;

(b) if so, the present status thereof;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to allow private and public sectors to set up steel plant in Karnataka; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The foundation stone was laid in 1971. Subsequently land acquired for the purpose of setting up the steel plant as a central Public Sector Undertaking was transferred to the Govt. of Karnataka in 1994. On a part of this land, M/s. Jindal Vijayanagar Steel Ltd., jointly with Karnataka State Industrial Investment & Development Corporation (KSIIDC) are presently setting up an integrated steel plant to produce 1.57 million tpa of hot rolled steel flat products. M/s. Mukand Vijayanagar Steel Ltd. has also proposed to set up an integrated steel plant on the remaining area available at the location.

(c) Under the New Industrial Policy, in vogue since July 1991, iron and steel industry has been delicensed and no industrial licence is now necessary save for certain locational restrictions for setting up of a steel plant.

(d) Pursuant to the New Industrial Policy, Govt. of Karnataka have cleared several iron and steel projects. Of these one unit namely M/s. Bellary Steel and Alloys Ltd. is presently setting up a steel plant of a capacity of 0.5 million tpa in Navinahally, District Bellary.

Local Flavour of Decor and Design at Airport

272. SHRI K. C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have asked the State Governments to adopt airports and give it a local flavour in terms of decor and design;

(b) if so, the action that has been taken to bring certain changes in the Bangalore airport by the Karnataka Government.

(c) whether traditional lamps, a nandi statue and other important indicators of the local culture and heritage are going to be introduced at Bangalore airport; and

(d) if so, the time by which the work is likely to be executed there ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) It is the general policy adopted by AAI to give a local flavour to terminal buildings in respect of exterior architecture and interior design.

(b) to (d) AAI has initiated action to provide art pieces and antiques indicating the local culture and heritage. This is an ongoing process.

Budget Provision for Umroi (Shillong) Airport

273. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was a proposal to process the project of expanding and upgradation of airport facilities at Umroi (Shillong); and

(b) if so, the details and the status thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Proposal for extension of runway from 6000 ft. to 8500 ft. for operation of B-737/Airbus 320 type of aircraft under fair weather conditions has been examined by Airports Authority of India (AAI). AAI has requested that additional land be made available by the State Government and full budgetary support be provided for taking up the development of the airport.

[Translation]

Ordnance Factories

274. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Ordnance factories and the employees engaged in each of them;

(b) whether most of the factories are running in losses;

(c) if so, the details thereof, unit-wise and reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to close down these factories; and

(e) if not, the measures taken to revive such factories and make them profit earning ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) The total number of ordnance factories is 39. The number of employees in each of them is indicated in the Statement attached.

(b) to (e) The ordnance factories being Departmentally run units work on 'no profit no loss, basis so far as the production for armed forces is concerned. Therefore, the question of ordnance factories running in loss or closing them down or taking measures to revive them does not arise.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of Factory	Location	Total employees strength
1	2	3	4
1.	Ordnance Factory Khamaria	Jabalpur	9718
2.	High Explosives Factory, Kirkee	Pune	1804
3.	Ordnance Factory, Chanda	Chandrapur	5636
4.	Ordnance Factory, Dehu Road	Dehu Road	1636

1	2	3	4
5.	Ordnance Factory, Itarsi	Itarsi	2340
6.	Cordite Factory, Aruvankadu	Aruvankadu	2950
7.	Ordnance Factory, Bhandara	Bhandara	3733
8.	Ordnance Factory, Bolangir	Bolangir	1705
9.	Ammunition Factory, Kirkee	Pune	7970
10.	Ordnance Factory, Varangaon	Varangaon	2932
11.	Ordnance Factory, Kanpur	Kanpur	6804
12.	Small Arms Factory, Kanpur	Kanpur	3640
13.	Vehicle Factory, Jabalpur	Jabalpur	10459
14.	Rifle Factory, Ishapore	Calcutta	7317
15.	Ordnance Factory, Dum Dum	Calcutta	1851
16.	Ordnance Factory, Trichi	Trichurapalli	2954
17.	Grey Iron Foundry, Jabalpur	Jabalpur	2415
18.	Gun & Shell Factory, Coosipore	Calcutta	6052
19.	Field Gun Factory, Kanpur	Kanpur	2190
20.	Gun Carriage Factory	Jabalpur	8108
21.	Heavy Alloy Penetrator Project	Tiruchirapalli	741
22.	Machine Tool Prototype Factory	Ambarnath	1907
23.	Ordnance Cable Factory, Chandigarh	Chandigarh	721
24.	Ordnance Factory, Muradnagar	Muradnagar	3632
25.	Ordnance Factory, Katni	Katni	2383
26.	Metal & Steel Factory, Ishapore	Calcutta	6187
27.	Ordnance Factory, Ambarnath	Ambarnath	3573
28.	Ordnance Factory, Bhusawal	Bhusawal	1602
29.	Ordnance Factory, Ambajhari	Nagpur	7451
30.	Ordnance Factory Project Medak	Hyderabad	2987
31.	Opto Electronics Factory, Dehradun	Dehradun	1837
32.	Engine Factory, Avadi	Chennai	1013
33.	Heavy Vehicles Factory, Avadi	Chennai	5373
34.	Ordnance Factory, Dehradun	Dehradun	1836
35.	Ordnance Equipment Factory, Kanpur	Kanpur	5271
36.	Ordnance Parachute Factory	Kanpur	2651
37.	Ordnance Equipment Factory, Hazrat pur	Tundla	608
38.	Ordnance Clothing Factory, Avadi	Chennai	2843
39.	Ordnance Clothing Factory, Shahjahanpur	Shahjahanpur	6107
		Total	180707

[English]

Construction of Bangalore-Satyamangala Rail Line

275. SHRI A. SIDDARAJU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the survey work for laying of new Railway line between Bangalore-Satyamangala has been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the estimated cost of the above work; and

(c) the time by which the above work is likely to be started and completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Survey report has revealed that the cost of the 271 km. line would be Rs. 640 crores with a negative rate of return. The work would be started after obtaining necessary clearances for which action has already been initiated. Target Date of completion has not yet been fixed.

[Translation]

Housing Loan on Concessional Rates

276. SHRI PUNNULAL MOHALE: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to provide loan for housing on concessional rates;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the loan disbursed during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the number of complaints received by the Government in regard to the housing loan during the said period; and

(d) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) and (b) Union Government does not provide loans for construction for houses. Housing being a State subject, State Housing agencies are to formulate and implement various social housing schemes as per plan priorities. They can seek loans from Central/State financial institutions including HUDCO for the purpose. HUDCO provide loan to E/S/LIG category at concessional rate of interest of 9% - 12%, much below the cost of resources. Under its social mandate, HUDCO remarks 55% of the housing loan portfolio for these categories.

During the last three years, housing loan sanctioned by HUDCO, State-wise is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Government has not received any complaint in regard to housing loan sanctioned by HUDCO.

(d) Does not arise.

* **Statement**

Loan released by HUDCO during last three years

State/UTs	(Rupees in Crores)		
	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
A & N Islands	0.57	0.74	0.69
Andhra Pradesh	82.16	194.92	357.66
Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00
Assam	20.04	19.86	54.82
Bihar	15.46	24.29	10.62
Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00
Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00
Delhi	110.83	108.12	10.96
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00
Goa	1.95	0.30	10.00
Gujarat	35.44	46.72	69.59
Himachal Pradesh	20.44	20.67	52.61
Haryana	18.37	22.10	2.62
Jammu & Kashmir	5.44	13.92	9.44
Kerala	144.31	241.71	318.38
Karnataka	222.76	194.55	268.07
Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00
Meghalaya	4.06	11.48	6.78
Maharashtra	91.62	112.91	148.03
Manipur	3.35	15.59	29.95
Madhya Pradesh	39.21	40.81	57.23
Mizoram	3.35	8.60	5.82
Nagaland	2.18	4.90	6.17
Orissa	24.961	26.16	38.88
Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00
Punjab	35.61	23.19	58.10
Rajasthan	66.59	83.44	182.22
Sikkim	12.8	24.67	3.28
Tamil Nadu	196.16	236.74	333.31
Tripura	0.30	0.14	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	39.96	43.32	66.54
West Bengal	43.86	40.12	47.82
Total	1,241.80	1,539.97	2149.61

*[English]***Gauge Conversion in Gujarat**

277. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from the Government of Gujarat, Members of Parliament, Business Organisation and Railway Trade Unions from that State regarding pending railway projects and conversion of metre gauge lines including Rajkot-Veraval line into broad gauge lines;

(b) if so, details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the time by which these pending projects and metre gauge lines are likely to be converted ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The details of the request received, action taken thereon and targets are as under :

Name of the work	Action taken	Target
1	2	3
1 Gauge conversion of Rajkot-Veraval and its extension upto Kodinar/ Somnath	Work is in progress for Rajkot-Veraval portion. A survey for extension of line upto Kodinar/ Somnath has been taken up.	9 th Plan
2 Gauge conversion of Surondemagar, Dhola-Dhasa-Mahuva with extension upto Pipavav	Work has been sanctioned. Preliminary arrangements for starting the work are on hand.	-do-
3. Gauge conversion of Viramgam-Mehsana railway line (A part of Bhildi-Viramgam project).	Work has been sanctioned. Preliminary arrangement for starting the work are being made.	-do-
4. Gauge conversion of Mehsana-Patan MG line (A part of Bhildi-Viramgam project).	The work on Mehsana-Patan Section has been temporarily frozen at present due to low operational priority work	Will be decided whenever the work is resumed.

1	2	3
5. Gauge conversion of Navalkhi-Dahinsara Morbi-Wankaner and Dahinara-Maliya Miyana railway line.	Work has been sanctioned. Preliminary arrangements for starting the work are being made.	9 th Plan
6. Gauge conversion of Gandhidham-Bhuj-Nalla railway line	Work on Gandhidham-Bhuj is in progress. A survey has been taken up for gauge conversion of Bhuj-Nalla section.	9 th Plan upto Bhuj Rest is not sanctioned.
7. Gauge conversion of Gandhidham-Samakhiakh-Palspur MG line	A survey has been included in 1997-98 budget.	It is not yet sanctioned.
8. Gauge conversion of Dharangadhara -Kuda Salt siding	This work has been included in the Supplementary Budget 97-98. Work is to be executed on cost sharing basis with the Government of Gujarat and Salt Deptt. Govt. of India and will be started as soon as co-sharers come forth with their share of funds.	9 th Plan.
9. Gauge conversion of Bharuch-Dahej	Bharuch-Dahej has been covered in the proposed 3 rd line from Ahmedabad to Vitar for which survey report is under finalisation.	The work is not yet sanctioned.
10 Ankleshwar-Rajpipla NG line into BG.	Surveys conducted in the past have revealed inadequate traffic prospects as such we have not been able to consider taking up the work.	The work is not yet sanctioned.

Introduction of Train

278. SHRI P. SANKARAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the passengers from Malabar to Tamil Nadu are put too much extra hardships on routing of Kurla Express through Konkam Railways; and

(b) if so, whether the Government are considering to introduce another train from Mangalore to Tamil Nadu to redress the grievances of Malabar passengers bound to Tamil Nadu ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) 6635/6636 Netravati Express was serving passengers bound for Mumbai, which has been diverted through shorter route. At present, two daily trains viz 6601/6602 Chennai-Mangalore Mail and 6627/6628 West Coast Express are adequately serving the passengers of Malabar region to travel towards Tamil Nadu.

(b) Does not arise.

Cases against Defence Personnel in N.E. States

279. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases pending against defence personnel for rape, murder and violation of human rights in various courts in North Eastern States; and

(b) the number of such personnel punished so far by court of the department for the above mentioned crimes in the North Eastern States, State-wise during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Construction of Kuttipuram-Guruvayur Railway Line

280. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA :

SHRI A.C. JOS :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the final location survey and the alignment of the Kuttipuram-Guruvayur railway line (Southern Railway Palakkad Division, Kerala) has been finalised.

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps are being taken to expedite the long-pending construction of the above railway line ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Guruvayur-Tanur alignment has been selected.

(c) The work was earlier sanctioned as part of the Mangalore-Shoranur doubling project in lieu of Tanur-Shoranur. However since Mangalore-Tanur doubling has been extended to Shoranur, this has now become a new line project for which fresh clearances are required. Survey report is being updated to enable further action in this regard.

Survey for Gunupur to Rayagada New Broad Gauge Line

281. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total funds provided for survey of new broad gauge line from Gunupur to Rayagada (S.E.Rly.) so far;

(b) whether the techno-economic survey report have already been examined and a decision taken to connect the Gunupur to Rayagada;

(c) If so, the details thereof; and

(d) If not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) This is not yet a sanctioned work.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Construction of Over Bridge in Kottagudem

282. SHRI NADENDLA BHASKARA RAO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal for construction of road overbridge in Kottagudem town in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Killings during Anti-Insurgency Operations

283. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of defence personnel killed by insurgents while on duty to maintain internal law and order during the last three years, State-wise; and

(b) the number of insurgents killed or apprehended in different States, State-wise by the defence forces during that period ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) Statement I and II containing the required information are attached.

Statement-I**Army Personnel Killed CI/IS Duties**

Year	J & K				North East			
	Oftrs	JCOs	ORs	Total	Oftrs	JCOs	ORs	Total
1995	19	25	209	253	06	02	41	49
1996	20	17	223	260	06	05	54	65
1997	23	20	228	271	13	06	78	97
Total	62	62	660	784	25	13	173	211

Statement-II**Militants Killed/Apprehended**

State	1995		1996		1997	
	MK	MA	MK	MA	MK	MA
(a) Manipur	45	477	50	704	124	948
(b) Nagaland	46	636	54	1180	44	834
(c) Assam	1	56	42	1061	144	3120
(d) Tripura	Nil	Nil	09	05	12	310
(e) J & K	1102	3541	902	1826	888	1257
Total	1194	4710	1057	4776	1212	6469

MK : Militants killed

MA : Militants apprehended

Increase in Passenger Train Service

284. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to increase passenger train service between Palasa and Cuttack, Puri, Khargpur, Rourkela and Bhubaneswar; and

(b) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) It has been decided to introduce an Express train between Bhubaneswar and Rourkela only, on the newly constructed Talcher-Sambalpur line in 1998-99.

Construction of Overbridge at Nagpur

285. SHRI JOGENDRA KAWADE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a demand for construction of a flyover on Nagpur Road in Maharashtra is pending for a long time; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government for the construction of said fly-over ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Proposal is for widening of existing Road Over Bridge on NH-6 providing a parallel road over bridge adjacent to it near Santra Market. State PWD has revised the approach plan which is under scrutiny. On finalisation of General Arrangement Drawing, State PWD will be asked to deposit the cost of the work.

*[Translation]***Doubling of Railway Line between Meerut and Muradnagar**

286. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any plan to lay a double line between Meerut and Muradnagar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be doubled ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The work in regard to earthwork and bridges has been taken up.

(c) The work will be completed by Dec. 1999 subject to availability of resources.

*[English]***Lease of Restaurants by DDA**

287. DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Delhi Development Authority has leased some restaurants and picnic huts in Ridge area in utter violation of the Supreme Court directives;

(b) if so, the reason therefor; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Delhi Development Authority has reported that Picnic Huts/Restaurants in the Ridge area at Mehrauli have been leased out. These Huts/Restaurants were constructed more than 10 years back for recreational purpose for public use and were lying non-operational due to lack of infrastructure to run the Huts/Restaurants. These have been allotted in public interest as people suffered for want of these recreational facilities and to avoid economic loss to the Delhi Development Authority.

Drinking Water Supply In Andhra Pradesh

288. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has sanctioned Rs. 105 crore for drinking water;

(b) if so, the details thereof, District-wise;

(c) whether the Union Government are also agreed to provide assistance and help in making available drinking water; and

(d) if so, the total amount sanctioned by the Centre for providing drinking water in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) and (b) Since, drinking water supply is a State subject, schemes sanctioned by the State Governments under their State plans, district-wise, are not being monitoring by the Central Government.

(c) Under the Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) the Central Government provides assistance to the State Governments for towns having population less than 20,000 as per 1991 census on an equal sharing basis. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has not sent any proposal under AUWSP Programme as there are no urban local bodies with population less than 20,000 as per 1991 census.

(d) Does not arise.

Airstrip Extension

289. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government have been drawn to the news report appearing in 'The Hindustan Times' dated April 27, 1998 under the caption 'IAF eyes Diu amid strong local outcry-airstrip extension may endanger buildings and rare forests'.

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the present status of the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) After careful analysis of all factors relating to providing air defence to our economic and other assets located in the Bombay sector it is proposed to develop Diu airfield to locate air defence fighters and a surveillance unit.

The Government of Diu and Government of Gujarat have been requested for allotment of 18.65 hectares and 20 acres and 24 Guntas of land respectively for this purpose.

Expansion of Visakhapatnam Airport

290. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for the development of Visakhapatnam airport as International Airport; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) (a) No, Sir. Airports Authority of India has no such plans.

(c) Does not arise.

New Trains from Bihar

291. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to run some more trains from Patna to Delhi and Muzaffarpur to Delhi in view of heavy rush of passengers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (c) Introduction of trains on Indian Railways including on Patna and Muzaffarpur-Delhi sectors is a continuous process subject to operational feasibility, resource availability and traffic justification.

Supply of Water

292. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the names of Government Colonies in Delhi/ New Delhi, where the water supply is being maintained by CPWD;

(b) number of tube-wells installed in each of these colonies as on 31.10.97 and till now;

(c) the number of tube-wells functioning/out of order as on 31.10.97 alongwith dates since when they are out of order; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to get them repaired ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) Water supply is not exclusively maintained by CPWD in any Government Colony. Local bodies, NDMC and MCD supply water directly upto two storied buildings in their areas and CPWD maintain the water supply system beyond two storied buildings.

(b) 87 tube-wells were installed in these colonies upto 31/10/97 and thereafter no addition has been made.

(c) 80 tube-wells were functioning as on 31/10/97 and 7 tube-wells are not functioning since then.

(d) Concerned Divisions are getting these repaired.

Angamali-Sabarimala Rail Line

293. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have approved the construction of Angamali-Sabarimala rail line;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated cost thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons for not clearing the above project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The work has been included in the budget 1997-98 at a cost of Rs. 550 crs. with the proviso that the work would be taken up after obtaining necessary clearances.

Necessary action in this regard has been initiated.

Ex-Gratia Payment to SRPF Retirees

294. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railway Ministry's orders for extending Rs. 600 plus D.R. from January 11, 1997 as ex-gratia payment to SRPF retirees have been circulated by G.Ms to DRMs of South-Eastern and Central Railways, Nagpur respectively;

(b) if so, the number of claims from such SRPF retirees have been received and settled by DRMs of South-Eastern and Central Railways, Nagpur; and

(c) if not settled, the reasons for delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME

IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir, the Railway Ministry's orders dt. 27th January, 1998 in this regard have been circulated to the concerned DRMs.

(b) One hundred and seven (107) cases received by DRM/SE Railway, Nagpur and fifty (50) cases received by DRM/Central Railway, Nagpur are under process.

(c) Time is being taken on account of non-receipt of all the prescribed documents along with the claims and the non-availability of all the services records/other collateral information like the SRPF ledgers for verifying the claims.

[Translation]

Regularisation of Daily Wagers

295. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of casual labourers engaged and regularised in the Indian Railway during the last three years;

(b) whether contract labourers have also been engaged in railways;

(c) if so, the number thereof;

(d) whether retrenchment of employees has been made in railways; and

(e) if so, the number of employees retrenched during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

Doubling of Railways Tracks in Kerala

296. PROF. P.J. KURIEN :

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS :

SHRI P. SANKARAN

SHRI T. GOVINDAN :

SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN :

SHRI A. C. JOS :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the present stage of doubling of railways tracks from Ernakulam to Trivandrum, Shoranur to Mangalore, Trivandrum to Quilor, and Mangalore to Kuttipuram;

- (b) the expenditure incurred thereon so far;
- (c) the time by which the doubling work of above lines are likely to be completed.
- (d) whether the Union Government are aware of the fact that the funds allocated for the development of railway network and doubling of railway tracks in Kerala has not been fully utilised by the Railways;
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (f) the funds allocated by the Union Government for various projects in Kerala during each of the last three years;
- (g) whether the Government of Kerala has requested the Union Government for allocation of more funds for the development of railway network and doubling of railway tracks;
- (h) if so, the details thereof; and
- (i) the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) (i) A new BG line from Ernakulam-Alleppay and Alleppay-Kayankulam had already been completed and opened for passenger traffic. Further Kayankulam to Quilon doubling work also was completed and opened for passenger traffic. Now doubling work between Quilon-Trivandrum has been taken up. From Trivandrum to Kochuvelli (7.00 kms) has been opened for passenger traffic during March'98. From Kochuvelli to Quilon work is in good progress, and the work will be completed depending on the availability of funds with in next 2 years.

(ii) For Shoranur to Mangalore-Doubling of 3 sections (viz) Calicut-West Hill-Elathur and Quliandi-Tikkotti work completed and opened for passenger traffic. Work on critical and long lead items like major bridges are in good progress between Shoranur to Mangalore. All the works including Earthwork, Minor bridges and Major bridges and collection of Ballast are in advanced stage of progress in the following sections.

Payyangadi-Payyanur-Charvathur

Kasargod-Mangalore and Badagara-Mahe

- (b) Rs. 214.80 crores
- (c) Kochuvelli-Quilon : 2 years depending on availability of resources.

Shoranur-Mangalore : 3 years depending on availability of resources.

(d) The funds allocated for Railway development in Kerala have been utilised fully.

- (e) Does not arise.
- (f) Funds allocated in various projects in Kerala.

Year	Funds allocated
1995-96	61.53 Crs.
1996-97	92.94 Crs.
1997-98	91.14 Crs.

(g) to (f) Yes, Sir. The budget outlay has been suitably adjusted.

[Translation]

HUDCO Loan to Quake Victims at Jabalpur

297. SHRI DADA BAURRAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to simplify the procedure for disbursement of HUDCO loans to the earthquake victims in Jabalpur, (M.P.) with a view to wipe out delay and unnecessary expenditure; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT : (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) and (b) HUDCO has simplified its procedure and there is no delay in HUDCO in sanction or disbursement of funds to the State agencies. HUDCO has received and sanctioned Rs. 57.97 crores as loan component of 15 schemes for reconstruction of 21481 dwelling units for the earthquake victims of Jabalpur with a project cost of Rs. 66.67 crores. Loan assistance from HUDCO is drawn by the agencies implementing the scheme on the basis of the financial and physical progress of the scheme. Till date Rs. 17.444 crores has been released to the State agencies. As release of funds is linked to the pace of progress of implementation of the scheme, it is for the implementing agencies and the State Governments concerned to ensure that the projects are undertaken and completed without any delay. Under the cash loan schemes, the borrowing agencies draw loan from HUDCO and disburse the same to the beneficiaries as per detailed disbursement procedure laid down by the State Governments.

Introduction of Air Service in Uttranchal Area

298. SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHRY :

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to introduce air service in the Uttranchal area of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the time by which this air service is likely to be introduced ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) On 15th April, 1998 a meeting was held by the Ministry of Civil Aviation with the State Government of Uttar Pradesh for provision of airlinks to and development of airports of Uttranchal area of Uttar Pradesh. A private operator has shown interest in operation of flights in the area, provided the State Government gives certain concessions like abolition of sales tax on Aviation Turbine Fuel, reduction in airport charges, relaxation in the eligibility criteria for travel by State Government employees etc. Follow-up action in the matter by the State Government is in progress.

[English]

Occupancy of Berth by Non-bonafide Passengers

299. SHRI CHANDU LAL AJMEERA :

SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN :

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Sorry no berths for ticket-holders" appearing in the "Hindustan Times" dated the May 5, 1998;

(b) if so, the facts and the details thereof;

(c) whether Railway Authorities remained mute spectators and did not render any help to confirmed ticket holders;

(d) whether it is happening almost every day in east bound trains at Delhi and New Delhi railway stations; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to prevent such acts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the captioned news-item published in Hindustan Times dated 5.5.1998 that the passengers bound for Howrah via Patna on the Poorva Express which was scheduled to leave from the Capital at 1630 hrs. on 3.5.1998 could not get their reserved berths as the same were occupied by the unreserved passengers.

(c) A few passengers took refund at New Delhi Railway station who had confirmed booking in Poorva Express. However, no one reported either in terms of written complaint or verbally to Station Superintendent/Addl. Station Superintendent or May I help you Booth. In this regard no complaint was lodged in the public complaint book at New Delhi station on that day.

(d) and (e) No such instance of unauthorised occupant on reserved berths has been reported by any one at Delhi/ New Delhi station on or after 3.5.1998.

Development of Raichur Airport (Karnataka)

300. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Karnataka Government has sent any proposal for the development of Raichur Aerodrome;

(b) if so, whether the State Government has also provided the required land for the purpose;

(c) if so, the reasons for not starting the development work till date; and

(d) the time by which the work is likely to be started ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

Air Service from Jabalpur

301. SHRI MOTILAL VORA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal of starting air service from Jabalpur is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, whether the Government have been discussing this matter with those airlines operating small aircrafts for the purpose;

(c) whether in 1983 Indian Airlines had started Vayudoot services from Bhopal, Raipur, Jagdalpur, Viaspur, Khajuraho, Satna, Reeva and Sidhi towns of Madhya Pradesh and if so, the period upto which these were continued;

(d) the reasons for the sudden discontinuation of Vayudoot service; and

(e) the time by which the work relating to the extension of run-way at Jabalpur airport is likely to be completed which was started in 1983 ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Scheduled Airlines are being encouraged to include new stations such as Jabalpur in their network subject to viability.

(c) and (d) Vayudoot operations to these stations except Sidhi ex-Bhopal base were introduced in the year 1988 and were discontinued due to operational constraints and commercial considerations in the year 1990.

(d) Extension of runway at Jabalpur airport is scheduled to be completed by December, 1998.

Introduction of Luxury Tourist Trains*

302. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had formulated any scheme to introduce 'Luxury Tourist Trains' with the participation of private sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the areas where these trains are planned to be introduced; and

(c) the time by which these trains are likely to be introduced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) On the basis of Global bids, contract has been awarded to M/s Sterling Holiday Resorts India Ltd., for the ownership, marketing and management of luxury tourist trains on the tourist circuits indicated below :

(1) Delhi-Jaipur-Agra-Gwalior-Jnansi-(Khajuraho)-Varanasi-Lucknow-Delhi.

(2) Bangalore-Mysore-Madras-Kodaikanal Road-Kanyakumari-Trivandrum-Cochin-Mettupalayam (Cooty)-Bangalore.

M/s Sterling Holiday Resorts India Ltd., have already deposited the security deposit of Rs. 30 lakhs with Northern Railway and are currently taking up the task of construction of the rake. These tourist trains will be introduced as soon as this work is completed.

[English]

Increase in Frequency of Nizamuddin-Bangalore Rajdhani Express

303. SHRI C.P.M. GIRIYAPPA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal has been received by the Government for making the bi-weekly Nizamuddin-Bangalore Rajdhani Express as a daily train; and

(b) if so, the response of the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) Representations received in this regard have been examined and

increase in frequency has not been found feasible due to operational and resource constraints.

Train Accidents

304. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :

SHRI MOHAN SINGH :

SHRI NARESH PUJLIA :

SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether two rail accidents were occurred one of 3231 Up Howrah-Danapur Express in Bihar on April 28, 1998 and another between Manmad-Kacheguda Express and a goods train at Parli-Vajinath Railway Station in Maharashtra on April 24, 1998;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons of such accidents;

(c) the number of persons killed/injured in each of such accidents and value of Government property damaged thereby separately;

(d) whether any enquiry has been conducted into these accidents;

(e) if so, the outcome of the enquiry;

(f) the amount of compensation paid by the Government to the victims; and

(g) the action taken against the guilty officials ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (f) Yes, Sir. On 24.4.1998, 7663 Manmad-Kacheguda Express was involved in a collision with a goods train at Parli Vajinath station of Vikarabad-Parli Vajinath section of Secunderabad Division of South Central Railway leading to the death of 24 persons and injury to 14. On 28.04.1998, 9 coaches of 3231 Howrah-Danapur Express derailed between Fatua and Bankaghat stations of Danapur Division of Eastern Railway leading to the death of 12 persons and injury to 41. Ex-gratia relief was arranged to the next of kin of the dead and those injured. Compensation will be paid after award of decrees by the Railway Claims Tribunal. Both the accidents are under enquiry by the Commissioners of Railway Safety.

(g) Action will be taken on receipt of the Reports of the Commissioners of Railway Safety/South Central Circle and Eastern Circle.

[Translation]

Army Recruitment Centres in Backward Areas

305. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD :

SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to open new army recruitment centres in the backward areas of the country;

(b) if so, the time by which and the places where these centres are proposed to be opened, State-wise;

(c) whether the backward districts of eastern Uttar Pradesh are proposed to be given priority in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) Government is reviewing this issue.

VIP Reservation Quota

306. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the norms prescribed for priority in reservation under the Very Important Person quota;

(b) the number of sleepers earmarked in various classes in the trains originating from Delhi/New Delhi under the VIP quota;

(c) whether the government maintain the record of sleepers reserved on the basis of VIPs recommendation;

(d) if so, whether the concerned person can obtain the above information from the Ministry on his request; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) A limited number of berths/seats have been earmarked in various trains and in different classes as emergency quota to meet the urgent travel requirements of High Official requisition holders, Ministers, MPs/MLAs, VIPs and other emergent demands. It ranges from 2 to 48 berths/seats.

Requests received from various quarters for release of berths/seats out of emergency quota are given due priority taking into account factors like status of the passengers travelling, nature of urgency like Government duty, bereavement, sickness etc.

(c) to (e) Since a large number of requests are received

from various quarters and are dealt with on day to day basis, no such statistics are being maintained.

[English]

New Policy on Civil Aviation

307. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT :

SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :

SHRI K. S. RAO :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to bring out a new policy on civil aviation;

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposed new policy;

(c) whether the aspects of involvement of the private sector and the foreign investors have also been considered for the development of the airport infrastructure; and

(d) if so, the details is thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The draft national policy on civil aviation is awaiting the approval of the Government.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. In the Policy on Airport Infrastructure which was approved in November, 1997 increased commercial exploitation of airport infrastructure and adjacent land is one of the areas identified for attracting private investment. Both for reasons of bridging the gap in the resources as also to bring in greater efficiency in management of airports, the participation of private parties (including foreign ones) would be encouraged.

[Translation]

New Train Between Kanpur-Jammu Tawi

308. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the member of the Northern Railway Advisory Committee have submitted a memorandum to the General Manager, North-Central Railway for introduction of a new Train from Kanpur Central Railway Station to Jammu-Tawi; and

(b) if so, the response of the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Introduction of a train between Kanpur and Jammu Tawi is not feasible at present due to operational and resource constraints.

[English]

Expansion of Railway Network

309. SHRI AJIT JOGI :

DR. ASIM BALA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Railways have formulated any new schemes to expand Railway network in the backward, hilly, tribal, remote and desert areas in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, Zone-wise and State-wise;

(c) the time by which these schemes are likely to be implemented;

(d) the scheme-wise expenditure to be incurred thereon;

(e) whether priority is being given for the expansion of Railway Network in the Adiwasi dominated areas of Madhya Pradesh; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

Direct Rail Line from Delhi to Kandla Port

310. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for Direct rail link on BG line from Delhi to Kandla Port via Ajmer and Palanpur;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken in this regard so far; and

(d) if not, the time by which the above line is likely to be constructed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) Kandla is already linked to Delhi by BG via Ajmer, Palanpur and Ahmedabad.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Gauge Conversion on Vasco-Miraj Railway Line

311. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the broad gauge conversion on Vasco-Miraj Railway line has been started;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The gauge conversion of Miraj-Vasco section from metre gauge to broad gauge has already been completed.

(c) Does not arise.

Foreign Investment in Diamonds

312. SHRI S.S. OWAISI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether some foreign firms have been permitted to invest for prospecting for diamonds in Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of the firms and the area earmarked for this purpose, State-wise;

(c) whether Foreign Investment Promotion Board has cleared these proposals; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) to (d) The Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) has approved the following proposals of foreign direct investment for prospecting/exploration/exploitation of diamonds in the country subject to the condition that the companies should also obtain specific approvals both for prospecting and mining under Mines & Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957, and also appropriate approvals from the State Governments concerned:-

1. Ashton Mining, Australia,
2. De Beers Mauritius Pvt. Ltd., Mauritius
3. De Beers Consolidated Mines Ltd., South Africa
4. De Beers Consolidated Mines Ltd., South Africa

The Central Government has not earmarked any specific area for diamond prospecting by the above companies.

Modernisation of Telecom Network in Railways

313. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Railways telecom recast' appearing in the "Economic Times" dated April 23, 1998;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government and facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) the present status of the proposal; and

(d) the details of the implications of the proposal and the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The news item is partially correct. No firm offer has yet been received for loan from financial institutions for modernisation of Railways telecom network. Railways have planned for laying of optic fibre cable (OFC) along the railway track on "Build Own Operate and Lease" (BOOL) basis through private sector participation. Under this scheme the contracted agency shall meet Railways, Telecom requirements and will be in a position to commercially exploit the surplus capacity in the OFC system.

(c) Indian Railways have been divided into 5-sectors for laying of OFC through private sector participation. Out of these, the work of laying OFC on Mumbai-Chennai section with spurs to Hyderabad and Bangalore has been offered to RITES and on New Delhi-Jaipur-Ajmer-Ahmedabad-Mumbai section IRCON. For the remaining sectors, it is proposed to invite global tenders.

(d) With this scheme it will be possible for the Railways to modernise their telecom network without making heavy investments. The scheme is likely to be implemented within 4 to 6 years from the date of award of contracts.

[Translation]

Linking of NOIDA with Rail Network

314. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to link NOIDA with railway network; and

(b) if so, the steps taken so far or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) A Survey has been taken up. Further consideration of the proposal will be possible once the report becomes available.

[English]

Report of Vatavaran

315. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the findings of a report of the non-governmental organisation VATAVARAN revealing that three of the busiest railway stations in the capital are slowly degenerating into breeding grounds for infectious diseases, as reported in 'Hindu' dated February 26, 1998; and

(b) if so, the gist of the findings of this survey report and action being taken by railways thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The survey report of Non-Government Organisation VATAVARAN mainly indicates the dumping of garbage and recycling of disposable items such as aluminium foils, plastic glasses and plastic spoons etc., causing unhygienic conditions and spread of infectious diseases. Several steps have been taken to minimise the use of disposable material and to curb the activities of rag pickers. All efforts are made to maintain the station premises clean. There is no report of out-break of any infectious disease, originating from the three major stations of Delhi.

Doubling of Patna-Gaya Rail Line

316. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the doubling work on Patna-Gaya rail line has been started;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be completed; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir. Work has been taken up in the first two phases from Patna to Parsabazar and Parsabazar to Punpun.

(b) The first phase from Patna to Parsabazar will be completed in this financial year while 2nd phase from Parsabazar to Punpun will take another 2-3 years.

(c) Does not arise.

Indian Airlines Flights on Gulf Routes

317. SHRI K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry had permitted Indian Airlines Corporation to operate on some of the Gulf routes some times back;

(b) If so, the details thereof and the reasons for allowing Indian Airlines to operate on these routes;

(c) whether the Air India has recently demanded return of the Gulf routes to it;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the decision taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Prior to 1993, Indian Airlines were only operating services to Sharjah in the Gulf Region. In 1993 they were permitted to expand their operations to Gulf for the following reasons :-

(i) to commence direct operations from interior points of India for passenger convenience. Only Indian Airlines have the suitable aircraft type for these services.

(ii) to tide over the financial problems due to grounding of Airbus 320 and merger of Vayudoot with Indian Airlines.

(c) to (e) : Due to its deteriorating financial condition, Air India has been representing that the Gulf routes which are the most profitable routes in its network should remain entirely with it. A Sub-Committee of the Board of Air India has been set up to give its recommendations on route rationalisation between Air India and Indian Airlines.

Gauge Conversion

318. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the draft of the Ninth Five Year Plan document has proposed to convert the meter gauge lines into broad Gauge;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the meter gauge lines from Muthked to Nizamabad and Bollaram to Nizamabad have been included in the draft; and

(d) if not, reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Railways will continue with the policy of unigauge during the 9th Plan.

(b) Out of about 20,790 kms of MG and NG network left at the end of the VIII Plan, about 6200 kms have been planned to converted to BG during 9th Plan.

(c) Conversion of MG lines from Nizamabad to

Mudkhed and from Bolaram to Nizambad are sanctioned works included in the Railway Budget.

(d) Does not arise.

Expansion and Modification of Calicut Airport

319. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the proposals for the expansion/modification of Calicut Airport;

(b) the details of survey work completed for the extension of Calicut Airport; and

(c) the allocations made so far for the extension of runway and for other expansion schemes during 1997-98 ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) AAI has commissioned a separate international terminal block having all modern facilities at an estimated cost of Rs. 6 crores to cater to the needs of 200 incoming and 200 outgoing international passengers. The old terminal building has been modified to serve as a temporary cargo complex at the cost of Rs. 80.68 lakhs.

(b) AAI has taken up the work of strengthening and extension of existing runway towards the eastern side at an estimated cost of Rs. 102.80 crores for operation of AB-300 type of aircraft. The work is expected to be completed by January, 2000.

(c) Rs. 12 crores.

[Translation]

Introduction of Trains

320. Er. SHANKAR PANNU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a train from Anupgarh to Delhi via Suratgarh, Hanumangarh, Bhatinda;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be introduced;

(c) whether there is any proposal to extend the Mumbai-Bikaner train upto Bhatinda;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise

(e) There is no regular train between Mumbai & Bikaner. However, a bi-weekly Summer Special train is being run between Bandra & Bikaner upto 29th June '98.

[English]

Gauge Conversion between Makum and Dangori

321. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the gauge conversion of railway line from Makum to Dangori in Tinsukia district of Assam has been sanctioned;

(b) if so, the time of which the work is likely to be undertaken;

(c) the present status of the gauge conversion of Rangla-Murkong Selek section of the North-East Frontier Railway; and

(d) the reasons for delay if any ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Programme for execution of the work has not yet been finalised.

(c) The survey for gauge conversion of Rangla-Murkong Selek has been taken up.

(d) There has been no delay. The section is 532 kms. long and survey work will take more time in view of the work involved. The surveys expected to be completed during the financial year 1998-99.

Extra Rush of Passengers

322. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken adequate steps to meet the extra rush of passengers during the current summer season;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the further steps are being taken up to meet the extra rush ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) On 38 Routes, 1950 trains are being run.

Besides, loads of about 75 pairs of trains have been augmented to cater to the extra rush of traffic.

[Translation]

The Expansion of BALCO

323. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount collected by BALCO, at Korba so far in the name of expansion and modernisation;

(b) whether these amounts have been collected illegally and there has also been large scale misappropriation in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of the complaints received by the Government in this regard and the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) to (d) The smelter of Bharat Aluminium Company Ltd. (BALCO) at Korba is based on the process know-how of the late sixties and is faced with problems of low productivity, higher consumption, of inputs resulting in higher production costs. An Enquiry Committee was constituted by the Ministry of Mines to look into the award of contract for modernisation of BALCO's smelter at Korba. The Committee submitted its Report on 3.12.1996. The Report reveals that the guidelines given in the tender notice were not specific enough as the tender noticed did not contain specific details of work, the exact scope of work, etc. In view of the serious lapses pointed out in the report, the matter was referred to the CBI on 13.6.1997 for detailed investigations and to fix responsibility.

[English]

Survey for Pune-Nasik Railway Line

324. SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :

SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the survey for construction of Pune-Nasik Railway line has been conducted during 1995-98;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the construction work has been started;

(d) if so, the present position of the work;

(e) if not, the reasons for delay in starting the construction work; and

(f) the time by which construction work is likely to be started ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (f) A survey for a new BG line between Pune and Nashik (212 kms.) has been taken up. Further consideration of the project will be possible once the results of the survey become available.

Aeroplanes/Helicopters Crashed

325. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of aeroplanes/helicopters crashed during the last three years;

(b) the number of passengers killed and injured in each case alongwith the reasons of each accident;

(c) the number of accidents pertaining to which report of the Inquiry Committee has not yet been submitted alongwith the reasons thereof; and

(d) the time by which the pending inquiries are likely to be completed and submitted to the Government ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) During the last three years from 1995 to 1998 till date there have been 15 accidents of Indian Civil registered aeroplanes/helicopters.

(b) Accident-wise details of fatalities, injuries and causes are given in the attached statement.

(c) and (d) Investigation reports in respect of three accidents which are under investigation will be completed shortly.

Statement

Accidents During the year 1995

Sl. No.	Date	Aircraft	Operator	Fatalities	Probable cause of Accident
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	1.3.95	Hiller Helicopter	Mesco Airlines	1	Police Hawildar Md. Irdus due to his ignorance and under adverse circumstances had innocently moved into the rotating tail rotor disc while he was on duty to barricade the Helipad.
2.	19.3.95	Cessna 152	Udan Academy Indore	Nil	The cause of accident is attributed to engine stoppage in flight, as a result of fuel starvation due to inadequate fuel on board for planned flight.
3.	1.7.95	F-27	East West Airlines	Nil	The Investigation Report is under consideration.
4.	24.8.95	Pushpak	Coimbatore	2	The accident occurred due to stalling of the aircraft when the pilot attempted to clear obstacle in the flight path during forced landing after inflight stoppage of the engine.
5.	2.12.95	B-737	Indian Airlines	Nil	The accident was caused interalia by the injudicious and imprudent decision of the Pilot-in-command to hastily complete the flight in the inadequate time available before the notified closure of Delhi airport for a VVIP flight.

Accidents During the Year 1996

1.	10.5.96	Cessna 152	Orient Flight Schook, Madras	Nil	The accident occurred due to unauthorised low flying by the trainee pilot.
2.	18.5.96	L-410	Archana Airways	Nil	The accident was caused due to late touchdown at higher aircraft touchdown speed.

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	11.7.96	L-410	Archana Airways	9	The accident was caused due to complete lack of safety awareness, proper supervision and operational control in the organisation.
4.	25.8.96	Chetak Helicopter	M.P. Govt.	Nil	The accident was caused due to loss of engine oil pressure in-flight.
5.	5.11.96	Censsa 152	Ahmedabad Aviation Club	Nil	The accident was caused due to improper handling by the Student Pilot engaged in unauthorised touch and go exercise.
6.	28.12.96	B-737	Blue Dart Aviation Limited	Nil	The accident was caused due to lapse on the part of pilot-in-command to make landing when the approach was not stabilised.

Accidents During the year 1997-98 (Till Date)

1.	22.2.97	Cessna 152	Kerala Aviation Training Centre	2	While executing an aerobatic manoeuvre at low height the pilot failed to recover due to which the aircraft impacted the ground.
2.	25.5.97	Daulphin Helicopter	Pawan Hans Helicopters Ltd.	2	The accident is under investigation.
3.	3.7.97	F-27	Etbee Airlines	2	The accident is under investigation.
4.	2.2.98	King Air C-90	SAIL	6	The accident is under investigation.

Diamond Mines

326. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

- the number of diamond mines in the country, State-wise;
- the public sector companies who are operating those mines;
- whether some of these mines are leased out to private sector companies; and
- if so, the total areas leased out to them and since when, Company-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) (a) and (b) The only diamond mine in the organised sector in the country is operated National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC), a public sector Undertaking, under the Administrative control of Ministry of Steel at Majhgawan, Panna distt. in Madhya Pradesh.

- No, Sir.
- Does not arise.

Sale of Scrap by Railways

327. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- the total income earned by the Railways by selling scrap during the each of the last three years, Division-wise;
- whether the Government have received complaints of bungling in scrap sale deals;
- if so, the details thereof and the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard;
- whether the Government proposed to set up a panel to review indepth flaws in system and procedures adopted in disposal of scrap with a view to suggest suitable improvements to secure better returns from the sale of scrap to the Railways; and
- if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) A statement indicating value of sale of scrap Zonal Railways/Production Unit-wise is enclosed. It is however mentioned that sale of scrap on Railways is not Division-wise.

- No, Sir.
- Does not arise.

- (d) No, Sir.
(e) Does not arise.

Statement

(a)	(Rs. in crores)		
Railways	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
Central	135	117	130
Eastern	101	99	93
Northern	170	125	128
North-Eastern	48	32	36
North-East Frontier	23	15	16
Southern	126	110	91
South Central	110	72	81
South Eastern	131	132	142
Western	134	113	121
TOTAL (RLYS)	979	814	839
Production Units			
Chittaranjan Locomotive Works	4	6	3
Diesel Locomotive Works	4	5	8
Integral Coach Factory	9	10	10
Wheel & Axel Plant	4	4	6
Diesel Component Works	7	8	8
Rail Coach Factory	3	4	4
Metro Railway, Calcutta	8	3	2
Total (Production Units)	39	39	37
G. TOTAL (RLY+PUs)	1018	853	876

Increase in Fares and Freight Rates

328. SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Indian Airlines has submitted another proposal for increasing fares and freight rates;
(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons for such hikes; and
(c) the Government's decision thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION : (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No Sir.

- (b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Minerals Deposits in Maharashtra

329. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether mineral deposits are available in Maharashtra;
(b) whether Geological Survey of India has conducted any survey in this regard;
(c) if so, the details thereof; and
(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken for the exploitation of Minerals ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Geological Survey of India (GSI) has conducted survey in the State of Maharashtra. The details of the areas surveyed and the important prospects identified in recent years are given in the Statement enclosed.

(d) Any Indian National or a Company as defined in sub-section (1) of Section 3 of the Companies Act, 1956 is free to exploit the mineral reserves after getting mining lease in accordance with the provisions of Mines and Minerals (Regulation & Development) Act, 1957 and Rules framed thereunder.

Statement

In recent years, Geological Survey of India (GSI) has conducted a number of Investigation for Gold, Coal, Tungsten-ore, Copper-ore and Manganese-ore in the State of Maharashtra.

Gold : Small gold deposits have been established in (1) Parsora West Block, Nagpur District, with estimated reserve of 0.137 million tonne of ore with average grade 5.23 gm/Tonne and in (2) Kitari Block with 1.2 Million Tonne of ore of 0.5 gm/Tonne out off grade.

Coal : GSI has conducted regional exploration for coal in Wardha valley coalfield, Chandrapur and Wardha districts and estimated 158.00 Million Tonne Coal in Rajura-Manikgarh and 300.00 Million Tonne Coal in Palashban areas.

Tungsten-Ore : Reserve of Tungsten-ore have been estimated by GSI earlier to 1992 in the following prospects in Nagpur district;

Kuhi (2.5 MT), Khobna (4.82 MT), Agargaon (2.23 MT) Ranbori (2.23 MT), Bhaoni (7.89 MT).

Copper-Ore : A total reserves of 0.7 MT with average grade of 1.2% Cu at 0.5 % Cu out off has been estimated in Garara block in Bhandara district.

Manganese-Ore : Primary Mn-Ore Zones, extending over a cumulative strike length of 210 M in Parsoda block

and over a strike length of 600 M in Belda-Junewani area has been established in Nagpur district.

Proposal for Reducing the Cost on Air Freights by AI and IA

330. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to minimise the air-travel fares to make the air journey accessible to the common people;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal for reducing the cost on air flights and expenditure being incurred on maintenance etc.

(c) if so, whether Indian Airlines/Air India are contemplating to implement this suggestion; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION : (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (d) Domestic air fares are fixed by the airlines based on their commercial judgement. The Government is pursuing several measures like bringing down the Aviation Turbine Fuel prices to the international levels; restoration of exemption under Section-10 (15A) of the Income Tax Act; crediting of proceeds of IATT/FTT to the National Civil Aviation Fund to be operated by the Ministry of Civil Aviation and grant of patent subsidy to airlines for Category-II operation which, if implemented, may at least arrest the increase in domestic fares if not result in their reduction.

International fares are determined at the IMTA Tariff Coordinating Conference represented by various international airlines and these are filed with the respective Governments for approval. In India, this approval is granted by the DGCA. 3rd/4th freedom carriers are also allowed to file special fares keeping in view consumer interest and market conditions which are implemented with the approval of DGCA.

[English]

Third Railway Track between Kharagpur and Midnapur

331. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the measures taken by the Government regarding the construction of third rail track between Kharagpur and Midnapore under South Eastern Railway; and

(b) the time by which the above track is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME

IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) On Kharagpur-Midnapore section patch doubling has already been done between Gokulpur & Cossye. A survey for doubling of the entire section has also been taken up.

(b) This is not a sanctioned work so far.

Modernisation and Upgradation of Railway Network

332. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to undertake modernisation and the upgradation of railway network in some parts of the country;

(b) if so, the fund earmarked therefor; and

(c) the routes and item of works identified for modernisation and upgradation during the Ninth Five Year Plan, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir. Upgradation and modernisation of Railway's assets and network is a continuous process.

(b) Allocation of funds is a need-based exercise. Funds for upgradation of Railway's assets and facilities are allocated during the budgetary exercise.

(c) Identification of assets for upgradation is done on the basis of needs of the Railways. Such upgradation is done as per Railways' requirements route-wise/terminal-wise and State-wise.

[Translation]

Air Flights between Aurangabad-Khajurao

333. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Airlines had announced to introduce a new flight between Aurangabad and Khajurao via Bhopal in 1992 in order to boost tourism;

(b) if so, the reasons for not introducing it so far; and

(c) the time by which the same is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Due to poor response and crew constraints at that time, this service could not be introduced.

(c) The anticipated traffic on this route is not adequate to justify operations with the Jet aircraft fleet in Indian

Airlines. Shortage of smaller capacity aircraft and the related operating crew do not permit Indian Airlines to consider operations on this route. Private Operators are, however, being encouraged to include new stations such as Aurangabad, Khajuraho etc. In their network, subject to viability.

[English]

Requirement and supply of wagons

334. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of wagons in 1990-91 was more than that of 1996-97;

(b) If not, the facts in this regard;

(c) the reasons for which the deficiency of wagons was not met by the Railways; and

(d) the status of the requirement supply of railway during 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The number of wagons alone is not the deciding factor for carrying projected freight traffic. It depends on the type of stock also. Indian Railways have now been inducting higher capacity, roller-bearing, air brake stock and phasing out inefficient, plain bearing, four wheeler vacuum brake stock. As a result the wagon utilisation has increased appreciably from 1407/NTKm/Wagon/Day on line in 1990-91 to 1840 NTKm/Wagon/Day on line in 1996-97. Also, the wagon ineffective percentage (for BG stock) has come down from 4.07% in 1990-91 to 3.88% in 1996-97. This has enabled Indian Railways to carry higher traffic despite marginal reduction in wagon holding.

Moreover, in the first three years of VIII Plan i.e. 1992-93 to 1994-95, the freight traffic carried by the Railways did not increase as planned and therefore the wagon acquisition was curtailed from 1,20,000 in VIII Plan (1992-93 to 1996-97) to 81,000 only. Later due to sudden increase in traffic from December 1994 onwards, it was again revised upwards to nearly 1,00,000 in July 1995.

(d) The position of target of procurement and supply of Railway wagons in four wheeler units from 1995-96 to 1997-98 is as under :-

Year	Target Procurement	Actual supply
1995-96	19000	17950
1996-97	30000*	22185
1997-98	26000*	27865

*Incl. 5000 wagons (FWUs) under Own your Wagon Scheme & BOLT (for each year)

Bilateral Military Technical Cooperation with Russia

335. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the recent Indo-Russian Defence officials' talk in New Delhi, an arrangement for bilateral military-technical cooperation was worked out;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken and being taken in pursuance thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) The fourth session of the Indo-Russian Group on Military-Technical Co-operation was held in New Delhi on December 19-21, 1997. Meeting of this Group are held at regular intervals in India and Russia to review the progress of defence co-operation between the two countries and to address any outstanding issues. These meetings also provide an opportunity for the two sides to discuss regional and international issues of mutual interest.

[Translation]

Financial Assistance for Basic Amenities

336. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has sought financial assistance for providing basic amenities to the recently regularised colonies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount provided/proposed to be provided in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) No such proposal has been received from the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of reply to part (a) above.

[English]

Airstrips in Maharashtra

337. SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct a number of airstrips in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of airstrips and the places where these are to be constructed;

(d) whether the Government have provided financial assistance to the State Government in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) The Central Government has no such plans. With regard to the question of setting up a second airport at Mumbai, Government is awaiting the report of the committee set up under the chairmanship of the Chairman, Airports Authority of India.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Survey for Hazipur-Lalganj-Vaishali-Saraiya-Devriya-Sahabganj-Areraj-Sugouli Rail Line

338. SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the survey work of Hazipur-Lalganj-Vaishali-Saraiya-Devriya-Sahabganj-Areraj-Sugouli rail line was inaugurated by the then Railway Minister on December 17, 1997; and

(b) if so, the present status of the survey of above rail line ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The field work for the survey has been taken up.

Grant by WLDB for Plantation

339. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the grant released by the Wastelands Development Board to the institutions and persons, separately for plantation during the last three years;

(b) whether most of these institutions and persons did not submit the necessary documents required for the next instalment and if submitted they were found fake on verification; and

(c) if so, the details of these institutions and persons and the action taken so far to recover the amount of grant from them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) The Department of Wastelands Development is implementing the Grant-in-Aid scheme in which financial

assistance to develop non-forest wastelands is given to Voluntary Agencies/Non-Governmental Organisations. The number of Voluntary Agencies/Non-Governmental Organisations received grant under the scheme during the last three years is as under :

Year	No. of VAs/NGOs	Amount Released (Rs. in Crores)
1995-96	70	3.40
1996-97	65	3.50
1997-98	30	2.60

(b) and (c) No, Sir. However, in some cases Voluntary Agencies/Non-Governmental Organisations could not submit the necessary documents required for the next instalment. Action for recovery of the grant released in seven cases have been initiated.

Gauge Conversion

340. SHRI JAYSINHJI CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received some representations from the Members of Parliament regarding gauge conversion of Gorakhpur-Raxol via Darbhanga from narrow gauge line into broad gauge line ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the above conversion work is likely to be started ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Requests have been received from Members of Parliament for conversion of these lines to broad gauge.

(c) Conversion of Gorakhpur-Narkatiaganj is in progress and will be completed in 1998-99. Narkatiaganj-Raxaul-Darbhanga work is included in budget, to be taken up after obtaining the requisite clearances for which action has been initiated.

[English]

Backlog of SCs/STs Posts

341. DR JAYANTA RONGPI :

SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of backlog vacancies in different categories reserved for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and OBCs during the last three years in Railways, zone-wise;

(b) the number of posts filled up out of them during the last three years, zone-wise; and

(c) the time by which the remaining backlog of vacancies reserved for SCs/Sts/OBCs are likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Facilities at Bangalore Airport

342. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the present Bangalore airport complex was built on a landing site for Hindustan Aeronautics capable of handling around 700 passengers a day;

(b) if so, the number of passengers handled presently at Bangalore airport; and

(c) the plans that are on the anvil/pipeline to augment the facilities at Bangalore airport in view of the increased passenger load; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During 1997-98, the present terminal building at Bangalore has handled 19 lakhs passengers.

(c) and (d) Airports Authority of India has taken up the work of construction of a two-storeyed Integrated Terminal Building for handling 300 arriving and 300 departing international passengers and 700 arriving domestic passengers. The existing apron is being extended by Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. to cater to one B-747, two AB-300 and six AB-320 aircraft at a time. Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. is also constructing a parallel taxiway to connect both ends of the main runway. These works are likely to be completed by December, 1998. Airports Authority of India has a proposal for the installation of two aerobridges in front of the International Block. The work is likely to be completed by June, 1999.

Darbhanga-Muzaffarpur Railway Line

343. DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL :

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Railways has examined the suggestion of alternative route to Darbhanga-Muzaffarpur;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Survey carried out in 1997-98 revealed that the length of the line will be 65.54 kms., cost Rs. 118.30 crs, and rate of return will be negative.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Construction of Helipad in Sikkim

344. SHRI BHIM DAHAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct a helipad for the development of tourism in Sikkim;

(b) if so, by which date it is likely to be constructed; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

(c) A helipad already exists near Gangtok.

Frequency of Mahamaya Super Fast Train

345. SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SAHU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether representations have been received by the Government to run Mahamaya super fast train daily between Nizamuddin and Bilaspur;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) Some representations including from Smt. Chabla Netam have been received in this regard.

(c) The matter has been examined but not found feasible for implementation due to operational constraints.

[English]

Talcher-Sambalpur Railway Line

346. SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN :

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the construction of Talcher-Sambalpur railway line in Orissa has been completed;
- (b) if so, the time taken to complete the project alongwith the original target date and the amount of cost escalation thereof; and
- (c) if not, the time by which the project is likely to be completed alongwith the reason for delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (c) The project will be completed by 30.6.1998. The delay has been due to constraints of resources. The original target date was 31.12.1995. The cost has escalated from Rs. 218.31 crores to Rs. 390.00 crores.

[Translation]

Subletting of Govt. Accommodation

347. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Government accommodation subletted by the allottees of general pool and other pools in each type during the last three years, year-wise;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government for their eviction and the number of sublettees evicted till now; and
- (c) the action taken against the officials of the Directorate of Estates involved therein ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) During surprise checks of the quarters in General Pool, under the control of Directorate of Estates, the number of quarters suspected sublet during the past three years is indicated in the statement enclosed.

(b) Show Cause Notices were issued in all cases of suspected subletting and during the period January, 1996 to December, 1997, cancellation of 1871 quarters has been made and 710 quarters got vacated after following the procedure as prescribed under the Allotment Rules/Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971.

(c) Disciplinary proceedings have been initiated against three defaulter officials of the Directorate of Estates for subletting their Government houses.

Statement

Number of quarters suspected sublet during the last three years

Year	Type-I	Type-II	Type-III	Type-IV	Type-V	Total
1995	95	230	40	5	2	372
1996	1109	1814	1195	341	29	4488
1997	125	148	29	13	—	315

[English]

Fear of Indo-Pak Conflict

348. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem appeared in the 'Pioneer' dated April 9, 1998 to the effect that the US Defence Department Pentagon is being prepared for another India-Pakistan conflict in the first decade of the next century; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) Government is aware of the news item published in the Pioneer of 09 April 1998. The report referred to has been prepared by a private organisation 'Rand' based in USA and is structured on a hypothetical situation painting certain scenarios.

All developments having bearing on India's national security are monitored continuously and necessary measures are taken from time to time to maintain appropriate defence preparedness for safeguarding national security.

Construction of Railway Line between Mysore and Hassan

349. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) the present status of construction of new broad gauge line between Mysore and Hassan; and
- (b) the time by which the above line is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) It is not a new line but gauge conversion, Mysore Hassan MG line to BG which has been completed and commissioned.

Holiday Homes/Guest Houses

350. SHRI BHIM DAHAL : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of the Holiday Homes/Guest Houses in different cities under the control of Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment;
- (b) the criteria and charges for their allotment;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to construct more holiday homes/guest houses; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, city-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT : (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) The details of the Holiday Homes/Guest

Houses in General Pool, under the control of the Directorate of Estates, Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment are given in Statement-I attached.

(b) The criteria and charges for allotment of Holiday Homes/Guest Houses may be seen in Statement-II attached.

(c) and (d) There are proposals for construction of Holiday Home at Goa, Ooty, Kodalkannal, Madurai, Mt. Abu, Udaipur, Agra, Delhi, Varanasi, Mussoorie, Nainital, Darjeeling, Gangtok, Kalimpong, Puri and Srinagar.

Statement-I

List of Holiday Homes/Touring Officers Guest Houses

Sl. No.	Station	No. of Suites
HOLIDAY HOMES		
1.	Shimla	109
2.	Kanyakumari	22
3.	Mysore	12
4.	Amarkantak	2
TOURING OFFICERS GUEST HOUSES		
1.	Calcutta	52
2.	Delhi	35
3.	Mumbai	27
4.	Chennai	31
5.	Bangalore	05
6.	Trivandrum	04
7.	Lucknow	04

Statement II

Criteria for Allotment of Holiday Homes/Guest Houses and the charges therefor

A. CENTRAL GOVT. TOURING OFFICERS GUEST HOUSES :

It primarily caters to the needs of the Members of Parliament and the touring Central Govt. Employees.

The Central Government Employees on leave, employees of the State Government/Public sector/Autonomous Organisations whether on tour or leave, private persons accompanying MPs/Central Govt. Employees and the retired Central Government Employees can also avail of the facilities subject to availability. However, in their cases no advance booking/reservation is made.

B. HOLIDAY HOMES :

It provides lodging facilities to all categories of persons referred to above.

C. CONDITIONS FOR THE RESERVATION AND PROCEDURE THEREOF-BOTH FOR TOURING OFFICERS' GUEST HOUSES AND THE HOLIDAY HOMES;

I. **Period of Stay :** Accommodation is provided for a period not exceeding 10 days. In exceptional cases, the accommodation in excess of 10 days and upto a total of 20 days can be permitted with the prior written approval of the Dy. Director concerned in the Directorate of Estates, New Delhi, who, where necessary, obtains orders of the Director of Estates.

II. **Charges for the Stay :** The charges are payable in advance at the following rates :-

Category of accom.		Serving Central Govt. empl. on duty/MPs.	Serving Central Govt. empl. on leave	State/PSu etc. empl. on duty	State/PSu etc. empl. on leave	Private Persons accompany as guest of Govt./empl. MPs.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
(A) Central Govt. Touring Officers Guest Houses	Single bed	Rs. 15	Rs. 25	Rs. 25	Rs. 50	Rs. 100
	Double Bed	Rs. 30	Rs. 50	Rs. 50	Rs. 100	Rs. 195
	Dormitory/ PAs room.	Rs. 10	Rs. 15	Rs. 15	Rs. 30	Rs. 65
(B) Holiday Homes	Single Bed	Rs. 25	Rs. 25	Rs. 65	Rs. 65	Rs. 115
	Double Bed	Rs. 40	Rs. 40	Rs. 100	Rs. 100	Rs. 165
	Four Bed	Rs. 50	Rs. 50	Rs. 145	Rs. 145	Rs. 245

The additional licence fee is charged for Gysers, Air Conditioners etc.

The retired Government employees are charged at the rates applicable to the private persons for the stay in the Touring Officers Hostel. For Holiday Homes, they are charged at par with the Central Government employees subject to the condition that no advance booking will be done.

III. OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS :

(a) Only one room/suite would be booked for a person/family. Additional room in exceptional cases on payment of charges as for private persons may be considered.

(b) Cooking of food, preparation of tea, in the suite/room would not be permitted unless arrangements exist in the room(s) provided.

(c) No unauthorised person(s) will be allowed to stay with or visit the person(s) provided with accommodation in the Hostel after 10.00 P.M.

(d) No intoxication drinks would be permitted to be taken in the Guest Houses/Holiday Homes.

IV. ADVANCE BOOKING :

(a) Touring Officers' Guest Houses : No advance booking is made for the categories of eligible persons except the Members of the Parliament and the Central Govt. employees who are required to proceed on official tour and need accommodation in Central Govt. Touring Officers' Guest Houses. They can apply for the facility not exceeding 30 days in advance, giving necessary details.

(b) Holiday Homes : Reservation for the accommodation in the Holiday Homes is made on the basis of first come first served. The applications are accepted generally not more than 60 days in advance.

Satellite Town Near Shillong

351. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Meghalaya had submitted any proposal for setting up of a Satellite town near Shillong;

(b) if so, whether the Department of Economic Affairs has initiated work on posing the project for funding under loan package of OECF, Japan for 1998-99; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of Meghalaya had submitted a proposal for setting up of a satellite township near Shillong.

(b) The Department of Economic Affairs had forwarded the proposal to the Government of Japan for funding under loan package of OECF, for 1998-99.

(c) As intimated by Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs), OECF (Japan) has not approved the proposal for funding of the project.

[Translation]

Encroachment of Government Land

352. SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA :

SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI :

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the unauthorised encroachments have been made on Government land in the country, particularly in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to remove/check/stop the unauthorised encroachments ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT : (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In this connection, a copy of instructions on the subject issued by this Ministry dated 14.8.1996 and 17.11.1997 are enclosed herewith as statement-I and II.

Statement-I

No. J-13036/3/96-DDIIB

Government of India

Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment
(Department of Urban Development)

Nirman Bhawan

New Delhi, Dated 14th August, 1996

To,

1. The Director General (Works), Central P.W.D. Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. Director of Estates, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi.
3. Land and Development Officer, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi.
4. Vice-Chairman, DDA, Vikas Sadan, New Delhi.
5. Commissioner, M.C.D., Town Hall, Delhi.
6. Chairperson, N.D.M.C., Palka Kendra, New Delhi.

Sub. Encroachment/Unauthorised construction on public land.

Sir,

I am directed to invite your attention to this Ministry's letters No. J-13036/15/90-DDIIB dated 11.7.1990 and dated 12.12.1991 on the subject cited above and to state that it has been noticed that inspite of the instructions issued on several occasions in the past, instances of encroachment/unauthorised constructions on public land

under the charge of various Government Departments/Organisations and autonomous bodies continue to be reported. Such encroachments have been causing serious concern to Govt. inasmuch as they lead to loss of precious public land, pose administrative and legal difficulties and law and order problems during their removal and cause delays in the execution of public projects because of the long time required for removing such encroachments. Government have been emphasising from time to time the need to protect public land from encroachments at the initial stage itself, launch criminal trespass cases against encroachers and take action against the delinquent staff charged with the responsibility of the watch and ward of such lands. This matter has been further considered and it is reiterated that the following measures should be taken immediately by the concerned land-owning agencies, local bodies and DDA:-

(i) To recover and map out the encroachments and unauthorised use of public lands under their respective controls;

(ii) To take effective steps to remove the encroachments/unauthorised use on a time bound basis and to launch prosecutions, wherever necessary;

(iii) To vigorously pursue investigations and prosecution of all pending cases;

(iv) To take effective measures, including fencing, putting up compound-walls, employing watch and ward staff, deploying private agencies, where necessary and feasible, to protect public lands from future encroachments;

(v) Separate Officers should be specified for protection of public lands and preventing encroachments thereon in respect of different areas/zones. These zonal officers should be made responsible for submission of monthly reports to the overall controlling officer about the status of encroachments, if any on public, lands and organising removal of encroachments/filing of FIR's etc., for preventing future encroachments. They may be given adequate supporting staff for this purpose.

(vi) Effective liaison should be established with the local police to prevent/remove the encroachments on public lands.

(vii) Heads of Organisations should review the progress made at least once in two months and Heads of Departments once a month.

Yours faithfully,
Sd/-
(R.K. Singh)
Director (DD)

Copy to :

1. The Chief Secretary, GNCTD, 5, Sham Nath Marg, Delhi.
2. The Commissioner of Police, MSO. Bldg., I.P. Estates N.D.

3. The Pr. Secretary (UD/LSG), GNCTD, Vikas Bh., ND.
4. The Secretary (L & B/PWD), GNCTD, Vikas Bhawan, ND.
5. The Secretary to LG, Delhi, Raj Niwas, Delhi.
6. Executive Director, (Lands/Rly. Board).
7. Executive Officer, Delhi Cantonment Board.

SD/-
(R.K. Singh)
Director (DD)

Copy to information to :

1. PS to MOS (UA & E).
2. PPS to Secretary (UD)/PS to AS (UD) / JS (WA)/ JS(UD).
3. File No. J-130363/87-DDIIB.

Sd/-
(R.S. Singh)
Director (DD)

Statement- II

No. J-13306/3/96 DDIIB

Government of India

Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment

(Department of Urban Development)

Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi.

Dated : 17.11.97

To,

1. The Vice Chairman, DDA, Vikas Sadan, New Delhi.
2. The Commissioner, MCD, Town Hall, Delhi.
3. The Chairperson, NDMC, Palika Kendra, New Delhi.

Sub : Encroachment/unauthorised construction on public lands-Setting up of Mobile Squads.

Sir,

I am directed to invite your attention to this Ministry's letter of even No. dated 14.8.96 on the subject cited above. It has been noticed that in spite of the instructions issued on a number of occasions in the past, instances of unauthorised constructions/encroachments on public lands belonging to various Government Departments/Organisations/Autonomous Bodies as well as constructions of unlicensed buildings on private lands continue to take place in large numbers. Such unauthorised construction/encroachments have been causing serious concern to the Government and have also been the subject matter of a public interest

litigation in the Delhi High Court recently vide CWP NO. 4771/93, Government have been repeatedly emphasising the need to protect public land from encroachments at the initial stage itself. Any further unauthorised/unlicensed constructions on private lands also need to be presented and stringent action taken right in the beginning.

2. After re-examining the matter, the Central Government in exercise of the powers vested in it by section 41(1) of D.D. Act/Section 487 of D.M.C. Act/Section 395 of N.D.M.C. Act hereby directs that with a view to tackling the menace of unauthorised constructions and encroachments of public lands, the following measures shall be taken immediately by the GNCTD, NDMC, MCD, DDA and other land owning agencies in Delhi:-

(i) NDMC, MCD and DDA should set up within their financial resources mobile squads headed by jurisdictional Assistant Engineers in order to conduct spot verification of all on-going constructions their respective areas on a day to day basis, with view to ensuring that these are based on building plans duly sanctioned by the respective local authorities/bodies. Such inspections should not be confined merely to the lands owned by these bodies, but will extend over all public and private lands in their respective jurisdictions;

(ii) Immediate steps should be taken to stop or demolish the constructions which are being carried on in the absence of sanctioned building plans. Effective liaison with the jurisdictional Police Stations should be maintained while carrying out these tasks to prevent any law and order or other untoward problems;

(iii) The performance of the mobile squads may be reviewed by the District-level Special Task Forces set up under the orders of the LG, Delhi in each District;

(iv) For any encroachment on public land which takes place after the date of issue of this letter, the Assistant Engineer/Junior Engineer in-charge of that area shall be held responsible and disciplinary action taken against them in appropriate cases;

(v) Whenever deemed necessary and specially in cases where unauthorised constructions are not stopped despite issues of a notice, steps should be taken to register FIRs and launch prosecutions against the defaulters/encroachers;

(vi) Special attention will be paid to ensure that parks, green spaces and other public open spaces are not encroached upon even through temporary constructions. Any temporary construction allowed for a specific purpose should be got vacated within the allotted time frame in the absence of which action be taken to remove such constructions forthwith at the cost of the party concerned and deduct the expenditure from his security deposit; and

(vii) All land owning agencies should take effective measures including fencing, regular inspection of land, etc. to protect their lands from future encroachments. Private

security agencies may be deployed for this purpose, wherever found absolutely necessary.

3. The above directions are issued under Section 41(1) of Delhi Development Act, Section 487 of Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, and Section 395 of NDMC Act.

4. All land owning agencies should also take necessary protective and preventive measures and ensure that their land is not utilised for dumping garbage and thereby be lost to its regular use.

5. The above instructions should be implemented strictly and action taken by the land owning agencies reported to this Ministry.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-
(Dr. Nivedita P. Haran)
Director (DD)

Copy to :-

1. The Secretary to LG, Delhi, Raj Niwas, Delhi.
2. The Chief Secretary, GNCTD, 5 Sham Nath Marg, Delhi.
3. The Commissioner of Police, MSO Building, IP Estate, ND.
4. The Principal Secretary (UD), GNCTD, Vikas Bhawan, ND.
5. The Secretary (L & B), GNCTD, Vikas Bhawan, New Delhi.
6. The Director General (Works), CPWD, Nirman Bhawan, ND.
7. Director of Estates, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi.
8. Land & Development Officer, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi.
9. Executive Director, (Lands) Railway Board, New Delhi.
10. Executive Officer, Delhi Cantonment Board, Delhi Cant.

Sd/-
(Dr. Nivedita P. Haran)
Director (DD)

Copy for information to :-

1. PS to MOS (UA & E).
2. Secretary, MHA/Secretary (UD)/PS to JS(UD).
3. File No. 0-33011/2/94-DDIIB.

Sd/-
(Dr. Nivedita P. Haran)
Director (DD)

*[English]***Doubling of Bangalore-Mysore Railway Track**

353. SHRI A. SIDDARAJU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether any survey has been undertaken for doubling of railway track between Bangalore-Mysore;
- (b) if so, the estimated cost of the above proposal; and
- (c) the time by which the above work is likely to be started and completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The survey report revealed that the cost of the 138.49 kms. long line would be Rs. 240 crs. with negative rate of return. Due to unremunerative nature of the project and acute constraint of resources, it has not been found possible to consider the project for the present.

*[Translation]***Shifting of Zonal Office from Mumbai to Ahmedabad**

354. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA :

SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have received a memorandum from the Government of Gujarat recently regarding different pending issues/cases of railways;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government of Gujarat and other organisations have requested the Union Government for shifting of Western Railway Zonal office from Mumbai to Ahmedabad; and
- (d) if so, the response of the Union Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Representations have been received for shifting the headquarters of Western Railway from Mumbai to Ahmedabad. Taking the various factors into consideration, the Government has decided to set up six new zonal Railway Offices at Bhubaneswar, Allahabad, Hajipur, Jaipur,

Bangalore and Jabalpur and eight new Divisional Offices including a Divisional Office at Ahmedabad.

Extension of Rail Line from Jamnagar to Badi Sadar

355. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have received any memorandum from members of Parliament Nawanagar, Chamber of Commerce and Industry, various railway users of Jamnagar and other organisations for extension of rail line from Jamnagar to Badi Sadar;
- (b) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) the time by which the said line is likely to be extended ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) There is no such place as Badi Sadar. The reference is perhaps to Badi Port. The proposed line will be a single user line for the port and can be taken up as a siding at the cost of the port authorities.

*[English]***Attachment of Coaches**

356. SHRI P. SANKARAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) the reasons for cancelling one coach at Malabar, attached to Gandhi Dham Express and Rajkot Express; and
- (b) whether the Government are considering to re-introduce the coach, in view of the difficulty being experienced by Malabar passengers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Gandhidham and Rajkot Expresses have been converted into air-brake.

(b) It has been decided to divert Gandhidham and Rajkot Express via Konkan Railway route in 1998-99, which will provide the people of Malabar region with direct services to Gandhidham/Rajkot.

Encroachment of Government Land

357. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to refer to the answer given to USQ No. 5331 and 6014 on 11.09.1996 and 14.06.1997 regarding "Encroachment of Government land" and to state:

1	2	3	4	5
	<p>purchased plots from the allottees of the plots under 20-Points Programme in Delhi;</p> <p>(d) whether water and electricity connections have been provided to the people who purchased plots from the Jhuggi Jhonpri dwellers who were allotted plots in Delhi;</p> <p>(e) the action taken to get the Government land in Anant Ram Dairy vacated from the encroachers; and</p> <p>(f) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor ?</p>		<p>who are in possession of allotment letter against a particular jhuggi and under the 20-Point Programme. No electric meter is provided to a Jhuggi dweller who is not in possession of allotment slip from the land owning agency.</p> <p>(e) & (f) There is a writ petition pending in the High Court in this regard. The Hon. Court has been informed that Govt. has decided that possession of all acquired land in the area barring those cases where stay orders granted by the Courts shall be taken over by the CPWD immediately along with the illegal structures thereon as is where is basis.</p>	

Losses by Air India

358. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- whether Air India is running at losses;
- if so, since when and the total losses sustained by Air India during the last three years;
- whether any new strategy is being proposed by Air India to reduce the losses; and
- if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. Air India Limited has been incurring losses since 1995-96. Details are given as under :-

Year	Loss (Rs. in crores)
1995-96	271.84
1996-97	296.94
1997-98 (Provisional)	280.43

(c) and (d) Air India has taken following steps to reduce losses :-

- Network Rationalisation and consolidation.
- Product upgradation.
- Improvement in on-time performance.

- Creation of Independent cost/profit centres.

Government have constituted a committee of experts under the Chairmanship of Dr. Vijay Kelkar, Chairman, Tariff Commission to undertake a comprehensive examination of the reasons for the losses incurred by the Air India and to suggest strategies for turning around the company.

[Translation]

Development of Railway Station

359. SHRI JOGENDRA KAWADE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the development of Nagpur Railway Station in Maharashtra (Central Railway) is being hampered due to non-removal of poultry farms and other encroachments from the land of railway station; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

- Does not arise.

Linking of Hastinapur with Rail Line

360. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have conducted any survey to link Hastinapur with the rail line;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the item by which the work on above line is likely to be commenced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The survey carried out in 1995 revealed that the cost of 63.5 km. long line from Daurala to Bijnor via Hastinapur would be Rs. 66.74 cr. The line would have about 5% rate to return.

(c) The work could not be approved due to the unremunerative nature of the project and constraint of resources.

[English]

Rotational Transfers in CPWD Enquiry Offices

361. DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of URBAN AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether rotational transfers are not being carried out in the CPWD Enquiry Offices upto the Division level;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to rotate the staff and officials periodically in the enquiry offices and divisional offices including the Executive Engineers.

(c) if so, the number of JEs, AEs, and XENs posted in Delhi for more than five years and have not been transferred out of Delhi as per transfer policy; and

(d) the action does the Government propose to take in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) and (b) Rotational transfers are being carried out.

(c) and (d) A tenure of 8-10 years for Junior Engineers and Assistant Engineers and 5-years for Executive Engineers in Delhi has been prescribed. 437 Junior Engineers (Civil), 198 Junior Engineers (Elec.), 89 Assistant Engineers (Civil), 54 Assistant Engineers (Elect.), 69 Executive Engineers (Civil), 23 Executive Engineers (Elect.) have completed their prescribed tenure in Delhi. The reasons for these officers not being transferred out of Delhi are: (a) Court cases, (b) Compassionate grounds and (c) Exigencies of work.

International Airport in A.P.

362. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the site for an International airport has been approved in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the location of this international airport;
- (c) the total amount to be incurred; and
- (d) the time by which the work on this airport is likely to start ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. The existing Hyderabad airport has been developed and modernised, at an estimated cost of Rs. 100 crores as a model airport which can sustain limited international operations.

Sponge Iron Plants

363. SHRI NADENDLA BHASKARA RAO : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of sponge Iron Plants operating in the country, state-wise and location-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to accord sanction to the expansion plan of the Sponge Iron Limited, Andhra Pradesh at Kottagudem; and

(c) if so, the details thereof

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) As per available information, there are 23 sponge iron plants as listed in attached statement.

(b) and (c) The proposal submitted by Sponge Iron India Ltd. (SIIL), Andhra Pradesh, for expansion of its production capacity from 60,000 tonnes per annum to 1,20,000 tonnes per annum is presently under consideration of the Government.

Statement

List of sponge Iron units and their location

Sl No.	Name of the Unit	Location
1	2	3
		ANDHRA PRADESH
1.	Sponge Iron (India) Ltd.	Kothagodem Khammam A.P.
2.	Goldstar Steels & Alloys Ltd.	Vijayanagaram, A.P.
3.	Kumar Metallurgical Corpn. Ltd.	Nalgonda, A.P.
4.	Sunder Steel Ltd.	Rangareddy, Andhra Pradesh
		BIHAR
1.	Bihar Sponge Iron Ltd.	Chandil, Bihar
		GUJARAT
	Essar Gujarat	Hazira, Surat, Gujarat
		HARYANA
1.	Shyam Ispat Ltd.	Hissar, Haryana
		KARNATAKA
1.	Bellary Steels & Alloys Ltd.	Bellary, Karnataka

1	2	3
1. Jindal Strips Ltd.		MADHYA PRADESH Kharsia Road, Raigarh, M.P.
2. Prakash Industries Ltd.		Champa, Bilaspur, M.P.
3. Hindustan Electro graphite Ltd.		Durg, M.P.
4. Nova Iron & Steel Ltd.		Dagoria, Bilaspur, M.P.
5. Raipur Steels & Alloys Ltd.		Raipur, M.P.
6. Monnet Ispat Ltd.		Kurud, Raipur, M.P.
7. Raigarh Electrodes Ltd.		Raigarh, M.P.
1. Sunflag Iron & Steel Co. Ltd.		MAHARASHTRA Bhandara, Maharashtra
2. Lloyds Metal & Engineers Ltd.		Chanderpur, Maharashtra
3. Vikram Ispat Ltd.		Raigad, Maharashtra
4. Ispat, Industries Ltd.		Alibagh, Raigad, Maharashtra
1. Orissa Sponge Iron Ltd.		ORISSA Palasdonga, Keonjhar, Orissa
2. Tata Sponge Iron Ltd.		Joda Keonjhar, Orissa
3. Rexon Strips Ltd.		Rourkela, Orissa
1. Tamil Nadu Sponge Ltd.		TAMIL NADU Hastampatti, Salem Tamil Nadu

Konkan Railway

364. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total expenditure incurred on Konkan Railway since the commencement of the Project;

(b) the benefits coming to the commuters on this section; and

(c) the estimated profit vis-a-vis the cost escalation during the last three years coming through commutership to the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Rs. 3534.26 crores till 30.3.98, Sir.

(b) The commuters are being benefited by substantial reduction in distance as well as travelling time via the Konkan Railway. The distance has been lesser by 500-1100 kms. on the new routes of Mumbai-Cochin & Delhi/Ahmedabad/Mumbai-Mangalore via the Konkan Railway than the old routes. Travelling time has also reduced by 10-26 hrs. on the Mumbai-Goa/Cochin/Mangalore legs of journey than before.

(c) Considering the fact that the Railway has been opened to through traffic only on 26.01.98, question of assessment of profit is too premature at this stage.

Trains on Konkarn Railway

365. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the trains which are going to Kerala via 760 km. long Konkarn Railway (KR);

(b) the various steps taken by the Union Government to enhance the revenue of Konkarn Railway;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to start a new Kurla-Mangalore train via Konkarn Railway in near future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) At present 2431/2432 Nizamuddin-Trivandrum Rajdhani and 6635/6636 Kurla-Ernakulam Netravati Expresses are going to Kerala via Konkarn Railway.

(b) Steps are being taken to identify and divert more traffic from the Indian Railways on to the Konkarn Railway. Besides, major business development drives have been launched to augment traffic, the results of which will be visible after about a year.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) 2619/2620 Kurla-Mangalore Exp. is being introduced as a tri-weekly Superfast train w.e.f. 01.06.98 and it will become a daily service from 01-07-98.

[Translation]

Construction of over bridge at Habibganj Naka Level Crossing

366. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent any proposal to the Union Government for construction of over bridge near Habibganj Naka in Bhopal city :

(b) if so, whether any survey has been conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the total expenditure is likely to be incurred thereon; and

(e) the share of expenditure to be borne by the Union Government as well as the State Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir. The proposal was received as early as in Feb 1988 as deposit work.

(b) A joint inspection was conducted in May, 1998.

(c) Road Over Bridge was found feasible in 1988 as proposed but the State Govt. did not pursue the proposal any further. Now State Govt. is exploring the possibility of its construction on BOT (Build, Operate & Transfer) scheme basis.

(d) Not know.

(e) Full cost to be borne by the State Govt./Private Entrepreneurs.

[English]

Defence Minister's Statement on China

367. PROF. P.J. KURIEN :

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY :

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN :

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS :

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA :

SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY :

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether he is reported to have expressed strong views describing China as "Potential threat number one" and has also stated that India is surrounded by China's military and naval activities;

(b) the factual position thereof and the steps taken to protect the country from such hostile activities; and

(c) the extent to which the observation at (a) above is likely to affect the ongoing process of strengthening ties with China ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) China is our biggest neighbour. China is a Nuclear Weapon State and continues to maintain the largest standing army in the world. In recent years, China has undertaken, as a national objective, in tandem with economic growth and development, the modernisation of her armed forces, including her nuclear weapons capability. China had laid stress on the doctrine of "active defence", "limited war under high technological conditions" and the creation of "rapid

reaction combat units" with a focus on her periphery. The redefinition of China's "strategic frontiers" coupled with military modernisation programmes, are rapidly transforming the force projection capabilities of China's armed forces in the sea, air and on land. In recent years, China has also engaged in upgrading logistic and infrastructure facilities in the India-China border areas.

2. India's defence policy must take into account our complex regional security environment including, in particular, China's nuclear weapon and missile capability. The clandestine acquisition of nuclear weapon and offensive missile capability targeted solely against India and the long established transfer from external sources of nuclear weapons and missile technology, equipment and expertise to Pakistan, must also be taken into account. Military collaboration between China and Myanmar also has a direct bearing on India's security.

3. Raksha Mantri in his recent interviews and memorial lecture has reiterated the aforementioned concerns. Raksha Mantri has re-affirmed Government's commitment to seek a resolution of all pending issues with China through mutual consultations and has stated that the talks should go beyond the confidence building measures. Government remains committed to the process of building a co-operative and constructive relationship with China.

4. Government keeps under constant review all developments having a bearing on the country's security and takes appropriate measures to safeguard the national interest.

[Translation]

Train Accidents in Jabalpur Division

368. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Jabalpur division has the largest number of rail accidents;

(b) if so, the estimated loss of life, railway property and financial loss in the 10 railway accidents occurred during 1997-98;

(c) whether the Government propose to adopt any new policy to check the railway accidents;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTERS OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. There were 11 consequential train accidents on Jabalpur Division of Central Railway during 1997-98. In which 4 persons sustained grievous injury and 47 suffered minor

injury. Damage to Railway property on account of these accidents have been estimated at Rs. 1.47 crores.**

**Note (Figures are provisional)

(c) to (e) Some of the measures adopted to improve safety and prevent accidents on Indian Railway are as under and are considered adequate :-

- (i) The work of track circuiting has been accelerated on the trunk routes and other important main lines.
- (ii) Modification of the Signalling circuitry is being carried out to minimise chances of human error in causing accidents.
- (iii) Auxiliary Warning System for giving advance warning about 'Signal at danger' to the driver of the running train has been commissioned on Bombay suburban sections.
- (iv) There has been progressive increase in use of Tie Tamping and ballast cleaning machines for track maintenance.
- (v) For monitoring track geometry and running characteristics of the track, sophisticated track recording cars, oscillograph cars and portable accelerometers are being progressively used.
- (vi) Maintenance facilities for coaches and wagons have been modernised and upgraded at many depots.
- (vii) To prevent cases of cold breakage of axles, ROH Depots have been equipped with ultrasonic testing equipment for detection of flaws in the axles.
- (viii) Whistle boards/speed breakers and road signs have been provided at unmanned level crossings and visibility for drivers has been improved.
- (ix) Audio-visual publicity campaigns to educate road users on how to make a safe crossing are conducted.
- (x) Steps have been taken to prevent inflammable and explosive materials from being carried in passenger trains.
- (xi) Training facilities for drivers, guards and staff connected with train operation have been modernised including use of Simulators for training of drivers.
- (xii) Refresher courses are regularly organised at specified intervals.
- (xiii) Performance of the staff connected with train operation is being constantly monitored and those found deficient are sent for crash training.
- (xiv) Periodical safety drives are conducted to inculcate safety consciousness among the staff.

Policy for Building Construction

369. SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHRY :
SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :
SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH :

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFIARS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have formulated any policy to encourage building construction;
- (b) If so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by when it is likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) to (c) Since the Government does not have adequate resources to take up large scale constructions on its own, the Govt. intends to encourage the private sector to be involved in building constructions in a big way. This Ministry has recommended to the Finance Ministry to grant large scale fiscal concessions to the housing industry so that building constructions industry will take off giving a kick start to the economy. Various State and Central, Public and Private Agencies are involved in building construction. However, the Construction Industry Development Council (CIDC) has been set up under the aegis of the Planning Commission. CIDC would identify the problems and the barriers in improving the productivity and efficiency of the construction sector as a whole.

[English]

Allocation of Funds under IRDP

370. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :
SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :
SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBHA MANDLIK :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) the funds allocated and actually released by the Government under the IRDP during the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) the performance of the programme in each State during above period;
- (c) whether the full amount has been utilized by State Governments;
- (d) If not, the amount remained with State Governments;
- (e) whether any complaints regarding misuse of funds have been received; and
- (f) If so, the details thereof and the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA

PATIL : (a) Central funds allocated and actually released under IRDP during last three years is given in enclosed Statement-I.

(b) The State-wise financial and physical performance under IRDP during last three years is given in enclosed Statement-II.

(c) and (d) Against the total allocation of Rs. 3327.94 crores the State Governments have utilised an amount of Rs. 3264.02 crores (provisional) during the last three years under IRDP. The balance amount remained unutilised with the States.

(e) As per available information, no complaints has been received regarding the misuse of funds under IRDP.

(f) Question does not arise.

Statement-I

Central Allocation and Central Funds Released Under IRDP During 1995-96 to 1997-98

(Rs in lakh)

Sl. No.	State/U.Ts.	Total Central Allocation During 1995-96 to 1997-98	Total Central Funds Released During 1995-96 to 1997-98
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12642.53	15324.19
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	945.47	868.88
3.	Assam	4160.62	4571.21
4.	Bihar	24595.64	13972.34
5.	Goa	215.17	153.97
6.	Gujarat	4639.44	5427.66
7.	Haryana	1115.17	1715.39
8.	Himachal Pradesh	363.64	492.32
9.	J & K	1515.13	1161.71
10.	Karnataka	8484.90	7711.30
11.	Kerala	3087.89	3812.39
12.	Madhya Pradesh	16022.85	17013.86
13.	Maharashtra	13781.94	13275.08
14.	Manipur	681.84	539.19
15.	Meghalaya	724.24	599.25
16.	Mizoram	306.07	384.01
17.	Nagaland	509.10	655.95
18.	Orissa	10257.65	10610.44

1	2	3	4
19.	Punjab	790.91	968.83
20.	Rajasthan	6654.59	6255.48
21.	Sikkim	84.84	160.34
22.	Tamil Nadu	11430.39	10212.71
23.	Tripura	972.74	1348.58
24.	Uttar Pradesh	30810.83	32699.21
25.	West Bengal	11331.91	6833.97
26.	A & N Islands	215.17	93.64
27.	D & N Haveli	45.47	53.61
28.	Daman & Dui	84.84	56.87
29.	Lakshadweep	21.20	28.85
30.	Pondicherry	175.77	162.63
Total		166688.00	157163.86

Statement-II

Performance under IRDP during 1995-96 to 1997-98

Sl. No.	State/U.Ts.	Total Allocation During 1995-96 to 1997-98 (Rs. in Lakh)	Total Expenditure During 1995-96 to 1997-98* (Rs. in Lakh)	Total Families Assisted During 1995-96 to 1997-98* (Number)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	25285.04	30277.56	453774
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1890.92	1205.66	30820
3.	Assam	8321.24	7066.56	123677
4.	Bihar	49191.23	36273.13	706974
5.	Goa	430.32	330.28	4365
6.	Gujarat	9278.88	9500.96	145053
7.	Haryana	2230.82	3587.37	57826
8.	Himachal Pradesh	727.28	1357.07	20144
9.	J & K	3030.34	1808.89	33150
10.	Karnataka	16969.82	17128.57	331273
11.	Kerala	6175.80	7500.99	136238
12.	Madhya Pradesh	32045.72	36771.06	517625
13.	Maharashtra	27563.86	28639.70	490255
14.	Manipur	1363.86	1015.85	17591
15.	Meghalaya	1448.50	1105.7	16523

1	2	3	4	5
16. Mizoram	612.14	604.13	11020	
17. Nagaland	1018.18	589.16	5430	
18. Orissa	20515.32	20276.32	286753	
19. Punjab	1581.84	1896.38	25053	
20. Rajasthan	13309.20	12761.68	223941	
21. Sikkim	169.70	350.10	6884	
22. Tamil Nadu	22860.78	24885.23	517188	
23. Tripura	1945.48	2175.25	33293	
24. Uttar Pradesh	61821.66	61989.91	1071614	
25. West Bengal	22663.82	16947.37	363737	
26. A & N Islands	215.17	99.00	1903	
27. D & N Haveli	45.47	39.61	621	
28. Daman & Diu	84.84	41.68	302	
29. Lakshadweep	21.20	11.79	75	
30. Pondicherry	175.77	161.83	3963	
Total	332793.55	326401.84	5649563	

* The expenditure and families assisted during 1997-98 are provisional.

Flights between Calcutta-Agartala

371. SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN:

SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- whether the Government have any plan to increase to and fro flights between Calcutta and Agartala;
- If so, the details thereof; and
- the time by which a decision is likely to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) At present, Indian Airlines operates 11 flights per week between Calcutta and Agartala. Additional flights are also being operated by Indian Airlines depending on the seasonal passenger demand. Besides, private operators are also operating on this sector. Additional flights can be operated by IA/Private operators based on commercial viability.

Infiltration of ISI Agents into Indian Army

372. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :

SHRI MOHAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

- whether the Government have noticed any infiltration of Pakistan's ISI agents into our armed forces;
- if so, whether any such agents have ever been identified;
- if so, the details thereof and the nature of the espionage activities carried out by them; and
- the action taken by the Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) No case of infiltration of Pakistan's ISI agents into Armed Forces has come to notice. Exhaustive counter measures exist to detect and neutralise such nefarious activities.

[Translation]

Resuming of Air Service from Delhi to Calcutta Via-Kanpur and Gorakhpur

373. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- the reasons for discontinuing the domestic air services from Delhi to Calcutta via Kanpur and Gorakhpur;
- whether the Government propose to resume air services of Indian Airlines from Delhi to Gorakhpur;
- if so, the time by which it is to be resumed; and
- if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Due to operational constraints, air services to Kanpur and Gorakhpur were withdrawn during 1992.

- No, Sir.
- Does not arise.

(d) The traffic on this sector is not adequate for operations with the existing Jet aircraft fleet of Indian Airlines. Shortage of smaller capacity aircraft and related operating crew also do not permit operation of service on this route by Indian Airlines. Private operators are being encouraged to include new stations including Gorakhpur in their network, subject to viability.

Railway Protection Force

374. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- whether the Government propose to impart training of Indian Penal Code to the personnel of Railway Protection Force so as to empower them to deal with the increasing cases of crimes in ralls like Government Railway Police;
- if so, the details thereof; and
- if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir. The relevant provisions of Indian Penal Code are already included in the training curriculum of all ranks of the Railway Protection Force to acquaint them with the offences relating to property and person. Relevant sections from the chapters on General Definitions, General Exceptions, Law relating to right of private defence, Offences against the public tranquility, Offences relating to false evidence and public justice, Offences affecting the human body, Offences of hurt, Wrongful restraint and wrongful confinement, Of criminal force and assault, Offences against property and Offences relating to Criminal Trespass are taught to the members of the Force for this purpose.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The personnel of the Railway Protection Force are basically required to protect the railway property. They are not empowered to deal with the offences against the travelling public and their belongings. Law and order is a State subject, for the enforcement of which the Government Railway Police is functioning under the control of the respective State Governments. Empowering the personnel of the Railway Protection Force to deal with crimes on railways, like the Government Railway Police, does not arise.

[English]

Gallantry Awards

375. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Gallantry Awards being given to army personnel do not include monetary help;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Government propose to offer some monetary help for the family members of the posthumous awardees ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERRELL) : (a) to (c) Monetary allowance is being given to each recipient of gallantry awards, and in the case of posthumous awardees, the same is given to his widow or widower or mother/father or son below 18 years or unmarried daughter, as the case may be.

[Translation]

Working Group to watch quality of food

376. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has directed to all Zonal Railways to constitute Working Group in their Zones to keep a watch over the quality of food served at Railway Stations and in trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by various zonal Railways on the above directions.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir. Adequate machinery exists on Zonal Railways for monitoring the quality of food served at Railway Stations and in trains. Regular and surprise checks are conducted at various levels and remedial action taken.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Encroachment of Railway Land

377. SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that railway land worth crore of rupees are being encroached upon in various States;

(b) if so, the approximate acres of such land encroached upon; State-wise and zone-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to remove these encroachers and to provide protection to railway properties ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) About 2457 hectares of railway land is under encroachment. Information about area of Railway land under encroachment is not maintained State-wise but Zonal Railway-wise as Railway Zones span over more than one state. The details are as follows :

Railway Zone	Area under encroachment (In hectares)
Central	64
Eastern	85
Northern	900
Northern Eastern	115
Northeast	
Frontier	304
Southern	83
South Central	84
South Eastern	715
Western	107
Total	2457

(c) Removal of encroachment on Railway land is a continuous process. New encroachments are removed as soon as these are noticed. Regarding old encroachments, these are removed under Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971.

Following steps are taken to protect Railway land;

- (i) Identification of vulnerable areas ;
- (ii) Construction of boundary wall/ fencing in the vulnerable areas.
- (iii) Plantation in the area.
- (iv) Joint visits of the vulnerable locations by representatives of concerned Departments alongwith civil authorities.

[English]

Cellular Phones System in Trains

378. SHRI S. S. OWAISSI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether in a bid to make the rail travel safer, Railways are planning to introduce Cellular Phone System in the Trains;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this system can provide contact between different stations and trains;
- (d) if so, the time by which this system is likely to be started and regions chosen for its start; and
- (e) the total expenditure earmarked for this purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

Distribution of Yamuna Water

379. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) the quantum of Yamuna water provided to Uttar Pradesh for the supply of drinking water during each of the last three years;
- (b) whether the water so provided in accordance with the demand made;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether there has been a rapid increase in the demand of potable water during the last years in Uttar Pradesh; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) to (c) Considering

the irrigation and drinking water consumption requirements, the Chief Ministers of Basin States of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh and National Capital Territory of Delhi, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 12.5.94 regarding allocation of surface flow of Yamuna upto Okhla. An allocation of 4.032 Billion Cubic Metres (BCM) was agreed to for Uttar Pradesh.

The Upper Yamuna River Board (UYRB) made following seasonal allocation of Yamuna water upto Okhla to the State of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years.

Year	July to Oct. BCM	Nov. to Feb BCM	March to June BCM	Total BCM
1995-96	3.216	0.343	0.473	4.032
1996-97	3.216	0.343	0.473	4.032
1997-98	3.216	0.343	0.473	4.032

Inter-sectoral prioritisation, out of allocated water, has to be done by the State Government of Uttar Pradesh.

(d) Water supply is a State subject. No such information has been received from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh.

(e) In view of 'd' above, question does not arise.

Gauge Conversion in Andhra Pradesh

380. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the railways have completed any gauge conversion works in Andhra Pradesh during 1997-98;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of on going gauge conversion work in the State; and
- (c) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The gauge conversion of Mahbubnagar-Dronachellam section has been completed in 1997-98. The following are the ongoing gauge conversion works in Andhra Pradesh:

(i) *Tirupati-Pakala-Katpadi-Section*

Work is making good progress and the section is presently targetted for completion in December, 2000, subject to availability of resources.

(ii) *Mudkhed-Adilabad Section (Party in Andhra Pradesh)*

Work has been taken up under the Build-Own-Lease-Transfer (BOLT) Scheme and is expected to be completed in about one year's time from now.

(iii) *Guntur-Guntakal and Guntakal-Kalluru with lifting of Kalluru-Dharamvaram MG Section*

The gauge conversion of Guntur-Guntakal section has

been completed. Work on Guntakal-Kalluru section is being taken up, while land acquisition proceedings for new line portion from Pendekattu Gooty are in progress.

(iv) *Secunderabad-Mudkhed and Jankampet Bodhan Section (partly in Maharashtra)*

The requisite clearances for this work have been obtained. Preliminary arrangements for commencing the work are on hand.

(v) *Dharmavaram-Pakala section*

The work would be taken up after the requisite clearances have been obtained.

(vi) *Naupada-Gunupur section*

The work would be taken up after the requisite clearance has been obtained.

(c) The total expenditure likely to be incurred on these projects is Rs. 1223.43 crores which is the cost of the above gauge conversion works, at current prices.

Users charges at Calicut Airport

381. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether any airport users fee is charged at the Calicut Airport;

(b) if so, the full details thereof;

(c) whether the users charge being levied on passengers bound for foreign countries from Calicut Airport has been discontinued.

(d) if not, the reasons for the same;

(e) whether any representation has been received against the levy of users charge at Calicut Airport; and

(f) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. A sum of Rs. 500/- per passenger is a chargeable towards User's Development Additional Fee (UDAF) from embarking international passengers at Calicut Airport w.e.f. 01.10.95.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) to (f) The matter is before the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala. The case is, at present, sub-judice.

Operation of Senchoa-Silghat Railway Section

382. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Senchoa-Silghat railway section has not been in operation since 1993;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government are considering to re-open the said railway line; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be re-opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It was closed after gauge conversion of the main line from Guwahati to Lumding & Chapramukh-Halbergaon.

(c) Yes, the matter is under consideration.

(d) No target has yet been fixed.

Construction of Over Bridges

383. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of railway over-bridges sanctioned for construction in West Bengal, location-wise;

(b) the funds allocated for the purpose; and

(c) the time by which construction works are likely to be started and completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (c) The following works are sanctioned to West Bengal on cost sharing basis:

S. No.	Name of Road Over bridges With Locations	Funds Provided During Current Year 1998-99 (Rs. in lakh)	Progress	To be Completed by
1	2	3	4	5
1.	ASANSOL :- Road Overbridge in lieu of old bridge No. 533 on Burnpur-Asansol section at Km. 332/13-14	40.00	Shifting of utility services is in progress	June 1999

1	2	3	4	5
2.	MOURIGRAM :- Road Overbridge in lieu of 'A' class level crossing at Km. 10/23-25 on Howrah-Kharagpur section	0.02	Plans & Estimate are under finalisation	March 2000
3.	PANAGARH in Asansol Division at Km. 152/19-20 on Howrah-Asansol section	72.81	Work in progress	Dec. 1998
4.	LAKE GARDEN in Sealdah Division at km. 7/24-26 on Sealdah-Budge Budge section	100.00	Work in progress	Dec. 2000
5.	BONDEL GATE in Sealdah Division at Km. 4/3-5 on Sealdah-Ballyganj section	17.10	State Govt. has not started work on approaches. Railway work will start as soon as State Govt. starts work on approaches.	Not fixed
6.	LILUAH in Howrah Division at Km. 4/68 on Howrah-Bandel section	0.05	State Govt. has not yet started work on approaches. Railway work will start as soon as the State Govt. starts work on approaches.	Not fixed
7.	Road Over Bridge in lieu of level crossing on Howrah-Tarkeshwar Branch between Sheoraphuli-Tarkeshwar	Nil	100% Railway portion completed. Approaches yet to be completed by State Govt.	Not known

[Translation]

Progress in Rural Employment Programme

384. SHRI MANIKRAO HODYLA GAVIT :
 SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' :
 SHRI K.P. NAIDU :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a heavy increase in the number of unemployed persons in rural areas during the last three years;

(b) If so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the details of the progress of rural employment programmes in physical and financial terms during the last three years and till date, State-wise;

(d) the number of educated unemployed in rural areas who were provided employment during the last three years, State-wise;

(e) whether the Government have formulated any action plan to provide employment in rural areas; and

(f) If so, the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT : (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) and (b) The number of unemployed persons is estimated by National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) through its quinquennial surveys. The last survey was conducted during 1993-94 (50th round). As per the 50th round, the number of unemployed persons has decreased to 4.71 million from 7.17 million during 1987-88 (43rd round).

(c) Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) and Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) are the major rural employment programmes of the Ministry. The details of the physical and financial progress of these schemes during last three years are enclosed in Statement. I to III.

(d) Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment is providing self employment and training to rural youth to the families below the poverty line under IRDP and TRYSEM. However, Department of Small Scale Agro and Rural Industries is implementing Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana (RMRY) for providing self employment to educated unemployed youth. The details of cases sanctioned and disbursed, State-wise during the last three years is given at Statement-IV

(e) and (f) The Ministry is giving more emphasis on strengthening and better implementation of the existing wage employment and self employment programmes to make the programmes more effective and transparent, so that the benefits reach the rural poor.

Statement-I
Performance of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) during 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98

S No. State/UTs	Financial Performance (Rs. in lakhs)							Physical Achievements (Lakh Mandays)					
	1995-96		1996-97		1997-98		95-96		96-97		97-98		
	Total Funds Available	Total Exp	Total Funds Available	Total Exp	Total Funds Available	Total Exp	Target	Achievements	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	40676.2	34556.90	19791.14	17488.47	23180.01	2487.24	700.03	701.57	373.67	9.75	336.97	219.31
2.	Andhra Pradesh	454.14	357.12	271.69	198.23	228.18	168.55	7.99	8.24	4.42	2.79	4.94	2.23
3	Assam	12393.42	9583.33	6214.13	4543.21	8599.65	3885.19	178.63	179.08	98.77	91.54	110.36	73.29
4	Bihar	97852.33	62281.95	40920.43	30583.53	44176.47	36250.75	1245.86	1197.03	489.25	460.02	546.64	533.04
5.	Goa	523.59	363.47	160.83	236.26	136.31	155.77	7.96	8.38	4.39	5.30	3.32	2.55
6.	Gujarat	17042.69	12824.42	6725.54	6280.49	7910.84	6999.43	213.23	209.42	109.14	105.20	69.00	82.81
7	Haryana	4353.90	3304.78	1701.56	1371.79	2488.37	1365.60	34.63	33.50	15.73	13.08	16.11	11.12
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1708.18	1001.19	789.55	745.94	697.11	555.89	24.27	21.45	7.63	10.82	8.52	9.13
9	Jammu & Kashmir	3949.36	2534.38	1730.38	994.37	1706.27	1044.68	90.94	48.23	47.27	18.36	22.64	15.71
10.	Karnataka	29830.54	24908.75	13946.16	12015.30	15059.49	12578.33	491.56	524.89	255.74	250.94	222.78	265.91
11.	Kerala	9731.61	8888.24	4921.30	4458.15	5094.84	3666.38	108.01	127.75	59.73	55.45	66.74	41.82
12.	Madhya Pradesh	56643.69	42377.25	23120.47	19724.06	28261.85	19260.22	849.29	759.46	444.97	349.02	329.89	281.69
13.	Maharashtra	53287.30	39801.56	20434.02	18664.14	23618.91	21422.21	910.75	1014.47	469.32	455.06	524.38	527.74
14.	Manipur	768.65	506.22	228.56	186.36	347.80	114.80	5.78	9.34	3.20	3.49	3.15	2.16
15.	Meghalaya	1003.48	200.28	277.47	365.90	268.02	168.63	7.88	4.86	4.35	6.96	4.87	3.30
16.	Mizoram	246.17	284.56	111.18	133.26	129.54	124.18	4.15	5.20	2.29	2.46	1.59	1.91
17.	Nagaland	969.76	264.07	315.05	485.57	364.21	276.16	11.82	5.76	6.54	11.65	7.30	7.71
18.	Orissa	38523.25	28671.48	15455.90	14426.64	18343.27	10145.68	623.47	678.31	321.32	314.19	299.18	201.82
19.	Punjab	2848.91	408.38	1161.65	705.83	1329.45	1310.34	28.25	6.44	15.62	7.85	11.95	12.83
20	Rajasthan	23915.78	18204.39	9193.19	6765.70	10923.13	10330.83	300.89	361.72	162.92	168.12	182.03	196.14
21.	Sikkim	645.55	618.83	140.84	167.26	153.46	100.54	5.38	9.27	1.49	2.63	1.66	1.34
22.	Tamil Nadu	37798.98	39415.70	18097.79	18040.02	19822.37	20699.98	853.09	1069.75	406.90	488.60	312.56	388.81
23.	Tripura	903.19	788.23	570.08	565.91	600.63	351.51	12.40	18.43	6.35	10.38	5.91	7.31

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
24. Uttar Pradesh	102162.11	83562.16	53311.63	42123.49	56201.14	48122.11	1320.54	603.21	1532.46	658.18	561.71	599.49	84.60	0.13
25. West Bengal	40196.57	30492.80	18441.70	12837.59	17260.69	8302.70	433.38	221.86	414.75	178.53	206.58	0.82	1.04	0.49
26. A & N Islands	151.14	161.26	66.68	54.95	80.29	12.21	2.26	1.25	2.59	0.82	1.04	0.50	0.45	0.56
27. D & N Haveli	95.85	33.18	53.98	49.75	54.45	24.71	1.42	0.65	0.64	1.02	0.73	0.88	0.90	1.46
28. Daman & Diu	101.72	55.02	30.69	27.61	26.16	30.28	1.55	0.85	1.11	0.50	0.45	0.88	0.90	0.51
29. Lakshadweep	102.67	40.86	87.65	49.22	63.84	78.98	1.45	0.80	1.05	0.88	0.90	2.91	1.00	0.51
30. Pondicherry	309.07	199.85	67.06	121.96	96.67	52.20	3.16	1.74	3.10	2.91	1.00	4006.52	3854.90	3576.92
All India	579189.88	446690.62	258338.30	216390.86	287223.42	220066.08	8480.07	4141.37	8958.25	4006.52	3854.90	3576.92		

Statement-II

Physical and Finance Performance EAS during 1995-96, 1996-97, 1997-98

Sl No.	Name of the States/UTs	Funds Available		Utilised		Available Funds		Utilised		Physical Achievement		(Lakh Mandays)
		1995-96	1996-97	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1997-98	1995-96	1997-98	1995-96	1997-98	
1	Andhra Pradesh	19321.80	12249.54	32209.76	25509.86	24213.64	29338.06	252.42	437.35	505.05		
2	Arunachal Pradesh	2624.77	1966.55	2994.47	2054.94	3304.06	1757.23	50.57	39.05	28.58		
3	Assam	13324.10	9822.98	17026.12	8790.06	14192.75	8543.86	181.82	162.38	141.53		
4	Bihar	27914.60	12901.12	41569.73	20868.18	33983.10	29085.62	254.44	324.49	420.45		
5	Goa	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	275.00	246.90	0.00	0.00	2.92		
6	Gujarat	11837.57	5751.65	13898.42	7570.86	10486.83	6608.27	92.45	122.98	92.71		
7	Haryana	5504.62	3814.72	5039.90	2447.56	5983.08	2629.20	52.11	24.10	18.45		
8	Himachal Pradesh	1113.76	455.55	2645.71	1161.23	4548.99	2871.59	6.86	13.44	35.65		
9	Jammu & Kashmir	10663.95	6715.49	8793.46	5318.68	10185.99	6439.88	129.96	91.64	90.84		
10	Karnataka	16722.36	12144.91	19027.45	14307.22	18162.92	16628.38	268.73	314.18	349.41		
11	Kerala	2664.92	2241.90	3985.52	2063.44	6890.83	4371.43	32.47	28.76	47.26		
12	Madhya Pradesh	33501.25	22951.66	38887.30	24229.95	38318.70	23959.32	388.02	379.22	328.71		
13	Maharashtra	16611.64	10295.49	16728.65	11876.27	20250.62	14935.95	293.23	309.72	363.71		
14	Manipur	1743.09	1337.11	1759.98	1131.87	1314.53	712.33	31.21	16.72	13.75		

	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
15. Meghalaya		1246.62	499.80	1359.32	368.40	538.29	514.08	8.30	5.90	9.46
16. Mizoram		1572.66	2023.87	1500.00	1509.46	1005.54	901.24	40.91	32.26	17.88
17. Nagaland		2949.98	1800.70	4631.70	3159.48	3707.05	2840.45	49.00	72.65	68.17
18. Orissa		16578.71	13133.80	23979.35	19778.34	20997.61	18965.57	311.06	439.36	382.14
19. Punjab		0.00	0.00	1225.00	0.00	2397.43	444.87	0.00	NR	1.12
20. Rajasthan		22684.19	14770.06	20901.63	12609.31	15338.55	14417.75	288.02	212.65	250.06
21. Sikkim		494.19	776.31	275.00	322.40	480.02	552.96	16.01	4.45	7.41
22. Tamil Nadu		12029.93	7581.23	22854.95	17014.19	25900.63	29383.46	211.35	468.42	558.28
23. Tripura		1950.00	2085.78	2700.00	1995.08	2504.92	2904.92	43.20	44.73	54.46
24. Uttar Pradesh		27139.35	16731.98	37038.31	19833.03	56775.10	40965.55	318.23	319.94	522.76
25. West Bengal		14399.53	9929.18	17182.85	11943.84	16445.11	8085.26	143.08	162.76	100.07
26. A & N Islands		45.48	10.28	35.20	25.23	89.60	13.64	0.11	0.32	0.14
27. D & N Haveli		50.33	20.17	90.16	51.05	40.55	32.51	0.23	0.47	0.35
28. Daman & Diu		21.54	13.05	28.49	0.98	20.89	19.46	0.36	0.02	0.34
29. Lakshadweep		214.06	44.33	309.73	100.36	116.47	67.71	1.02	2.06	1.28
30. Pondicherry		NR	0.00	60.00	0.00	120.00	0.00	0.00	NR	0.06
All India		267145.00	172061.21	338334.23	216041.27	342588.79	267817.45	3465.27	4030.02	4412.54

No targets are fixed under EAS as this scheme is a demand driven scheme

Statement-III

Performance of IRDP during 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98

Sl No	Name of the States/UTs	Financial Performance (Rs. in lakhs)						Physical Achievement (No. of Families*)		
		1995-96		1996-97		1997-98 (Prov.)		1995-96	96-97	97-98 (Prov.)
		Total Funds Available	Total Exp	Total Funds Available	Total Exp	Total Funds Available	Total Exp	Total Exp	Total Exp	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	Andhra Pradesh	9683.95	8624.04	13170.59	12810.19	10802.97	8843.36	122863	203135	127776
2	Andhra Pradesh	882.83	582.56	717.60	249.26	887.60	373.84	14381	10695	5744
3	Assam	4648.58	3409.02	3118.87	1600.68	2701.98	2058.86	59030	39087	26560
4	Bihar	17230.82	10784.51	24860.01	13092.28	14995.05	12396.34	265525	244764	196685

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
5. Goa	191.54	116.3	181.93	83.78	190.44	130.20	1486	1982	897		
6. Gujarat	3184.42	3077.68	3200.87	3026.53	4168.26	3396.75	55686	47545	41822		
7. Haryana	1923.57	1663.74	998.71	111.65	962.47	811.98	2977.1	17202	10853		
8. Himachal Pradesh	218.62	412.28	242.50	529.90	464.16	414.89	6606	7990	5548		
9. Jammu & Kashmir	1139.05	701.26	1216.40	556.17	1222.40	551.46	13189	11474	8487		
10. Karnataka	8315.65	5574.6	7586.44	6083.14	7334.12	5470.83	119685	116900	94688		
11. Kerala	2940.04	2268.9	2440.17	2700.13	2870.36	2531.96	43357	48690	44191		
12. Madhya Pradesh	13722.05	11305.57	13178.64	13469.83	9041.24	11995.67	210692	168123	138810		
13. Maharashtra	11170.43	9837.3	9542.29	9406.32	9073.21	9396.08	181597	161018	147640		
14. Manipur	416.58	312.64	601.84	416.33	366.47	286.88	6077	7256	4258		
15. Meghalaya	464.51	301.54	587.10	429.29	539.06	374.82	4534	6822	5167		
16. Mizoram	296.67	288.74	217.40	101.81	248.69	213.58	5085	3059	2676		
17. Nagaland	445.23	221.48	522.91	211.52	345.27	156.16	2531	2064	835		
18. Orissa	9010.47	7266.29	7459.20	6972.16	6465.41	6037.88	120669	102741	75343		
19. Punjab	464.28	731.71	539.17	592.38	732.12	572.29	11786	7160	6107		
20. Rajasthan	5488.78	4730.24	5740.39	4102.25	5246.55	3057.63	92818	70304	45408		
21. Sikkim	174.73	129.25	100.88	108.44	131.94	112.41	2843	2249	1792		
22. Tamil Nadu	8211.34	8515.03	8955.11	7087.35	7683.51	9283.85	183895	152597	180696		
23. Tripura	961.52	766.73	975.61	914.08	758.38	494.44	14657	13725	4911		
24. Uttar Pradesh	26930.44	19266.98	26281.95	21456.55	25883.09	21266.38	355916	364552	351146		
25. West Bengal	12217.07	6693.99	10621.98	5474.69	8851.61	4174.94	161724	110280	73770		
26. A & N Islands	46.49	49.92	64.32	17.73	74.65	31.35	832	591	480		
27. D & N Haveli	8.51	13.68	16.46	13.56	38.87	12.37	274	168	179		
28. Daman & Diu	20.61	16.67	23.81	11.32	38.17	12.92	310	304	181		
29. Lakshadweep	4.45	4.38	7.17	3.58	21.99	3.83	18	30	27		
30. Pondicherry	61.24	49.20	65.42	55.90	104.84	39.80	1563	1293	898		
All India	140438.47	107715.20	143236.34	112689.09	122244.88	104503.75	2089400	1922800	1603775		

* - Since 1995-96 no physical targets fixed under IRDP

Statement-IV*Progress under PMRY during 1995-96 to 1997-98*

Sl. No.	Name of the State/ UT	1995-96		1996-97		1997-98	
		No. of cases to whom loan disbursed	Amount of loan sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of cases to whom loan disbursed	Amount of loan sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of cases to whom loan disbursed	Amount of loan sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	23677	18552.79	21766	12059.49	12240	6818.23
2.	Assam	7478	7320.66	4041	1824.52	746	401.30
3.	Bihar	13888	13203.76	14828	10287.55	3885	2656.84
4.	Delhi	1373	2052.67	509	248.77	197	111.13
5.	Goa	319	373.63	319	229.63	195	144.10
6.	Gujarat	7435	4497.62	8537	3633.84	6432	2706.14
7.	Haryana	5265	5121.46	4669	2387.75	3283	1651.90
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2315	1504.31	2201	1182.08	1897	1090.87
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	862	1727.60	701	333.60	1242	503.01
10.	Karnataka	14157	8352.67	14556	7641.60	7336	4052.67
11.	Kerala	10278	7437.53	11156	5831.20	9564	5476.52
12.	Madhya Pradesh	25006	20168.90	22637	12703.11	11088	6343.53
13.	Maharashtra	32658	19116.02	26375	13401.96	14968	7716.98
14.	Manipur	1724	1659.35	1616	1129.12		
15.	Mizoram	239	210.70	244	197.90		
16.	Orissa	6428	6133.09	6094	3779.34	403	206.30
17.	Punjab	12634	9517.73	7812	4038.10	6642	3301.45
18.	Rajasthan	6796	5141.80	7206	3184.95	4592	1356.13
19.	Tamil Nadu	14571	11068.51	14784	8100.62	6288	3426.30
20.	Tripura	893	900.77	1087	613.36	32	14.61
21.	Uttar Pradesh	30819	23040.40	30139	16962.67	29571	16634.21
22.	West Bengal	4348	5612.41	2808	1166.57	1245	467.92
23.	Andaman & Nicobar	74	64.91	53	33.68	40	23.69
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	125	217.04	200	111.50	2	N.R.
25.	Chandigarh	146	141.43	115	84.03	2	1.90
26.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	157	93.50	151	85.89	55	19.00
27.	Daman & Diu	146	36.59	69	48.42	53	32.73
28.	Nagaland	309	236.03	427	343.13		
29.	Lakshadweep	35	23.86	36	29.27		
30.	Meghalaya	503	370.11	451	276.50	67	31.11
31.	Pondicherry	99	222.13	125	48.72	73	32.42
32.	Sikkim	92	65.25	107	37.09	67	12.91
Total		224819	174227.03	205819	112035.96	122205	65222.48

NR-Not Reported

*[English]***Aircraft strength of India and Pakistan**

385. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the press report appeared in the 'Tribune' of January 20, 1998 detailing a comparison between front line aircraft strength of India and Pakistan; and

(b) If so, the facts thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, but it is not clear which 223 IAF aircraft the Pakistan Air Force Chief has compared with 32 F 16 aircraft of the Pakistan Air Force. It is not considered desirable to disclose any further details in this regard.

*[Translation]***Closure of Copper Mines**

386. SHRI PAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to close down the unproductive and unprofitable copper mines in the country.

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated loss to the Hindustan Copper Limited therefrom during the last three years; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to cope up with the situation arising out of closure of mines ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL) the sole producer of primary copper from mined ore in the country has so far closed down some of its unproductive and unprofitable mines located in the states of Bihar and Rajasthan.

(b) to (d) (i) Lapso Kyanite Mines of HCL located in Bihar employing about 700 employees had been closed w.e.f. 30.11.90 and the employees had been given voluntary retirement benefits which were three times higher than the closure compensation benefits as envisaged under the Industrial Disputes Act.

(ii) Darba Copper Project in the District of Alwar, Rajasthan had been closed w.e.f. 18.7.94 due to total exhaustion of mineable reserves. Out of the total 250 workmen engaged in Darba Copper Project, while 50% of the workmen had opted for voluntary retirement scheme, the rest 50% of the workmen were absorbed in Khetri Copper Complex in Rajasthan.

(iii) As the mining operations at Mosaboni mines located in Ghatshila district of Bihar had become highly

uneconomical and as Hindustan Copper Limited had been incurring heavy losses in operating these mines, the Board of Directors of Hindustan Copper Limited approved the proposal for closure of Mosaboni mines and the Company sought permission from the Government for closure under section 25 (O) of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. Mosaboni (including Badia) mines under Indian Copper Complex of HCL were approved for closure by Ministry of Labour w.e.f. 1.12.97. The company has already chalked out a plan to rehabilitate/redeploy the affected workmen of Mosaboni Mines.

There has not been any loss to HCL due to the closure of these mines. The company has, however incurred loss during the last two years mainly on account of crash in LME price of copper coupled with reduction in custom duty on copper. The profit/(loss) for the last three years is as under :-

(Rs. in Crores)	
1995-96	75.84
1996-97	(130.62)
1997-98	(168.99) (Prov.)

Steps to Check Expenditure by IA and AI

387. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Airlines is increasing its expenditure on personnel by upgrading large number of its higher grade employees to the post of General Managers/Deputy General Managers, Deputy Directors Generals and Advisors/Officers on Special Duty;

(b) If so, the number of posts of General Manager and higher posts that have been created in Indian Airlines during the 1994-96, 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(c) whether Indian Airlines/Air India are taking some effective steps to check their extravagant expenditure; and

(d) If so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (d) During the period 1994-95 to 1996-97, 6 posts of General Manager were upgraded to the level of Director and 12 posts of General Manager and above were created. Financial implication involved in the upgradation/creation of these posts is negligible, as equal number of posts of lower grade were abolished.

(c) and (d) The following steps have been taken by AI/IA to control expenditure and increase productivity :-

Air India

(i) Marketing efforts have been stepped up to generate additional revenue.

(ii) Network rationalisation and consolidation emphasis is placed on route profitability.

(iii) Reduction in expenditure on outside repairs of aircraft by taking over more in-house repairs.

(iv) Several posts of India based officers abroad have been abolished in the various departments of AI.

Indian Airlines

(i) Closure of off-line stations and reduction in the number of booking offices.

(ii) Closure of stations having inadequate number of flights by handing over of the activities to the handling agents.

(iii) Ban on recruitment unless absolutely necessary for operational reasons.

(iv) Reduction in expenditure outside repairs of aircraft by taking over more in-house repair in the Jet Engine Overhaul/APU Shops.

(v) Ban on sponsorship of events and provision of free tickets in large numbers.

[English]

Expansion of Calcutta Metro

388. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :

SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI :

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to expand Calcutta Metro Rail System;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the government in this regard; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be expanded ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Expansion of Bhopal Airport Runway

389. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the expansion work of runway at the Bhopal airport has been completed;

(b) if so, the reasons for not operating air bus service there; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be operational ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION : (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. Resurfacing of runway and modification of terminal building has been completed.

(b) and (c) As the available capacity on A-320 aircraft is fully utilised, Indian Airlines is not in a position, at present, to operate A-320 services to Bhopal. In the present schedule, Alliance Air provides daily B-737 services connecting Bhopal to Mumbai, Delhi and Indore.

[English]

Surplus Employee in Railway

390. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of surplus employees in the Railways, category-wise and Zone-wise;

(b) whether the Railways proposes to retrench these employees; and

(c) what would be effect of extension of service on Railways ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) The approximate number of Surplus staff on Zonal Railways as on 31.3.98 is as under.

Railway	Category	Surplus
Central Railway	C	36
	D	164
Eastern Railway	C	34
	D	57
Northern Railway	C	795
	D	803
North Eastern Railway	C	468
	D	615
Northeast Frontier Railway	C	1783
	D	390
Southern Railway	C	329
	D	363
South Central Railway	C	287
	D	153
South Eastern Railway	C	194
	D	16
Western Railway	C	284
	D	541

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Government has already decided not to grant extension in service beyond the age of superannuation. However, the increase in the age of superannuation is not likely to have any major implications, as surplus staff will continue to be gainfully redeployed in areas of expanding activities on the railways.

Probe into recent stir by IAF Personnel

391. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have noticed any foreign hand in the recent stir by Indian Air Force personnel;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether the Government have since probed into this matter; and

(c) the main demands of the IAF personnel and the Government's response there to ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of (a) above, does not arise.

(c) The main demands of IAF personnel were for the rationalisation of allowances and pay scales and for review of V Central Pay Commission awards. A committee headed by Defence Secretary has since looked into these aspects, and made recommendations which are under consideration of the government.

[Translation]

Safety measures at Airports

392. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the airports in the country are equipped with safety measures at par with the airports located abroad:

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and the efforts so far made to improve the security measures;

(c) whether the financial allocation made for the same is sufficient and if not, the measures taken/being taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether renovation work is still going on under any project at the airports and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which these projects are likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The details of the ongoing projects for enhancing air safety and to provide better communication/navigation are as follows :-

— Modernisation of air traffic, services has been taken up at Delhi and Mumbai at a cost of Rs. 423.89 crores. The project at Delhi is to be commissioned by July, 1988 and the one at Mumbai in September, 1988.

— The radars at Chennai are in the final stages of installation and likely to be completed by July, 1988. Installation, of radars have been planned at Nagpur, Varanasi, Jharsuguda and Mangalore.

— Very High Frequency Omni Range and Distance Measuring Equipment are under installation at Jamnagar, Leh, Pune, Tezpur and Bagdogra. These are likely to be completed by September 1988. There is also a plan to instal this equipment at Jabalpur, Lilabari and Kanpur.

[English]

Underground Sub-Urban Railway Network

393. SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce Underground Sub-urban railway network in Mumbai;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No proposal for a project has been received from the concerned State Government.

[Translation]

Waste Land Development Projects

394. SHRI JAYSINHJI CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects under the Waste Land Development Programme approved by the Government during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details of the projects of the Gujarat State which are pending for approval and the time by which these are likely to be accorded approval;

(c) the total number of projects which are receiving financial assistance from the foreign agencies under the said programme in the State; and

(d) the details of the on-going projects in the said State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) The State-wise details of the projects under the wasteland development programme approved by the Government during the last three years is enclosed in Statement-I.

(b) the details of the projects under consideration for approval are enclosed in Statement-II. No time frame for according approval can be given as it depends upon the viability of the project proposal.

(c) no project is receiving financial assistance from the foreign agencies under the wasteland development programme.

(d) the details of the on-going projects in Gujarat State is enclosed in Statement-III.

Statement-I

State-wise list of approved projects for last 3 years

NAME OF DISTRICT	PROJECT PERIOD	TOTAL COST (RS. IN LAKHS)	TOTAL AREA (IN HA)	RELE- 1995-96 (RS. IN LAKHS)	RELE- 1996-97 (RS. IN LAKHS)	RELE- 1997-98 (RS. IN LAKHS)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
** STATE : AP						
CHITTOOR-I	96-97 to 99-00	323.40	8085	0.00	48.51	97.02
KURNOOL	95-96 to 98-99	293.20	7330	49.80	82.14	102.84
CHITTOOR-II	96-97 to 99-00	331.20	8280	0.00	49.68	98.74
CHITTOOR-IV	97-98 to 20-01	450.00	11250	0.00	0.00	67.50
MEDAK	97-98 to 20-01	496.48	12412	0.00	0.00	124.12
NIZAMABAD-II	97-98 to 20-01	500.00	12500	0.00	0.00	75.00
SRIKAKULAM	97-98 to 20-01	500.00	12500	0.00	0.00	75.00
CUDDAPAH-II	97-98 to 20-01	500.00	12500	0.00	0.00	75.00
CHITTOOR-III	95-96 to 98-99	20.00	500	3.00	0.00	6.00
** Subtotal **						
		3414.3	85357	52.80	180.33	721.02
** STATE : ARP						
WEST KAMENG	97-98 to 20-01	60.00	1500	0.00	0.00	9.00
** Subtotal **						
		60.00	1500	0.00	0.00	9.00
** STATE : ASS						
KARBI ANGLONG	97-98 to 2001	245.20	6130	0.00	0.00	36.78
** Subtotal**						
		245.20	6130	0.00	0.00	36.78
** STATE : BH						
VAISHALI	95-96 to 98-99	40.00	1000	6.00	0.00	0.00
** Subtotal**						
		40.00	1000	6.00	0.00	0.00
**STATE : GJ						
KHEDA	96-97 to 99-00	32.48	812	0.00	4.87	0.00
JUNAGADH	97-98 to 20-01	480.00	12000	0.00	0.00	72.00
Subtotal						
		512.48	12812	0.00	4.87	72.00
** STATE : HP						
SOLAN-II	97-98 to 20-01	499.52	12488	0.00	0.00	74.92
SIRMOUR	97-98 to 20-01	499.00	12500	0.00	0.00	74.85
Subtotal						
		998.52	24988	0.00	0.00	149.77

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
**STATE : HR						
GURGAON	95-96 to 98-99	218.92	5473	14.50	0.00	40.23
PANIPAT	97-98 to 20-01	478.88	11972	0.00	0.00	71.83
Subtotal		697.80	17445	14.50	0.00	112.60
**STATE : JK						
UDHAMPUR-II	97-98 to 20-01	500.00	12500	0.00	0.00	75.00
Subtotal		500.00	12500	0.00	0.00	75.00
** STATE : KA						
MANDYA-II	97-98 to 20-01	500.00	12500	0.00	0.00	75.00
GULBARGA	97-98 to 20-01	474.00	11847	0.00	0.00	71.08
CHITRADURGA	97-98 to 20-01	500.00	12500	0.00	0.00	75.00
BELLARY	97-98 to 20-01	485.60	12140	0.00	0.00	72.84
Subtotal		1959.6	48987	0.00	0.00	293.92
**STATE : KE						
IDUKKI	95-96 to 98-99	403.20	10080	60.48	0.00	40.32
Subtotal		403.20	10080	60.48	0.00	40.32
**STATE : MA						
PRABHANI	97-98 to 20-10	381.60	9540	0.00	0.00	57.24
Subtotal		381.60	9540	0.00	0.00	57.24
** STATE : MN						
IMPHAL (WEST)	97-98 to 20-01	267.00	6675	0.00	0.00	66.75
SENAPATI	97-98 to 20-01	55.72	1393	0.00	0.00	8.35
SENAPATI-II	97-98 to 20-01	400.00	10000	0.00	0.00	60.00
Subtotal		722.72	18068	0.00	0.00	135.10
** STATE : MP						
RAJNANDGAON	95-96 to 98-99	444.00	11100	23.98	42.62	0.00
DATIA-II	96-97 to 99-00	21.28	532	0.00	3.19	0.00
GUNA	97-98 to 20-01	243.60	6090	0.00	0.00	36.54
SEONI	97-98 to 20-01	280.00	7000	0.00	0.00	42.00
NARASINGPUR	97-98 to 20-01	280.00	7000	0.00	0.00	42.00
MANDSAUR	97-98 to 20-01	280.00	7000	0.00	0.00	42.00
GUNA-II	97-98 to 20-01	337.96	8449	0.00	0.00	50.69
Subtotal		1866.8	47171	23.98	45.81	213.23
**STATE : NG						
WOKHA	96-97 to 99-00	480.00	12000	0.00	72.00	48.00
MOKOCHUNG	97-98 to 20-01	480.00	12000	0.00	0.00	72.00
ZUNOBUTO	95-96 to 98-99	100.00	2500	15.00	30.00	0.00
Subtotal		1060.0	26500	15.00	102.00	120.00
**STATE : OR						
KORAPUT-III	96-97 to 99-00	7.29	300	0.00	1.09	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
JHASURGUDA	97-98 to 20-01	288.64	7216	0.00	0.00	43.30
KALAHANDI-III	97-98 to 20-01	493.48	12337	0.00	0.00	74.02
BALANGIR-II	97-98 to 20-01	496.00	12400	0.00	0.00	74.40
KORAPUT-IV	97-98 to 20-01	481.80	12045	0.00	0.00	72.27
MAYURBHANJ	97-98 to 20-01	496.00	12400	0.00	0.00	29.35
DHENKANAL-III	97-98 to 20-01	244.84	8100	0.00	0.00	36.69
DHENKANAL-II	96-97 to 99-00	100.60	2515	0.00	15.09	0.00
** Subtotal **		2608.4	65313	0.00	16.18	330.03
**STATE : PB PATIALA	96-97 to 99.00	22.00	550	0.00	3.30	0.00
** Subtotal **		22.00	550	0.00	3.30	0.00
**STATE : RJ BUNDI	96-97 to 99-00	27.30	686	0.00	4.10	0.00
JHUNJHUNU	97-98 to 20-01	188.00	4200	0.00	0.00	25.20
JHALAWAR-II	97-98 to 20-01	394.24	9656	0.00	0.00	59.14
AJMER-II	95-96 To 98-99	26.00	650	3.90	0.00	7.80
** Subtotal **		615.54	15392	3.90	4.10	92.14
**STATE : SK W.SIKKIM	96-97 to 99-00	220.00	5500	0.00	20.82	0.00
EAST SIKKIM-III	97-98 to 20-01	222.76	5569	0.00	0.00	33.41
NORTH SIKKIM-II	97-98 to 20-01	480.00	12000	0.00	0.00	72.00
** Subtotal **		922.76	23169	0.00	20.82	105.41
**STATE : TN COIMBATORE	96-97 to 99.00	19.20	480	0.00	2.89	0.00
DINDIGUL	97-98 to 20-01	200.00	5090	0.00	0.00	30.00
** Subtotal **		219.20	5570	0.00	2.89	30.00
**STATE : UP FEROZABAD	96-97 to 99-00	459.16	11479	0.00	68.87	0.00
FATEHPUR	96-97 to 99-00	395.20	9880	0.00	59.28	0.00
JAUNPUR	96-97 to 99-00	488.72	11718	0.00	70.30	46.87
VAHANASI	96-97 to 99-00	385.80	9645	0.00	57.87	77.16
ETAWAH	96-97 to 99-00	406.00	10150	0.00	60.90	0.00
AZAMGARH	96-97 to 99-00	319.28	7982	0.00	47.89	0.00
KANPUR (C)	96-97 to 99-00	220.40	5510	0.00	33.06	0.00
UNNAO	97-98 to 20-01	481.64	12041	0.00	0.00	72.25
TEHRI GARHWAL	97-98 to 20-01	484.76	12119	0.00	0.00	72.71
SONBHADRA	97-98 to 20-01	404.26	10106	0.00	0.00	60.63
RAIBARELI-II	97-98 to 20-01	484.00	12100	0.00	0.00	72.60
UNNAO-II	97-98 to 20-01	482.16	12054	0.00	0.00	72.32
SULTANPUR	97-98 to 20-01	481.56	12039	0.00	0.00	72.23
JHANSI-II	97-98 to 20-01	495.00	12379	0.00	0.00	74.25
JHANSI-III	97-98 to 20-21	400.00	10000	0.00	0.00	60.00
AGRA	96-97 to 99-00	491.80	12295	0.00	73.77	49.18
** Subtotal **		6859.7	171497	0.00	471.94	730.20
Total		24130	603569	176.66	852.24	3323.22

Statement-II

List of IWDP project proposals of Gujarat State pending in the Department Wasteland Development for approval.

Name of District	Project cost (Rs. in lakhs)	Area of the Project (in ha.)
1. Junagadh (Kodinar block)	534.00	13345
2. Junagadh (Mangraol block)	441.00	11040
3. Junagadh	480.00	12000
4. Junagadh (Una block)	493.00	12340
5. Junagadh (Keshod block)	485.00	12149
6. Junagadh (Mendarda block)	479.00	12083
7. Junagadh (Talala block)	242.00	6056
8. Bhavanagar	240.00	5002

Statement-III

A List of on-going Integrated Wasteland Development Projects in Gujarat State.

Name of the District	Project Period	Total (in ha.)	Total cost (Rs. in lakhs)	Release (Rs. in lakhs)						
				91-92	92-93	93-94	94-95	95-96	96-97	97-98
Surendranagar-I	91-92 to 93-94	600	19.26	0.00	0.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Surendranagar-II	91-92 to 95-96	3100	206.14	0.00	25.82	39.00	71.88	0.00	0.00	31.12
Kutch-I	92-93 to 95-96	5200	396.55	0.00	78.30	70.00	120.00	70.00	0.00	0.00
Kutch-II	93-94 to 97-98	5500	389.66	0.00	0.00	70.00	92.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Panchmahal	93-94 to 97-98	3378	287.89	0.00	0.00	55.90	0.00	0.00	135.54	0.00
Dang-I	94-95 to 96-99	4095	345.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	56.97	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dang-II	93-94 to 97-98	4906	409.50	0.00	70.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Amreli	94-95 to 96-99	5500	359.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	83.90	80.00	56.42	81.57
Jamnagar	94-95 to 96-99	2480	245.89	0.00	0.00	0.00	62.50	40.00	88.71	0.00
Mehsana	94-95 to 96-99	7000	466.89	0.00	0.00	0.00	79.40	100.00	170.00	82.08
Rajkot	94-95 to 96-99	4900	352.84	0.00	0.00	0.00	47.04	0.00	135.58	0.00
Gandhinagar	94-95 to 96-99	1500	144.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.00	35.98	45.05	0.00
Banaskantha	93-94 to 96-97	5000	369.71	0.00	0.00	45.97	91.00	120.00	45.08	40.00
Kheda	96-97 to 99-00	812	32.48	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.87	0.00
Junagadh	97-98 to 20-01	12000	480.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	72.00
Total		65963	4506.16	0.00	103.92	357.37	719.69	445.98	681.09	306.77

*[English]***Fund for Sewerage System**

395. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to

provide funds for sewerage system in central area in North Goa; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Allotment of Govt. Accommodation

396. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the date of priority covered as on date in the matter of allotment of Government accommodation of various types of the Central Government employees, type-wise;

(b) the number of employees waiting for allotment of Government accommodation in various categories, type-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to clear the waiting list ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) As on 30.4.98 the dates of priority covered for allotment of Government accommodation under General Pool in various types is given in Statement-I.

(b) The number of employees waiting for allotment of Government accommodation as on 30.4.98 (based on restricted applications invited) is given in Statement-II.

(c) The wait listed persons are allotted houses as per their eligibility & turn as and when the quarters become available for allotment on vacation by allottees on retirement, transfer etc. The government has also decided to construct 5492 flats in Delhi in different areas in various types.

Statement-I

Date of Priority covered as on 30.4.98 under various types of General Pool Accommodation.

	GP	SC	ST	LPM	LPS
Type-A	13/05/04	22/09/84	09/07/86	30/10/84	30/10/84
Type-B	01/04/75	09/04/75	16/03/82	28/01/78	09/11/90
Type-C	17/04/71	17/04/71	02/11/81	02/12/71	04/12/87
Type-D	21/02/73	28/02/73	16/12/87	01/04/75	Uptodate
	Basic pay as on 1.3.97		Date of Priority		
Type-IV (Spl.)	GP	4000	01.01.86		
	TP	3100	30.06.95		
Type-V (D-II)	GP	5400	01.01.86		
	TP	4575	01.09.91		
	LM	5150	01.01.86		
	LS	4125	01.02.92		
Type-V-B (D-I)	GP	6500	11.06.86		
	TP	5700	01.07.90		
	LM	5500	01.01.86		
	LS	5900	01.07.90		
Type-VI-A (C-II)	GP	6900	02.04.90		
	TP	6700	30.04.90		
Hostel	GP	LM	LS		

Double Suite	07.07.93	01.09.89	31.07.95
Single Suite with Kitchen	16.02.89	25.11.89	01.05.91
Single Suite	04.05.92	26.03.90	27.03.92

Statement-II

List of Applicants waiting for allotment of General Quarters as on 30.04.98 in various types

	GP	LM	LS	SC	ST	TP
Type-I	2795	223	41	3336	556	
Type-II	4194	2530	562	3663	968	
Type-III	4742	3450	275	2756	485	
Type-IV	1806	288	3	316	31	8
Type-IV (Spl.)	993	1	-	-	-	17
Type-V (D-II)	976	221	17	-	-	172
Type-V (D-1)	272	102	20	-	-	153
Type-V (Less Popular)	77	-	-	-	-	-
Type-S (C-II)	514	-	-	-	-	106
Type-S (C-I)	265	-	-	-	-	2
Hostel Single Suite :	147	14	4	-	-	-
Hostel Single Suite with Kitchen	1065	76	31	-	-	1
Hostel Double Suite with Kitchen	564	70	2	-	-	8

[English]

Subletting of Buildings

397. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bhartiya Kala Kendra and Shri Ram Centre for Art and Culture, Indian Council of World Affairs, Gandharav Mahavidyalaya and Sangeet Bharti have rented out any part of their buildings;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the terms and conditions thereof;

(d) the total income derived by each one of these Organisations therefrom;

(e) whether permission in this regard has been obtained from the Government;

(f) if not, whether any misuse charges have been demanded by the Govt. from them; and

(g) if so, the amount so realised from each of them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) to (g) The information is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement
Name of the Institutions

Bhartiya Kala Kendra	Gandharva Mahavidyalaya	Sri Ram Centre	I.C.W.A	Sangeet Bharti
(a) Yes Sir.	Yes Sir.	Yes Sir.	Yes Sir.	No Sir.
(b) & (c) As per L & DO's inspection report dated 31.8.95, the rented out premises are: 1. Society for Promotion of wastelands Development (4308 Sq ft) 2. M/s Coopers & Lybrands Pvt. Ltd. (9508 sq ft.)	As per L & DO's inspection report dated 18.12.95, rented out premises are: 1. M/s Price Water House (area 3800 Sq. ft.)	As per L & DO's inspection report dated 18.9.97, rented out part of the premises to: 1. Canteen (695 sq ft.) 2. Auditorium rented out for shows. 3. Tata Consultancy Services (area 5226 sq. ft.)	As per L & DO's inspection report dated 19.12.96 the rented out part of the premises to: 1. Children's Film Society (1308.75 Sq. ft.) 2. Defence Studies & Analysis (8665.09 sq. ft.) 3. D.S.E. Communication (2225.5 sq. ft.) 4. Manoj Ranjit Singh Trust (75.74 sq. ft.) 5. Press Institute of India (1935 sq. ft.) 6. Punjab Bank (2800.76 sq. ft.) 7. Auditorium rented out for shows.	N.A.
(d) As per information/ documents furnished by the Institution the total income derived upto 30.6.97 works out to Rs. 3,02,70,166/-	As per information/ documents furnished by the Institution the total income derived upto 31.7.97 works out to (Rs. 60,84,000/-)	As per information/ documents furnished by the Institution the total income derived upto 30.6.97 works out to (Rs. 2,66,29,441/-)	As per information/ documents furnished by the Institution the total income derived works out to (Rs. 1,47,24,711/-)	N.A.
(e) Yes Sir.	No Sir.	No Sir.	No Sir.	N.A.
(f) Yes Sir.	Yes Sir.	Yes Sir.	Yes Sir.	N.A. as the institute has not rented out its premises
(g) An account of Rs. 60,56,826/- has been realised towards misuse charges.	An amount of Rs. 19,97,577/- realised towards misuse charges	An amount of Rs. 24,01,257/- has been realised towards misuse charges	The property stands re-entered Party has come for compromise and a demand.	N.A.

Criteria for Issue of Complimentary Passes

398. DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL :
SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Air India and Indian Airlines issue complimentary tickets;

(b) if so, the level which is authorised to issue such tickets;

(c) the criteria laid down under the rules for the issuance of complimentary tickets alongwith the categories of persons entitled for such tickets;

(d) the total number of tickets issued under each of such category, during each of the last three years, Air-lines-wise and Sector-wise;

(e) whether any such complimentary tickets have been issued to political workers; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The following officers in Air India and Indian Airlines are authorised to issue complimentary tickets:-

Air India	Indian Airlines
1. Managing Director	1. Chairman & Managing Director
2. Dy. Managing Director	2. Dy. Managing Director
3. Commercial Director	3. Directors, Commercial, Corporate Affairs and Public Relations

1	2
4. Regional Directors	4. Regional Directors
5. Station Managers	

(c) Complimentary tickets are issued for business promotion, keeping in view the commercial interest of the Airlines.

(d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(e) and (f) Complimentary tickets are issued in the commercial interest of airlines, irrespective of the profession/occupation of the individual.

[Translation]

Valuable Minerals in M.P.

399. SHRI CHANDRASEKHAR SAHU : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that official talks were held with foreign companies and their sponsored companies regarding exploitation, exploration, survey, mining and marketing of valuable minerals in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the names of the officers, companies and the representatives with whom the talks were held during the last two years;

(c) the names of the places where these talks were held between 1st January, 1996 to 31st March, 1998; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the agenda during the talk ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) The Officers of Department of Mineral Resources, Government of Madhya Pradesh held discussion with foreign sponsored companies regarding survey, exploitation, exploration, mining and marketing of Diamonds during prebid conference held to clarify terms and conditions of invitation of offer and to seek suggestions of potential offerers.

(b) The State Government was represented by Shri S. Lakshminarayan, Principal Secretary, Shri V.K. Dalela, Secretary and Shri A.P. Sahu, General Manager (Operation), Madhya Pradesh State Mining Corporation Ltd. In the Meeting held on 9.12.97, the following companies were present : ACC Rio Tinto Exploration Ltd., Bangalore represented by Mr. Suresh Kumar, Mr. John Bertram, Mr. Adrian. Lumley-Smith; Adamas India Pvt Ltd., New Delhi represented by Mr. Alan N.Campbell, Vishal Diamonds Pvt. Ltd., Bombay represented by Mr. Paul Mazak, Mr. John Garlik and Mr. Shirish Shah. In the Meeting held on 8th and 9th January, 1998, the following companies were represented:- ACC Rio

Tinto Exploration Ltd, represented by Mr. John Bertram, Adamas India Pvt. Ltd., represented by Mr. Alan N. Campbell and Vishal Diamonds Pvt. Ltd., Bombay represented by Mr. Paul Mazak, Mr. Shirish Shah and Mr. Vijay Biyani.

(c) and (d) The above talks were held in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. The Pre-bid conference were held to clarify terms and conditions of invitation of offer and to seek suggestions of potential offerers.

[English]

Placement of Order for Special Coaches

400. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to place an order with German coachmaker LHB for 30 special coaches; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) A contract had been placed in Oct. 19, 1995 on M/s. LHB, Germany for import of 24 All Metal Light Weight High Speed Coaches at an approx. value of Rs. 130 crores along with Transfer of Technology contract at an approx. value of Rs. 40 crores.

(b) At present coaches being manufactured in India are of 1950's technology and need improvements as regards reduction in tare weight, resistance to corrosion, internal furnishings and toilets, riding comfort, availability and reliability, etc.

In order to achieve the above objectives, it was decided to upgrade the design and manufacturing capabilities of Indian Railways by going in for state-of-the-art technology Light Weight Coaches with improved riding, lower maintenance costs, lower expenditure of energy in haulage per seat km., improved interiors and higher speed potential resulting in higher utilisation and increased passenger comfort. Country needs new design of coaches so that more number of passengers can be carried per coach/train; the maintenance costs could be reduced and the energy haulage costs are brought down. In short, induction of new technology coaches would be cost effective in the long run for Indian Railways.

Period of Railway Reservation

401. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the extended period for booking of reservation in Railways from one month to two months before, has caused serious crisis to get reservations in Railways as this has given enough scope for the touts and racketeers to block tickets;

- (b) If so, the details thereof ;
- (c) whether it is rational to decide their journey before two months;
- (d) whether the Government are considering to revert to earlier system of "10 days before";
- (e) If so, by what time; and
- (f) If not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No such complaints has been received.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) The major problem in getting reservations is during Summer Vacations, Puja Holidays, Winter Vacations etc., the days of which are known to passengers in advance and they can plan their journeys well in advance.
- (d) There is no such proposal under consideration.
- (e) and (f) Do not arise.

Out of Turn Allotment of Govt. Accommodation

402. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) the norms for out of turn allotment of Government accommodation to the non-government employees employed in the personal staff of the Ministers;
- (b) the names of the Ministries who have forwarded applications for allotment of Government accommodation to non-government employees by them;
- (c) the number and category of allotment made/proposed to be made in regard thereto, category-wise; and
- (d) the financial expenditure involved therein ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) Non-government employees are employed in the personal staff of Ministers on co-terminus basis. Allotment of Government houses to personal staff of Ministers including those employed on co-terminus basis is governed by the guidelines dated 17.11.97 for discretionary allotment of government houses. A copy of the relevant portion thereof is enclosed as Statement-I.

- (b) The details as on 26.5.98 are furnished in Statement-II.

(c) In all the above cases, actual allotments are yet to be made. In fact, as per the guidelines, not more than 5% of the total vacancies in each type every year can be utilised for making discretionary/out of turn allotments. Sanctioned cases are therefore kept in a waiting list & actual allotment is made in turn of the said waiting list within the overall of 5% ceiling in each type.

- (d) The allotment is made out of existing quarters.

Statement-I

Extracts from Annexure 'A' to Directorate of Estates O.M. No. 12035/2/97-Pol.II (Pt.II) dated 17th November, 1997.

Personal Staff attached to Ministers :

(i) Cabinet Ministers/Ministers of State:- Three members of the personal staff (other than Gr. 'D') and one Jamadar/Peon. In addition, one Group 'D' may be given change of accommodation as recommended by the Minister.

(ii) Dy. Ministers/Parliamentary Secretaries :- Two members of personal staff (other than Gr. 'D') and one Jamadar/Peon. In addition, one Group 'D' may be given change of accommodation as recommended by the Minister.

Such allotments would be subject further to the following conditions :-

(a) Such priority allotments have not already been made to the personal staff on the recommendations of the Minister, Deputy Minister or Parliamentary Secretary.

(b) No fresh sanction for such allotment would be made with the change in the portfolio of the Minister, etc; if those members of the staff who have been allotted general pool quarters on the above basis on his recommendation, continue to be with the Minister.

(c) In case of a new Minister, if none of the members of his personal staff have been allotted accommodation on his recommendation, irrespective of whether some members of his personal staff are in occupation of general pool accommodation, priority allotments may be made on his recommendation restricting the numbers as prescribed above.

(d) If the portfolio of the Minister is changed or if the Minister demits office and is thereafter appointed as Minister in the same Ministry or in another Ministry in case those members of his personal staff who have been allotted general pool accommodation earlier continue to be in his personal staff and the quota indicated above has been exhausted, no further priority allotment or change of allotment is to be made.

Statement-II*The Details as on 26-5-98 is as under:*

S.No.	Name of the Minister	Name of the Staff	Type	Allotted/ proposed
1.	Sh. Murli Manohar Joshi M/o HRD	Sh. Tarun Mishra 1st P.A.	B	Sanction Issued
2.	Sh. B. Dattatreya MOS (U A & E)	Sh. M.R. Reddy 1st P.A.	B	-do-
3.	Sh. Atal Bihari Vajpayee Prime Minister	Sh. Suadheendra Kulkarni, Director	D-II	-do-
4.	-do-	Sh. A.K. Tondon OSD to PM	C-II	-do-
5.	Sh. B. Dattatreya MOS (UA & E)	Sh. M. Srinivasa Rao LPA	B	-do-
6.	Sh. Ram Jethmalani Minister UA & E	Sh. E.V. Venugopal APS	B	-do-

*[Translation]***Setting up of Civil Aerodrome at Bareilly**

403. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a civil aerodrome at Bareilly (U.P.);

(b) if so, the time by which it would be commissioned; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No airline operators have projected a requirements for operating their scheduled flights through Bareilly.

*[English]***Alleged Violation of Human Rights by Army Personnel**

404. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether during the recent anti-insurgency operations in Meghalaya, there have been many cases of human rights violations by security personnel;

(b) whether the Centre has conducted any probe on the reported brutalities, including outraging modesty of women folk, indulged in by the army personnel;

(c) if so, the findings thereof;

(d) whether any first-person narration of incidents either from the victims or from the community leaders in Meghalaya has been recorded; and

(e) if so, the summary thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) No incident of human rights violation has occurred during the recent anti-insurgency operations in Meghalaya.

(b) to (e) Question does not arise in view of (a) above.

IRFC Facing Financial Crunch

405. SHRI K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC) has been facing financial crunch for the last several years;

(b) if so, the details of the financial constraints faced by the IRFC during 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98;

(c) whether the IRFC had tried to raise funds for railway projects through capital market;

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating the extent of success achieved thereby;

(e) whether his Ministry has been asking the Ministry of Finance for adequate budgetary support for the railways infrastructure; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the Finance Ministry's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Since its inception in December, 1986, IRFC has been raising funds from the market to finance acquisition of rolling stock for Indian Railways. Till end of 1997-98, IRFC has raised a total amount of about Rs. 10,590 crore from the market for this purpose.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Financial Commissioner of the Railways has been meeting regularly with the officials of the Finance Ministry. Recently, Chairman Railway Board, Member Traffic and Financial Commissioner had also met Finance Minister. Minister of Railways had also met the Finance Minister recently for increased Budgetary Support to the Railways. Finance Ministry is trying to provide as much budgetary support to the Railways as possible within the broad constraints of the resources for the nation as a whole.

Thalasseri-Mysore Railway Line

406. SHRI P. SANKARAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of Thalasseri-Mysore Railway line; and

(b) the time by which it is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) A survey for a new line between Tellichery & Mysore has recently been completed, which has revealed that the 298 kms. Line would cost Rs. 860 crores with negative Rate of Return. In view of the grossly unremunerative nature of the project and constraint of resources it has not been found possible to take up this project.

Identification of Backward and Poorest Districts

407. SHRI K.P. NAIDU : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had appointed a Committee in the recent past to evolve criteria for identification of 100 most backward and poorest districts in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether identification of such districts has since been made;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have evolved any

special action plan for the development of such districts; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in that regard so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. E.A.S. Sarma was constituted with the following terms of reference:

(i) To recommend criteria for deciding 100 most backward and poorest districts in the country.

(ii) To identify such districts in various States, as per suggested criteria.

(iii) To suggest an appropriate definition of the term 'infrastructure development' and to identify the specific sectors to be included therein.

(c) to (f) The report of the Committee is under consideration by the Government.

Malhotra Committee Report

408. DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have accepted the Malhotra Committee Paper/Report to add one more floor to the existing building/dwelling so as to tide over the shortage of living accommodation;

(b) if so, the reasons for not constructing or permitting additional living accommodation in the existing type I, II and III Government accommodation;

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this direction;

(d) the number of temporary structures raised by Government servants in the accommodation allotted to them for their personal use in Delhi in the last three years and the number out of them have been demolished; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government not to demolish any further such structures ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) For each type of residential accommodation there are laid down space norms. For raising additional floors over the existing structure, the technical feasibility has also to be examined.

Allottees of Govt. houses are not expected to raise any structure in the accommodation allotted to them. Whenever any case of unauthorised structure is reported to the Directorate of Estates, action against such allottees is taken under the rules. Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Construction of Bridge over River Krishna

409. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railway Board has sanctioned the construction of a third Railway bridge across the river Krishna on Vijayawada-Chennai route;

(b) if so, the total estimated cost involved therein;

(c) the time by which the construction of this bridge is likely to start;

(d) whether in view of the increase in passengers additional halts and coaches have been provided to the trains on account of the passengers demand;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether various amenities have been provided for the convenience of the passengers since April, 1997; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The construction of third line between Vijayawada-Krishna Canal by laying second line on third bridge over river Krishna has been sanctioned at an anticipated cost of Rs. 23.52 crores.

(c) The detailed scheme has been finalised and work would be taken up shortly.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The load of 2759/2760 Hyderabad-Chennai Charminar Express has been augmented by 3 coaches in order to cater to the peak traffic demand.

(f) and (g) Amenities at stations are provided as per norms based on the volume of passenger traffic. Periodical surveys are also conducted to ascertain adequacy of the amenities. Deficiencies detected are made good, depending on availability of funds. Basic amenities are available at all stations.

Electrification of Erode-Palghat-Ernakulam Rail Line

410. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the electrification of Erode-Palghat-Ernakulam line under Southern Railway has been started;

(b) if so, the details thereof and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The electrification work from Erode to Punnamm section (238 Route Kilometres) which is part of Erode-Ernakulam Project has been completed by March, 1998. The entire section is targetted for completion by March, 2000.

[Translation]

Requirement of Coaches and Wagons

411. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the requirement of various types of coaches and wagons in the country;

(b) the number of different type of coaches and wagons manufactured in the country, separately and the number of coaches and wagons imported during the last three years separately, country-wise; and

(c) the amount spent thereon during the above period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) In the IX Plan document sent by Railways to Planning Commission, annual requirement of 35,000 wagons and 2500 coaches including DMUs, MEMUs and EMUs was projected during the IX Plan period. The Railways have projected an outlay of Rs. 65,000 crores for IX Plan. However, Planning Commission has tentatively provided an outlay of Rs. 47,484 crores for the IX Plan period. Review of the requirement of wagons and coaches in IX Plan period is being carried out keeping in mind the availability of resources and the traffic offerings.

(b) No. of different types of coaches manufactured in the country during the last three years :

Type of coach	95-96	96-97	97-98
Self-propelled coaches	461	409	327
AC Coaches	271	246	273
Non-AC Coaches	1020	1513	1678
Total Coaches	1752	2168	2278

No. of different type of wagons manufactured in the country during the last three years:

Types of wagons	(in FWUs)			
	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	
	1	2	3	4
BOXN	9627.5	10867.5	14525	
BCNA	6715	7967.5	10630	
BOBRN	690	837.5	237.5	

1	2	3	4
BTPN	232.5	1850.0	1947.5
BTPGLN	285	262.5	525
BVZC	400	400	
Total	17950	22185	27865

No. of coaches and wagons imported during the last three years—Nil.

However, a contract for import of 24 coaches was placed in Oct., 95 on a German firm against which delivery is to commence towards end of current financial year.

(c) The amount spent on coaches and wagons during the last three years are as under :

Year	(Rs. in crores)	
	Coaches	Wagons
1995-96	692.39	927.60
1996-97	914.53	1418.60
1997-98 (Prov.)	938.38	1147.60

This includes an advance payment of Rs. 21.11 crores made in 1995-96 against the contract for import of 24 coaches.

[English]

Surveillance Activities of China

412. PROF. P.J. KURIEN :

SHRI K. C. KONDAIAH :

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether China is reported to have constructed an airstrip in the 'no man's land' alongwith Sino-India border in Baramati, Uttar Pradesh and a helipad in Arunachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether the Government are also aware that China has set up a massive surveillance establishment in Burma's Coco Islands near Andaman and Nicobar Islands and has been monitoring activities in India; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government in regard thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) During the Raksha Mantri's visit to Arunachal Pradesh on 5 April 1998, at a meeting with the Chief Minister, his cabinet colleagues and senior officials of the state government, he was told that the Chinese had built helipad on the Indian territory. On subsequent checking it was found that there is no such helipad.

(c) There are reports that the Chinese have established surveillance facilities in Coco Island of Myanmar.

(d) Government is studying the situation.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now Papers to be laid on the Table

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : First Papers to be laid on the Table. Papers to be laid are important. Please cooperate with me.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (MADURAI) : Sir, I have given you a notice of breach of privilege...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Let the Papers be laid first.

(Interruptions)

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Sir, privilege matters get precedence over Papers to be laid(Interruptions).

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

12.00 hrs.

(i) **Annual Review, Audited Accounts along with Annual Report of Garden Reach Ship Builders & Engineers Calcutta and Bharat Earth Movers Ltd. Bangalore for the year 1996-97 alongwith statements showing reasons for delay in laying the Statements**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : Sir, on behalf of Shri George Fernandes, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited, Calcutta for the year 1996-97.

(ii) Annual Report of Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited, Calcutta for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Controller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 176/98]

(b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Bharat Earth Movers Limited, Ban-galore for the year 1996-97.

(ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Earth Movers Limited Bangalore, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 177/98]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Aeronautical Development Agency, Bangalore, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Aeronautical Development Agency, Bangalore, for the year 1996-97.

(4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above .

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 178/98]

(5) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Bharat Electronics Limited and the Department of Defence Production and Supplies, Ministry of Defence, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 179/98]

(6) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Cantonment Boards for the year 1996-97.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 179-A/98]

(ii) A copy of Annual Report alongwith Audited Accounts and review of working of Building Materials and Technology promotion Council New Delhi etc. for the year 1996-97

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Building Materials & Technology Promotion Council, New Delhi for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Building Materials & Technology Promotion Council, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 180/98]

(3) A copy of the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Amendment Rules, 1997 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 3(E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd January, 1998, under sub-section (3) of section 18 of the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 181/98]

(4) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Capital Region Planning Board for the year 1996-97 together with Audit Report thereon, under section 26 of the National Capital Region Planning Act, 1985.

(5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 182/98]

(6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Delhi Urban Art Commission, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97, under section 19 of the Delhi Urban Art Commission Act, 1973.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Delhi Urban Art Commission, New Delhi, for year 1996-97, together with Audit Report thereon under sub-section (4) of section 20 of the Delhi Urban Art Commission Act, 1973.

(7) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (6) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 183/98]

(8) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

(a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

- (ii) **Annual Report of the National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.**

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 184/98]

- (b) (i) **Review by the Government of the working of the Housing and Urban Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.**

- (ii) **Annual Report of the Housing and Urban Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.**

- (9) **Two Statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (8) above.**

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 185/98]

- (10) **A copy of the Delhi Urban Art Commission (Terms and Conditions of Service) Amendment Rules, 1998 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 24 in Gazette of India dated the 7 February, 1998, under sub-section (3) of section 26 of the Delhi Urban Art Commission Act, 1973.**

- (11) **Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (10) above.**

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 186/98]

- (12) **A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 27 of the Delhi Urban Art Commission Act, 1973:-**

- (i) **The Delhi Urban Art Commission (Ministerial and Non-Ministerial Posts) Recruitment (Amendment) Regulations, 1996 published in Notification No. 3(3)/94-DUAC in Gazette of India dated the 12th October, 1996, together with corrigenda thereto in Hindi version only published in Gazette of India dated the 8th February, 1997 and 9th August, 1997.**
- (ii) **The Delhi Urban Art Commission Employees Contributory Provident fund (Amendment) Regulations, 1997 published in Notification No. 1(1)76-DUAC in Gazette of India dated the 2nd August, 1997.**
- (iii) **The Delhi Urban Art Commission (Terms and Conditions of Service) Amendment Regulations, 1998 published in Notification**

No. 1 (1)/87-DUAC in Gazette of India dated the 14th March, 1998.

- (13) **Three Statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (12) above.**

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 187/98]

- (14) (i) **A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Cooperative Housing Federation of India, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.**

- (ii) **A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Cooperative Housing Federation of India, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97 together with Audit Report thereon.**

- (iii) **A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Cooperative Housing Federation of India, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.**

- (15) **Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (14) above.**

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 188/98]

- (16) **A copy of the Annual Report of the Delhi Development Authority, New Delhi for the year 1996-97 under section 26 of the Delhi Development Act, 1957.**

- (17) **Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (16) above.**

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 189/98]

- (iii) (a) **Notification under Railways Act 1989**

- (b) **Annual Report Audited Accounts alongwith Annual Review about the working of rites, Ircon Ltd. for the year 1996-97**

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) **A copy of the Railway Accidents and Untoward Incidents (Compensation) Amendment Rules, 1997 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 620 (E) in Gazette of India Dated the 25th October, 1997 under section 199 of the Railways Act, 1989.**

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 190/98]

- (2) **A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions)**

under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :-

- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Rail India Technical and Economic Services Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Rail India Technical and Economic Services Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 191/98]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Ircan International Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Ircan International Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 192/98]

- (c) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Konkan Railway Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Konkan Railway Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 193/98]

- (d) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Indian Railway Finance Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Indian Railway Finance Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 194/98]

- (e) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Container Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Container Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (3) Five statements (Hindi and English versions)

showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 195/98]

- (iv) Memorandum of understanding with sponge iron and Hindustan Copper Ltd. for the year 1998-99 alongwith Annual Report; Audited Accounts and Review of the working of Hindustan Copper Ltd. etc. for the year 1996-97

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Naveen Patnaik, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Sponge Iron India Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 196/98]

- (2) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Hindustan Copper Limited and the Ministry of Mines for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 197/98]

- (3) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :-

- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Hindustan Copper Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1996-97.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Copper Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 198/98]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Mineral Development Corporation Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1996-97.

- (ii) Annual Report of the National Mineral Development Corporation Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (4) Two Statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 199/98]

(v) Economic survey 1997-98 (Hindi and English Versions)

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Economic Survey, 1997-98 (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 200/98]

(vi) Annual Report, Audited Accounts alongwith review of working of Central Government Employees welfare organisations, New Delhi for the year, 1996-97 with statements showing delay in laying these papers.

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Bandaru Dattatreya, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Government Employees Welfare Housing Organisation, New Delhi for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Government Employees Welfare Housing Organisation, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 201/98]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Urban Affairs, New Delhi for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Urban Affairs, New Delhi for the year 1996-97.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 202/98]

- (5) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Hindustan Prefab Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Prefab Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments

of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 203/98]

(vii) Memorandum of Understanding (English and Hindi Version) with Ferro Scrap Nigam Limited and MSTC Ltd. for the year 1998-99

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Ferro Scrap Nigam Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 204/98]

- (2) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the MSTC LIMITED and the Ministry of Steel for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 205/98]

12.02 hrs.

ASSENT TO BILLS

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I lay on the Table the following seven Bills passed by the Houses of Parliament during the last Session and assented to since a report was last made to the House on the 20th November, 1997:-

- (1) The Finance Bill, 1998;
- (2) The Appropriation (Railways) Vote on Account Bill, 1998;
- (3) The Appropriation (Railways) Bill, 1998;
- (4) The Contingency Fund of India (Amendment) Bill, 1998;
- (5) The Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 1998;
- (6) The Appropriation Bill, 1998; and
- (7) The Income-tax (Amendment) Bill, 1998.

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

Summary of Work

12.02½ hrs.

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I lay on the Table a copy each of the following :-

(1) 'Parliamentary Committees (other than Financial and Departmentally related Standing Committees) Summary of work' (Hindi and English versions) pertaining to the period from 1 June, 1996 to 31 May, 1997; and

(2) 'Parliamentary Committees [other than Financial and Departmentally related Standing Committees] Summary of work' (Hindi and English versions) pertaining to the period from 1 June, 1997 to 4 December, 1997.

12.03 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

Nineteenth Report

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I lay on the Table a copy of the Nineteenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Energy (1997-98) on the subject "The Electricity Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1997".

The Report was presented to hon. Speaker of Eleventh Lok Sabha under direction 71A(1) and was printed and circulated under rule 280 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct to Business in Lok Sabha.

ELECTIONS TO COMMITTEES

12.04 hrs.

[English]

(i) Central Advisory Committee for National Cadet Corps

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : I beg to move :

"That in pursuance of Section 12 (1) (i) of the National Cadet Corps Act, 1948, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as Members of the Central Advisory Committee for the National Cadet Corps for a term of one year from the date of election, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of Section 12 (1) (i) of the National Cadet Corps Act, 1948, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as Members of the Central Advisory Committee for the National Cadet Corps for a term of one year from the date of election, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

The motion was adopted.

(ii) Advisory Council of Delhi Development Authority

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of Section 5(2)(h) of the Delhi Development Act, 1957, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Advisory Council of the Delhi Development Authority, for a term of four years, subject to other provisions of the Act."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

"That in pursuance of Section 5(2)(h) of the Delhi Development Act, 1957, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Advisory Council, of the Delhi Development Authority, for a term of four years, subject to other provisions of the Act."

The motion was adopted.

12.05 hrs.

BILLS INTRODUCED

National Institute Of Pharmaceutical Education And Research bill *

[English]

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to declare the Institution known as the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research to be an Institution of national importance and to provide for its incorporation and matters connected therewith.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to declare the institution known as the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research to be an institution of national importance and to provide for its incorporation and matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA : I introduce the Bill.

12.05 hrs.

Statement Re: National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education And Research
(Second) Ordinance

[English]

SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA : Sir, I beg to lay on the table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for immediate legislation by the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (Second) Ordinance, 1998.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 208/98]

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section 2, dated 28-5-1998.

12.06 hrs.

High Court And Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the High Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Act, 1954 and the Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Act, 1958.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the High Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Act, 1954 and the Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Act, 1958."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI : I introduce** the Bill.

12.08½ hrs.

Statement Re: High Court And Supreme Court Judges (Conditions Of Service)

AMENDMENT ORDINANCE - LAID

[English]

SHRI M. THAMBI DRUAI : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for immediate legislation by the High Court and Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Amendment Ordinance, 1998.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 207/98]

.....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Ladies first.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI USHA MEENA (SWAI MADHOPUR) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards the incident of rape of the victim of the widely publicised J.C. Bose Hostel case. This girl was subjected to this torture earlier in September, 1997 and now she has been again subjected to this trauma on 22nd. Such is the law and order situation in Rajasthan that the rapists are roaming around freely. In this case, rape has taken place in filmy style. The girl was forcibly taken from her home, put into a van and was then raped by the masked men. The Government of Rajasthan is not taking any action against those involved in this case. This girl has been raped

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section 2, dated 28-5-1998.

** Introduced with Recommendation of the President.

twice in a span of one year. What can be more shameful than this? Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards certain issues in this regard. The law and order position has got completely out of hand in Rajasthan. Being ladies, we are feeling a bit hesitant about speaking out about the situation of women in our country. I would like to bring to your notice that this is not the solitary case of this kind that has occurred in Rajasthan. Other cases such as the Bhanwari Devi case, Shivani Jadeja, Shalini Sharma and Shalini Tanwar cases too have occurred in this very State. The sons of the Ministers of Rajasthan Government have been involved in these cases.

So far as my constituency is concerned, a lower caste woman has been raped at a place named Kaila Devi in Karoli region on 20th and a legislator is involved in it. The Union Government should take note of it. I have come to know that not only the MLA but the Sarpanch and the Members of Zila Parishad are also involved in it. The representatives of the people responsible for ensuring justice for the people are also involved in this rape case. What action is being taken by the Government of Rajasthan in this regard? The Union government should pay attention towards the law and order situation in Rajasthan. I would like to quote some instances ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You have already mentioned the important points. Please take your seat now.

[Translation]

DR. PRABHA THAKUR (AJMER) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I can hear some voices from that side. I also wish to speak as this matter... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have given chance to the lady Members, not to the male Members. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI UAHA MEENA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, kindly allow me to made one more point... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : If several honorable Members speak at the same time, nobody will be able to hear anything.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI USHA MEENA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell you about the incident that has occurred at Kota. A girl was abducted there, and thereafter she was raped and murdered.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This will not go on record.

(Interruptions)*

* Not Recorded.

12.13 hrs.

(At this stage Shrimati Usha Meena and some other Members came and stood near the table.)

MR. SPEAKER : Please go to your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please go to your seat.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (INDORE) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say in this regard ..(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ramdas Athawale, you are wastinty the time of the House. You are unnecessarily doing like this a number of times You must know the procedure of the House also.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Madam, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very sensitive matter...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR (BARAMATI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shrimati Usha Meena and Shrimati Prabha Thakur are my colleagues from Rajasthan and the issue raised by them is very grave and important.

There are a series of cases of atrocities on women in the State of Rajasthan. I do not want to discuss the nature of the atrocities. But there are a number of reports in the newspapers and all these Members of Parliament are also trying to explain here that a lot of responsible and important people are directly involved in these cases. Reportedly, some legislators, some Ministers and some Government officials are also involved. The local Government is not taking appropriate action. That is the grievance of the entire women community of Rajasthan in particular and of the country in general. This is high time that some action is taken.

So, my request is that you should give instructions to the hon. Home Minister to make the position clear give a detailed statement in the House. I think that will definitely help the whole House to know and understand the situation. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Your leader has already spoken.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The Leader of the Opposition has already spoken on this subject.

[Translation]

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA (UDHAMPUR) : Won't you make any comment about Madhya Pradesh?... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NARAIN MEENA (KOTA) : An office bearer of Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha is involved in the Rajasthan case... (Interruptions)

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (JAIPUR) : This is a matter related to Jaipur. Hence the state government is very much aware of it and is also taking action in this regard. The state government won't spare any criminal, whosoever influential he might be.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is not proper. This is not the proper way. Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : The state government is taking action. No guilty person will be spared. I would like to assure you on behalf of the state government that there will be no discrimination...(Interruptions) What is the justification of raising a state subject in Lok Sabha? It should be raised in Rajasthan Assembly.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Only Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan's speech will go on record.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have heard your statement first and the Leader of the Opposition has also spoken on this subject.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NARAIN MEENA : In Rajasthan, a scheduled caste woman was treated in an inhuman way and was paraded, however no action has been taken in this regard ... (Interruptions)

* Not Recorded.

[English]

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record except Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan's speech.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (INDORE) : Why are you interrupting my speech... (Interruptions) Women are worshipped as Goddess in this country. It is a very sensitive issue that any woman is maltreated. Now a days such incidents are increasing throughout the country. Such an incident has occurred in Madhya Pradesh... (Interruptions) I would like to say that any person found guilty of maltreating or committing atrocities against women should be punished. Attitude towards such incidents should be changed. If such incidents are taking place in police custody in Madhya Pradesh... (Interruptions)

It is essential to change the attitude of people. The incident of Madhya Pradesh was also mentioned here. It is really sad that a Minister from Madhya Pradesh has made a statement that Rs. 10,000 will be given as compensation to the victim of rape and if such an incident takes place second time, Rs.20,000 will be paid. Such an attitude should be changed...(Interruptions) I would like to say that this question relates to the dignity of women...(Interruptions) Please keep quiet. I know you all and I also know about the record of Madhya Pradesh...(Interruptions) I would like to say that women should be given respect and politics should not be played in such matters. Persons found guilty in such cases should be punished. It will be better if members from the Congress party also speak on this matter. No party is untouchable here, whether it is the congress or any other party, women should be given due respect... (Interruptions) You have no right to speak on this issue. I know what has happened with women in Madhya Pradesh ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon'ble Member, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Madam, please take your seat. I have already given time to you.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ramdas Athawale, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

* Not Recorded.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : It should not be taken as a state matter; it should be treated as honour of women ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Madam, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please conclude.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat first.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record. Please take your seat first.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : You have no right to speak on this issue. It is not a political issue. The women of this country are bold enough. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat. I will come to you later. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Please do not say anything. Your statement is not going on record... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please take your seats.

[Translation]

SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA (JHABUA) : Atrocities against a women were committed in Rajasthan. .. (Interruptions) Some MLAs. and other persons were involved in it. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

* Not Recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (MUMBAI NORTH-CENTRAL) : It is really a grave matter that atrocities were committed against a woman. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Do you like to say anything from Government side?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ramdas Athawale, take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : It is injustice done to a woman... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat, it is not the proper way.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, atrocities against women and their insult are considered heinous crimes and I would like to say that persons found guilty in such cases should be punished stringently. Though these matters come under the jurisdiction of state governments, yet being a sensitive issue, I shall convey your sentiments to the hon. Minister of Home Affairs and request him to place the factual position with regard to the cases of Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh before the House ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : No, Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now we will take up Discussion under Rule 193. Sardar Surjit Singh Barnala to speak.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (PATIALA) : Sir, zero hour should be extended upto 1 o'clock. There are several other issues ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now we are discussing under Rule 193. Sardar Surjit Singh Barnala should continue.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Madam, take your seat.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA : Sir, I would like to raise a serious issue regarding farmers living near Indo-Pak border.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now we are discussing Rule 193. Take your seats. I want Sardar Surjit Singh Barnala to continue.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA : This matter relates to farmers living in Punjab on the border area. Barbed wire fencing has been done on their agricultural land and now they cannot cross over it to cultivate their land. What should they do. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please co-operate.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA : Sir, this matter relates to the marginal farmers of India living in Punjab near the border.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please cooperate with me.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please cooperate with me. Hon. Members, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am on my legs. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please understand it.

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA : Sir, please give me only two minutes. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : First, you take your seat. Now, Shri Surjit Singh Barnala has to proceed with his speech.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : It is not proper.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not behave like this.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The Hon. Minister has already given the reply. Please take your seat.

12.33 hrs.

At this stage Shrimati Usha Meena and some other hon. Members sat on the floor near the table.

MR. SPEAKER : I request the members to please go back to their seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Jogi, please ask your members to go back to their seats.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (DAUSA) : Please allow me to speak.

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow you to speak, but please ask them to go back.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Let me speak first .. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please cooperate with me.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : First you ask them to go back to their seats. After that I will allow you to speak.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you please listen to me. I am solving your problem ... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Pilot, I will allow you to speak. You please ask them to go back to their seats.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : You have no appreciation for the Hon. Members.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Pilot, you are a senior member. I will allow you, but please ask them to go back.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : This is no condition. ... *(Interruptions)*

12.39 hrs.

At this stage Shrimati Usha Meena and some other hon. members went back to their seats.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : May I speak, Sir ? Will you allow me ?

[Translation]

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (CHANDIGARH) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, if you allow member to speak from that side then you have to allow from this side also. ... *(Interruptions)*. They are speaking for the last one hour but you have not allowed anyone to speak from this side... *(Interruptions)*. Shri Khuranaji has clarified... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Satya Pal Jain, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Shri Khuranaji has said that whatever incident had occurred in Rajasthan, he will tell hon'ble Home Minister about that ... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : It is not good.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is the concern of entire house. As said by Shri Madan Lal Khurana, we are totally associated with that feeling. If such incident occurs with our Mother-sisters, then the concern of entire house is with you. The worry of Government is correct and those who are in power should also be worried about these things, only then such incidents can be checked in the country... *(Interruptions)*. The issue which was raised today is not a new thing. About 1½ years ago, the incident occurred in the same hostel and the issue was raised in this House. Mr. Speaker, Sir, at that time you were not the Speaker. At that time Shri Indrajit Gupta was the Home

Minister. He had even made a statement. It's very shameful incident. That girl was raped and yet again she has been raped and that too by threatening her... *(Interruptions)* Not one but all women organisations have given in writing ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (NAGPUR) : Let him speak ... *(Interruptions)* After that you can speak ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASWARAJ PATIL SEDAM (GULBARGA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, even after the assurance that Home Minister will give reply... *(Interruptions)* He is not saying a new thing ...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : You please listen to me ...*(Interruptions)* All organisations were agitating against that for one year in Rajasthan. Though agitations were going on, yet such incidents have occurred there... *(Interruptions)* Today my colleagues, women members Smt. Usha Meena and Smt. Prabha Thakur have raised the issue. The Government's attempt to link this issue with Madhya Pradesh is an indication of politicising this issue. We are concerned with the problem of entire country .. *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI SOHAN POTAI (KANKER) : I want to ask whether women were not raped in Madhya Pradesh *(Interruptions)* Such incidents occur in Madhya Pradesh also... *(Interruptions)*. When you talk about entire country, Madhya Pradesh also comes under that... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (JAIPUR) : You talk about entire India... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI AJIT JOGI (RAIGARH) : Sir, we gave notices about the incident in Rajasthan and they are trying to politicise it. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : You please raise the question of Madhya Pradesh also... *(Interruptions)* If such incident has occurred in Madhya Pradesh then you please raise that also ...*(Interruptions)* against the government ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI E. AHAMED (MANJERI) : What is this ? Every-body should behave properly... *(Interruptions)*

MR SPEAKER : Shri Rajesh Pilot, please conclude.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Yes, Sir, I am concluding. ... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, first Hon'ble Home Minister should give statement about the most serious incident that has occurred in Rajasthan. After that he

should give statement about entire country. We have no objection about it but he must give his statement as to what action they are taking in the case of Rajasthan ? You give some assurance on it. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOHAN POTAI : Are there no women in Madhya Pradesh ? Are they only in Rajasthan ? Madhya Pradesh is also a part of India...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, my request is that...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOHAN POTAI : Are the women of Madhya Pradesh different...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA : Have you given any notice...*(Interruptions)* We have given notice in the case of Rajasthan ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : We are talking about women of entire India ...*(Interruptions)* You are talking of Rajasthan. ...*(Interruptions)* You speak about women of entire India. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI USHA MEENA : Are women of Rajasthan different from women of India. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is no politics in my submission. Today, when this issue was raised, I was not present in the House. At that time, I was in Rajya Sabha because Shri Vajpayeeji was to make a statement there. When I arrived here, at that time issue of Rajasthan as well as Madhya Pradesh was being raised here. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, when I arrived in the House, at that time, Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan was raising this issue with your permission ...*(Interruptions)* Allow me to make my submission...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen to what he is saying.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I have not mentioned the name of any other state. ... *(Interruptions)* I could even take the name of those States where atrocities are being committed. ... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat. The Minister is on his legs.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I had said this because at that time Shrimati Mahajan was raising this issue. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR (BARAMATI) : You are politicising the issue of injustice on women. You should understand this issue. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : It is a case of women, therefore, I had said this. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM (BADAGARA) : Only Rajasthan issue was raised in the House and not of Madhya Pradesh. ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : You have allowed them to speak first... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : All of you, please take your seats.

[Translation]

SHRI SHANTILAL CHAPLOT (UDAIPUR) : The name of Rajasthan is being taken but the issue of Madhya Pradesh is not being raised. ... (Interruptions) Atrocities are being committed on the people of Madhya Pradesh. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The entire country is watching the proceedings of the House, please understand.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY GOEL (CHANDNI CHOWK) : Please allow the members from both sides to speak. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, you may continue.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : What I had said, I am repeating that again politely. I had said for both the states. Our party consider such crimes as heinous crime, culprits should be punished. ... (Interruptions) You please listen... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not interrupt when the Hon. Minister is speaking.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Please listen to me. ... (Interruptions) Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want your protection... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please try to understand. The Hon. Minister is on his legs.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I had said this because the department of Law and Order is under state government, but the sentiments expressed from this side ... (Interruptions) Please listen.

[English]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Sir, this is wrong ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Rajesh Pilot, please understand. Let him complete first.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Please allow me to speak for one minute so that I can complete my point. Though Law and Order is a state subject ... (Interruptions)

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : It is a case of atrocity on women... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI TARIQ ANWAR (KATIHAR) : Sir, he is misleading the House... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You please take your seat. Let him complete.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Though Law and Order is a state subject but since it is a case of atrocity on women, therefore, I would request the Hon'ble Home Minister that in view of the sentiments expressed in the House, he may make a statement in this regard.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, by giving notices Shrimati Meena and Shrimati Prabha Thakur have tried to raise the matter in the House regarding atrocities being committed on women in Rajasthan. I would like to thank you for giving them an opportunity. We just wanted to say that the state government has not taken action as was expected from them. On the incidents of Rajasthan where series of atrocities have been committed, different women organisations have also raised this issue. Therefore we had said that in this connection statement should

be made. As far as the question of atrocities on Dalits, Harijans and women are concerned, the Government of India cannot ignore this. The Government of India should take the responsibility of drawing attention towards this issue. Therefore the Government should make a statement on the issue which was raised here by giving notice.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : What about Madhya Pradesh, you are not mentioning it ? ...*(Interruptions)* Atrocities are being committed there on tribals... *(Interruptions)* Don't the women of Madhya Pradesh deserve to be treated in the same manner as their counterparts elsewhere ...*(Interruptions)* An enquiry should be conducted in Madhya Pradesh also where atrocities are being committed on women...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : How can you raise a point of order during Zero Hour ? Please understand the position. You should know the rules.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The entire country is watching the proceedings of the Parliament. Please cooperate.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am saying again that there is no politics in my mind... *(Interruptions)* I will ask the Home Minister to give a statement regarding the atrocities being committed on women... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : The Notice given here is regarding Rajasthan.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the sentiments of the House regarding the atrocities on women... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : As far as Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra are concerned, we are ready to have discussion but without giving any notice...*(Interruptions)* without giving notice, you are talking about Madhya Pradesh ...*(Interruptions)* Your speech is reeking of politics and that we do not want...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : We want a statement on Rajasthan. ...*(Interruptions)* We have raised this issue. We want a statement on Rajasthan. This need not be clubbed with other States. If the Houses want we can have a discussion under Rule 193 on the situation obtaining in various States. But give a statement on Rajasthan.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Sitting in the Speaker's Chamber...*(Interruptions)* After deciding with the Speaker.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : We have an important business.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am repeatedly saying that this notice is only for Rajasthan. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : There is no question of notice.. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.30 p.m.

12.59 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for lunch till
Thirty minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.33 hrs.

Lok Sabha reassembled after Lunch at Thirty-three

Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR (BARAMATI) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue relating to Rajasthan which has been raised here should be considered seriously. I have no objection to the reply given by the hon. Minister that statements regarding two states will be given in the House. I would simply like to say that prior notice was given for the issue regarding Rajasthan and then with your permission, this matter was raised here. The other Members who want to raise the issue of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra or Himachal Pradesh can also give their notices. It is their privilege. We shall welcome the report presented by Government in this regard. We gave prior notice regarding Rajasthan and now this issue is being linked with the issues of other states, it seems that this issue is being politicized. I would like to make a suggestion that our demand for presenting report on the matter regarding Rajasthan should be accepted. The incident of J.C. Bose hostel has been repeated, atrocities were again committed

on the same girl. Atrocities on a tribal woman, Kaila Devi were committed in Karoli. It has been alleged that some M.L.As. and police officers were involved in this case.

Sir, in Kota, atrocities were committed on a 17 year old girl who was murdered later on. In Rajasthan, such cases are taking place one after another. Women throughout the country are agitated over this issue. Therefore, I would like to say that it will be an injustice to link this issue with other such issues. I would like to say that report regarding Rajasthan should be presented and you may hold discussion on this subject relating to any other state. I have no objection if any demand is raised or notice is given on this subject but the issue regarding Rajasthan should be discussed separately....(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA): This issue was not admitted in form of a motion. It was to be taken up during Zero Hour....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : As per my knowledge, information in writing and notices are given to raise issues during Zero Hour. I was not present in the House when discussion on this issue was going on. I came to know about it only when I entered the House. As he has stated that this issue was raised with your permission. In the same way, as is usually done, Sumitra Mahajanji also joined discussion on the issue of atrocities against women. When I entered the House, she was speaking. I clarified the stand of the Government on this issue and House adjourned for lunch.

Sir, I conveyed your feelings to the Hon. Home Minister and discussed this matter with him. He is collecting the facts including the facts regarding the incidents of Rajasthan, which will be presented here. Thereafter, hon. Members can move motion on it. We have no objection to it. I had stated that I would convey your sentiments to hon. Minister of Home Affairs and I have done that. You can discuss this matter with hon. Minister of Home Affairs after presenting facts in this regard....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Let us continue the discussion under Rule 193 regarding the nuclear tests conducted at Pokhran. Shri Barnala may speak now.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats. It is over now.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is a matter of Zero Hour. Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY GOEL (CHANDNI CHOWK) : Khuranaji has admitted that Hon'ble Home Minister will give reply, now why are you wasting the time of House ?... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN (THIRUVANANTHAPURAM): Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER : What is your point of order?

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : My point of order is under section (2) of Rule 376....(Interruptions) It involves the Constitution; it involves the functioning of the Government. My point is that a very important issue has been raised here by some Members and at a stretch, when the Leader of the Opposition realised that the situation has gone out of control, then he raised this issue before this House with responsibility....(Interruptions)

Sir, it is a serious issue....(Interruptions) Of course, the Prime Minister and the Minister of Home Affairs are not here....(Interruptions) He is a responsible member of the Cabinet and the Minister incharge of 'Parliamentary Affairs'. He has replied about this. How casual is his reply ?

MR. SPEAKER : There is no point of order. Please take your seat. Now, Shri Barnala will speak.

(Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER : If they are going to make a point on a communal basis, what kind of message are they sending ?(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (DAUSA) : Sir, we need your protection.

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has already made a note of it. The Hon. Minister of Home Affairs is also coming.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : He has already informed the Minister of Home Affairs and he is coming.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Sir, have you given him the permission to speak.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : It is going to be three o'clock.

[Translation]

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (BALASORE) : Sir, we should also be allowed to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (MAVELIKARA) : It is a very serious matter. Please allow him to complete.

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : It is an important issue. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

AN HON'BLE MEMBER : If discussion on an incident occurred in one state is going on then why discussion on similar incident taken place in some other state cannot be held.

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Sir, you have allowed thrice Shri Barmalaji to speak but he is not being allowed to speak. Though he is a senior member, he continues to deliver his speech while raising point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : What is your point of order?

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : What is the reaction of the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs? ...*(Interruptions)* I am conveying the feelings of the Members to the Minister of Home Affairs. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No point of order, please. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : He would have taken the responsibility of the Government and told us what the Government was going to do. This is very unfortunate. You have to direct the Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : He has already informed the Minister of Home Affairs.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : This topic is over. Now, there will be discussion under Rule 193. Shri Barmalaji will continue his speech.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat. Nothing will go on record

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Please hear me.

Not Recorded.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen to him.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please understand that the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs has already taken a note of this point.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD (MADHUBANI) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you direct the Hon'ble Home Minister to give a statement in the House.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I had already submitted before the House. ...*(Interruptions)* Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, they are not ready to listen to my point. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : First you listen.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I have already said...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat. The Hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs is replying.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat. It is too much. The hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs is giving the reply. Please take your seats now.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat. You must understand that the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is replying.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Sir, the Members are very agitated and thus I would request the hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs to inform the hon. Home Minister to make a statement on this...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I have conveyed your sentiments to Home Minister. Since he has to speak on nuclear test, he is preparing for that. Regarding this incident, he is asking for information from Rajasthan on telephone. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD : One statement should be made in this regard.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : He will give state-

ment only after collecting all the facts. ...*(Interruptions)* This is what I am also saying. Hon'ble Home Minister has said that after collecting facts, he will place before the house ... *(Interruptions)* If it is not a statement then what it is? You can ask when he arrives in the House...*(Interruptions)* First you listen to my point.

[English]

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now, this topic is over and we would take up discussion under rule 193.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : When he comes, you can ask him. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD : The Home Minister should be asked to give his statement now.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : How can he give his statement now? Let him first collect facts.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : Please tell us when will he give his statement, today, tomorrow or day after tomorrow ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : We will let you know before the adjournment of house as to when he will give his statement.

[English]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : We agree with that the hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs has said. Let the Government get the information. ...*(Interruptions)* Let the hon. Minister say that it would be given tomorrow. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : The Government has already given an assurance ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Pilot, the hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs has already given an assurance.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : It is being said that he should give his statement today itself, it is not practicable. I have told you that we will let you know before adjournment of House when he will give his statement.

* Not Recorded.

14.50 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Recent Nuclear Tests in Pokhran - Cont.

(Translation.)

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this discussion is continuing since yesterday. In this discussion, one point was raised from that side as to why this test was conducted at this time? They are seeking a reply in this regard. Yesterday, I was mentioning that our neighbouring country, Pakistan, has manufactured a missile. It has a range of 1500 km. It was tested. People of entire Pakistan celebrated that they had manufactured a missile which is capable of making any city of India its target. No one opposed it there unlike we people who oppose anything for the sake of opposition.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : No one opposed when 'Agni' missile was tested.

SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA : Had they possessed the capability of manufacturing bombs, they could have manufactured even that also because today their Foreign Minister has given a statement that they do not bother about sanctions. Probably they were going to take some steps within one-two or eight-ten days and that is why they started saying that they did not bother about sanctions. Sanctions were imposed earlier also and these will continue to be imposed in future also but we do not care for anyone. This is the situation.

What is our situation today? After conducting one nuclear test in 1974 we were engaged in this work continuously. We have not stopped this work. Our scientists have been engaged in these projects for a long time. A generation of scientists is about to retire. 24 years have passed and these scientists have grown old. Our top scientists whether it is Shri Abul Kalam or Shri Chidambaram are about to retire. Therefore, it is essential that the work, which they can do should be accomplished...*(Interruptions)*

We have got one weapon ready with us. We were thinking to use this weapon but we cannot use unless we conduct test. Test is essential before its usage. This situation was continuing for years that we had weapon but we could not test it perhaps this is due to some outside pressures or for fear of its reaction. We were thinking this only otherwise we would have tested this weapon earlier. Our country i.e. our scientists and technicians are capable of doing this work but it seems that it was due to external pressure that this test was not conducted earlier. Today when we have tested it, it is being criticized as to why we have done so. You should avoid criticism on what you have been unable to do. It would have been better if you

[Sardar Surjit Singh Barnala]

had done that. No one would have opposed it. But now when the test has been conducted, we should not oppose that on one pretext or the other.

It was also said that people have divergent views over this issue. It has very much influenced the foreign countries. I got the opportunity to visit that area which is attached to our neighbouring country. The election is about to be held in Tarantaran on 3rd. Last week I went there for election campaign and got an opportunity to meet some people. I had conversation with them. Such issues are also being raised during meetings and gatherings. I was told during discussion that there is one proverb that :-

"Sab duniya jane zoraan nu
kaun puchhe kamzoran nu"

[English]

This was the reaction of the people.

[Translation]

People give importance to the strong and powerful whereas the weak are ignored. It is a historical fact. I went to some other place. There some one was speaking prior to me. He was quoting Guru Govind Singh ji that such time has come:-

'Chu kar aaz haami hilate dar ghuzashat,
Halalust burdaan ba shamsheer dast'

It any work cannot be done in any other way then it is essential to use force. Now such a situation has arisen that our neighbouring countries are carrying out nuclear tests. No one stopped them from doing that. Those who have nuclear power could not be deterred from such tests and they kept on stockpiling nuclear arms.

Now we are being asked as to why we carried out these tests. This was not high time to do so. We do not want to quarrel with our neighbours. Although they have been creating problems for us in Punjab through proxy war for 10-12 years. At present, I am speaking as representative of Shiromani Akali Dal. A proxy war against us having support from across the border has been going on for last 10-12 years as a result of which our country especially Punjab has to bear the brunt. Near about one and half lakh people have been killed from both sides. Some of them are Pakistanis, terrorists and some of them are common people. In these circumstances, Punjab could not make any progress for 10-12 year. At that time also, we were in favour of having friendly relations with our neighbours. Long ago on 1973, Shiromani Akali Dal passed Anandpur Sahib Resolution and the first thing envisaged in that was that we should have friendly relations with all our neighbouring countries. Even now we say this thing and even the Hon'ble Prime Minister has mentioned this in the para 10 of his statement.

[English]

We do not intend to use these weapons for aggression or for mounting threats against any country, these are weapons of self-defence, to ensure that India is not subjected to nuclear threats or coercion. We do not intend to engage in an arms race.

[Translation]

It has been stated very clearly that we do not wish to threaten anyone. Our revered Gurus have also said the same thing. Guru Tegh Bahadur who was martyred in Delhi had also stated—'Na Bhaya Kahu ko det hain, na bhaya m'nat aan.' We do not threaten anyone but also refuse to be threatened by anybody. This is what he has said and this is what has been included in the national agenda that we have to create a society free from fear. Some such wording has been used. Then it was stated that the steps which we have taken will result in arms race and that an arms race will start in South East Asia due to this very reason. I would like to submit that the arms race is already on. This race never came to a halt. China has been involved in it for a pretty long time. Pakistan is also doing whatever it is capable of doing. Some other countries in Asia are also working towards this end. Arms race is continuing. It will be incorrect to say that the arms race will start only because we have initiated it. Rather it is quite apparent that we were lagging behind in this field and had we not taken this step, we would have been left far behind and some countries might have surged ahead. It has been mentioned here that the nuclear weapons have never been used. This argument has been put forth Gupta ji. Nuclear weapons have been developed all along but have been used only twice to attack Japan and thereafter they have not been used at all. I agree with him.

15.00 hrs.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, such an attack has never been made, will never be made and should not be made, still, nobody stopped developing nuclear weapons due to this reason. Russia and U.S. A. were competing with each other. U.S.A. and Russia both wanted to produce more weapons. The other countries also followed suit.

A point has been raised as to what was the provocation behind the Pokharan blast. What were the reasons therefor, there has to be a reason. In the statement given by the Prime Minister in the House yesterday, it has been stated as to why these tests were conducted. I have noticed that the countries which have developed nuclear weapons, did not require any provocation to do so. First of all, U.S.A. dropped atom bombs on two cities of Japan. Thereafter Russia also developed atom bomb. China also followed suit. China was not threatened by anyone and there was no provocation either. England has developed this technology. It was known as the second rate power

and it has become a second rate power. That country too was not under threat. The pretext of threat was justified till the time the world war lasted but there was no such threat thereafter. After the world war, an organisation of nations was formed which did not face any threats from anywhere, still these countries joined the nuclear race. France had no provocation. It was not under threat, still it went ahead with the nuclear bomb explosion. Such an action does not require any provocation. It is in your hands. It is your own weapon. You have developed it and you want to test it. It needs no provocation to do so. After all, this is for your own security. You are conducting a test to develop it further. This is not a recent trend. This work started in our country since the regime of Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru. We are undertaking it for our own security. There is no need for any provocation to conduct such tests.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, after conducting the test, we should not worry about the reaction of other countries. We need not think over it as our Prime Minister had clarified in his speech that we will not be the first to use these nuclear weapons. Hon'ble Prime Minister has categorically stated this. It has been welcomed all over. It is not so that by conducting such test, world opinion will go against us. But may I ask this House as to when was the world opinion in our favour? In 1971 we had to involve in Bangla Desh war against our wishes. Entire country stood unitedly with us at that time. No party was against that move. Even opposition was unanimous over that issue. I remember the debate held in Parliament over that issue. At that time, no party was of the view that anything wrong had been done and world opinion would go against us in this regard. U.S.A. had sent its seventh fleet to the Bay of Bengal. People all over the country became apprehensive that USA is sending its forces and that they will probably interfere in the war. However, this did not frighten the countrymen rather they stood firm and united.

15.04 hrs.

(SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH *In the Chair*)

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the whole country stood with Shrimati Indra Gandhi. At that time, nobody said that we should not attack our neighbours rather maintain cordial relations with them in such manner. We have done a commendable job by conducting this nuclear test and it is going to benefit our country in the long run. It has enhanced the prestige of our country and has established us as a nuclear power in the world. But, I am surprised that our people are thinking about what others will say about it or what most of the muslim countries of the world will think about us. Someone has stated here that crores of the people of the world would be displeased by this act. The same thing happened with Israel also which is a small country surrounded from all sides. But as far as the question of its security is concerned, it did not care anybody. It did not bother about what others will say.

He did not bother even for the opinion of 9 or 10 crore people around him and continued the programme undeterred. Therefore, I would like to say that defence programmes should be formulated in accordance with the security of the nation and for strengthening the country and not from the viewpoint of world's opinion towards it.

It has been mentioned here that sanctions will be imposed against the country. Some Members tried to calculate it in terms of some billion dollars that will not be received. I have already expressed my views about sanctions. People of Pakistan and their Foreign Minister is saying that they do not care for sanctions. It is not being done for the first time. Sanctions have already been imposed against several countries. For the first time sanctions were imposed against Cuba but Fidel Castro did not care for it. Now 30 years have passed since then. I admit the fact that economy of Cuba is not in a good shape but they did not panic. Even today their morale is high and they are proud of their freedom and strength.

Recently several sanctions were imposed against Iraq which created trouble for them. The situation came to such a pass that food and medicines were not available for the people of Iraq. Several children died. People of Iraq bore all those sufferings. The whole world had an impression that people of Iraq would rise in revolt against Shri Saddam Hussain. But this did not happen. Their economy is not in good position but Saddam Hussain is still considered a hero as he faced all these sanctions bravely for the dignity and pride of his country. So, I would like to say that the threat of imposing sanctions is not a new thing.

I would like to cite a historical example of sanctions imposed during Moghul empire. Sikhs were in small number in Lahore but they often resisted against oppression. The Nawab of Lahore, Manu issued order that whosoever comes with the chopped head of the Sikh would be given rupees eighty. What more severe sanctions could be imposed against anybody. Several persons were paid money. But that sanction also failed due to bravery of the community. I would like to tell yet another historical event. This relates to Tarantaran area. It was widely publicized that Sikh community has been wiped out Punjab. In a village of this area, two members of a dalit family also heard this. One of them said-Khota Singh, we both are alive and how anybody could claim that entire sikh community had been wiped out. Both of them went over the bridge of G.T. Road which connects Lahore to Delhi. They levied tax on passerby, one anna was charged for passing of a donkey and two annas for passing of a cart. People discussed this issue and enquired as to how this tax was levied. They replied that this tax was levied by Sikhs. When the people said that they had heard that the Sikh community had been wiped out, both of them replied that the tax was levied to show the existence of Sikh community. When the administration of Lahore came to know about it, the army was sent and both the persons sacrificed their lives fight-

[Sardar Surjit Singh Barnala]

ing the army. Shahidganj was constructed there in their memory which is still there. We should not panic over the threat of imposition of sanctions. This threat was given on 11th of May and the Government conducted two more tests after it which reveals the attitude of the Government towards this threat. The Government has given assurance that it can do anything for the dignity of the country. Vajpayeeji deserves congratulations for this decision.

Now propaganda is being made about the whole event. Someone called it 'Hindu bomb' as per the report of a newspaper. The person who said so had contested election against me. He had been elected a Member of Parliament but did not enter the Parliament House and returned from the gate itself. Now, he has called it a 'Hindu bomb'...*(Interruptions)*

I would like to say that facts should not be twisted. Someone has planned to construct temple at that site. I am against it. It is a testing range and temple should not be constructed there...*(Interruption)*. Several other countries have also conducted nuclear tests but no memorial or temple has been constructed at that site. It should be called a secular bomb, bomb of India. All the countrymen should be proud of the fact that our technicians and scientists have been able to achieve that.

In the end, I would like to say that there may be differences but we all should stand united. It is not correct to say that a particular person or party was not taken into confidence because in such matters, consultations are not held. Such issues cannot be discussed. Even in 1974, it was not done. At the time of Bangladesh war nobody was consulted. Secrecy is maintained in such matters. The whole world is surprised as to how all the other countries including U.S.A. could not know about it. No one could make any guess in this regard. I feel that we all should consider it good for our country. It has enhanced the prestige of the country.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (SAMBHAL) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, since yesterday, a serious discussion is going on regarding nuclear tests conducted by the country. The House has taken this matter seriously.

So far as the question of conducting nuclear tests at Pokhran is concerned, all our scientists, defence experts or engineers and other persons who helped them in this project deserve congratulations. They have proved all over the world that Indian scientists do not lag behind in any field, whether it is nuclear test conducted on 11th May or 13th May. The Ministers and other leaders of ruling party, who have spoken on this subject, have serious objection that leaders of opposition are revealing the facts regarding the nuclear tests conducted. Security of nation is supreme. There are no differences and all are united in matters of country's security. I would like to tell you about the reasons behind these differences. It has been said that hon.

Prime Minister is very brave and bold person who has made the country a great power. I am also ready to go with you. Please tell me where we have to go to liberate our land occupied by China. But this fact has to be accepted that there are three reasons for conducting the nuclear tests at this juncture. The first reason is a particular Minister who is very close to the hon. Prime Minister. The 'Sunday' magazine of 19 to 25 April carries a story. A Minister of Uttar Pradesh has made a statement in it that he had advised the Hon. Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee to conduct the nuclear test because the voice of Jayalalita and Swami will be drowned in the din created by the super powers like China, USA, Russia etc.

AN HON'BLE MEMBER : Who is that Minister ?

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : I do not want to mention the name of that Minister but he is very close to hon. Prime Minister. He was in charge during the election campaign of hon. Prime Minister. I will tell the name of the Minister if hon. Prime Minister permits me to do so...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD : There is no need for seeking permission of the hon. Prime Minister, you, please disclose the name.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : If my friend from B.J.P. wants to know about it, I will tell him that he is Lalji Tandon, a Minister in Uttar Pradesh Government.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (AONLA) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am on a point of order. The person, who is not a member of this House cannot refute charges levelled against him. Is quoting something against him proper ?

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM (GARHWAL) : Either you authenticate it and lay it on the Table of the House or it should be expunged from the record.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat.

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM : Otherwise lay it on the Table of the House...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please maintain silence. Please take your seat, I have not allowed you.

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM : Will you lay the paper from which you have read, on the Table of the House ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is not proper that speech of a Member is being interrupted.

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM : Mr. Chairman, Sir, either this should be authenticated and laid on the Table of the House or this should be expunged from the record...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Further it has been stated that cracker should be burst if bomb is not there..
...(Interruptions)

SHRI VIJAY GOEL (CHANDNI CHOWK) : What is a cracker ?

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : He does not know what cracker is ? We all know that crackers are burst on Holi and Diwall.

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM : Mr. Chairman, Sir, can we make speeches here by reading from newspapers? Please give your ruling or he should lay it on the Table of the House after authenticating it.

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH (BANKA) : Let him read it. It is already published.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : If bomb is not there, you can burst cracker who will know whether it is bomb or a cracker ?

[English]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (DAUSA) : He has quoted the Sunday magazine. He is only quoting a magazine.

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM: It has been ruled here.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : The Sunday magazine is a known magazine. He mentioned the Sunday magazine and he is quoting it.

[Translation]

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM : Sir, the Speaker of Tenth Lok Sabha, Shri Shivrāj Patil gave a ruling that newspapers and magazines cannot be quoted in the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Khanduriji, please take your seat.

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM : Please give your ruling on it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Under which Rule ?

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM: We will accept it if you give your ruling that Members can quote here from newspapers and magazines.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is all right, please take your seat.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : The second reason for conducting nuclear test now is that

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI,

AVSM: You please give ruling on it. Then we will also quote...(Interruptions) I am talking about Rules.

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH : Mr. Speaker has asked him to read it. 'Sunday' is an authenticated magazine.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Member Khanduriji, you can emphasize your point when you are given a chance to speak here.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : The second reason behind conducting nuclear tests at present is the forthcoming general budget which is going to burden the poor section of the society and common man heavily.

AN HON'BLE MEMBER : You already known about that.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Yes, I know that. Now they are trying to put economic burden on common man on the pretext of nuclear tests. The third reason is to take political mileage out of it. This issue would not have been discussed here if these three reasons were not behind it. In the beginning itself, I have stated that there are no differences in matters of national security. We also wish that our country may become strong to such an extent that no one could dare to threaten the unity and security of the country. But I oppose the way in which these nuclear tests have been conducted.

The Government has stated in its National Agenda that a National Security Council is proposed to be constituted. It will review the nuclear power position and all the plans pertaining to the defence of the country. However, neither the proposed National Security Council has been set up nor any review has been undertaken. This in itself is giving rise to apprehensions.

Secondly, the entire country knows that such a test has not been conducted for the very first time. It has been conducted earlier in 1974. Various arguments are being put forth that those tests are outdated and that fresh tests have been conducted. So far more than 2400 nuclear tests have been conducted throughout the world and not a single failure has been reported. When no test has been reported to have failed, I will not waste your time by taking names but when not a single test has resulted in a failure throughout the world, there was no question of failure of the test conducted in our own country. However, there was surely a crisis of consensus. There is no consensus amongst the Ministers of this Government. There is no consensus amongst the allied parties of the Government, still you lecture others about consensus. I would request Shri Barnala and Hon'ble Prime Minister to first evolve a consensus in the Cabinet. Your culture is not that of consensus, rather it is a culture of confrontation
...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR (DUMDUM) : You please go through our Agenda.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : The world did not have any doubts about India possessing nuclear power. No country was in any doubt or dilemma over the issue of India having the nuclear power capability because everyone had come to know in 1974 itself that India possessed the nuclear power. I do not wish to violate the secrecy code of defence matters. I am also aware as to who has got what. It is clearly mentioned herein that we have got 20 to 65 nuclear warheads. Pakistan has got 15 to 20 and China possesses 450 such warheads. The whole world is aware of it. Shri Barnala should not have any misunderstanding regarding capability of Pakistan....(Interruptions) I do not wish to violate the code of secrecy. I am very much aware of the position prevalent at the time of my demitting the office. The Prime Minister is making public the information regarding the number of devices possessed by our country and our military strength by giving statements, which is not a very advisable move. These tests have been conducted due to three political reasons. I have already stated that these were conducted for the survival of the Government. It was termed as a 'Gaurav Divas' (Day of pride) due to political reasons. Everyone is aware that the Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh activists and the leaders of Bhartiya Janata Party joined the 'Gaurav Divas' celebrations and besides the above mentioned persons, no leader, functionary or any other official from any other allied party joined these celebrations and they were not invited either. Firework display started from 8 p.m. onwards and sweets were distributed. ...(Interruptions)

AN HON'BLE MEMBER : You should also have enjoyed some.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : I would be very careful if I were to accept your offering. ...(Interruptions) It became very clear in 1974 that India possessed the nuclear power. However, it seems as if the present atom bomb was manufactured in Nagpur; the Prime Minister seems to have carried them to Pokharan in his three pocket and detonated them there. Is it not a ridiculous picture being painted in front of the nation? Such a propoganda has been made in Lucknow and throughout U.P. as well as Bihar and all over India. It is being widely publicised that only B.J.P. has done it and not even Samata Party is being given any credit. The Defence Minister is also not being given any credit for his contribution. The truth of the matter is that you have given supreme importance not to the defence of the country but to your own party interests. All right, you ask as to why did we not conduct the test. We could also have done it but we did not do so as we did not wish to gain any political mileage out of it. If India has

become powerful after the tests and it has become a superpower, you may try giving a befitting reply to China.

Sir, there is a saying in our village which means inviting trouble for oneself. Barnalaji is well aware of what I mean and that is why I am mentioning it. The Defence Minister might also be listening to me. He has presented certain report. The truth of the matter is evident in all the files and there is no ambiguity. The Home Minister can go through all the files to read the noting made therein and measures taken during my tenure as the Defence Minister. The amount of budget allocation by the United Front Government for preparing the ground for conducting such tests has been unprecedented and no previous Government has ever made that much allocation. The Indian Scientists have contributed the most for the successful conduct of tests. Besides, the United Front, Government has made a significant contribution in that it has provided adequate funds for conducting such tests. The Defence Minister, the Home Minister and the Finance Minister can go through the report to see as to how much money was provided for it. The shortage of certain devices was also met. However such was the situation at Pokharan in the month of October- November that the preparations could not be completed. We maintain that the credit goes not to us but to the scientists. Everybody from Nehru ji to Indira ji has made a contribution in this regard. However, the Bhartiya Janata Party has not made any contribution at all. The B.J.P. leaders and the Government are trying to mislead the nation ...(Interruptions) The entire country is listening to this debate. Your party or your Government has not contributed at all ...(Interruptions) I can say this with certainty that your contribution has been next to nothing. You cannot fool the countrymen for long.

One may cast a glance at the advantages and disadvantages of conducting such a test. The debate is being held in the House in this regard. Our country is known as the land of Gautam and the land of Gandhiji. Out of all the non-aligned countries, our country is playing the most significant role in that it is fighting against inequality and spreading the message of non-violence throughout the world. We will remain fully prepared to defend ourselves. However it is not advisable to assume a threatening posture. A Minister has been reported to have stated that Pakistan should fix the time, place and the date, for, our country is ready to wage a fourth war. What would be the fallout of such a statement ? Is it not puerile to make such a remark ? Secondly, a B.J.P. leader has stated that this test is not a nuclear test; rather it is a test of nationalism. I would like to ask them to explain as to what do they mean by it ? Does it mean that those who expose their policies are traitors and those supporting them are patriots. We do not need them to vouch for our credentials as patriots. ...(Interruptions) We don't want them to certify that we are patriots. ...(Interruptions)

AN HON'BLE MEMBER : This is nationalism ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : We are aware of it. Be in limits. We will expose your nationalism. ...(*Interruptions*) you were supporting the Britishers....(*Interruptions*) He is considered to be a very restrained and mature leader and there are no doubts about it. We have ideological differences, still I believe that Advaniji is a very dignified and mature leader. He has also stated that India is now a nuclear weapon state. Hence Pakistan should desist from misadventure. You may recall the year 1971. Has the firing been stopped and infiltration checked ever since the atom bomb has been developed...(*Interruptions*) We checked it. You did not do anything from ...(*Interruptions*) and stated that Pakistan should desists from any misadventures as India is now a nuclear weapon state. However, has it really become a nuclear weapon state now and is it ture ? All the scientists have stated that we have got the capability to develop bombs. However, there are other aspects related to it such as detonating and launching and dropping facilities. It should be revealed as to how much progress has been made in that respect ? I would like to ask the Prime Minister. ...(*Interruptions*) I do not wish to violate the secrecy. We released funds for this purpose. The United Front Government has allocated not millions but billions of rupees for this purpose. That is why I have stated that our country is not yet fully equipped nuclear weapon state.

Sir, secondly, India enjoys a prominent position amongst the third world countries, but doubts are being raised in this regard. Now which are the countries having such doubts and mistrust. Today Russia has helped us in our defence matters. It has stood by our side at every occasion. In 1986-87, rather from the time of Pt. Nehru, it has always been there for us, but what was their first reaction after the explosion. Russia also condemned India and stated that they have been let down. I had also toured Russia . The Russian President had told me not to worry in the least and that they will take the responsibility of defending India. Hence India should sign the C.T.B.T. I stated the C.T.B.T. won't be signed and I maintain even today that my party is not in favour of signing the C.T.B.T. at any cost. So long as there is disparity regarding possessing weaponry and so long as all the destructive weapons throughout the world are not dumped into the sea, there is no question of signing C.T.B.T. or M.T. and today the Government is ready to sign C.T.B.T. through the backdoor. In which direction are you leading the nation ? If you even talk of signing the C.T.B.T., the entire nation will turn against you and they won't allow you to do it. Does the Government intend to sign the C.T.B.T. secretly ? Evidently Indiraji did not hold any press conference after the test and that is why no strong reaction emanated from anywhere. What were the reasons for the reactions generated this time round ? The Press Conference was held

only to take credit and to gain political mileage. It was stated how many weapons and devices our country possessed. This was also revealed to the world...(*Interruptions*) What could be more threatening for the security of the nation ? The Prime Minister has put our country into danger by holding a Press Conference. He said that they are very brave whereas we, their predecessors have turned out to be cowards. Our action was confined to the files. Files kept lying on the table. Shri Gujral or other Cabinet Ministers were not brave. However these people who called themselves brave, buckled under the pressure and wrote an explanatory letter to the President of U.S.A. It means that either they have bowed to the pressure or there was some sort of connivance. It has to be either of the two. What is it if not connivance? U.S.A. does not want India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and China to have friendly relationship among themselves. We want that such ties should be forged because if we maintain friendly relations with our neighbours, no other country can be more powerful than India.

The message was communicated to the U.S.A. that the tests have been conducted due to the movements of Pakistan and China and not because of you. Is this not connivance? This has been reported in the newspapers also. It is published in 'The Times of India' dated 18th May.

[*English*]

"The whole exercise was executed by the B.J.P. in connivance with U.S. authorities."

[*Translation*]

It is quite clear then that it has been done in connivance with U.S.A. If you are not convinced, we will prove it by citing examples. If it is not connivance, why have the U.S.A. leaders changed their stance? Why hasn't Mr. Clinton cancelled his visit of India ?...(*Interruptions*) We would like to know the mystery behind it ? If he does not cancel his visit, India should state very clearly that he is not welcome anymore. When he has imposed sanctions on us, we should have written to Mr. Clinton that either the sanctions should be lifted or he should not come to India. There is no need to come to our country. ...(*Interruptions*)

Secondly, if they have imposed sanctions on us, the Prime Minister should make an announcement in the House and impose a ban on their multinational companies and their products such as Pepsi, Coca-cola, chips and biscuits. You are citing instances from history right from Cuba. Iraq and upto Lahore. If a ban is imposed on these companies, we will support you and show our appreciation. The Government is not imposing a ban because it is working in connivance with U.S.A. You have succumbed under pressure of U.S.A. ...(*Interruptions*) You have got no other business except arousing the sentiments of the countrymen. You have an eye on the vote bank...(*Interruptions*) It

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has been rightly stated that diplomacy and the foreign affairs policy have their own demands but you should have taken your friends into confidence regarding the defence affairs. ...*(Interruptions)*

AN HON'BLE MEMBER : As had been done by you?

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Yes, surely. If that was the case with you, why did you start behaving submissively at the very first threat issued from China. China said that 90,000 square km. of its area has been occupied by India and India aspires to become a super-power, but it will have to face serious consequences. The very same day the government adopted a submissive tone and made an offer of friendship. If you have got the guts, you may say in the House that China should vacate our land spanning from Mansarovar and Mount Kailash occupied by it in 1962. If they do not vacate the land, India will use the bomb against it. ...*(Interruptions)* If you dare to say so, we will support you. ...*(Interruptions)* You pose to be very brave, so you may say so. ...*(Interruptions)* But you were down on your knees at the very first threat issued by China ...*(Interruptions)*

AN HON'BLE MEMBER : Have the socialists said so ?

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Yes, socialists have always maintained this view. A resolution was passed in this Parliament that so long as China does not vacate our land, we will not step into China or undertake any tour of China or have any political relationship with China. ...*(Interruptions)* To say that we have become a superpower and if we have really become a superpower, you should get your land back from China. We are with you. Since you have become a super power. ...*(Interruptions)* Please listen to me. You will meet the same fate as was meted out to Hitler and Mussolini. Just as Hitler and Mussolini were least concerned about society, language, culture in their quest for power, and that is why they met such an end. In which direction are you leading the country by following the footsteps of those dictators ? What is the reality behind it ? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : You have given a statement that your Government was prepared to conduct these tests but before it could be done, the Government fell. Please tell us more about it.

[English]

SHRI VAIKO (SIVAKASI) : Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, I have got great respect for you. We never expected such a statement from you. You are making a comparison with Nazi and Hitler.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : That will also be explained. I won't leave out any point unanswered. You will be totally exposed. People talk of nationalism. A senior

leader such as Shri Advani lost patience. What to say of a Minister from Lucknow and Shri Mahajan, who is an advisor? They say that it is a test of nationalism. All of us are traitors and only B.J.P. is patriotic. If we criticise them or offer constructive suggestions, we are branded as traitors. We are not going to be cowed down by them. It will also be proved in due course as to who is a patriot and who is a traitor ? When the occasion arises, our patriotism will be proved and we will even surpass BJP on this count. What sort of statement is being issued by you? The people of India have much to fear from the inside elements rather than the outside ones. We would like to caution you in this regard.

Ghulam Ali is a musician from Pakistan. Musicians do not belong to a particular caste. I am speaking the truth. Even today, I do not know as to which caste Mukesh belonged to ? Art knows no boundaries. The BJP workers attacked Fida Hussain. BJP President Thakre supported it. Music and Art know no boundaries, caste or religion. When Dilip Kumar visited Pakistan, he was honoured there. Now it is being stated that nobody can blackmail us. BJP President is saying that no one can blackmail us. We have also formed the government. Nobody has blackmailed us. Who is blackmailing you ? Who blackmailed you on 11th ? The entire country is watching the proceedings of the House. Whenever I speak, BJP is agitated. The whole country is aware of it. There is no problem as such. ...*(Interruptions)* There is nothing new in it. The people of the entire country are watching your discomfort ? Unless you mend your ways, you'll continue to feel agitated. If you change your ways, your problem will vanish. I do not know whether Shri George is present here or not ? Our learned friend Jagmohan ji was talking about Kashmir. Now who is responsible for handling Kashmir affairs ? How many arms were used and could you suppress terrorism by adopting the policy of oppression ? Shri George had made a statement yesterday. Earlier, he had demanded that Shri Jagmohan should be removed as he had been unable to curb terrorism. Shri Mufti was the Home Minister then. When Shri George was in charge of Kashmir affairs under Janata Dal regime and Shri Jag Mohan was also there, what was the result ? Did they become successful in rooting out terrorism by using arms. One cannot curb it by using power tactics. You yourself are citing the case of Cuba. A powerful country like USA could not cow them down. Shri Jag Mohan says that we have insulted the scientists. They were disappointed and wanted to quit as there was dilly-dallying in the matter of conducting scientific experiments and that is why they were allowed to do so. The United Front Government had awarded Bharat Ratna to the scientists. We recommended the case of conferring the award of Bharat Ratna on Shri Kalam twice.

The services of scientists were also extended. It is totally incorrect to say that scientists did not want to work here and were prepared to leave the country. It is wrong to spread such rumours. You will be surprised to know that

when D-Litt was being conferred on Dr. Abdul Kalam by Allahabad University, I was the Chief guest of the function, at that time, an MLA from BJP who is now state minister in the Government boycotted this function and raised slogans against him.

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH (MIRZAPUR) : That boycott was against you and not against Abdul Kalam ji ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : The local public, students, professors, writers media and newspapers revealed that boycott was not against me. Not a single word was uttered against me. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH : I can give proof in the House, if you so desire. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : The programme was so successful that they have no face to show. If a totally different statement is issued after it nobody can help....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH : Shri Romesh Bhandari was Governor of the state at that time. The boycott was against lathicharge order given by you. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Lalmuni Chaubeyji, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : If anybody has insulted the scientists, it was BJP. Your party has insulted great scientists like Dr. Abdul Kalam because he was a Muslim. This reveals the attitude and mentality of your party. We have honoured scientists. No scientist has any grievance against our government. They worked very hard and United Front Government also encouraged them *(Interruptions)*

You have stated about the amount of loss suffered by the country. Yesterday Chandrashekharji was saying that the country has suffered loss worth crores of rupees due to devaluation of rupee. Yashwantji knows very well that the country has suffered a loss of Rs. 60 crore in a single night as the value of rupee has fallen by 40 paise. You are going to provide Rs. 40 thousand crore to the Defence Minister. I do not know how far it is correct. During our period, a budget of Rs. 37.5 thousand crore was allocated for defence. Now with devaluation of rupee, actually the budget on defence has reduced. The country is going to be a super power and in this way our defence preparedness will be back to square one. ...*(Interruptions)*

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM : How much funds were allocated for defence budget before your government. You are misleading the House ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Khanduriji, Members are against interruptions in the speech. It is not proper to interrupt every now and then, it is against the parliamentary tradition.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please maintain silence.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am concluding. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please conclude now.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : I am just concluding. You please stop them from interrupting. Mr. Chairman, Sir, it has been stated here that our scientists have done a laudable job but politics should not be played in it. If they want to hold press conference, let them do that.

They will hold press conference where they will find appropriate. We have also been doing that. There have been other Defence Ministers also. Let them do their job ...*(Interruptions)* We were called at hon. Prime Minister's residence. Leaders of all the political parties, including Pawarji went there. We thought that we were being invited for discussion. We were told that scientists will brief us. I told that this team had also worked with us and I already know what they have to tell. Now are we supposed to ask political questions from the scientists. We will put these questions to hon. Prime Minister. I asked Lalujji and Chidambaram ji to accompany me. If at all we have ask questions, we shall ask from the Prime Minister of Advaniji. Don't darg the scientists into politics. They are setting a wrong precedent in the country. They are asking them to answer our questions. They are not supposed to answer our questions. They will work as per their norms. You have called us to discuss the matter with them, do you expect me to demoralize them. Will we raise the issue of financial crunch here ? They have already put their demand for financial allocations for their projects. Chidambaramji himself had asked for money and had stated that our country is in a position to develop nuclear bombs but not in a position to deliver them but you are claiming that India has become a nuclear power. It is on record that India has 777 combat aircrafts whereas Pakistan and China have 429 and 3740 respectively. The area of India is eight times more than that of Pakistan so it should have eight times combat aircrafts. We should be prepared for conventional war. We are ready to make our contribution and even to pay taxes for the security of our country. You should try your best for strengthening the country as your party is in power now. But you are mistaken and you have a misunderstanding in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)* We have allocated more funds than the actual demand made by the Defence Ministry. I would like to say that even Russia has said that India would have to conduct ten more nuclear tests to become a nuclear power. Then why are you mis-

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leading the country that India has become a nuclear power. I do admit that our scientists have done a splendid job ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : It is good that we have been successful in conducting nuclear tests now, so that we could conduct more tests later on.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude now.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : I have already stated that all the nuclear tests conducted so far throughout the world have been successful. So far about 2400 nuclear tests have been conducted. We shall not disclose as to how many missiles you have got. Now when the Hon'ble Prime Minister is disclosing, he should tell us, how many missiles we have got, how many more have been added during the last two months. Have we prepared command structure for atom bombs. I am asking these questions from the hon. Prime Minister, Advanji or the Minister of defence can also reply to it. Has nuclear powered submarine been developed ? Please tell about missiles only. ...*(Interruptions)* The scientists feel that a period of 10 years and an amount of Rs. 25000 crore is required for it. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I object to it. The former Minister of Defence is trying to under estimate our defence forces, perhaps he might be knowing some facts and he is trying to reveal that...*(Interruptions)* I would like to say that why he is trying to under-estimate our defence forces. ...*(Interruptions)*

16.00 hrs.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Chairman, Sir, he should be authorised to reply on behalf of the hon. Prime Minister. All the hon. Members should be convinced about it. I am saying that the Government proclaims that India has become a nuclear power. Why are they telling a lie? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : We are simply saying that strength of our defence forces is increasing and we are going to be a nuclear power. Why are you demoralizing our defence forces by uttering such things ?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Silence please. Take your seat. Let him speak. Mulayam Singhji, you may continue. Please do not interrupt his speech Under which rule you are speaking hear !

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Secrecy should be maintained in defence matters. Security of the nation is supreme.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have not uttered any such thing which may pose danger to the security of the country. I have not violated the code of secrecy. I have simply asked whether you have got these weapons or not ? You may not reply to it if you do not want. I would be happy if country has those weapons. This does not violate the code of secrecy in matters of defence. ...*(Interruptions)*

(English)

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM : Take it very seriously. Do not take it so lightly ...*(Interruptions)*

(Translation)

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the former Minister of Defence is airing his views publically on defence matters here in the House. It is not in the interest on the country. I want to know whether the former Minister and exserviceman Shri Rajesh Pilot, who is present here, is supporting him. I would like to know his view about it. ...*(Interruptions)*

16.04 hrs.

(S-... P.M. SAYEED in the Chair)

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the former Minister of Defence has breached the secrecy by making such utterances publically. Sir, through you, I demand that he should seek apology from the nation ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mulayam Singhji, your time is over, you have already taken 45 minutes.

(Interruptions)

(English)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am on my legs. Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, you have already taken about 45 minutes. Kindly bear with me. Kindly conclude now.

(Translation)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Sir, these people have wasted a lot of time by interrupting my speech ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, please listen to my objection. ...*(Interruptions)*

(English)

Mr. Chairman: I am on my legs.

(Translation)

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Mulayam Singh ji has made a derogatory remark. ...*(Interruptions)* Please listen to my objection...*(Interruptions)*

My Chairman, Sir, please listen to my objection ...*(Interrup-tions)* Sir, through you I would like to know from Shri Mulayam Singh that what does he mean by saying that whether submarine fitted with nuclear devices has been built in these two months. It means that earlier we did not have that. He is trying to express an analysis of the position of defence forces. This type of work. ...*(Interruptions)** No patriot can raise such questions...*(Interruptions)*

He should withdraw his words. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ (MORADABAD) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it should be expunged from the proceedings ...*(Interruptions)*

16.06 hrs.

At this stage Shri Pradeep Kumar Yadav and some other hon. Members came and stood near the Table.

16.07 hrs.

At this stage Shri Pradeep Kumar Yadav and some other Members went back to their seats.

SHRI AJIT JOGI : Mr. Chairman this....words should be expunged from the proceedings of the House ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

Mr. Chairman: Shri Jogi, kindly be seated.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : May I appeal to all of you to be seated? Do you allow me to speak or not? This is a very delicate issue.

[Translation]

SHRI AJIT JOGI : Your members are not allowing anyone to speak...*(Interruptions)* Hon. Minister has given assurance twice that the Members would be disciplined.. *(interruptions)* Hon. Mulayam Singhji was speaking but he is not being allowed to have his say...*(Interruptions)* Now you are trying to speak. We will not allow you...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please allow me to have my say. Do you not allow me also to speak? Please be seated.

[Translation]

SHRI AJIT JOGI : You have given assurance several times, Shri Advani also gave assurance to maintain dignity of the House. Will the Parliament function in this way? ...*(Interruptions)* we will not allow anyone to speak here ...*(Interruptions)* We will also not allow Advaniji to speak ...*(Interruptions)*

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEORIA) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a serious matter. Apology should be sought for it ...*(Interruptions)* It should be expunged from the proceedings ...*(Interruptions)* He should be asked to apologise...*(interruptions)*

DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ : It is an insult to the Parliament.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I do not want anybody to express any derogatory remarks against any Member particularly with regard to our security. Any such remarks expressed here would be expunged. Please continue.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEORIA) : It is not enough. ...*(Interruptions)* It is a serious matter...*(Interruptions)* A responsible Member from the ruling party has said this...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : If anyone from the Government Benches has described an hon. Member of this House as I apologise for it apart from the fact that you may expunge it.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have said all this because Georgeji has stated that nuclear tests were conducted by the Government because so far nothing has been done in this direction. Either he was briefed wrongly by officials of the Ministry or he has gone through the concerned files. I had no other intention except that he should admit this fact. What does it prove? Under the pretext of conducting nuclear tests, a conspiracy is being hatched against this country. What were the reasons for giving Government guarantee for power projects of USA and Japanese companies just within 3 or 4 days of conducting nuclear tests. We would like to ask as to what is the intention of the Government behind it? 18 blocks have been sanctioned to foreign companies for producing oil. In the same way 28 foreign companies have been given licences for mining in an area of 50,000 square km. When tests will be carried out on this land, foreign companies will be able to get confidential information about defence and security of our country. This will create a threat for the security of the country. You can find out as to who is patriot and who is a traitor. Foreign companies will indulge in every type of activity in the name of explosions. It has posed a great danger to the security of the country.

Why has it been done? Is this the Swadeshi movement?...*(Interruptions)* 50,000 square km. of our land was allotted to the foreign companies within four days of

[Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav]

conducting the tests and even after that, they raise the slogan of swadeshi and mislead the nation in the name of Swadeshi. This is what I wish to point out that this slogan of Swadeshi is hollow. They are playing with the national interests. This will only result in violation of confidentiality of defence matters. We will have to concede that only those nations are powerful which have a strong economy. I would like to reiterate that we should strengthen our position in the area of defence so that no country could dare to cast an evil eye on our country.

We categorically refused to sign the C.T.B.T. Even when Russia asked us, the Prime Minister made it very clear that we would not sign it. So it was quite evident that we had the atom bomb. We also stated many a times that we did not intend to attack anyone. If anyone attack us, the fight will be fought on enemy's turf. What has been done is that a letter has been written to U.S.A. about Pakistan and China which turned the two countries against India. Our policy should be to maintain friendly relations with our neighbouring countries but we broke our ties with both Pakistan and China. The entire border area stretching from east to west is tense. The coming together of Pakistan and China has posed the biggest threat to the security of our nation. It is said about China that our relations with that country were improving. The Congress Government, and Prime Ministers right from Shri Rajiv Gandhi to Shri Gujral maintained friendly ties with China, as a result of which China kept silent during Indo-Pak war fought in 1965 and 1971. It did not oppose India and did not interfere. You divided Pakistan and Bangladesh into two separate countries. Our brave soldiers fought and it was the right step. Our army fought under the leadership of Indiraji but this times you have challenged China.

We are unable to solve the problems of power and drinking water. Our country was enslaved during British regime. India faced drought many a times, still the farmers never committed suicide. However, such is the position of the farmers now that they are forced to commit suicide. India faces danger from such internal elements which keep alive the temple issue and the Hindu-Muslim issue. In Moradabad, Muslim children aged between 8-10 years were booked under section 302 on the charge of rioting. In U.P., 14 year old sikh boys were detained under TADA. India faces the biggest threat from those trying to break the unity of Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and Christians. However powerful the foreign power might be, our brave army and citizens and the entire country will face it and fight tooth and nail. The war will be fought on the land of the enemy. We do not intend to turn our country into a battleground. This conspiracy has been hatched by U.S.A. If India is turned into a battlefield due to your policies, we will be in trouble. If at all fight has to be fought under compulsion, we should take care that India should not be turned into a battlefield. It should be fought in some other country. We should try to enhance and strengthen our conventional power.

With these words, I would like to thank you and conclude my speech...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (DUMDUM) : I have been conceding to everybody. If I am not called upon to speak, I will have to stage a walk-out.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : You should not take any such step. Seven members from your side have spoken whereas only four members from this side have been given a chance to speak.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I must concede to the Minister, The Speaker had said that after Shri Advani, I can speak.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, India got freedom in 1947 and ever since, I can recall 4-5 such occasions when a feeling of elation and exhilaration swept through the whole country. Usually whenever such an occasion has arisen and common Indian has felt a sense of pride, the entire world has reacted to it very sharply.

I am reminded of such an occasion. In 1948, Hyderabad was not prepared to join the Republic of India and at that time, action had to be taken there, as a result of which, Hyderabad was forced to be a part of India. At this, the countries known as our friends also criticised us. Same thing was witnessed during the liberation of Goa. When Goa was liberated, it evoked sharp reactions to such an extent that Adlase Stevenson, otherwise a great friend of India strongly criticised us at United Nations organisation fora and infact a Resolution was moved against us in the United Nations Security Council. That Resolution would have been even passed by the support of western countries, had Russia not exercised its veto power. Hence whenever it is said that our action is being criticised throughout the world, such criticism should not be seen as a criteria. At least there is no need to mention it here. Certainly we should pay attention to such matters but only in the measure as deserved by it.

India can never be indifferent to international convention. It can never be so but it does not mean that it can pass on judgement on others. It can never do so. I remember that when the first atomic test was conducted at Pokharan, it was criticised. The year was 1974 and I was the President of the Jan Sangh and as the President, I had written an article and I will quote briefly from my own statement made at that time. I had stated that:

[English]

"The Government's announcement that India has successfully carried out an underground nuclear explosion has been hailed with hallelujah from all sides.

Only twice in recent years has one witnessed such a mood of national elation - first when the Indian Army entered Dacca to liberate Bangladesh and now when India has virtually entered the nuclear club."

[Translation]

I am reminding it only because I felt a sense of sorrow whilst listening to the debate held yesterday. I felt distressed because it is quite understandable that some countries have criticised us. However, the resolution passed in the Summit of non-aligned countries was in support of the atomic tests conducted by India even if the name of India was not specifically mentioned. Under the circumstances, our prominent colleagues and all those who normally analyse each and every matter correctly or if not very correctly, they are not completely off the track, had generally given positive reactions initially. However when I listened to them yesterday, I was surprised. That is why, I sought the permission of the Prime Minister to speak on this matter. Although this subject has been dwelt at length in the initial statement given by the Prime Minister. The Defence Minister who is directly concerned with it, has also spoken. As the Prime Minister handles the External Affairs Ministry, and no other Minister is looking after the work of External Affairs Department, hence I believe that the Prime Minister will reply to the debate which will throw light on all the aspects.

I agree that yesterday a point was challenged by certain prominent Members that if the Government of India maintains that this decision was taken in view of the security of the country, wherefrom are we facing a threat to our security? They said that they can not see any crisis brewing and if there is no crisis, even then the Government talks of security, so how does this point of security arise? It could have stated simply that since it was mentioned in the manifesto, such an action is being taken. Then it was okay and would be understandable but when the Government talks of crisis and security, it should also clarify from which quarters we face the crisis and when did it arise? How did the question of security arise?

Natwar Singh ji spoke on behalf of the Congress Party. He has been associated with the Ministry of External Affairs for years together. It won't be wrong to call him an expert in the field of External Affairs. Although I am not aware if he is an authority in the area of defence matters as well. However when he explained the meaning of the term 'pro-active' in the terminology of defence, I was sur-

prised. Hence I had to see the Defence Experts. I asked them whether the term 'pro-active' used by me can be interpreted in the same way as explained by Shri Natwar Singh. They replied in the negative and said that we would explain its meaning to me. They explained its meaning in their own way and I shall come to that later. However, yesterday Shri Natwar Singh said at the outset:

[English]

" Now, we are entitled to know from the Prime Minister when did this threat begin, Did it begin on the 19th of March when he took over? Or, did it begin on the 8th of April when he gave the green signal to his scientists? ... Have the Pakistanis mounted an exercise which threatened the city of Amritsar?"

Mark the words. Every word is important - 'Have the Pakistanis mounted an exercise which threatened the city of Amritsar?'

And, later on, he goes on to say:

" For 25 years, since 1971, there has been no security threat to India (meaning, from Pakistan). The Simla Agreement has ensured that there is no conflict with Pakistan."

Frankly, I cannot agree with this kind of an analysis of the situation. In fact, it is a total disagreement with this analysis that has made the Government of India take the decision that it had taken.

Subsequently, something similar was said by Shri P. Chidambaram also. Let me quote that also. It would be in place.

Questioning the same security concept Shri Chidambaram said, 'The last war with Pakistan was fought 27 years ago'. And then he described how the hon. former Prime Minister, Shri Inder Kumar Gujral in his negotiations with Nawaz Sharif and President Clinton saw to it that so far as relations with Pakistan were concerned they moved towards normally.

I would not like to comment on the puerile tactic that he indulged in about the Vajpayee doctrine and the Advani doctrine because that is a very pet copy of many journalists trying to drive a wedge between the two. I would not expect Shri Chidambaram to do that.

Shri Natwar Singh in his speech had said that Shri Vajpayee has mentioned Nehruji and Indiraji, but perhaps he did not mention Rajivji and that it was understood. He said something like that. He quoted Rajivji who had made a very fervent appeal for nuclear disarmament and said that it did not succeed for different reasons. He said:-

[Shri L.K. Advani]

"Rajiv Gandhi said that all nuclear weapons should be abolished by 2010 and Gorbachev came out with a proposal, if I remember correctly, that the nuclear weapons should be abolished by 2005. Then the Soviet Union disintegrated."

I do not know why Shri Natwar Singh or Shri Chidambaram conveniently disregarded the fact that in 1991 just before the elections, the Congress Party came forth with a manifesto and let us see what the manifesto says. It took cognizance of the threat that this Government has taken cognizance of. The 1991 election was fought by the Congress under the leadership of Rajivji. The 1991 Congress manifesto was prepared under the aegis of Rajivji. On Page 54 it says:-

"We are deeply concerned that Pakistan is developing the nuclear weapons. It is hoped that they will desist from this disastrous path. They have already inflicted four wars upon India. In case Pakistan persists with the development and deployment of nuclear weapons, India will be constrained to review her policy to meet the threat".

Generally, I am sure, in all documents of this kind Shri Chidambaram has a role. But I do not know whether he had any role in drafting the 1991 manifesto. But this is what I read. Have you read this? I was really surprised. This was the manifesto of the Congress Party.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : We still say and had been saying that we keep the options open. We have all along been saying that weaponisation would damage our foreign policy...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NATWAR SINGH (BHARATPUR) : Shri Advani, I am very glad that you have read this. What is wrong in it?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I do not see anything wrong in this.

I only say that there is a threat perception which you tried to deny to this Government...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NATWAR SINGH : We expect you to do better. It is feeble.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : You have done as badly as you can. I will try to do better.

Sir, this is in so far as the security environment is concerned. I said that I would have ordinarily not intervened in this debate and left it to the intervention by the Defence Minister and then the final reply by the Prime Minister.

In so far as the relations with other countries are

concerned and in so far as external security is concerned, they are the concerns either of the External Affairs Minister or of the Defence Minister. But I do believe that in so far as relations with Pakistan are concerned, they impinge not only on our external security but also on our internal security; and as person who has been entrusted with the responsibility of looking after internal security, I feel that I can contribute something to this debate.

I believe that since 1947, Pakistan which declared itself a theocratic State has failed to reconcile with the fact that India has declared itself a non-denominational secular State, because commitment to theocracy and commitment to the two-nation theory logically lead to Kashmir becoming a part of Pakistan. But it did not happen. The leadership of Kashmir and the people of Kashmir decided to go along with India; and they have remained a part of this country since then.

Pakistan's failure to reconcile with this fact has been at the root of many problems that the country is facing in Jammu and Kashmir. That is how, there was a war in 1947, there was a war in 1965 and in a way, even the war in 1971 was related to that. But having failed in all the wars, they adopted a certain strategy which those concerned with India's security can never afford to discard and ignore. It cannot be done. Only those who discard it can think in terms of making statements of this kind: "Are they mounting an attack on Amritsar? Are they doing this? After all, they have very good talks with us. The Gujral doctrine was functioning very well; if you want to throw it overboard, you can do it. Why do you talk about threat perceptions when there are no threats at all? It is hunky-dory all along." It is only that kind of thinking that shows that we are totally oblivious of it or we shut our eyes ostrich-like to the fact that after the war in 1971, Pakistan decided upon a different strategy.

If any one of us had read the speech of President Zia in the meeting of Army Officials, they would have come to know what he had meant by 'Operation Topac'. He spelt out what Operation Topac meant, in that meeting. Topac is supposed to be a guerilla warfare hero of South America. He undertook the guerilla warfare against the Spaniards who ruled those States there. After his name, this Operation Topac was conceived. What are the elements of this Operation? Operation Topac has three overlapping stages. The first is to raise the level of anti-India feelings among the people of Kashmir; the second is to create militancy and project it as a home-grown Islamic uprising and the third is to bring about a state of collapse in urban as well as rural areas with Srinagar as the center of gravity for political and religious mobilisation.

Sir, I quote what President Zia had said at the Conference:

"In the past, we have opted for hamhanded military operations; and therefore, we failed. We must keep our military options for the moment, as a *coup de grace*, if and when necessary."

This is what President Zia had told his Army Officials when he unravelled this Operation Topac. We cannot afford to ignore that and we cannot afford to ignore what happened further because shortly after 1971, Pakistan went ahead in direction of becoming a nuclear power itself.

And I believe that Pakistan's strategy vis-a-vis, Jammu and Kashmir has been two-pronged. On the one hand, to pursue this Operation Topac and on the other hand, to become a nuclear weapons power. And if you become a nuclear weapons power, then, what happens?

Now, here I have a document produced by the US House of Representatives, Washington and this document has been prepared by the Congress, namely, Task Force on Terrorism and Unconventional Warfare. The main author of this article is Mr. Yossef Bodansky. Mr. Bodansky is the Director of this Task Force on Terrorism and Unconventional Warfare. He says:

"The ISI's support for the Islamist insurgency and terrorism in Kashmir is a direct by-product of Pakistan's grand strategy.

And this is the grand strategy. This document says:

"In mid-February, 1995, a Foreign Ministry spokesman of Pakistan warned that **if India carries out another aggression and war breaks out between Pakistan and India, it would not be a war of a thousand years or even a thousand hours but only a few minutes and India should not be oblivious to the potential devastation.**" (The "thousand year war" is a reference to Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's statement of the extent of Pakistan's commitment to a struggle with India.) Other Pakistani officials were quick to clarify the statement. They stressed that the statement "warned India not by implication but in clear terms that the next war will only last a few seconds and will bring inconceivable destruction and devastation. This clearly indicates that the Pakistani Government has bravely displayed its nuclear capability." The officials added that "Pakistan is really in a position to strike a heavy blow against India through its nuclear capability."

Shri Shiv Shankar is not there. I wish he was there. This may be a bravado....(Interruptions) ...He is there. This may be a thinking in terms of an imaginary misadventure. I was surprised that he used the word 'bravado' against Shri Vajpayee and his Government. He used the word 'misadventure' against Shri Vajpayee when even the NAM Conference felt that there was no bravado. This is only a

kind of protest against nuclear apartheid sought to be imposed on India by the nuclear weapons countries. It was supposed to be a natural thing that India had to do when it was thinking of its security. It is something that has been endorsed by millions in the country. You go to any part of the country. You go to the villages; you go to the towns; you go to the cities. Except for the dissonant voice that was heard in this House yesterday, there will be a very few dissonant voices. It will be the same kind of elation and joy. In fact, people from abroad kept ringing me again and again that for the first time, they feel proud that we are there and till now, no one took notice of us... (Interruptions)...

I entirely agree with what Shri Indrajitji Gupta said that bomb by itself cannot provide security. I agree with him. Vietnam did not have a bomb. America had a bomb. Yet, Vietnam withstood their onslaught for years on end. You have to create that kind of patriotism and self-pride. It is an occasion like this which instills that self-pride and create patriotism. But when everything is prevented like there will be sanctions now, there will be a burden that will come which you will have to face when you have no delivery system and nothing to match that, you will have to pay Rs.40,000 crore to the Army and the Armed Forces. Are you trying to instill patriotism? Are you trying to build up the morale of the people? What kind of contribution are we going to make?

I would have no objection to legitimate criticism. But to say that there is no threat at all and everything is hunky-dory. I am sorry, I cannot agree with it. This Government cannot agree with it. This Government has not kept anyone in the dark. From day one, we said that we would do it.

We talked of a nuclear deterrent. For anyone to argue how can there be a nuclear weapon for defence, we never used the word 'defence' really. We simply said that we had no aggressive intentions for anyone. But 'deterrent' is something which has been the principal reason. Even though many powers in the world have had nuclear arsenals which could destroy the world many times, even then, after Hiroshima and Nagasaki, no one has used them. One reason is deterrence. That is one reason. That is not only reason. I entirely appreciate it. Therefore, this Government's policy is not confined to simply going in for nuclear explosion and on that basis go on thinking that we are secure.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM (SIVAGANGA) : As long as you were using the word 'nuclear deterrent', I did not want to comment. But I want to read from Prime Minister's statement. I was surprised by this phrase. Paragraph 10 of the Prime Minister's statement says:

"We do not intend to use these weapons for aggression or for mounting threats against any country. These are weapons of self-defence."

[Shri P. Chidambaram]

I wanted to know what you meant by a nuclear weapon for self-defence. That is what I asked yesterday.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : This is precisely what I would explain. Deterrence itself is defence. After all, when a country has a nuclear weapon, it uses that weapon even for diplomatic coercion. It has used it in the past. Countries have been doing it. We would not like to be subjected to that. It is in this context that the Prime Minister used the word 'defence'. It is for us.

Similarly, because you have mentioned this, I would like to say that conscious of what was happening in Kashmir, conscious particularly of the fact that in the last couple of months or three months, the militants and their mentors across the line have decided upon a new strategy in Jammu and Kashmir. Earlier, the focus was on the Valley: attack people in the Valley and kill people in the Valley so that the minorities—the Hindus—in the Valley quit the Valley. And having succeeded in that design, they turned their attention elsewhere and decided: "Let us go to the Jammu region of Jammu and Kashmir State and from there try to drive out the minorities."

Immediately after getting the report about Udhampur, I personally went there and visited those hamlets. So, in that kind of massacre that had taken place in which 26 persons—men, women and children—were killed in cold blood, not one of them was shot with a bullet. But every one of them was cut into pieces. The purpose was very clear to see that all these people belonging to the Hindu community migrate from there and gradually not only the Kashmir Valley but the adjunct parts of Jammu province, namely, Udhampur district, Rajouri district, Poonch district and Doda district are also ethnically cleansed according to these militants. So, immediately as persons connected with internal security, we decided to convene a high level meeting. I am happy to say that all people concerned attended that meeting. The Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, the Chief of Army Staff, representatives from the Prime Minister's Secretariat and the Government of India, the Defence Minister and all of us today came to the conclusion that one of the shortcomings in our approach to militancy in Jammu and Kashmir had, till now, been that we had been reacting to what they did.

So we said that let us try to evolve a policy which is not reactive, but which is pro-active. In case of Udhampur I said that after these incidents have occurred we have arrested a few people. Why did we not flush out these terrorists beforehand? We should have flushed them out beforehand and saved these citizens from this kind of a massacre. That is the context in which I used the word 'pro-active'.

In fact, at the Press Conference, some of them asked does 'pro-active' mean not pursuit, chasing the enemy

across the Line of Control? I said, 'no, pro-active means simply pro-active, that we do not react. We should take pro-emptive action'.

Now, I am told by my friends in the Lok Sabha that what I have said is highly objectionable. According to them, in Defence parlance what I have said mean that our Army will go right across the border and go and attack the enemies there. In the other House, today, some Members mentioned that Indian Army has already done that. This is totally baseless.

[Translation]

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED (ANANTNAG) : You have said that in the policy of Pakistan, concentration has been only on Kashmir issue. You must be remembering that in Doda District Hindus and Muslim were living together. They have started their work in villages. The Government of India and our security Forces have tried to check terrorism but they were unsuccessful in that. You want to evolve a strategy there. Security Forces are dealing with the situation. They have controlled the situation in Doda. Therefore it is not correct to say that their focus is only on Kashmir and now they are shifting their focus to Jammu. They have mainly concentrated on Doda District. Security Forces are successful in controlling the situation in Doda. Therefore, there is no need for a new policy.

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Mufti Sahab has put forward his view point. Infact after Hindus were forced to leave Kashmir valley the centre of their operations was Doda district. But people of Doda unitedly resisted it and they especially demanded that Defence Committees should set up there. Defence Committees were set up, but the facilities which it should get, were not given to it. Despite that, 18 police stations were unmanned. Wherever the militants attacked the police, the policemen ran away leaving behind weapons. Only the people have offered resistance there. It is a fact. Advaniji has said correctly that after elections their attention is directed only on Jammu region. Recently 26 people were killed there. During the last nine years, not even a single incident has occurred in Rajouri and Poonch. Today Rajouri and Poonch have turned into a frequent meeting place for militants. I just want to say that their thrust is only on Jammu region.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I would like to tell Shri Chaman Lal ji that it is not correct to assume that Kashmir valley is free from trouble. They will act in the manner that suits their purpose. We will have to exercise caution in the Kashmir valley and Jammu region. Jammu and Kashmir may be the target of their 'operation TOPAC' but overall as Pakistan has taken a decision to become a nuclear weapon state our concern should be to become a nuclear power state, to take care of our security needs and to gain a prominent position in the world. Besides our policy is to oppose some countries which are practising the policy of nuclear apartheid in the world.

[English]

Pakistan's nuclear policy is India-specific. It is directed towards India and that too Jammu-Kashmir-specific.

[Translation]

There should not be any confusion on this issue.

As far as the question of war is concerned, we have faced 3-4, wars mention of which was made by some members. In 1947-48 war, 200 people were killed, in 1965, 3800 people were killed and in 1971, 4600 people lost their lives. Thus around 10,000 people have lost their lives but in Kashmir alone about 18,000 people have been killed. This is all proxy-war and even after this if we say that there is no proxy war and the people who talk about proxy war.

[English]

They are hawks. This is a hawkish statement. I have heard this criticism.

[Translation]

Only yesterday it was stated in a speech that it is not Vajpayee's policy, this is Advani's doctrine.

[English]

In this case I would give all credit to Shri Vajpayee. He has executed this entire programme in manner in which it ought to have been executed. I am not aware of it but you have said that he gave clearance to the scientists on the 8th of April. It may have been reported in the Press. I would not even ask him but I do know that even the Raksha Mantri or myself, or those who came to know of it came to know only when it was necessary for him to communicate it and approximately at the same time he was even looking for Shri Sharad Pawar to communicate to him this decision of the Government. So, I would say that he has conducted this entire exercise in an exemplary manner: in a manner in which the Prime Minister of a country ought to have done it. Therefore, today we can be proud of the fact.

[Translation]

that in India such a great work was accomplished and there was not even a single person who betrayed us either in Pokhran, in our forces or among our scientists. We do not have to conduct an enquiry as to how people know about it rather they had to conduct an enquiry that why they could not know about it. These are the things for which I think we should feel proud and happy and we should congratulate Vajpayeeji Government for this. Of course, government will consider your questions as to what should be done in future. The Defence Ministry will con-

sider this but I can say that on the one hand the countrymen are happy due to these tests and on the other hand I have been told that certain scientists have criticised this action but 'from the names of the scientists' that have been given to me, I can make out that they have nothing to do with science. If at all any scientist has any difference of opinion, it is immaterial. It is good to have difference of opinion but basically I understand that this action of the Government has fulfilled the aspiration of every countrymen and the Prime Minister has taken a right decision in the interest of the national security for which I congratulate him.

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (MIDNAPORE): I would like to get some clarification on one point. As far as I could understand it, the entire speech of the Minister of Home Affairs was aimed at showing that the main threat to our security is coming from Pakistan. The whole thing has been analysed on the basis of a threat from Pakistan, whereas the Defence Minister was shouting against China all the time saying that the whole threat is coming from China. This is why I have said that the Government should learn not to speak in different voices but if possible, in one voice.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (BOLPUR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Home Minister chose to intervene in this debate because according to him Pakistan is such a threat that it was essential to have this explosion.

SHRI L. K. ADVANI : I have said that insofar as Pakistan is concerned, it impinges not only on external security but also on internal security. I have not made any comment on foreign policy or Defence in general.

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : Do you need an atomic bomb to fight a proxy war? Let us know this.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, yesterday the intervention by the Defence Minister was more defensive about maintaining his position in the Government. He was very very defensive in his speech. It was not the usual George Fernandes' performance. The performance of Shri Advani just now clearly shows the confusion that is there in this Government.

They are groping in the dark to find out a justification now, specially so after the statement of the Prime Minister yesterday. I think, Mr. Chidambaram was right in asking that question on the difference between the approach of the Prime Minister and the approach of the Home Minister. Following his clarification, that question becomes much more pertinent.

The main theme of Mr. Advani's speech apart from what this country apprehends from Pakistan, is that to rouse a sense of pride amongst the people of this country this was necessary; that it is the greatest achievement and the

[Shri Somnath Chatterjee]

people of this country feel proud of it; that there is jubilation all around; and that now there is acknowledgement of the role of the BJP Government under the leadership of Mr. Atal Bihari Vajpayee. This is the only real achievement of this exercise.

Sir, we yield to none in accepting the signal contribution made by the scientists and engineers in this respect. It is not the monopoly of that side to express their views of support and acclamation, we also do that. But the question is, this achievement is now sought to be utilised for objectives with political overtones.

I recall the Special Session of Parliament held in celebration of the Fiftieth year of our Independence when we spent hours and hours for several days to discuss the situation prevailing in this country, things ailing this country, apart from the achievements we have been able to make. The present Prime Minister was then the Leader of Opposition, incidentally. I think, that role suits him much better. He made an eloquent speech then. But never did we hear of any reservation expressed by him about our security perception or of the threat this country was supposedly facing. When we were covering the entire gamut of the economy and other aspects of this country, he never advocated any change in our well-established and long-standing nuclear policy.

During that debate, we discussed about poverty, about hunger, about unemployment, about unrestrained population growth, about health care, illiteracy, power shortage, water shortage; we discussed about probity and transparency in public life; and we spoke about criminalisation of politics and many other things. I think, I am sure everybody will agree with me, that the strength of a country depends on curing these ills.

Even after fifty years of Independence, half of the people in this country are below the poverty line. Million and millions of people are without jobs. When Mr. Indrajit Gupta rightly pointed out yesterday that there was shortage of water and power in the Capital, Mr. George Fernandes ridiculed him—as if that was also a great achievement of this Government—saying that the discussion was on nuclear power and, therefore, one should not raise the question of shortage of power and water in the capital of this country. During the Question Hour yesterday, or today itself, Members from all sides of the House clamouring for drinking water and asking the Minister to find out means to supply drinking water, shows the position in which this country is.

We never said that we do not want scientific development. We were also very happy and proud when our scientists were able to make a super computer following the denial of the USA to supply one. We also acclaimed the scientists of this country when they placed our satellites in the orbit. We have been openly applauding their achievements. We are proud of the fact that in spite of

several restraints and shortages, in spite of lack of full finances and facilities, our scientists and engineers had been able to attain great achievements with high level of dedication. We are proud of them.

17.00 hrs.

(Dr. Laxminarayan Pandey *in the Chair*)

But do not try to arrogate that to your political purposes. We are now told of this security problem. Yes, there is a security problem. Since that unanimous resolution that was passed in this House, the only important development that has taken place has been the installation of this Government under the leadership of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. A Government which is nothing but composed of a rickety coalition of all sorts of political parties and with no commonality of interests or policies, apart from somehow to get in and remain in power.

Since 19th of March, this Government has come into being here and we have seen how the mutual bickerings have taken place between its constituents, how bullying tactics have been adopted by the different components of what I call these 'hoax' of a coalition. Three Ministers have already gone. Several Ministers are under charge-sheet with the demands made by one against the other in the coalition asking for their resignation. And throughout this period, you have seen a non-performing Government with a lot of packages and the Prime Minister in bondage. He was completely quiet, he was not saying anything. He was almost on hibernation for all these days.

17.02 hrs.

(Mr. Speaker *in the Chair*)

My very good friend, the Deputy-Chairman of the Planning Commission had hardly time to enter the Yojana Bhawan. He was perambulating all across the country undertaking damage control activity.

Now, Shri Ramakrishana Hegde, the Commerce Minister, a very close associate of our distinguished Prime Minister has said that our Prime Minister is fatigued; he is frustrated; he is tired, how can he function? But suddenly we find that our Prime Minister has become very bold and very active. Although he still looks very unhappy, I am sure, he is not happy.

Whatever happened on 11th and 13th May, along with the people of this country—according to Shri Advani's perception—our Prime Minister is also proud. Now, they say the whole justification is a question of security perception. Yes, security problem is there, but more of the parties; more of the Government, than of the country. But, in the name of patriotism, Shri Advani and Shri Vajpayee will not allow any of their allies to raise any discordant voices, no more claims; no more demands; the packages have

now been sealed and the Agenda is now very clear—'Hindu Nationalism'.

Mr. Specker, Sir, never in the history of Independent India that such a momentous decision has been taken on such narrow, partisan political purpose to save the Government which has a tenuous support from only a quarter or 25 per cent of the people in this country. This feeling is reinforced by one of the important functionaries of this Government and of the *Sangh Parivar*. *Sangh Parivar* has loaned a very important economist to BJP now. I quote:

"India going nuclear has always been on the BJP agenda. But right now, the explosions were our insulation against instability. Not only does it protect us from the irritation or blackmail—the blackmail of allies...."

It has also projected the BJP and the Government capable of taking hard decisions.

The object is very clear. Now, what we find is—and I do not know whether the Prime Minister's clearance was obtained—What Mr. Seshadrichari, Editor of the RSS Mouth Piece, 'Organiser' toured the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre even as the countdown had begun. He said that it was a friendly visit. Suddenly, he makes a friendly visit to Bhabha Atomic Research Centre just before this explosion. 'Organiser' was newspaper which first published this news on the 11th of May itself. These are very serious matters.

Now, I would say about Shri Govindacharya. Nobody would deny his authority. He said and I quote, — kindly see the comparison — "Like the feeling attached to Ayodhya, the nuclear tests are an emotional nationalist assertion. "This is the response. Then, of course, our good friend, the Political Advisor to the Prime Minister, the 'Smiling Buddha' all the time, said, "It is not a nuclear test, but a test of nationalism."

Mr. Speaker Sir, the BJP's Executive of Rajasthan chalked out a plan for the Prime Minister to hold a public meeting. He did not agree to that probably, but that was the decision of his Party Executive of Rajasthan. A senior BJP leader said, "there would be religious pilgrimage in Pokhran following which rallies would head, some with the sands of Pokhran". The emotion behind the proposal to spread Pokhran sand was to spread the feeling of national self-confidence. All these things are not necessary.

These was a spontaneous rousing of the feeling of pride and fulfilment. ... (Interruptions) Yes, it is so far a scientific achievement and it should be kept there. I agree with them fully. But they are utilising it for purposes which the scientists will shudder from. We were not thinking of the mileage to be given to BJP, not to this Government and not to the Prime Minister. Sir, strange arguments are being put forward by the senior Members, including a Min-

ister on the opposite side, that the scientists are getting frustrated, they are going to retire soon, so, before their retirement something must be done.

Sir, unfortunately everybody has to retire some time or the other. That was said today also by Shri Barnala. Shri Jag Mohan said yesterday that they were getting frustrated. To avoid frustration of our distinguished scientists, Shri Gujral had rightly decided to confer "Bharat Ratna" on one of them. They will go on exploding nuclear bombs, nuclear devices. We want them to continue with vigour, full control of their abilities and efficiencies. For years and years to come, give them extensions, I do not mind, although there may be other very eminent people. What we are trying to find out is the real objective.

Sir, the BJP manifesto of 1998 said clearly — I agree that the BJP's stand has been consistent on this — that India should expedite its nuclear policy and exercise the right to induct nuclear option. But they had to enter into the hotch-potch of a Government. They had to make some adjustments here and there. They said that they agreed so many parties sitting together had entered into an agreement — to prepare a national agenda.

And this National Agenda, if it was not to hoodwink the people, very categorically said: "We will establish a National Security Council" Sir, this is necessary. So far, the Government's spokesman has avoided this. I had to repeat this because we need an answer to this. It says :

"We will establish a National Security Council to analyse the military, economic and political threats to the nation, also to continuously advise the Government. This Council will undertake India's first ever strategic defence review to ensure the security, territorial integrity and unity of India. We will take all necessary steps and exercise all available options. Towards that end, we will reevaluate the nuclear policy and exercise the option to induct nuclear weapons."

The BJP manifesto did not talk of that but I find, subject to correction, that the National Agenda made a commitment to this.

Now, Sir, the Defence Minister, on the 20th of March, had said : " The nuclear option had been put on hold. We did not say, we were going for nuclear weapons. We will reevaluate policies to ensure security. In the light of that, we will decide on the nuclear option." That was what he had said on the 20th of March. The Defence Minister of India has been withdrawing whatever he is saying because of the Prime Minister's pulling him apparently.

Now, Sir, this National Security Council is not yet formed. Shri Jaswant Singh is a poor chap. I would have liked him to be here. You could not get him here. You are giving all sorts of jobs. Now he has to find out the persons

[Shri Somnath Chatterjee]

for this Council. Now his job is not over. You are sending him to Chennai so often. How can he have time ?

Therefore, without this study, without this review, how could you do this?

Sir, it appears that, on the very first day itself, on the 19th of March, the Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee had called Dr. Chidambaram and said: 'How do you, like this testing? He came out all smiling, as the newspapers and the journals said. Therefore, this decision was taken on the very first day. This National Agenda was a 'tamasha'. I had said, during the last debate, that this National Agenda is a 'National tamasha'. Therefore, you do not follow it. Just to arouse a sense of pride, you go back on your commitment to the nation, commitment to all these small fries—not personal disrespect but party-wise ... (Interruptions)

SHRI VAJKO : Do you call us 'small fries'? ... (Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : No, it is only party-wise, very small parties. You will be swallowed up soon ... (Interruptions)

Shri Sudharshan of RRS had said that in 1996 with—in that thirteen day constitutional aberration, as I had said earlier—the BJP was having a nuclear explosion in mind. But at that time there was no Ghauri. Even then you decided it.

Shri Advani, during that time you were not in the Government. We duly appreciated your desire not to come back without the clearance but that charge-sheet has remained with you. However, there is another charge-sheet. Somehow, charge-sheets are not leaving you.

Now, Mr. Speaker, Sir, coupled with this, we find a decision to have a monument there called 'shakti peeth' and also to construct a temple. What is the message to the people?

We have a very very competent Minister for Information and Broadcasting. Of course, she cannot control that 71 year old person but she has her own tentacles.

She knows. She maintains very good equation with people who met her in different sections of the media. Now, lo and behold, Shri Gill does not control Star Plus, Zee TV and TVI. Therefore, generally all these are orchestrated exuberance of the people as if they are caught hold of from the market. So what do you see? Hail Shri Vajpayee. Only BJP could do this. But these are the types of responses that you see.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Even she is doing all this.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : She is inspiring. I know her wishes are sufficient. Therefore, it is not a question of mere scientific test, Mr. Prime Minister, it is a question of

scientific test plus something. That is why, we are here. Some of you are saying that we are traitors we are un-patriotic or not patriotic enough, but Sir, we have always supported whichever Government was in power. At least our Party has never been in power. It is a party of self-abnegation. You know that. We did not want, although you offered the Prime Ministership.

Sir, we have always said on this issue of fighting terrorism in Punjab, on fighting insurgency in Jammu and Kashmir that we shall support the Government. Our party has had to sacrifice many lives in Punjab and also in Kashmir. Our comrades have laid down their lives for maintaining the integrity of this country. Therefore, do not think that it is only your Party's great prerogative but it is also a right, prerogative and duty of every Indian in this country. I am happy that our Party has contributed, maybe, not in the so vocal sense as you are able to do.

But today on the basis of these scientific achievements that have been made, you now want to, as I said, arrogate every credit. Rightly, Shri Chidambaram said that there can be only three questions. Of course, he mentioned the most important course as the last one. But that is the first course which is the real one.

Today naturally you are not happy. With this motley crowd, how can you be happy? They are not allowing you to function properly. Therefore, Mr. Prime Minister, the attempt to try to show to the people that a great decision has been taken, a great achievement by you, is not true. Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav has rightly said everything was ready. You did not have to do anything except to take a decision.

But the question is : why are we worried? After a long, long period of time and assiduously with great effort and great, as I said, diplomacy, things were becoming normal. Since the visit of Shri Rajiv Gandhi in 1988 to China things were much more normal. We are inching and even we have been faster than anybody towards normalising the relations. The answer that you have given yesterday on the floor of this House clearly belied whatever may be your today's versions about the situation in China about which Shri George Fernandes spoke not so eloquently yesterday. Today, either they have divided the two enemies or they have shown their confusion.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, a question therefore, necessarily comes and the Government has to answer. I rightly appreciate Shri Advani's great intelligence and his choice of words. I always admire him. I have been admiring him. Now with his present approach, I do now know, where he will take us.

But yesterday something very interesting was said. We had to ask, "Why now?" Why, within few days of your assumption of power, 19th March to 8th of April, what happened? Can we not ask as Members of Parliament, as

representatives of the people? And rightly you reminded you were only 25 per cent. Can we not ask "why now? What happened without this strategic review which you have promised to the country? Why? Where was even Shri Sharad Pawar that the Prime Minister of India could not get hold of him? I do not know. Had you gone abroad, Shri Pawar?

AN HON. MEMBER : He was in Chennai !

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Even he could have gone.

Therefore, you could not get the Leader of the Opposition of this country to talk to him on such an important matter.

AN HON. MEMBER : He was gone to Chennai secretly.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : With Shri Lal Krishan Advani in charge of the security it should not have been difficult, I do not know. And surely he is being followed by the system.

Now Shri George Fernandes was very 'intelligent'. If I may say so within quotes that "it was now" : because it was not done earlier ! It is a flippancy coming from the Defence Minister of the country ! He said, "Yes, it was now because it was not earlier. "I was amazed. The sooner you get rid of him the better for this country ! He is no longer the same George Fernandes. He is very small 'g' and a very small 'f'.

The question is, nuclear option we have always said, 'do not give up.' As you have been saying very repeatedly the country has been one. Do not forget that Mr. Prime Minister, on non-signing the CTBT. Everyone in the country has supported. When you were sitting or standing there we have supported you and we have said, " Do not sign CTBT and do not be a party to NPT whatever may be there. On that we have our options. Now why do you give up at the same time India's great position in the world today ? That, although we are in a position to do it we are applying self-restraint. But we are keeping our options open and at the same time trying to bring about a total disarmament. Of course that is our objective. It is not easy. Persons of great eminence like the former Foreign Minister and Prime Minister Shri Gujral have been trying. I am no expert at all. Everybody in this country is trying to maintain that position that, yes, we see that India's long standing policy is the twin-component of refusal to surrender the nuclear option by acceding to the NPT regime and self-imposed conditional restraint in not militarising the option has been our policy. And this policy has failed, And when we ask here, when some of the distinguished hon. Members ask here how have those explosions stopped the activities that you are complaining of, yes, we are today complaining of this proxy war.

Shri Natwar Singh has rightly just interjected a minute

back. This proxy war was controlled. Of course, Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav has said that we shall support you in all matters of use of conventional weapons and rightly pointed out how you can have a nuclear weapon as a weapon of defence. These things require to be explained, Mr. Prime Minister.

Now today at two o' clock I had a news item on the TV that the explosion in Pakistan is imminent. Now, what will you do ? What will happen? Are we not getting into an arms race? Can this country afford? Can our sub-continent afford to have it ?

Is it not our objective to have friendly relations with everybody in this world particularly with our neighbours? Are we achieving it? Of course, we yield to none in our concern for maintaining our security. Everything is required to be done. You have decided a moratorium. Now, suddenly my good friend, Shri Brijesh Mishra is talking of — obviously with the hon. Prime Minister's clearance — a possibility of being a party to the C.T.B.T. He says and I quote :-

"India would be prepared to consider being an adherent of some of the undertakings in the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. "

What are the thoughts? But this cannot obviously be done in a vacuum. It would necessarily be an evolutionary process from concept to commitment and it depends on a number of reciprocal activities. What is the thinking of the Government on this? We see nothing from the hon. Prime Minister either a statement or the enclosure. What is this ? Please tell us.

Our Minister of Defence has said that our weaponisation is complete. He says and I quote:-

"Without weaponisation, this whole question of being a nuclear weapons State does not make any sense. Nuclear weaponisation is necessary and in the ultimate analysis, inevitable. Arguing that nuclear weapons had always been seen as a deterrent, he said. "No one is talking of nuclear war. There is only one instance when nuclear weapons were used and we know the circumstances, Nuclear weapons will only be a deterrent."

It was not deterrent so far as urges and aspirations of Vietnam were concerned; of the people of Iraq were concerned, or wherever there have been such situation. He wants to say that he utilised this for this purpose and the Government is not explaining to anybody. The hon. Prime Minister owes it to the country to reply. Why did he write to President Clinton stealthily on the 11th May itself? What was the objective? Why did he do that? Is he trying to keep America in good humour and trying to make out a case of China and Pakistan being security threats to this country? Is that the statement? ...*(Interruptions)*

May 28, 1998

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SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : Will the Government try to confirm whether Pakistan has exploded two nuclear devices or not ? Will they please confirm it ? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (MAHABUBNAGAR) : It is necessary for the Government to confirm. Will the Government confirm it ?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Now, the situation is much more serious. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Let us wait. Please wait.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD : Just now news has been received that Pakistan has conducted two explosions. Will the Government confirm it ? Will the government make any statement in this regard ? It is a very serious matter. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA (KAISARGANJ) : The Hon'ble Prime Minister should immediately confirm this in the House. It is the concern of entire House...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SHAKEEL AHMED : The Government should confirm this whether it is true not*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat. She has already sent a message.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : I will let you know the authentic news within five minutes*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats. They have already gone to find out the facts.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats. The Minister is on her legs. She is giving the reply.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister is giving the reply.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister is on her legs.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The Government is giving the reply. Please take your seats .

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, just now I am informed that today Pakistan has conducted two tests at 3.30 p.m. The news to this effect was received by Hon'ble Prime Minister also. We are collecting the facts. I will give detailed statement or facts in the House. This information is correct and flash news has been telecast on Doordarshan that at 3.30 p.m. Pakistan conducted two tests. After collecting facts in this regard, I will inform the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was on my legs. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Somnath Chatterjee, please continue.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, kindly control them. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the information given by the hon. Minister of Information and Broadcasting regarding explosion by Pakistan, is very serious and I think the House should be briefed properly by the Prime Minister himself. My request will be that the House should be adjourned for ten minutes or fifteen minutes and let the Prime Minister come and brief the House properly. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) : As soon as the Prime Minister and Home Minister received this news that today Pakistan has conducted two tests, they have gone to confirm it. ...*(Interruptions)* I have no objection if you want to adjourn the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (BOLPUR) : Sir, no adjournment.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : The Prime Minister

himself is very much worried for giving facts. He has gone to collect facts. ...*(Interruptions)* He will come and confirm it. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, I want to continue my speech. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : The Hon'ble Prime Minister will come just now and brief you in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats .

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please do not do like this.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR (BARAMATI) : This matter is very important. ...*(Interruptions)* It was announced 1½ or 2 hours earlier...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Announcement came at 4.00 P.M.

[English]

SHRI TARIQ ANWAR (KATIHAR) : It was done two hours before....*(Interruptions)* Let the Prime Minister come to the House..*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Member's please listen to me. Please take your seats.

Shri Somnath Chatterjee, one minute please.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Prime Minister and also the Home Minister have gone to ascertain the facts.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : The Prime Minister has come.

May I continue? Does he want to make a statement?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE) : Would he like to complete first?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : No. He should categorically state whether the information is correct or not.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, just now we have received this news. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VILAS MUTTEWAR (NAGPUR) : Half an hour has passed. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : I was present in the House when I received this news...*(Interruptions)* Did you too receive this news two hours earlier? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR (AKOLA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Sushmaji had stated that this news was telecast on Doordarshan at 3.30 p.m.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, according to the information received, Pakistan has conducted two nuclear tests. Detailed information is not yet available. I am collecting the facts, and will place them in the House. If it is true that Pakistan has conducted the nuclear test, it vindicates the policy adopted by India in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJIT JOGI : You are responsible for this. The history will never forgive you.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very serious matter. Our apprehension has unfortunately been proved to be true. It is a matter of great concern that a nuclear arms race has started in this Sub-Continent. Now, the other matter of great concern is that the hon. Minister of Information and Broadcasting said that these tests were done by them at 3.30 p.m. But at 5.30 p.m. one of the Members of the Opposition has to inform the Government about it and you just sat here. What is the intelligence in this country?

Sir, no longer the safety and the protection of the future of this country can be left to these people. They are totally unfit to govern. For the purpose of bolstering a tottering Government they have now brought about this serious situation that this country is facing today. Now, in this context, we cannot but describe Shri Advani's intervention

[Shri Somnath Chatterjee]

as anything else than bravado. He is the Home Minister of India. He was talking about Pakistan's Intentions. He said that because of the internal security aspects of the matter he was intervening in this debate and when he was speaking here, Pakistan was merrily going on doing these nuclear tests. This is your intelligence and you want to protect us ! ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : You are criticising the Government for your own benefit.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : You are justifying the test conducted by Pakistan by advocating their case ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : It was expected. At this time you should try to strengthen the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JAISINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL : Why are you so afraid?

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Prime Minister has said that the Government would fulfil all the commitments. What is their commitment? The commitment was to have a moratorium and to provide a weapon of defence. With that commitment, how do you tackle the seriously developing situation?

Sir, I was referring to the Prime Minister's letter to President Clinton when Shri Natwar Singh exploded the bomb here and the Government itself was in the dark. What I was going to ask the Prime Minister was this. They have mentioned about these preparations and nuclear arsenal of China and Pakistan, but they have never mentioned about Diego Garcia.

Are you not concerned about the nuclear arsenal in Diego Garcia ? You are going to please and keep that person – the President of U.S.A. whose base is there – in good humour. He is the first person in the world who comes to know before the people of India come to know. Sir, we cannot approve of this. This is nothing but to divert people's attention from the serious internal situation in this country.

Sir, we saw on the television Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee wearing a Rajasthanian *pagri* when he gave a speech. May I quote a few lines from his speech ? I quote:

[Translation]

" We have already made it clear and I want to repeat that we want a world free of atomic weapons. We will not use these weapons against anyone but, if needed, we shall not hesitate to use them for our defence."

[English]

He will use it. ...*(Interruptions)*. This is your weapon of defence....*(Interruptions)* Let the Prime Minister say that he will use this bomb, if necessary according to him. Sir, very interestingly there was a meeting soon after this explosion. He was addressing the B.J.P. workers and trying to create a situation of frenzy, a feeling of frenzy among them and through them among the people. This is your speech ...*(Interruptions)* The Prime Minister has used a very significant phrase. May I read his statement ? On page four, he says:

"The overwhelming support of our citizens is our source of strength. It tells us not only that this decision was right but also that our country wants a focussed leadership which attends to their security needs."

Now, what is this " focussed leadership " ? What is he talking about? This is the object – try to create frenzy, try to create a feeling of great achievement, try to arrogate to yourself the achievements of our scientists and say that this is the leadership which could do that. Therefore, preparation was not yours. Everything was lying ready. You just took a decision within a day without consulting anybody, without reviewing the security position of this country and without any strategic review which you had promised in your National Agenda. And then you are saying that this is the leadership which has done it. Therefore, what Shri Pramod Mahajan has said, what Shri Govindacharia has said and what your Organisation etc. has said, well this is only the B..I.P. could do it. This is an attempt which you are trying to make in the name of the security of this country. But the question is : will the country permit this ? For the purpose of your own narrow political ends, the future of this country has been brought under serious problem. ...*(Interruptions)* This is absolutely wrong. We never said that....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : That is not proper.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : We said: "Do not try weaponise the State." You are utilising our achievements to weaponise and now it has been admitted by you that your objective is to have weapons and arsenal . A very relevant question was asked by Shri Chidambaram, that is, whether you would stockpile. You have to answer these things. Your Defence Minister did not answer it and your Home Minister did not answer it. Now, these are very important questions . Who will answer them?

Now, the new situation that has developed, it seems, is a direct result of this. I do not know, what will happen.

Sir, Shri Vajpayee is a good student of history. After the 1974 blasts came the Emergency, and 1977 was the end of that Government. So, do not be under an euphoria. The question which is most important is the future of this

country, future of the teeming millions who are looking for jobs, food, water and electricity. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN (COIMBATORE) : We are always against dictatorship. If there is an emergency, then we will be fighting along with you.

SHRI M. SELVARSAU (NAGAPPATTINAM) : You are not a Minister. Why are you interrupting him? ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : In view of the situation that has developed, I want to say that we have to be extremely cautious. It is clear, Sir, that the future of this country can no longer be left in the hands of these power-hungry people. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down .

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Therefore, Sir, I express my view that although it is a great scientific achievement, this is not the way to play with the future of this country....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon'ble Members, let there be order please.

As the discussion on a very serious subject is going on, if the House agree, the Matter under Rule 377 pertaining to 27.5.98 and 28.5.98 may be laid on the Table of the House.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER : They may be laid on the Table of the House.

17.53 hrs.

*MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need to bring legislation for creation of a separate Uttaranchal State during the current session**

[*Translation*]

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM (GARHWAL) : Central Government has announced to create a separate Uttaranchal State and has given an assurance to bring a legislation for the same during the current Budget session.

According to Article 3 of the Constitution, the Bill has to be sent to the President before bringing it in the Lok Sabha. The President has to send it to the legislature of Uttar Pradesh for its opinion.

It is request that Central Government should ensure

* Treated as Laid on the Table of the House.

that this Bill is introduced in the House during the current Budget Session.

The Government must give assurance on this subject.

- (ii) **Need to do away with the concept of reserve area for sugar mills with a view to providing permission for vacuum pan system to Khandsari units.**

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH (MEERUT) : In our country especially in Uttar Pradesh, sugar mills crush only 35 per cent of the total sugarcane produced by the farmers. Rest is crushed by the Khandsari units. Due to the lower recovery from Khandsari units, farmers get less amount of money. Now the Government has permitted the Khandsari units to use vacuum pan technology. But only those units which are outside the reserve area of mills will be able to use this technique. It will not be helpful for the farmers as mills have the capacity to crush only 35 per cent of sugarcane. So farmers will be compelled to sell the sugarcane only to those Khandsari units which are within the Mill area with the result that their recovery will not increase.

Therefore, I request the Central Government to do away with the criterion for reserve area for sugar mills so that all Khandsari units may get the benefit of getting permission for vacuum pan system and they could pay the increased price for the sugarcane to farmers. I would also like to request the Government that imposing ban on the setting up of new Khandsari units in the reserve area will suffice to protect the interests of sugarmills.

- (iii) **Need to provide financial assistance to State Government of Bihar for all round development of Godda Parliamentary Constituency**

SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV (GODDA) : Sir, Godda Parliamentary Constituency is spread in rural districts. Transport facility is negligible there. Moreover, in some areas it is impossible to move out in rainy season. It becomes difficult for the sick people to move out for medical help. Also it becomes almost impossible to shift a patient for medical aid.

Therefore due to the bad condition of village roads and in the absence of roads at various places it becomes difficult to live in these villages. State Government is not in a position to build roads there.

Therefore, Central Government is requested to provide financial assistance as early as possible for the all round development of this area.

- (iv) **Need for creation of a separate Bundelkhand state comprising 16 backward and undeveloped districts of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh or providing of special economic package for the development of the region**

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI (JHANSI) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Government is determined to create a separate state for Uttaranchal region in Uttar Pradesh, Vananchal in Bihar and Chhattisgarh in Madhya Pradesh. I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards some of the areas of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh which are backward in terms of population, industrial progress, education and medical facilities in comparison to the states to be created as mentioned above. For the last few years, there has been a demand in Parliament and State Legislatures to form a separate Bundelkhand State by merging 16 districts of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. These areas have been neglected by their respective State Governments. These areas have suffered due to an indifferent policy from their respective governments and the same attitude is likely to continue in future as well. The landscape of this area is full of natural and mineral resources and is geographically ideal but in spite of this, the region is still backward. Today, the condition of this area is such that 50 per cent of the population do not get two square meals a day.

I demand from the Government that in order to ensure development of this area, a separate state of Bundelkhand may be created or the Government should announce a special economic package for this region.

I also demand that the Hon'ble Home Minister may kindly make a statement in the House regarding the policy of the Central Government in regard to the formation of a new Bundelkhand state by merger of these 16 backward districts of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.

(v) Need for electrification of Indore-Ujjain railway route.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (INDORE) : In view of increasing economic development of the area, a need for electrification of Indore-Ujjain rail route is being felt strongly. The urgency of this need can be seen in view of the growing traffic on this route. This demand has been raised time and again. I request the hon. Minister to pay attention towards it.

(vi) Need to Review Public Distribution System with a View to check Corruption and black marketing

SHRI R.L.P. VERMA (KODARMA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, after independence during the last fifty years the country-wide network of Public Distribution System has been a failure in supplying the essential commodities to common man at concessional rates. Quota, permit and control regime have collectively resulted in increasing corruption and black marketing even at Panchayat level. Eighty per cent of the allocated quota is diverted to open market where it is sold at double and tripple rates, thereby exploiting the public. Central Government is spending crores of rupees to supply essential commodities at concessional rates but this objective has not been achieved. People could not get

sugr, wheat, kerosene etc. at concessional rates. Supply officials get bribes if any such complaint is registered. This business prospers due to difference in rates of essential commodities under PDS and open market. Therefore, PDS should be scrapped. Essential commodities should be sold at a fixed price. Stringent action should be taken under the Essential Commodities Act and other laws against the persons found guilty of violating the law. It will help in checking corruption and black marketing.

(vii) Need to retain Railway facilities available at Una Railway Station and Una Railway Section and also allocate adequate funds for completion of Una-Talwara Broadgauge Line

SHRI SURESH CHANDEL (HAMIRPUR) (H.P.) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Railways towards the only broad-gauge line in Himachal Pradesh i.e. Delhi-Una railway line. I would like to bring it to your notice that booking facility at Una station is being withdrawn and staff working here is being transferred. The status of this block station has been reduced to a flag station. Mehatpur railway station is also being closed. The additional railway line laid there is being uprooted. It has been decided that instead of a full train from Delhi only three bogies will be attached for this station. It is going to adversely affect the people of my Constituency. I feel that as a result of withdrawal of these railway facilities the passenger traffic in my Parliamentary constituency will not only be disrupted but will be virtually blocked. Already a very few facilities are provided by Railways for this area and following the withdrawal of these facilities, millions of people including a large number of people working in the defence forces will face difficulties in reaching their destinations.

Under these circumstances I request the Government for maintaining the existing railway facilities at Una railway station and at this section of Railways if it is not possible, to increase the facilities at present. The implementation of the unfavourable decision taken by the Ministry should be stopped immediately. I demand that the project of laying broadgauge railway line between Una and Talwara should be taken up again and sufficient allocation should be made for it in the current railway budget. The State Government is ready to provide necessary assistance in this regard.

(viii) Need to Rename Chanehat Railway Station as Bareilly Cantt. Railway Station and provide basic amenities at this station for proper development of Bareilly

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (AONLA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Bareilly is a prominent district and commercial as well as trade centre of Uttar Pradesh, where a large number of Government/Semi Government offices are located and the prestigious IFFCO fertilizer plant is also working there. During the tenth Lok Sabha, the Government made an announce-

ment that Bareilly would be developed as a magnet city and all facilities would be provided to the people of this city as well as the entire district for all round development of the institutions and offices located there. But in the absence of the proper development of railway stations and expansion of railway facilities, the local people, traders and businessmen are facing a lot of difficulties in coming and going and transportation of their goods in time. The local people are strongly demanding that Chanheti railway station should be renamed as Bareilly Cantt. railway station and basic amenities should be provided at this station for all round development of Bareilly.

Being the representative of Aonia (Bareilly) constituency, I request the hon. Minister of Railways that in public interest orders/instructions should be issued to the authorities for renaming the Chanheti railway station as Bareilly Cantt. railway station and for providing basic amenities there.

[English]

(ix) Need to Review the Existing Crop Insurance Scheme in Andhra Pradesh

SHRI K.S. RAO (MACHILIPATNAM) : The existing Group Insurance Scheme though formulated for the benefit of the farmers in the event of the failure/damage of their crop due to various reasons like droughts, excessive rains, flood and other natural calamities does not give any real relief to the affected farmers. Presently, the basis of the scheme is Mandal and not village. The smallest Mandal in Andhra Pradesh consists of 25-30 villages. The net result is that if there is failure/damage of crops in one or two villages no benefit is given to the farmers unless all the villages in the mandal are affected. Thus practically no benefit reaches the farmers whose crops are damaged.

It is, therefore, necessary to review the existing Crop Insurance Scheme to rectify the lacunae. The basis should be village and not a Mandal. If this is done it will be of great relief and benefit to the farmers for whom the Crop Insurance Scheme is meant.

(x) Need to Relax the area description of Coastal Regulation Zone in Kerala by reducing it about 100 metres from the High Tide mark and 25 metres from backwaters and Rivers

SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN (CANNANORE): Kerala is endowed with long and beautiful coastal line and it is well known for its numerous rivers, lakes, creeks and backwaters. The geographical area of Kerala is very limited and there is severe pressure on land due to high density of population. The Coastal Regulation Zone do not permit construction in an area falling within 500 metres of high tide line from the sea shore and within 100 metres of banks of rivers, backwaters, canals and creeks. The ban will have a deep impact not only on the development activities but even on the construction of huts and small houses for the people

living along the coast for decades together. People living along the coastal belt as also along the banks or rivers and backwaters are put to difficulties due to this ban on construction activities.

While welcoming the noble intention behind the ban on the construction of high-rise building, industrial units and big structures which pose environmental hazards, I appeal to the hon. Minister for Environment and Forests to take a lenient view towards local inhabitants who wish to set up houses. For this purpose, the Government may kindly consider relaxing the area description of Coastal Regulation Zone reducing it to about 100 metres from the high tide mark and 25 metres from backwaters and rivers.

(xi) Need to set up an International Airport with Night Landing Facilities At Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh

DR. I. SUBBARAMI REDDY (VISAKHAPATNAM): Visakhapatnam is one of the most developed industrial cities in Andhra Pradesh. There are a large number of industrial units at present in Visakhapatnam, like Bharat Plates & Vessels Ltd., Coromondal Fertilisers Ltd., Hindustan Zinc Ltd., Hindustan Shipyards Ltd., Hindustan Petroleum, Visakhapatnam Port Trust, Dredging Corporation Ltd., Visakhapatnam Export processing Zone and Visakhapatnam Steel Plant. Besides these, there are a large number of other industries coming up in this area and the city is developing rapidly.

In spite of the importance of Visakhapatnam unfortunately, there are very poor airport facilities.

The City Airport also does not have the night, landing facilities and infrastructure for landing of large aircrafts. Thus there is need to increase the length of the runway at the existing airport for landing of larger aircrafts and acquisition of adjoining land from the Visakhapatnam Port for expansion of the airport.

Further, on account of liberalisation of economic policies of the Government of India and the keen interest shown by the foreign investors in establishing the industrial units and also thrust on exports and imports through Visakhapatnam Port, there is an urgent need for having an International Airport at Visakhapatnam so that the foreign investors may have direct link with other State capitals of the Country and also with foreign countries.

I urge upon the Union Government to consider setting up an International Airport duly provided with the latest modern facilities of International Airports with night landing facilities at Visakhapatnam.

(xii) Need to Reduce Eligibility Period for Freedom Pension From Six Months to Three Month's of Imprisonment

SHRI C.P.M. GIRIYAPPA (CHITRADURGA) : Entire nation is celebrating the Golden Jubilee of India's Independ-

dence. All of us are enjoying the fruits of independence. For this, the entire credit should go to freedom fighters. It is their sacrifice which has brought us freedom.

The freedom fighters are running from pillar to post to get pension sanctioned. Most of them, particularly in Karnataka hail from rural areas. All the documents may not be available with them. The minimum period required for sanction of freedom fighter's pension is six month's imprisonment. But unfortunately, as stated above, all the detailed documents are not available now. Moreover, these freedom fighters are very old. Many among these are sick and they cannot move from place to place. Under these circumstances, how can one expect them to come to Delhi.

In another two months, our Golden Jubilee celebrations come to an end. Before this period comes to an end, the hon. Minister has to take quick, bold and sympathetic steps to help the freedom fighters. I, request the Union Government to reduce the eligibility period for freedom fighters from six months to three months immediately so that these old freedom fighters can breathe their last few days in peace in this largest democracy of the world. In fact, this will give a befitting finale to Golden Jubilee Celebrations of India's Independence.

(xiii) Re: Need to set up a Regional Passport Office at Nasik, Maharashtra

SHRI MADAV RAO PATIL (NASIK) : Sir, with the liberalisation of foreign investment, a large number of multinational companies have entered the country. There are many such multinational companies in Nasik also. About 15 lakh people are living in Nasik region. A number of people go abroad and come to Nasik for business as well as for other purposes. The people of Nasik have to go to Mumbai for getting passport. They have to stay at Mumbai where the cost of living is very high as compared to Nasik. Therefore, there is an urgent need to open a regional passport office at Nasik. This is the long pending demand of the people of Nasik.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to take necessary steps to provide regional passport office at Nasik at the earliest.

(xiv) Need to Supply Higher quality of natural gas to power units in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan

COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY (BARMER) : Sir, I represent underdeveloped, backward, desert districts of Barmer and Jaisalmer of Rajasthan besides one segment of Jodhpur. The fact despite local availability of natural resources, like gas & oil fields, steel grade lime, gypsum, lignite, marble etc., these districts are industrially backward. You may be aware, Sir, that large quantity of superior quality natural gas is available in Jaisalmer district, especially at Ramgarh and Tanot. To meet to power requirement of the area, two gas-based thermal power

projects (3 mw and 35.5 mw costing Rs. 19 crore and Rs. 160 crore respectively) were installed during 1994 and 1996. The first thermal power project is under closure due to low calorific value of gas supplied by the GAIL. The gas being supplied by the GAIL is of poor quality as a result power units are badly affected. A project report for 160 mw capacity gas turbine comprising 3×35.5 mw GT plus 1.35.5 mw steam turbine costing Rs. 555 crore was prepared of which 1×35.5 mw has already been installed under phase-II. Remaining generating units are proposed to be installed after commitment of additional 10 lakh M3/ days gas from the GAIL. Additional requirement has already been registered with the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas during June, 1997 after gas availability indications were given by the Oil India Limited. Funds requirement for extension project would be Rs. 350 crore.

In view of the facts mentioned above, smooth functioning of projects created under phase-I and II are affected due to poor quality of gas. Project Report prepared during 1992-93 costing about Rs. 550 crore has not yet been implemented.

I, therefore, request the Union Government to issue necessary directives to the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas to coordinate with the OIL, ONGC and GAIL to supply higher quality of natural gas. Gas wells with good quality are available at Tanot in its vicinity. The Ministry of Finance should also meet the requirement of funds (about Rs. 350 crore) for phase-II.

Thank you.

(xv) Need to Pay Adequate Attention for Overall Development of Areas Bordering Bangladesh

DR. ASIM BALA (NABADWIP) : Sir, Nabadwip parliamentary constituency in West Bengal is situated on the line of international border areas of Bangladesh. Adequate attention has not been given for the development of the border area. Some low grade roads which have been constructed are not being properly maintained. No proper approach or link roads which lead to border constructed in the area. Being border area, it is supposed to have proper lighting and roads. But till now, the roads are without light. Due to lack of light and proper roads, all the inhabitants of the villages of the border areas live in great terror and fear. Without light, it is a free zone area for dacoits, culprits, thieves, smugglers and anti-social elements. The villagers pass sleepless nights throughout the year. These border areas cover Hanakhali, Dhanatala, Tehatta, Karimpur etc., in the district of Nadia of West Bengal.

I urge upon the Government to take this matter seriously so that all the border areas can be developed as early as possible.

(xvi) Needed to sanction adequate funds for doubling the Shoranur-Mangalore Railway line in Kerala

SHRI T. GOVINDAN (KASARGOD) : Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government of India to the difficult situation being faced by passengers in Kerala. Almost, all the trains are running very late. Sometimes, some trains are taking four to five hours to come. The track accidents are also happening frequently.

Now, because of the commencement of Konkan Railway, a number of trains running through Kerala have increased. Unmanned railway crossings are causing accidents which lead to loss of life of passengers too. For the last ten years, the Railways have not appointed lower grade workers and staff. It affects maintenance work of track, cleaning and other work at the railway stations and services in compartments. The only remedy is to complete the on going doubling work of Shoranur-Mangalore line immediately on a war footing. In 1996-97 and 1997-98 Budgets, only meagre amounts were allotted for this work. It is surprising to note that the very amount allotted for this purpose could not be utilised and Rs. 10 crore lapsed during 1997-98 financial year itself. According to the present condition, it will take four to five years to complete the work. It will aggravate the difficulties. In Kerala, passengers and the quantity of freights are increasing day by day.

I would, therefore, request the Government of India to sanction Rs. 500 crore for doubling the Shoranur-Mangalore line and other construction work of Railways in Kerala.

(xvii) Need to Include all Families living below Poverty line in Vaishali District in Bihar under Targetted Public Distribution System

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (VAISHALI) : Sir, there are 1,81,000 families living below the poverty line in Vaishali District in Bihar whereas only 1,27,000 families have been given the facility of purchasing foodgrains at half the price under the T.D.P.S. (Targetted Public Distribution System) effective from June 1, 1997 the T.D.P.S. Scheme was not implemented in 50 panchayat areas of this district, due to which 54,000 families living below the poverty line were deprived of the facility of T.D.P.S. An official of Union Ministry of Food also conducted an enquiry in the district, however, the deprived families have still not been covered under the scheme.

I would like to urge upon the Union Government to take an expeditious action in this regard so as to cover all the families living below the poverty line in District Vaishali under the Targetted public Distribution System and provide them ration at half the rates with retrospective effect.

[English]

(xviii) Need to bring forward a Legislation for Reservation of One-Third seats for Women in Lok

Sabha and State Legislature in Current Session

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (PANSKURA) : As promised by the Prime Minister, I demand that the Constitution Amendment Bill providing for reservation of one third seats in the Lok Sabha and State Legislatures be taken up in the House in the very session of the Parliament. This should not be postponed under any pretext whatsoever.

(xix) Need to set up Thanthai Periyar International Tamil Research Institute in Thiruvananthai to find out the suitability of Tamil Language for the Talking Computer

SHRI D. VENUGOPAL (TIRUPPATTUR) : Now the 'Talking Computers' are on the anvil to comprehend what we command orally and function accordingly. There is also serious research to identify a suitable language among the world languages to enable hi-tech operation of the computers. English language may have many scientific information available to all. But it has been found out that English is not scientifically suited to become a language of a 'Talking Computer'. At the same time, Tamil, the semi-phonetic language where the letter and its pronunciation remain unvarying in any word and sentence thereby making it easy for anyone to read Tamil script correctly even if he cannot understand it. Tamil has a rich grammar which amazes any linguist for its effective scientific base. Hence, it is imperative on the part of Government of India to find out the suitability of Tamil as the language for the 'Talking Computer'. This research findings may help India to reap riches through foreign exchange while globally promoting a classic Indian language. Our software export could enhance further. As such, we find the Tamils in almost all parts of the world. Tamil language which is an official language in Malaysia, Singapore and Sri Lanka has its homeland in Tamil Nadu. Hence, I urge upon the Government of India to establish international research institute to do research on Tamil language, linguistics and literature. It should be named as 'Thanthai Periyar International Tamil Research Institute' and establish it in a northern Tamil Nadu border district.

(xx) Need to Allocate Sufficient Funds in the Current Financial Year itself for setting up an Integrated Steel Plant at Salem I; Tamil Nadu

SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI (PALAMI) : I bring to the notice of the Central Government to the need to set up an integrated steel plant at Salem in Tamil Nadu. The present Salem Steel Plant is only a re-rolling mill. The long standing demand for setting up an integrated steel plant to use the iron ore available in huge quantity in Salem district, particularly in Ganjamalai hills, has not been taken seriously by the Government.

In the 18th century itself, Britishers had certified that

the steel obtained from Salem ore is in no way inferior to the Swedish steel. It is estimated that more than 8 crore tonnes of iron ore is available in the area. The iron ore is of a very rich quantity and contains 60 per cent iron. Some two years before, the then Steel Secretary had said that an integrated steel plant could be set up at Salem at an estimated cost of Rs.2000 crore. But nothing concrete came out later.

The Government would invest about Rs. 50,000 crore in steel industries during the Ninth Five Year Plan. India is emerging as one of the major producers of steel in the world. During the last year of Ninth Plan, that is, in 2001-02, the target is said to be 4.32 crore tonnes of steel. This is two crore tonnes more than the current year expectation.

When the Government has fixed such ambitious target of steel production, and is ready to spend Rs.50,000 crore in the Ninth Plan. I do not know why the Government is reluctant to set up an integrated steel plant at Salem.

Therefore, I urge upon the Central Government to take serious note of this matter and allocate sufficient funds in the current year itself to set up an integrated steel plant at Salem without delay.

(xxi) Need to Establish a Fishing Harbour at Colachel and a Fish Landing Centre at Thengapattanam, Tamil Nadu

SHRI M. DENNIS (NAGERCOIL) : It is the long standing need, necessity and demand of the fishermen of Kanyakumari district of Tamil Nadu who live along the west coast to establish a fishing harbour at Colachel and a fish landing centre at Thengapattanam. It has become a very urgent public necessity to establish the same in the places mentioned above as the natural berthing places and operational facilities of their fishing vessels have been completely damaged due to frequent sea erosions. Thus, their survival is severely threatened as they could not operate their fishing vessels and go for fishing. They are fully depending on fishing which is their sole occupation. But, fishing there is severely affected. So, they go for fishing in other parts of Tamil Nadu, Kerala and other States of our country where they face stiff resistance from the local fishermen.

So, I urge upon the Government to consider the urgent necessity of the establishment of a fishing harbour at Colachel and a fish landing centre at Thengapattanam of Kanyakumari district of Tamil Nadu at the earliest.

(xxii) Need To Take Necessary Steps To Enable Librahm Commission Of Inquiry To Complete It Inquiry Expeditiously

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (PONNANI) : The Central Government has appointed Justice Librahm Commission to inquire into matters connected with the unfortunate demo-

lition of the Babri Masjid. During the course of the inquiry, the Commission issued summons to several persons to appear before the Commission. Some of these persons obtained stay-orders from the High Court. It is now almost four years that the stay-orders continue. This is a serious impediment in the inquiry being conducted by the Commission. It is the duty of the Government to help the Commission in its functioning and the inquiry. I urge upon the Government for immediate steps to get the stay-orders vacated from the High Court.

(xxiii) Need to Expedite Construction of Railway Lines in J & K

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (BARAMULLA) : The development of railway line in J&K has suffered a great setback. The Ministry of Railways has not shown any inclination to speed up the process of construction of railway line in the State. The line between Jammu and Udhampur has not been completed in more than two decades and the line between Udhampur and Qazigund and Qazigund to Baramulla does not seem to be on the anvil in the Ministry. The Ministry have not even taken up the task of working out alignments between Udhampur and Baramulla. Nothing has moved even after I brought all this and more to the notice of the Minister of Railways.

(xxiv) Need to set up a Students Hostel after the name of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar at Ghaziabad in U.P. for the Benefit of Sc/St and Backward Class Students of Rural Areas

[Translation]

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR (HAPUR) : Sir, the people of my constituency have been making a demand for setting up a hostel after the name of Dr. Ambedkar at Ghaziabad for quite a long time. There is no hostel in Ghaziabad, and the poor students belonging to scheduled caste, scheduled tribe and backward classes are unable to stay in rented accommodation in the city and they also cannot afford the bus fare to commute to the city daily. Due to this very reason, most of the students from villages leave their studies mid-way and are unable to gain higher education, as a result of which the literacy percentage is not going up in the rural area.

Therefore, I request the government to set up Dr. Ambedkar Hostel at Ghaziabad.

(xxv) Need To Take Concrete Steps For Providing Employment To Unemployed Youth In Mahakoshal Area Of Madhya Pradesh

SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE (JABALPUR) : Sir, there are only six ordnance factories in Mahakoshal area and even these are in highly deplorable condition at present. The equipment required by the military is being supplied by the private industries whereas more than one lakh labourers and employees working in the ordnance fac-

ories have no work at hand. No fresh recruitments have been made in the ordnance factories since 1984 as a result of which unemployment has risen. In 20 districts, agricultural work and the vocation of bidi making in a few districts is the only option left. Unemployed youth are sitting at home.

I request the Government to take concrete steps to remove the problem of unemployment.

[English]

(xxvi) Need to clear and allocate adequate funds for upgradation of Umroi Airport at Shillong

SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH (SHILLONG) : Sir, I wish to raise the vital issue of extension and upgradation of Umroi Airport (Shillong) which has been hanging in the air for the last few years. Shillong is the only State Capital in the North-Eastern region which is not yet linked to the domestic air network. Since Meghalaya itself has immense tourism potential, lack of air link has acted as damper for many tourism promotion projects which are yet to be finalised. Apart from this, Shillong has been the gateway to many other North-Eastern States and houses military and paramilitary establishments. Shillong has also been an academic center par excellence where students from other North-Eastern States come to pursue their studies.

A survey on the commercial viability of operating a regular air service either connected to Guwahati or Calcutta has already been done and the viability of the operations established with a gestation period of less than a year from the start-up. I urge the Centre to clear the project and make available adequate funds in the coming Budget.

(xxvii) Need to send a Central Team to Assess the Damage caused to Crops due to Heavy Rains and Hailstorm in Himachal Pradesh and also to declare Support Price of Apple Rs. 5 per KG.

[Translation]

SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI (SHIMLA) : Sir, fruit crops such as apple, peach, apricot as well as unseasonal crop of tomato, peas and several others in vegetable group have been destroyed in Himachal Pradesh due to heavy rains and hailstorm. The flowers on the fruit bearing trees have also been destroyed. The financial position of farmers is dependent on these crops. The farmers have incurred heavy financial losses due to this natural calamity. The previous Government had fixed the support price for the apples and under this scheme, the farmers used to sell all their fruit including the damaged lot to the Government. However, the new Government has not announced any support price.

I would like to urge upon the Union Government to announce support price of apple at Rs. five per kg. Besides, a team of experts should be sent by the Government to make

an assessment regarding the compensation to be paid to the farmers whose crops have been destroyed.

The compensation should be paid at the earliest by the Government so that the farmers are able to recover from this grave and unusual situation. I have also written to the Prime Minister in this regard.

(xxviii) Need for Early Completion of Multi-Purpose Bansagar Irrigation Project with a view to extend Irrigation Facilities to Rewa Region

SHRI CHANDRAMANI TRIPATHI (REWA) : The foundation stone of Multi-purpose Bansagar irrigation project—the life line of Vindhya was laid by the then Prime Minister in 1977-78. At that time, it was estimated that the project will be completed within ten years. However more than 20 years have passed since then and the project has still not been completed. Construction of dam has been almost completed but the work related to construction of canal is still incomplete. The work on Kyoti canal and Poorva canal has come to a standstill whereas the work is in progress on the parts of the canals falling in Uttar Pradesh. Electricity is also generated for three months during the rainy season. The heavy expenditure incurred so far is going waste for want of a little more amount. Adequate power would be available for the entire region after the completion of this project.

I request the Union Government to get the Bansagar project completed without further delay and provide irrigation facilities for Rewa (Vindhya) which has the lowest irrigated area in the country.

(xxix) Need for setting up additional Thermal Power House in Madhya Pradesh to meet the increasing electricity demand in the state

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR (KHARGONE) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards the problem of power shortage. The demand of electricity is far more than the generation. The other parts of the country are also facing power shortage but Madhya Pradesh is facing acute shortage of power and it adversely affects the industrial and agricultural production. While drawing the attention of the House towards the problem of power shortage, I would like to make a submission that as per the estimate of Tenth Power Survey, the difference between demand and generation of power will be about 400MW and an additional Thermal Power House with a capacity of 600 MW should be set up for solution of the problem of power shortage in tribal dominated villages.

(xxx) Need to re-start the Ganesh Sugar mill at Maharajganj, Farinda in Uttar Pradesh

SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHRY (MAHARAJGANJ) : Sir, the Ganesh Sugar Mill situated at Farinda in Maharajganj area of Uttar Pradesh is lying closed for the last three-four

area of Uttar Pradesh is lying closed for the last three-four years. The closure of this mill has rendered thousands of employees jobless. The Government should take effective measures for revival of this mill. It is estimated that an expenditure of about Rs. 1 crore is required to be incurred to revive it. If the Government do not want to run it, the private sector can be given a chance to run it. I, therefore, request the Government to make arrangements for the revival of this sugar mill immediately so that thousands of employees, who have been rendered jobless due to closure of this mill could get employment.

(xxxI) **Need for sale of all types of coal in open market and also to fix an appropriate rate for sale of rejected coal**

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY (GIRIDIH) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a huge quantity of rejected coal and slurry is being deposited in central coal fields and Bharat Coking Coal Limited. A part of slurry is wasted as it is carried away by wind thereby creating pollution. It is not sold because the price is kept very high. Since this coal is not being sold in the open market, a number of irregularities are taking place in the coal industry. Both the subsidiary companies are incurring losses and yet they are unable to increase their sales.

Therefore, the Government is requested to make arrangements for the sale of coal in open market. The management should be instructed to fix proper and reasonable rates for the sale of slurry and rejected coal. Proper action should also be taken against the management for not selling slurry and rejected coal as a result of which company's losses are increasing.

(xxxii) **Need to formulate policies for the welfare of farmers in the country**

DR. PRABHA THAKUR (AJMER) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, India is predominantly an agricultural country. However, the vast farmer community of the country besides facing several difficulties is also grappling with ground realities of uncertain future and lack of facilities despite working very hard. The Government should immediately formulate a policy for liberating farmers, who provide foodgrains for the whole country, from these problems, so that they could get remunerative prices for their crops. Insurance for agricultural sector should be introduced. Farmers should be provided adequate compensation for damage of crops due to natural calamities. They should be paid full compensation for acquisition of their land. Farmers should be provided with improved seeds, fertilizer and electricity at concessional rates. Only then farmers will prosper in this country.

[English]

(xxxiii) **Need to Upgrade LPT at Berhampur to 10 KW centre and also Provide Second Channel Transmitter facility.**

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK (BERHAMPUR) (ORISSA) : Sir, the proposal for upgrading Berhampur Doordarshan relay centre to a high power relay centre has been pending with the Government of India. Berhampur city is considered as the main cultural and commercial centre of southern Orissa. It is the third largest city in Orissa. People from all walks of life are living in this city.

The present Doordarshan relay centre at Berhampur and Paralakhemundi are not able to cater to the needs of the people of that city. The Berhampur relay centre is just a 100 watt capacity Low Power Transmitter. Most of the equipment installed in this relay centre are old and outdated. The transmission of programmes are therefore interrupted most of the time.

Since Doordarshan is the most popular mass media among the people, it is necessary that the fruits of its expansion should be duly shared by the people residing in every nook and corner of the country. In that context, I would like to appeal that the Paralakhemundi and Berhampur DD LPT Centres be upgraded to 10 kilowatt High Power Transmitter Centers without any further delay and also the second channel transmitter facility should also be provided there.

(xxxiv) **Need to set up a sugar mill in Unnao Parliamentary Constituency, (U.P.)**

[Translation]

SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH (UNNAO) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards my parliamentary constituency Unnao. For the last four or five years I have been raising a demand for setting up of a sugar mill in my area because farmers have to transport sugarcane to far away places as there is no sugarmill there. The farmers have to suffer huge losses due to it and as a result of it now many farmers have stopped growing sugarcane. Farmers and their representatives have registered several complaints to this effect. I, myself have also raised this issue in the House time and again under Rule 377.

I request the Government that approval should be accorded for setting up a sugar mill in Unnao district.

(xxxv) **Need to take steps to Check Pollution caused by An Industrial unit at Brindavan in Kapadvanj Parliamentary constituency Gujarat**

SHRI JAYSINHJI CHAUHAN (KAPADVANJ) : Sir, through this House, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards 'Gujarat Ambuja Proteins Limited' situated at Brindavan on National Highway No. 8 in my parliamentary Constituency Kapadvanj. The said industrial unit is emitting harmful and foul smell due to which about 20 kms. of area has been polluted. I have come to know that people of this area are falling ill. Due to the emission

of poisonous foul smelling gas and discharge of polluted water by the factory, the crops of farmers get damaged and deaths of large number of cattle are also being very frequently reported. As one school is situated near the factory, the harmful and foul smelling gas emitted by the factory is affecting the health of students and teachers. The said industrial unit was closed by the Gujarat High Court but the factory has again started functioning illegally.

Therefore, my request is that after conducting an enquiry in this regard, the Government should take immediate steps under environment and pollution law.

[English]

(xxxvi) Need to take steps not to close the Gold Mines of BGML with a view to Protecting the Interest of the Workers

SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA (KOLAR) : Sir, closing the gold mines in a phased manner in Kolar Gold Fields has sent shock waves among the people of Kolar District, particularly in Bangarpet, Robertsonpet, Andersonpet, Oorigaum and other adjoining areas of Kolar Gold Field. This measure would lend several thousands of mine workers jobless. About three lakh people are depending upon these gold mines. Closure of gold mines will render these people jobless. Gold mineral is available not only in the various mines KGF but also in the neighbouring areas. Hence I request the hon. Minister of Steel and Mines not to close the gold mines of BGML under any circumstances.

(xxxvii) Need to open an Army Recruitment centre at Sadulpur in Churu District of Rajasthan

[Translation]

SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA (CHURU) : Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Defence Minister towards Sadulpur town of my Lok Sabha Constituency 'Churu' in Rajasthan where more youth join Defence Forces as compared to other parts of country and the brave youths there always have patriotic feelings and high morale to serve the country by getting themselves recruited in the Defence Forces. More than 5000 ex-servicemen are living there. From this you can imagine as to how much respect the people of Sadulpur have for the armed forces and the country.

Sir, with regret, I have to draw the attention of Hon'ble Minister towards this point that despite the fact that the recruitment of youths in defence forces are more in this area or if I say that one person in each family is in the armed forces there, it will not be an exaggeration, there is not even a single army recruitment centre there. I request the Hon'ble Defence Minister through you that one army recruitment centre should be opened at Sadulpur in Churu district of Rajasthan.

(xxxviii) Need to take steps to Recover Ancient 'Surya Pratima' Alleged to have been Stolen from Turkpatti in Kushinagar, district, U.P.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEORIA) : There was a thousand of years old idol of Sun God at Turkpatti in Kushinagar district of Uttar Pradesh. This idol was to be installed in a big temple constructed with the funds provided by the state government and with the help of Department of Archaeology of Government of India. According to the Archaeologists this idol was estimated to be worth crores of rupees in the international market. Maintenance of ancient idols found during excavations is the responsibility of the Archaeology Department. The idol was found by the locals during excavations years ago. This rare Sun idol was stolen last month and it has not been recovered yet. I demand from the Government of India that this rare sun idol should be recovered with the help of Interpol and installed at that place.

(xxxix) Need to Provide Financial Assistance out of P.M. Relief Fund to the Kith and Died in Boat Tragedy on 27.5.98 at Village Kandhaipur in Allahabad, U.P.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (CHAIL) : Yesterday, i.e. on 27.5.98 a boat capsized in river Ganga at 6o' clock in the morning in village Kandhaipur under my constituency in Allahabad, U.P. Nine persons have died in the incident out of which eight dead bodies have been recovered. The dead body of a girl aged 13 years has not yet been recovered. The Hon'ble Prime Minister should send condolence message and provide financial help to the bereaved families from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund.

[English]

(xi) Need to Allocate Sufficient Funds to the Government of Tamil Nadu for Purchasing Handloom Clothes from Weavers with a view to Protecting their interests.

SHRI C. GOPAL (ARAKKONAM) : Sir, I wish to bring to the notice of the House the problem of the weavers in Tamil Nadu. Next to agriculture, weaving is the backbone of our nation. In Tamil Nadu, there are more than 30 lakh people involved in the weaving profession. Now, it is learnt that there is stagnation of handloom clothes worth about Rs. 600 crore. Therefore, I request the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Minister of Textiles to release sufficient funds, i.e. some Rs. 300 crore to Tamil Nadu for purchasing the handloom clothes which are in stagnation. The condition of the weavers in Tamil Nadu is not good. They are suffering for want of food. I request the hon. Prime Minister to wipe out their loans from nationalised banks.

(xii) Need to Enact Law to Grant Dual Citizenship To Nris

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (PATIALA): Sir, a large number of NRIs who live in foreign countries have emotional attachment to their native country, i.e., India. They want to invest in India. But due to lack of citizenship, they have a fear of ownership to property. It has become more important when sanctions are imposed on our country. I request the Central Government to make a law for dual citizenship for NRIs.

(xiii) **Need for early repair of Underground Bridge road at Haveri Railway crossing in Karnataka to check Waterlogging in Rainy Season**

SHRI B.M. MENSINKAI (DHARWAD SOUTH): Sir, due to the defect in the construction of the underground bridge road at Haveri Railway Crossing in Karnataka, waterlogging in rainy season affects the transport of vehicles. It deserves to be repaired urgently.

I request the Union Government to look into the matter.

17.53 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Recent Nuclear Tests in Pokhran - Contd.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the time allotted for this discussion is six hours only. So far, Members have utilised six hours and thirty-five minutes. There are 16 other Members who want to speak.

SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE (BERHAMPORE) (WB): Please extend the time of the House.

Mr. Speaker: The list contains the names of the senior Members including the Ex-Prime Ministers and the former Speakers also.

SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR (DUMDUM): Sir, the junior Members should also be given a chance. Uptill now, only senior Members are being called and, I think, it is not fair.

MR. SPEAKER: If the House decides, the hon. Prime Minister will give his reply at 8.00 p.m.

Some Hon. Members: No.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (MADURAI): Sir, we would like to digest the new developments that have taken place in Pakistan. We would like to study its impact. So, let us take it up tomorrow.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (DAUSA): Sir, let the hon. Prime Minister speak tomorrow so that he can look at all the reactions and give us the correct information tomorrow.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (LATUR): Sir, I am not on my legs to make a speech. I am standing here to make a request to your goodself, to the hon. Prime Minister, to the hon. Leader of the Opposition and to all other leaders. My request is that so far we have discussed the explosion of a nuclear device by India

Now a new situation has arisen. Pakistan has exploded two devices, two bombs. Now it would be in the interests of the country and of this Parliament if we discuss that aspect also. So, my request to you, to the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Leader of Opposition and other hon. Members is that instead of concluding the debate today, let us extend the discussion for one more day please. (Interruptions)

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR (BARAMATI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very serious news which has come from Pakistan. In fact, we expected this type of news. I sincerely feel this is the time for us to show total unity. This is not the time to show or send a different signal from India to outside. We shall sit tomorrow also. We should not be panicky. We are quite competent and quite capable to face any type of situation and we shall discuss this issue tomorrow. We should also discuss the serious repercussions of this and we should try to win total consensus on this particular subject.

[Translation]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support whatever the leader of opposition, Shri Sharad Pawar, has said. The news that Pakistan has conducted nuclear tests has created a new situation. The House should consider this situation deeply and seriously. Till now, as Shri Patil has said, we were discussing about India's tests. Right now, the details regarding its nature and intensity of their test are not available. But facts will be collected and after collecting the facts we will discuss this issue as it is very essential. But the discussion should be held in an atmosphere of seriousness, peace and firmness. Though, we may have difference of opinion but if there is any challenge from outside then we should face that challenge unitedly.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, tomorrow at 12.15 p.m. railway budget is to be presented. You can fix the time for discussion either after presentation of railway budget or after the lunch is over i.e. at 2.00 to 2.30 p.m.

[English]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: We can sit after the railway budget. There is no panicky situation. We can sit during the time of the Private Member's Business which can be postponed. We can discuss it tomorrow.

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR (MUMBAI NORTH-WEST): We need not discuss this subject matter today since Pakistan has undertaken the nuclear test. Unless we see the consequences and the implications of these tests, we should not further discuss this issue. Tomorrow we may get an opportunity to combine both the things together and express our views.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Private Members Business can be postponed.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, if we can sit one more hour, then discussion should be continued or else this should be discussed tomorrow. Please sit for one more hour. We will extend the house upto 7.00 p.m. Whatever we can discuss in one hour should be discussed, we will see afterwards what can be done. The House should be extended from 6 to 7 and those Hon'ble Members who are interested in speaking can speak.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The House is extended up to 7 P.M.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN (MADRAS CENTRAL): You adjourn the House. We will sit tomorrow and discuss about this urgent situation. This is an urgent situation. We will sit tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER : Some of the hon. Members are interested to speak. Let us allow them.

18.00 hrs.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we should extend the time of house from 6 to 7 and during this one hour, those Hon'ble Member who want to speak, can express their views.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Some of the hon. Members are interested to speak. Let them speak. So, now I call Shri Vaiko to speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : All the Matters under Rule 377 have already been laid on the Table of the House.

(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU (MADRAS SOUTH) : Sir, I would request you to adjourn the House today because we have to collect all the materials as to what happened in Pakistan. We should take up the matter together. Facts and figures should be before us. Otherwise, how can we discuss this issue? ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Baalu, please take your seat.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, what Patilji has said is correct and Hon'ble Prime Minister welcomed the sentiments of Sharadji. The situation demands that the discussion should be concluded here itself. You please adjourn the House. We should start discussion tomorrow because tone and tenor of today's speeches and the tone and tenor of discussion which will start tomorrow will be different. Therefore, you please adjourn the House till tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER : What is to be done?

[English]

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we should not be panicky. We should continue the discussion for at least one hour. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow, the 29th May, 1998 at 11 a.m.

18.02 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, May 29, 1998/Jyaistha 8, 1920 (Saka).