

Tenth Series, Vol. XXXI, No. 32

Thursday, , May 5, 1994
Vaisakha 15, 1916 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

**Ninth Session
(Tenth Lok Sabha)**



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(English Version)

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Thursday, May 5, 1994/Vaisakha 15, 1916 (Saka).

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Thursday, May 5, 1994/Vaisakha 15,
1916 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*Translation*]

561. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce advanced facilities available in the Government hospitals of the country ; and

(b) if so, the details?

[*English*]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR):

(a) and (b): Under the National Cancer Control Programme the emphasis is on prevention and detection of cancer and for providing basic treatment facilities in those

areas where such facilities are not available at present . However, assistance is also given to selected institutions for developing advanced facilities like bone marrow transplantation as well as for installation of modern equipment's like Linear Accelerators.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Hon. Mr. Speaker, Sir cancer is a fatal and dangerous disease. The rich get it cured in time but the poor and sourceless can not get treatment of this disease due to paucity of funds lack of knowledge and suffer great pain and ultimately compelled to die . I would like to know from the hon. Minister that whether the Government have any effective scheme to provide free and cheap treatment for poor and sourceless people, if so, then as the the hon. Minister has just stated that bone marrow transplantation is a very expensive treatment costing at least Rs.5lakh, I would like to know that whether Government provide assistance for such treatment . If the Government have no such programme. I would like to know the steps taken since Independence to provide treatment for poor people in this welfare state . I would also like to know upto when we will be compelled to let die the poor in the absence of treatment and funds.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WEL-

FARE (DR. C. SILVERA): Sir, the hon. Member is very right in saying that cancer is fatal disease and most of the cancer diseases, unless detected earlier, are fatal. The government is very much aware of the fact that the severity of the disease is such that unless it is properly investigated and treated in the early part, it is difficult to cure cancer.

So the Government has formulated a scheme called National Cancer Control Programme. For that certain centers are established in the country and recently the Government has proposed a new scheme for the rural poor and for the public in general.

A new scheme under National Cancer Control Programme consists of a scheme for district project for health education, early detection and pain relief measure, development of oncology in medical colleges and hospitals, schemes for financial assistance to voluntary organisation for health education are given to these organisations.

The hon Member was asking about the bone marrow transplantation. She is aware that it is a very expensive treatment. There are only a few institutions in the country where this bone marrow transplantation is done.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATISAROJDUBEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, for poor persons suffering from cancer who need bone marrow transplantation or some other expensive treatment, how you are going to provide or some other expensive treatment, how you are going to provide assistance to them? There are 11 Government hospitals in Uttar Pradesh having thousands of patients. What assistance you are going to provide to them. You have

given a lengthy scheme.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: One part of the question is already replied. The second part may be replied.

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR: There is a scheme for giving help to the needy cancer patients. The Health Minister gives some grant to cancer patients for their treatment. Not whole but a part of the expenditure is given by the Health Ministry to the needy patients.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATISAROJDUBEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, he has told that under the National Cancer Control Programme emphasis is given on the consumption of tobacco chewing and smoking. Attractive advertisements of tobacco, cigarette and 'Pan masalas' are given in media and on Doordarshan which attract people. Whether it is not necessary to ban such attractive advertisement in order to check the cancer. You have told that emphasis is on early detection of cancer. Breast cancer and cervix cancer are common in women. Medical investigation is made for it. In other countries 'Peps Smear test and Memory tests are conducted regularly. I would like to know that whether the Government are going to make arrangements for regular check to detect cancer at an early stage so that it could be cured whether Government propose to formulate any such scheme for the country? Are you going to make arrangements for regular medical tests of rural women because rural areas have tendency of consuming khaini or smoking 'beedi'. Please give details regarding how you are going to make arrangements for early detection and treatment of cancer.

DR. C. SILVERA: Cancer is a lay man's term and there are different names for cancer of different organs. They have different names and there is no established ideology of cancer. But tobacco consumption in one form or other is supposed to be one of the contributing factors to cancer.

As I said earlier, the Government has a scheme under which early detection of cancer is propagated and that includes all sections of the society, children, adults and women also. This is the only way we could give proper treatment to this disease.

[Translation]

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Gily Burn, Project Director, WHO, had said that 75 per cent cancer patients suffer severe pain. A cheap and effective medicine named "On Don Certain Anti-Emetic" has been developed in India. Cipla Company has been given license to manufacture it. It is given to cancer patients with Chemotherapy. My question is that.....

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It should not amount to advertisement.

[Translation]

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: You have given licence to Cipla Company for manufacturing this drug. I would like to know by when the company will start to manufacture it and by when it will be available to cancer patients in the country.

Sir, just a few days back I visited Tata Cancer Institute to know whether they have taken up research work on the thesis on

cancer Prevention drug in Ayurveda. It is a known fact that a white and red flowers which are available throughout the year, has anti-cancer property and it can be used as medicine with 'Tulsi' leaves. They said that it is for the 'Ayurveda' people to work in this regard. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to point out that Government are allocating only 21/2 per cent on Allopathy. I would like to know that whether we should expect that Tata Institute will take up the research work for manufacturing this medicine, if so, by the when and if not, reasons therefor?

[English]

DR. C. SILVERA: Pain relief is one of projects of the new National Cancer Control Programme. There are some medicines, which are used for pain relief.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr Minister, there are certain Ayurvedic medicines, which are effective for treatment of cancer. Are you going to give some money to carry on research in Ayurvedic medicines?

DR. C. SILVERA: Sir, this is a specialized subject and...

MR SPEAKER: You will look into it.

DR. C. SILVERA: I will look into it.

DR. (SHRIMATI) PADMA: Sir, Bone Marrow Transplantation is an expensive one. There are new schemes which have been started for cancer detection. These schemes have been started in the District Headquarters and in the Medical Colleges. Can I have an idea whether the Minister is going to start these schemes in all the primary Health Centres of India, which are good for early detection of cancer?

MR. SPEAKER: It is very good ques-

tion.

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR: Sir, cancer treatment is very costly. Definitely the Government would like to have more and more institutions having cancer treatment facility.

MR. SPEAKER: It is for diagnosis.

DR. (SHRIMATI) PADMA: It is not expensive. Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: It is not for treatment. It is for diagnosis.

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR: For diagnosis, we have a scheme to organise District Cancer Society under the Charimanship of District Collector and the chariman of Zila Parishad and we give money to this society to organise and to give more information to the public about cancer treatment and other things.

(Interputions)

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: I would like to know whether you are going to provide ultrasound.....

MR. SPEAKER: It is not like this.

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR: There is a scheme to provide for it in the Oncology Department of the medical College. We are giving grants for having a Cobal Unit. It is costing more than Rs.1 crore. That is why the Government is trying to help the State Medical Colleges to upgrade their diagnostic and treatment facilities.

SHRI LOKNATH CHOUDHURY: I chew more tobacco. The hon. Minister has start-

ed that tobacco chewing is the cause of cancer. I would like to know whether this has been ascertained. It is generally said that when the causes is known the remedy can be known. So far as the the cancer is concerned, the causes are not yet found and that is why the remedy has not been there. I would like to know whether it is true or not.

MR. SPEAKER: Has the relationship between tobacco chewing and cancer established?

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR: The Indian Council of Medical Reserarch have made a lot of study on that they came to the conclusion that tobacco is a major contributing factor upto forty per cent of the cancer cases in this country.

[Translation]

SHRI LAKSHMI NARAIN MANI TRIPATHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has been written in an Ayurvedic codemedicine the "Charak Sanhita" "yaahi haasti tadanyam". It implies that the prescription suggested here is of univesal application. This very book has prescribed treatment of cancer by the drug prepared with cow-urine, basil leaves and leaves of the neem tree. It has appeared recently in a number of newspapers that the tablet prepared with cow urine is panacea for cancer diseases and it is cheap also. I would like to ask the hon. Minister of Health and Family Welfare whether it would conduct research through an Ayurvedic Institute so that the poor people suffering from cancer are treated with this Ayurvedic drug.

[English]

SHRI PRABAN SINGH GHATOWAR: Sir, the Indian council for Ayurvedic Re-

search having research on several types of medicines. Definitely this is good suggestion for action.

[*Translation*]

SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the disease cancer is spreading with grant strides but its cure is not being found with the matching promptness. I would like to submit to the Government this much that if it can not talk of curing cancer, it should at least distribute suggestive precautionary pamphlets in regional and vernacular languages. There are occasions when a letter written to the hon Minister of Health is not replied to for three or four months and the applicant dies waiting a response. I would like to know from the Government whether it should issue some instructions to send money to the concerned hospital within 15 days of the receipt of an application.

MR. SPEAKER: No, this question is not in order.

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, some Government institutes are playing an important role for treatment of cancer. For example, the cancer Institute at Varanasi of the North-East Railway is carrying on very good research. But it is regrettable that it lacks in some proper experts, equipments doctors and drugs. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the hospitals-whether there are sum by central Government, State Government the grants will be able to function properly or not.

MR. SPEAKER: Do you want ask whether the funds will be provided or not?

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Would the Government provide adequate

funds to these institutes? Secondly, I would like to submit that the Ayurvedic Institute of Sir Sunderlal Hospital in Varanashi has made a very significant research for the sure-sort treatment of cancer patients and mentally retarded children. America also has commended the treatment. This institute has applied for some assistance to the Government of India. If it gets assistance from the Government it can propagate its research in Bihar and other Eastern parts of the country. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what action was taken on the application and whether such institutes will be provided with adequate assistance.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER. Reply to the last part of the question can be sent in writing. To the first part, you can give the reply.

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR: Sir, the hon. Member has mentioned about one hospital that belongs to the Railway. According to our scheme, we help the medical colleges and other State Government organisations. I have to find out about this and I shall let the hon. Member know about it.

[*Translation*]

Oil Exploration

*562. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:

SHRI REJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the areas in the country in which the Government propose to explore oil;

(b) the quantity of oil and gas being

produced in the country everyday; and

(c) the extent to which production of oil and gas is estimated to be increased by the end of 1994-95?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of House.

(a) In the remaining years of VIII Plan period, ONGC Ltd. and OIL propose to explore for oil and gas in the on land basins/ areas of Cambay & Saurashtra in Gujarat; South Rewa in Madhya Pradesh; Himalyan fold belt in Himachal Pradesh; Upper Assam and Assam-Arakan fold belt in Assam; Nagaland; Tripura, Mizoram and Arunchal Pradesh; Krishna-Godavari in Andhra Pradesh; Cauvery in Tamil Nadu and Bengal Basin in West Bengal, Ganga Valley Basin in U. P. and Bihar, Shahgarh- Miljlar, Jaisalmer, Bikaner- Nagaur Basins in Rajasthan; and in offshore areas of Mahanadi, Krishna-Godavari and cauvey Basins along the East Coast and I Bombay, Kerala-Konkan and Kutch-Saurashtra Basins along the West Coast.

(b) The average daily (current level of total) production respectively of crude oil and gas in 1993-94 was 74043 MT and 50.23 MMSCM.

(c) The Oil and gas production is expected to reach te level of 32.51 MMT per annum and 51.86 MMSCMD respectively in 1994-95.

[Translation]

SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister that whether the production of oil and gas in the country is sufficient to meet the demand? If not the projects formulated by the Government to increase the production of Oil and gas and whether the Government have taken foreign assistance in this regard? If so, from which countries?

[English]

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: Sir, I would like to convey to the hon. Member, through you that in the last few years, our production has suffered.....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

I am glad to say that from this year our production of oil will start increasing. Earlier we produced 27 million. M. T. oil but from this year the production of oil will be increased by 5 million M. T. The steps being taken in this regard include the measures for increasing the oil production as well as exploration of the new oil fields. It is very essential because the production of oil will increase by 5 million M. T. annually but the main problem is that we are not been able to find any new oil field. So far, Bombay High is our last oil field which is also called giant field. But we have not been able to discover any new field. We are formulating a National Exploration plan to discover new areas of oil fields.

SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my second question is that by when our country will become self-sufficient in the oil and gas field. The second important thing I would like to know that whether he would consider to close

down the oil and natural gas project in Agra to save Taj Mahal, Agra and Firozabad from the dangers of pollution. (Interruptions.)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. There is no use of speaking like this way. Nothing is going on the record.

[English]

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: Sir, the hon. Member has asked in his second supplementary whether there are any foreign companies which have been involved in assisting in the oil production in the country. There are various schemes, such as, the Development of discovered Oil fields Program' where we have many international companies coming in.

In the Bombay High the producing field has become old field. When a field becomes old, the decline in production starts. We have some major companies who are bidding to give the appropriate modern technology. After all, the capital required is massive. It is in billions of dollars. We have CHEVERON; we have AMOCO and we have OCCIDENTAL. These are all giant companies which are bidding and the evaluations are going on. That will be completed in a few months and then we will decide which gives us the best bid to improve the production out of Bombay High.

The second part of question is about Agra. As far as the Agra Trapezium is concerned, we are aware of it. This matter had gone upto the Supreme Court. I am personally concerned and I would do all that I can. The problem is of natural gas. As soon as we have additional quantities of natural gas available. I can assure the hon. Member that I will make sure that Agra and that area gets the highest priority.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the production of oil is quite essential because we have to import oil worth crores of rupees. In this reply hon. Minister has sated that scheme has been formulated for oil exploration in various states of the country. The scheme is under consideration. I would like to ask a question. Please State how much amount has been spent during the last three years on oil and gas exploration in Ganges valley basin of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar and how much money is likely to be spent thereon in the near future and whether foreign companies have been invited for oil exploration or any discussion is going on in this regard.

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: State Government is not held responsible for oil exploration work. There are 26 sedimentary basins in the country. The work of oil exploration is going on in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. But much oil has not been explored from this area and efforts are still going on. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNOHOTRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it was not my question.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Member wants to know the amount spent on it. Please send him in writing.

Now Shri Suraynarayana Yadav.

11.29hrs.

At this stage some slogans from the Public Gallery were heard and a visitor from the public Galley jumped on floor of the House.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Members may take their seats. Shri Suryanarayanan Yadav may continue his question.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SURYANARAYANA YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in his reply hon. Minister has said that oil exploration has been taken up in offshore area of Ganga. I would like to say that oil fields are there at Saharsa, Supol, Madhubani, Darbhanga, Purniya, Samastipur and Katihar in Northern Bihar. Scientists have discovered and authenticated it. I would like to know from the hon. Minister that whether any arrangement has been made for exploration of oil fields in those areas. If so, whether oil fields has been discovered and if so the present position in this regard.

[*Eng. lish*]

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: Sir, the hon. Member is from Bihar and I am personally monitoring the type of seismic survey work which is planned for future in Bihar and West Bengal and some of the other States which feel that they are not getting their due as far as the exploration efforts are concerned. Let me just share with hon. Member, Sir, that as far as the exploration efforts in Bihar are concerned, so far the ONGC has carried out.

7396 SLK/ LK seismic survey apart from aero-magnetic, ground-magnetic and geological surveys. Six exploratory wells have been drilled without any commercial success and the ONGC has incurred an expenditure of Rs.70.56 crores on the exploration activities in Bihar till 31st march, 1993. The Oil India Limited, as he said, has started exploration in Ganga Valley Basin which also cover some areas in the State of

Bihar. Having said that, I want to assure the Member that in future I would like to have more scientific and comprehensive survey which is called 30 work also done in West Bengal and Bihar so that we do not leave anything to chance as far as Bihar and West Bengal are concerned.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Sir, it has been mentioned that the ONGC LPD is exploring the offshore area of Mahanadi in Orissa. I want to know from the hon. Minister as to when this Mahanadi Basin has been identified and when the exploration work will start in that area.

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: Sir, as far as Mahanadi area of coast (NEC) concerned, I can reassure the Member through you, Sir, that it has been taken up in the Eighteen Five Year Plan for exploration by Oil India. The work will be completed before the Eighth Five Year Plan is over which is 1977. We have got only three years to go; not only the work will start, but it will be completed before that.

[*Translation*]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know whether the government have launched any time bound programme for oil and natural gas exploration in various areas by O.N. G. C and OIL? Whether any exploration work has been started in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan? If so, the outcome thereof? Whether any exploration work at Narmada offshore will be taken up?

MR. SPEAKER: There are three parts of one question which can be treated as three questions also.

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: Sir,

I will start my answer with Rajasthan because I would like to share with the member my own personal expectation of the area. We have had some very exciting discoveries there. The problem is, I want to share with the House, that Rajasthan we have found both gas and oil and the oil which we have found in Rajasthan is heavy oil. Such heavy oil is being processed by some of the countries China is processing it and Venezuela is also processing it. Canada is quite advanced in this area. The Alberta Research Council from Canada has made a report on the heavy oil in Rajasthan. The report has come in and we are studying the report. In the meantime, informally I am in touch with the Chinese and Venezuelans to see which is the appropriate technology that can exploit the oil in Rajasthan, So, I share the Member's excitement as far as Rajasthan. So, I share the Member's excitement as far as Rajasthan in concerned, because we have made discoveries there.

As far as Madhya Pradesh is concerned, in the Eighth Five Year Plan, Madhya Pradesh is also covered in the exploration. The South Rewa is part of the our exploration programme for the Eighth Five Year Plan.

[English]

Oil Field

* 563 SHRI BOLLA BULLI
RAMAIAH:
SHRI HARIN PATHAK:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bids received from Indian and foreign companies for oil fields offered under the second round of bidding;

b) the details of the companies which

have applied for ;

c) whether any decision has been taken regarding offering of oil fields to these companies;

d) if so, the details of oil fields offered to Indian and foreign companies , separately; and

e) if not the time by which the decision is likely to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA:(a) to (e) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(a) 54 bids have been received from 11 foreign and 19 Indian companies.

(b) The list of companies which have submitted bids, either on their own or in consortium, is as follows:-

Foreign companies

- i) Omimex Energy, USA
- ii) Bechtel Energy, USA
- iii) Narayan Consultants, Canada
- iv) Clyde Expro Plc. , U.K.
- v) Samson International, USA
- vi) Compagnie Geofinanciere, France
- vii) China Petroleum Technology Development Corporation, Peoples Republic of China.
- viii) Joshi Technologies, USA
- ix) BNG Holdings , Canada

- x) Ruspetrol, USA
 xi) Berry Creek Resources Inc., Canada

Indian Companies

- i) Selan Exploration Technology Ltd., New Delhi
 ii) Gujarat State Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd, Ahmedabad
 iii) Hindustan Oil Exploration Company, Baroda
 iv) Gujarat Filaments Ltd., Baroda
 v) Hydrocarbon Resources Development Co. (P) Ltd. Bombay
 vi) Mardia Chemicals Ltd., Ahmedabad
 vii) Dewan Chand Ram Saran Industries (P) Ltd. Bombay
 viii) Jindal Drilling & Industries Ltd., New Delhi
 ix) Alphageo (India) Ltd., Hyderabad
 x) Essar Oil Ltd., Bombay
 xi) Reliance Industries Ltd. Bombay
 xii) Enpro Services India (P) Ltd. New Delhi
 xiii) Geoenpro India Ltd., New Delhi
 xiv) A.P. Industrial Development Corporation, Hyderabad
 xv) Petrodrill , New Delhi

- xvi) Tata Petrodyne (P) Ltd., New Delhi
 xvii) Larsen & Toubro, Bombay
 xviii) Hindustan Electro Graphites Ltd. New Delhi
 xix) The Assam Company Ltd., New Delhi

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Award of contracts will be made after negotiations with the bidders.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like clarification from the hon. Minister about the reply given to part 'C' of my question. He has replied that—

[English]

No decision has been taken regarding exploration of oil fields to the companies.

But I have a copy of the annual report of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 1993-94. In Chapter 11, it has been clearly stated that the Government approved the award of contracts for 13 small size fields whose names are given. Out of 13 oil fields, 12 are from Gujarat. They are:

Bakrol, Lohar, Indor, Bhandut, Cambay, Matar, Sabarmati, Hazira, Wavel, Dholka, Baola and Asjol.

I would like to know from the Minister when you say no decision has been taken,

here it is said in the report that for 13 small oil fields, the award has already been given. I would like to know, what is the actual position.

If the contract has been awarded, when the work is likely to start?

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: I think the hon. Member is mixed up with the first round of discovered oil fields, and the second round. In the first round, we have already awarded bids and finalised for both small and medium size oil fields.

But this question relates to second round of discovery oil programme. In the second round, the bids have been received. Evaluation is going on. We are nowhere near finalising the bids. That will take some time.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: My second supplementary is about the bids invited from the different companies for 13 small oil fields of Gujarat. Whether you would like to start this work by giving contracts within a stipulated time limit. Out of these 13 oil fields twelve are in Gujarat. Gujarat is enriched with oil deposits. The country and Government will be benefitted by giving contracts earliest for these oilfields. I would like to know whether Government propose to get this work done on priority basis and within a stipulated time?

[*English*]

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: I am in total agreement with the hon., Member. The sooner we get the work started, the sooner the oil will start flowing. I am monitoring personally the progress and I can assure the Member that there will be no

delay in awarding all these contracts.

SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS: According to the opinion of some experts, West Bengal and Gujarat are floating on oil. I would like to know from the Government whether they have indentified any spots. If so, now many spots have been identified and out of them, how many in West Bengal? How many wells have been drilled in the State and how many of them are successful and how many of them have failed and the cause of failure?

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: Every time, there are questions on oil exploration from two States and we have maximum queries from those States, rightly so, on the progress of exploration work. One is West Bengal and the other is Bihar.

Let me just share with the hon. member about the efforts in West Behgal. So far, an expenditure of Rs. 650 crores has been made in West Bengal for exploration without any commercial success. Forty five wells have been drilled and extensive seismic surveys have been carried out. During the Eighth plan ONGC plans to carry out 6590 standard line kms. (SLK) seismic survey and drilling of five exploratory wells number of blocks have been regularly offered for exploration in the State consistently in the fourth, fifth and sixth rounds of biddings.

Again five blocs have been offered two on shore and three off-shore under the seventh round of exploration bidding. I hope the Member is right that West Bengal is floating on oil. Nothing makes me happier than this and I do believe if Bangladesh just across can have major discoveries of gas find, surely we must find oil or gas in that area. I share the optimism of the hon. Member.

As far as Gujarat is concerned, Gujarat

is a reality. In Gujarat, we are every now and then finding indications of not only oil but there is also much more to be found in Gujarat.

[*Translation*]

Leprosy

* 564. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL:
SHRI N. DENNIS:

Will the Minister of HEALTH and FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any comprehensive plan to wipe out leprosy in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken for eradication of this disease from the country so far; and

(d) the achievements made in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR)

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) The action plan includes extension of multi-drug therapy (MDI), care for disabilities and leprosy ulcers, intensification of health education activities and orientation training of primary health care staff.

(c) & (d). So far 135 endemic districts have been brought under MDT. Another 110 districts have been sanctioned for coverage under MDT. Health activities have also been intensified. As a result, leprosy load has come down from 4 million estimated leprosy cases in 1981 to 0.94 million at

the end of March, 1994.

[*Translation*]

DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in his reply hon. Minister has stated that 135 endemic districts have been brought under multi-drug treatment and sanction has also been given to cover another 110 districts under multidrug treatment. I would like to know from the hon. Minister that by when the remaining districts of the country will be covered under the leprosy treatment scheme? In the annual report of Health Ministry, it has been stated that the World Bank has agreed to provide Rs. 302 crore for its treatment. Whether this amount has been provided? It has been announced that efforts are being made by the ministry on war footing to eradicate this disease by 2000 A. D. and if see the reasons for expressing serious concern by the Standing Parliamentary Committee for not taking adequate steps by the Ministry of Health for the rehabilitation of leprosy patients? Your ministry has declared this disease as incurable, whether it is right or not?

MR SPEAKER: Please ask one by one question otherwise it will not be possible to reply of questions at a time.

[*English*]

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR: I have already mentioned that from four million leprosy cases in our country in 1981, it has come down to 0.94 million and this definitely shows that there is improvement in the performance. (Interruptions). This is the correct figure. One hundred and thirty five districts have already been covered by MDT and another 110 districts we have covered in 1994 and there are still 209 districts which will be covered by the end of this year. That is the programme the Gov-

ernment has chalked out. We are making all out efforts to eradicate leprosy from our country.

MR SPEAKER: Do you treat it as incurable?

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR: No sir.

[*Translation*]

DR LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, according to the law of the country leprosy is assumed as a contagious disease. Leprosy is being considered as a reason for divorce under the Hindu Marriage act and Special Marriage Act. Several families have broken by such provision in these Acts. Whether Ministry of Health is making any efforts to abolish such provisions of these Acts. According to Railway Act a Leprosy patient have to seek prior permission for travelling in trains. Permission can be given to him subject be making arrangement for separate travelling. Tickets of a person travelling without seeking prior permission is confiscated if he is found travelling in trains. There are fearful provisions. Whether Ministry of Health is making any efforts to abolish such provisions of the act? Will the present Government wash off this stigma attached to Gandhi's country which has largest number of leprosy patients in the world.

[*English*]

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR: Under the new policy of the Government, the Government is attaching much importance to domiciliary treatment of leprosy patient so that he can live with the family and to get himself cured of this disease. There were days when the people thought that leprosy was incurable. I think the Member

has mentioned about the earlier days, the earlier law. I think that lepro Act has already been repealed by the Government.

MR. SPEAKER: Is it necessary for the leprosy patients to take permission to travel by train?

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR: I do not have any information.

SHRI N. DENNIS: I would like to know whether any periodical review on the programme of the National leprosy Eradication programme is made. May I also know about the latest important recommendation of the review I would also like to know whether the object of the programme to arrest the transmission of leprosy by 2000 A. D. would be achieved. May I know the details on this?

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Dennis, the information on this has already been given.

SHRI N. DENNIS: May I know about the programme of the government to create an awareness among the community regarding the curability of the disease and regarding the health education on leprosy.

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR: I have already mentioned that the Government is attaching much importance to treat the leprosy patients in their own residences. We are trying to spread this message about the leprosy patients through the Information and Education Programme of the Health Department.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: In the answer, only the treatment aspect of the disease has been mentioned. I feel eradication of leprosy and prevention is the first aspect. Basing on that, Dr. Talwar from ICMR and the Tata Consultancy Research

Institute have developed three types of vaccines which are under legal trial. What is the fate of those three vaccines in our country? I would like to know whether the ICMR has recognised the three vaccines. The World Health Organisation has already given the approval to all these vaccines for legal trial and test-both preventive and curative.

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR: Under the WHO, new drugs for leprosy treatment is under clinical trial but it has not yet been brought to practice. The vaccine is also still under clinical trial.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: The Multi-Drug Therapy (MDT) is the successful treatment for the leprosy patients. This MDT programme was started in my district. Purulia was the first district where this treatment was started. But last year the money sanctioned for this programme has been reduced. As a result of this, the medicine under this programme are not being supplied to the patients. As a result of this, there is an increase in the number of leprosy patients in the district of Purulia. I would like to know from the hon. minister that in order to intensify this programme whether sufficient fund will be allocated for those districts where the number of leprosy patients are more.

Secondly, a committee was appointed under the Chairmanship of Dr. Swaminathan for the eradication of leprosy and for the rehabilitation of leprosy patients. This Committee has submitted its report and its recommendations. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has implemented those recommendations for the eradication of leprosy and for the rehabilitation of leprosy patients.

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR:

Under the MDT programme, hundred per cent grant is given from the Central Government. In West Bengal, there used to be five districts covered by this MDT programme. From this year, we have taken up another 10 districts. That signifies that we include more and more districts. I can give the names of districts. I can supply the names of the districts to the hon. Member. At present, I do not have the names of the districts. But we have taken up ten new districts in West Bengal from March 1994.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: What about the Swaminathan Committee report?

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR: I do not have that information.

DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI: Sir whatever statistical information has been put forward by the hon. Minister I think that is wrong because all over the world the estimated figure of leprosy patients stand at 2.7 million. Out of this 2.7 million patients, our country's share is 1.3 million. Out of this 1.3 million, at least five lakh patients are located in South Bihar which is a very backward area. There are some hospitals which are working. Now, most of these hospitals have either been closed or non-functioning. so, I would like to know from the hon. Minister in this respect what steps are going to be taken by the Hon. Minister in order to revamp, streamline re-open and just to strengthen all these hospitals and to make them viable so that the number of leprosy patients may not increase in future.

MR. SPEAKER: I think he has already replied to all these things. The Minister may very briefly reply to that.

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR: Our latest figure is 0.94 million and that

figure is as of March 1994, in Bihar also, there were only four district covered earlier. From this year, we have covered another 13 districts in Bihar.

[*Translation*]

Illegal Mining

*565. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the MINISTER OF COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cases of illegal mining of coal are costantly increasing in the Eastern Coalfields Limited and in Bharat Coking Coal Limited;

(b) if so, the number of cases registered during the last one year; and

(c) the concrete steps taken by the Government to check recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL.(SHRI AJIT PANJA.).

(a) to (c); A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) Illegal mining of coal in the command area of Eastern Coalfields Ltd.(ECL) does not seem to be on the increase whereas there is some marginal increase in the command area of the Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. (BCCL)

(b) The number of first Information Reports lodged with police/local administration during he year 1993-1994 is given below:-

ECL - 284 cases

BCL - 27 cases.

(c) the concrete steps taken by ECL/ BCCL to check recurrence of such incidents include the following:-

1) All exposed coal faces in unused/ abandoned quarries have been covered with debris, as far as possible. Underground abandoned workings have also been blocked with debris to prevent access. Generally, the miscreants work their way through these debris to have access to the coal. Whenever this has come to the notice of colliery authorities, action is taken to again cover/ block the exposed coal with debris.

2) The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) and the company securtiy person- nels regularly patrol the areas where illegal mining had been reported earlier. Wherever and whenever such illegal activities come to the notice of the authorities the patrollig is intensified.

3) The colliery authorities on getting information of such illegal activities and after preliminary examination file F.I.R. with local police. At times, higher authorities/district administration are also kept informed.

4) BCCL/ ECL maintain close liasion with state/district authorities & police to keep check on such illegal activities. Time time district administration have also taken meeting with BCCL/ECL management and decision aken during the meeting have been followed up.

5) CISF in association with local police also conduct raids on illegal mining sites whenever information reaches the authorities.

6) Suprise checks/ raids by security

staff of coal companies.

7) Handing over of seized materials and miscreants apprehending during the raids to the local police.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Mr Speaker, Sir, in the written reply given by the hon. Minister it has accepted by him that illegal mining is going on continuously in B.C.C.L. for the last several years. Although illegal mining is going on in almost all the coal mines. This illegal mining is increasing constantly every year and Government is loosing revenue of thousands of crores of rupees. I would like to know from the hon. Minister the estimated value of coal illegally mined during the last three years. The names of the security forces appointed by the Government to check it and the amount incurred by the Government to check it and the amount incurred by the Government on these security forces during 1993-1994.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: So far as the first portion is concerned, it appears that the number of illegal mining cases is going down. So far as ECL is concerned, from 208 and 321 in respect of last year, this year it has come down to 284. So far as BCCL is concerned it has increased from 21 to 27. The quantity for the last year is 650 tonnes and the approximate value is Rs. 3,25,000/- I have got five years' figures. The hon. Member asked for the figures for the last three years. For the last five year, 11,500 tonnes of coal were seized and the amount is about Rs. 55 lakhs. About the steps being taken in 1993 in order to stop this illegal mining, I ordered for scheme being formulated. The CMPDIL have framed a scheme. Under the three-pronged method, it is tried to be controlled. First, it is all being done in the areas which have already been mined,

that is the old abandoned areas where illegal mining is taking place. What is being done is to seal out those areas. The other step is by filing FIR with the cooperation of the state concerned. But in most of the places in Bihar and Bengal, there are some law and order situations which are developing.

There is deterioration of law and order. Therefore, we are taking it up with the Chief Secretary and also with the hon. Chief Minister.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir almost daily it is published in the newspapers that illegal mining of coal takes place with the connivance of staff members and officers. The hon. Minister is also aware of it. I would like to know from the hon. Minister that how many such cases have been brought to his notice. What action has been taken in this regard and the number of persons against whom action initiated and the number of persons suspended?

[*English*]

SHRI AJIT PANJA: So far as departmental officers are concerned, unless particular names are given, it is very difficult to answer it. But under the rules of the Government, if any such involvement takes place, certainly various actions are taken against the departmental officials.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SURAJ MANDAL: Mr. Speaker Sir, he has pointed out about the illegal coal mining in the coal fields of two coal companies and maximum illegal coal mining takes place in Central Coal fields. In 1990, Bihar Government had set up a committee in the

Assembly. I was also a member of that committee. C.I.S.F. and District Administration claims to stop the illegal mining of coal but that Committee had levelled charges of illegal mining against C.I.S.F. and District Administration. Government should investigate that whether illegal coal mining takes place with the connivance of C.I.S.F. and district administration in Eastern Coal fields, C.C.L., B.C.C. L. and who are appointed by the Government to check the illegal coal mining. The steps proposed by the Government to stop illegal coal mining? I would also like to know about the position of closed coal mines which are not commissioned after nationalisation and which have rendered several people jobless.

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask the question.

SHRI SURAJ MANDAL: He has told about the 287 coal mines. People who takes away coal there bicycles are arrested but the persons who takes away coal in trucks are not arrested. Whether Government will make arrangements to arrest the person who takes away the coal by trucks?

[English]

SHRI AJIT PANJA: We can go only by the FIR, If the hon. Member has got any other information and if it is passed on to me, certainly, I will look into the matter. But we go by the FIR. We cannot go by any other procedure. As I said, there are three ways in which it is being dealt with. But certainly, so far as the state Governments are concerned, where the State Governments are not alert, we are having difficulties. We are having difficulties in Bihar and Bengal. Where State Governments are alert, we are apprehending those people very quickly.

[Translation]

SHRI BHUBANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Mr Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister has told that F.I.R. is lodged after recovering the stolen coal. A number of cases have been brought to the notice that hundreds of trucks of coal is stolen with the connivance of CCL, B.C.C.L. employees and security officers. Police has recovered 27 trucks of coal from Daudhi Colliery and which was loaded by pay-loaders of C.C.L. from Railway side. C.C.L. officials and security personnel were involved in this case. What action has been taken by the hon. Minister in this regard. (Interputions)

[English]

SHRI AJIT PANJA: As I have already stated, the primary responsibility is of the basic company as soon as it comes to their notice, they try to apprehend those culprits and then file a FIR through the State machinery. But the ultimate analysis of finding indulgence and to take action is done by the State law and order machinery.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Oil And Gas Reserve

* 567. SHRI KABINDRA
PURKAYASTHA:
SHRIMATI BHAVNA
CHIKHILIA:

Will the Minister OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of places in the country, state-wise, where oil and gas reserve have been explored by the oil India limited and the oil and Natural gas commission, separately during the last three years indicating the estimated quantum of oil gas in these re-

serves.;

(b) whether the exploration work has been hampered due to inadequate supply of rigs; and

(c) If so, the time by which required number of rigs would be made available?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATU-

gas in-ace)

RAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) OIL has carried out exploration during the last three years(1991-92 to 1993-94) in Assam-Arakan Basin(Assam & Arunchal Pradesh), Jaisalmer and Bikaner-Nagaur basins (Rajasthan), Kutch-Saurashtra Basin(Offshore) (Gujarat) and Ganga Valley Basin (U.P.). The reserves established by OIL during this period are as under:

(oil+oil equivalent of

	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94 (MMT) (Estimated)
Assam & Arunachal Pradesh	16.30	7.76	16.26
Rajasthan	8.22	-	5.22
TOTAL	24.52	7.76	21.48

ONGC has carried out exploration during last three years 1991-92, 1992-93, 1993-94) in the States of Assam, Nagaland, Tripura, West Bengal, Bihar, U.P. Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Rajasthan. In addition, exploration was also carried out

in offshore basin of Bombay, Kutch-Saurashtra, Kerala-Kankan on west Coast and Krishna- Godavari, Cauvery, Bengal and Andaman Basins of East Coast.

The Hydrocarbon reserves established during this period is given below:-

(oil & oil equivalent of gas in-place reserves). (MMT)

	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94 (Under Assessment)
Gujarat	24.46	25.37	
Rajasthan	0.10	0.10	
Tripura	1.82	0.62	
Assam	-	-	
Nagaland	-	-	

	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
Andhra Pradesh	0.04	-	
Tamil Nadu	5.06	3.87	
West Coast	79.29	20.81	
East Coast	0.38	2.44	

(b) No Sir.

[*English*]

(c) Does not arise.

Petroleum Products and Natural gas

[*Translation*]

Ayurvedic Medicines

* 568. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM: Will the Minister OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any quality control is maintained on the Ayurvedic medicines before they are marketed;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken by the Government to check production of spurious and sub-standard Ayurvedic drugs and their sale?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) and (b): Yes sir. Ayurvedic medicines were brought under the purview of the Drugs & Cosmetics Act. Vide Drug Amendment Act of 1964 in order to provide for regulation of manufacture for sale.

(c) Does not arises.

* 569 SHRI SHIVLAL NAGIBHAI VEKARIA: Will the Minister OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the requirement of Petroleum Products and Natural Gas in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) the details of petroleum products and Natural gas being produced annually in the country;

(c) the quantity of petroleum products and natural gas imported during 1993-94 and proposed for 1994-95;

(d) Whether there is any proposal for setting up of natural gas plants by foreign companies in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

The MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) The estimated demand of Petroleum Products for 1994-95 is 64103 TMT. State-wise consumption for 1993-94 (April-February) is given in the attached statement Demand of natural gas registered with GAIL is 260 MMSCMD as shown

in the attached statement. This demand is in addition to allocations already made.

(b) The production of petroleum products in the country during 1993-94 was 54.243 MMT. The total quantity of natural gas produced during 1993-94 was 18334 MCM.

(c) As against an import of about 11807 TMT during 1993-1994, it is proposed to import about 14773 TMT of petroleum products in 1994-95. No natural gas was imported in 1993-94 and no such imports are proposed in 1994-95.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise

STATEMENT-I

THE STATE-WISE CONSUMPTION OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS DURING 1993-94 (APRIL, 1993 TO FEBRUARY, 1994) IS GIVEN AS UNDER:-

<i>STATES</i>	<i>1993-94 (APRIL-FEBRUARY)</i>
ANDHRA PRADESH	3514
ASSAM	807
BIHAR	3392
GOA	582
GUJARAT	5303
JAMMU&KASHMIR	350
KERALA	1975
MADHYA PRADESH	2502

<i>STATES</i>	<i>1993-94 (APRIL-FEBRUARY)</i>
TAMIL-NADU	4673
MAHARASHTRA	9196
KARNATAKA	2584
ORISSA	1138
PUNJAB	2960
RAJASTHAN	2494
UTTAR PRADESH	5630
WEST BENGAL	3080
HARYANA	1822
HIMACHAL PRADESH	213
MANIPUR	59
MEGHALAYA	105
NAGALAND	47
SIKKIM	17
TRIPURA	62
ANDAMAN & NICOBAR	44
ARUNCHAL PRADESH	76
CHANDIGARH	190
DELHI	2188
DADRA & N.H.25 DAMAN & DIU	14
LAKSHDWEEP	3

<i>STATES</i>	<i>1993-94</i> <i>(APRIL-FEBRUARY)</i>
MIZORAM	35
PONDICHERY	146

<i>STATES</i>	<i>1993-94</i> <i>(APRIL-FEBRUARY)</i>
BHUTAN	24.48
TOTAL:-	55310*

EXCLUDES LUBE SALES BY PRIVATE PARTIES.

STATEMENT -II

REGISTERED DEMAND OF NATURAL GAS (STATE-WISE/SECTOR-WISE DETAILS)

STATES	QTY.	FERT.	POWER	SP. IRON	GLASS	OTHERS
Andhra Pradesh	23.60	10.01	3.2	5.15	5.20	0.04
Arunchal Pradesh	0.04	-	-	-	-	0.04
Assam	0.05	-	-	-	-	0.05
Delhi	3.00	-	-	-	1.00	2.00
Gujrat	45.13	11.63	12/09	0.50	15.50	5.41
Haryana	6.76	0.60	0.80	-	2.00	3.36
Himachal Pradesh	0.01	-	-	-	-	0.01
Karnataka	9.36	-	-	1.87	3.09	4.398
Madhya Pradesh	21.34	3.19	4.20	5.22	3.00	5.73
Maharashtra	47.07	10.704	12.70	2.35	16.00	5.286
Orissa	0.90	-	-	-	-	0.90

STATES	QTY.	FERT.	POWER	SPIRON	GLASS	OTHERS
Punjab	0.02	-	-	-	-	0.02
Rajasthan	15.59	2.50	5.99	0.80	2.00	4.66
Tamil Nadu	12.82	2.76	1.80	2.35	2.00	3.91
Tripura	1.80	-	-	-	-	1.80
Uttar Pradesh	30.17	3.50	13.64	7.15	3.80	2.08
Misc (South Rgn.)	40.27	9.04	13.07	4.03	8.00	6.135
Misc (East Rgn.)	5.23	1.00	2.50	0.50	-	1.23

[Translation]

Narmada Project

* 570. SHRI SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:-

(a) the details of the progress made regarding the construction of dams on the Narmada river, water storage and rehabilitation in the context of the award of Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal as on March 31, 1994, State-wise;

(b) whether the government propose to make any changes in the decisions taken by the Tribunal, and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) The Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal in its award had adjudicated sharing of the

utilisable quantum of Narmada Waters at Sardar Sarovar Dam site assessed at 28 million acre feet (35.537 cubic kilometres) on the basis of 75% dependability amongst the States of Madhya Pradesh, Gujrat, Rajasthan and Maharashtra and construction of Sardar Sarovar and Narmada Sagar Projects for optimum utilisation of shareable waters by the states for irrigation and generation of hydropower. The details of the progress made in regard to the construction of dams under these two projects, storage capacity and resettlement and rehabilitation of project affected families are as under:

(i) **SARDAR SAROVAR PROJECT (SSP):** 64% concreting work has been completed on Sardar Sarovar Dam with the lowest blocks of the dam raised upto elevation Level 69 metres. Due to provision of river sluices at Elevation level 53 metres, the pondage will be around Elevation level 59 metres.

Progress of resettlement & rehabilitation of project affected families till the end of January, 1994 is as under;

STATEMENT II

STATE	Total Plots	Projected Affected Families		Cumulative achievement Allotment of			Balance	
		House Land	Eligible for Agriculture plots	House Land	Agriculture plots	House Land	Agriculture plots	families
<u>Gujarat</u>	4500	4500	4472	4188	4259	314	213	
<u>Maharashtra</u>								
(a) In Gujarat	999	999	999	581	626	418	373	
(b) In Maharashtra	1802*	1802*	1602*	688	697	1114	1105	
Total	2801	2801	1801	1269	1323	1532	1478	
<u>Madhya Pradesh</u>								
a. In Gujarat	14124	14124	14124	1477	2024	12647	12100	
b. In Madhya Pradesh	119380	19380	830	4240	-	18956	830	
Total	33504	33504	14954	1901	2024	31603	12930	
Grand Total	40805	40805	22227	7356	7606	33449	14621	

NOTE * likely to increase due to resurvey and policy liberalisation

④ Not entitled for agricultural land.

(ii) Narmada Sagar Project (NSP):

Foundation treatment has been completed for 5 blocks. Excavation has been completed for 5 blocks of Roller Bucket area and treatment is in progress. No pondage has been created so far. The State Government has drawn up action plan for the resettlement & rehabilitation of project affected people. However, no physical resettlement of the project affected people has taken place as there has been no submergence of land so far.

(b) and (c). As per the Award of the Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal, the orders with regard to equitable allocation of Narmada Waters, full reservoir level and maximum water level of Sardar Sarovar Dam, sharing of costs and benefits, regulated releases to be made by Madhya Pradesh for the requirement of Sardar Sarovar Project, payment to be made by Gujarat to Madhya Pradesh for such regulated releases, allocation of costs of Sardar Sarovar Project between irrigation and power, allocation of the irrigation component of cost of Sardar Sarovar Project between Gujarat and Rajasthan and as regards machinery are all made subject to review at any time after a period of 45 years from the date of publication of the decision of the Tribunal in the Official Gazette. The Award was published in the Official Gazette on 12.12.1979 and as such these parameters cannot be reviewed before 2025 A.O.

**Universal Immunisation
Programme**

* 571. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU:
Will the Minister OF HEALTH AND FAMILY

WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on the Universal Immunisation Programme during each of the last three years, State/Union Territory-wise;

(b) Whether any vaccination coverage evaluation survey has been conducted during the said period;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE: (DR.C. SILVERA): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of House.

(b) and (c). As a part of the Universal Immunisation programme the State Governments carry out vaccination coverage evaluation surveys. A total of 443 surveys were conducted in the three years 1991-1993. The objectives of those surveys are to assess inter-alia the immunisation coverage levels, to know reasons for dropouts and to take corrective measures to improve the immunisation services. The major findings of the surveys show that levels of acceptance of immunisation is nearly the same in urban and rural areas. It was also found that the quality of coverage under the immunisation programme has improved over the year.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

ring

STATEMENT

1993-94

STATE-WISE AMOUNT SPENT ON UNIVERSAL IMMUNISATION Pt. I
DURING THE YEAR 1991-92, 1992-93 AND 1993-94.

2357.80

845.12

STATE	Amount Spent During		
	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
1. Andhra Pr.	480.77	593.33	933.15
2. Arunachal Pr.	19.46	22.32	22.62
3. Assam	301.04	366.99	524.33
4. Bihar	813.43	721.10	1301.40
5. Goa	13.14	15.85	17.54
6. Gujarat	401.68	485.44	730.19
7. Haryana	132.81	269.74	336.92
9. Jammu & Kashmir	82.16	88.04	228.95
10. Karnataka	316.43	494.02	798.63
11. Kerala	241.42	294.27	472.84

STATE	Amount Spent During		
	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
12. Madhya Pr.	595.60	886.23	1383.17
13. Maharashtra	669.08	676.40	1145.95
14. Manipur	26.40	46.85	72.31
15. Meghalaya	23.15	41.03	45.89
16. Mizoram	17.22	24.69	25.69
17. Nagaland	22.66	35.33	36.72
18. Orissa	301.50	400.97	676.24
19. Punjab	155.82	263.34	404.60
20. Rajasthan	424.68	608.14	1091.24
21. Sikkim	13.86	18.25	21.57
22. Tamil Nadu	344.77	573.45	
23. Tripura	27.97	34.65	

STATE	Amount Spent During		
	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
24. Uttar Pr.	1257.05	1599.55	2357.80
25. West Bengal	452.22	739.02	845.12
26. A & N Islands	1.81	8.60	6.69
27. Chandigarh	4.94	4.94	5.85
28. D & N Haveli	1.28	1.56	2.93
29. Daman & Diu	1.00	1.81	14.33
30. Delhi	60.03	55.30	137.91
31. Lakshdweep	.59	3.38	1.73
32. Pondichery	5.33	26.18	20.51
Total	7276.30	9523.22	14879.66

* Consequent upon launching of CSSM programme during 92-93, all the basic interventions have been integrated with the UIP. Thus there is no provision made for UIP and the expenditure incurred under CSSM programme includes expenditure on UIP also.

[English]

Primary Health Centre

* 572. SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE: Will the Minister OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the norms laid down by the Government to establish primary health Centres and sub-centres in the country;

(b) whether the government propose to review the norms for setting up of new Sub-Centres in the country; and

(c) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE. (DR.C. SILVERA): (a) A primary Health centre is set-up for 30,000 population in the plains and 20,000 population in hilly and tribal areas. A sub-centre is set up for 5,000 population in the plains and for 3,000 population in hilly tribal areas.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Preventions of AIDS

573. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to states:

(a) whether a workshop was held on prevention of AIDS at Calcutta on April 6, 1994 in collaboration with the World Health Organisation;

(b) if so the details thereof;

(c) the suggestions made at the workshop; and

(d) the follow-up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR.C. SILVERA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The workshop was organised by the State AIDS Cell of the Government of West Bengal with financial assistance from the World Health Organisation. The objective of the workshop was to develop an inter-sectoral work plan for the prevention and control of AIDS in West Bengal.

(c) The final report of the workshop has not yet been received by the Government.

(d) Does not arise.

Height of Dams

* 574. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: SHRI CHITTA BASU:

Will the Minister OF WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether height of the dams on major rivers, including Sardar Sarovar and Narmada, is being reviewed;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the stand of the Madhya Pradesh government in this regard; and

(c) the decision, if any, taken by the Union Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c). No sir.

A proposal for the reduction of height of Sardar Sarovar Dam from 455ft. to 436 ft. has been mooted by Government of Madhya Pradesh. However, as per clause XVI of the Final Orders of the Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal, parameters of the Sardar Sarovar Dam like its height for full reservoir level and maximum water level are subject to review at any time after a period of 45 years from the date of publication of the decision of the Tribunal in the official Gazette. The award was published in the Official Gazette on 12.12.1979 and as such these parameters cannot be reviewed before 2025 A.D.

Population Hazards

* 575. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Medical Research has conducted any study on the impact of vehicular pollution and effluents from chemical factories on the incidence of lung diseases and cancer;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) the cities in the country where the study was conducted; and

(d) the follow-up action taken by the Government on the suggestions made by ICMR in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA) (a) and (b); The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has conducted studies on the air pollution and its impact on health. No specific study on the effect of vehicular pollution and effluents from chemical industries on lung cancer has been carried out by the Council,

Pollutants were found to be the highest in the areas with dense vehicular traffic, which also showed higher morbidity rates.

(c) The studies/Surveys were conducted in Ahmedabad, Bangalore and Bombay.

(d) Films for public awareness have been made by Environmental Medical Research Centre (ERC), Ahmedabad, and shown under the UGC Programme on Doodardshan.

De-Addiction Programmes

* 576. DR ASIM BALA: Will the Minister OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the broad details of the de-addiction programmes undertaken by the government during the last three years; and

(b) the achievements made under these programmes in rehabilitating the drug addicts during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) and (b); Government have sanctioned assistance for setting up 38 de-addiction centres in Central/State Government Medical Institutions.

Other activities include assistance to non-governmental organisations for setting up facilities for care of addicts, drug awareness publicity and training of medical personnel in de-addiction.

These activities have increased the accessibility of drug de-addiction facilities all over the country.

Import of Coal

coal;

577. SHRI NITISH KUMAR:
SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:

(d) whether the Government propose to pay royalty to the coal producing States at ad valorem prices; and

Will the Minister OF COAL be pleased to state:

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

(a) the quantity of coal imported during each of the last three years;

(b) the estimated quantity of coal likely to be imported during 1994-95;

(c) the likely effect of such import on the domestic price of indigenously produced

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA)

(a) According to the information obtained from Director General Foreign Trade the imports of coal, coke and briquettes et.c.during the last three years were as follows :

<i>Year</i>	<i>(in million tonnes) (data provisional) Quantity</i>
1990-91	6.20
1991-92	5.93
1993-94	6.74

(b) The quantity of coking coal likely to be imported by Steel Plants during the years 1994-95 is estimated at 6.00 million tonnes. Estimates of other varieties of coal likely to be imported during the year 1994-95 are not available.

(c) The domestic price of indigenously produced coal is being fixed by Government of India from time to time and as such it is not directly affected by coal imports.

(d) and (e) The rates of royalty on coal were last revised with effect from 1.8.1991. Next revision in the rates of royalty on coal can be effected on or after 1st August 1994. The Studying Group appointed by the

Government to examine all relevant issues in this connection is expected to give its recommendations shortly.

Oil Exploration And Refining

* 578. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether any agreement has been reached recently with Russia regarding oil exploration and refining business in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the areas where Russia has agreed to undertake oil exploration work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Blood Transfusion Facilities

* 579. SHRI MANIKARAO HODLYA GAVIT:
SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:

Will the Minister OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to ensure better and safe blood transfusion facilities to cover the risk of AIDS infection among the haemophilia patients;

(b) whether the Government propose to formulate a national blood transfusion policy to check commercialisation of blood donation and ensure supply of pure blood to haemophilia patients; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE; (DR.C. SILVERA) (a) to (c) Government have made it mandatory to test every unit of blood to be used for transfusion for prevention of HIV infection through such transfusion. 150 Zonal Blood Testing Centres have been established to provide such testing facilities to all the blood Banks. All the District Level Blood Transfusion Centres are being provided with rapid test kits for the same purpose. Imported blood products are tested before being permitted to be used. This is expected to ensure supply of safe blood to all those who need it including haemophilia patients. To increase the avail-

ability of blood, voluntary blood donation is being encouraged. This, alongwith establishment of component separation facilities would help in rational and optimal utilisation of safe blood.

ISI Activities In Bihar

* 580 SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO:
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the increasing activities of the inter Services Intelligence (ISI) in Bihar;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government are also aware that Pak-trained militants are entering India through the Indo-Nepal border touching Bihar;

(d) if so, the effective steps taken/proposed to be taken to strengthen the security measures on the said border;

(e) whether the Union Government have issued any instructions to the Government of Bihar in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) and (c). Yes, Sir.

(b) and (d). Government is alive to the situation and are taking all necessary steps in this regard which, inter alia, include gearing up of intelligence machinery, coordinated action by Central and State agencies.

strengthening the presence of Enforcement agencies on the Indo-Nepal borders, periodical review and monitoring of the emerging situation, and a strict watch over persons including foreign nationals whose movements appear to be suspicious.

(e) and (f). The Central Government has sensitised all State Governments, including Bihar, about the ISI activities and the imperative need to take all necessary counter measures.

[*Translation*]

Irrigation With Solar Energy

6286. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA: Will the Minister OF WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether irrigation on experimental basis is being done with the help of Solar Energy in the country and particularly in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether France has provided any financial assistance for these experiment:

(d) if so, the terms and conditions laid down for the same; and

(e) the nature of pilot projects to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI. P. K. THUNGON): (a) and (b) A "Pilot project for Solar Energy based Minor Irrigation and Water Supply in Rural Areas" under the *Indo-French Co-operation programme on Water Resources Management* has been

proposed for installation of 50 numbers of Solar Pumps in Anantapur or Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh, Gumla or Ranchi District in Bihar, Raipur district in Madhya Pradesh and Kalahandi and Keonjhar districts in the Orissa for implementation during the 8th Five Year Plan.

(c) and (d). France is providing a grant of French Francs 2 million and a loan of French Francs 3.8 million (Total equivalent to Rs. 2.96 crores)

(e) The solar pumps will be installed at sites in the above districts where no source of conventional energy is available and not likely to be provided in the near future or if available is very unreliable. The aim of the Pilot Project is mainly to benefit small and marginal farmers though the concept of community management.

[*English*]

Ground Water Survey

6287. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN: Will the Minister OF WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Ground Water Board has conducted any survey in the North Eastern region to assess the ground water potentials;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) if not, whether there is any proposal to conduct a survey in near future in the region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES. (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On the basis of the surveys conducted by the Central Ground Water Board in the States of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya and Tripura in the North Eastern Region, the ground water potential of these States has been assessed as 2.1671, 0.1439, 0.3154, 0.1226, 0.0724, and 0.2512 million hectare metre/yearly respectively. No such surveys have been conducted in the States of Sikkim and Mizoram because of inadequacy of data.

(c) Does not arise.

Places Of Worship

6288. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation made during 1993-94 to States/UTs out of the Communal Harmony Fund for the repair of places of worship damaged during communal riots;

(b) the number of places of worship, district-wise, covered by these allocations; and

(c) the number of places of worship actually rebuilt/repared, district-wise under the above allocations by 31.3.94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) (a) to (c). No allocation has been made from the Communal Harmony Fund during the year 1993-94 for the repair of places of worship damaged during communal riots.

Dispute between ONGC and British Petroleum

6289. SHRI B. DEVARAJAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL

GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any dispute between the oil and Natural Gas Commission and global giant British Petroleum over contractual obligations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the efforts made to come to an agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS. (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (c) Some differences with regard to the inclusion of certain expenditure items have arisen between ONGC Videsh Ltd (OVL) and the British Petroleum (BP)-Statoil alliance. The differences are being resolved in accordance with the provisions of agreement between OIL and BP-Statoil alliance.

[Translation]

Exploration of Oil and Natural Gas

6290. PROF RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts made by the Government through various agencies for exploration of petroleum and natural gas reserves in Rajasthan;

(b) the achievements made so far in these efforts;

(c) the expenditure incurred on these exploration works during the last three years; and

(d) the time by which the oil and natural gas reserves are likely to be utilized for

commercial and consumption purposes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). ONGC Ltd. has carried out surveys and drilled 53 exploratory wells in Rajasthan and has established 2.15 billion m³ of in-place reserves of gas in 5 structures. OIL has also carried out surveys and drilled 20 explorator wells in Rajasthan and has established tentative in-place geological reserves of heavy oil of 13 MMT and 6.91 billion m³ of gas 5 structures.

(c) ONGC Ltd. and OIL together have spent about Rs. 173.41 crores on exploration during the last 3 years in Rajasthan.

(d) Gas supplies to RSEB are expected to commence this month. No Schedule for the production of heavy oil has been drawn up yet.

[English]

Legislation To prevent Custodial Crimes

6291. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the Minister OF HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to unstarred Question No.1844 on December 3, 1992 regarding legislation to prevent custodial crimes and state.

(a) whether the Government have since taken the final decision regarding bringing forward a legislation to prevent custodial crimes:

(b) if so, the details therefore ; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in this

regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS .(SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a). No sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The proposal needs careful consideration in all its aspects.

[Translation]

IPS Officers

6292. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister OF HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the opportunities for training being provided to I.P.S. officers under the Central and State Government;

(b) the I.P.S. officers cadre sent abroad for special training during each of the last three years, State/Union Territory-wise;

(c) the details of the expenditure incurred by the Union Government thereon during the said period.

(d) whether the government have given any priority to those officers of this cadre who have been posted in terrorism affected States while sending them abroad for training; and

(e) if the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS . (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a):- IPS officers undergo induction training in Sardar Vallabhabhai Patel National Police Academy, Hyderabad. Subsequently, they are imparted in-service training in India and abroad.

(b) List in the attached statement.

(c) Most of the foreign training courses for I.P.S. officers are available under multi-lateral cooperation agreements. Expenditure is incurred only on limited number of

other courses abroad which is borne by the concerned organisation/ State Government.

(d) and (e) The selection of officers for training abroad is made on the basis of the guidelines of laid down for this purpose.

STATEMENT

NUMBER OF IPS OFFICERS SENT ABROAD DURING 1991-92, 1992-93 AND 1993-94 (CADRE-WISE)

NAME OF CADRE	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
1. Andhra Pradesh	4	3	1
2. Assam & Meghalaya	4	2	1
3. Bihar	3	1	2
4. Gujarat	2	2	-
5. Haryana	1	2	3
6. Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-
7. Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	-
8. Karnataka	1	-	-
9. Kerala	-	-	2
10. Madhya Pradesh	2	2	5
11. Maharashtra	2	6	3
12. Manipur-Tripura	2	1	6

NAME OF CADRE	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
13. Nagaland	-	-	-
14. Orissa	1	-	-
15. Punjab	1	1	2
16. Rajasthan	1	3	1
17. Sikkim	-	-	-
18. Tamil Nadu	3	-	-
19. Union Territories	4	1	3
20. Uttar Pradesh	4	3	4
21. West Bengal	2	1	1

[English]

Health Care

6293. SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any financial assistance is being provided by the world Bank for the health care in the rural areas; and

(b) if so, the amount provided during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE. (DR. C. SILVERA.) (a) and (b) World Bank is providing financial assistance for India population Projects being implemented in the Rural areas of various States.

The grants released for these projects to the States during the last three years are as under:-

(Rs in crores)

1991-92	104.82
1992-93	33.37
1993-94	114.56

Organ Banks

6294. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether lack of officially organised organ banks in the Country is resulting in many deaths and increase in illegal trade of human organs;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to maintain at principal hospitals in the country an organ bank for transplantation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE. (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) to (c) There are organised organ banks for blood, skin and bone. However, other organs like the heart, liver, lungs and kidneys cannot be preserved in organ banks, because these can be removed for transplantation only from a brain stem dead donor only. With view to inter alia, preventing avoidable deaths from organ-failure and curbing trade in human organs, the Government have introduced the transplantation of Human Organs Bill 1993 in the Parliament. The Bill provides for allowing recognised hospitals to perform organ transplantation; such hospitals have not been identified so far.

Natural Gas Supply projects

6295. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some natural gas supply projects in private sector have been pending for clearance of the Public investment Board;

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

(c) the steps taken to clear those projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS. (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) . No Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise

Spurious Medicines

6296. SHRI PREM CHAND RAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is spurt in the sale of spurious medicines at present in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE. (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) No such information is available.

(b) Does not arise.

Price parity on LPG

6297. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to bring price parity between the LPG cylinder of public private sector;

(b) whether the private sector companies have started importing LPG;

(c) if so, the details of import effected so far; and

(d) the time by which the imported LPG would be available in the domestic market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS. (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) Under the parallel marketing Scheme of LPG, the private Companies are

allowed to sell LPG through their own network, at market determined prices on a competitive basis.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) About 11.00 TMT of LPG has been imported so far by parallel marketeers.

(d) The LPG imported by parallel marketeers is being made available for commercial, industrial and domestic use by the parallel marketeers.

Oil Production In North Eastern States

6298. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been problems in oil production in North-Eastern States and Bombay High;

(b) if so, the steps taken by ONGC to overcome these problems; and

(c) the oil production expected to be achieved by ONGC in Eighth Plan from these areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS. (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) While there is no problem in oil production from Bombay offshore operations in the North East Region have been affected due to environmental conditions prevailing there.

(b) Security has been taken augmented. Also, ONGC have taken up the matter with the State Govt. at appropriate levels.

(c) As per the latest outlook, ONGC is expected to achieve a production of about

100.11 million tonnes from Bombay offshore and about 15.69 million tonnes from the Eastern region during the Eight Plan.

Oil Exploration in Assam

6299. SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether oil exploration work in Southern Assam (Barak Valley) is going speedily; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and the remedial steps being taken to explore oil speedily?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF THE PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) The exploration for oil and gas in Southern Assam (Barak Valley) is as per schedule.

(b) Does not arise.

Pesticides Poisoning

6300. DR R. MALLU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidence of pesticide poisoning has increased during last three years;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check the pesticide poisoning;

(c) whether ICMR and National Institute of Nutrition propose to monitor the pesticide poisoning and presence of pesticide residues in air, soil water and animal feeds; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR.C.SILVERA): (a) and (b). No sir. As per available information there is no increase in pesticide poisoning cases reported in 1992-93 as compared to 1991-92. The followings steps have been taken to prevent recurrence of pesticides poisoning:-

-all pesticides require registration under the Insecticide Act.

_The status of use of pesticides is reviewed periodically.

-a strategy to integrated biological, mechanical and other methods is being prompted.

(c)and (d). The Indian Council of Medical Research has been conducting a multicentre study on food contaminants in India. The study has inter-alia reported on the presence of HCH&DDT in varying degrees inbovine milk, wheat and rice in the areas where the studies were undertaken. However, statistical analysis is being carried out.

Filling of Reserved Posts

6301. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state;

(a) the number of doctors working in the posts of Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, Additional Professor and Professor in AIIMS, New Delhi and P.G.I., Chandigarh;

(b) the number of persons out of them

belonging to scheduled castes and Scheduled Tribes in these posts, separately; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to fill up the backlog of the quoa for Scheduled Castes/ Schedules Tribes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) and (b) The information is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) All possible efforts are made by the institutes to fill up the backlog of the quota for SC/ST.

No. of doctors at present working in

No.	Name of the post	AIIMS, NEW DELHI			PGI, Chandigarh		
		In position	SC	ST	In position	SC	ST
1.	Professor	89	-	-	37	-	-
2.	Addl. Professor	92	1	-	83	2	1
3.	Assoc. Professor	95	11	-	45	7	-
4.	Asstt. Professor	119	22	5	61	3	1

Community Based Rehabilitation

6302. SHRI BARE LAL JATAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the funds sanctioned by World Health Organisation for Community based rehabilitation;

(b) whether a meeting was held recently by experts to chalk out a plan in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the groups that participated in the discussion;

(e) whether NGO of physiotherapist and occupational therapist were invited in the meeting; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE. (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) Under the WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION/ GOVT. OF INDIA Collaborative Programme, 1994-95 U. S 2.46 Lakhs have been allocated for the Rehabilitation Project.

(b) to (f) A National Seminar on Disability Prevention, Trauma care with special reference to Community based Rehabilitation was held from 7-11, March, 1994, where a National Programme on Rehabilitation and Trauma Care was launched. The Seminar was attended by experts in the specialities of Physical medicine & Rehabilitation medicine, Orthopaedic Surgeons, Ear Nose Throat Surgeons, Eye Surgeons and prevention and Social Medicine. The International Agencies like World Health Organisation, United States Agency for In-

ternational Development, Swedish International Development Authority etc. also participated. Non-Governmental Organisations working in different areas of disabilities also took part in the meeting.

Production of Crude Oil by OIL

6303. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the crude oil produced by the Oil India Limited (OIL) during 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93;

(b) whether any Memorandum of Understanding had been signed by OIL with his Ministry for 1993-94;

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating inter-alia the targets fixed for production of crude oil during 1993-94;

(d) whether these targets have been achieved; and

(e) if so, the details thereof region-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) The production of crude oil by Oil India Limited during the years 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 was 2.649, 2.529 and 2.523 million tonnes, respectively.

(b). Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e). Against the MOU target of 2.75 million tonnes OIL achieved a crude oil production of 2.811 million tonnes during the year 1993-94. The entire production of OIL was in North-Eastern region.

Consumption of Kapoori Tobacco

6304. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that paralysis, ulcer and hanstambh diseases are caused due to Kapoori Tobacco:

(b) whether the chemical mixed in the Kapoori Tobacco leads spread of diseases ; and

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to conduct sample test of this tobacco and take appropriate action against the manufactures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE. (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) to (c). It is known that tobacco usage in all forms is associated with paralysis, peptic ulcer and chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases. There is no proposal at present to conduct a test of Kapoori tobacco.

Western Kosi Canal

6305. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the work at main canal of Western Kosi canal flowing through Bhim Nagar Barrage in Nepal had been completed in 1984-85 and areas of Nepal are being irrigated through this canal for the years together;

(b) whether the capacity of Western Kosi Canal to irrigate three crops a year in 750,000 acres of land is not being fully utilised because of non-completion of construction of Siphon system across the Kamla river and tributaries having not been com-

pleted so far; and

(c) whether the Government propose to complete the construction work at this canal by June 1995 by sponsoring it by Central Government or to earmark funds for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES. (SHRI. P. K. THUNGON.): (a) Nepal portion of Western Kosi main canal was completed in 1985-86 and water for irrigation is supplied to areas in Nepal from June, 1985.

(b) As against stipulated irrigation potential of 2.35 lakh hectares only 22,750 hectares have come under irrigation.

(c) As per present policy, irrigation projects are planned, formulated, funded and executed by the State Governments themselves out of their plan resources. Central assistance is given in the form of block loans and grants and is not tied to any sector. Siphon across River Kamla is a part of Western Kosi Canal Project. In its draft annual plan 1994-95 the State Government of Bihar has earmarked Rs. 20 crores for this project.

Production of Oil and Natural Gas

6306. SHRI NURUL ISLAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state;

(a) whether the government propose to start any projects for increasing production of gas and oil in Bombay High.

(b) if so, the details thereof, indicating the total cost of the projects;

(c) whether any agreement with any foreign company/companies has also been signed for these projects;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the time by which the work on these projects is likely to commence; and

(f) the estimated increase in oil production during 1994-95 as compared to each of the previous three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS. (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (e). Besides a number of ongoing projects, Govt. have recently approved ONGC's project for the development of S-1 Sand field at a cost of Rs. 542.39 crores and South Heera Phase-II at a cost of Rs. 452.54 crores. Foreign companies include HHI, Daewoo-NPCC, Samsung of South Korea; KHI-CR of Japan; Soconord, OCTG of Belgium; ILVA of Italy and Europe of Germany. The new schemes mentioned above would be taken up on the award of contracts.

(f) Against the actual production of 18.963 million tonnes in 1991-92, 15.746 million tonnes in 1992-93 and 15.375 million tonnes in 1993-94, the production from this area during 1994-95 is expected to be about 19.818 million tonnes.

[Translation]

Coal Mines in Meghalaya.

6307. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether coal mines in Meghalaya

are the personal property of individuals;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether coal from these mines is being exported by these persons to Bangladesh without any permission of the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b). Many of the coalfields in Meghalaya are small isolated and not amenable to systematic and scientific mining. Govt. of Meghalaya have informed that local tribals are undertaking coal mining operations claiming such mining as their traditional and customary right.

(c) to (e). According to information furnished by Government of Meghalaya coal is being exported from Meghalaya to Bangladesh by these persons after decanalisation of coal exports from July, 1991. The exporters are required to obtain export licence/code No. from the Central Government/Reserve Bank of India apart from no objection certificate from the State Government.

Ban on Book

6308. SHRI MOHAN SINGH (FEROZEPUR)
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:
SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN:

SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA
KAUR(DEEPA):

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the derogatory remarks made by a Pakistani writer in his controversial book " Tarikhe Mujahidin";

(b) if so, whether any action has been taken by the Government to impose ban on the book;

(c) If so the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have sent any protest letter to the Government of Pakistan in this regard; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government of Pakistan thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS, (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c). Yes sir, Ministry of Finance has already issued instructions to its field formations to detain copies of the book if import of it is noticed.

(d) and (e). The matter relating to the book ' Tarikhe Mujahidin' has been taken up through diplomatic channels. The Pakistan authorities have informed that the book Tarikhe-Mujahidin has been banned by the Government of Pakistan.

[English]

AIDS Control

6309. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the blood banks in the country have got the facilities to detect AIDS;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether WHO has advised the Government to have blood testing facilities in each blood bank; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE, (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) to (d). The strategic plan drawn up by the Government in consultation with WHO for the prevention and control of AIDS in the country envisages Blood safety and rational use of blood products. Government have established 150 Zonal Blood Testing Centres (ZBTCS) to do the HIV testing. Linkages with these ZBTCS have been provided to all the blood banks to facilitate this process. In addition, 372 District level blood banks, which are basically transfusion centres, are provided Rapid Test Kits for blood screening before transfusion.

Import of Medical Equipments

6310. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee had been appointed to probe irregularities in the import of medical equipments for hospitals in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Committee has submitted its reports;

(d) if so the findings thereof, and

(e) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE, (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) and (b). The Government of National Capital territory of Delhi has appointed a committee to probe alleged irregularities in the purchase of medical equipment and consumables in GB Pant hospital.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) and (e) The committee has found substance in the allegations of irregularities pertaining to splitting up of orders, procuring unnecessary equipment and over invoicing etc. The Government of National Capital territory of Delhi is taking appropriate action in the matter.

Tihar Jail

6311. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO:
SHRI Y.S. RAJASEKHAR
REDDY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 90% of the prisoners in Tihar Jail are homosexual and thus become potential AIDS carriers;

(b) whether the Government propose to supply condoms to prisoners to prevent the AIDS;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to arrest the spread of AIDS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M SAYEED)(a): No sir,

(b) There is no such proposal under consideration

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

(d) The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has reported that blood samples of high risk prisoners were taken by a team of doctors and only one case was found positive. That prisoner has already left the jail.

[Translation]

Awarding of contract of Rejects

6312. SHRI BHUBANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that work relating to lifting of slurry and rejects and transportation of coal in Rajrappa and Kathara Coalfields under C.C. L. and B.C.C.L. has been awarded to bogus firms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any complaints has been received in this regard;

(d) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted;

(e) if so, the outcome thereof, and

(f) if not, the time by which the government propose to conduct an inquiry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (f). A complaint was received regarding alleged illegal sale of slurry, middlings and rejects produced by Rajrappa and Kathara Washeries of Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) to a particular person without inviting any tenders and in contravention of official procedure. Enquiry into the complaint was entrusted to coal Controller Organisation. On the basis of records and documents made available by Central Coalfields Limited, it was reported to Government that the allegation regarding irregularities in sale of slurry could not be substantiated. The examination of records further revealed that CCL had been following the procedure laid down in relation to sale of washery products for Kathara and Rajarappa Washeries.

[English]

Sardar Sarovar Project

6313. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT:
SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Independent Review Team (Morse Team) appointed by the World Bank to conduct an assessment of the implementation of the rehabilitation and environment protection measures of Sardar Sarovar Project (SSP) has recommended to the World Bank to stop aid to the project;

(b) whether the said Team has rejected

the findings of experts and tribunals about the availability of 27 MAF;

(c) if so, the details in regard to (a) and (b) above;

(d) whether the World Bank in the past stated that SSP project would benefit 30 million people of Gujarat and would give permanent employment to about one million people; and

(e) whether SSP would irrigate 18 hectares of agricultural land, would provide generation for 1450 MW of power and supply drinking water to thousands of villages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT
AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS-
TRY OF WATER RESOURCES: (SHRI P.
K. THUNGON) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Independent Review in its report had advised the world Bank to step-back from supporting the project. The Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal (NWDT) in its Award determined that the utilisable quantum of water of Narmada at Sardar Sarovar Dam site on the basis of 75% dependability should be assessed. at 28 million Acre Feet (MAF). The assessment of the Tribunal was based on sound technical data which was further confirmed by the Central Water Commission through detailed studies. The independent-Review was critical of the basis leading to this assessment and felt that the project would not perform as planned.

(d) Yes Sir.

(e) The Sardar Sarovar Project is designed to irrigate 17.92 lakh hectares of land, generate 1450 MW of hydro-power and provide drinking water facilities to 8215 villages and 135 Urban Centres.

Threat To ONGC

6314. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:
SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY:
SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has been served with an ultimatum by the Naga Student Federation (NSF) to stop all its activities in Nagaland and in North-East;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). The Naga Students Federation(NSF) has been given an ultimatum to ONGC to stop its activities in the Naga areas by 30.04.1994.

(c) Security arrangements have been further augmented. Government of Nagaland have been apprised to the situation for necessary action.

Arrests in J&K

6315. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the army personnel in Jammu recently arrested a number of women and girls from Pak-occupied Kashmir who had crossed the borders into Jammu;

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) the circumstances in which they strayed into the Indian territory; and

(d) whether their involvement in espionage and other crimes have been established?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT):(a) to (d). As per available information, one girl crossed over from Pak in the Naushera Sector on 5th January, 1994 and surrendered to the Indian troops. Investigations indicated that she had crossed over because her relatives were trying to force her into marriage against her wishes. Government has not received any report regarding her likely involvement in spying or other crimes.

Visit of Minister of Gujarat and Rajasthan

6316. DR . K.D. JESWANI:
PROF. RASASINGH RAWAT:
SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons arrested on the Indo-Pak border in Gujarat and Rajasthan for illegal activities during each of the last three years and the current year so far;

(b) whether the Minister of state in his Ministry visited the border areas of Gujarat and Rajasthan to take stock of the situation arising out of the increasing activities of the Inter Services Intelligence (ISI) in these areas recently;

(c) if so, the details thereof including the assessments made; and

(d) the details of assistance including additional companies of para-military forces provided by the Union Government to these State Governments to tackle the situation effectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a):

	<i>Rajasthan</i>	<i>Gujarat</i>
1991	2581	70
1992	4160	62
1993	4405	25
1994 (Upto 30.3.94)	677	21

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. MINISTER OF State has visited the Rajasthan border and had suggested measures to strengthen the security along the border so as foil the Pak ISI's Plans.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b). No sir.

(c) There is no relevant reason for reconsideration.

(d) During the financial year 1993-94 an amount of Rs.1,23,22,000/- to the Govt. of Gujarat and an amount of Rs. 1,05,02,670/- to the Government of Rajasthan has been extended under the scheme of modernisation of State Police forces. Adequate strength of para-military forces have been provided by the Union Government to these State Governments to tackle the situations effectively.

[*Translation*]

Crimes at New Delhi Railway Station

6318. DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI: Will the Minister of of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards the increasing rate of crimes at New Delhi Railway Station in the recent past;

(b) If so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard?

Official Language

6317. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to review the Constitutional provision on official language;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(SHRI P. M. SAYEED):(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The year-wise number of cases reported during 1992, 1993 and 1994 (upto 31.03-94) is as under:-

Year	No. of Cases
1992	818
1993	780
1994 (Upto 31-03-94)	239

There has been a marginal increase in the total reported cases during the first 3 months of this year.

(c) The following measures have been taken to check such crimes:-

- (i) All the police officials have been directed to take prompt action as and when any such case comes to notice;
- (ii) A Sharp Vigil is kept over the activities of anti-social elements;
- (iii) Speed Reporting Boxes have been introduced at the Railway Platform.
- (iv) Police patrolling in uniform as well as in plain clothes, has been intensified for prevention and detection of crime.

[English]

Voluntary Organisations in Kerala

6319. PROF SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have

received any representations from any voluntary organisations from Kerala seeking financial assistance for family counselling during 1993-94;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR.C. SILVERA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) A representation from Punalur Social Service Society, Punalur of 14th September, 1992 was received through Minister of state for Non-Conventional Energy Sources and MINISTER OF State for Agriculture on 26th February, 1994, in regard to their project under Private voluntary Organisation for Health-II Scheme which included a component of family counselling amongst other activities.

(c) It has not been possible to sanction the project of the Society, as all projects to be sanctioned under the Private Voluntary Organisation for Health-II Scheme have already been sanctioned.

[Translation]

Education To Tihar Inmates

6320. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether higher education is being imparted to inmates in Tihar Jail;

- (b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED) (a) to (c). The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has reported that a Study Centre of Indira Gandhi National Open University has been opened in Tihar Jail in January, 1994 for catering to the need of educated prisoners for higher education.

Bihar And Uttar Pradesh Border Dispute

6321. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:
SHRI LAL BABU RAI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the border dispute between Bihar and Uttar Pradesh still continues in spite of certain amendments made in the Border Act, 1968;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken by the Union Government so far to resolve this dispute between these two States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED) (a) to (c) Based upon the Arbitral Award of Shri C. M. Trivedi, which was accepted by both the Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, the Bihar and Uttar Pradesh (Alteration of Boundaries) Act, 1968 was enacted to replace the fluctuating inter-state river boundaries by fixed boundary along the Bhojpur and Saran districts in Bihar and Ballia district in Uttar Pradesh. There is no boundary dispute as such. However, there have been occasional conflicting claims between private parties in respect of rights of ownership and cultivation of land in some of the areas transferred

from one state the other following the enforcement of the said Act. Such disputes are already sub-judice. There are, however some differences between the two State Governments over the exchange of records of rights of cultivators in respect of their lands in certain villages falling in the transferred territories.

The Central Government have held a few meetings with the representatives of the two State Governments and Survey of India and the Government of Uttar Pradesh have been requested to complete the survey and record operations expeditiously. The problem is essentially a matter to be sorted out between the two State Governments bilaterally at the appropriate level.

Hospitals in U. P.

6322. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to open fully modernised hospitals in Uttar Pradesh with Central assistance;

(b) if so, the locations thereof; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA). (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c): Do not arise.

Oil Exploration

[English]

6323. SHRI R. ANBARASU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL

GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have undertaken any programme of oil exploration at Madras touching Kanyakumari belt;

(b) if so, the details and outcome thereof; and

(c) if not, whether the Government would undertake such an oil exploration programme in the belt from Madras to Kanyakumari?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA):(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As on 1.1.94, a total of 88 prospects have been probed by drilling for oil exploration in the onland area, between Madras and Kanyakumari out of which 15 prospects (12 oil and 3 gas) are proved to be hydrocarbon bearing. In addition to this, 27 prospects have also been probed in Cauvery offshore area, of which 3 prospects (2 oil and 1 gas) are proved to be hydrocarbon bearing>

The established geological reserves(oil+OEG) for onlan and offshore are 44.50 MMT and 34.83 MMt, and the recoverable reserves are 8.31 and 12.20 MMt respectively.

(c) Does not arise.

Delhi Police

6324. SHRI PHOOLCHAND VERMA:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Police has spent any amount on publicity to improve its image;

(b) if so, the expenditure incurred on this account during the last three years;

(c) whether any positive result has been achieved as a result thereof; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The details of the expenditure incurred by Delhi Police on publicity during the last three years i.e., 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 is as under:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Amount</i>
1991-92	Rs. 73,11,323/-
1992-93	Rs. 54,66,210/-
1993-94	Rs. 53,53,301/-

(c) and (d). The Delhi Police has reported that publicity has helped it inculcating sense of road safety in general public. Publicity has also helped Delhi Police in educating people about precautionary measures to be taken against various types of crimes.

Shortage Of LPG

6325. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state: whether the government are aware of the acute shortage of LPG in Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to overcome it and to ensure timely supply of gas cylinders to the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). According to the LPG marketing oil Companies, the demand of existing customers of Maharashtra for LPG is being met by and large in full. Temporary backlogs in LPG supplies are cleared by augmented supplies through operation of LPG bottling plants during the extended hours and on Sundays and holidays for meeting the full demand of LPG in the affected markets.

Racket Busted By Crime Branch Of Delhi Police

6326. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRI TARA SINGH:

Will the Minister, of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Crime Branch of Delhi Police has busted any racket of fake bank demand drafts in Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the modus operandi of the racket;

(c) the number of persons arrested in this connection and the action taken against them;

(d) whether any bank officials are also involved in the racket; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (c). The Delhi Police have reported that three such cases have come to its notice, two in police station R. K. Puram and one in Hazrat Nizamuddin Police Sta-

tion. Ten persons have been arrested in these cases who are presently in judicial custody. The modus operandi of the accused was to cheat the innocent individuals by presenting them fake bank demand drafts.

(d) The Delhi Police have reported that no bank official is involved in the said racket;

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

[Translation]

Health Care Programmes

6327. PROF. RITA VERMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by the Union Government on National Malaria Eradication Programme, National Filaria Control Programme, National T. B. Control Programme, National Leprosy Control Eradication Programme and Blindness Prevention Programme, separately during 1993-94 in Bihar;

(b) the number of persons suffering from these diseases in Bihar, separately; and

(c) the amount allocated for these programmes to Bihar during 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR.C. SILVERA) (a) and (b). The statement showing the allocation (1993-94) for major programmes and also the number of persons suffering from these diseases is enclosed in the statement.

(c) The State-wise allocations for 1994-1995 are under process.

STATEMENT

FINANCIAL ALLOCATIONS FOR 1993-94
AND NUMBER OF CASES IN THE STATE OF BIHAR

Sl.	Name of the Programme 1993-94	Amount spent (Rs. in Lakhs)	No. of cases 1993-94
1.	National Leprosy Eradication Programme	288.00	1,57,630 leprosy cases at the end of February, 1994.
2.	National Tuberculosis Control programme	9.17	79,750(cases detected) upto March, 1994.
3.	National Programme for control Blindness	53.76	10.6 lakhs (prevalence rate) of blinc persons as per Survey report.
4.	National Malaria Eradication Programme including Filaria and kala-azar Control programme.	1099.45	Malaria 30,594 (in 1993)
	(a) No. of Malaria cases		Filaria:No. examined Disease Rate(%) (1992) 5,88,297 1.34%
	(b) No. of Filaria cases		

[English]

Birth and Infant Mortality Rate

6328. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have identified the districts in the country characterised by High birth and infant mortality rates and low level of institutional delivery;

(b) if so, the names of such districts, state-wise; and

(c) the corrective measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir, as per the statement enclosed.

(c) Primary Health Centres in the 90

identified districts are being strengthened by providing the following facilities:-

(a) A fully equipped operation theatre;

(b) A 6-bedded observation ward;

(c) A Labour Room;

(d) Two staff quarters, for lady doctor and ANM;

(e) A generator for uninterrupted electric supply and a tubewell for water supply;

(f) An ambulance, if not already available; and

(g) Promotion of IEC and training.

This assistance will enable the PHC to provide simple surgical interventions, ante-natal and post-natal care, provide family planning services and promote institutional deliveries. Each PHC is provided with Rs.10.00 lakhs for creating these facilities

STATEMENT

SELECTED INDICATORS FOR 90 DISTRICTS WITH CBR-39

STATE	DISTRICT	STATE	DISTRICT
Bihar	1. Newada		
	2. Saharsa		12. Guna
	3. Samastipur		13. Damolt
	4. Katthar		14. Gwallior
Gujarat	5. Ghya		15. Panna
	6. Kuchchh		16. Raysen
	7. Banaskantha		17. Hoshangabad
Haryana	8. Bhiwani		18. Vidisha
	9. Malappuram		19. Hakamgarh
Kerala	10. Sehore		20. Bhind
	11. Rewa		21. West Nimar
Madhya Pradesh			22. Sagar
			23. Jhabua

STATE	DISTRICT	STATE	DISTRICT
	24. Bhopal		40. Dungarpur
	25. Shivpuri		41. Bhartapur
	26. Betul		42. Banswara
	27. Chhatarpur		43. Ajmer
	28. Morena		44. Simhi
	29. East Nimbar		45. Ganganganar
	30. Datia		46. Jaipur
	31. Dhar		47. Sikar
	32. Satna		48. Bikaner
Orissa	33. Duleshwar		49. Pall
Rajasthan	34. Jodhpur		50. Barmer
	35. Udaipur		51. Alwar
	36. Sawai Madhopur		52. Bundi
	37. Kota		53. Haglar
	38. Sawai Madhopur		54. Jhunjhunun
	39. Jalor		55. Tonk

STATE	DISTRICT	STATE	DISTRICT
Uttar Pradesh	56. Churu		73. Saharanpur
	57. Farrukhahad		74. Sultanpur
	58. Pratapgarrh		75. Basil
	59. Mainpur		76. Sultanpur
	60. Banda		77. Etah
	61. Azamgarh		78. Jaunpur
	62. Shahjahanpur		79. Agra
	63. Tehri Garhwal		80. Bareilly
	64. Hardoi		81. Gonda
	65. Moradabad		82. Allahabad
	66. Allgarh		83. Nainital
	67. Lalitpur		84. Meerut
	68. Pulbhani		85. Bijnor
	69. Deoria		86. Baibarelli
	70. Bulandshahar		87. Ghaziabad
	71. Gorakhpur		88. Rampur
	72. Badaun		89. Mالدah
			90. Murshidabad.

Hostels For ST in AP

6329. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state

(a) the number of hostels constructed for Scheduled Tribes in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years:

(b) the number of hostels under construction or proposed to be constructed; and

(c) the financial assistance provided/proposed by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU): (a): A total of 17 hostels was sanctioned to be constructed under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Girls' Hostels and Boys' Hostel for Scheduled Tribes during 1991-92 to 1993-94, out of which 8 have been constructed.

(b) Nine hostels are under construction.

(c) For construction of the said hostels, an amount of Rs. 164.16 lakh was released to the Government of Andhra Pradesh during the last three years. The amount of financial assistance during 1994-95 will depend on the proposal of the Government of Andhra Pradesh, the matching provision made in the State Governments budget and compliance of necessary conditions.

[*Translation*]

Flood Control and Soil Erosion

6330. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state: (a) whether the Government of Gujarat has sent any schemes to

the Union Government to control floods and soil erosion in the State for its approval.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) to (c). A scheme for flood control and soil erosion on river Tapi, in Lower Tapi basin for protection of Surat City costing Rs. 33.99 crore sent by the Government of Gujarat has been approved by the Union Government.

[*English*]

Crimes in Delhi

6331. SHRI M. KRISHNASWAMY:
SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR
PATEL:
SHRI PARASRAM
BHARDWAJ:

Will the MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of crimes reported in Delhi during the current year so far, month-wise and category-wise;

(b) the number of case solved

(c) the number of persons arrested in this connection and the action taken against them;

(d) whether the Union Government have provided any assistance to improve the law and order situation in metropolitan cities including Delhi; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) The number of crimes reported in Delhi during the current year i.e. 1994, month-wise and category-wise is as under:-

	January	February	March
Dacoity	5	1	-
Murder	37	35	43
Attempt to murder	41	43	55
Robbery	32	27	31
Riot	14	8	10
Snatching	15	8	26
Hurt	202	151	191
Burglary	188	131	103
Theft	1150	1000	985
Other IPC	1499	1297	1482
Total IPC	3193	2701	2296
Local & Special Laws	1072	859	1119
Grand Total	4265	3560	4045

(b) and (c). The number of cases solved, persons arrested and the action taken against them is given in the enclosed statement.

(d) and (e) The Union Government has

provided 103 companies and 1000 platoon of central Para-Military forces to Delhi Police for the maintenance of Law & Order and security of V.I.P. and protected persons.

STATEMENT

Crime Head	Cases during the period 1.1.94 to 31.3.9		No. of Untraced persons arrested. in pending in the court	No. of persons challenged convicted	No. of persons acquitted.	No. of persons against whom cases are Pending trial	No. of persons discharged.
	Reported	Solved					
Dacoity	115	6	24	6	-	6	18
Murder	115	76	146	2	-	2	144
Attempt to Murder	139	121	221	20	-	20	201
Robbery	90	59	135	28	-	28	107
Riot	32	25	202	12	-	12	190
Snatching	49	27	202	12	-	12	190
Hurt	544	3	848	259	-	259	589
Burglary	422	170	272	76	-	76	193
Theft	3145	20	856	376	416	416	791
Other IPC	4278	76	2851	73	3913	964	2915
Total IPC	8820	100	4666	463	7011	1789	5179
Local & Special Law	3050	-	3016	-	4275	2456	1819
Grand Total	11870	100	7682	463	11286	4245	6998
					8	2673	43

[Translation]

Allocation of Natural Gas to Bihar

6332. SHRI LALL BABU RAI:
SHRI RAM TAHAL
CHOUHARY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any representation from the Government of Bihar regarding allocation of natural gas to the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the quantum of natural gas proposed to be allocated to the State Government each month by the Union Government for Gas-based industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATU-
RAL GAS. (CAPT SATISH KUMAR
SHARMA): (a) and (b). Requests have
been received from time to time to extend
the HBJ pipeline to Bihar.

(c). In view of the non-availability of
surplus gas, it has not been feasible to
consider the extension of the HBJ pipeline to
Bihar. Further, compared to locally avail-
able coal, natural gas may not be viable
option in Bihar.

Smuggling of Medicinal Herbs

6333. DR. SAKSHIJI:
SHRI RAMESH
CHENNITHALA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND

FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any research is being done
in Ayurveda;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether very rare medicinal herbs
are being smuggled away to foreign coun-
tries;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to prevent smug-
gling of such herbs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) and (b)
Yes, Sir Research is being carried out by
various Ayurvedic institutions and includes
literary research clinical evaluation of clas-
sical drugs; pharmacoepial studies, etc.

(c) No reports of large scale smuggling
of herbs have come to the notice of the
Government.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Export of some identified plants has
been completely banned by the Public Order
of Directorate General of Foreign Trade
(DGFT) Dated 30.3.1994. The export of
other wild plants is regulated in accordance
with the provisions of Convention of Interna-
tional Trade in Endangered Species of Wild
Fauna and Flora (CITES) and by a Public
Order of DGFT.

[English]

Rehabilitation of Displaced Tribals

6334. KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO: Will

the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have finalised the national policy regarding rehabilitation of displaced tribals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons for inordinate delay; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE. (SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU):(a): No Sir.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) and (d). The draft National Policy on rehabilitation of displaced people including tribals is under consideration.

[*Translation*]

Meningitis Deaths

6335. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the large number of deaths due to meningitis in various States and Union Territories;

(b) if so, the causes due to which this fatal disease has been spreading;

(c) whether any medicine has been developed in the country for the treatment of this disease;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) According to provisional information available with Central Bureau of Health Intelligence 1539 deaths due to meningitis were reported from various health Institutions in country during 1993.

(b) Meningitis is caused by a wide variety of Micro-organism such as bacteria, viruses, parasites etc. While bacterial meningitis spreads mainly through droplet infection, viral and parasitic meningitis spreads through insect bites.

(c) and (d). Medicines are available to combat the bacterial forms of the disease. All the chemotherapeutic agents in this regard, including newer aminoglycosides are available in the country.

(e) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Voluntary Retirement Scheme in NLC

6336. DR.P. VALLAL PERUMAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to introduce voluntary retirement scheme in the Neyveli Lignite Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the benefits/ facilities likely to be provided to the employees opting for voluntary retirement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA):(a) Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) has been introduced in the NLC w.e.f. 1.7.1993 for Executives only. NLC Ltd. now proposes to cover all the employees under this scheme.

(b) and (c). The payments available to an employee whose request for voluntary retirement is accepted under the scheme are as under:-

- (i) The balance in provident Fund account payable as per CPF Regulations.
- (ii) Cash equivalent of the accumulated earned leave as per the rules of the Corporation.
- (iii) Gratuity as per the Rules applicable to the employee.
- (iv) An ex-gratia payment equivalent to one and half months emoluments (pay plus DA) for each completed year of service or the monthly emoluments at the times of relief of the employee under the Voluntary Retirement Scheme, multiplies by the balance months of service left before the normal date of retirement, whichever is less.
- (v) Retirement travelling benefits and packing and other transport charges as per rules.

So far 68 Executives have availed the benefits under the Scheme.

Tikku Committee Report

6337. SHRI BRAHMANAND MANDAL:

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the decision taken by his Ministry in the Department of Health on Tikku Committee Report is also applicable to the Department of Family Welfare and other institutions under it;

(b) if so, the reasons for the non-implementation of the recommendations by the institutions under the Department of Family Welfare; and

(c) the offices who have so far implemented the Report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA):(a) to (c). The decisions taken are applicable and have been implemented in respect of doctors who are members of the Central Health Service including those posted in the Department of Family Welfare and its institutions.

Hirakud Dam

6338. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:
DR. R. MALLU:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Premature death threatened the Hirakud' appearing in The Times of India (Sunday Times) dated April 3, 1994;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether there is any mechanism for regular and effective monitoring of the dams in country; and

(e) if so, the details of achievements made by the said mechanism, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) the Government is aware of phenomena of sedimentation in the Hirakud Reservoir and development of cracks in the Hirakud Dam.

(b) and (c). Sedimentation in the reservoir is a natural phenomena and loss of capacity of the Hirakud Reservoir as assessed after hydrographic survey in 1985-86 is of the order of 18.3% which is not alarming. Soil conservation measures like afforestation, gully protection and contour bunding etc, have been taken up in the catchment of Hirakud Dam to reduce sediment inflow into the reservoir.

A Committee of Experts headed by the ex-Chairman, Central Water Commission was appointed in March, 1991 to study causes of cracks and advise on remedial measures. The Committee recommended close surveillance of the dam by installing proper instruments and regular observations and remedial measures such as grouting with suitable chemicals, sealing of the cracks in the upstream face with epoxy. The State Government took up the implementation of the above recommendations and constituted "Hirakud Dam Crack Review Panel" in 1990 to review and analyse the distress conditions arising out of the cracks and suggest remedial and rehabilitation

measures. The Rehabilitation measures of the Hirakud Dam form a part of the Dam Safety Assurance and Rehabilitation Project" taken up with the assistance of the World Bank. The State Government has also constituted in August, 1991 a Dam Safety Review panel headed by Shri M.G. Padhye, former Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources to review the safety of the dam and remedial measures. Mr. David Sterk a Consultant of the World Bank also visited the project in January, 1993.

(d) and (e) Irrigation projects are maintained by the States Governments and safety of the dam is also monitored by them. A Dam Safety Organisation was set up in Central Water Commission in 1979 to assist the State governments to locate causes of potential distress and to recommend measures for their redress. The State Governments were advised to constitute their own Dam Safety cells/organisations to maintain an inventory of dams, compile history of dams, bring out areas requiring special attention, review and monitor administrative and technical procedures adopted in dam safety. The Dam Safety Organisation of the Central Water Commission has compiled guidelines for safety inspection of dams, check list, formats of data book and periodical inspection of dams and other dam safety literature which has been sent to all the States for guidance of the field engineers.

[*Translation*]

Fall in Prices of Oil

6339. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
SHRI RAM SINGH
KASHWAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of oil has fallen in the international market;

(b) if so, the extent thereof; and

(c) the estimated extent of fall in the import expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) The international prices of crude oil have shown a downward trend during the year 1993-94.

(b) The average price of marker crude oils in the international market during the years 1992-93 and 1993-94. was as under;

US \$/bbl

	<i>11992-1993</i>	<i>1993-1994</i>
Dubai	17.33	14.49
Oman	17.88	15.18
Brent	19.45	16.31
WTI	20.85	17.67

(c) the impact of fall in the international oil prices on the import bill for the year 1993-94 is estimated to be about US\$ 979 million.

[English]

Coal Production

6340.SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the types of coals being produced in Singrauli, Kakhari and Kharia Coal fields of Sonbhadra district of Uttar Pradesh under the Northern Coal Fields;

(b) to whom the Coal from these Coal fields is supplied;

(c) whether the coal from these coal fields is supplied to the local small industries and domestic users; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) According to information furnished by Coal India Limited the grades of coal being produced in the mines situated in State of Uttar Pradesh are as follows:

<i>Name of Mines</i>	<i>Grade of Coal produced</i>
1. Bina	E
2. Kakri	E
3. Dudichua	C
4. Khadia	D

Following consumers are being supplied coal from these mines:

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 1. Bina | Obra TPS Anpara TPs, Hindalco |
| 2. Kakri | Anpara TPS local industries. |
| 3. Dudichus | Singrauli STPS, Vindhyschal STPS, Rihand STPS and Anpara TPS. |
| 4. Khadia | Anpora, TPS, |

(Note:- STPS: Super Thermal Power Station TPS ; Thermal Power Station)

(c) and (d). Some coal from Kakri mine is being supplied to local small industries . Coal from other miners is being supplied to nearby power houses. Coal supplies to other consumers have to be regulated and arranged from other sources in view of large demands from nearby power houses.

Commission For Tribals

6341. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Tribes Minorities Front has demanded setting up of permanent Tribal National Commission Under Article, 339 of the Constitution; and

(b) if so, reaction of the Government thereto?

The MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K.V.THANGKA BALU): (a) No Sir, No such demand from All India Tribes and Minorities Front has been received.

According to Article 339 (1) of the Constitution, the President may at any time and shall, at expiration of ten years from the commencement of this Constitution by order appoint a Commission to report on the administration of the scheduled Areas and

the Welfare of the Scheduled Tribes in the States. The order according to this provision may define composition, powers, and procedure of the Commission and may the contain such incidental or ancillary provisions as the President may consider necessary or desirable.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Flood Control Dams

6342. SHRI VILAS RAO NAGNATH RAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has sent any proposal to the Union Government for seeking Central assistance regarding construction of the flood control dams;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES. (SHRI P.K THUNGON): (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

[English]

Crude Oil Production

6343. SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state: (a) the production of crude oil during 1992-93 and 1993-94;

(b) how these compare with the targets set for these years and peak level achieved during 1989-90;

(c) whether the decline in production during last four years is mainly due to technical and structural reasons;

(d) if so, details thereof; and

(e) the manner in which the Government propose to accelerate domestic crude oil production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). The indigenous production of crude oil during 1992-93 was 26.950 million tonnes against the target of 28.464 million tonnes. During 1993-94 the production was 27.015 million tonnes against the target of 27.170 million tonnes.

The production of crude oil during the year 1989-90 was 34.087 million tonnes.

(c) and (d). Main reasons for decline in indigenous production of crude oil during some of the recent years include ageing of fields, implementation of rectificatory measures in the Bombay High and environmental problems in the North East.

(e) Govt. have taken a number of steps

to augment indigenous production of crude oil. These include development of number of new fields, additional development of certain existing fields and the development of small and medium sized fields with private participation.

[Translation]

Madhya Pradesh Scheduled Areas (Regulations) Bill

6344. SHRI SURAJBHANU SLANKI: SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any of the Governments have sent any bill regarding protection to the Scheduled Tribe Communities for the President's assent;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Madhya Pradesh Scheduled Areas (Regulation) bill is pending with the Union Government for President's assent; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to expedite clearance of this Bill?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (d) the Government of Madhya Pradesh referred the Madhya Bharat Anusuchit Kshetra (Bhumi Bant Tatha Hastantaran) Nirsan Viniyam, 1984 for repealing, the Madhya Bharat Anusuchit Kshetra (Bhumi Bant Tatha Hastantaran) Viniyam, 1954, for the assent of the President. The existing Regulation of 1954, which is sought to be repealed by this repealing, regulation, protects tribals against alienation of land. Attention of the State Govern-

ment was drawn to the reports that in a number of cases tribal lands had been alienated in favour of the non-tribals. Since it was apprehended that repealing this regulation would only result in regularising alienations the State Government was requested to reconsider the matter. The Madhya Pradesh Government have not informed the Government of India of their final decision.

Family Planning Programme

6345. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:
SHRI N.J RATHVA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state;

(a) the number of districts in the country with birth rate of 39 plus per thousand, State/UT-wise;

(b) whether the Government have taken any decision to provide special financial assistance to these districts for implementing the family planning programme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, State/UT, wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) Statement I is enclosed.

(b) and (c). Under the World Bank assisted Social Safety Net Scheme, five primary Health Centres in each of the 90 demographically weak districts of major States have been provided financial assistance at the rate of Rs. 10.00 Lakhs per P. H. C. per year in the last two years. Statewise details are given in enclosed Statement-II.

STATEMENT-1

State/UT-wise Number of Districts with Birth rate 39 (per 1000 population) and above (As per 1981 Census data)

Sl No.	State/UT	Number of Districts
1.	Arunchal Pradesh	7
2.	Bihar	6
3.	Gujarat	2
4.	Haryana	1
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	7
6.	Kerala	1
7.	Madhya Pradesh	23
8.	Manipur	2
9.	Meghalaya	5
10.	Mizoram	3
11.	Nagaland	3
12.	Orissa	1
13.	Rajasthan	23
14.	Sikkim	3
15.	Uttar Pradesh	32
16.	West Bengal	2
17.	A & N Islands	1
18.	D & N Haveli	1
19.	Daman & Diu	1
20.	Lakshadweep	1
	Total	125

② In the remaining States/UTs (except Assam where 1981 census was not conducted) there were no such districts with birth rate 39 and above.

STATEMENT-2

GRANTS-IN-AID RELEASED UNDER SOCIAL SAFETY NET SCHEME DURING 1992-93 & 1993-94

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	States	1992-93	1993-94
1.	Bihar	250.00	250.00
2.	Gujarat	100.00	100.00
3.	Haryana	50.00	50.00
4.	Kerala	50.00	50.00
5.	Madhya Pradesh	1150.00	1150.00
6.	Orissa	50.00	50.00
7.	Rajasthan	1150.00	1150.00
8.	Uttar Pradesh	1600.00	1600.00
9.	West Bengal	100.00	100.00
Total:-		4500.00	4500.00

[English]

Anti Tobacco Bill

6346. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has circulated the draft anti tobacco bill to the States for their approval;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the States which have given their approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA) (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[Translation]

Cancer Schemes

6347. SHRI MOHAMMED ALI ASHRAF FATMI:
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUHARY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the new schemes proposed to be introduced under the National Cancer Control Programme; and

(b) the financial assistance given to Bihar during last year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA). (a) Three

schemes, namely (i) scheme for district projects for health education, early detection of cancer and pain relief measures.

(ii) development of Oncology wings in Medical College/hospitals and

(iii) financial assistance to voluntary organisations for health education and detection activities were initiated in the year 1990-91.

(b) An amount of Rs.50.00 lakhs was provided to the Government of Bihar during 1990-91 for development of Oncology wing in Darbhanga Medical Collage, Laheriasarai in Bihar.

[English]

Rehabilitation of Displaced Persons

6348. SHRI HARADHAN ROY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No.217 on March 3, 1992 and state:

(a) the progress made so far in the rehabilitation of the land losers of Sonepur. Bazari and six other villagees;

(b) whether any deviation has been made in the original plan and project in respect of the rehabilitation of these villagers;

(c) if so, whether the State Government was consulted in the matter;

(d) if, so the details thereof ; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) The Starred Question No,217 was answered

in the Lok Sabha on March 11, 1992 and not on March 3, 1992.

(a) to (e) Originally Sonapur & Bazari villages alongwith 6 other villages were to be shifted and the affected persons rehabilitated in stages for the Sonapur Bazari project. However, it has since been decided in consultation with the State Government representatives including District Magistrate, villagers and people's representatives that in the first phase only Ruidaspara of Sonpur village only may be shifted, leaving Bazari village unaffected. The rehabilitation of these villagers in being taken up in phases as per the progress of the project.

Upgradation of General Hospitals

6349. SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI THAKORE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to upgrade any general hospital in the country to the level of super-speciality Services Hospitals during 1994-95;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total amount sanctioned by the Government for this purpose; and

(d) the amount earmarked for upgradation of Government Medical College and hospitals Ahmedabad, Baroda, Surat and Jamnagar in Gujarat State during the said period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA). (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Irrigation Projects

6350. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the major and medium irrigation projects of Karnataka pending with the Union Government for clearance alongwith their projected costs;

(b) since when these projects are pending and the reasons therefor;

(c) the time by which these projects are likely to cleared; and

(d) the projects cleared by the Union Government during the last three years alongwith their outlays?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON). (a) to (c). The details of new major and medium irrigation projects of Karnataka at the Centre are given in the enclosed statement.

(d) Two major irrigation projects mainly Karanja and Bennithora envisaging annual irrigation of 48,968 hectares and 21, 854 hectares have been given investment clearance by the Planning Commission in 8/92 and 2/93 for estimated cost of Rs. 98.00 crores and Rs.73.25 crores respectively.

Details of new major and medium irrigation projects of Karnataka at the centre for techno-economic appraisal.

Sl No.	Name of the project	Date of Receipt	Estimated Cost (Rs. Crore)	Benefits in Hectare	Status of appraisal
1	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
A.	MAJOR				
1	Hippargi	8/35	186.70	59,692	The project was found acceptable by the Irrigation Advisory Committee in its meeting held project in october, 1936 for Rs. 136.70 crores subject to environment clearance, Studies for back water and conjuctive use of surface and ground water. The States is required to comply with these observations.
2.	Remthal Lift	11/91	79.60	22,267	The State Government is required to comply with the observations of the appraising agencies, obtain environmental clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Forests and provide adequate funds in the VIII plan.
3.	Hypar Bings	2/92	379.87	94,968	-do-
4	Under Krishna	12/93	1215/88	241,760	The State Government is required to comply with the observations of the Central Appraising agencies and provides adequate funds in VIII plan

Sl. No.	Name of the project	Date of Receipt	Estimated Cost (Rs. Crore)	Benefits in Hectare	Status of appraisal
1	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
5.	Varahi	4/93	122.50	31,400	The State Government is required to carry out more investigations and submit a modified report.
B.	MEDIUM				NIL

Note:- The clearance of the projects depends upon how soon the State Government complies with the observations of the Central Appraising agencies and obtains environment and/or forest clearances from the Ministry of Environment and the Forests and clearance

Indian System of Medicines

[Translation]

6351. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state;

(a) the promotional activities carried out in the Ayurveda, Unani, Sidha system of medicines;

(b) the amount spent during each of the last three years in this regard; and

(c) the results achieved in terms of developing new medicines, finding rare medical herbs etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) to (c) Various measures which inter-alia include 'Research', Strengthening of Educational Institutions Standardisation of ISM drugs, Drug Control and Development of Medicinal Plants have been undertaken to promote Ayurveda, Unani and Siddha system of medicines.

As a result classical remedies have been clinically evaluated and popularised for treatment of diseases like Fistula-in-ano, Vitiligo, Rheumetoid Arthritis and infefctive Hepatitis etc.

The amount allocated for ISM in the last years is as under:-

1991-92	21.85 crores.
1992-93	26.23 crores.
1993-94	33.47 crores.

Demand and Supply of LPG in Maharashtra

6352. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the demand and supply of LPG in rural areas of Maharshtha at present:

(b) the number of districts in rural areas in the State provided with LPG facilities and

(c) the steps taken to provide LPG facilities in all districts of Maharashtra?

THE MINISTR OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERTOLEUM AND NATURAL GAS(CAPT SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (c). No details of demand and supply of LPG distributionships are opened by Public Sector LPG Marketing Companies, subject to viability, in a phased manner, at places with a population of 20,000 and above and not on rural/ urban basis. All the districts of Maharashtra are already covered for supply of LPG.

The Government have also allowed marketing of LPG by parallel marketeers in any market of their choice including rural areas.

[English]

Anaemia Propylaxis Scheme

6353. SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any Anaemia

Prophylaxis scheme to control anaemia in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of women and children covered under this scheme during each of the last three years and

(d) the expenditure incurred during the last three years in this regard, State/UT-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE. (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. under MCH Programme for prophylaxis of anaemia in pregnant women 100 tablets of Iron and Folic Acid (large) are given. Pre-school children with signs of anaemia are given Iron and Folic Acid (small) tablets. Supply of Iron and Folic Acid Tablets are made by the Government of India to the States.

(c) Statement (I) is enclosed.

(d) Statement II is enclosed.

STATEMENT - I

NO. OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN COVERED UNDER ANAEMIA PROPHYLAXIS SCHEME
DURING 1991-92, 1992-93 & 1993-94.

SCHEME	Number covered during					
	1991 - 92		1992 - 93		1993 - 94	
	WOMEN	CHILDREN	WOMEN	CHILDREN	WOMEN	CHILDREN
ANAEMIA PROPHYLAXIS SCHEME	16294596	17761087	16486772	405462	13123813	9987276

Note: *This is upto January, 1994.

STATEMENT- II

EXPENDITURE INCURRED ON SUPPLY OF IRON FOLIC ACID (IFA) TO STATES/UTs.
(Rs in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	STATE/UTs.	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10.990	21.090	138.780
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.460	0.580	0.380
3.	Assam	13.170	19.100	9.430
4.	Bihar	9.750	26.940	54.210
5.	Goa	2.260	1.120	0.860
6.	Gujarat	8.485	47.120	52.930
7.	Haryana	10.409	14.040	42.230
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3.970	4.700	7.240
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	4.80	0.890	38.760
10.	Karnataka	24.930	20.810	55.940

Sl.No.	STATE/UTs.	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
11.	Kerala	13.160	13.670	25.400
12.	Madhya Pradesh	15.000	23.930	79.660
13.	Maharashtra	40.100	49.700	105.220
14.	Mannipur	0.820	1.700	0.480
15.	Meghalaya	1.410	1.540	0.640
16.	Mizoram	0.460	0.700	0.270
17.	Nagaland	1.170	0.800	0.380
18.	Orissa	21.480	26.648	59.650
19.	Punjab	10.100	13.050	19.930
20.	Rajasthan	8.686	48.620	49.960
21.	Sikkim	0.250	0.480	0.630
22.	Tamilnadu	15.146	16.120	64.650
23.	Tripura	1.140	1.00	2.090

Sl.No.	STATE/UTs.	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
24.	Uttar Pradesh	47.920	56.500	197.570
25.	West Bengal	36.460	39.450	28.570
26.	A & N Islands	0.220	0.220	0.390
27.	Chandigarh	0.590	0.370	1.330
28.	D & N Havell	0.555	0.160	0.260
29.	Delhi	1.570	3.580	2.230
30.	Daman & Diu	0.190	0.100	0.140
31.	Lakshdweep	0.050	0.050	0.090
32.	Pondicherry	0.530	0.450	1.240
33.	Min Of Railways	12.610	—	—
34.	Min. of Defence	2.890	—	—

Note: Figures for 1991-92 include expenditure incurred on IFA (L & S) and liquid iron. Figures for 1992-93 & 1993-94 pertain to the expenditure incurred on supply of IFA (L & S).

[Translation]

Theft of Coal

6354. SHRI BALARAJ PASSI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether thousands of tonnes of coal is being stolen during transit every year;

(b) if so, the details alongwith the market value thereof;

(c) the steps taken/being taken to check recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL, (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b). No information concerning quantity/value of coal stolen/pilfered in transit is available with the coal companies since the ownership of coal passes on to the purchasers once the coal loaded wagon/truck leaves the colliery's railway siding/loading point.

(c) Necessary steps for checking such theft, pilferage etc. have to be taken by carriers i.e. Railways/transport companies etc.

[English]

Injectable contraceptive

6355. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an injectible contraceptive, Depo-Provera, is proposed to be introduced in the country;

(b) if so, whether the safety of contraceptive has been tested;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the time by which it is proposed to be introduced commercially?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR.C. SILVERA):(a) to (d). Studies have shown that Depo Provera is a safe an effective contraceptive. Permission has been granted by the Drugs Controller of India for private marketing of Depo Provera subject to the conductor of Post Marketing Surveillance.

AIDS Control

6356. SHRI TARA SINGH:
SHRI V. SREENIVASA
PRASAD:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank had served notices to the Union Government on the misuse of funds for AIDS;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the World Bank has now asked to refund the amount; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR.C. SILVERA):(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Oil Refineries

6357. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the performance of oil refineries in the country during last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to privatise some of the oil refineries; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) The overall capacity utilisation by the refineries with respect to plan during the last three years is as under:-

	<i>Capacity Utilisation in term of crude intake</i>
1991-92	101.0%
1992-93	102.4%
1993-94	103.4%

(b) and (c). Presently there is no such proposal

[*Translation*]

Selection Board

6358. SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government propose to set up any Selection Board at Urai Nagar headquatre at Jalaun district in Uttar

Pradesh for Para-military forces;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be set up; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The para-Military Forces do not have permanent Recruitment Boards at fixed places. recruitment to the rank of Constables/ riflemen is made through recruitment rallies conducted in various parts of the country by recruitment teams details for this purpose.

[*English*]

Concealment of Bombs

6359. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE: SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of live bombs were concealed in a container importing scrap from Kuwait;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether, while defusing, one of the devices exploded causing death to one person and injury to many other; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI

RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b). As per information available with this Ministry, Heavy Melting Scrap (HMS) is regularly imported at the ICD Tuglakabad. Recently in two import consignments of HMS belonging to (i) M/s Upper India Steel Mfg. & Engg. Co. Ltd. Ludhiana and (ii) M/s Garg Furnace Ltd. Ludhiana, some old and rusted artillery shells have been noticed.

(c) and (d) Based on a requisition from the Central Board of Excise and customs for demolition of bombs shells found in some import consignments of heavy-melting scrap at ICD Tuglakabad, a feasibility check was undertaken by the Army Hqrs. during which it was found that a total of 283 bombs/shells were required to be demolished. Of these, some were without fuses and some were rusted and with intact fuses. The demolition task was undertaken by the Army Bomb Disposal Squad Unit. On 8.4.94. while carrying out the task of Tuglakabad Ranges, in an accident involving explosives three other Ranks were injured of whom one later succumbed to his injuries.

Assistance To Voluntary Organisations

6360. SHRI GANGADHARA
SANIPALLI:
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR
GANGWAR:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have adopted anytime bound schedule of processing the proposals of voluntary organisations seeking financial assistance for various welfare schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not the reasons therefor;

(d) the number of applications received from various voluntary organisations during 1993-94 and are proposed to be given during the current year, so far, State/Union Territory-wise; and

(e) the number of organisations which were given the financial assistance during 1993-94 and are proposed to be given during the current year, State/ Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU):(a) to (c). In respect of Voluntary organisations which are already receiving grants-in -aid, release of funds for on going schemes are made in two instalments during the financial year. The first instalment is released before the end of the first quarter and second instalment by the third quarter of the financial year, subject to availability of all supporting documents including reports of satisfactory performance. In respect of new schemes of new organisation, grants-in -aid is also released provided complete documents including the view/comments of the State Government/ UTs, have been received and adequate funds are available in the budget.

(d) and (e). For 1993-94, a statement is attached with regard to grants-in aid for 1994-95 it is too early to indicate the number of organisations which are proposed to be given financial assistance during 1994-95.

STATEMENT

Sl.	State/ UT	1993-94		1994-95.	
		No. of application received during	No. of Organisations given financial assistance during	No. of applications received so far during	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	192	94	15	
2.	Assam	9	7	—	
3.	Arunchal Pradesh	8	7	—	
4.	Bihar	67	37	2	
5.	Chandigarh	4	4	—	
6.	Delhi	88	68	3	
7.	Gujarat	43	34	4	
8.	Goa	4.	3	—	
9.	Haryana	15	2	—	

Sl.	State/ UT	No. of application received during		No. of Organisations given financial assistance during	No. of applications received so far during
		1993-94	1994-95.		
10.	Himachal Pradesh	4	—	1	—
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	9	—	6	—
12.	Karnataka	115	—	81	7
13.	Kerala	59	—	44	3
14.	Madhya Pradesh	29	—	19	—
15.	Maharashtra	132	—	64	5
16.	Manipur	38	—	12	2
17.	Meghalaya	6	—	4	10
18.	Mizoram	3	—	—	—
19.	Nagaland	4	—	1	—
20.	Orissa	83	—	41	6
21.	Punjab	12	—	7	2

Sl.	State/ UT	No. of application received during		No. of Organisations given financial assistance during	No. of applications received so far during
		1993-94	1993-94		
22.	Rajasthan	29	18	4	4
23.	Sikkim	1	—	1	1
24.	Tamilnadu	143	71	11	11
25.	Tripura	4	4	—	—
26.	Uttar Pradesh	245	113	23	23
27.	West Bengal	89	70	4	4

Traditional System To Check Population Growth

6361. SHRI SHANKERSING VAGHAELA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and China stressed the need for cooperation in the field of traditional systems of medicine to check population growth;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the further action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR C. SILVARA): (a) to (c). The Government of People's Republic Of China has sent a draft agreement of cooperation in the field of Health and Medicine. The details of the cooperation are yet to be finalised.

[*Translation*]

SCs/STs in M.P.

6362. SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons belonging to SCs/ STs in proportion to the total population in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the number of persons out of them living in urban and rural areas separately;

(c) whether the Government have prepared any time-bound programme for their development;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU): (a) and (b). A statement is enclosed.

(c) and (d). Various schemes under the sectors of Agriculture & allied Sector, Rural Development, Health, Minor Irrigation, Rural Electrification, Village & Cottage Industries, Education and Housing etc. under the strategies of Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes and Tribal Sub-plan are being implemented for socio-economic development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

(e) *Does not arise.*

STATEMENT

	Population (1991) (Census)	Percentage to Total Population	Rural	Urban
Scheduled Castes	96.26 Lakhs	14.54	75.22 Lakhs	21.04 Lakhs
Scheduled Tribes	153.98 Lakhs	23.27 Lakhs	146.52 Lakhs	7.46

Production Cost of LPG

[English]

6363. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any assessment of the production cost of LPG being produced in the country;

(b) if so, the estimated average production cost of LPG at national level during 1993-94;

(c) the estimated amount per tonne spent on importing LPG till its landing in the country during 1993-94

(d) whether the concerned departments have to suffer financial losses in selling LPG to the consumers in the country; and

(e) if so, the extent of loss suffered by the concerned departments in selling the imported and indigenously produced LPG to the consumers separately during 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). the estimated cost of L.P.G. in bulk is around Rs. 6800/MT for the year 1993-94.

(c) About Rs. 9900/MT

(d) and (e). LPG meant for domestic use is subsidised. The estimated subsidy for the year 1993-94 is around Rs. 1261 crores both on indigenously and imported LPG.

Special Assistance To States

6364. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state: (a) whether the Government have formulated a comprehensive scheme for special assistance to States affected by extremist activities; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) There is at present no scheme in operation for providing special assistance to States. However, proposals are considered on a case-to-case basis and a decision is taken depending upon whether the ground situation warrants such assistance.

[Translation]

Koyla Khadan Shikshak Samiti

6365. SHRI SHARAD YADAV:
SHRI Y.S. RAJASEKHAR
REDDY:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Brarat Coking Coal Limited has sought any financial assistance from the Union Government for implementing the orders passed by the Board of Directors on May 26, 1992 regarding salary of teachers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon;

(d) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that the members of Koyla khadan Shikshak Samiti are agitating in Delhi since December 20, 1993;

(e) if so, the details of demands made by them; and

(f) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA):(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) Yes Sir.

(e) The main demands of the Morcha inter alia are:

(i) The existing school teachers and non-teaching staff of Koyla Khadan Shikshak Morcha working in various schools in the vicinity of BCCL should be taken over by the BCCL with all benefits as available to the coal workers.

(ii) The decision (alleged) taken by the Board of Directors in Coal Ministry on 26.05.92 should be implemented w.e.f. April, 1991.

(f) No meeting of Board of Directors of Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. was held on 26.5.92 and therefore, passing/implementing of an order regarding salary of teachers does not arise. The members of K.K.S. Samity were never nor are employees of B.C.C.L.

The members of K.K.S.S. are the employees of educational institutions run and managed by private Committees or societies in the areas of BBCL. These

schools are not run by BCCL, whose role is limited only to providing some grants-in-aid on year to year basis. There is no question of B.C.C.L. taking over such privately managed schools.

Relief to Families of Martyrs

6366. SHRI SURESHANAND SWAMI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are providing any relief to the families of the martyrs of Jaliawala Bagh or that of who died during freedom struggle as being provided to the freedom fighters;

(b) if so, the number of martyr's families to whom such relief is being provided and the form thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) to (c) According to the provisions of swatantrata Sainik Samman pension Scheme, families of martyrs of freedom struggle are being provided the pensionary benefits at the rates admissible to the eligible dependents. No separate record regarding the number of families of martyrs of freedom struggle to whom the pensionary benefits are being given is maintained.

Ratio of Doctors

6367. DR LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of doctors per thousand is much less in India in comparison to other countries;

(b) if so, the number of doctors per thousand in India at present;

(c) whether this ratio is even less in the rural areas; and

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to start a three year diploma course for providing medical facilities in the rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) and (b). The doctor population ratio for allopathic doctor is about 1:2250. However taking into account the number of qualified practitioners in Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy, the said ratio would be about 1:950. Though this ratio is less as compared to developed countries, it is fairly good in comparison to other developing countries.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) There is no such proposal at present.

[English]

Medical Equipments

6368. SHRI PROBEN DEKA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Assam Medical College, Dibrugarh and Guwahati Medical College have sought assistance from the Union Government for purchase of Medical equipments;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) to (c). There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

Blood Banks

6369. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several applications of blood banks are pending for want of clearance after the transfer of licencing authority to Central Drug Controller;

(b) if so, the number of applications pending from each State as on date; and

(c) the steps taken to simplify the procedure for early clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Central Licencing Approving Authority receives applications from blood banks in various States for grant/renewal of licences, duly forwarded by the State Licencing Authorities. Twelve licences were approved by the Drugs Controller (India) and ten cases were referred back to the State Licencing Authorities for rectifying the defects observed in inspection report upto end of April, 1994.

Pending Irrigation Projects of Orissa

6370. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of irrigation projects of Orissa pending at present with Union Gov-

emment for clearance along with their projected costs;

(b) the details of those irrigation projects which have been cleared by the Union Government during the last three years along with their outlays; and

(c) the time by which the pending projects are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES. (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) (a) Out of 4 major and 7 medium irrigation projects of Orissa, 2 major projects namely Submarekha Irrigation (estimated cost Rs.790.32 crores) and Kanpur Irrigation (estimated cost Rs.268.65 crores) and 3 medium projects namely Manjore Irrigation (estimated cost Rs.37.70 crores), Rukura (estimated cost Rs. 25.22 crores) and Badhalati (estimated cost Rs. 42.65 crores) have been found acceptable by the Advisory Committee subject to compliance of certain observations such as obtaining environmental/forests/ rehabilitation & resettlement clearances, concurrence of State Finance Department etc. by the State Government. The State Government is required to sort out various techno-economic issues, obtain environmental/forests/ rehabilitation & resettlement clearances as applicable on remaining 2 major projects namely Ong Dam (estimated cost Rs. 102.00 crores) and Lower Indra (estimated cost Rs. 56.55 crores) and 4 medium projects namely Telengiri (estimated cost Rs. 53.81 crores), Dhauragoth (estimated cost Rs. 9.09 crores) Bagh Barrage (estimated cost Rs. 28.77 crores) and Kutulinsinga (estimated cost Rs. 9.53 crores).

(b) One major irrigation project namely Naraj Barrage and 2 medium irrigation

projects namely Deo and Titalagarh have been given investment clearance by the Planning Commission in /93 6/92 and 10/93 respectively for estimated cost of Rs. 125.74 crores, Rs. 52.23 crores and Rs. 21.13 crores respectively.

(c) The clearance of the project depends upon how soon the State Government complies with the the observations of the Central Appraising Agencies and obtains environmental/forrest/rehabilitation & resettlement clearances as applicable.

Irrigation Projects

6371. SHRI THAYILJOHNANJALOSE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state?

(a) the details of irrigation projects of Kerala pending with the Union Government for clearance;

(b) since when these projects are pending and the reasons therefor;

(c) the time by which these are likely to be cleared;

(d) the funds allocated by the Union Government for irrigation during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 and earmarked for 1994-95;

(e) whether any special assistance is being provided by the Union Government for this purpose; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) (a) to (c).Details of irrigation

projects of Kerala received at the Centre for techno-economic appraisal are given in the statement enclosed.

(d) outlays approved by the Planning Commission for irrigation Sector in Kerala for 1991-92, 1992-93, 1993-1994 and 1994-95 are Rs. 103.90 crores respectively. The

actual expenditure during 1991-92 and 1992-93 is rs. 100.77 crores and Rs. 113.71 crores respectively. The anticipated expenditure during 1993-94 is Rs. 142.17 crores.

(e) No Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

DETAILS OF NEW MAJOR AND MEDIUM IRRIGATION PROJECTS OF KERALA RECEIVED AT THE CENTRE FOR TECHNO-ECONOMIC APPRAISAL.

S. No.	Name of Project	Date of receipt	Estimated Cost (Rs. Crores)	Benefits in hectares/ Meggawatts	Status of appraisal
A. MAJOR					
1.	Modernisation of Neyyar irrigation system	6/92	17.24	20,020	The State Government is required to submit modified project report as per Central Water Commissions'(CWC) guidelines for Modernisation Schemes and keeping in view the comments of CWC.
2.	Kuriarkuttya Karapara Irrigation Project	3/92	100.00	39,640	The project report has been received re-cently.
3.	Idamalayar Irrigation Project	2/92	107.00	27,510	The State Government is required to comply with the observations of the Central Appraising Agencies.

S. No.	Name of Project	Date of receipt	Estimated Cost (Rs. Crores)	Benefits in hectares/ Meggawatts	Status of appraisal
B. MEDIUM					
1.	Meenachil River Valley Irrigation Project	12/91	49.56	9,960	The State is required to submit modified report in view of the suggestions made by the Central Water Resources Commissior

Note:- 1. The clearance of the projects depends upon how soon the State Government complies with the observations of the Central Appraising Agencies and obtains clearances from the Ministry of Environment & Forest from environment/ forest angles and from the Ministry of Welfare on rehabilitation & resettlement aspects etc. if the projects involve rehabilitation of Scheduled Castes/ Schedules

Political leaders Killed In JK

[Translation]

6372. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the political leaders who have been killed in Jammu and Kashmir during each of the last three years and the current year so far;

(b) whether the assassins have been identified and apprehended;

(c) whether the alleged assassins have been prosecuted;

(d) whether the alleged assassins have been sentenced;

(e) if not the present status of each case; and

(f) the alleged assassins along with the militant organisations to which they belong?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Sub-Schemes in U.P.

6373. SHRI SURENDRAPAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the sub-schemes approved by the Union Government for implementation in Uttar Pradesh under the National Water Management Project;

(b) the command areas of agricultural land likely to be included under these schemes;

(c) the estimated costs invoiced therein; and

(d) the time by which these schemes are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) to (d) Two sub-schemes have been sanctioned by the Government of India for implementation under World bank assisted National Water Management Project in Uttar Pradesh. The names of these sub-schemes, their culturable command area, the estimated cost and likely date of completion are as under:-

Sl. No	Name of sun-scheme	Culturable Command Area (CCA)(lakh) hectares)	Estimated Cost (Rs.in lakhs)	Likely data of Comple- tion
1.	Lower Gnaga Canal	4.54	1520.00	31st March, 96
2.	Sharda Canal System	10.35	3614.00	31st March, 96
	Total	14.89	5134.00	

[English]

Diabetes Awareness Camps

6374. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have sought the co-operation of voluntary organisations as well as the yoga teachers in organising Diabetes awareness camps; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.SILVERA): (a): No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Cholera Epidemic

6375. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether medical experts fear a new cholera pandemic is rapidly spreading in the country;

(b) whether there is no pre-existing immunity in any population to the new cholera germ that medical researchers describe as 'vibrio cholerae 0139'

(c) whether strain of this new cholera was found by National Institute of Cholera and Enteric Diseases Calcutta in October, 1992; and

(d) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to monitor the new strain and ensure that it does not acquire epidemic proportions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR C. SILVERA): (a) to (d) A new strain of Cholera was isolated in October, 1992 has characterised by National Institute of Cholera and Enteric Diseases, Calcutta as Vibrio Cholerae 0139. This strain, for which there are no pre-existing ante-bacterial antibodies in the population has been isolated from various parts of country during 1993.

Teams of National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NIC) investigate outbreaks of cholera in various parts of the country and the causative organism are identified. State authorities are given technical advice. The control measures for the new cholera strain 0139, are the same as for Vibrio Cholera 01.

New Vaccine For Typhoid

6376. SHRI B. DEVARAJAN: SHRI MANIKARAO HODLYA GAVIT:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new vaccine 'Typhim VI' for typhoid has been launched in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the efficiency of vaccine?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.SILVERA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c): Typhim V-I was approved for marketing in India in February, 1993. Clinical studies have concluded that on the vaccine is safe in Children and adults. The

immunity remains for about two years and the vaccine has been found to be effective.

[English]

Oil production in N-E States.

6377. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to State:

- (a) whether the oil production has been stoped in the North-Eastern States;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken to revive oil production in those States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERTOLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Oil Refinery in Bihar

6378. SHRI PREM CHAND RAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have sought foreign assistance to set up an oil refinery in Bihar;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the location where the refinery is proposed to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERTOLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise .

Subsidy on LPG Cylinder

6379. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total price of one LPG cylinder sold bythe public sector companies;
- (b) the total subsidy per cylinder;
- (c) the total cost per cylinder and;
- (d) the various components of the cost?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (c) and (d) The price build up of LPG cylinder meant for domestic use for Delhi market is as given below:

	<i>Rs./cylinder (14.24KG)</i>
Cost of LPG	97.66
Filling charges	13.06
Excise duty	7.54
Marketing cost	11.85
Freight/Delivery charges	18.30
Dealers' Commission	7.30
Total(estimated)	155.71

(b) The subsidy on LPG cylinder for domestic use is about Rs.67/-cylinder.

Joint Collaboration

6380. SHRI GOPINATH GAJAPATHI:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any joint collaboration has been launched with Sri Lanka in the field of coal by the Coal India Limited and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Rapid Action Force

6381. SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which the Rapid Action Force was constituted;

(b) the total strength of Rapid Action Force at present;

(c) whether the present strength of the force is capable of dealing with the situation;

(d) if not, the steps proposed to increase the force; and

(e) the time by which it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) The Government decided in December, 1991 to constitute Rapid Action Force (RAF).

(b) There are 10 Battalions of Rapid Action Force.

(c) to (e). The locations of the RAF Battalions have been consciously selected in such a way as to cover almost all sensitive parts of the country.

[*English*]

MOU Between HPCL and Spectrum Power Generation

6382. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited has recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Spectrum Power Generation for supply of naphtha to the power station to be set up at Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of the joint venture company and the terms and conditions agreed upon in MOU.

(c) whether HPCL has also any proposal for development of infrastructural facilities by establishing a terminal at Kakinda and construction of a product pipeline between Vishakhapatnam and Vijayawada with pipeline at Rajahmundry; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) HPCL have not entered into a J. V. C. agreement with Spectrum Power Generation but have signed a MOU for supply of Naphtha to it. As per the MOU HPCL has

agreed to supply 30.000 T. P. A. of Naphtha.\

(c) and (d) HPCL has planned to develop a terminal at Kakinda and has applied to the Andhra Pradesh Infrastructure Corporation (APIC) for allotment of land. The development would take 2 to 3 years time after taking possession of the acquired land. The terminal will have a storage tank and other facilities. HPCL has also a proposal to construct pipeline between Vishakhapatnam and Vijayawada having a T. O. P at Rajahmundry. The length of the pipeline would be 356 KMS (Approximately).

[English]

Complaints Against Companies

6383. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA:
 SHRI M. V. V. S. MURTHY:
 SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO:
 SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:
 SHRI S. B. SIDNAL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted an enquiry into the activities of 109 companies who have secured approval and clearance from his Ministry to import and sell LPG, SKO, LSHS at market determined prices;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether complaints have been received against these private companies; and

(d) if so, the action taken against these

companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA)

(a) According to MRTP Commission, the Director General of Investigation and Registration has started investigation against 109 parallel marketeers. The parallel marketeers are not required to obtain any approval from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas to import and sell LPG, kerosene or LSHS under the Parallel Marketing System.

(b) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Pension Scheme in Coal Mines

6384. SHRI BHUBANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any pension scheme has been prepared by the Government for the labourers and officers of different coal mines under coal India Limited ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA):(a) No , Sir

(b) Does not arise.

Death In Police Custody

6385. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be

pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted any inquiry into the cases of deaths which occurred in [price custody in Jammu and Kashmir during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS SHRI RAJESH PILOT (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Ayurvedic Drugs

6386. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY:
SHRI RAJENDRA
AGNIHOTRI:
SHRIMATI MAHENDRA
KUMARI:
SHRI ASUTBHUJA PRASAD
SHUKLA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the prices of Ayurvedic drugs have increased beyond the reach of common public;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) and (b) No untoward increases in prices of Ayurvedic drugs has been reported.

(c) Does not arise.

LPG Bottling Plants

6387. SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN
SHARAN SINGH:
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Oil Corporation propose to set up LPG bottling plants in Delhi;

(b) if so, the locations thereof ; and

(c) the time by which these are likely to be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (c) : M/s Indian Oil Corporation is constructing one LPG bottling plant at Madanpur Khader in Delhi with a capacity of 44 TMTPA . This plant is expected to be commissioned in August, 1995 . For the second bottling plant erlier proposed to be set up by IOC in Delhi , land has now been identified at Gaziabad since adequate suitable land is not available in the Union territory of Delhi, for this purpose.

[English]

Ransom Cases

6388. SHRI R. ANBARASU:
SHRI DILEEPBHAI
SANGHANI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Govern-

ment has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'abduction for ransom cases rise' appearing in the Hindustan Times dated March 25, 1994;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) the number of abduction for ransom cases reported in Delhi during each of the last three years and the current year so far;

(d) the number of cases solved and the success achieved in nabbing the culprits;

(e) the present strength of the Delhi

Police;

(f) whether the Government propose to augment the strengthen to effectively cope up with the increasing crimes in Delhi; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED). (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The number of cases of abduction for ransom reported and solved in Delhi during the year 1991,1992,1993 and 1994 (upto 31. 3. 94) is as under:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Cases reported</i>	<i>Cases solved</i>
1991	28	22
1992	32	26
1993	32	30
1994 (upto 31.3.94)	7	7

(e). The rank-wise present strength of Delhi Police is as under:-

1	Commissioner of Police	1
2	Addl. Commissioner of Police	10
3	Dy. Commissioner of Police	53
4	Asstt. Commissioner of Police	167
5	Inspector	697
6	Sub Inspector	3327
7	Asstt. Sub Inspector	3883
8	Steno	62

9	Head Constable	10644
10	Constable	29456

(f) and (g). Strengthening and modernisation of Police is an on-going process.

Oral Cancer

6389. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH:
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:
SHRI M. V. V. S. MURTHY:
SHRI. D. VENKATESWARA RAO:
SHRI S. B. SIDNAL:
SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Health Organisation has suggested several measures to fight oral cancer on World Health Day;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to implement these suggestions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA) (a) and (b). World Health Organisation has recommended the following two measures concerning oral cancer:

- (i) Efforts to reduce tobacco consumption, and
- (ii) Early detection and treatment of the diseases.

(c). Under National Cancer Control Programme, emphasis is laid on prevention, early detection and augmentation of treatment facilities for cancers including oral cancer. Comprehensive anti-tobacco legislation is also proposed to discourage consumption of tobacco.

External Loans for Health

[*Translation*]

6390. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL:
SHRI RAJVEER SINGH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have sought loans from foreign countries for construction of hospitals and research centres for leprosy, blindness and T. B.; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA). (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Natural Gas

6391. SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of natural gas being utilised currently in Assam and Tripura;

(b) the quantity of gas flared up everyday in the above regions;

(c) the quantity of gas being processed into LPG and the plans for increasing LPG production in Assam;

(d) whether gas from wells which have no oil are kept closed and gas conserved; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) The utilisation of natural gas in Assam and Tripura in 1993-94 was 3.6 MMSCMD and 0.28 MMSCMD respectively.

(b) Flaring of gas in Assam in 1993-94 was 1.95 MMSCMD. There was no flaring in Tripura.

(c) At present around 2 MMSCMD of gas is being processed for LPG extraction.

GAIL is setting up a plant for the production of 85,000 LPG at Lakwa.

(d) and (e) Production of non-associated gas is undertaken whenever feasible and justified by the demand.

LPG Agencies

6392. SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1174 on December 9, 1993 and states.

(a) the district-wise allotment of 34 LPG distributorships in West Bengal; and

(b) the time by which these agencies are likely to be operative ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) The requisite information is given in the statement enclosed.

(b) It takes about 1-2 years from the date of advertisement for the commissioning of distributorships.

STATEMENT

NUMBER OF LOCATIONS INCLUDED IN THE MARKETING PLAN IN WEST BENGAL.

SL.NO.	DISTRICT	NUMBER
1.	24 PARGANAS	2
2.	NORTH 24 PARGANAS	5
3.	HOOGHLY	3
4.	HOWRAH	2
5.	CALCUTTA	14
6.	BURDWAN	4
7.	WEST DINAJPUR	1
8.	MALDA	1
9.	NADIA	1
10.	JALPAIGURI	1
TOTAL =		34

[*Translation*]**Crude Oil**

6393. SHRIMATI SHEELA
GAUTAM:
DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the value (in rupees) of the Crude oil imported during 1993;

(b) whether the amount to be paid has increased sharply as a result of increase in the price of dollar; and

(c) if so, the anticipated increase in the above amount during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) The value of crude oil imported during 1993-94 is Rs.10689 crores approximately.

(b) The increase in 1993-94 in Rupee terms is mainly on account of increase in the Dollar = Rupee exchange rate and also due to large imports.

(c) The increase/decrease in the import bill for the current year is dependent on various factors like volume of indigenous production of crude, prevailing international prices of crude, prevailing exchange parity of dollar etc.

[*English*]**Infiltration Control**

6394. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA:
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Border Security Force to shift the persons residing in some 40 villages on the border of Kashmir in the Uri-Kupwara sector and to resettle them several kilometres inside to check infiltration;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No such proposal has been received by the Government from the Border Security Force.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Pollution

6395. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA:
Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the comparative adverse effect of tobacco smoke and vehicular pollution in major cities in the country;

(b) whether any study has been conducted on the comparative contribution of tobacco smoke and vehicular pollution in the air quality of any major city; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) Whether tobacco usage is a known cause of cancer, cardiovascular disease, chronic obstructive lung diseases, low birth weights, premature birth and spontaneous abortions; atmospheric air pollutants, contributed by vehicular traffic, are associated with respiratory ill-

ness, irritation to eyes, cardiovascular and neurobehavioural effects and impairment of liver and kidney functions;

(b) and (c) A study on health morbidity in relation to air pollution as also smoking conducted around a busy intersection of Bombay indicated higher conducted around a busy intersection of Bombay indicated higher levels of carboxyhaemoglobin among persons living around areas higher vehicular density and among smokers in every group.

Paraffin Wax

6396. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the annual quota of paraffin wax fixed for Maharashtra;

(b) the number of small scale industries based on paraffin wax in Maharashtra;

(c) whether these industries are in a crisis for want of paraffin wax;

(d) whether the Government of Maharashtra has requested the quota of paraffin wax; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) Presently Government is making an allocation of 2900 MTs of Paraffin Wax Type-I & II and 100 MTs of Paraffin Wax Type-III to Maharashtra State every quarter. Ad-hoc allocation of Paraffin Wax Type-III is also made subject to surplus availability of the product.

(b) There are about 439 paraffin wax consuming small scale industries as reported by Maharashtra state to Indian Oil Corporation in 1990.

(c) to (e) Representations from various States/ Union Territories including Government of Maharashtra are received from time to time for enhancement in allocation of paraffin wax.

Paraffin wax is a deficit product and allocation to States depends upon the availability of the product. Presently the availability of paraffin wax is far less than the total requirement of various States/Union Territories including Maharashtra and therefore increased allocations could not be made. Import of Paraffin wax has been decanalised for easy availability to users.

Medical Colleges

6397. SHRI HARIN PATHAK:
SHRI VILASRAO
NAGNATHRAO
GUNDEWAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Government and private Medical Colleges functioning in Maharashtra and Rajasthan;

(b) whether the Union Government have received any proposals from the State Governments/private institutions to set up more medical colleges in these states;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) As per report of the Medical Council of India 15 Government and 16 private medical colleges in Maharashtra and 6 Government medical colleges in Rajasthan are functioning.

(b) to (d) According to the provisions of Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Act, 1993 an intending institution is required to submit an application for opening a medical college in the form of a prescribed scheme to the Central Government. One such application from a private organisation in Maharashtra was received by the Government which being incomplete, has been returned to the applicant.

Filaria Control

6398. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken fresh initiatives to control filaria in the country;

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

(c) the allocations made during the current year for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) National Filaria Control Programme is a continuing programme. Presently, 206 control units, 198 night clinics and 27 survey units are engaged in filaria control.

(b) Steps taken for control of filaria are as below:

(i) Recurrent anti-larval measures

undertaken at weekly intervals for control of vector mosquitoes.

(ii) Bio-environmental control methods including use of piscivorous fishes.

(iii) Reduction of malarial sources through engineering solutions aimed at proper water disposal etc.

(iv) Early detection and prompt treatment of cases.

(c) During the current year, Rs. 266.45 lakhs have been provided for this programme.

Problems of West Bengal Displaced persons

6399. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation led by the Rehabilitation Minister of West Bengal submitted a memorandum to the Government regarding the rehabilitation problems of West Bengal displaced persons on April 6, 1994;

(b) if so, the broad details of the demands raised; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) A delegation comprising Minister for Refugee, Relief & Rehabilitation, West Bengal and Members of Parliament from the State submitted a note to the Government on 6th April, 1994, regarding the problems of displaced persons in West Bengal.

(b) The note, *interalia*, included demands for the re-imburement of cost of the State Government lands utilised for regularisation of the Squatters' Colonies and funding of a package of measures for the economic rehabilitation of the displaced persons in West Bengal.

(c) The funds for the acquisition of Squatters' Colonies in West Bengal were released in accordance with a decision taken by the Government of India in 1987, in consultation with the Government of West Bengal. There appears no basis to re-open these decisions at this juncture. As regards the demand for economic rehabilitation the Government is of the view that the displaced persons in West Bengal have already been provided with necessary assistance and they are deemed to have merged with the State's normal population and therefore, any further assistance to them should be provided by the State Government from their own normal developmental plans. In this context the State Government have been requested to review the matter.

LPG to Andhra Pradesh

6400. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) The quantity of LPG being supplied to consumers in the Andhra Pradesh both for domestic and commercial purposes;

(b) whether the Government proposes to increase the allocation of LPG to Andhra Pradesh;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) In Andhra Pradesh the total LPG consumption by customers of the LPG marketing Government oil companies during 1992-93 was approximately 213.1 TMT.

(b) to (d) LPG supplies are made on the basis of estimated demand of existing customers and availability of product.

World Conference of Kashmir Oustees

6401. SHRI SHARAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether a world conference of Kashmir oustees and displaced persons was held at Siri Fort in New Delhi in the last week of December, 1993, to focus the attention of the Government to the plight of displaced Kashmiris and need to restore conditions in Kashmir Valley congenial to their return to homeland and settle and stay in their own homes;

(b) if so, the main appeals and demands made therein; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c) A World Conference of Pandit Conference was held on 27th and 28th December, 1993 at Siri Fort Auditorium, New Delhi to focus attention on plight of Kashmiri migrants. The organisation mainly appealed to all organisations on India to adopt resolutions to declare Pakistan a terrorist State and, to the Government of India to sever diplomatic relations with Pakistan and for help in preservation of their ancient culture and tradition and protection

of their lives.

Government are deeply concerned about Pakistan's continued support to subversion and terrorism in the State of J&K. Government have consistently urged Pakistan to stop its support to terrorism which is the root cause of tensions in our bilateral relations. The matter has also been highlighted and is being pursued through diplomatic and other channels at the international level.

Arrangements have been made by Government to provide for the basic needs of the migrants by way of cash relief, rations temporary accommodations wherever necessary and facilities relating to education, banking and insurance service etc. The arrangements are being regularly so that the problems being faced by the migrants could be redressed to the extent possible. Intensive efforts are being made in the state to contain violence and the fear of the gun and to create conditions conducive to the return of the migrants to their homes in the valley.

Pipeline Schemes

6402. DR. ASIMBALA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Haldia-Budge-budge product pipeline and Haldia-Barauni Crude pipeline schemes in West Bengal have been taken up for completion; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

~~THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE~~
 THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
 MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b) Approval for laying product pipeline from Haldia to Budge-

Budge was accorded by the Board of Directors of Indian Oil Corporation Limited in March, 1991.

Government has approved the preparation of a detailed Feasibility Report to lay a new crude oil pipeline from Haldia to Barauni to increase supply of crude oil to Barauni Refinery. IOC has submitted a Detailed Feasibility Report to the Government recently which is being processed for obtaining necessary investment approval.

[Translation]

LPG Connections

6403. DR. SAKSHIJI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the target fixed during the last year for allotment of new LPG connections has been achieved;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT SATISH KUMAR SHAMRA): (a) and (b) Against the target of 12 lakh enrolment of new LPG customers in 1993-94, approximately 12.34 lakhs new connections have been released.

(c) Does not arise.

Kidnappings in J & K

6404. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHILIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Government

servants and other persons kidnapped by the terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir during 1992, 1993 and 1994 so far;

(b) the number of persons out of them who are still in the custody of terrorists:

(c) the number of relatives of political leaders kidnapped by the Kashmiri terrorists during the above period; and

(d) the number of persons out of them released so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (d) According to available information, 737 persons were kidnapped by militants during the period in question. Out of these, 216 persons were central/State Government employees and seven were relatives of political leaders. Out of these, the whereabouts of 135 persons are still reported to be unknown. Of seven relatives of political leaders, six were released and one was killed by militants.

[English]

Rehabilitation of Oustees

6405. SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Government are considering the recommendations of Kainoor Survey Agency and Court orders with regard to the settlement of the rehabilitation and compensation to the families of whose land was acquired for Kharia project in Sonebhadra district, U.P.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the remedial steps taken for settling the cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) to (d) As per information received from Northern Coalfields Limited the Kainoor Survey Agency was set up by U.P. Government as per directives of the Supreme Court to complete the land revenue records in part of Sonebhadra District, part of the area acquired for Khadia project is also covered by the agency. On the basis of agency report Court orders are issued regarding the title of the land. NCL after considering the court orders paid compensation to the title holders. However in a few cases appeals are filed with the higher courts where orders of lower courts are at variance with the provisions of C.B.A. act. Court orders in respect of 17 tenants relating to varg (category) four land and 22 tenants in respect of other lands have been received. Compensation has been paid in the case of varg (category) four lands and appeals are filed in 22 cases of other lands in the court of R.O. Sonebhadra.

[Translation]

ONGC Projects

6406. SHRI NITISH KUMAR;
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction cost of some of the projects under the Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) has increased from original construction cost;

(b) if so, the names thereof and extent of increase in cost;

(c) whether any change has occurred in their construction schedule also;

(d) if so, the time by which these projects are likely to be completed;

(e) whether the government have identified the factors responsible for the increase in the cost after the construction work had been started on these projects; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (d) ONGC have reported that five of their ongoing projects are expected to experience cost escalation.

Names of these projects together with the approved/anticipated cost and expected time schedule of completion are indicated in the Statement enclosed.

(e) and (f); The reasons for cost escalation include general price increase, exchange rate variation, changes in statutory duties/taxes, change in scope of work etc.

STATEMENT

(Rs. in Crores)

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Approved Cost	Anticipated/ Revised Cost Estimates	Anticipated date of Completion
1.	BH-22 Development	76.49	132.68	Put on production in april 1990 through temporary deck. overall Completion is anticipated by the pre-monsoon 1994.
2.	BH-25 Development	74.69	136.09	Put on production in November 1990 through temporary deck. Overall completion is anticipated by premonsoon 1994.
3.	Neelam Development	2022.20	3541.85	15. 5. 94 + 2 months grade period.
4.	L-II Development	1100.40	2192.68	20.5.1994.
5.	L- III Development	2393.02	4562.76	April 1994 except SHW.

Exploration in KG Basin

6407. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA
RAO:
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN
OWAISI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the oil exploration operation in Krishna-Godavari (KG) Basin has been delayed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether ONGC has decided to terminate its oil exploration operation in KG basin;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken to continue the exploration from KG basin?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a): No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) During the year 1994-95 exploratory metrage to the extent of 64350 metres is proposed to be drilled. At present 8 rigs in the onland part and 3 rigs in the offshore area are deployed in the basin. The seismic data acquisition work is also proposed to be continued during the year 1994-95.

Sardar Sarovar Project

6408. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:
Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the World Bank has given six months time to India to implement action plan on the Sardar Sarovar Project evolved by the Government and an agreed set of benchmarks to remove deficiencies in the project; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A statement is enclosed.

STATEMENT

After publication of Independent Review Report and the responses of Government of India thereon, the World Bank reviewed the position and decided on 23-10-92 to continue with the assistance for Sardar Sarovar Project subject to fulfilment of specified performance benchmarks to be assessed by a Special Mission in April, 1993. These are as under:

1. Resettlement and Rehabilitation.

1. Improvement of Data on Project affected people
2. Agreement on criteria between Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat
3. Computerised data collection and reporting

4. Tribal Studies
5. Completion of comprehensive re-settlement & rehabilitation plan
6. Strengthening of institutional arrangements
7. Improvement of consultation practices
8. Acquisition of land on required scale
9. Development of satisfactory package for canal affected people

II. *Environment*

1. Completion of terms of reference for narmada basin Environmental Management Plan
2. Completion of prioritized Environmental Overview Report
3. Satisfactory progress in completing Environmental Impact Assessment for command area.

The Government of India and State Governments of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh immediately undertook appropriate measures to realise these targets and substantially fulfilled them within 5 months i.e. by the end of March, 1993.

[*English*]

Schemes For SC/ST Girls

6409. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN:
SHRI RATILAL VARMA:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the States where schemes have been launched for educational development of SC/ST girls;

(b) the achievements made under the schemes so far; and

(c) the funds likely to be sanctioned in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU): (a) to (c) Under the Central sector scheme of educational complexes in Low Literacy Pockets for Development of Women Literacy in Tribal areas launched in 1993-94, an amount of Rs. 1.25 crores was sanctioned in 1993-94, for setting up 23 educational complexes for Scheduled Tribe Girls in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa and Rajasthan. There is an outlay of Rs. 1.85 crores under the scheme for the year 1994-95. Several State Governments such as Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh also implement various schemes for the educational development of Scheduled Caste/and/or Scheduled Tribe Girls. Detailed information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of House.

North-Eastern Council

6410. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to restructure the North-Eastern Council;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) its likely role after restructuring?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) to (c): The proposal to restructure the North-Eastern Council is under examination.

Multi-Purposes River Valley Projects

6411. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the proposed outlines of the Kosi, Kamla, Bagmati, Pancheswar and Kamali Multi-purpose River Valley Projects;

(b) the measures proposed to be taken to implement these projects; and

(c) the time by which these measures are likely to be affected?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUGON) (a) The Kosi, Kamla, Bagmati, Pancheshwar and Kamali Multi-purpose Projects in addition to water for irrigation and other purposes would provide about 3300 MW, 32mw, 35mw, 3000 mw and 10800 mw of power respectively.

(b) and (c) These projects are at different stages of negotiations with Nepal for investigation and preparation of project reports. Time of completion of these studies would depend on the cooperation that would be forthcoming from Nepal.

Manhandling Incidents in Delhi

6412. DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI:
SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS

be pleased to state:

(a) Whether incidents of manhandling between VIP families and police have increased in Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of each such incident reported in Delhi during April, 1994;

(d) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(e) if so, the outcome thereof;

(f) the number of persons including police personnel found guilty and the action taken against them; and

(g) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to check such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (f) Delhi Police have reported that during April, 1994, only one such incident was reported in Delhi. This incident relates to the assault on Union Food Secretary, his son and his PSO by the police officials on 9th April 1994. A case u/s 308/147/148/149/186/353/333/504/342/218/167/323/34 IPC was registered and 6 police officials and 3 publicmen arrested. All the police officials have been placed under suspension. The case has since been charge-sheeted and sent to the court on 23.4.1994. A departmental enquiry has also been initiated against the defaulting police officials.

(g) Instructions have been reiterated to the police officials to behave in a polite and courteous manner with members of public.

Dutch Assistance for Health Projects

6413. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA
URS: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of
Karnataka have submitted a Dutch Consor-
tium assisted project to the Union Govern-
ment for establishing new facilities like Can-
cer Centre, Trauma Centre, TB detection
and Care Centres in the State;

(b) if so, whether the Union Govern-
ment have posed the project for Dutch
assistance; and

(c) the place where new facilities are
proposed in Karnataka under the said
project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) to (c)
The State Government of Karnataka has
forwarded a Karnataka Health Care Project
with Trauma Care, Cancer and neonatal
care Components. The proposal is being
examined.

Narmada Dam

6414. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:
Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES
be pleased to state:

(a) whether the leading Non-Govern-
mental organisations from 60 countries had
sent a letter to the Prime Minister of India
condemning the closing of sluice gates at
the foot of the Narmada Dam.

(b) if so, the reaction of the Govern-
ment thereto;

(c) whether the closing of the sluice
gates of Narmada dam was done in violation

of existing legal agreements with the World
Bank and contravention of the recommen-
dations made by the Narmada Control
Authority and his Ministry; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT
AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS-
TRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K.
THUNGON): (a) There have been protest
letters from different organisations abroad
addressed to the Prime Minister against the
closure of construction sluices of Sardar
Sarovar Dam.

(b) A statement indicating the factual
position on the closure of construction sluice-
s of the Sardar Sarovar Dam sent to the
concerned Indian Missions abroad to dispel
misgivings about the project amongst the
international community, is enclosed.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

There appears to be some misunder-
standing about the closure of construction
sluices of the Sardar Sarovar Dam. These
sluices are a set of temporary openings (10
numbers) at Elevation level 18 metres
provided in the body of the dam, purely as
part of diversion arrangement to ensure
discharge of river water during low flow
period. These openings have very little impact
on the flood levels during the monsoon
season, whether these are closed or not.
Water levels on the upstream of the dam are
governed by the volume and intensity of
flow. The construction sluices are in no way
linked to the resettlement & rehabilitation of
project affected people.

Nevertheless, by way of abundant caution, the possible effect of closure of the construction sluices of Sardar Sarovar Dam was still studied by the Sardar Sarovar Construction Advisory Committee and the Narmada Control Authority and the progress made by the concerned States in the implementation of resettlement & rehabilitation of the project affected people was reviewed. Only after ensuring that (i) there would be no submergence of villages where the people have not already been resettled and rehabilitated, (ii) Resettlement and Rehabilitation measures were completed upto Elevation Level 69 metres and, (iii) water would be available on the downstream of the dam through pumping from upstream reservoir and through the canal network and spillway of Karjan Dam (in Gujarat), the decision to close the construction sluices of Sardar Sarovar Dam was taken. These sluices were closed on 23rd February, 1994 by the project authorities.

This was done after careful consideration of all aspects including its impact on the area under submergence and the project affected families. The decision to close the construction sluices of the dam was very important as the stilling basin area in the downstream of the sluices was left untreated and by any further delay would have endangered the very structure of dam resulting in grave losses. Closure of construction sluices now has given just sufficient time to complete the minimum precautionary measure necessary for the safety of the dam. As already mentioned even though the closure of construction sluices was in no way related to the resettlement & rehabilitation programme, these aspects were examined in detail by the Narmada Control Authority and the Sardar Sarovar Construction Advisory Committee.

In addition to the construction sluices,

four river sluices have also been provided in the dam at Elevation Level 53mtrs. As a result of closure of construction sluices, river water will pass down the dam through the river sluice which are open. The permanent pondage level would rise to a maximum Elevation Level 59metres and will remain at or below this level upto June, 1994. During the monsoon of 1994, the water would rise depending on the volume of flow above Elevation level 59 metres but would recede to Elevation Level 59 metres or below after the monsoon. The river sluices would ensure fluctuation of water level in the reservoir during the non-monsoon season between Elevation Level 53 metres and Elevation level 59 metres. The resettlement & rehabilitation in respect of this permanent pondage has been completed. The downstream environmental affect has also been studied in detail and adequate and appropriate steps have been taken to meet the minimum requirement of flow in the river regime.

No adverse affect, whatsoever, has been noticed so far to due to the closure of construction sluices. Water level on the upstream reached Elevation Level 58.13 metres on 15th March, 1994 and is flowing out through the river sluices provided at Elevation level 53 metres.

The Government of India and the party States are fully committed to satisfactory linkage between implementation of resettlement & rehabilitation programme and progress of construction and this is being strictly observed.

[Translation]

Oil and Gas Plants in Maharashtra

6415.SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the

Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) The number of oil and gas plants functioning in Maharashtra at present;

(b) the details of productions of these projects during each of the last two years;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up some more such plants in

Maharashtra;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b) The details are as follows:

	No. of Plants	1992-93	Production 1993-94
Fuel Refinery	2	13.28 MMT (throughput)	13.435 MMT (Throughput)
Lube Refinery	1	2,35,000 per annum capacity	
LPG bottling Plant	11	2,26,222MT	4,37,641 MT
Lube blending	3	96.460 MT	93,605 MT
POL depot	14	66,01,709 KL (volume handled)	(49,05,954KL)
ONGC's onshore terminal (for oil and natural gas transported from Western offshore fields)	1/4,	8,71,385MT (Production of LPG, NGL & C2-C3)	9,40,441MT

(c) and (d): The details of proposed new plants/ project are as follows:-

- (I) Two LPG bottling plants are being set up by the Indian Oil Corporation at Akola and Manmad with 44,000 MTPA and 34,000 MTPA capacity respectively.
- (II) A LPG recovery plant is being setup by the Gas Authority of India Limited at Usar at an estimated cost of Rs. 300.92 crores.
- (III) The Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited has proposed to set up grassroot refinery with a capacity of 6 MMTPA on the West Coast of Maharashtra as joint venture project between Hindustan petroleum Corporation Limited and Oman Oil Company Limited at an estimated cost of Rs. 3000 crores.
- (IV) The Hindustan petroleum Corporation has proposed to put up 7 POL depots in Maharashtra with a total tankage of 90,300 KL.

(e) Does not arise.

Joint Venture Projects

6416. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether international oil companies have shown keen interest in joint venture projects in India;

(b) if so, the details of those companies that have been permitted to set up joint venture projects; and

(c) The details of the projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The details of joint venture companies set up for the execution of projects in the oil sector are given in the statement enclosed.

STATEMENT - I**THE DETAILS OF JOINT VENTURE COMPANIES SET UP FOR EXECUTION OF PRODUCTS IN THE OIL SECTOR.**

Name of the Joint Venture Companies	Equity Participation	Purpose
1. AVI-OIL INDIA (P) Limited	NYCO SA Finance - 50% IOC - 25% Balmér Lawrie & Co., Ltd. - 25%	Manufacture and marketing of synthetic, Semi-synthetic and mineral based aviation lubricants.
2. IBP-Caltex Limited	IBF - 49% Caltex Ltd. - 51%	Blending and marketing of lubricants.
3. GAIL- British Gas (U.K)	GAIL - 35% British Gas - 35% Government of Maharashtra and General public - 30%	Distribution of natural gas through pipe lines in Greater Bombay for consumers in identified sectors.

Name of the Joint Venture Companies	Equity Participation	Purpose
4. Joint venture for Refinery refinery on the West Coast.	<p>HP - 26%</p> <p>Oman Oil Co. - 26%</p> <p>Public - 48%</p>	Setting up of a graas-root in West Coast
5. Joint Venture for refinery in Central India.	<p>BPCL - 26%</p> <p>Oman Oil Co - 26%</p> <p>Public - 48%</p>	Setting up of a grass-root refinery in the Central India
6. Bharat Shell Overseas	<p>Bharat Petroleum - 49%</p> <p>Gas Shell - 51%</p>	Marketing of shell branded lubricants in India.
7. Indo-Mobile(P) Limited	<p>IOC and Mobile Petroleum - 50%</p>	Import manufacture and market mobil branded lubricants In India as well as in Nepal and Bhutan.

[Translation]

**Deployment Of Armed Force
Battalions**

6417. SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE:
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be
pleased to state:

(a) whether the armed force battalions
were summoned from several states to curb
the increasing terrorist activities in the ter-
rorists-prone state;

(b) if so, whether any paymet is out-
standing against some of the state Govern-
ments of this account;

(c) if so, the details of the outstanding
payments as on March 31, 1994, and

(d) the steps being taken by the Gov-
ernment to ensure the early payment there-
of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI
RAJESH PILOT): (a) Armed Force Battal-
ions of some States are borrowed from time
to time by other States for Internal Security
duties.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Since lending States claim reim-
bursement directly from the borrowing States
on the basis of audited actual expenditure
every year, it is difficult to quantify outstand-
ing payments as on 31.3.94.

(d) It has been decided to recover an
amount of Rs. 43.64 crores in yearly
instalments from the plan assistance of the
concerned defaulter States, and two such
yearly instalments have already been re-
leased to the State Governments whose
Armed Force Battalions were deployed ex-
state.

[English]

Coking Coal

6418. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will
the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of coking coal in
the Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries
during each of the last three years, subsidiari-
wise;

(b) whether the Coal India Limited has
taken any measures to improve the stan-
dard of coking coal as required by the steel
and other industries;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, whether there is any proposal
to import coking coal for the steel and other
industries;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT
PANJA): (a) Companywise, raw coking coal
production in Coal India Limited (CIL) during
last 3 years was as under:-

Company	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94 (Provisional)
Eastern Coalfields Limited	0.64	0.63	0.60
Bharat Coking Coal Limited	22.58	22.81	23.33
Central Coalfields Limited	17.14	16.61	15.55
Western Coalfields Limited	0.69	0.71	0.71
South Eastern coalfields Limited	0.10	0.11	0.11
Coal India Limited	41.15	40.87	40.30

(b) Yes, Sir. Some of the steps taken to improve the quality of coking coal are:-

- (i) Coking coals are beneficiated before despatch to the steel plants except superior directefeed coals.
- (ii) Existing washeries are being modified to improve the yield and quality of clean coal.

(c) to (f) Integrated steel plants are the main importers of low ash coking coal for the purpose of blending with indigenous coal for meeting the gap between the indigenous availability and the demand and also to improve the quality of overall blend to be used in steel plants. They are likely to import about 6 million tonnes of low ash metallurgical grade coking coal during 1994-95.

[Translation]

Joint Ventures

6419. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR
MANDAL:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal India Limited has sent any proposal to the Government for setting up coal mining joint venture with foreign countries in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the decision taken by the Government thereon;

(d) Whether this proposal envisages any such venture being set up in the West Bengal Coalfields; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) to (e) yes, Sir, Coal India Limited (CIL) have written to the Government in the Ministry of Coal seeking "in principle" concurrence for promoting joint coal mining ventures with private companies. The reference includes foreign and Indian Companies and Coalfields in West Bengal. A final view can be taken only on receipt of a detailed commercial proposition.

Production of Bitumin

6420. SHRI SURESHANAND SWAMI:
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the production capacity of bulk Bitumin at Mathura Refinery and the companies which are transporting it and the basis for its allotment; and

(b) the mode of allotment for transportation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b) The designed capacity of bitumin at Mathura Refinery is 500TMT/year. As there is no restriction in bulk bitumin releases, product is released to all State and Central Sector Customers requiring bitumin for road works. For others genuineness of customers/end use is ascertained before release. Trucks of authorised transporters are to report to Mathura Refinery and submit requisite documents. Individual trucks are loaded on First Come First Served basis. Those consumers drawing supplies ex-Mathura authorities their own nominated trucks which are loaded.

[English]

AIDS Control

6421. SHRI PROBIN DEKA: Will the Minister OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of AIDS patients identified in Assam till the end of Deember, 1993;

(b) the financial assistance provided to the Government of Assam under AIDS Control Programme during 1993-94;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to set up AIDS Surveillance Centres in Assam; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) One.

(b) Rs. 12.43 lakhs.

(c) and (d) One Surveillance Centre at the Department of Microbiology in Guwahati Medical College is already functioning in Assam.

[Translation]

Application of Parantable

6442. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several applications are pending in connection with large volume parantable; and

(b) if so, the steps taken for simlifying

the procedure and for avoiding the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) No, Sir. No applications are pending with the Central licence Approving Authority. Those found deficient were referred back to the State Licencing Authorities for removal of the deficiencies.

(b) Does no arise.

[English]

Welfare Schemes of Kerala

6423. SHRI THAYILJOHN ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of welfare schemes submitted by the Government of Kerala to the Union Government for approval during each of the last three year;

(b) the schemes accorded approval out of them and the amount released for this purpose; and

(c) the time by which the remaining amount approved for such schemes is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU): (a) and (b) A statement is enclosed.

(c) One proposal on assistance for the post-literacy and continuing education programme among STs, is still under consideration.

STATEMENT

RELEASE MADE TO THE GOVT OF KERALA UNDER THE DIFFERENT SCHEMES- DURING 1991-92, 1992-93 & 1993-94
(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
1.	Girls hostels for STs	1.00	21.42	20.00
2.	Boys hostels for STs	23.58	15.87	20.0
3.	Ashram schools in TSP areas	38.38	39.73	47.10
4.	Educational complex	—	—	4.94
5.	Vocational Training Institutes	—	—	14.53
6.	Tribal Research Institutes	12.00	0.00	7.85
7.	Special Central Assistance (Sca) TSP.	133.27	207.3	161.25
8.	Article 275(1) of the Constution	9.69	12.90	36.00
9.	Grant-in-aid to State Tribal Development Co-op. Corporation.	—	—	41.00
10.	Grant-in -aid to Voluntary Organisations.	15.11	18.56	19.70

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
SCHEDULED CASTES DEVELOPMENT				
11.	Post-Matric Scholarship	109.73	24.95	106.76
12.	Pre-Matric Scholarship	11.38	4.58	1.90
13.	Girls Hostels	20.00	4.91	25.03
14.	Boys Hostels	10.00	4.11	6.96
15.	Books Bank	5.92	1.00	13.68
16.	SCDG	115.18	88.87	124.20
17.	NSFDC	—	485.75	58.00
18.	PCR & Atrocities	13.70	7.68	19.96
19.	Liberation of Scavengers	25.00	30.00	—
20.	SCA to SCP	381.90	52.74	402.84
21.	SOCIAL DEFENCE Prevention and Control of Juvenile Social Maladjustment.	3.07	5.48	

Special Component Plan

6424. SHRI ANADICHARANDAS: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any study to assess the implementation of the Special Component Plan by the State Government;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) the steps taken to ensure that maximum benefits reach the beneficiaries; and

(d) the funds allocated under the scheme during each of the last three years, State/ Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU): (a) and (b) Ministry of Welfare has been sponsoring evaluation studies on the implementation of the schemes under Special Component Plan with a view to assess the economic development of the SC population. A list of such studies is enclosed statement-I. The evaluation reports of these studies are sent to the concerned State Government for follow-up action.

(c) Steps taken by Ministry of Welfare to ensure maximum benefits reaching the beneficiaries are as follows:-

- (i) The implementation of the various schemes under Special Component plan is reviewed through Special Component plan discussions held annually in this Ministry. It is emphasised upon the State Governments to take suitable corrective measures to make the schemes more effective.

(ii) State Government are impressed upon to formulate and implement such schemes under Special Component Plan which directly benefit the SCs.

(iii) Targets for various schemes under Special Component plan are fixed both in financial and physical terms. The performance is discussed in the Ministry of Welfare during the Special Component Plan discussion every year.

(iv) In order to avoid the diversion of Special Component Plan funds States have been asked to open separate budget Head/sub-Head of Accounts for Special Component Plan.

(v) The efforts made for proper implementation of Special Component Plan by the State are also considered at the time of release of Special Central Assistance to Special Component Plan by the Central Government to State/Union Territories.

(d) Statement -II is enclosed.

STATEMENT - I

A list of studies conducted to review the implementation of Special Component Plan as sponsored by the Ministry of Welfare is given below;

- i. Impact of development plans including Special Component Plan in Prakesam Distt. Andhra Pradesh by Sanjivayya Institute of Economic Studies, New Delhi.
- ii. An in-depth study of Special

Component Plan in Haryana and Himachal Pradesh by Foru of Socio-Economic and Market Research, New Delhi.

iii. Special Component Plan implementation in Malapuram Distt. of Kerala by Tribal Reserch Institute, Kerala.

THE ALLOCATION UNDER SPECIAL COMPONENT PLAN STATES/UNION TERRITORY WISE DURING 1991-92,
1992-93, 1993-94 ARE AS UNDER:-

S. No.	State/UT	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
1.	Andhra Pradesh	155.78	165.61	208.77
2.	Assam	45.02	57.85	64.25
3.	Goa	1.81	2.15	2.20
4.	Gujarat	58.98	71.34	80.43
5.	Gujarat	58.98	71.34	80.43
6.	Haryana	83.26	108.20	125.33
7.	Himachal Pradesh	49.50	60.43	68.75
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	45.50	46.21	70.52
9.	Karnataka	138.51	176.02	280.70
10.	Kerala	80.18	123.44	137.38
11.	Madhya Pradesh	246.52	261.56	271.49

S. No.	State/UT	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
12.	Maharashtra	160.95	170.68	196.60
13.	Manipur	0.27	1.85	2.82
14.	Orissa	210.60	212.26	214.53
15.	Punjab	119.03	164.06	195.17
16.	Rajasthan	193.83	239.13	274.78
17.	Sikkim	0.47	0.45	5.96
18.	Tamilnadu	272.67	293.00	353.61
19.	Tripura	21.42	38.16	31.78
20.	Uttar Pradesh	466.43	404.05	440.70
21.	West Bengal	163.74	185.73	221.10
22.	Chandigarh	10.25	9.93	2.34
23.	Delhi	97.05	88.61	95.75
24.	Pondicherry	13.16	14.40	17.30
	Total	2924.75	3091.53	3569.26

[Translation]

Centres for Juvenile Delinquents and Women Convicts

6425. SHRI N. J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rehabilitation centres for juvenile delinquents and women convicts in Gujarat;

(b) whether the Government propose to provide funds to these centres; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU): (a) For Juvenile Delinquents, there are 25 Observation Homes, 2 Special Homes and 14 After-care institutions in the State of Gujarat. However there are no separate rehabilitation centres for women convicts in Gujarat. The women convicts are dealt with separately from male convicts within the same jails under the State Prison Manuals.

(b) Under the Scheme of Prevention and Control of Juvenile Social Maladjustment the Ministry of Welfare provides financial assistance to State Governments to the extent of 50% of the expenditure incurred on the setting up of new institution for juvenile delinquent and for upgrading services in the existing institutions for them. Under the scheme of Modernisation of Prison Administration, the Ministry of Home Affairs Provides for financial assistance to State Governments for various items Which includes facilities for women convicts and setting up of Borstal Schools.

(c) A sum of Rs. 1,43,72,750/- has been released to the Government of Gujarat un-

der the Scheme of Prevention & Control of Juvenile Social Maladjustment since 1987-88. A sum of Rs. 144 lakhs was provided to the State Government during 1987-92 under the Scheme of Modernisation of Prison Administration on various items which includes facilities for women convicts.

Digging of Wells in Bihar

6426. SHRI PREM CHAND RAM: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Ground Water Board has dug any well in Bihar under the scientific programme of Ground Water exploration;

(b) is so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Central Ground Water Board has any proposal to dig more wells in Bihar under the scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the target fixed for the Eighth Five year plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K.THUNGON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Ground Water Board, under its scientific Programme of Ground Water Exploration had drilled 400 boreholes in Bihar upto March, 1994 comprising of 219 exploratory wells, 155 observation wells, 13 slim holes and 13 pierometers.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The tentative targets for the Eighth Five Year Plan is for the drilling of 400 boreholes in Bihar. The target for drilling of

boreholes are, however, fixed on yearly basis. During 1994-95, the Board has a target to drill 41 boreholes in the State which includes 23 exploratory wells and 18 observation wells.

[English]

Import of Crude Oil.

6427. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of crude oil proposed to be imported in 1994-95 and the estimated amount to be spent on import of crude oil during the year,

(b) whether the quantity of crude oil be imported and the amount to be spent thereon is estimated to be lesser in the current year and if so, the reason thereof;

(c) whether there is likelihood of a substantial savings on the import of crude oil in the current year; and

(d) if so, the extent thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) An Import of 24.230 MMT of crude oil of a value of about US \$2950 million for the year 1994-95 has been envisaged.

(b) Due to anticipated increase in the indigenous crude production of 32.51 MMT in 1994-95 as against 27.02 MMT in 1993-94, import will be about 24.230 MMT of crude oil during 1994-95 as against import of 30.820 MMT during 1993-94.

(c) and (d) : The increase/decrease in the import bill for the current year is depen-

dent on various factors like volume of indigenous production of crude, prevailing international prices of crude, prevailing exchange parity of dollar etc.

[Translation]

Shifting of ONGC Office

6428. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:
SHRI LAL BABU RAI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the office of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission situated at Patna has been shifted or proposed to be shifted to Assam;

(b) whether the decision of the Government in this regard has been opposed by various organisations in Patna; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Narmada Dam

6429. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY:
SHRI MANORANJAN
BHAKTA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages submerged and crops destroyed due to closure of the sluice gates of Narmada Dam; and

(b) the details of the assistance being provided by the Government to the affected villagers and farmers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) and (b) Four villages in Gujarat and only 7.75 hectares of agricultural land of five villages in Maharashtra are affected due to the pondage created as a result of closure of construction sluices of Sardar Sarovar Dam at elevation level 59 metres. The said land have been acquired and compensation paid/offered and the project affected families have been allotted residential plots and alternate agricultural lands in the relocation sites of Gujarat and Maharashtra as per their choice and, therefore, no assessment of the crops destroyed has been made. No hut in Maharashtra is coming under submergence due to closure of construction sluices.

Marketing of LPG

6430. SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SING:
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether marketing of LPG by private sector is likely to affect the Indian Oil Corporation in any way; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b) Entry of private sector agencies in the parallel marketing of LPG

is not likely to affect the business of Indian Oil Corporation except for a negligible impact on the sale of bulk LPG. Import and marketing of LPG under parallel marketing system have been envisaged to supplement the efforts of Public Sector Oil Companies to make LPG available to prospective customers early.

[English]

Coal Mines

6431. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH:
SHRI M. V. V. S. MURTHY:
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO:
SHRI S. B. SIDNAL:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided that seven coal mines of Coal India Limited (CIL) be handed over to the State Government/Private Sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether communication in this regard has been forwarded to the Government of Bihar;

(d) if so, the reaction of the State Government thereto;

(e) whether CIL has been incurring losses in several collieries under the Eastern Coal fields Limited and the Bharat Coking Coal Limited;

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

(g) the steps proposed to be taken to

prevent the losses ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) On a request received from Government of Bihar, the question of leasing of some closed mines to M/s. Bihar Sate Mineral Development Corporation or (BSMDC) has been considered and the Government has since accorded no objection to the leasing out of 14 closed mines in Bihar (9 in the command area of Central Coalfields Limited and 5 in the Command area of Eastern Coalfields Limited) to BSMDC.

(c) Yes, Sir. No objection of Government of India has been Communicated to Government of Bihar.

(d) A proposal for leasing Jagaldaga Colliery to BSMDC has been sent by Government of Bihar.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The details of losses incurred by ECL/BCCL during 1992-93 are as under:-

Company Losses (-) incurred during 1992-93 (before contribution from Coal Price regulation Account.)

ECL (-) Rs. 346.35 crores

BCCL (-) Rs. 337.30 crores

The main reasons for losses in these two coal companies are-

1. Economically workable mine reserves have either been exhausted or depleted in a number of mines.
2. Mine workings in old mines have become expensive with long transport and ventilation circuits,

thereby requiring engagement of manpower and equipment beyond economic limits.

3. Production has to be restricted in some mines because of statutory restrictions imposed due to overlying/adjointing waterlogged areas, fire and other safety measures.
4. The average size of the mines is small.
5. Most of the mines have adverse geo-mining conditions requiring stowing of sand in winning of coal.
6. Surplus manpower.

(g) Various steps proposed to be taken to prevent losses in these coal companies are as under:-

1. Closure of mines in a phased manner has been taken up to reduce the losses in respect of a few mines where economics cannot be improved to the desired level.
2. Reorganisation/amalgamation of some loss making mines into variable bigger units has been taken up.

[Translation]

IOC Achievements

6432. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased state:

(a) whether the Indian Oil Corporation

has made achievements in the various fields during 1993-94; and

(b) if so, the details thereof particularly about distribution of LPG ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b) Indian Oil Corporation has achieved progress in all areas of its operations during 1993-94. Some of the important achievements are indicated below:

During the year 1993-94, Indian Oil Corporation has achieved sale of 33.27 MT of petroleum products. 87 LPG distributorships, 127 Retail Outlet dealerships and 248 SKOLDO dealerships were commissioned during the period. Its six refineries achieved crude throughput of 24.745 MT.

With regard to LPG, 3 LPG Bottling Plants at Pune, Cochin and Pondicherry were commissioned. Bottling capacity of 4 Bottling Plants one each in Himachal Pradesh and Punjab and two in Uttar Pradesh was augmented. Its LPG Customers' strength rose from 97.1 lakhs to 104.6 lakhs. IOC's DBC customers' strength has gone up from 50.5 lakhs to 62.1 lakhs. Satisfactory supply of LPG to the consumers throughout the country was maintained.

[English]

Drilling Of Wells

6433. SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS BE PLEASED to state:

(a) the number of crude oil and natural gas wells drilled in the North-East during the last three years; and

(b) the number of test wells in newly explored areas like Mizoram, Nagaland foothills and Tripura which have proved to be gas bearing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) During the last three years (1991-92 to 1993-94) ONGC Ltd. and OIL have completed 251 wells in North Eastern region out of which 163 are oil and 7 are gas wells.

(b) Out of these areas only 4 explorer wells drilled in Tripura have proved to be gas bearing during this period.

LPG Cylinders

6434. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether complaints have been received from the consumers about the sale underweight cylinders by LPG agencies adulteration in petrol/diesel/kerosene during 1993-94, State-wise;

(b) if so, the details thereof and number of persons arrested and action taken against them; and

(c) the measures proposed to curb tampering of gas cylinders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) There are clearly laid down procedures to ensure correctness of weight of LPG cylinders at the bottling plants. All filled cylinders are provided with pilfer-proof seal. All LPG dealers are under instructions to ensure checking of each and every cylinder for correct weight prior to delivery to the customers' premises:

[Translation]

Coal India Ltd.

6435. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal India Limited has

a programme to raise resources;

(b) if so, the target set by CIL therefor; and

(c) the aims and objectives for raising resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA):

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) Planning Commission have allocated an outlay of Rs. 2062.90 crores for year 1994-95; out of above outlay Rs.1704.38 crores are internal and extra budgetary resources to be raised by Company.

The break-up of total plan outlay is given below:

<i>(Rs. in crores)</i>	
	<i>Amount</i>
1. Internal Resources	746.00
2. Bonds	500.00
3. Suppliers Credit	58.38
4. Others	400.00
Total IEBR	1704.38
Gross Budgetary Support from central plan (includes Rs. 147.00 crores as external aid routed through Budget.)	358.52
TOTAL OUTLAY	2062.90

(c) The aim of raising above resources is to meet requirement of Annual Plan 1994-95 for producing 223 M. T. of Raw Coal and for taking up new schemes for meeting Eighth Plan production targets

[English]

Outstanding Dues on Royalty

6436. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the

Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the dispute between the Government of West Bengal and BCCL and ECL over the payment of arrears of royalty has since been sorted out;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken to resolve the dispute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA):

(a) to (d). Coal India Limited have informed that while Eastern Coalfields Limited & Bharat Coking Coal Limited have been paying royalty dues to West Bengal Govt in time the cess dues to the State Government and the coal sale dues from the undertakings of State Government are being adjusted against each other on month to month basis between CIL and Govt. of West Bengal. These adjustments are to be formalised between the two parties. The cess levied by West Bengal Govt. is subjudice in the Supreme Court awaiting final hearing. Hence the said adjustment is without prejudice and subject to final decision of the court

Mental Patients

6437. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state; (a) whether several Government mental hospitals are facing great problems because mental patients are not taken back by the the family members even when they are certified fully cured:

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by The Government

to rehabilitate those patients without the help of family members in a proper social environment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) to (c) In Central Govt. Mental Hospitals only a small number of mental patients are not taken back by their family members. Assistance of local administration is taken to persuade concerned families to accept the patients. Some of the cured patients are also allowed the work in hospital till their discharge is arranged.

Chakma Refugees

6438. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT:
SHRIMATI BIBHU KUMARI DEVI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of occasion on which bilateral discussions have been held with Bangladesh on the issue of repatriation of Chakma refugees so far;

(b) the details and the outcome of round of negotiations regarding the future of Chakmas and qualitative change in their plight held recently;

(c) the number of Chakma refugees still living in camps in India awaiting repatriation to Bangladesh;

(d) whether addition financial burden is being borne by the Government due to such refugees; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) Several rounds of discussions have been held at various levels with Bangladesh on the issue of repatriation of Chakma refugees. Being Bangladesh nationals, it is primarily for the Government of Bangladesh to create a satisfactory conditions and persuade the Chakma refugees to return to their homeland. The role of Government of India has been to facilitate and repatriation process. On the request from the refugee leaders a meeting was arranged with the Bangladesh Authorities at Ramgarh, Bangladesh on 16-17 January 1994. After the discussions, the refugee leaders announced their decision to return. After the modalities were worked out, the repatriation process began on 15 February 1994 and upto 22 February 1994, 1854 refugees returned to their homeland. With a view to ascertain whether proper rehabilitation arrangements have been made by the Government of Bangladesh, Team of 11 refugee leaders accompanied by 3 officials from the State Government of Tripura visited Chittagong Hill Tracts area of Bangladesh from 25 April 1994 onwards.

(c) As per a recent report of the State Government of Tripura, 51,564 Chakma refugees are still living in camps in India. Another 3,146 refugees are living outside the camps.

(d) and (e) The financial burden of maintenance of Chakma refugees camps is being borne by the Government of India. Since 1986, a total of Rs. 53.01 crores has been released to the State Government of Tripura for this purpose including an amount of Rs. 8.50 crores during 1993-94.

Purchase of Medicines

6439 SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI: Will the

Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government Medical Stores/Depots are buying several crores worth of medicines every year without the advice of expert ayurvedic physicians which is mandatory;

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

(c) the value of Ayurvedic medicines purchased during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) and (b) Government Medical Store Depots by ayurvedic medicines as per the indents received from the indenting authorities. Government Medical Store Depots are not required to seek advice of Export Ayurvedic Physicians for procurement of such Ayurvedic Stores, as long as they are within the prescribed list.

(c) Expenditure incurred on purchase of Ayurvedi medicines during the last three years is as follows:

1991-92	Rs. 3.34 crores
1992-93	Rs. 2.33 crores
1993-94	Rs. 2.87 crores.

[*Translation*]

Production of Crude Oil

6440. SHRI NITISH KUMAR:
SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of crude oil under the oil and Natural Gas Commission has declined;

(b) if so, the extent thereof;

(c) whether the demand of petrol and other petroleum products in the country has been met out by importing these items;

(d) if so, the percentage of demand of the petrol, diesel, LPG and other petroleum products of country met out by importing these items;

(e) whether the prices of petroleum products on an average have remained less in the international during 1993-94 as com-

% age of imports to the consumption

<i>Products</i>	<i>1992-93</i>	<i>1993-94 (Prov.)</i>
LPG	11.4	13.4
SKO	40.3	42.5
HSD	29.3	29.1
LUBES	35.0	17.9
FO/LSMS	0.00	0.00
Others	2.7	0.3
Total	23.8	19.5

(e) The international prices of crude oil have shown a downward trend in 1993-94 as compared to 1992-93.

(f) and (g) The domestic prices are administered and are governed by consideration of subsidising the products used by the vulnerable sections of the society, pro-

pared to the past years;

(f) if so, whether the general consumer prices for these products was reduced within the country also; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b) The production of crude oil by ONGC declined from the level of 31.383 millions tonnes in 1989-90 to 24.215 million tonnes during the year 1993-94.

(c) and (d) While petrol is not imported. information about other product imports during the last two years is given below:-

moting the right inter-fuel substitution oil conservation.

[English]

Modernisation of Police

6441. PROF SAVITHRI

LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any funds has been allocated to Kerala for modernisation of State Police Force for 1994-95;

(b) if so, the amount released so far for such modernisation; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (c); Under the scheme of modernisation of State Police Forces, an amount of Rs. 113.99 lakhs has been allocated to the Government of Kerala for 1994-95. Funds under the scheme would be released to the State Government of Kerala when proposals for 1994-95 and utilisation certificates for funds released in the previous year are received.

Irrigation Projects

6442. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the irrigation projects of Assam pending with the Union Government for clearance along with their projected costs;

(b) since when these projects are pending and the reasons therefor;

(c) the time by which these projects are likely to be cleared;

(d) the projects cleared by the Union Government during the last three years along with their outlays; and

(e) the total fund allocated by the Union Government to Assam for irrigation during 1991-92, 1992-93, 1993-94 and likely to allocate for 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) to (c) A statement is enclosed.

(d) No new Major/Medium irrigation project has been approved by the planning Commission during the last three years. However, two revised medium irrigation projects namely Boralia and Barkikari have been approved by the Planning Commission during the same period at an estimated cost of Rs. 33.37 crores and Rs. 22.12 crores respectively.

(e) Funds allocated by the Planning Commission to Assam for Major and Medium irrigation projects during the years 1991-92, 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 and Rs. 39.43 crores, Rs. 38.00 crores, Rs. 27.00 crores and Rs. 25.65 crores respectively.

STATEMENT

(cost in Rs. crores/Benefits in thousand hectares)

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Estimated cost	Benefits	Date of receipt	Status
MAJOR PROJECTS :					
1.	Pagladiya Dam	337.60	54.16 (including flood control benefits)	2/93	State Government is required to company with the observation of appraising agencies on irrigation Planning, cost, foundation engineering, hydrology and hydro power.
MEDIUM PROJECTS :					
1.	Burisuti irrigation	31.36	11.50	9/92	State Government is required to company with the observations of appraising agencies.
2.	Garufella irrigation	36.59	16.56	10/92	State Government is required to company with the observations of appraising agencies.

NOTE : The clearance of the projects depends on how soon the State Government complies with the observations of the Appraising agencies and obtains environmental and forest clearance wherever required.

*{Translation}**[English]***Drilling And Exploration**

6443. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether drilling work was started to explore petroleum and natural gas at Dulipatti in Madhubani districts in the Raxaul of Champaran district in North Bihar and other places on Indo-Nepal border;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the drilling work at above places has been stopped and the office and drilling equipments are being shifted from Bihar to other places; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to restart the drilling work thereby stopping the shifting therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b) As on date, 6 wells viz. Ganauli-1, Kadmaha-1, Gandak-1 in East and West Champorau Madhuani-1 Raxaul-1 (at Dulipatti) in Dharbhanga and Purnea-1 in Purnea district have been drilled in Bihar without any commercial success.

(c) The drilling operations at well Kadmaha-1 have been completed and the rig has been transferred to Assam as per plan however, the ONGC Ltd's office at Patna has not been shifted.

(d) Seismic surveys are being continued in the area to locate structures which may merit exploratory drilling in future. Further drilling would depend on the result of those surveys

Marketing Plan

6444. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of implementation of marketing Plan for 1988-93 for Bihar as on 31st March 1994 in respect of petrol/diesel retail outlets;

(b) the targets for such outlets under the Plan, the number of dealers selected, the number of outlets commissioned and the dealerships still under consideration;

(c) whether the Marketing Plan has been extended with additional dealerships to cover 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(d) the composition of Oil Selection Board and the number of applications received for the outlets which were advertised but for which selection is still in process; and

(e) the procedure adopted by the Board for screening the applications as well as for making the final selection out of shortlisted applicants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS. (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b) 260 Retail Outlet locations for Bihar which includes 72 locations pending from previous marketing plans and 188 locations included in the marketing Plan 1988-93, are being processed by OSB (Bihar). No targets as such are fixed. By now, out of the above 77 R. O have been allocated by the OSB (Bihar) and 183 remain to be allotted. During the period 1988-93, 84 RO dealerships were commissioned in Bihar.

(c) Selections against marketing Plan 1988-93 are continuing. Marketing plan for 1993-94 and 1994-95 has yet not been prepared.

(d) OSB for Bihar is composed of Justice S.K. Hazari, Retd. High Court Judge as Chariman, and Dr. Faguni Ram, and Shri Shamin Hashmi as members. A large number of applications are being received for each location.

(e) Concerned oil companies after scrutiny of applicatons send themto the OSB. OSB issues call lettes to eligible persons. At the time of interview, the intere-evaluation of the candidates belonging to the specified category is made by Selection Boards taking into account mainly the following factors:

- i) Business Ability.
- ii) Salesmanship.
- iii) Capacity to provide the required facilities within the stipulated period.
- iv) Full time working dealer.
- (v) Extra curricular activities.
- (vi) Outstanding soportsmen/ sportswomen who have represented the country in international events
- VII) Capacity to arrange financel .
- VIII) General Assessment.

** This requirement will not apply to SC/ ST category dealerships/distributorships, as the oil companies themselves make all the investment.

[Translation]

Bifurcation of Big States

6445. SHRI SURENDRAPAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to bifurcate some of the big states;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps so far taken/being taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the time by which the Government are likely to take a final decision in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS; (SHRI P.M. SYEED): (a) to (d) The Government of India is presently not considering any reorganisation of existing set up the States.

[English]

Immunisation Programme for Polio

6446. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the various methods adopted and vaccine used as a part of immunisation programme with view to eradicate polio;

(b) the target date set for the eradication of polio, and

(c) the progress made so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY

WELFARE (DR C. SILVERA); (a) to (c) It is proposed to eradicate polomyelitis in the country by the end of decade by using oral Polio vaccine for routine immunization and for supplementary activities in high risk pockets. 6817 cases were reported in 1993 as compared to 28264 cases in 1987.

[*Translation*]

Infiltration and Smuggling in North-East

6447. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT:
SHRI SURENDRA PAL
PATHAK:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been constant increase in the incidents of infiltration and smuggling especially smuggling of narcotics by insurgents through the borders of the North-Eastern States;

(b) if so, the number of such cases reported during 1993 and 1994 so far;

(c) the number of persons arrested on the borders in this connection; and

(d) the effective measures taken to strengthen the security measures on the border and check such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) to (d) There have been reports of narco-terrorism related activities along the borders of the North Eastern States. 1164 infiltrators including smugglers were apprehended by the BSF in 1994 (upto 25 April) on the borders of the North Eastern States as against 1689 apprehended in 1993. Contraband including

narcotics worth Rs. 4.23 crores has been seized by the BSF upto 25 April 1994 as against seizures worth Rs. 10.14 crores in 1993. The enforcement agencies are vigilant against smuggling activities and infiltration. Close coordination is being maintained among all the concerned agencies in the detection and prevention of smuggling and infiltration. The other steps include strengthening of Border Security Force to reduce the gaps between the border outposts intensified partolling including in the riverine areas, erection of OP towers along the international border, and supply of night vision devices, binoculars etc. for better observation.

[*English*]

Alleged Harassment of Foreigners

6448. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints regarding harassment of foreigners by some Immigration Officers posted at various check-posts recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon;

(d) whether laxity on the part of concerned authorities has resulted in several criminals and other anti-social elements escaping freely from the Indira Gandhi international Airport in Delhi in the recent past;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken or proposed to be

taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c) Government have received some complaints regarding harassment of foreigners by some Immigration officers. On receipt of such complaints, a thorough inquiry is made and action is taken on the basis of inquiry report.

(d) No case of any criminal or any other anti-social element walking freely from IGIA New Delhi on account of laxity on the part of immigration authorities has come to the notice of the Government of India.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) A number of measures have been taken to prevent corruption which include introduction of surprise check by senior officers, rotation of staff and deployment of vigilance officers in the each shift.

Flood Control in Assam

6449. PROBINDEKA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total fund allocated by the Union Government to Assam for flood control during 1991-92, 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(b) whether the Government propose to provide additional fund to Assam for further effective implementation of flood control measures in the State, and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS-

TRY WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) (a) The total funds allocated by the Union Government under the Central Loan Assistance to Assam for flood control during 1991-92, 1992-93, and 1993-94 in crores of rupees are 20.00, 25.00 and 25.00 respectively. For the year 1994-95 an amount of Rs. 25.00 crore is envisaged for release.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Anti-Snake Venom

6450. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of anti-snake venom in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to make available adequate quantity of this venom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The capacity of present production is unable to meet an estimated 15,000 victims in the country. However, measures are being taken to increase production of anti-snake venom in the 8th plan period to save human lives.

[*Translation*]

Ground Water institute in Bihar

6451. SHRI PREM CHAND RAM: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state;

(a) Whether the Government of Bihar

has requested the Union Government for setting up a ground Water Institute in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Government of Bihar had offered 15 acres of land in Irrigation Research Institute Campus and 10 acres of land in Sabzpora Farm in Patna for the proposed institute.

(c) Beside the proposal received from the Government of Bihar locating the Institute at Patna, request were also received from the Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Union Territory of Chandigarh for setting up the Institute in the respective State/ Union territory. After due consideration of the matter, the government has decided to establish the Institute at Raipur, Madhya Pradesh.

Tihar Jail

6452. SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:
DR RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any

scheme to make Tihar Jail the first computerised jail in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which it is likely to be computerised;

(d) the objective of this scheme; and

(e) the estimated expenditure to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (c) Govt of National Capital Territory of Delhi have reported that they are taking steps to computerise records of Central Jail Tihar in three phases. In the first phase records of Jail No.1 shall be computerised. It will take about three months; time to complete the work.

(d) The scheme aims at computerising the information relating to jail inmates their conviction remission previous records, etc.

(e) The estimated cost of the whole project is around Rs. 16 lakhs.

[English]

Barak Division of C.W.C.

6453. SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Barak Division of Central Water Commission has been functioning from Guwahati;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to shift the Division from Guwahati to Silcher; and

(c) if so, the time by which it will be shifted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As part of the regionalisation programme of Central Water Commission it has been decided to have one Division Office of Central Water Commission at Guwahati instead of the existing two Divisions and to have 2 Divisions at Silchar instead of the one existing there. Orders to this effect have been issued on the 24.3.1994.

HIV Infection

6454. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to World Health Organisation (WHO) about 5-7 million Indians could be infected with HIV by the turn of century;

(b) whether India has the largest number of people infected with HIV in the world;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government are searching for a cure for controlling the disease; and

(e) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVARA): (a) to (c) Any estimation /projection of HIV infections is at best a guesstimate. No categorical

statement can be made in this respect.

(d) and (e); As of today, there is no cure. However treatment for opportunistic ailments is being provided through the public system. Simultaneously claims for cure are examined and evaluated by the special group set up by ICMR.

Ban on Sale of Khesari Dal

6455. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received representations to lift the ban on the sale of Khesari Dal;

(b) whether medical and nutritional experts have categorically stated that there is no harm in consuming Khesari Dal and the ban which was imposed on it should be withdrawn; and

(c) if so, the response of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR.C. SILVERA): (a) yes Sir.

(b) and (c) Based on the opinion of technical experts it was decided that the ban on sale of Kesari Dal should not be lifted.

Extension of Ban Period of LTTE

6456. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to extend the ban period of LTTE in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Tamil Nadu has forwarded to the Union Government the resolution adopted by the State Legislative Assembly seeking extension of ban period of LTTE for two more years recently;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a), (b) and (e) A proposal has been received from the the State Government in this regard. LTTE continues to be banned organisation till May 13, 1994. The Central Government would take decision regarding imposing a ban on LTTE for further period before expiry of the existing ban.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir. The Tamil Nadu State Legislative Assembly has resolved to request the Government of India to take all immediate legal steps to ensure that the LTTE is declared as Unlawful Association under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967, in the interest of sovereignty and territorial integrity of the nation, maintenance of internal security and prevention of spread of gun culture and violence.

[Translation]

LPG to Food Processing Industries

6457. SHRI PREM CHAND RAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are making LPG available to that Food Processing Industries;

(b) if so, the criteria laid down in this regard and

(c) the number of such units in Bihar to whom has connections have been sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b) LPG is released to Industrial Units including Food processing Industries on grounds of technical essentiality.

(c) No, Sir.

[English]

Visit of Indian Ambassador to J & K

6458. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH:
SHRI RAM VIALASPASWAN:
SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ambassador of India in USA recently visited Jammu and Kashmir to assess the situation in the State and the involvement of Pakistan in Kashmir affairs;

(b) if so, whether any report has been submitted to the Government by him;

(c) if so, the the details thereof; and

(d) the manner in which Government propose to move in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (d): The Indian Ambassador in USA visited Jammu & Kashmir on 9- 10 April, 1994, during the visit to

india, to familiarize himself and get an assessment about the situation in the State, including the continuing support from Pakistan to the terrorists in the State. No report has been submitted to the Government in this regard.

The Government is making sustained efforts to curb violence in the State and check infiltration from across the Border/LOC. Action is also being pursued at the international level through diplomatic and other channels to counter the propaganda and disinformation campaign launched by Pakistan in the respect of the State.

Pathology and Bacteriology Courses

6459. SHRI RAM PAL SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the degrees of combined Radiology, Pathology & Bacteriology given after 1974 has been recognised;

(b) If so, the exact date when the extension was given to the above recommendations under the MCI Act;

(c) whether the de-recognition has been incorporated in the act.

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) : Yes Sir.

(b) to (e) In 1971, the Medical Council of India had given instructions to all Medical Colleges and Post Graduate Medical Institutions to bifurcate M.D. (Radiology) into the separate degrees of M.D. (Radio-diagnosis) and M.D. (Radio Therapy) and also

M.D. (Pathology and Bacteriology) into separate degrees of M.D. (Pathology) and M.D. (Microbiology) and effect the bifurcation by 1974 and this change has been incorporated in the Regulation on Post Graduate Medical Education. In 1975, the Post Graduate Committee of Medical Council of India had reviewed the bifurcation issue and requested the medical Colleges to take immediate steps to bifurcate the degrees. Degrees recognised by Government are included in the Schedule to the IMC Act, 1956.

Activities of Bangladesh Intruders

6460. SHRIMATI BIBHU KUMARI DEVI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received reports that the Bangladesh intruders are resorting to desecration of the Indian National Flag and Encroaching upon India land in the border areas of Tripura;

(b) whether the Bangladesh Rifles is conniving with the intruders; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check such activities;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) to (c) Government are not aware of any such reports. Government are, however aware that a hole was caused in the Indian National Flag flying at the Indian checkpost at Muhurighat under Belonia SubDivision in South Tripura due to the firing by the Bangladesh Rifles on 27th November, 1993.

Various steps have been taken to deal with the problem of infiltration on which include, *inter alia*, intensification of patrolling by the Border Security Force; strengthening of the BSF Water Wing; programme of con-

struction of border roads and fencing; strengthening of Prevention of Infiltration (PIF)/Mobile Task Force (MTF) schemes; issue of identity cards to residents of identified border areas; computerisation of Visa Control systems etc. There are standing instructions to the State Governments and UT Administrations to detect and deport illegal migrants. The matter has also been taken up with the Government of Bangladesh on several occasions. An Indo-Bangladesh Joint Working Group has recently been set up to examine all outstanding matters and to recommend practical measures for resolving them.

Raids in J & K

6461. SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that some militants in Jammu and Kashmir are using the Army uniforms to carry out raids in valley and Doda districts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some mercenaries, especially Afghan mercenaries have also been inducted by them to carry out such raids; and

(d) if so, the measures being taken to apprehend these militants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (d) There have been some reports about the militants wearing military uniforms while indulging in terrorists activities in Jammu and Kashmir.

As for the mercenaries and foreign nationals, including Afghans, such elements have been infiltrated into the State from the across the border, to boost the morale of militants and to increase and upgrade and the level of violence.

Sustained vigil and pressure is being maintained on the LOC/Border as also in interior areas to prevent infiltration of terrorists, including foreign nationals, and to curb their activities.

Insurgency in Assam

6462. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:
SHRI MOHAN SINGH
(DEORIA):

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government of Assam has recently sent an SOS to the Union Government regarding the serious insurgency situation in the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) to (c) No Sir, only a request was received for retention of CRPF already deployed in the State for a period upto 21.5.94. The state has been provided with the presence of adequate paramilitary force.

[*Translation*]

Anti-Rabies Vaccines

6463. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHILIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of centres/institutions where anti-Rabies vaccines are produced;

(b) the actual demand and production of anti-Rabies vaccines during the last two years in the country;

(c) the number of deaths reported due

to the non-availability of these vaccines during the last two years in each State;

(d) whether the Government propose to set up new institutions for productions of anti-Rabies vaccines; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) and (b) According to information available there are 14 (Fourteen) centres/institutions in the country where anti-rabies vaccine (ARV) is produced. The production of ARV during 1991-92 and 1992 and 1992-93 was as follows:

1991-92.....397.32 lakh doses
1992-93.....374.55 lakh doses

(c) Reliable information is not available.

(d) No Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

Clashes in West Bengal

6464. DR. SUDHIR RAY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be please to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of clashes between the Border Security Force personnel and villagers in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the the number of such cases reported during 1992, 1993 and 1994 so far; and

(c) whether disciplinary action has been taken against those personnel who have been found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI

RAJESHPILOT):(a) Government are aware of some incidents in the border area in West Bengal wherein persons with vested interests have clashed with BSF patrol/naka parties when the latter tried to check/seize contraband goods/ cattle heads.

(b) The number of such incidents is as under:-

Year	No. of incidents
1992	28
1993	10
1994	06

(upto 15 Apr.)

(c) The allegations about excesses committed by BSF personnel are looked into expeditiously, and suitable action is taken against BSF personnel if they are found guilty.

Paistania Attempts to Send Trained Terrorists into India

6465. SHRI RAJNATH SONKER SHASTRI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Pakistani attempts to send arms, ammunition and trained terrorists/ infiltrators into India made and foiled, separately, during each of the last three years and the current years so far;

(b) the number of Pak-trained terrorists/ infiltrators killed, injured and arrested on borders during the above period;

(c) the number of civilians and security personnel killed and injured;

(d) the details of arms, ammunition and other materials seized, item-wise;

(e) the manner in which the Government propose to utilise such items;

(f) whether some of these terrorists/infiltrations succeeded in taking away some arms and ammunition from the security personnel; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (g): Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Coaching Classes

6466. SHRI B. DEVARAJAN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made arrangements of coaching centres to enable the SCs/STs and OBC students to compete for different competitive examinations, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU): (a) and (b) Under the Centrally Sponsored Coaching and Allied Schemes for SCs/DTs, Pre-examination Training Centres have been set up in various competitive examinations held by Union Public Service Commission, Staff Selection Commission, State Public Service Commission, Public Undertakings and other recruiting bodies. These pre-Examination Training Centres are run either by the State Governments or the Universities. Financial Assistance is provided to State Governments or the Universities. Financial assistance is provided to State Governments on matching basis (50:50) over and above the committed level of expenditure reached at the end of the previous plan. In case of Univer-

sities, grant in-aid is given on 100% basis provided infrastructure facilities like classrooms, hostel accommodation, library etc. are made available by the Universities. The work of coaching has also been entrusted to three private coaching institutes of repute on contract basis viz. Rau' IAS study Circle, New Delhi; Sachadeva New PT College, New Delhi and S. N. Das Gupta college, New Delhi. The Scheme has since been modified to include more pre-examination training centres including private coaching centres.

There is another scheme of Pre-Examination coaching for candidates belonging to weaker section with a focus on minorities and OBCs. This scheme is being implemented through national and state level professional coaching institutes having competence in the field.

Dowry Death Cases

6467. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be please to state:

(a) the number of cases of Dowry Death which led to prosecution, State-wise

(b) the number of cases which resulted in sentence; and

(c) the number of cases pending out of the above on December 31, 1993?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) to (c) the registration Investigation detection, prevention and prosecution of crimes in the courts is primarily the responsibility of State Government/ Union Territory Administration.

The disposal of Dowry Death cases by

the courts is not centrally compiled. However state-wise figures of dowry Death cases register during 1992 & 1993 are given in the enclosed statements.

The disposal of case registered under Dowry (Prohibition) Act during 1992 is also enclosed (Statement-II) . Similar figures for the year 1993 are not yet available.

STATEMENT-I

INCIDENCE OF DOWRY DEATH DURING 1992 & 1993 STATE & UT-WISE

Sl.No.	STATE/UT	1992	1993	REMARKS (Figs. of 1993 are upto the Month of)
1	2	3	4	5
STATES:				
1.	Andhra Pradesh	424	575	
2.	Arunchal Pradesh	1	0	
3.	Assam	11	9	August
4.	Bihar	170	336	
5.	Goa	1	2	
6.	Gurarat	123	63	September
7.	Haryana	209	166	
8.	Himachal Pradesh	18	18	
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	30	20	
10.	Karnataka	209	266	
11.	Kerala	18	10	

Sl.No.	STATE/UT	1992	1993	REMARKS (Figs. of 1993 are upto the Month of)
1	2	3	4	5
12.	Madhya Pradesh	353	370	
13.	Maharashtra	727	746	
14.	Manipur	0	0	
15.	Meghalaya	2	0	
16.	Mizoram	0	0	
17.	Nagaland	0	0	
18.	Orissa	152	209	
19.	Punjab	101	147	
20.	Rajasthan	250	271	August
21.	Sikkim	0	0	June
22.	Tamil Nadu	75	79	
23.	Tripura	3	5	

Sl.No.	STATE/UT	1992	1993	REMARKS (Figs. of 1993 are upto the Month of)
1	2	3	4	5
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1783	1952	
25	West Bengal	174	23	April
Union Territories				
26.	A & N Islands	0	0	
27.	Chadigarh	1	3	
28.	D & N Haveli	0	0	
29.	Daman & Diu	0	0	
30.	Delhi	121	107	
31.	Lakshdweep	0	0	
32.	Pondichery	6	0	

NOTE: 1. Figure are based on monthly crime statistics and may be treated as provisional.

2. Excluding May and November 1993 figures due to its non-availability.

DISPOSAL OF DOWRY PROHIBITION ACT CASES BY COURTS DURING 1992

SI.No.	STATES/UT	Total No of cases for trials including pending cases	4	5	No. of Cases		8	9	Percentage of conviction(out of trials completed)
					3	In which trials completed			
			Compounded or with drawn	Convicted	Acquitted or Discharged	Total {(5)+(6)}			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	145	3	14	35	49	93	28.5	
2.	Arunchal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	
3.	Assam	81	0	0	14	14	67	0	
4.	Bihar	1431	15	115	170	285	1131	40.3	
5.	Goa	1	0	0	0	0	1	-	
6.	Gujarat	6	0	1	1	2	4	50.0	
7.	Haryana	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	
8.	Himachal Pradesh	8	2	0	1	1	5	0	
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	7	0	0	0	0	7	-	
10.	Karnataka	933	35	8	141	149	749	5.3	

Sl.No.	STATES/UT	Total No of cases for trials including pending cases									No. of Cases			Percentage of conviction (out of trials completed)
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	In which trials completed		Pending trials	
											Compounded or with drawn	Convicted		
11.	Kerala		1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	-	
12.	Madhya Pradesh	420	1	51	20	71	348	71.8						
13.	Maharashtra	167	0	14	40	54	113	25.9						
14.	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	-						
15.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	-						
16.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	-						
17.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	-						
18.	Orissa	65	0	5	20	25	40	20.0						
19.	Punjab	2	0	0	0	0	2	-						
20.	Rajasthan	4	0	0	0	0	4	-						
21.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	-						
22.	Tamil Nadu	708	76	89	144	233	399	33.2						

SSI.No.	STATES/UT	Total No of cases for trials including pending cases			No. of Cases			Percentage of conviction (out of Trials completed)
		3	4	5	In which trials completed		8	
					Compounded or with drawn	Convicted		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
23.	Tripura	2	0	1	0	1	1	100.0
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1008	14	98	60	158	836	62.0
25.	West Bengal	104	0	8	21	29	75	27.5
26.	A & N Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
27.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
28.	D & N Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
29.	Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
30.	Delhi	21	0	0	0	0	21	-
31.	Lakshdweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
32.	Pondicherry	7	0	0	1	1	6	.0
Total (All -India)		5121	146	404	668	1072	3903	37.7

Source Crime In India Data.

NOTE:- Indicates that no case completed State/UT

SCS/ST Below Poverty Line

6468. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of programmes have been launched to ameliorate the condition of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to enable them to cross the poverty line;

(b) if so, whether the Government have observed that funds allocated for such programmes, including those given by the Central Government, are diverted by State Governments to other areas or find way into unintended channels;

(c) if so, the amounts so diverted during 1992-93 and 1993-94 State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken to prevent such diversion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU): (a) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Welfare has launched several schemes for the economic and educational development of Scheduled Castes in the form of Central and Centrally Sponsored Schemes. List of such schemes is placed at Annexure.

(b) to (d): There is no information available in this Ministry regarding diversion of funds allocated for developmental Programmes for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes given by the Central Governments to States. The State Governments were asked to give details in this regard. In response to our letters to States Governments/UT administrations, 13 States/UTS VIZ GOA, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal

pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tripura, Delhi, Daman & Diu, Meghalaya, A & N Islands, West Bengal and Lakshdweep have furnished 'NIL' information. If necessary, suitable instruction shall be issued to the State Governments.

Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes being implemented by the Government of India in the Ministry of Welfare for Socio-Economic Development of SCs/STs.

1. Post-matric Scholarships (Centrally Sponsored).
2. Government Scholarships to the Students for studies abroad (Non-Plan-Central).
3. Pre-Matric Scholarship (Centrally Sponsored).
4. Book-Banks (Centrally Sponsored)
5. Girls Hostels (Centrally sponsored).
6. Boys Hostels (Centrally Sponsored)
7. Coaching and Allied Schemes (pre-Examination Training) (Centrally Sponsored).
8. Assistance to Voluntary Organisations (Central)
9. Strengthening of Machinery for enforcement of protection of civil Rights Act, 1955 (Centrally Sponsored).
10. Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers (Central).
11. (a) Scheduled Caste Development Corporation (centrally Sponsored).

- (b) . National SC/ST Finance and Development Corporation (Central)
12. Research and Training (Central)
 13. Grant-In-Aid to Tribal Co-operatives Marketing Development Federation of India (Central).
 14. Price support to TRIFED (Central)
 15. Establishments of Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub Plan Area (Centrally Sponsored)
 16. Dimension TRIEED (Centrally).
 17. Development of Oil Seeds and Oil of Tree origin in Tribal Areas (Central)
 18. Special Central Assistance for Tribal Sub-Plan (Central)
 19. Special Central Assistance for Tribal Sub-Plan (Central)
 21. Educational complex in low literacy pockets for development of women literacy in tribal areas.
 22. Vocational Training in tribal areas.
 23. Grant-in-aid State Tribal Development Co-operative Corporations for minor forest produce.

matter which I feel needs to be mentioned in this house. You asked me to be brief and I shall endeavour to do so. I have no desire to apportion blame in any particular direction. But I would say that collectively we are all responsible, whether we are members of this House or of the State Assembly. The situation in Assam is grave, that, that is putting it very mildly. the amount of blood that has been shed in the state, the number of families which have been bereaved over the last many years has seldom been witnessed in this country before. All this has been done in the State, the number of families which have been bereaved over the last many years has seldom been witnessed in this country before. All this has been done in the name of bringing peace, ushering in peace into that region. I will not say more except this much that I would personally feel very strongly that each of the successive governments which have held office whether in Delhi or in Assam are jointly responsible for the situation today. A clear message from this Parliament needs to be sent to the people of Assam who have laid down their lives for the independence of this country in no small number. We all know it is fact of history that the last bit of Indian territory to full under the heel of British hegemony was Assam. There it was that the first labour movement was started by those people who were always and will always continue to be peace loving. No one in Assam or here condoned acts of terrorism. No right thinking individual, whether he belongs to Assam or elsewhere, can do so. But when we find that insufficient attention is being given to this so. malaise which is very deep rooted, something obviously has to be done.

12,00 hrs

[English]

SHRI PRATAP SINGH (BANA): Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to thank you for allowing me the mention a very important

My request to you very humbly is that it is about time that an all party group should be sent to make an extended, in-depth study of what is this particular problem which is ailing the psyche of Assam. Can something

be done remedy this? Can we meet the aspirations of younger generations who are coming forward/ Can we prevent them from being misused and mishandled by the various interests both within the country and elsewhere? With this request, I thank you once again for having permitted me to say a few words on this subject.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deroia): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of this House as well as the Government to a very serious problem. Due to the strike by the bank employees, banking services are likely to be badly affected. Various Unions of the bank employees and the officers have given notice for 3 days strike i.e. on 5th, 11th and 14th May. Due to one day's strike by the bank employees Rs. 15 crore is lost in terms of wages and transactions to the tune of Rs. 6500 crores is affected. I am sorry to say that the Government is neither serious towards the problems of bank employees and officers nor ready to come to an understanding with them for finding a solution to this problem. About 10 lakh bank employees and their unions are sticking to their problems with the Government. The recruitment process is affected due to autonomy and computerisation, and on the other hand the strength of employees is being reduced. The Government of India is putting hurdles in giving employment to educated people in the banking sector. However, on the other hand, foreign banks are being allowed to open their branches indiscreetly in the India and private sector banks are being extended facilities for their smooth functioning. As a result of which that only the business of the nationalised banks but also their social responsibility, after nationalisation of these banks is adversely affected. The future of the unemployed and poor people of this country who used to run

their business by the getting loan from these banks, is in the dark. Therefore, request the Union Government to take concrete steps to improve the banking services immediately and to initiate a dialogue with Union of bank employees and officers to find out a solution to their problems.

[*English*]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): Sir, the Fertilizer Promotion and Agricultural Research Division of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited is doing an excellent work towards educating the farmers for more than two decades in the Assam, Bihar, Orissa, MP, UP and West Bengal in the matter of efficient and scientific agricultural practices as also use-efficiency of fertilizer and implementing various government sponsored/foreign aided projects with acclamation from reputed national and international agencies with a back up support of well-knit infrastructure together with expertise of foreign trained scientists and technologists is going to be would up despite the assurances from the hon. Minister, Shri Eduardo Faleiro- the Minister is here- though it can be allowed to continue the activities by:

- (1) Putting it under the direct control of Department of Fertilizer as a separate wing for execution of various Government sponsored and foreign aided agricultural extension and rural development projects;
- (2) the ongoing ODA Rainfed Farming Project should be allowed to continue with FP & ARD by stalling the move of transferring the same to KRIBHCO.
- (3). release of unspent sum of Rs. 55

crores to FP 7 ARD, which was sanctioned by the ODA for implementation of IBFEP by FP & ARD alone from 1981 to March 1983, for ensuring activities in the Eastern Region as per the recommendation fo JPC on the pricing of Fertilizer.

4. In view of decontrol of phosphate and potash, the utilization of expertise of FP & ARD personnel is all lthe more necessary as per the recommendation of the Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizer in its third report for increasing the use-efficiency of fertilsers amongst the small and marginal farmers as also to bring down the present dangerous imbalance.....

MR. SPEAKER: May I say that it should not go on record?

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: No Sir. I am coming to the very important aspect of this.

.....imbalance ratio of use of fertilizer from 15:4:1 to 4:2:1, which otherwise will prove grave not only for soil fertility but also for the foodgrain production in the coming years. Sir, the Minister is here; I will request him to do something.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALERIO): Sir, I did not now that; I have no previous notice of this. But I just want to clarify a couple of things. No assurance was given by me or by the government that this programme would be continued I emphasise continued be-

yond the term of the programme because the programme had come to an end. This is number one. The second point is that this programme, as the hon. Member rightly pointed out, has been done under the auspices of OCA of foreign collaboration or foreign assistance. All the I can say is, to find out ways and means of seeing that the foreign collaboration or assistance which is there, is continued. If it is not there, it will not be possible for us continue in that share; whatever we can do, we will surely do.

[Translation]

ANADI CHARAN DAS (Jajpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, a Chinese company is setting up a mini steel Plant in my State Orissa. This plant is being set up in the private sector. Apart from the land holders there are some tribals which are landless and also there are about eight thousand families in this area, who have yet not be given any right in that plant. In this connection we have even written to the Human Rights Commission. These people were not given any compensation for their land covered in that plant and now they are being harassed by the forcibly dispalcing them from their land. If these people are not given land for making homes and employment to earn their livelihood, how would they survive? I have come to know that the government have already received the cost of their land at the rate of the rupees one lakh per acre but it is being said that the owners of that land will be given the value of their lands only at the rate of rupees thirty five thousand per acre. The company has encroached upon more forest land than it was actually allotted. Therefore I through you, would like to request that the Union Government should issue some necessary directives in this regard.

SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA(Junagarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I,

through you, would like to draw the attention of the Government to the inconvenience being caused to our fishermen during fishing. When our fishermen go for fishing, the Pakistani Coast Guard apprehend them and in this process they have apprehended 18 boats along with 110 fishermen. In this connection, I had also met the hon. Home Minister and he had assured that the Government would do something in this regard. If Pakistani fishermen violate our territory, they are apprehended by Indian Coast Guards. So far 9 fishing boats along with 109 Pakistani fishermen have been apprehended by our Coast Guards. Now, the Government of Pakistan says that they will release or fishermen and boats only after their fishermen and boats are released by India.

I request the hon. Home Minister that he should take decision at the earliest in this regard and make arrangements for bringing our fishermen back to India. Now, the rainy season is to start, which will add more water in the sea. Further, due to cyclone they would not be able to come back to India. As our fishermen are in trouble and are passing through in tense mental tension, the Government must take some action without further delay.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Bombay South-Central); Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to raise the issue of privilege Motion.

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot do so like this. You should give notice in advance.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given notice.

MR. SPEAKER: I have not received the notice so far. You can raise it tomorrow with my prior permission.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: It is alright,

Sir, I will raise this issue tomorrow.

SHRI SIMON MANANDI (Rajmahal); Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Union Government towards the situation in Malipara Panchayat, an advasi dominated area, in Littipara division in Sahibganj district under Santhal Pargana Commissionery. In this area, the houses of 8-10 bastis have been ruined due to heavy hailstorm and rain. As a result, the people are facing great difficulties. However, no relief work has been started in this area so far. Therefore, I request the Government that special assistance may be provided to initiate relief operations there.

[English]

KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE (Calcutta South); Sir, the non-banking finance investment companies, especially the Chit Fund Companies, are running their business in this country. In my State itself, they have collected more than Rs.1000 crore from the poor people, like the rickshaw pullers, the villagers and the common man. These poor people have deposited money in these Chit Fund Companies. After 10-15 years when the payment is due they are refusing to give the money to the members. These companies are looting the people like anything. I request the Government to intervene in the matter so that these companies may not loot the poor people. The Government should restrict the activities of such companies. The Government should take some stringent measures in this regard so that the money of the poor people is protected. This is a very serious matter and I humbly request you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, to direct the Minister to look into the matter properly and make a statement in this regard.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): Sir, this is a very serious matter.

MR SPEAKER: You should have asked a question so that you could get a clear cut reply also.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune): Shri Anna Hazare, an eminent social worker who has already returned.....

MR. SPEAKER: You should raise a matter which has something to do with the Central Government. We have State legislatures everywhere to go into such matters. But, Members are always interested in raising such matters in the House. If I allow one member concerning the State then I will have to allow everybody and then you will be unhappy.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Sir, he has already returned the Padmashri award and now he is going to return the Padma Bhushan award also to the Government.

Secondly, Sir, a multi-crore corruption case is there against 19 officers out of which 6 officers are from the Indian Foreign Service. That is why, Sir, I wanted to make an appeal to you.

MR. SPEAKER: All these matters are amenable to questions. You can put them in question form and can get the exact reply.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: He is on an indefinite fast since 1st May, and if no action is taken against these corrupt officers before 5th of May, that is today, he is going to return the Padma Bhushan award to the Central Government. There are so many other eminent social workers who have also joined Shri Anna Hazare in his indefinite fast. Therefore, Sir, I appeal that Government should take action and make a statement in the house.

MR. SPEAKER: I think we had been putting questions but not getting the replies. Fortunately, today we are getting the reply

to all these questions. Yesterday I had asked the Minister of Civil Aviation to make a statement on the flights in the North-Eastern region and the Minister is ready with the statement. I would not ask the Minister to make a statement.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Sir, he should also tell about the Bhubaneswar flight.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Jena, please do not complicate the matter. We have cliched the issue of North-Eastern region. Let him make the statement.

12.19 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Vayudoot Operations In North-East

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM: GHULAB NABI AZAD: Hon'ble Speaker Sir and Members

A decision was taken on 26th of March, 1994 that Vayudoot will concentrate on operations in the North Eastern Region with the all the 4 serviceable aircraft. It was further decided that two aircraft will be based at Calcutta and two at Guwahati.

The operations were proposed to commence with 3 Dornier schedule with effect from 11th April, 1994. The fourth aircraft was required to serve as back up. It was decided to airlink thirteen stations.

Only two Dornier aircrafts are operational at present. The third and fourth aircraft could not be made operational for the following reasons:-

1. Vayudoot had only two Instrument Engineers. While one has left employment, the other one had to

proceed on leave due to serious condition of his mother.

2. General unrest prevailing in the company and the ongoing hunger strike by one of the employees.

The Instrument Engineer has now returned from leave and the hunger strike has been called off with effect from 2nd May, 1994.

The work on the third aircraft has been resumed and it is expected to be ready for operations within a period of two weeks. With the joining of third aircraft, Vayudoot will be operate to the following stations.:

1. Calcutta
2. Cooch Behar
3. Bagdogra
4. Agartala
5. Shillong
6. Aizwal
7. Guwahati
8. Silchar
9. Dimapur
10. Lilabari
11. Dibrugarh
12. Tezo
13. Ziro

The private operators on becoming scheduled operators will also operate their flights in North-Eastern region. The entire North-East operations will be reviewed and rationalised thereafter.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is good Statement. But, yesterday, it was very visible to us that the Members wanted that the services in the North-Eastern region either by Vayudoot or by private operators should be continued so that the people coming from those areas should not suffer. I am sure that the Minister is quite capable of seeing that is done. I hope that would be done.

SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR (Durg): I am really thankful that he has provided good services in the North-East. But, Sir, the most important thing is that the Jabalpur is totally cut off. There is no flight at all for Jabalpur. Most probably he has forgotten. (*Interruption*)

MR. SPEAKER: Vaydoot was started for the entire North-Eastern Region.

SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR: He should take care of Jabalpur also.

MR SPEAKER: I think the House was very clear on this point. The People who come from that area also were very much agitated on this point. I am sure the Government will take note of it.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Yes.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR (Khargone): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards the agitation being launched against construction of proposed railway line between Dhulia and Bombay in Maharashtra and between Manmad and Indore in Khargone district of Madhaya Pradesh. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: It is only two days before the discussion was held on Railway Budget.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You please take your seat.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDING (Kishanganj): Mr, Speaker, Sir, I rise to draw your attention and to that of the Government to the confirmed report from authoritative sources that China is likely to carry out two underground nuclear tests within this year.

MR. SPEAKER: No, please. You have the knowledge of all those things. I would request you that such matters should not be raised without collecting authentic information. You please collect authentic information and meet me and then tomorrow, if you convince me, you will raise it. Please sit down.

SHRI SIVAJI PATNAIK (BHUBANESWAR): Sir, about ten lakh weavers and fifty-thousand yarn is not supplied to them and the price of yarn has gone up. During the last six months, the price of yarn has risen up to the something like 90 per cent or 100 per cent. Along with it, the sales organisations are also collapsing. In such a situation all these spinning mills are going to be sold. So, not only weavers but also the powerloom workers are facing a serious situations.

Out of about 5000 powerlooms, 2000 are in the cooperative sector. All of them have been closed down. In the private sector also, some powerlooms have been closed down. As a result 50,000 workers are thrown out of job. These powerlooms require something like 3000 lakh tonnes of yarn, which is not given to them. So, on other hand, these powerlooms workers are facing starvation. Some of them have already committed a suicide. That has come in the paper.

They are in a very serious situation when the yarn is not supplied to them. The

yarn is not supplied to them because the spinning mills which produce the yarn is have also seen closed down. So I would urge the Central Government to intervene in the matter and see that the yarn supplied to them at cheaper rate. The other incentives which were withdrawn during this period should also be restored to them.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the problems of the rural areas of my constituency. The Government has adopted a policy that every Panchayat would be linked with a post office and a telephone exchange.

In this connection, we have written several letters to the authorities at local level for opening the post offices and telephone exchange at the Panchayat level in the villages of remote areas but no action has been taken so far in this regard by the local authorities.

My submission to the Government through you is that post offices and telephone exchanges have not been set up in many rural areas of Patna Parliamentary constituency and the people are facing lot of difficulties. The post offices and telephone exchanges should be set up there...

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA (Ferozabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards my Parliamentary Constituency, Ferozabad.

Ferozabad is a unique city. Recently Ferozabad has also been included in the Taj Trapezium. My submission is that, I along with many other MPs had urged the Government to lay gas pipeline from Oraiya, and we had also met the hon. Prime Minister

in this regard but till date no need has been paid to it. At least 15 thousands labourers are working there and they are going to be jobless as a result thereof.

55 percent people out of those who work on kerosene and coal, fall victim to the deadly disease T.B. My submission to the Government through you is that a gas pipeline should be laid from Oraiya Agra connecting Tuglakabad and Firozabad. This would not only help in promoting industries in the area but also save the labourers from falling victims to the deadly disease of T.B.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI (Jhansi): Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister of Agriculture through you towards the irregularities in procurement of wheat as the farmers are being cheated in the name of providing remunerative price to them for their produce.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Agriculture would give the statement on it.

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: The farmers are being cheated they are cheated by brokers and middlemen.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Sir, molasses is a major ingredient of the animal fodder. The day, the molasses was decontrolled, its price shot up from foreign countries is unable to produce milk since the animal fodder is not available.

MR. SPEAKER: Is it related to milk products or animal fodder.

DR. LAXMINARAYANA PANDEYA: Arrangements should be made for the availability of molasses so that they can get

animal fodder. The Prices have shot up due to decontrol and export, therefore the import of molasses should be balanced.

12.31 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Notification Under Essential Commodities Act, 1995.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Notification No. S.O. 635 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th August, 1993 making certain amendments to the Notification No. S.O 2464 dated the 24th July, 1967 under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1995 together with a corrigendum thereto (in Hindi version only) published in Notification No. S.O. 901 (E) dated the 25th November, 1993. [placed in library see No. LT 5841/ 94.]

Annual report and review on the working of repatriates co-operative Finance and Development Bank Limited, Madras, for 1992-93 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M SAYEED): Sir , I beg to lay:

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Repatriates Co-operative Finance and Development Bank Limited, Madras, for the year 1992-93, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Repatriates Co-operative Finance and Development Bank Limited, Madras, for the year 1992-93.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [placed in Library, see LT - 5842 / 94].

Notification under Prevention of food Adulteration Act 1954 and Annul Accounts of act National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur, for 1991-92, etc.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAM SINGH GHATOWAR):
I beg to lay:

- (1) A copy the prevention of Food Adulteration (Third Amendment) Rules, 1991 (Hindi and English Versions) published in Notification No. G. S. R. 124(E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th March, 1991 under sub-section (2) of section 23 of the Prevention of the Food Adulteration Act. 1954 together with a corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. G. S. R. 255(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd May, 1991.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [placed in Jaipur, see No LT, 5843/94]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur, for the year 1991-92.
- (ii) A copy of the Annul Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur, for the year 1991-92, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur, for the year 1991-92.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reason for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.
- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute, Calcutta, for the year 1991-93.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute, Calcutta, for the year 1992-93, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of Review (Hindi and English version) by the Government on the working of the Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute, Calcutta, for the year 1992-93.

[Shri Singh Ghatowar]

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reason for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.[placed in library. see No LT 5845/94]

- (7) (i) A copy of Annual Report (Hindi and English version) of the Central Council of Homeopathy, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of Review (Hindi and English version) by the Government on the working of the Central Council of Homeopathy, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93.

- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.[Placed in library see NO LT 5846/94]

- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the International Institute of Population Sciences, Bombay, for the year 1992-93, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of Review (Hindi and English version) by the Government on the working of the International Institute for Population Sciences, Bombay, for the year 1992-93.

- (10) Statement (Hindi and English

versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above. [Placed in library see No LT 5847/94]

12.31hrs

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

Thirteenth Report

[English]

SHRI P. G. NARAYANAN (GOBICHETTIPALAYAM): I beg to present the thirteenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the on Committee on Petitions.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

12.32 hrs.

[English]

PRICE POLICY FOR RAW JUTE
FOR 1994-95 SEASON

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): The Government of India has fixed the minimum Support Price (MSF) for TD-5 grade of raw jute in Assam for 1994-95 season at Rs. 470 per quintal. This marks an increase of Rs. 20 per quintal over the price fixed for the 1993-94 season. The corresponding Minimum Support Prices of other varieties and grades of raw jute shall be fixed by the Jute Commissioner of India, Ministry of Textiles, in the light of the normal market price differentials.

The Jute Corporation of India (JCI) will undertake price support operations in raw jute as and when required. Adequate funds

will be provided in time to JCI to perform its functions efficiently.

The increase in Minimum Support Price is expected to encourage the farmers to invest more in jute cultivation and raise the production/productivity of raw jute.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There is no statement on the Statement by the Minsiter. No questions, please.

*(Interruptions) **

MR. SPEAKER: This is not going on record.

12.34 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) ***Need to have a Halt at Gulabpura in District Bhilwara, Rajasthan for Meenakshi Express Playing between Jaipur and Secunderabad.***

SHRI SHIV CHARAN MATHUR (BHILWARA): Gulabpura - a fast growing industrial town of District Bhilwara (Rajasthan) falls on the Ajmer-Khandwa meter gauge line of the Western Railway. In the past, when this town was only a village panchayat, all the fast trains used to stop at Vijay Nagar Station, which is on the other side of river between Gulabpura and Vijaynagar. Vijaynagar was halting point for all fast trains in the past because it was a watering station, but, after introduction of diesel engines there was no necessity of

water required for the engines. Over a period of last 20 years Gulabpura has developed into a fast growing industrial town. About 3 large size textiles mills, few hundred powerlooms, engineering units and above all famous lead zinc Agucha Mines have come in Gulabpura. The population of this town has now increased three-fold from 10,000 to 35,000 and the passengers from this town have to go to distant stations of Ratlam, Indore and Khandwa very frequently. This point was referred by me in the meeting with the General Manager, Western Railway in the past and looking to the importance of Gulabpura station, it was decided that Meenakshi Express (Jaipur to Secundrabad) will be stopping both ways at Gulabpura station. It is regretted that this decision has not so far been implemented which has given rise to discontentment among the people of this area.

I would, therefore, request the Government to ask the Railway Board to arrange for a halt of the Meenakshi Express at Gulabpura station both ways.

[Translation]

- (ii) ***Need to provide more Financial Assistance to State Government of Rajasthan to cope with acute Drinking Water Problem in Adivasi Dominated Areas of Rajasthan.***

SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA (Salumbar): Sir, the drought relief works are not adequate in Rajasthan. I have returned from my constituency only today. The number of labourers engaged on in drought relief work is negligible. The drought relief works have not been started in many panchayats.

12.35 hours.

(MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*)•

The drought situation is much severe in the Adivasi areas. My submission to the Centre Government is that the State Government should be given more grant as special assistance and the State Government should be asked to increase the number of the workers in the Adivasi areas. The drought relief work should be started in the panchayats, where they are going for name-sake and more labourers should be deployed. There is a severe problem of drinking water so more and more hand pumps should be installed. Likewise, in each panchayat headquarters the fodder depots for animals should be opened. The wages of the labourers should be increased to stop their migration from Rajasthan.

(iii) *Need to set up a Heavy Industry at Saharsa in Bihar*

SHRI SURYANARAYAN YADAV (Saharsa) : Sir, Saharsa and Sapaul districts in Northern Bihar are the most backward districts. Though Saharsa is in commissioner area the Central Government has not set up any industry here, till date and as a result both the Saharsa and Sapaul districts have not made any progress. Besides the educated persons from this area have to go to other districts and other States in search of employment.

Therefore, my submission to the Centre Government is that a heavy industry should be set up in Saharsa so that the poor may not have to run for jobs elsewhere and this district can make all around development.

(iv) *Need for construction of an overbridge Across Railway Line at Mandi Samiti Sthal in Pilibhit, Uttar Pradesh.*

DR. P.R. GANGWAR (Pilibhit) : Sir, my constituency, Pilibhit (Uttar Pradesh) is badly affected by terrorism. There are six sugar mills, some oil extracting mills and many rice mills. Thousands of trucks and bullock carts pass from here every day. Being a forest area, there are lot of trucks carrying timber throughout the day. Moreover, as the Nepal border is close to this area the military movement is continuous.

There are two main railway tracks. One is from Lucknow to Bareilly and the other is Lucknow to Nainital and there are two branch railway lines from Pilibhit to Tanakpur and Pilibhit to Shahajahanpur. 24 trains run on main lines and 20 trains run on branch lines. Apart from that a number of goods train run here round the clock. Most of the trains run in day time while during that period there is lot of road traffic. The railway crossing on the main road (which connects Delhi, Lucknow, Nainital, Bareilly, Moradabad, Tanakpur and Shahajahanpur) remains closed for a considerable period in the day. The long queue and motorcars result in heavy traffic jam. The people have to face lot of problems. My submission to the Government is that an overbridge across the railway line at Mandi Samiti Sthal at Pilibhit should be constructed at the earliest to solve the difficulties of the people of the area.

[*English*]

(v) *Need to clear the Proposal of the Government of Rajasthan for Delcaration for certain State Roads as National Highways*

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE

(JHALAWAR): Rajasthan is the second largest State in the country having an area of 3,34,239 sq. kms whereas the total length of National Highways in that State is only 2,891 kms. When the national average of National Highways is 9.43, the average length of National Highways in the State of Rajasthan is 1,000 sq. kms. In view of the geographical location of Rajasthan, it is very necessary to declare some important State roads as National Highways.

The Government of Rajasthan has submitted a proposal before the Government to declare some State roads passing through Rajasthan as National Highways. Some of these important roads, include Bikaner-Merta-Ajmer-Bhilwara-Chittorgarh-Raillam-Indore connecting National Highways Nos. 15 and 3, the length of which is 507 kms, which may be declared as National Highways. Similarly the road between Gurgaon and Shivpuri via Alwar, Sariska, Dausa and Sawai Madhopur, the road between Koshi and Dholpur via Kama, Deog, Bharatpur, Roopwas and Sapau may be considered for inclusion as National Highways during the Eighth Plan period.

The above State roads are very important. The declaration of these roads as National Highways will go a long way in development of the State. As these are some of the long pending demands of the State, I urge the Central Government to consider these demands without any further delay.

(vi) Need for Requisite Financial and other Assistance to Acharya Harihar Regional Centre for Cancer Research and Treatment Society of Orissa

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY

(PURI): Acharya Harihar Regional Centre for Cancer Research and Treatment Society of Orissa is one of the ten Regional Cancer Centres approved by the Government of India. The institution is at present having hundred and 30 bedded hospital exclusively meant for cancer patients with well trained faculty consisting of specialists from different oncological disciplines. There are facilities for higher education in related disciplines. The Society is also actively engaged in the preventive aspects with regular imparting of cancer education and organisation of detection camps.

This Centre caters to the need of about 35 million people covering the whole of Orissa, as well as neighbouring areas of adjoining States viz West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh. Hence, this institution needs further improvement *vis-a-vis* the infrastructural facilities for better treatment and research. Besides there is also an upward trend in the incidence of cancer in Orissa.

The meagre amount received as grant in aid from the State Government of Orissa is hardly sufficient to meet the requisite expenses. The State Government have agreed to allocate more thirty acres of land for its improvement. A request has also been made by the State Government to the Union Government, for provision of one time grant of rupees sixty crore for its overall development.

I urge upon the Government of India for allocation of the required fund and provision of the necessary assistance for the development of the institution.

(vii) Need to include Jahanabad District, Bihar under intensive employment scheme

[*Translation*]

Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh (Jahanabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, some districts of Bihar have been included under the intensive employment scheme by the Central Government under the new developmental scheme but Jahanabad district, which is sensitive and affected by terrorism has been excluded from it while the main district, Gaya, has been included in it.

Therefore, my submission to the Government is that Jahanabad district should be included under the intensive employment scheme and special developmental fund should be disbursed on this most sensitive district to curb terrorism so that the youth are not allowed to terrorism and mass killings could be stopped.

(viii) Need to Ensure full Central Assistance the Post Matric Scholarships to SC/ST Students for Kerala State

[*English*]

PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN (MUKUNDAPURAM): I wish to draw the attention of the Government towards inadequate Central assistance for the post matric scholarships for SC/ST students. Though this scheme is called a one hundred percent Centrally sponsored scheme, the Kerala State gets only a small portion of the total expenditure as Central assistance. This is because of the fact that the level of expenditure under the scheme reached by the end of the Seventh Plan is treated as the committed liability of the State Government. The expenditure over and above the level reached

by the terminal year of the VII Plan (1989-90) is only given as Central assistance. As such, the Kerala State Government is spending a good amount under this scheme.

The scholarship paid under the scheme constitute a new expenditure every year, in that the beneficiaries (students) are either new or studying for a new course. As such any committed expenditure does not seem to arise under the scheme. In view of the above, I urge upon the Government of India to ensure full Central assistance for post matric scholarships to SC/ST students for Kerala State.

12.44 hrs.

FINANCE BILL 1994- CONTD.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now we shall take up item no. 8 - Finance Bill. The time allotted for this item is ten hours. The consumed time is 3 hours and 55 minutes. The balance time is six hours and five minutes. Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee was on his legs. He may continue his speech now. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI AMAL DATTA (DIAMOND HARBOUR): Sir, the Finance Minister is not present in the House. How can Mr. Chatterjee start his speech?

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (BARRACKPORE): Sir, how can he speak in the absence of the Finance Minister? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI AMAL DATTA: Sir, how can he speak? There is neither the Minister of Finance nor the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and there is nobody. This can not be tolerated.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): Where are they?

SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURI (SERAMPORE): Let the Finance Minister come to the House.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: Sir, you adjourn the house till the Finance Minister comes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee continue his speech and the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs will note down the points.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: Sir, Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee will not speak. You adjourn the House till the Finance Minister comes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, the hon. Finance Minister has come to the House.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (DUMDUM): Sir, as they say, better late than never. That can be one of the things of my concluding statement also.

Firstly, I should express my grateful thanks to you for calling me so early in the day.

When we discuss the Finance Bill, we try to evaluate it as a part of the Government of India's receipt budget which itself is a part of the Government's collections at the Centre. Naturally, that also is a part of the entire economy. Now, we try, therefore, to assess this Finance Bill, how it handles the problems of the economy, what the content of the Finance Bill is and what is the style that is there in the Finance Bill. Now, before this, the House should be reminded of that even without the Finance Bill, already there has been a collection of Rs. 4300 crores through

administrative prices under the Railway Budget. Now, we are at the third stage of the discussion.

Now, it is the third stage and not the final stage. Towards the end of the financial year, there will appear the fourth stage -- Supplementary Demands for Grants. In between there will be plenty of half stage and quarter stages in terms of notification and also raising administered prices. There will be perhaps the final stage at the next year or even after that in terms of excess spending by the Government of India which has to be approved by the Public Accounts Committee and finally approved by the House.

Through all these, I must begin by saying that this Finance Bill makes me feel very sad because this is the reflection of what should not have happened but has happened. From a competent man there is a complete loss of grip over the economy. And the consequence of any loss of grip is fully reflected in the budget proposals in terms of heroic assumptions being made, in terms of claims which are daily becoming taller and which are disapproved the next day.

But, Sir, this is personal - a competent person having fallen among Congressmen.

AN HON. MEMBER: Among the hungry wolves.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: The country will not look at his task in terms of the facts, the country will look at it as an expression of something very dangerous, something very irresponsible from a person whom they considered very responsible in other fields of life.

The present Finance Minister's starting trouble is with the Revised Estimates. I

[Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee]

made a mention of this while speaking on the General Budget. It is expected that revised estimates should be the starting point of what is anticipated in the next year. In fact, I have the suspicion that has been the reverse. The policy decisions, wherever they come from, the approach, whenever it may have fallen, is decided first and the Revised Estimates come as a conclusion that this should, therefore, be fixed as the starting point. What justifies the statement of mine? I have three sets of paper relating to three years of his budgetting and the Revised Estimates. The Actuals never been any resemblance with the Revised Estimates. This is true for all the years that he has been presenting the budget, excepting the initial one, for which his responsibility, of course, is partly and not wholly, I shall illustrate this. In 1991-92, the Actuals of Revenue Receipts were less than the Revised Estimates, the Capital Receipts were less than the Revised Estimates and obviously the total receipts were less than the Revised Estimates. For 1992-93, the situation is fantastic. Revenue Receipts are less even than the Budget proposals. After the CAG presents its report about the Excess Demands, they may comment on this also. What the Actuals will be, we do not know. This is true for tax revenue, this is true for non-tax revenue, this is true for Capital Receipts, and, therefore, this is true for total receipts. For each of these items, the Actuals are less than the Revised Estimates presented earlier. This year's Revised Estimates present a fantastic picture. For 1993-94, the Budget Estimate for corporation tax was Rs. 10,500 crore. Imagine the precision of the Finance Ministry officials, the Revised Estimate is exactly Rs.10,500 crore

In the income-tax the Budget Estimate is Rs.9,500 crore and the Revised Estimate

is exactly Rs.9,500 crore. It is the Budget Estimate and the Revised Estimate. What does not dispute yet is that the actuals will be none of them. That is what the record shows: nothing else. I am basing on record. The Budget Estimate for the interest tax is Rs.900 crore and the Revised Estimate for it is Rs.900 crore. (*Interruptions*) The Revised Estimates have been doctored to suit certain assumptions and certain proposals for 1994-95 Budget. These cannot be trusted.

Sir, it is not merely that. It does not end there. The end is, the proposals of the revenue expected in 1994-95 are on the basis of these Revised Estimates. We all know that in the course of the Budget proposals the Finance Minister has sacrificed certain revenues. That is there in the Budget speech. Now take that into account - the level was Revised Estimate. You deduct it from what he was sacrificed according to his own statement. I will give you the figures.

On the customs duty, he has sacrificed Rs.2,282 crore from the Revised Estimate of Rs.22,500 crore. He says he will collect Rs.25,200 crore in the year 1994-95. Can you imagine what the jump it implies? It is a jump of 25 percent in export which will permit him to collect this amount. Let us know the other figures. On the direct taxes he has postulated a Revised Estimate of Rs.10,500 crore and according to his Budget Estimate he has sacrificed Rs.1,375 crore. He proposes to collect a revenue just 37 percent higher, in the course of the year. And he says he does not take into account these adjustments. I talked about the corporation tax. He is expecting a growth rate in the corporate activity of the level of 37 percent. If these are not heroic assumptions, I do not know what these are.

In the income-tax sacrifices Rs.1,075

crore. He has postulated a growth rate which is whopping 30 percent. In the expenditure tax he has sacrificed Rs.95 crore out of a Revised Estimate of Rs.190 crore. That is, he has collected only Rs.95 crore and he expects after his concessions, to collect Rs.210 crore, a whopping 150 percent rise for this year. (*Interruptions*) Sir, the Finance Minister is smiling. He is a hero. He is entitled to search heroic assumptions. On the excise duty and customs duty he has become a bundle of contradictions. He answered Shri Vajpayeeji in a different context.

13.00 hrs.

"Why are you not seeing that we are having an almost even balance of trade, zero balance of trade?" And here he postulates a growth of 25 percent in customs duties. His export assessment is, he has achieved a lot on the first 11 months in the last financial year which was 20 percent. He was very happy to say that the imports have not increased. It is obvious. Of course, we know that no sooner he makes a claim the facts disprove him and in the month of March already imports have grown to a fantastic proportion to belie his statement of a zero balance of trade deficit. This is the kind of situation that he has landed himself in and he wants the country to be guided by him in his downfall:

Sir, I have said that the projections are impossible which only means that the revenue collections will not be that much. If the customs duty has to go back, our balance of trade will pose a problem for him.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Sir, let us adjourn for Lunch because he will take some more time.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (PUNE): Sir, you

are allowing him to speak for more time and you will ask us to wind up in 10 minutes.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I do not make any discrimination. I am really impartial. But Mr. Anna Joshi's eyes are always on me.

Mr. Chatterjee, kindly complete it within five minutes.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, he has a thesis also behind his case that if you lower the rate, you get a higher collection. And we shall discover that even that has not happened. As he has lowered the taxes, his Budget Estimate was higher for customs duty collection and he is postulating a lower collection after reducing the customs duty. That is true for direct taxes also. He has made a claim, "Why do you not see that the proportion of direct taxes to indirect taxes have grown up?" This is another indication of a superficial view of the situation. The fact is, he is giving the 1993-94 figure. For direct taxes he has refused to change, but he has lowered the estimate for customs duties and excise duties. It is that relationship which has permitted him to see that direct taxes stand a higher proportion in his total tax collection.

Sir, I will come to other superficialities now. If you want to adjourn the House for Lunch I am prepared for that.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I want you to close your speech. The time remaining for you is five minutes.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: That is what I cannot do. I will take some more time, with your permission.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Kindly conclude. Many of the friends have raised objection because for them, only five minutes are given.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: I can promise a simple thing. I will not take more time than what I require.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You are capable enough to find a way out. Why don't you conclude within two minutes?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: He says, what he is trying to do is to simplify, to rationalise and to introduce common classification and hence he is eliminating some exemptions. He is trying to fix a single rate for all kinds of people and commodities. He is trying to eliminate the differentiation in all classifications. The *modus of perandi* is simple. He knows, what it means. I can make an assumption. In order to prevent evasion of tax, he postulates: lower number of slabs, it is the better. Just imagine for income-tax, if he suggests only one rate, will it be simplest of all? What will happen? What will happen is, the entire progressivity which he also recognises as a feature of direct tax is lost. By reducing this slab, what he is really doing is this. One function of the Finance Bill is to generate, to support the tendencies towards equity. That he is taking away in the name of simplification. His indirect taxes are also of similar nature. He will not distinguish within the same segments, different kinds of commodities. Supposing it is soap, for higher quality of soap, those who are priced higher will be clubbed in terms of lower quality of soaps used by the people who are poor and produced at the poor segments. He says, he has given concession. This concession is also defective because only hand made soap is given but small scale sector is not included.

In fact, this is my criticism that the economic stratification within the country which is there is not fully recognised by the Finance Minister. He lumps up everybody. That is the simplification! He puts every-

body, the multinationals operating here, very big rich, very poor, below the poverty line segment who do not pay direct taxes. (*Interruptions*)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: There are double standards. But the performance is very poor.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: I cannot match your expertise on the Finance Bill.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Whom can you match?

SHRI AMAL DATTA: I think a conspiracy is going on.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: I have mentioned three commodities.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM (SALEM): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, while this is being said about multinationals, what one would like to know and what the House would like to know is whether in the State of West Bengal, is it true or not that there are joint ventures by multinational companies with West Bengal public sector companies.

Secondly, whether the West Bengal Government is using multinational organisations like MCKenize to do surveys.

We would like to have a clarification on these points. You cannot have a statement made on the floor of the House on behalf of a particular Party when a different standard is being adopted in their own State. We must know the position.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: He is right to put a question since he has not understood what I am saying. I am noting

that such stratification exists. Right now I am on the Finance Department. I am not on the entry of multinationals. You have to have in your mind the economic stratification of the country and if the Finance Department has any objective, one is that according to such stratification, you have to handle your proposals so that you hurt the rich more than you hurt at the bottom. That is what I am proposing. I am not talking whether Shri Jyoti Bosu has succeeded despite Kumari Mamata Banerjee saying something about multinationals in West Bengal. My point is you handle them differently. What I am trying to say is simple. In the soap sector, we have reduced excise duties on very high priced soaps. We are now under pressure. We recognised that elections are coming. So, hand-made soaps could not be taxed. But in between there is a big range. What happens to that? Do they require any differential? He has made the statement that where the rates were high, they should be brought down and where there is no duty or no rate, they should be brought up. Why? It is for simplification. In the entire tradition of our excise duties, we know that excise duties, indirect taxes, hurt. It is regressive in its nature. We are, therefore, trying to distinguish even within that indirect tax within that excise sector, that if there are luxury commodities, let them be taxed at a high rate. If certain goods come from multinationals, let them be taxed at a higher rate. If certain things come from the tiny sector, exclude them. If it comes from the small-scale sector, have a reduced rate.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM: This is exactly what we are doing.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: It has not been done. You read the Finance Minister's speech.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have taken half-an-hour.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: I will try to conclude quickly. I mentioned two other items.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have taken half-an-hour. The understanding is to give you 15 minutes.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: He says he has simplified. Exemptions are being eliminated. I just want to put this question. What kind of exemptions has he eliminated? He has eliminated exemptions on the tiny sector and the small-scale sector. He has not eliminated a different kind of exemptions.

A few years ago, I put a question like this: How many profit-making large companies are there which are in the zero tax group? Shri Kumaramangalam should be knowing it and he should be with me. No Corporation Tax is paid. During Shri Pranab Mukherjee's time, he imposed this tax. After repeated pressure in the Consultative Committee meeting by saying that if there is a profit, no matter which kind of concessions are permitted, at least 30 percent tax has to be paid. That has been removed. Exemptions are there. The exemptions lead to the high-income-earning sector not paying any tax at all. He has not recommended that. I am in full sympathy that there should be exemptions for the backward regions, for research, for the small-scale and tiny sectors and for savings. In our Income-tax Act and other Acts, there are full of other kinds of exemptions. One is illustrated by the fact that the high-income-earning units do not pay tax. Then, there are the Charities and Trusts. There is no word about them. Not a single word has been said about the tax

[Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee]

exemption. Why should the charitable institutions be induced with the help of tax concessions? It is entirely unnecessary. For the earthquake fund, it is not necessary to induce me with tax concessions. On my own, I shall be giving. There are Trusts which are even non-charitable. Nothing has been done to them. He says it is simplification, rationalisation.

SHRI MURLI DEORA (BOMBAY SOUTH): In your constituency, there are so many charitable institutions. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: So, he has given a go-by to the equity principle that should be there.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee, kindly excuse me. The same concession cannot be extended to every Member.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: I mention about re-rolling. The custom duties have been changed.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You have to speak within the time allotted to your political party. You have taken more than half an hour. If somebody is to raise an objection, the Chair will be put to a very embarrassing situation.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: You have been indulgent to me. I have absolutely no difficulty in accept that. I know, you are capable of being more indulgent, I will conclude. Coming to my point, there are twelve claims. He says that there is a huge food stock. That should be an asset. Only superficiality is indicated by the fact that this food stock is based on a lower per capital

availability of food grains in our country. That does not strike.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH): What about the food production figures of West Bengal?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: I am not discussing West Bengal. Please excuse me. West Bengal's food production has increased. Sir, he knows about it. He says that a huge foreign exchange build up is there. Even the Standing Committee on Finance headed by one of his partymen had to comment that it is not only the size but also the quality and the composition of that build up should also be noted.

He talked about this. I was prophesying about it. Whenever he was speaking on the Budget, he was making claims by saying that prices have gone upto eight percent. I said, "You cannot contain it below the two digit figure." Now when we are discussing the Finance Bill, the tail-less of the claim is exploded. About the balance of trade, here is a paper which says, there was a rise of 61 percent in March import for 1994-95. But you will verify all these claims which you are making are against others. I am prepared to make that assumption that these are the strong points. Despite all this, if that be so, what should he have done? If we have a build up foreign exchange resources, if I have a huge food stock, if the prices are contained, if there is a balance of trade, what should he have done? He should have provided growth incentives. In our country growth is provided by three factors, three areas, three segments either from the small-scale sector or from the latest technology, maybe imported from abroad and by savings. We are frequently told about China, Russia and others. China had this to say, "take back your capital because that is not associated with the latest technology." For-

unately, they do not have Dr. Singh as the Finance Minister. Therefore, they can say this. We are not imposing that high technology condition. We are not encouraging the small-scale sector as they should be encouraged because they are the fastest growing sectors. It is the small-scale sector and the Budget, which, despite claims, do not provide any incentives to growth. (*Interruptions*)

We have a Finance Minister who is in a hurry. I do not believe he knows that. What I have said is unknown to him. He knows it more than I do. Why then is this hurry? He is in a hurry and it has been noted in the Public Accounts Committee Report on disinvestment of shares. This is the other way, I forgot to mention. And the other area from where growth is possible is through the public sector enterprises. He has not done anything for that either excepting referring some of them to BIFR. I will not mention what causes this hurry. I have a paper from the International Monetary Fund. It has a country-wide comment on exactly what he utters here, what he postulates here. It is contained in their suggestion to Nepal. The suggestion is: "by invigorating private sector participation in economic activity of Nepal." This is a suggestion. The suggestion is that, in order to keep the public sector debt within prudent limits and ensure that private savings is not pre-empted by the public sector. It has been further said that by keeping the current account deficit to about ten percent of GDP and reducing the scope and enhancing the efficiency of the public sector. That is their recommendation on Nepal. Most Government monopolies have already been eliminated. This is what their recommendation is on Nepal. They talk about Russia to take the lessons. Yes, Sir, we do take lessons. IMF is trying misguide Russia also. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If every hon.

Member were to insist in this fashion, where does the Chair stand?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATARJEE: I will end with a couplet. Here is a man in a hurry. The reason I have indicated is the pressures that are there. As we all know; "Woods are lovely and deep. There are promises to keep and miles to go." They have to hurry. There is a "but" and that is IMF, World Bank and GATT.

With these words I conclude.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nirmalji, you have taken 40 minutes. My point is cooperation from the Members is also necessary.

The House stands adjourned for lunch to reassemble at 2.25 p.m.

13.26 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Twenty-Five Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

14.31 hrs.

The Lok Sabha reassembled after Lunch at Thirty-One Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

(MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

FINANCE BILL, 1994-CONTD.

[*English*]

PROF. K. VENKATAGIRI GOWDA (BANGALORE SOUTH): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to speak on the Finance Bill, Bill No. 15 of 1994. The Finance Bill is a tangled web of law and finance. It is a highly complex and complicated legal document which staggers the comprehension of ordinary mortals like me.

I went through it for nearly ten hours. I

[Prof. K. Venkatagiri Gowda]

can't say with confidence that I have attained a degree of mystery over it. It contains many new enactments and many amendments of the old enactments in keeping with the changing fiscal scene in the country.

In the last week of April, the IMF published a document called "The World Economic Outlook." In this document, the IMF had made reference to two troubling features. They are fiscal deficit and rising rate of inflation. Fiscal deficit which should have been 4.7 percent last year actually turned out to be 7.3 percent. It is now fixed at 6 percent of GDP. Why did the deficit rise so much? There are several reasons for this. In the first place, the Finance Minister reduced the customs duty and excise duty. There are reasons for this also. He thought that reduction of these duties would cause a reduced level of prices and bring down the rate of inflation. Furthermore, he thought that this would increase the tax yield also. Here he was guided by what is called the Laffer Curve Analysis. Prof. Arthur Laffer, the Professor of Economics in the University of Los Angeles, drew a two-dimensional diagram. He drew two axis - vertical and horizontal. The vertical axis represented the tax rate and the horizontal axis represents the tax yield. He drew a downward sloping curve. As the tax rate rises, the tax yield falls and as the tax rate falls, the tax yield rises. But unfortunately, this did not turn out to be correct. The reduction in the customs duty led to a decline in customs duty revenue by Rs. 5,000 crore. The reduction in excise duty led to decline in excise duty revenue by Rs. 3,000 crore. At the same time, there was a rise in Government expenditure of the order of Rs. 12,500 crore. This led to a fiscal deficit of 7.3 percent and I cannot blame the Finance Minister for this. At the same time,

there was also a change in the method of financing the deficit. The Finance Minister, this year, has shifted from monetary financing to debt financing. There are two kinds of financing - monitoring financing and debt financing. Both are inflationary. But the latest fiscal theorists say that the debt financing is more inflationary than monetary financing.

When the Government wants to finance the budget deficit, it advises the Reserve Bank of India to print the notes of the magnitude. When the supply of money expands, the prices is in accordance with the Classical Quantum Theory of money. It rises just once.

In the case of debt financing, the Government borrows money and spends it: it has to pay interest on the debt. The interest payment is an item of non-plan expenditure which adds to fiscal deficit. The interest is to be paid everywhere, fiscal deficit widens every year, creating inflation every year. The Finance Minister is very well aware of it. But he has got his own reasons for shifting from Monetary financing to debt financing of it.

There is another factor. The Reserve Bank of India has no control over the rate of interest. The deficitate is raised or lowered without consulting the Reserve Bank and the lending rate is also raised or lowered without consulting the Reserve Bank. It is creature of the Government and specifically the Finance Ministry. I call it a creature of the Finance Ministry for this reason.

In 1945, the Labour Government under Clement Attlee came to power at that time, the British economy was war shattered. The Government needed colossal sum of money to revive the economy. They concluded the Anglo-American Loan Agree-

ment and opted for hefty loan from America. Even this was not sufficient to revive the economy. The balance of payment was in a state of crisis. Imports were surging; export was slung gish and balance of payment gap was widening. In 1948, Sir, Hugh Dalton resigned as Chancellor of the Exchequer and was succeeded by Sir Stafford Cripps. The Government wanted to devalue Sterling in an attempt to remedy. The balance of payments deficit. The Government convinced a meeting of the treasury officials and the Bank of England officials. The Treasury team was led by Sir Stafford Cripps and the Bank of England team was led by its Governor, Sir, Henry Cabbold. The Treasury team made out a strong case for devaluing the Sterling but the Bank of England team vehemently opposed it. The issue remained unresolved. Two more meetings were held and the teams stuck to their guns. In the final meeting, the Chancellor of the Exchequer told the Governor of the Bank of England, "You are my creature; you have to obey me." The Governor said, "I will obey you, Sir, but against my will." In this sense the Reserve Bank continues to be the creature of the Government or the Finance Ministry on 18.9.1949 sterling was devalued by 30% on 19.9.1949. the Rupee was devalued by 30%.

Harward University economist has conductive research into the relation between the Central Bank autonom and inflation rate; he has come to a conclusion that the autonomy of the Central Bank and the inflation rate vary inversely. Now in countries where the Central Banks are autonomous, the inflation rate is very low; conversely, in the countries, where the Central Banks are not autonomous, the inflation rate is very high. Bundes Bank of West Germany and the National Bank of Switzerland and the Federal Reserve system of America enjoy a high degree of autonomy;

in these countries the rate of inflation is very low. On the other hand, the Bank of Italy, the Bank of Spain, the Bank of Philaippines, the Bank of New Zealand and the Bank of Indonesia do not enjoy any autonomy at all. In these countries, the inflation rate is very high. In India, the Reserve Bank of India, which is the creature of the Government does not enjoy any autonomy at all. Therefore, we find a high rate of inflation in India. I want the Government of India to amend the Reserve Bank of India Act to confer on it autonomy subject to parliamentary control. This will be helping the country to experience a lower rate of inflation.

The Finance Minister had fixed an exemption limit at Rs.30,000 when the inflation rate was just 7 percent this year, the inflation rate is 10.62 percent. Therefore, the exemption limit should have been fixed atleast Rs.45,000. The Finance Minister should take into account the inflationary factor while fixing the income tax exemption limit. The corporation tax was reduced from 51.5 percent to 40 percent. Just before the Budget, I made a deep study of the corporation tax rates in Malaya, Singapore, Taiwan and Korea where the corporation tax rate was just 40 percent. These economies are growing very fast. I, in my memorandum to the Finance Minister, requested him to reduce the corporation tax rates to 40 percent. Convinced of my case for reduction of corporation tax, he reduced it to 40 percent. I am very happy about it. The reduction of corporation tax rate will enable the Corporation to accumulate internal resources so necessary for modernisation, expansion and technological upgradation. At the same time, the depreciation allowances should be granted on the basis of replacement cost of machines, not only on the basis of historical costs.

The service sector was not significant a

[Prof. K. Venkatagiri Gowda]

decade ago, but, now it is growing by leaps and bounds and is contributing significantly to GNP. The Finance Minister is more than right in imposing service tax so that this growing sector may contribute to the Government offers. At the same time, he has also reduced the excise duty and customs duty in the hope that the manufacturers would reduce the prices of final products.

Last year, even though these duties were reduced, the manufacturers did not pass them on the consumers in the form of lower prices. The Finance Minister administered a warning to them that unless they pass on to the consumers in the form of lower prices the concession would be withdrawn, but the manufacturers remained unyielding. The Government now feels helpless in the matter. The Finance Ministry officials say that the amendment to the Customs and Excise Duty Act will not help the matter, it is necessary to pass a stringent legislation to make the manufacturers to pass the benefit of the lower duty on to the consumers in the form of lower prices. If they do not do it, they should be subjected to condemn punishment.

But the duty concessions were not passed on to the consumers in the form of lower prices. The Finance Ministry has pleaded its helplessness, it says:

"There is no mechanism to control the manufacturers. We cannot bring them into the legal net and they made them pass them on to the consumers from higher prices".

But this is an excise defeatism. The Government should pass suitable legislation to bring the manufacturers to book who are recalcitrant and give them suitable punishment so that they may pass on lower tax rate to the consumers in the form of

lower prices and help the country in experiencing lower rate of inflation.

Gift tax is very low in the country. In India, almost every bureaucrat, every politician is corrupt. They have accumulated a large amount of black money and black assets. Gifts are made out of this black money and black assets. Therefore, gift tax should be very stiff, its rate should be raised so that Government may acquire a part of the black money into its offers.

Many Members of this House pleaded for concessions to small-scale sector. The Finance Minister was kind enough yesterday to announce several concessions and these concessions, no doubt, will help the small-scale sector to grow faster. They are labour intensive, generate employment and therefore, concessions are necessary. But the Members are not satisfied, they want some more concessions. But they do not understand the predicament of the Finance Minister who has to reduce the fiscal deficit.

The paper mills in the country are in doldrums. The price of the imported paper is Rs.19,000 per tonne, whereas the price of local paper is Rs.22,000 per tonne. This is because the Finance Minister has imposed the tax on bagasse which is a raw material used in the manufacture of papers. Therefore, I request him to eliminate or reduce tax on bagasse so that the paper industry in the country may face foreign competition.

The HMT is there in Bangalore. It is in doldrums. The watch factory is a wing of the HMT and it has accumulated watches worth Rs.70 crore without demand. There is a rumour that this will be referred to BIFR and if its referred to BIFR, we do not know what happens to the HMT. I request the Finance Minister to extend assistance of the order of Rs.200 crores to enable it to revive it back to

pink health.

During the last year when the inflation rate fell to 7 percent the Finance Minister reduced the deposit rate to 10 percent to take into account the inflation factor but this year the inflation rate is 10.62. Therefore, it is necessary to raise the deposit rate to take into account the inflation factor.

The financial sector reform is yet to be implemented in full. The Narsimham Committee gave its report nearly three years ago. It is yet to be implemented. The bank employees are on strike now. Obviously the Government does not want to incur the displeasure of the bank employees. It is necessary to implement the financial sector reform as early as possible. At the same time, there seems to be delay and there is delay in implementing the EXIT policy.

In 1991 the Government announced a new industrial policy and also made exit policy a part of it. According to this the sick and unviable units should be closed down. That means the labourers who are unemployed will be retained and re-employed. There is a national renewal fund for their safety also but even then exit policy is yet to be implemented. I want the Government of India to implement the financial sector reform and the exit policy.

The Finance Bill does not envisage many of these things. Therefore, I request the Finance Minister to have a look at these problems and to implement them as early as possible in order to make the economy grow faster without any inflation.

[*Translation*]

*SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (PALAKKAD): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Finance Bill. First of all, I

must thank the Hon. Finance Minister that the concessions which he has announced after the presentation of the budget. However, on this occasion, I must say that the prices of the essential commodities have risen steeply resulting in increase in the rate of inflation. This is a matter of serious concern. Inflation rate has gone beyond 10 %. This does not indicate a good trend. I would request the Finance Minister to take effective steps to control the prices.

The money taxation proposals in this year's Budget have gone against the interests of small scale industries as well as small-scale farmers. I will give you some examples. The Excise Duty exemptions given on spare parts of power tillers has been withdrawn. Power tillers are used by small farmers. As a result of this measure the price of power tillers has gone up by Rs.6,000. How can a small farmer buy power tiller at such a high price? I, therefore, request you to continue to give duty exemption to power tillers. Similarly, there was subsidy given to power tillers under the IPRD scheme introduced in 1984-85. This subsidy was meant to raise the peddy production but this has been withdrawn in this year's Budget. On the one hand, we say that the farmers should raise agricultural production but we are withdrawing every concession already enjoyed by the farmers. This is not a wise step. Therefore, I would request the Finance Minister to restore this subsidy on power tillers.

I take this occasion to thank the Finance Minister for withdrawing excise duty increase on umbrellas, hand made soaps and chappals. This measure will certainly help the small-scale sector in Kerala. I would request the Finance Minister on this occasion to be most sympathetic to the problems of the small-scale industries.

The festival season is approaching and

* Translation of the speech originally delivered in Malayalam.

[Shri V.S. Vijayaraghavan]

the price of sugar is sky-rocketting in Kerala. Sugar is sellings at Rs.15/- a kilo in our State. The main reason is that the Government has reduced the quantity of sugar being released from the Central buffer stock for sale in the open market. Hoarding is also another reason for this steep increase in the price. In April, the Government released 5.41 lakh tonnes of sugar for the open market sale. Whereas in the month of May, the total quantity that has been released is only 4.7 lakh tonnes. The sugar imported under Open General Licence (OGL) has not reached the market in substantial quantities. I would, therefore, request the Government to directly import sugar and release it in the market. Similarly, stringent action should be taken against the hoarders.

The price of fertilizers have gone up steeply recently. For example, the price of Factom Farce was 5600 which has gone up to Rs.6,600 per tonne from today. Another fertiliser namely 171717 Complex has also become costlier. Its price has been raised to Rs.7000 a tonne. This is a very serious matter affecting the interests of the farmers. We must know that the opposition parties are carrying on a campaign against GATT Agreement which has created serious apprehensions in the minds of the farmers' community. I know that the Government has not increased the prices. But the fertilizers companies have indiscriminately raised the prices of these fertilizers. This step will only reinforce the apprehension in the minds of the farmers about the GATT Agreement. These fertilizers companies whether they are in the public sector or private sector should not be allowed to increase the prices as and when they like. I would strongly demand on this occasion that those companies which have raised the prices of fertilizers should be prosecuted for doing such a

thing. I am expressing the agony of the farming community which is the hardest hit because of this steep increase in the prices of fertilizers. The farmers use to get a subsidy of Rs.435 per tonne which was suspended for some time and later revised. But due to this increase in the prices, the farmers did not get the benefit of this subsidy. I would request the Finance Minister to pay serious attention to this and ask these companies to withdraw the increase in the price.

Sir, Kerala's economy depends on coconut. In fact, the State derives its name from the word KERA which means coconut. The coconut.

The coconut prices have come down in the recent past. Of course, the Government has fixed a support price but it is very inadequate. For 1994 season, the support price fixed for milling Copra is Rs. 2350 and for Ball Copra is Rs. 2575. This price is quite inadequate considering the increase in the cost of production. I would therefore request the Government that a higher support price may be fixed for Copra.

Now, I come to another important issue regarding river water agreement between Kerala and Tamil Nadu. The Parambikulam-Aliyar Water Sharing Agreement was entered into between Kerala and Tamil Nadu for sharing the water of Parambikulam. This agreement expired in 1988. But the Government of Tamil Nadu did not show any interest in renewing this agreement. There are some rivers in Palakkad district such as Cahalakudipuzha, Chitturpuzha and Bharatapuzha which get water from Parambikulam-Aliyar. Because of the unhelpful attitude of the Tamil Nadu Government we did not get any water from this system and these rivers remain dry. During rainy season when there is a lot of excess water in this system, they just open the Sluic

and release the excess water and cause flood in these rivers. Otherwise we did not get water when it is needed. The Government of Kerala has demanded that the entire control over the Parambikulam-Aliyar Project should be handed over to it. I want the Central Government to intervene in the matter and help Kerala to get its rightful share of the water and also renew the agreement. Finally, I must once again thank the Finance Minister for all the concessions that he has announced. But at the same time, I have expressed the problems of the farmers. They are an innocent lot. They produce food for the country. So they should not be put to any hardship. Once again, I would request the Government to withdraw the increased prices of fertilizers. These companies have raised the prices just to show profit and thus pleased the Government. They distribute bonus and so on. But in this process it is the poor farmer which is hit hard. Therefore the Hon. Finance Minister should pay serious attention to this problem and reduce the burden of the farmers. With these words, I once again support the Finance Bill.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (PALI):
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank the hon. Minister of Finance for announcing concessions for small scale industries like Umbrella and handkerchief manufacturers, iron and steel and others like soap producers yesterday and on 25th. Even though these concessions may be symbolic one, yet the hon. Minister of Finance has at least appreciated the difficulties and agony being faced by the small scale industries.

14.55hrs.

(SHRIMATI SANTOSH CHOWDHARY *in the Chair*)

Despite these symbolic concessions the difficulties being faced by the country's small scale industries, cottage industries and tiny industries have not been mitigated.

I would like to submit to the hon. Minister of Finance that the main reason for it is that this time tiny units branded goods excise scheme has been introduced which is against their interest. Nearly, 7,500 household units being run in small houses by the families of poor will suffer. These units used to manufacture electric switches, "chappal" for sale to Bata etc. However, the hon. Finance Minister thought that immediately after the budgetary announcements, overnight these units will switch over to producing the products bearing their own brand name and will sell them independently through advertising after removing their faults etc.

I would like to submit that this action is totally unimaginable. The Government should have enforced these measures after five years of announcement. In the mean time the units selling their products under different brand names would have been able to get their own brand names registered and would have become able to sell their products too. However, in the face of the Dunkel proposals all this is being done. Deadliness of the Dunkel proposals could be gauged from the fact that overnight these pushed tiny industrial units into the throes of becoming independent units. Thereby, these units have reached the brink of disaster and economy has been pushed into dire straits. As a result, 7,500 units have already been closed under the liberalisation policy, which in fact is the policy of credit, as is mentioned in the note of Departments of Finance and Commerce contained in the Annual Pre-Budget Economic Survey. I call it the policy of liberalisation, as the policy of credit be-

[Shri Guman Mal Lodha]

cause since Dr. Manmohan Singh took charge, the country is borrowing Rs.70,000 crore annually on the promise of development and growth. This means every hour the country is being burdened by borrowing Rs.8 crore by Dr. Manmohan Singh from the World Bank, IMF or any other institution. Each year the country is paying Rs.50,000 crore as interest.

15.00 hrs.

I would like to submit that three years ago when Dr. Manmohan Singh took charge of Finance Ministry the country had the outstanding debt of Rs.4,52,000 crore, but under the policy of liberalisation or the policy of credit, it has now increased to Rs.6,62,000 crore. As a gift to every new born child Dr. Singh is burdening him or her with the debt of Rs.6,620. Every year this debt burden will go on increasing. As a result of the policy of liberalisation the country can neither repay the debt nor can pay the interest liability. I would urge the hon. Minister of Finance to reconsider the brand policy being introduced under the guidelines of the World Bank or GATT or the Dunkel proposals. At least 5 years time should be given to sell the produced goods under own brand names. Otherwise the present situation of the manufacturers, who have closed down units and shops and used to sell the produced goods under the brand name of Bata will continue. *Lakhs of persons who used to manufacture small items like electric switches etc. will become enemployed after closing down their units.*

(English)

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: Sir, I would like to submit to the House that if anybody was producing shoes under the

brand name of Bata previously, he was not doing so legally. Previously also any brand of the large-scale manufacturers, if used by the small-scale sector, was not admissible for concessional duty. So, I respectfully submit to say that you may differ with the opinion but the facts, I think, you should certainly not ignore.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: But you can amend the law.

(Translation)

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: If you give information to the House, it will be a fact because you have all the statistics and facts available with you. Just for the sake of example I mentioned the name of Bata, which has got charismatic effect because Bata is well known for its quality. Bata is known as biggest Cobbaler and Tata as biggest ironsmith. It is the real situation. In reality lakhs of persons engaged in tiny industries dare using the names of Bata and Tata have been rendered jobless and their families are in dire straits after being forced not to use the names of Bata nad Tata. It was the dream of Nehru to wipe out tear from the eye of every Indian. However, due to the policy of Dr. Manmohan Singh condition has become so worst, the Government must consider this aspect seriously. The issue pertains to humanity and is not of party politics, debate of any big economic policy.

In the Budget income-tax exemption limit has been raised to Rs.35,000. The hon. Minister who had been a Professor, RBI Governor and Economic expert, can himself, after multiplying can find out that at the current rate of inflation this limit is not going to benefit. The limit has been raised nominally from Rs.30,000 to Rs.35,000 whereas the demand was to increase it to Rs.50,000

and an indication to this effect was also given last year. You must be aware that middle category officials, bank employees, peons and class-IV employees will also be covered under this category of income tax payees as their salaries exceed the income tax limit. You should have been sympathetic towards them.

Madam, the Government had claimed that inflation rate will be brought down and will not be allowed to go up but on 16th April it was 10.62 percent. On the whole you are aware that inflation rate food items like vegetables, sugar, rice, wheat and oils is more than 17 percent. You may recall that Congress in its 1991 election manifesto had claimed that prices will be brought down within 100 days instead you have succeeded in increasing the prices by 100 percent. Poor, weak had lower strata people have been burdened with the rise in prices in the country. Things have exposed, but I would like to submit that it will lead to more unemployment in the country. You have withdrawn Budget support from 3000 employees of All India Engg. Export Promotion Council. You have just issued a circular but what will be the fate of the persons rendered unemployed?

A little while ago I asked a question about minimum wages in the country. Though, it is not the concern of the Ministry of Finance yet I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Finance towards it. Can you imagine how can a family survive with an income of Rs.8 per day only? In reply the concerned hon. Minister stated that daily wages have been raised from Rs. 8 per day to Rs.12 per day. I would like to know can a family survive even with an income of Rs.12 per day? Excise duty concession has been withdrawn. A commission was appointed to decide about the daily wages in the agriculture sector which rec-

ommended that an agricultural labour should get at least Rs.20 per day as minimum wages. However, even for a city like Bombay you have fixed the minimum wages of Rs.12 per day. Bombay is a commercial city of India, but the Government is slumbering. Backbone of agricultural labourers, the mainstay of the country, has been weakened. You have entered into the GATT pact where in subsidies have been curtailed. Only time will be the testimony of its benefits. Wages should have been increased in the agriculture sector, but nothing has been done. The main reason for it is that things are not in the control of the Government. The Government is being guided by the World Bank or GATT or any other agency. That's why the condition of the farmers of our country is deteriorating. I would like to recite a poem in reply to the couplet of the hon. Minister of Finance:-

"Unche Dhoti, Adkhule Panv, Kandhe Par Gaj Bhar Ka Tukra, Sir Par Pagni, Kar Mein Lakri, Tan Ka Kapra Chithra-Chithra, Khane Ko Muthi Bhar Dane Hain, Thukrata Mal-Khajano Ko, Apne Dhun Mein Almaston Sa Hansta Jag Ke Dewono Ko.

Dhi-Dhi Karta Poochen Maror Bailo Ki, Chalta Savdhan, Uske Swar Mein Chhip kar Chup Se Hans Parti Hain Srijani Ajan. Khai-Khadden Nad-Nalo Ke Sukhe Talo Ke Beech-Beech, Peechhe Chalta, Aage Barta, Dhethe Bailo Ko Kheench-Kheench.

Apne Kheiton Mein Aata Hai Kandhe Par Hal Ka Bhar Liye, Abhilasha Ka Unmad Liye, Jag Kee Aasha Ka Pyar Liye.

Kheiton Kee Dhool Bavandar Ban Swagat Kame Ko Aati Hai,

Chhukar Uske Pad-Padmo Ko, Phir Khaiton Mei Bichh Jati Hai,

Dharte Ka Antar Cheer-Cheer Pag-Pag Par Bikhra Beej-Beej,

[Shri Guman Mal Lodha]

Sardee-Garmee-Barsaaton Mein Apne Shramkam Se Seench-Seench.

Jag Kee Aasha Ka Chitrakar, Hari-Yale Chitra Banata Hai.

Hilte Paudho Ke Sath-Sath Ushka Manas Lehrata Hai.

- In Hariyale Chitron Se Vah Jag Ke Pristhon ko Rangta Hai.

Par Apne Rangne Kee Prishthbhoome Ko Nahin Shesh Kutch Bachta Hai.

Maya Ke Pyase Zamindar Bhookhe Baniye Sab Chheen-Chheen,

Kutto Se Thukra Dete Hain Kori-Kori Ko Been-Been.

Apna Sarvasava Lutakar Jab Apni Kutiya Mein Aata Hai.

Nanhe Bachcho Ko Nirakh-Nirakh Drig Mein Aasoon Bhar Lata Hai,

Jo Kutch Rookha Milta Khata Do-Do Din Ka Langhan Karta,

Apne Tan Mein Ganthe De-De Pashu Bachcho Ka Palan Karta."

I request Dr. Manmohan Singhji now to listen to these lines and understand them.

"Jo Jag Ko Anna Pradan Kare, Jag Usko Hi Thukrata Hai,

Uski Haddi Ko Noch-Noch Jag Vaibhav-Bhavan banata Hai.

Vah Chamo Main Mastak Rakhta, Jag Thukra Kar Itrata Hai,

Uske Chithro Mein Aag Laga Jag Hansta Hai Muskata Hai.

Jag Kee Juthan Ke Thal Bhare Chitra Kar Phenk Diye Jate.

Roti Kee Khatir Rib-Rib Kar Uske Bachche Hain Mar Jate.

Uske Tooti Khatiya Bartan Kutiya Chappar Beche Jate,

Kauri-Kauri bhar Sood Are Antariyon Se Kheenchen Jate".

This is the present scenario.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Lodha, it is enough now. Many other members also want to speak on this issue. You have taken enough time. Please sit down. You have already taken 20 minutes. Please be brief.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: I was submitting.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please speak on Finance Bill. There is no need to recite poems.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Poetry was started by the hon. Minister himself with a complete.....(*Interruptions*).....

I would only like to submit that his viewpoint still has a bearing on our economy. A poet has described it in following couplet :-

"Hasrat Mei Har Cheez Ulti Nazar Aati Hai,

Laila Nazar Aati Hai, Majnoo Nazar Aata Hai."

The hon. Minister of Finance sees everything in these equations. His outlook of looking at the equations has changed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not get engrossed in poetry. Please say what do you want to say on the Finance Bill.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: I will obey your directions in letter and spirit. I will

conclude after making two-three points.

I would like to urge upon the Government to review the Sick Industries Act under which money has been invested into small scale industries and sick industries. At present mediocre farmers and labourers and employees fail to get loans from the banks, but big capitalists and industrialists get millions and crores of rupees as loan from the banks. After that the industries are made sick and then the onus is shifted on to the hon. Minister of Finance. No industrialist or banker is but behind the bars. No Industrialist is prosecuted for fraudulent practices, but lakhs of labourers become jobless and industrialists continue to prosper. These industrialists prosper like me and my guide Shri Kalpnath Rai. After amassing lot of money it is totally withdrawn by the industrialists. I would like to know whether the Government will ponder over this issue of making those industries sick, because these industrialists are playing foul play with the hard earned money of poor people and labourers, who toil hard day in and day out in all weather season and deposit the same in the Banks which in turn deposit in Consolidated Fund of India and from where this money is borrowed by the industrialists and thereafter they declare their industries sick and pass on the responsibility on to the Government. The Government again and finances these industries twice thrice and even four times but these industrialists continue to withdraw the money. Whether Government will check this cancer like ailment prevailing in the country?

I would like to submit that the Government should seriously ponder over the outflow of funds taking place in the name of sick industries and such provisions should be made that proprietors and Managing Directors of sick industries are prosecuted because they are the only responsible persons

for swindling away the hard earned money of 80 crore poor people of India. They have played a foul play with the life of labourers working in their industries and factories and jeopardised the economy of the country.

Therefore, I urge the hon. Minister to raise the limit of income tax from Rs.35,000 at present to Rs.50,000 and also reconsider the decision taken in regard to Tiny Industries for making mandatory their brand name. Further, the Government should not resort to the policy of credit for the sake of our independence, self-reliance and for the prestige of the country. We are not against the Adoption of the policy of liberalisation if implemented within limit we will rather support it. But if it is done on the basis of the policy of credit and jeopardises the independence of India then we will oppose it.

[English]

SHRI INDERJIT (DARJEELING): Madam Chairman, I was eagerly looking forward to the privilege of speaking on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of External Affairs. Unfortunately, there was no time and the Demands of that Ministry along with the Demands of many other Ministries were guillotined. I think, this is most tragic and most unfortunate. I do think, some way will have to be found so that all these Demands can be discussed.

However, Madam Chairman, I am grateful to you for giving me a chance to speak on the Finance Bill. I am particularly pleased to see that my old and good friend, the Finance Minister is present in the House. I would like to compliment him, to begin with, for his brave efforts to bring about a new world, a liberalised new world. I must confess that I am personally very happy at the efforts he is making; very happy at the efforts to move towards liberalisation of the econon

[Shri Indrajit]

cause this is what some elders like Rajagopalachari had advocated long ago. I am glad we have finally seen the light and he is moving towards liberalisation of economy and ending what was then denounced as Permit Licence Raj.

Today I would not like to deal with many subjects which have already been covered by various friends. Much has been said; so I would not like to repeat that. I would like to limit my concerns mainly to two points.

I am rather disappointed that there has been no effort whatsoever in this Bill to fight the monster of black money. I am also greatly disappointed that there has been little effort to combat another cancerous monster called corruption. Madam Chairman, so far as black money is concerned, I venture to submit that the black money monster continues to grow from week to week, month to month and year to year. In fact, I would even go to the length of saying that black money is fast reducing our great land to a black hole, certainly for the vast majority of our poverty stricken masses. Some, no doubt, wallow in luxury and there is plenty of shamefully ostentatious luxury but the vast majority of our people, who are grovelling in poverty suffer because of this black money which it fuels inflation and hits them harder than it hits anybody else.

Madm, the tragedy of black money is that it continues to grow and has grown greatly. For the first time during Shrimati Indira Gandhi's regime, a Parliamentary Committee was set up to estimate the extent of black money, headed by Shri N.K.P. Salve. This Committee was of the opinion that the annual generation of black money was to the tune of about Rs.20,000 crores. Subsequently, we had the Raja Chelliah

Committee which based its figures on 1981. The Raja Chelliah Committee put this figure at Rs.36,000 crores. That was about 13 years ago. Experts like Raja Chelliah and some others are of the view that black money has easily increased four-fold since 1981. I am no authority in the matter. I did venture into study of Economics; I joined the Delhi School of Economics in the second batch of its students. But Economics is not a subject in which I have not sought to pursue and develop any expertise. What one is told is that the extent of black money in circulation as of now is anything like Rs.1,44,000 crores annually.

The question is: What can be done, what should be done? The crisis becomes even worse when you look at another figure. That figure is of the number of people who obtain personal income-tax. Many of those who pay personal income-tax today are not more than 0.6 percent of our population - a total of 47 lakhs only. Some of the experts have worked out that if we could push up this figure from 0.6 percent or 0.4 percent to some thing like 20 percent - a figure which interestingly has been accepted by Shri Pranab Mukherjee the other day according to some Press report - we could make life much easier for everybody. I am told that, for example, today if this ridiculous figure of 0.6 percent could be raised to 20 percent, no more than 20 percent, and if we were to impose a tax of no more than 5 percent to 25 percent - adopting the famous saying of the Buddha that tax must be collected as a bee collects honey from various flowers where-by no flower gets hurt and the honey is collected - even if the imposition is no more than 5 percent to 25 percent and if we can spread the net wide, then, I think we could surely mobilise large indeed huge resources which this country needs ever so badly. I am told that if we could do this, if we could mobilise it, it would greatly help us. I do not

know how this could be done. The Finance Minister is here. He will have to tell me and tell the House how far some of the figures that I have mentioned on the basis of economic experts' study are correct.

The experts say that we could mobilise something like Rs.2,00,000 crores annually if only we could spread, increase our tax net wider from 0.6 percent to something like 20 percent. How do we do it? Various suggestions have been made. Once upon a time, Shri T.T.Krishnamachari, our erstwhile Finance Minister had invited Mr. Nicholas Kaldor to India. Mr. Nicholas Kaldor then advocated the view that perhaps we should switch over to the system of expenditure tax. That was not accepted. Subsequently, other experts have suggested that maybe now we should start leaving tax on the basis of presumptive and estimated income. I will not go into the details of this. But the important thing is that, I would like to convey my own view to the Finance Minister. I hope something can be done in terms of spreading the tax net much wider so that we could mobilise the additional resources. If we can mobilise additional resources, we will not have to depend on foreign loans and largesse. We can then get rid of the tremendous malady of deficit financing and above all, we will be able to look some of the great powers straight in their face. Today, we have reduced ourselves to a position where even junior functionaries of the sole super power in this world are now telling us: "Be on our right side. Otherwise, we will not support the loans that you get from the IMF and World Bank."

Only the other day, one of the top functionaries of Washington was reported to have said this when they were urging the capping of some of our nuclear programmes. This lady went on record to say that India must remember it gets its loans and other

help from the World Bank and the IMF because the United States of America supports it. If only we could strengthen our base and have a wider tax base, we could certainly mobilise something like Rs.2,00,000 crores annually as against the present figure of Rs.22000 crores. That is all, I would like to say in so far as black-money is concerned.

I would now like to turn to the other important concern in regard to which I have been voicing my strong feelings time and again both inside this House and outside. I would like the Finance Minister to be able to come forward and to see what we can do to eradicate corruption. Corruption has grown by leaps and bounds at all levels in our country during the past three decades despite repeated talk of legislative and administrative steps to combat it. In fact, it has largely become a way of life. This is very sad and very tragic. No section of society has remained unaffected by this scourge which is fast eating into the vitals of our society and the country. The question is what can be done. Sadly, lots of promises have been made and we need to take note of some of these, particularly some very serious promises were made by the erstwhile Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi. He had then strongly denounced what he had called "brokers of powers and influence". He also denounced feudal oligarchy; and vulgure, conspicuous consumption. He also talked in terms of the tragedy, "when the fence had started eating the crop." He went ahead and promised speedy action. He did not stop there. Importantly, he went forward and, apart from promising a good and clean Government. He also announced that the Government would bring forward a comprehensive and far-reaching Prevention of Corruption Bill. This promise was made in 1987. Through you, Madam Chairman, I would like to convey to the Finance Minister and to the Government that I think, the time has come

[Shri Indrajit]

when you must fulfil the promise made by Shri Rajiv Gandhi in 1987, seven years ago. There is no sign yet of this particular legislation. Therefore, my first demand is that we must come forward and take immediate effective steps to combat corruption which has grown, as I said, by leaps and bounds in the country. As a first step, I would recommend strongly and this is what I recommended even in the last Lok Sabha, that all the Ministers at the Centre and in the States as also all the judges of the Supreme Court and the various High Courts should make public declaration of their assets and of those of their dependent family members. It is not merely a question of corruption in the political life of our country. I am sorry to say that we have reached a point where accusing fingers are being directed against various High Courts judges and even Supreme Court Judges. Therefore, something will have to be done to ensure probity in public life. It is not enough that we have declarations by Ministers and by Judges. These must be made public. During Panditiji's time, a certain convention was created. Under this convention, various Ministers made declarations of their assets. These declarations were handed over to the Prime Minister. But they were not made public. I would like these declarations to be made public. Likewise, I would like declarations by all the Judges of the Supreme Court, the judges of the High Courts, the judges of the Lower Courts to be made public. If we really want probity in public life, then we have to do something which is adequately drastic.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO (TRICHUR):
Sultanpuriji says, "What about the M.P.'s?"

SHRI INDER JIT: I was just coming to the point. In the last Lok Sabha, I had strongly advocated this when Mr. V.P. Singh was the

Prime Minister. I then put forward the view that my proposal should apply not only to the Ministers. I would say, but also to all the members of Parliament. All Members of Parliament should be called upon to make public declaration of their assets. The former Prime Minister, Shri V.P. Singh, standing there in front of the seat of the Prime Minister had assured me as a Member of the Opposition in those days, that he would take action and bring forward some legislation. He welcomed my suggestion that even the Members of Parliament and the Members of various Legislative Assemblies should be roped in. If you really want probity in public life, this is something which must be done. Simultaneously, I think — I am not a lawyer, many lawyer friends here will have to tell us — many of the assets disappear because of various benami transactions. I am sure that if the Finance Minister could look into these various benami transactions..... Perhaps we could get all the Ministers, the judges and also the Members of Parliament to make declarations, that they have no benami transactions of their own and if there is even one, then that particular benami asset would belong to the person in whose name the asset had been placed.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: In that case the banks would be the biggest beneficiaries.

SHRI INDER JIT: I am glad to hear the Finance Minister tell me that the banks will be the biggest beneficiaries. None would rejoice more than myself if the banks were to get some more money. But I hope they use it well and not fritter it away.

Apart from this, Madam Chairman, I would like to make one other suggestion for combating corruption. The United Kingdom has adopted certain procedures. Likewise, here, both in the House of People and the

Council of States, we should maintain a register detailing business and professional interests of the Members with a view to ensuring a clean public life. This, Madam is very necessary. This should be done in accordance with a comprehensive code for Central and State Ministers drawn up by the Centre in October, 1964. This *inter alia* provided for declaration by the Ministers of the particulars of their immovable property and the total approximate values of (a) shares and debentures, (b) cash holdings and (c) jewellery.

Our country's image leaves a great deal to be desired in the world abroad. I, therefore, earnestly hope that the Finance Minister and through him the Government will repond positively and promptly to my plea. It is time to take hard decisions in the interest of the country. Either we stand for the finest values advocated by Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru or we do not. We cannot have it both ways. Our people are awake and alert. We can ignore mounting demand of probity in public life only at our own peril.

Madam Chairman, I have already taken a lot of your time, but please bear with me for another few minutes. I would like to make two other points. The other point that I would like to make relates to tax exemption limit. If I am bringing my own speech to a lower level, the tax exemption limit has now been raised to Rs.35,000. I wish the Finance Minister had been a little more generous or at least arithmetically he had been more practical had he raised it to Rs.36,000. But, I will not quibble on this small point. My basic point is that I would like the Finance Minister to consider the possibility, perhaps next year, of introducing some tax incentive for family planning. The kind of incentive which I would like him to introduce is where an income earner has no more than two children, I would venture to submit that the tax exemp-

tion should be Rs.48,000 and where he has only one child, I think we should raise the tax exemption limit to Rs.60,000.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: If 99 per cent of the population do not pay tax, then what is the use of it?

SHRI MURLI DEORA: Do you qualify for this or not?

SHRI INDER JIT: I will not qualify for this because I have three daughters. Anyway, I am beyond the age of procreation! The Point I would like to make that we ought to link up family planning with some tax incentives. I have discussed this matter informally with the Finance Minister in the past. He who was good enough to argue that the main problem of limiting families is in the rural areas. I know the main problem is in the rural areas. Nevertheless, Madam Chairman, I would beg to submit that we must, at least, send out the right signals. The right signals should be that if you have only two children, you will have a tax exemption of Rs.48,000 and if you have one child, you can go upto Rs.60,000.

Another point relates to Ladhakh. Since, Madam Chairman, I represent Darjeeling. I also have some dealings with Ladhakh. This has happened because we were able to evolve what we call the Darjeeling Model of an autonomous Hill Council for the Darjeeling Hills. Likewise, the people from Ladhakh have been demanding an autonomous Hill Council for Ladhakh. Here, we have one other problem. Madam, through you, I would like to appeal to the Finance Minister that until 1989, the people of Ladhakh were enjoying Income tax exemption as in the case of Nagaland, Meghalaya and so on under Section 10 (26 A). But in 1989, this exemption limit was withdrawn. I think it is grossly unfair to the people of Ladhakh. I

[Shri Indrajit]

would strongly recommend and strongly urge him - I know some friends from Ladhakh have seen him recently and I hope he has had time to look at their Memoranda - to do the needful. This is important and it should be done. So far as Ladhakh is concerned, I would say that Ladhakh continues to suffer greatly because its people have still not got the promised autonomous Hill Council. This has been promised to them ad *nauseam*. But the Hill Council has so far not come. Therefore, I would conclude by saying; please for Heaven's sake, give the people of Ladhakh, who have been peaceful, who have been striving peacefully for a better deal, their long desired Hill Council on the model of the Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council, an autonomous Sub-State formula.

Thank you Madam Chairman for the indulgence shown to me I do hope the Finance Minister will respond to some of the ideas that I have propounded during my brief intervention.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. P.C. Thomas.
Not here. Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya.

(*Translation*)

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr. Chairman, on the one hand the Economic Resolution reflects the policies and declarations of the Government as well as its commitment to the people in respect of their implementation, while on the other hand, the Financial Bill provides for the provisions to implement them.

I am constrained to state that the expectation of the people that were aroused after the presentation of the Budget as well as at the time of introduction of the Finance Bill by the Hon. Minister, Dr. Manmohan

Singh could not be fulfilled. With the implementation of the new economic policy it was hoped that the financial condition of the country will be improved, unemployment will decrease and price-hike will be curbed, but it appears that all these things have been ignored and our country is moving in a different direction. It has adversely affected our indigenous industry and indigenous production Small-scale industries have been affected very badly. Today, even common man does not know as to which direction our economy will take us. To me, it seems that we are moving in the direction from which no return is possible and we may perhaps lose our sovereignty as well and will never be able to achieve self-reliance.

From this outlook, I would like to state that the Government is not keeping its promises. Be it direct tax or indirect tax, the hon. Minister of Finance has very shrewdly raised the taxes. In certain areas, this burden has become too cumbersome. Now the Government has since withdrawn so many notifications simultaneously. But the hon. Minister of Finance has not been able to clarify the consequences thereof. I would like the Hon. Minister of Finance to clarify the position with regard to these notifications.

I would not like to linger my speech on small scale industries because a load has already been said about it. The Government has reduced the burden of tax imposed on small-scale industries to a certain extent. But only time will tell as to what extent it will affect the small scale industries and whether these would survive. I want this Notification 59 with regard to using the brand names should be withdrawn. It has been stated by almost all the hon. Members that the small scale industries having the turn-over of Rs. 30 lakhs are surely going to be affected because the houses where these small scale industries are being run.....

[English]

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : This is to curb some big multinationals who were using those brand names. I do not know whether you are pleading for them.

(Translation)

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: I am not supporting the Multinational companies. How can the small scale industries use brand names? Some of them make shoes, some others make their upper covers, some make umbrellas etc. I, therefore, submit that they do not have sufficient capital to invest on using brand names. Therefore, it should be withdrawn. The Government has said so much about the small scale industries but it also favours their existence because they are the backbone of our country and lakhs of people work there. They are the only means of livelihood of the lower middle class people and slum dwellers.

Now I would like to draw the attention of the Government to Notification No. 202. Through this Notification, the Government has withdrawn the facilities provided to mini steel plants, steel rolling plants and galvanised steel plants. Virtually they have been put in a critical position. My submission is that the first Notification should be withdrawn, but the second one should be restored. Probably the representatives of the Federation of Engineering Industries might have met the Hon. Minister and urged him to restore the Notification No. 202.

[English]

Incidentally, according to the Notification No. 202/88-EC dated 20.5.1988, a wide range of products made out of duty paid inputs like pig iron, steel ingots, rerollable material of iron and steel, hot rolled skelp,

hoods, sheets, strips, flat of thickness not exceeding 5mm respectively, galvanized steel, sheets and plax etc. were exempt from Central excise formalities.

(Translation)

Our electronic industry has developed to a great extent and it is competent in this field. The Government has reduced the customs duty and raised the excise duty which has affected it adversely. For instance, the D.A.P. has been imported in huge quantity so, our indigenous fertilizer companies are facing tough competition for selling their products. The fertilizer companies had already warned the Government against it. The same is the case with the newsprint mill at Neapanagar in Madhya Pradesh. The people from there had met and told me that with the reduction of customs duty, the cost of the indigenous newsprint has become costlier as compared to imported newsprint. The hon. Minister of Finance will certainly say that the objective of the Government is to ensure availability of goods at cheaper rates and it is doing so. But the newsprint mills at Neapanagar are on the verge of closure today. Thousands of workers have sought protection just they should be in trouble. I would like to request the Government to look into this matter. Besides this example, there are several instances where customs duty has been reduced, and excise duty on the indigenous goods has been increased. The Government should maintain proper balance in this regard. Due to the present imbalance, the purchasing power has not been increased though the goods are being imported at the lower rate of customs duty. The purchasing power of the common man should be raised. Otherwise the goods cannot be sold. Our Tax System should facilitate easy availability of the essential commodities to the people. The common man should not be de-

[Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya]

prived of them. The middle class people, the Government employees who have fixed income have been adversely affected. That is why, I have asked relief for them. I had also requested to raise the ceiling of income tax exemption to Rs.50 thousand. The hon. Minister has raised it to Rs.35 thousand only. But the further slab should be prepared accordingly. It will be convenient for the salaried class people. I would also like to tell you that ours is a joint family system. The limit prescribed for the exemption of income tax in respect of the joint family needs to be amended. It should be raised from Rs. 18 thousand to Rs.50 thousand. The Government does not provide houses or any other facilities to the people. So, it should not make any attempt to break the joint family system by not raising this ceiling.

My opinion is that these will be able to function properly together provided facilities are given to them. It is right that whenever the social situation has been complexed and labyrinthine the environment of conflict has left its marks there but where now families are being formed, what the use if the Government gives no relief to them?

Having made two-three points I will conclude and now I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister towards these points. It hardly needs to be mentioned as to how far has the Government succeeded in its new experiments made during the last year. I will not like to go into the results of your Public Sector Investments. The report of the PAC has cast the book before the Government. You know the scale of disinvestment in the PUs, the financial bungling thereof, the persons responsible therefor and the amount of culpability of each person, the number of bidders that

came in and the number people interested in buying the shares and your subsequent decision of withdrawal. There was a large scale difference of opinion among the Finance Minister, his Secretary of Finance and the Suresh Kumar Committee. The PAC has insisted that the whole matter should be investigated into by the CBI. I think that one Financial Committee has advocated for it. This should be taken seriously. I have only mentioned these points and our Finance Minister is making all the experiments to reform the financial situation, presenting the Budgets and then trying to bring about financial adjustments in the subsequent Finance Bill. Our opinion is that the Reserve Bank of India should be restructured.

(English)

At present the Reserve Bank has structural autonomy. BJP Government will ensure operational autonomy of RBI.

(Translation)

What I want to say is that in order to set the present structure of RBI right and bring about uniformity in the Income Tax, its maximum rate should be 40 percent and the upper ceiling of Income Tax exemption should be raised up to Rs.50,000.

(English)

Rationalise and simplify the present tax structure, and bring down the highest rate of income tax to 40 percent, raise the Income Tax Exemption to Rs.50,000.

(Translation)

My submission is that taxation should be implemented in a way as to benefit all the people.

Exempt employment-oriented industries in non-municipal areas from income tax; abolish octroi duty and persuade State Governments to make good the losses of municipalities; arrange uniform sales tax rates throughout the country. Loss in revenue will be compensated by the Centre; Impose Estate Duty on property and assets worth more than Rs. one crore; share Corporation Tax with the States; give special tax concessions to writers, artists, academics and others engaged in intellectual and cultural pursuits; non-developmental expenditure will be curtailed drastically.

(Translation)

Keeping in view the opinion about it, attention should be paid and such arrangements be made and decisions be taken as may accrue some relief to the populace which is mainly constituted by the poor, the middle class and the one freed from pains and pang, ails and agonies and the burden of taxations is minimum on him so that the country is pushed ahead towards economic progress. All these aspects need to be reformed. The people are apprehensive of the way taxation has been formulated and of the charges brought about by reducing the excise duty which may result in the advent of multinational companies, reduction in exports and increase in imports. As a result of this the autonomy of our country and the indigenous industry will be affected. Small and medium industries and the handloom industry in which lakhs of people are gainfully engaged will be affected. We should feel their pain remove this agony. I have received a memorandum from the Small Scale Manufacturing Association of Maharashtra in which it is requested that Notification No. 59 be withdrawn and!

The Maharashtra Small Scale Manufacturers' Association has urged the Government to exempt tiny units from Notification No. 59 of 1994 pertaining to brand names. It has said that units having machinery worth not more than Rs.5 lakh and turnover less than Rs.30 lakh should be fully exempted.

(Translation)

I would request the hon. Minister to keep this in mind at the time of his reply and reform the financial situation and the economy and also check inflation. His present works are inadequate and the announcements made and possibilities expressed are not implemented in the direction of economic reforms. I oppose the Financial Bill.

[English]

SHRI CHITTA BASU (BARASAT): Madam Chairperson, the Government's economic policy, which is generally known as a globalised market friendly reforms policy, it was stated — or it has been claimed on many occasions — would breed prosperity for the country. This Finance Bill contains certain proposals in order to promote the economic objectives of the Government and which generally fall within the stated policy, as I have stated above. But in actuality what we find is that this economic policy, this package of these reforms programme has not improved the economic situation of the country. On the contrary, the negative features of the policy are very increasingly pronounced. It is necessary at this time to understand or to take note of these negative aspects of the policy and its impact on the economy of our country.

[Shri Chitta Basu]

Madam, although I agree that it is very difficult to get an objective, fair and quantitative assessment of the impact of the whole package of the programmes, but some glimpse of it can be had from a recent report of the ILO — Asian Regional Team for Employment Promotion, entitled "India: Employment, Poverty and Economic Policies" published in December 1993. I think this is the latest — to me at least — assessment of the impact of the new economic policy of the Government.

I feel it my duty to share with the House the findings of the Report. That Report says and it reveals that both underemployment and open unemployment had increased since the adoption of the new package of policies from mid-1991. This Report also reveals that there had been a fall in real wages of casual labour in both urban and rural areas.

It further states that the incidence of poverty has increased both in urban and rural areas. It further says that the steep increase in food prices by over 45 percent in three years between 1989-90 and 1992-93 had been one of the major contributory factors for the mounting incidence of poverty.

The Report concludes by saying, "Stabilisation, therefore, has meant a few steps backward, as far as employment generation and poverty alleviation is concerned."

I would request the Finance Minister and the Government to take note of these increasingly negative features of the economic policy that they are pursuing which is not bringing about prosperity for the masses.

But it is leading to the deterioration of

the economic conditions of the broad masses of our country.

Now-a-days I find, through advertisements and other methods also, a much tomtomming has been going on to show to the people about the so great achievements of 1001 plus days of this Government. But in so far as the reality of life is concerned, these 1001 plus days of this Government has really been the dark nights for the masses of our people, which means for them misery, mounting privations, impoverishment of the people, growing joblessness and politically speaking, rejection and repudiation of all hitherto nationally accepted economic policy of the Government. This is the real situation. And as a matter of fact, in my view this is the summing up of the general economic, political and social situation of our country. Therefore, the Budget and the Finance Bill should not ignore these basic realities of life, which faces the masses of our country.

Now I simply want to draw the attention of the Government to certain specific situations. On the production front, there has been a sharp decline and it is very much discernible. According to the Economic Survey, industrial growth rate is expected to show a decline in 1993-94 to 1.6 percent against the growth rate of four percent in the previous year. Secondly, agricultural production is calculated to have fallen by one percent in 1993-94 compared to the year 1992-93. Capital good production is languishing. There has been some improvement in the consumer durable goods sector. It comes to 13.6 percent in the year 1993-94. Madam, it is indicative of a very ominous situation and it indicates, rather it shows, that the Government is catering to the needs of the consumerist interests of the rich, who constitute the top ten percent of the population of our country, neglecting 90 percent of

the people of our country. This is not the healthy sign. This is not the bright thing. This is ominous. And this very particular figure shows that our Government caters to the needs of the consumerist, middle class, who constitute ten percent of the society, neglecting the broad masses of our country.

Madam, I must say that this Government is discriminating against the small scale sector and favouring the foreign capital in preference to Indian capital on the pretext of 'level playing field'. There are numerous instances. I would not like to take the time of the House to mention about all those things.

The Economic Survey of 1993-94 begins with the claim, which says, "The economy has emerged decisively from the crises of 1990-91." I am sorry to say that it is not so. We are not out of the woods. For example, rupee has been devalued by 75 percent during the tenure of this Government against the dollar.

1600 hrs.

Internally the rupee has been twice devalued. The gold which had been pawned to British and Swiss banks is still in the vaults of those banks and has not yet been redeemed although it has been claimed that it has been redeemed.

In 1991, the country's foreign debt stood at Rs. 1,10,000 crore. In November, 1993, it steeply went upto Rs. 2,66,000 crore and by now it may be safely assumed that it has already crossed Rs. 3,00,000 crore mark. This is not the healthy sign. This is not the bright aspect of our nation's economy.

I come to the rate of inflation. Certainly the rate of inflation came down to 6.9 percent in December, 1992. Since then it has

been climbing up. By the week ending on March 5, 1994, the rate of inflation has crossed the 9 percent mark and stood at 9.05 percent. I think, this has further increased. I am speaking of some two months back. Now it may be more than 10.5 or 10.6 percent. That is the position. This spurt in price cannot be attributed to the 'seasonal and cyclic pressures on cotton and sugar' as indicated by the Finance Minister. The new spurt is because of this seasonal and cyclic pressures. I think it is just ignoring that people also have certain knowledge. Other people can also know something. What are the grounds for this spurt? It is precisely because of certain very basic inflationary impulses which have been injected into the economy by the budgetary policies - for example, the administered price increase in February; secondly, yawning uncovered deficit in the 1994-95 budget; thirdly, steep increase in money supply in 1993-94; fourthly, increased liquidity in domestic economy. Therefore, we should also remember that these are the basic factors for the price increase and these are the consequences of so - called market friendly economy. And so long you resort to so - called market friendly economy, the basic reason for this inflationary pressure will continue to remain and I think the Government should remain prepared to meet the situation arising out of this growing and mounting inflationary trends in our economy.

So far as unemployment is concerned, it is soaring. I think, the number of registered unemployed has crossed 4 crore and this does not reflect the actual employment situation of our country. On the other hand, by pursuing exit policy, and the policy of closure and retrenchment, the army of unemployed and jobless are increasing by leaps and bounds. This is a very ominous problem for the country and this Finance Bill does not

[Shri Chitta Basu]

16.08 hrs.

provide any solution to this major economic ill of our society.

Therefore, Madam, I do not like to prolong my speech. I want the Government to review their policy and particularly review their so-called market friendly economic policy.

(Translation)

SHRI SURAJ MANDAL (Godda): Madam Chairperson, there are many anomalies in the Bill brought forward by the Department of Finance. I would like to urge the hon. Finance Minister to bring about uniformity among the people of India. There are 41% resources in Bihar and minerals in the Jharkhand region alone constitute 32% of those found in India. There is no industry in that region today, the industrialists do not go there; industries are being set up in Maharashtra, Gujarat, and other parts of India with the minerals of this region. It is because no excise duty and income tax concessions are provided to the backward areas as yet. I would request the hon. Finance Minister to keep such industrialists set up out of the purview of excise duty and income tax for at least 10 years. Industries in the Jharkhand region set up industries with the investment upto Rs. one crore. It takes 5 years for an industry to commence commercial production.

7268 small industrial units have been closed down in Bihar. The reason of their closure is that there was no production in them and the banks did not provide them the working capital. The Ministry of Finance has paid no attention to this aspect.

(SHRI NITISH *in the Chair*)

There are five glass factories in my area. I wrote 3-4 letters to the hon. Finance Minister about those industries. Two glass industries established in Madhupur have since been closed down. Earlier, 10% excise duty was charged on industries having a manual plant and 2 percent on those having automatic plant. In this Budget, it is 20% for either of the industries. An automatic plant costs Rs.40-45 crore but it employs very few people whereas a manual plant needs more manpower. The two glass industries running on manual plants in my constituency have employed one thousand people. The industries running on manual plants will be forced to close down if an equal excise duty is charged from both types. Therefore, I request that the excise duty levied on them may be brought down to 10%, as was the case earlier.

I would also like to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister to the Cement plants which are of three types - the major, the small and the micro. The Finance Minister has very liberally given relaxation to all tiny industries with the exception of tiny cement plants which produce 30 ton cement per day. This advisor in the Ministry of Finance is rowing wrong advice into his ears. A cement plant having a production of lakh metric tonnes has to pay an excise duty of 330 rupees and that producing 600 metric tonnes has to pay a duty of Rs.185. A plant producing 30 tonnes a day also is charged with an excise duty of Rs.330. Please do not close the provision of chapter 10. The tiny cement plants bring the raw-material from one or the other state had to pay nothing earlier but now they are charged Rs.185. Formerly, they were charged Rs.145, then

it was raised to Rs.185 and then to Rs.330. You have given no respite and relaxation to the tiny cement plants. In rural areas, these can run smoothly and quality cement can be produced only when they are given relaxation.

An article about the tiny cement plants was published in the Economic Times dated April 7 and it said:

(English)

Tiny units' bid to draw F.M.s statement misfires.

(Translation)

Nothing was done even after repeatedly apprising and writing to you about it. I would like you to pay attention to this.

The Finance Minister has given income tax relief to the tribals of Sikkim. I wish he treated all tribals of India equally. Jharkhand is a tribal dominated areas whose population is 2.5 to 1.25 crore and they outnumber the tribal population of any area of any part of India. No scheme is formulated for tribals. You have imposed excise duty on tiny industries. A better method of increasing of revenue would have been the checking of Income Tax and Excise Duty evasion. In that case, there was no need of imposing and levying more taxes. On the one hand, you give salaries to the Government officials and on the other impose Income tax on them. Your tax laws are so intricate that they are beyond the perception of a common man. Kindly simplify them so that everybody can understand them and income tax lawyer does not charge exorbitant fee. Secondly, I would like to tell you how excise duty is evaded. An engineer told me in this regard that if a machine component or parts is sold in the market, excise duty has to be paid on

it. In order to evade that duty the five parts are bought from five different shops and assembled and the machine is sold without paying excise duty. In a letter to the Director, Ministry of Finance, I wrote that this duty evasion should be checked and the hon. Minister of Finance wrote back to me in affirmative but later no action was taken on that.

I would like to cite an example of how the Ministry of Finance is being duped and dodged. The department of vigilance customs has apprehended a litigation case in Delhi that is sub judice. Some people are booking motor parts at Singapore and they booked their consignment with paper scrap. One of their accomplices is putting up at Singapore. A part costs him Rs. 6 and he claims that it costs Rs.100 and thus earns an export incentive of Rs.20 on any item of Rs.6. The custom officials have detected such cases and this is the kind of export being made. This must be checked.

Another thing I would like to point out is that there is a part of Indo-Nepal Preventive Custom Collector of the department of customs in Bihar. Goods in three containers were being sent to Nepal through Calcutta in August, 1992. These goods worth 1.5 crore rupees were held at Betia. The present custom collector was in charge of both Calcutta and Bihar at that time. Nobody claimed goods when they were seized but after some days the same custom collector released the goods of Rs.1.5 crore and the consignment was returned to Singapore. This case lies pending with the Board of Revenue and is under review. Such officers should be brought to book.

All such officers are responsible for incurring loss to Government in excise duty should not be posted at such sensitive places at the borders. I would like to request the

[Shri Saroj Mandal]

Finance Minister to give facilities for goods exported from India but the items produced and available here should be protected by imposing more custom duty on the same items imported from abroad so that India goods are marketed, Industries can run and the people can get employment.

The last point I would like to submit is that the Government of Bihar has made a rule that the State Government will provide no facilities to a person who sets up an industry worth more than Rs.15 crore. What is the worth of Rs.15 crore in this age of inflation? No facilities are given due to which despite being a minerally rich region, no industry has come up in Jharkhand and the people are starving there. There is the coal base, there are minerals, but there is no industry. Power is also needed for setting industry in Jharkhand. 100 megawatts of power is needed in Bihar but the Government of Bihar has a capacity of only 35 of megawatts. They take power from NTPC and DVC but they also have stopped supply of power due to the fact that some dues are outstanding against them and as a result all the small scale industries have been closed down. 7268 industries have been closed down because the banks did not give them loans to raise working capital. For grant of working capital, the department of industry makes an enquiry followed by a bank enquiry. Then again, a third enquiry is conducted by some institution. This is why there is no industry. An industry should start production after two years but there it takes 5 years.

I am aware that the Finance Minister has an open mind on Jharkhand and pays attention to it. I would request him to exempt the such industrialists as are interested in setting up industries in Jharkhand region from the Income Tax and custom duty for 10

years and make an announcement to this effect so that people from other places are lured to set up industries there.

Sir, I would, once again, like to draw your attention towards the glass industry. Different excise duty at the rate of 20% and 10% should be charged on glass manufacturing units running on automatic and manual plants respectively. With this, I conclude.

(English)

SHRIC. SREENIVAASAN (DINDIGUL):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for providing me this opportunity to speak on the Finance Bill, 1994.

It is very sad that the poor and down-trodden of the country have to bear the brunt of the pre-budget hike in the prices of almost all commodities. The pre-budget hike comes to about Rs.4,000 crores in terms of burden on the poor.

It is my utmost belief that with liberalisation, tax reforms are yet to be under way. The taxation procedure itself requires radical reforms to curb evasion and ensure greater transparency and accountability. The transparency can be ensured if you prescribe only one tax for every commodity. The procedure for assessment of valuation should be streamlined.

Sir, it is not clearly known what type of concessions have been so far extended to the NRIs and MNCs. I call upon the Government to place on the Table of the House, a White Paper in this regard. The accession to the Dunkel proposals have made us to attune ourselves to the world atmosphere of trade. The laws and the rules applicable to Indians have already been specified in the various Acts of Parliament dealing with taxation.

The extent of laws and rules is confined to India only. But under the same laws and rules, concessions are being handed out to MNCs and NRIs by way of notifications. This is absolutely wrong. Trans-national applications of law and rules of taxation should be separately coded and put to the vote of the House. Therefore, laws and rules applicable to NRIs and MNCs should be specifically approved by Parliament.

In the same way, Sir, for developing Indian industries, concessions will have to be liberally given to native industrialists. The economy should be first opened to the Indian industrialists first and then after a period of five to ten years, if the desired development does not take place then only the Government should be constrained to open up the economy to MNCs and NRIs.

The hon. Prime Minister says that international treaties are not first approved by Parliament. There is no Constitutional provision. The House agrees on that. But the Constitution makers did not see a future in which this great nation would be late at the feet of foreign powers. An international treaty of the kind of Dunkel is, therefore, beyond the Constitutional scheme.

Sir, presently, we have the bifurcation of the total finances of the Government into Railway Finance and General Finance. These are the days of micro-planning. I would, therefore, like to suggest to the Government that there should be a separate finance for the receipts and expenditure on specific public investments in Government undertakings. Government should separately manage the finances of public undertakings delinked from other expenditure and revenue. The Finance Minister should examine this.

I take this opportunity to put before the

House certain demands for the immediate consideration of the Finance Minister. The demand for the Southern gas Grid is pending for a long time. There is surplus production of about 22 million cubic metres which is more than sufficient to establish the Southern Gas Grid which would benefit the southern States including Tamil Nadu.

The Telugu Ganga Project is hanging fire for a long time. I would appeal to the Finance Minister to personally look into the files relating to funding of the Project, especially funding by the World Bank. I want him to specifically give the House an assurance that he would do this and tell the House the actions taken to expedite the Project. I also urge upon the Government to expedite the clearance of the New Veeranam Project. Both the projects are aimed at providing drinking water supply to Tamil Nadu particularly the city of Madras.

A proposal for installation of desalination plants in the Southern Coastal districts, particularly Ramanathapuram district of Tamil Nadu is pending clearance with the Central Government. I request the Finance Minister to accord the clearance and provide the 75 percent project cost as grant so that the drinking water problem in these districts is solved. These are all the projects which are being pursued by Dr. Puratchi Thalavi for the overall benefit of the society. The commitment of Dr. Puratchi Thalavi in these projects must be matched by Central Government by expeditiously clearing them.

Terrorism is a threat to the integrity of the nation. If the Centre does not come to the aid of the State Government, the State Governments alone can not tackle the problem. The tireless efforts of the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi, have almost wiped out terrorism in the State

[Shri C. Sreenivaasan]

which was widely prevalent during the previous Government.

A sustained battle against terrorism however, requires funds. The State Government has asked for Rs.84 crores for modernisation of the police force. But the Centre has only granted Rs.10 crores. I, therefore, request the Finance Minister to provide the full amount asked for by the State Government for modernising the police force.

Since the Budget as a whole is a big burden on the poor people and against the interests of native industries particularly, small and medium, I oppose the Finance Bill, 1994.

With these words I conclude.

SHRIK. PRAHDANI (NOWRANGPUR):

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Finance Bill introduced by the Finance Minister yesterday. I congratulate the Finance Minister who has announced some new concessions to the small scale industries like Umbrella, soaps and life saving equipments and many other things.

Our country is progressing steadily and regularly under the leadership of our Prime Minister Shri Narsimha Rao and with the advice of our Finance Minister Dr. Manimohan Singh. When our party took charge of the Government about three years back, the foreign currency was just above one billion dollars and now it is 13 billion dollars; gold which was pledged outside is restored back to our country. The export has been increased to 21 percent instead of minus three percent in 1991-92 and had risen by two percent in 1992-93. The inflation rate which was 17 percent when the Govern-

ment took charge of it, is now about 8.5 percent. Balance of payment is reduced to half a percent of the GDP; external debt has been reduced to 3 billion per year in 1993-94 from 8 billion in 1991-92 and 1992-93.

Our Finance Minister in his Budget speech has spoken about many things. It is a very lengthy one and I do not like to go into the details. But I would specifically like to mention one or two problems. Just now Shri Chitta Basu was speaking about the growing unemployment. Our learned Prime Minister has introduced two schemes of employment guarantee programme and educated unemployment programme. This year our Government has given Rs.1200 crores in place of Rs.600 crores last year for the employment guarantee programme. Regarding the educated unemployed, Rs.145 crores have been sanctioned by the Government for these people. Because of the statistics given by our former speaker basing on the records mentioned in the employment exchanges. I do not think, these figures will come in there because our rural folk who are there without enrolling their names in these registers, they are not counted in this. *Here our Government has raised the rural development budget to Rs.7010 crores this year instead of Rs.5010 crores last year.*

Regarding JRY, it has been raised to Rs.3,885 crores in place of Rs.3,306 crores in 1993-94. The question of unemployment cannot be measured with the books which are maintained. But we have to examine it by knowing how the schemes are going on and how the people are employed in other schemes.

I do not want to go into the general principles of the Budget. I have some specific problems to mention in the Scheduled Areas. I come from a Scheduled Area

where most of the people are living below the poverty line; and the Governments-both Centre and the State - have the responsibility to protect them from all sorts of exploitation and gear up their economic development. During the Sixth and the Seventh Plans, there were Seventh and Eighth Finance Commissions which have given some financial awards for the development of infrastructure and also to improve the standard of administration. But, it is unfortunate that during the Eighth Plan, there is no financial award. I draw the attention of the Finance Ministry to this and request them to look into it and solve some of the specific problems.

In the year 1960, when Pandit Nehru was the Prime Minister here, he appointed a Commission known as Dhebar Commission. It reported that the manufacture and consumption of country liquor were the most dangerous practices which exploited the tribals from the points of view of their health and economy. It wanted that it should be banned completely and they should not be allowed to brew alcoholic beverages except to brew the fermented liquor. But, in most of the States, the State Government having Scheduled Areas have not implemented the scheme. They are just giving it on contract basis to earn revenue; and they say that unless they give this on contract basis, they are not going to earn revenue and run the administration. So, when the Commission has reported like this and the Government also has, in principle, admitted and agreed to implement this, why should the State Government not do it? The Central Government have got wide powers under para(3) of the Fifth Schedule and para(5) of the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution. The working group appointed by the Planning Commission during this plan have suggested - after their investigation that the condition of the tribals which were expected to be very high,

proportionate to the expenditure incurred, have gone down in many cases. It is time for the Central Government to consider this and give directives to the State Governments to gear up the administration and to stop exploiting the tribals. I would draw the attention of the Finance Minister to this and request him to allot some money to help the State Governments which are hankering for revenue and which are expressing their inability to have sufficient police force to stop the illicit distillation at the cost of the tribals in the tribal areas. You will be surprised to hear that in many tribal villages somewhere - I come from some of such villages - the population of widows are more than the males because they die at early ages due to the consumption of spurious drinks. We want that consumption of this spurious drink should be stopped immediately without further delay.

The Finance Minister in this Budget has sanctioned more money under JRY and Employment Guarantee Programme. But it is very unfortunate that there will be no Panchayats in the Scheduled areas, we have passed the Panchayati Raj Bill during 1992-93. There is a provision in that Bill which says that after one year of passing of that Bill or one year after giving assent to that Bill the Acts enforced by the State Government at present, will cease to operate.

And this Act will apply there. But it has to be extended by the Parliament. It is unfortunate that the Central Government has not extended this Bill to the scheduled areas, so far in those areas and as such there will be no Panchayats. I do not understand how this money which is meant for rural development and for the accelerated employment programmes to be implemented by the Panchayats will be spent there! Therefore, I draw the attention of the Central Government to it and request them to ex-

[Shri C. Sreenivaasan]

tend this provision to these tribal areas as early as possible so that the democratic set up at the grassroot level can take care of these programmes.

My friend Shri Inder Jit and some other hon. members who spoke before me referred to the income tax exemptions extended to Sikkim tribals. I do support them. But I wonder why the Sikkim only should enjoy such benefits and why not the tribals of other parts of the country. I request the Government to make it applicable to all the tribals of India on a uniform and regular basis.

The last point that I would like to mention is about Ladakh. Inderjitji who has spoken before has referred to the income tax exemptions given to the people of Ladakh after the 1962 Chinese aggression. But these reliefs were withdrawn in 1989. The law and order situation in Ladakh has not improved. So, I request the Finance Minister to extend these provisions for many more years till the law and order situation improves.

I conclude with these words and I thank you Sir.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (MIDNAPORE): Mr. Chairman Sir, this Finance Bill incorporates many aspects of the Finance Minister's efforts to manage the country's finances or to mismanage them. I don't know which! He has now come up with a long four-page list of concessions - changes that he proposes to make in the original Budget proposals. I agree with him that there were many demands from the Members, including from our side, for some relief given especially to the small scale sector. And to some extent he has done that. I don't know whether those small scale people are

satisfied or not. But I am very surprised that at the time when the proposals were framed, the Department over which he presides was so much ignorant of what was going to be the impact of these customs duties and excise duties on a vast range of industries in the small scale sector. How is it they did not know it before? Now, he has come out with four printed pages offering so many concessions and reliefs and all that. It means that at the time of placing the Budget proposals, the Finance Ministry was knowing that ultimately they would have to cut out many of those things - and that would then appear to be a very generous and magnanimous action on his part. This is done by many Finance Ministers. They always keep something up their sleeves so that later on they appear to be generous. Either they knew it and did it deliberately; or, if it was not that, it means that his Department was totally oblivious and ignorant about the impact these things are going to have on many of the small-scale sectors. Otherwise, I do not see how such a four page printed exposition of the so-called relief and concession measures is now produced at the fag end.

The Minister should at least tell us how much loss of revenue is involved in these concessions. Excise duties are either being reduced or withdrawn altogether. Custom duties are being reduced. A long list is here. Summing up the whole thing, how much loss in revenues it is going to add up to? At least the Parliament should be told about it. I know, the Minister will say that we want to have both the things; we want relief to be given and we also want that there is no loss in revenues. I do not mean that at all. But, information must be given to us. What is the amount of reduction in the revenues which will be involved as a result of these concessions? That has not been told to us. I hope, when he replies, he will give us some information about this matter.

I wish to mention two points again. I had mentioned them during my speech on the Budget, but I got no response. So, I regret that I have to repeat them again. At that time also I wanted some response by way of queries. Since they deal with large sums of money on which revenues have been deprived by illegal means, whether that money can be recovered or not, I do not know. But in any case were promised here on the floor of the House that some follow-up action would be taken on the findings of the Joint Parliamentary Committee which went into the Bank Scam. The Prime Minister himself has given an assurance that within 4 months the follow-up action that was going to be taken would be presented to the House. My question is very simple. What is the position regarding that? We have not been told anything about it. I would like to know whether any follow-up action has been formulated or whether it is still under consideration. By what time something can be expected? In the mean time all those people who are guilty, all those speculators of the share market, bank executives and bureaucrats and so on who were involved in this are going scot-free. So, we would like to know whether the Government has decided not to take any action at all or still something can be expected by the country and the Parliament.

Secondly, Sir, I had asked about an old thing which people are not getting a bit tired of because I suppose it has become such an old thing. It is about the Bofors. I am not referring to the theft of money by way of bribe by the Bofors Company. A new thing has come up before us now. We were told that the confidential papers and files, which are in the Swiss Bank, relating to the Bofors gratification payment, papers relating to certain secret accounts, are now going to be handed over by the Swiss Bank authorities to the Government of India. It was said that

the formalities have been completed and within a certain specified time those papers will be made available to us. Of course, that stipulated time has elapsed. Papers have not come. There is some delay. But, in the meantime, I find that Shri S.P. Hinduja of the Hinduja Brothers, who was one of the parties which was suspected of being involved in this whole Bofors pay-off, has become bold enough to go to the Press in India. He has briefed the Press to the effect that these papers from the Swiss Bank will not be given to us because the Government of India has bungled in making the claim for those papers.

He is suggesting that the Government is not really serious about it. Therefore what they had asked for from the banks is not specific documents and specific papers relating to those secret accounts into which the Bofors' payments were supposed to have been made but they had asked for all kinds of general papers, in the abstract in general, and made it easier for the Swiss authorities to further delay and to avoid handing over those papers. I want to know what are the facts. The Government should tell whether proper procedure had been followed or not, or whether due to some mistakes or due to somebody's oversight or somebody's deliberate collusion, the request to the banks had been made in such a way that it is not possible actually to lay our hands on those specific papers which we want to get. What is the position? Mr. Hinduja will go on making accusations against the Government every day. But the Government says nothing. We do not know anything. So, I think, in its own interest, the Government should come out with some clarification on this point. Either they should refute what Mr. Hinduja is saying or they should explain here what is the difficulty in getting the papers now.

[Shri Indrajeet Gupta]

Then, I would just like to mention - already many friends have spoken about it - about inflation, price rise and all that. We are, now, paying, Sir, in the retail market, Rs. 15/- for one kilogram of sugar. If you want to buy one kilogram of sugar in the bazar, you have to pay Rs. 15/- for it. Last year, viz., roughly about a year ago, it was Rs. 9/- or Rs. 10/-. We were already grumbling about it. The ordinary poor man or the consumer, who does not get enough sugar on his ration card is already grumbling about it. But today, the price has gone up to Rs. 15/- . It is fantastic in a country like India. First of all, now, the Government has to explain why such an inordinate price rise has been allowed to take place in the case of sugar. Who is manipulating the sugar price in the market? Who is making profits out of this?

Secondly, now in order to bring down the price of sugar, because of the pressure of public opinion, they have suddenly declared that they are putting sugar on the OGL list. Open General Licence has been given for sugar. I do know what is the quantity. I think some several lakh tonnes of sugar can be now imported under the OGL not only by the Government but even the private traders can also import it. The reports in the economic journals say that this sugar which is already begun to be imported, perhaps, it has not reached the retail market yet. This sugar is being deliberately withheld by unscrupulous traders with the object of forcing prices still further up. So, I do not know where this is going to stop. But I am apprehensive, lest ultimately such a situation is created that the levy sugar supplies for our Public Distribution System will also be affected and that is where the quota of sugar for the Public Distribution System may also have to be cut down. But I hope this is not going to be the practice of the Govern-

ment that on the one hand they will not take any effective action against profiteers, against unscrupulous traders, and on the other hand when prices go out of control, then they say that now sugar, edible oil and raw cotton will be put on OGL as they have done recently. This is no way of bringing prices down. I say this also because we are apprehensive of the future. We have been warned umpteen number of times because of the GATT proposals and the Government has not denied it. The prices, at least of pharmaceuticals, medicines and drugs are likely to go up.

When they are asked here, what will happen if the prices go up by four or five times, how will the ordinary man afford these medicines, then we were told: "Don't worry, we will impose some price control." This is the specimen of price control on sugar, edible oils and raw cotton. We have seen what is the efficacy of Government's price control measures. We do not think it will fare any better in the case of pharmaceuticals, medicines and drugs.

Then the balance of trade is an important thing; the balance of trade is running at 1.4 billion dollars - an adverse balance of trade against India. Say in 1993-94, there was some growth in the export from India; that is to be welcomed. There was an export growth of 20.37 percent in dollars terms, but, at the same time, imports had also gone up and imports in 1993-94 went up 15.71 percent in terms of corers of rupees. This was entirely due to extensive concessions which had been given in import duties even in the month of March. In the month of March alone, there had been more than 50 percent increase in the imports after the Budget was announced. So, more concessions are being given by way of import duties and export duties. The imports are going up; the values of imports are going up; and whatever we

are gaining in some area by some slight increase in exports, is wiped out. He has not told us how much outflow of hard currency by way of interest repayment has gone up during this period. Between 1992-93 and 1993-94, what is the total bill of interest repayment in hard currency which we are having to make?

I would like to just mention a fact about the disinvestment of shares of public sector undertakings, which have become a regular practice of the Government in order to supplement its regular revenue. In 1993-94, the target was Rs.2,500 crores to be released from disinvestment of shares of certain selected public sector undertakings; that target of Rs.2,500 crores has been raised to Rs.4000 crores for 1994-95. Now the reports are that these are being auctioned. And they have received bids from people who want to buy the shares; about 1400 bids have been received. But the point is whether these bids are at the market prices of these shares or below the market prices; and whether the Government will ultimately be prepared to dispose of these shares at below the market prices. I know that there is a reserve price, there is a thing called the 'reserve price', which is below the market price.

The Government has said that in any case no sale will be permitted below the reserve price. But we would like to know whether the bids which are made below the reserve price will be rejected or not or they will also be accepted.

Now these bids worth Rs.4,500 crores are pending, so far as I know, in respect of shares of seven undertakings including BHEL, Maha Nagar Telephone Ltd., Bharat Electronics, Bharat Earth Movers, HPCL, NALCO and BRPL. These seven public sector undertakings are proposed to be

disinvested of shares upto a total of Rs.4,500 crores this year; and this money will go to augment Shri Manmohan Singh's budget balancing. In principle, we have always objected to this method of selling away public shares in order to show us an artificial increase in the budget balance.

17.00 hrs.

But the Government is going ahead with it. At least we should know that public sector shares are not being sold away at throw away prices, which is a general accusation, which is being made by different quarters that these public sector undertakings, which are doing very well, which are making good profits and all that, whose market shares are available, their shares are being sought to be sold away at less than the market share prices and sometimes at throw away prices. What is the position regarding this, we have to know before we can formulate our final attitude towards this method and this practice which we think is very harmful for the country's future.

Now we are again starting import of gold. The gold which was sent out at the time this Government came to power and which was pledged as a sort of security to the Bank of England, which is removed from the vaults of the Reserve Bank and sent to England to be put in the vaults of the Bank of England there, has not come back, though we were told it would be redeemed and that gold would be brought back to India. Now nearly three years have passed, that gold has not come back. It remains in the vaults of the Bank of England.

Now we are informed that under a special licence scheme which has already been made available to what they call Super Star Trading Houses, the Mines and Minerals Trading Corporation (MMTC) is being

[Shri Indrajeet Gupta]

allowed to import gold at concessional rates of customs duty. What is the purpose of this, we should like to know. This gold, I am told, is for sale in the bullion market through MMTC outlets in Delhi, Bombay and Ahmedabad. Maybe this is meant to be an anti-smuggling measure, I do not know whether it is some sort of a safeguard against smuggling of gold. But first of all, we do not know how much gold is going to be allowed to be imported from these MMTC outlets.

There is a fear of crash in prices. The State Trading Corporation is not involved. The State Trading Corporation, I am told, was also invited to join this list of gold importers, but the STC has refused because they say that there is no infrastructure and this will involve a risk, a danger of a crash, later on, in prices.

I am only mentioning some points on which I want some information and clarification. I am very sanguine that I will get nothing from the Finance Minister when he replies, but I hope that at least on some other points he will explain the position.

I had mentioned earlier also that there is a journal called *The World Economic Outlook*, which is a journal of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. This is prepared in their offices. It is their official bulletin or organ, whatever you like to call it, representing their point of view. In the latest issue they have expressed great concern over the six thousand crore rupees Budget deficit which the Finance Minister has placed before us in this year's Budget. Of course, nobody believes, it will remain at Rs.6,000 crores. Ultimately, it will much more than that but even at this Rs.6,000 crore figure. *The World Economic Outlook* has expressed

deep concern.

In the meantime, if the deficit goes up, the inflation rate will also go up. You cannot stop it. Already the inflation rate last week has gone upto 10.52, well over the double digit figure which we were told would never happen and it continues to go up. This World Bank and IMF journal has said that sustainable growth is not possible without the momentum of fiscal consolidation. Fiscal consolidation means that you have to bring the deficit down and not allow it to keep going up. Without a momentum of fiscal consolidation it is not possible to have a sustainable growth of the economy. This is what they are saying, not I.

The future loan requirements would encounter stiffer conditionalities. If we have such an inflationary economy and such a momentum of deficit going up and up, then future loan requirements will certainly run into much stiffer conditionalities and terms than we have had so far.

So, what does the Finance Minister think about this? Is he resigned to this future prospect of having to pay much higher rates of interest and subscribe to higher conditionalities for future loans, because there is no sign of this inflation coming down and I am afraid, the Government has failed totally on this front. It is reluctant to reduce the high interest rates which are prevailing in this country. It seems to think that in spite of keeping interest rates high, there will be a higher overall growth and that will, by itself, increase the Government revenues. But there is no sign of improvement in the growth. He himself has said it. The last *Economic Survey* has admitted that industrial production growth is sluggish. The word they have used is 'sluggish'. They have admitted that it is not going up except very slowly. This three per cent growth

which he has confidently forecast, that at least it will be three per cent growth, he is nowhere near that at present.

Therefore, if there is no overall growth at a higher rate, then this question of augmenting Government revenues is just an illusion. It cannot be brought about and I simply wish to say that this Finance Bill must be viewed from the point of view of a sort of an annexure or an adjunct to the main Budget proposals. The main Budget proposals this year have made it quite clear that there is a run away inflation which has overtaken the economy, the Government has no credible procedure or machinery or method by which to halt this inflation and this inflation will actually bring about a situation ultimately where the outflow will be more. We must remember that this high rate of foreign exchange reserves which we are talking about so much and money has come in from outside has come in partly as loans, partly from NRI's deposits and so on, all the foreign exchange which is deposited in the Reserve Bank of India automatically requires that a corresponding amount in Indian currency has to be released by the Reserve Bank. They may keep the foreign exchange certainly in their reserve but corresponding to that, they have to release a corresponding amount of Indian currency into the market. That means, the money supply is going up all the time. The money supply this year have not got the figure with me just now-- has gone up substantially and the money supply is stoking this inflation further. The prices are going up further.

Therefore, we should have been told what are the countervailing methods by which the Government is really hoping to convince people in this country that the inflation rate will be slowed down or stopped. I do not see any prospect like that. It is a completely gloomy prospect as far as inflation is concerned. Therefore I would say that

this Budget, of course, has proved to be an eye-wash in that sense, because it can never fulfil the assurances or promises made by the Finance Minister and this Finance Bill now proves what I am saying, that on the one hand while he has given lot of assurances....

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY (JAGATSINGHPUR): For three years he has failed.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: For three years he has failed. But every year we are given a fresh hope that something will happen.

This is all I want to say. I hope that when he replies, having made a note of some of the points I have made, some clarification, some elucidation, some information at least will be shared with the House. We are completely in the dark as to how this management of the country's finance is going to be conducted.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (MUZAFFARPUR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Member, Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya had raised a question the day before yesterday in the House relating to the statement issued 1-2 days before in Calcutta by Dr. Jayaram Ramesh, Advisor, Planning Commission. Dr. Jayaram Ramesh had said that the new economic policy which being followed today has effected this year's budget as also those of previous two years and its reflection is visible in this Financial Bill which has created such conditions in Eastern States in West Bengal, Orissa, and eastern Uttar Pradesh that the number of workers in the organised sector there will be reduced by 70 percent.

17.11 hrs.

(MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

I regret the fact that the point raised by Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya in the House on that day was not listened with seriousness it deserved and I can not say whether the statement of Dr. Jayaram Ramesh will be taken seriously in the country or not because he is not going to ponder over it. He is implementing that policy with main and might.

Another point he has made is that there are 22 lakh workers in the Public Sector Enterprises today of which 4 lakh are in all likelihood like to be retrenched in near future. Finally, probably everybody will be retrenched if these people sitting in the treasury benches continue to stay here because it is their resolve, their policy and they are bound by it. They claim to have adopted this policy perforce binding national compulsions but these are their own made compulsions which I will not touch upon this time because much has been said about that.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not think that the Government of any other country could have adopted such policies as are being followed here by this Government and which will be instrumental in divesting the West Bengal, Orissa, and eastern Uttar Pradesh of their 70 percent employment. But hon. Maliniji did not make one more point here, she was not allowed as well, or may be it did not strike her mind and it is that such conditions will be created in the eastern States, according to the advisor of the Planning Commission, primarily because the new capital investment, Indian or foreign is to be made in the Western States. These might be Maharashtra, Gujarat and

Karnataka but not Kerala . as we know no capital investment is going to be made there. Rajasthan, Gujarat and Karnataka for inciting a provincial dispute in the country. This is what Dr. Jayaram Ramesh said. The reason is that the infrastructure of development raised in the western states during the last 45-47 years is attracting capital today, both Indian as well as foreign and there are arrangements for providing facilities for that. It is separate debatable story that five Governments are reluctant to follow your special policy. But the negligence of last 47 years has assumed dangerous proportions today and may lead to an explosive situation. We have witnessed Yugoslavia's dismemberment into Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia. But the Finance Minister knows that there were most developed and most backward provinces in Yugoslavia and a perpetual state of tension prevailed between the two. He should not be euphoric about India that this tension does not prevail here. In Maharashtra, Shiv Sena demands that Marathis should be given job there. The tension emanating from it is not restricted to the people of Maharashtra alone but there is tension among other States as well.

During the setting up of a new industry in one of the talukas of Gujarat for its development a year ago, the locals raised a new dispute by saying that people from nearby villages in the vicinity must be given jobs in it but those coming from far off villages should not be given jobs. We have witnessed such things in Kerala and other parts of our country. This policy will help concentration of capital in a few areas only.

These disputes will not remain confined to small towns or villages only, rather they have already taken a critical turn. At least I am frightened whenever I think about the consequences. In para 24 of his speech the hon. Minister of Finance stated:

[English]

"I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Members to the proposal made in the Budget for providing a five-year holiday for new industrial undertakings set up in backward districts of States which are not specified in the Eighth Schedule to the Income tax Act. This proposal has been widely welcomed."

[Translation]

I do not know who have welcomed it. There is no doubt that slight relief has been given but sometimes we are so overwhelmed by the proposal that we rush to the hon. Minister of Finance to facilitate him. Lot of facilities have been given but there is no likelihood of their reaching the districts. My submission is that if the credit deposit ratio would have been maintained honestly many of the problems of the States could have been resolved. I would have said that it is nonsense but it would be a harsh word and you would expunge it.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If it is unparliamentary we shall remove it.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : It is not unparliamentary, but it is a harsh word. Please think for a while I have been raising this matter for the last 25 years. For instance only 37.3 percent of credit deposit ratio is being utilised in Bihar. These figures are from the Reserve Bank India report as in March, 1993. Where is the balance amount of deposits of Bihar being utilised? In my opinion it was siphoned away to metropolises. The C.P.M. Government in West Bengal for last 17 years has been able to increase

this ratio to 50 percent. The average ratio in the country is 61 percent. The people have raised their voice and improved this ratio during last 4 or 5 years. But this ratio is still 37.3 percent in Bihar. My colleague Prof. Prem Dhumal might be aware that this ratio is 32 percent in Himachal Pradesh. Sir you might be aware that the people of Himachal Pradesh are mainly engaged in apple orchards or in the Service Sector. Even then this ratio is 32 percent only. Now the question is as to where is the balance amount utilised. The credit deposit ratio in Jammu and Kashmir is 30 percent. But no development was being done there. This ratio has been raised in Uttar Pradesh from 39 percent to 42 percent. A small island like Lakshadweep needs to lot of funds for development and improving the standard of living there. But only 9.9 percent of amount deposited in Banks is spent there. Where is the rest of the amount invested? My point is that the system the Government has adopted for a long time has led to disputes in every State. I want to know the names of the states which have been deprived of the benefit of credit deposit ratio so far and the deposits from these States have been utilised in other States. I want that the hon. Minister of Finance should clarify the position.

The credit deposit ratio in Kerala is 47 percent. There are sufficient deposits but the major share of the funds is not being utilised for the development of Kerala. The youth of Kerala are forced to go to Bombay in search of livelihood and they have to face lot of problems there as the Shiv Sena activists drive them away from there. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are opposed the policy of the Government and are not interested in the statistical jugglery of the Government. But we should consider this basic issue immediately and bring about improvement otherwise the situation will worsen and its repercussions will be inevitable. Any

[Shri George Fernandes]

excuse that foreign hand is to be blamed for the situation will not serve the purpose. Some concrete measures must be taken to stamp out this 47 year old malady.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER, Sir, I would like to say this also that the Budget and the policies have been prepared as per the suggestions of the World Bank and we do not know where will they lead our country to.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (BARH): Whom do you want to put forth your grievances? Except the Minister related to the Department no Minister of Cabinet rank is sitting here.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (AJMER): Sir, we expect the presence of the hon. Senior Minister during the discussion of an important issue like Finance Bill.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The concerned Minister is here.

SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG (SHILLONG) : Sir, the Minister of State of Finance is here.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Where are the other Ministers?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The concerned Minister is here.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Saharsa) : Mr. Sukhram has come.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House

was a little dull. He wanted to infuse life in the House. Now it has come to the proper order. Shri George Fernandes may continue.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was saying that the policy of the Government was prepared at the dictats of the World Bank. Analysing the new economic policy of India the World Bank report in 1992 states that -

[English]

In 1990 the number of India's population below poverty is 22.6 crore or 44.8 crore depending on how one defines poverty.

[Translation]

But at the same time he also stated that-

[English]

Roughly 35 to 40 percent of the world's poor are in India under either definition.

Whatever definition you want to apply, between 35 to 40 percent of the world's poor are in India.

It further says: "Available evidence suggests that the poor remain highly vulnerable and may be adversely affected by a number of components essential to the reform package, including probable increases in basic food prices, reductions in subsidies for fertilizers and power and short-term unemployment in urban manufacturing and service sectors as firms adjust to increased competition following industrialised trade liberalisation."

[Translation]

The World Bank gives suggestions to the Government. But it cannot be our advisor because we have never accepted its outlook and we have opposed it as it imposes its terms and conditions. The script has already been written by the world Bank, by the International Monetary Fund which is a sister of the World Bank.

[Translation]

Since the script was already prepared and everything was decided there is no use of clamouring here on it. If Shri Ramesh Jayram speaks there we are furious but he has raised the dispute between various States. The question of unemployment can lead our country to ruin. Has this Finance Bill addressed that problem in true earnest? The National Renewal Fund may provide some relief but there is an apprehension that many factories and mills will close down and that is a matter of grave concern. Nothing substantial is going to be done. (*Interruptions*)

Our main concern is as to what does the Government think about those who are being deprived of their jobs and those who are coming into the employment market everyday. What provision has been made for them in the Finance Bill? Is the Government aware of the fact that it will have to generate employment for 26 crore people in next seven years? I am talking about only one group of persons who belong to the age group of 15 years and 24 years and who will have to be provided jobs within next seven years because we claim ourselves to be going ahead to the 21st century. Till the advent of the 21st Century we will have general employment for 26 crore children. It implies that the Government will have to generate employment for three or three and

a half crore persons in a year in the country. But the Government has no such proposal in the Finance Bill. We can atleast discuss about on which goods you have given rebate in taxes, on which goods taxes should be less, what has happened in my constituency and what should happen, we would like to know from the Government that if you do not want this matter to be discussed in this House, if the Government is not prepared to give any reply on that. We would like to know from the Government through you as to whether they have envisaged anything in this matter. Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, we would like to know from the Government what is going to take place during this discussion since this Bill has been presented for the approval of the House and everyone is expected to support it. Therefore, I feel it is must to give the reply of these questions.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to say something else in this House regarding this policy. Recently it was a news item in the newspapers that Cargill Company is going once again in the field of salt, from where it had left in the month of October. The announcement was made day before yesterday that they have reached there. I understand that they have nothing to do with salt and *Namak Satyagrah*. I am ready to accept that they people will not have to think about the sacrifice of Gandhiji and others for the freedom of our country but salt provides employment to the people. There are employees who work in the field of salt.

Cargill has given in writing to the court, after a continuous Satyagrah/movement of 5 months, that they are going and that they will not stay there. They have given the statement. The advocate of the Government on behalf of the concerned Ministry dealing with the work of Ports, had gone to the Gujarat High Court, Ahmedabad had

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given in writing that Cargil, which was given permission earlier has withdrawn it - self from that. The matter concluded there but now the Government has not only given them the permission but has also assured to provide all facilities so where does the Government want to take the country?

Today, I have read in a newspaper that Indian Airlines has suggested that Government should make provision to cut short the air routes on the country on thus reducing the distance with a view to save the petrol and by making a minor change in the present routes Indian Airlines can save the petrol to the tune of Rs. 175 crores in a year but our defence department did not agree to that. They said that it cannot be done since the aircraft of Indian Airlines should not fly over the cantonments and defence installation areas. Kandla is the front line port of our country. As the Karachi port became a part of Pakistan, this port was build keeping in view the security of the country. A person from our Defence Services too is included in the management of Port Trust. Last time when this question was raised, the defence department has said that no foreign company should be allowed to manufacture salt in this area keeping in view the security of the country. Therefore, I would like to know in which direction the Government want to lead the country through this policy.

Our freedom struggle is with salt. It is a question mark on the last step taken by Gandhiji for the freedom of the country. Now, even , if you do not want to consider over all these things atleast you should keep in mind the security of the country. Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, we are very much worried at the way the Cargil is entering i every field. There is a scarcity of the feeling of patriotism.

Cold drinks were manufactured by our people just three years before. Today the manufacturing of cold drinks has been handed over to the foreign companies. This year the business of cold drinks has been of 1800 crore rupees then the American companies will take away 360 crore rupees with them. The newspapers throughout the world are reporting that India has become a battle ground for the two global soft drink giants. Indian soil not only turned into a battle ground in the field of cold drinks but it has also turned into a battleground for ice-creams. The business of ice-cream is not going on large scale but even then Rs. 200 crore are involved in this business. Now the Unilever, which is kown as Hindustan Lever in our country has entered into this business of 200 crore rupees of ice cream. The Hindustan Lever did not show their might in comparison to the ITC The ITC officers said that they will not let it happen. There was a time when ITC was a multinational company but today Indians hold its major share. We will not allow you for majority holding in it but Hindustan Lever has become Unilever. Cadbury, which used to be the manufacturer of ice-cream now has to go for bottle of giants in terms of quality with Brook Bond and Lipton India, which are the companies of the owner of the Hindustan Lever.

I think that each and every person, who became the part of India after partition and started a business in the metropolitan city. Delhi, has boosted it up. Today 40 percent of the total business of the country is in their hands. Vadilal of Gujarat is holding 20 per cent of the country's total business. They have made progress. They have spread their business from Gujarat to Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Delhi. Today the foreign companies are trying to take over the business of Indian Companies.

Hence, while we are discussing this

ordinance, this matter does not mean House will have to consider over this issue very seriously.

All of us say that GATT is harmful, GATT is not a document but it is an agreement. The foreign companies are entering in every field in India. The people of other countries will not find anywhere a Finance Minister named, Dr. Manmohan Singh. He knew it very well as to what Americans desired, in which fields they should be allowed to enter into India and where the custom should be reduced. That is why, the day before yesterday, he said that 70 percent of the work has been completed and only 30 percent is left. 70 percent has been accomplished through last three budgets and only 30 percent is left. We, the members of opposition are saying this because we know that GATT is harmful. Those sitting on the other end are its supporters and there is no need at all to foretell where this support will lead you. I think that it is harmful for the country. There is no use at all in raising voices against it unless we consider that in which fields and how it is harmful for us.

I am happy that hon. Minister of Communications is present here. I do not know whether I should welcome him or thank him. There was a case related to Videsh Sanchar Nigam, the foreign companies now hold 1/3 shares of it. The Soloman Brothers and Clanword Benson, these two companies were asked to mobilise one billion dollars in Europe for Videsh Sanchar Nigam, this was not supposed to be handed over to these companies. I do not know whether it is a fact or not but I am saying so on the basis of the hearsay. God knows, who took this decision and whether they were right in their thinking or not. When the Minister says that it is wrong then it should not be. Who took the decision? May be the bureaucrats had taken these decisions. Who pressurised them?

Whether these were politicians or outside middlemen or both of these? Not that he does not know but today I will not speak. I know who were interested in it and how these two companies have befooled us, since the loss is beyond calculators. One of our companies got one million dollars. We can confine ourselves to this extent only. Our country has to face humiliation before the whole world but the Government could not do what it wanted to do.

I am saying so because a lot of money is involved in it. The Government pays 3 percent of the total amount to the foreign company, to which it hands over the task of selling its share in the world and for arranging money from foreign countries. It was a deal of one million dollars, which means that 30 million dollars or rupees 100 crore were to be paid at the rate of 3 percent. I am saying so seriously that any one who is found guilty in it should be pointed out and must be punished. No foreign company should be allowed to play foul with our country.

It is said that the bank rate has increased in America. On account of the budget our share market has declined and we have lost our reputation in the international market. But it is the sole purpose of the companies, merchant bankers and lead managers. What else it can do? They are not supposed to be middle men only, at least they should have envisaged as to what should have happened in three months or in six months. If the lead manager takes a contract of selling shares anywhere throughout the world then it is not only the law of this trade that he must fulfil the promise. If the prices had declined in the market then it was their duty to pay one million dollars to the Government, though this money was not meant for the Ministry of Communications, we have made a mistake there. Why the

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Government has defamed the name of Videsh Sanchar Nigam. This amount was not meant for Videsh Sanchar Nigam. Now the Government has 15 billion dollars, which should have been raised upto 16 billion dollars. This amount was not to be invested for the development of Videsh Sanchar Nigam. The hon. Minister should give the reply, if not today then on some other day.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS: SHRI SUKH RAM : If you allow, I will give the reply right now.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Please give your reply after my speech is over.

It would have been much better if the hon. Finance Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh had been present here, since he had casted aspersions on us time and again. He particularly interrupted our Marxist colleagues by mentioning China and how China has made progress at such a fast pace and how should we work here, he used to say so many things in this regard.

Today, I have to put some facts before this August House. The hon. Finance Minister has been misguiding the House time and again and I am going to make it clear today. One thing is patented that he claims that he had to improve the condition of the country which was prevailing at the time when his party took the reins into its hands, in 1991 and his second patent is when such things can happen in China why we are not ready to accept in our country.

We have the requisite information about China and that is derived from the documents of the United Nations Organisation. It is not a political document. At first, the foreign capital in China is 0.4 percent along

with the employment infrastructure. Secondly, the other most important thing is that the Government sector in China, which we call public sector here is known as State-owned sector in China, has 40.2 percent industries on the basis of total business of the total industries.

[English]

40.2 percent of the total Gross National Product comes from the State-owned sector, 30 percent comes from collective sector. I am giving you the 1991 figures.

[Translation]

Which is not private. There are collective farms and collective cooperatives and such other organisations, but not of the Government. Individual sector has 19.6 percent. There individual sector means the self employed units and one unit has an average number of employees of 1.6, i.e. one family unit. Again, I repeat that the output of the individual unit is 19.6 percent. The private enterprises and foreign enterprises both have total output of 0.4 percent and 1.3 percent respectively. Such a situation has been created here. The whole development of China is based on the foreign capital. The change came in China not only by hard labour but by honesty also. Last year two thousand Government officials in China.....

An hon. Member : Were sent to jail.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Thousands were sent to jail but two thousand were awarded capital punishment and were gunned down. The Government of China has admitted that a few more than two thousand were sentenced to death but the common feeling is that the number is much higher. They were responsible for corrupt practices in industrial and business sectors

China has done it in her own country as per the law of the land and we are not going to urge for the same here in our country, we have no objection if our Government follows the path of development like that of China. China punishes the dishonest Government officers, the bureaucrats and the company owners etc. When they do something wrong, they are punished. May be our Government is ready to give such punishment but I do not believe in capital punishment. If our Government accepts it, I am ready to wait for five years since we will have sufficient time to remove such people and ask them to stand on fire line. We will get success in bringing up the country from helplessness to some extent.

With these words, I strongly oppose this Bill, Thank you.

[English]

SHRI SUKH RAM : I want to clarify the position about the point that the hon. Member has raised, if you allow me. Otherwise I can give it to him in writing.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Once again the argument starts and it consumes a lot of time. Today we have to sit fairly for a very long time because there are hon. members who are waiting anxiously to participate in the debate. We should not deny them the chance. I request the hon. Members also to cooperate. The hon. Minister may give the clarification for two minutes, if he wants.

[Translation]

SHRI SUKH RAM : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has presented the facts in a distorted manner. I do not know if

his information is incorrect or he has tried to give such as an impression. It is not that we have been put to difficulty or we have become victims of a fraud merely on account of entry of foreign companies. This is not so. An offer was received from the coordinators appointed in this country that they can offer us Rs.1400 to Rs.1600 on each share of Rs.10. But, we had decided to disinvest the shares of Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited well before that and it had already been proposed to go in for Euro-Issue. In this connection, I constituted a high powered committee under the chairmanship of the Chairman, Telecom Commission. In this committee, the other members were the Chairman, VSNL, Finance Secretary and the Chairman, IDBI, I left it to them to select a coordinator who may enjoying world-wide reputation.

18.00 hrs.

It is on this basis that I got an approval from the Cabinet. But, the Cabinet put a condition that they will not agree to less than Rs. 1400. Whenever, I get an opportunity, I would explain it in detail. When our officials went for negotiations, there was a downfall in the prices of shares in the international market. In USA, interest rates had also been raised and there were other reasons due to which we would have got Rs.1150 instead of Rs.1400. When I was informed about this, I immediately talked to the hon. Prime Minister and he was also of the opinion that we should not agree to less than Rs.1400. (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, I think, we have to extend the time of the House. Mr. Minister.

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): I think, the House can sit late. There are so many speakers left out who are to speak. If the House approves, we might sit upto 8 o'clock so that tomorrow we can have reply of the Finance Minister.

[Translation]

Dr. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): We are sitting till 7.0 clock and if nesesity we will sit till 8,0 clock.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yesterday also a request was made in this regard. If we has sat for some more time yesterday, more Members could have participated. Those who have the opportunity of speaking earlier are prepared to sit and those who have no such opportunity, do not want to sit. We should look them as our brothers.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (PALI): Sir, we can sit late.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Okay, we will sit.

[Translation]

SHRI SUKH RAM: In this connection, I would like to tell the House that our intention was not mala-fide. I think it was rather a question of the prestige of this contry. It was not merely a question of money. We could have got Rs. 1100 on each share of Rs. 10 but we kept this view in our mind that this being our first Euro-Issue, the prestige of our country was involved. so, we decided to defer this decision. However, we cannot control the fluctuations in the international market. (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PETER G MARBANIANG (SHILLONG): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first of all, I would like to apologise for having not present in the House last evening when you had called out my name, as we had another Committee meeting.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (BARH): Is eating allowed in the House?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Nitish Kumar wants to know whether the Government could make necessary arrangements for the dinner so that we can sit for more time and complete. That is his desire; I just want to know.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: I will be very happy to do that.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: What I an saying is that Shri Bhoi has been eating continuously.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Marbaniang.

SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG: Sir, I rise to support the Finance Bill, 1994. I congratulate the hon. Finance Minister for many concessions that he has given in the excise and customs duties, which will encourage growth and development of our economy. Sir, it is ture that we cannot satisfy all sections of the people present in the House. However, I must say that the Finance minister has tried his best to create

proper conditions which will lead to faster growth and development of our country. Sir, I would also like to congratulate the Finance Minister for constituting a Group of Experts which will collect district-wise data from the States in order to arrive at uniform set of criteria for industrial backwardness on a national level and to identify on the basis of these criteria, districts which are extremely backward. Sir, it is true that the economic conditions prevailing in different parts of this great country of ours are not the same. Therefore, given certain assumptions for growth and development, I think it is wise to identify the backward districts and to apply a separate or special set of criteria to uplift those districts.

Sir, I come from North East Region. And in North East, we find that we are very rich in raw materials like forest produce, oil, gas, coal and many other rich mineral products.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please try to avoid reading. It is not permitted.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: He is not reading. Sir, he is only referring to the papers!

SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, you please name him. He is always disturbing the House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: But he is a great friend of yours!

SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG : I am not reading anything. Please name him so that you can't teach him how to respect the rules and regulations of the House.

While we have natural resources in abundance, we find that the investment in the North East is not commensurate with the rich natural resources. We find that most of the time the investment is very sluggish,

leading to a sluggish development of the area. This slow growth in the North East cannot be compared with the growth with other developed areas of India. Therefore, different economic criteria will have to be applied in the case of the North East.

I find that in the sphere of job opportunities also, North East has a rather very limited growth. This led to frustration among our young men and women, which in turn gave rise to many terrorist groups. The number of unemployed in the Employment Exchanges has more than doubled or trebled. If you refer to the figures available with the Government of India, you will find that unemployment is increasing at an alarming pace in the North East. I have read in a reply to a question that in Meghalaya in 1981 there were only 2,000 unemployed persons but now the number is more than two lakhs. Same is the case with Assam, Tripura, Mizoram, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh.

Therefore, Sir, we want that the Government should come up with some new programme of investment because local contribution is very very limited. Public loans are not floated locally. The Government of India should make a massive investment in those industries which can be given added value so that when they go out of the North-East, they not only bring more money to the North-Eastern States but also give job opportunities to the local people.

The State of Meghalaya is sending tonnes of coal to Bangladesh and also to other parts of India. But, we are not able to start any industry in that State. I request the Government to adopt such criteria for setting up of industries as will suit the North-Eastern States. We find that the Government is giving transport subsidy only from Siliguri. There is a demand from almost all the North-Eastern States that this facility should be extended upto Patna because we

[Shri Peter G. Marbaniang]

have landlocked areas in the entire North East and we depend only on motor transport. Most of the States in the North-East do not have rails, airways or other means of transport.

We welcome the Government's proposal of tax holiday for five years but the proposal by itself will not help bring in investment in the North-East. The investment will have to be made at the Government level. I hope that with the help of this boost given in the shape of tax holiday and by making efforts to bring peace and tranquillity in the entire North-East, we will be able to generate more employment for the local people.

We have rural banks in almost all the villages of the North-East which are doing a very good job. I am happy to know that the Government of India is thinking of a National Rural Bank of its own. My request to the Government is that it should not do away with some of the rural banks in the North-East though some of them may be incurring loss – because these rural banks have been able to inculcate saving habits amongst the people of North-East.

The other point that I would like to make is about the adjustment of the overdraft with the plan money. If an overdraft is there, the Government of India immediately takes away the same amount out of the plan or non-plan money meant for the State. This has led to a reduction in the economic activities of the State. I appeal to the Government to come up with a scheme whereby there should be a freeze of at least 10 years on the overdraft so that the money is invested in the States for which it is meant for. If this is done then the States will be able to go ahead with their economic development programme:

I would like to remind the Government of India, particularly the Finance Department about the abundance of gas in Assam and Tripura. The Government should ask the Gas Authority of India to lay the pipelines in both these States so that this gas which is abundantly available there is utilised properly. Instead of sending the gas to Bangladesh and West Bengal an effort should be made to make it available to different areas of North-East so that gas-based industries and gas-based power stations could be started.

Sir, I know that time does not permit me to go further but I want only to draw the attention of the Government of India that the economic criteria existing in the North-Eastern region cannot be compared with other parts of India. There should be special consideration for this area so that more employment opportunities can be created, more investment can be made and more industries which depend on local produces in that area be utilised for the benefit of the people.

Thank you, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (MANGALORE) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, as far as I understand, the Finance Bill is an exercise to translate the vision on the national economy exhibited in the Budget into action. So, it is necessary to know the thrust of our economy. I would like to ask the Government as to what is the main thrust in their perception on our national economy. Sir, it is apparent from the proposals made in the Budget that by drastically reducing the import duty and also the customs duty on a number of items including consumer goods, they have simultaneously brought many items produced specially in the small scale sector on the net of central excise apart from

hiking the excise duty on many other items.

Sir, it is very clear that this Government is only interested furthering the cause of the multinationals. May I ask the Government as to what picture they would like to give to the whole world about our economy? Do you want our economy to be based and supported only on the basis of investment by the multinationals, by attracting more and more foreign investment? Normally, at the time of preparing the Budget, as per the practice, the Government consults the traders' organisations, the big industrial houses and also organisations of the industries as to how the taxes could be rationalised, where reductions will have to be given; and which items should be included in the tax net. All these things are thoroughly discussed. But I am sorry to bring one point to the notice of the Government: For the last forty-five years, have they ever bothered to consult the biggest section of the population, that is, the consumers, before making the Budget proposals? More than 90 percent of the population is the consumers.

Today, Sir, the Finance Minister is very well aware that we cannot improve our economic situation unless the purchasing capacity of the common man is strengthened. Is there any meaning for the Budget-making exercise when the Government itself is repeatedly resorting to imposition of administered prices?

As usual, this year also, we have seen that the Government has drastically increased the taxes on many essential items. The other day, after making proposals for hikes in taxes, the Finance Minister came before the House and said that he had given concessions on several items. With this, how far the interest of the consumer would be protected? Today, what is the effect of the three consecutive Budgets presented

by Shri Manmohan Singh?

A short while ago, our senior colleague, Shri George Fernandes, had given figures and was trying to enlighten us by comparing the growth achieved by China and how we were lagging behind.

Last year, after repeated requests made by the Opposition, the Government came out with the White Paper on the debt position of our country, which was alarming. Our external debt is more than Rs.2,75,000 crores with which we are burdened. In this year's Budget also we see that almost 60 percent of the income from internal resources is set apart, that is Rs.46,000 crores are set apart for payment of interest and the debt service charges for the external debt alone. With this, how can we expect to improve our economic situation?

The other aspect is the inflation which has gone up and has already crossed the double digit figure. This is the contribution of the three consecutive Budgets presented by this Government. Can we not, for a moment, think of calling a halt for further borrowings? Can we not take a decision today that we will repay the loan with interest at the earliest? Can we not create confidence in the minds of our people so that we can try to stand on our own legs? That is why my party has come out with our economic policy. We have given main thrust for Swadeshi and also for self-reliance. I do not know whether this Government would understand these words because I am not talking about any individual. But there is a crisis of integrity in the Government as a whole. The Government has no will to uplift the economy, to create more and more employment and also increase the gross domestic products. After several assurances given by the Finance Minister, even today the fiscal deficit is not controlled and still is

[Sh. V. Dhananjaya Kumar]

rated at 5 percent of the GDP. In spite of several concessions announced in the import duty as well as the customs duty last year, we have seen that there has been a fall in the industrial production; there has been a fall in the agricultural production.

Several of the labourers are rendered unemployed. There has been a fall in collection of revenue. But on the other hand there has been an enormous increase in the unproductive expenses. With the concessions now given the point is whether the Finance Minister can expect to mop up the proposed revenue?

Now let us examine the case of importing the capital goods. In spite of the concessions the question is whether any indigenous industrialist would venture to get more and more capital goods to this country today, when your consumer market is kept wide open to the multinationals. As was being referred to, multinationals have started entering into fields like production of soft drinks, production of ice creams, leave apart the other consumer goods like tooth-paste, soap, etc. With this situation, whether any indigenous industrialist can make huge investment and import the capital goods and then set up a new industry here. When the production will commence, we will cross another two three years, by that time our market will be flooded with the products made by the multinationals. So today, we should sit down and make a loud thinking as to where we are taking the country.

Have we ever thought that the biggest investment or the biggest resource which we have is the manpower? Is there a vision with the Government to create more and more employment? What about the sector, i.e. mainly the small and khadi and village

industry sector which has the greatest potential of creating more and more employment.

After the presentation of the Budget, all of us know that more than 70 to 80 percent of the small scale industries have closed down. Why? Would you not give a proper thinking before you make the Budget Proposals? Can you not envisage as to what will be the impact of making certain changes in the structure of imposing the excise duty? Can you expect the indigenous industrialist to compete with the well-established multinationals.

Today, as rightly observed by hon. Shri George Fernandes, our country is becoming a base for a competition between the multinationals. They are using this as a ground for bringing in money, using our resources to produce goods then sell them outside.....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Sell them inside, create a market and take the money out!

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Not only inside, Sir, they will sell them outside also. They would earn money and they would take back the money to their country. They will never invest the money here.

Just a week ago, I had an occasion to talk to one gentleman from South Africa. Today, South Africa is not in a better position compared to our country. He had come here to study the situation for making certain investment in the area of some cooperative sector. I asked him as to what was his opinion about the situation available in India. He said, " I am sorry to say that you are lacking in infrastructure. You do not have enough power, you do not have the water supply, you do not have the transport facil-

ities, you do not have proper roads and all that."

I would like to know from the Government, while they are trying to attract more and more foreign investment, if they have ever thought for a moment whether these multinationals would come here and make investments to build infrastructures in this country? They will never do that. They will come here - if at all they come and bring the money -- to exploit the situation, they will try to flood our consumer market, then earn enough profits and take away the money from this country.

So, we should give a proper thinking to develop the infrastructural facilities to give more thrust to the agricultural sector, and encourage setting up more and more agro based rural industries so that the manpower could be better utilised. Then we can produce more to cater to the needs of the largest number of consumers available in the whole of the world and also exploit the consumer market in our country.

At the same time, you may ask me whether the Indian consumer also is not entitled to a better produce. I would definitely say that he is. Today, we must instill confidence in the minds of the indigenous industrialists also to better the quality of their products. They must be able to compete with the multinationals in the international market also.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: They should become multinationals.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Let us serve the interests of our countrymen first. Let us try to stand on our legs. That is why I have said that we must definitely propagate the idea of Swadeshi and self-reliance. That only can throw a new light and

that would revamp the whole economic situation. And definitely India can become a super power in the world if we infuse this confidence in the minds of the people and make them stand on their own legs.

For these reasons, I say that, I definitely have no belief that this Government would learn some lessons from the past. They have no confidence or political will to translate this into action. As rightly said, they have started forgetting, leave others, the Father of the nation, Mahatma Gandhi himself. So they will not understand these words like Swadeshi and self-reliance.

For these reasons I am sorry, that I cannot support this Bill. That is why I strongly oppose this Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Thank you very much.

Shri Sriballav Panigrahi. Absent.
Shri Shravan Kumar Patel. Absent.
Shri C.K. Kuppuswamy.

[*Translation*]

*SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMI (COIMBATORE) : Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Finance Bill for the year 1994-95.

I would like to record my appreciation for the bold initiatives taken by our beloved Finance Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh and I would like to make few observations as I extend my wholehearted support to the Finance Bill moved in this August House.

You have extended certain tax reliefs to general small industries. The pump sets that are being used in the agricultural sector has been given excise relief. You have also

* Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

[Sh. C.K. Kuppaswami]

announced tax relief to Knitting and Spinning industry particularly powerloom, sizing, warping, cone winding etc. I would like to congratulate you on this count.

Excise reduction to promote capital goods and spare parts that will augur well for industrial growth and customs duty reduction while importing capital goods and machine tools is a welcome step. On behalf of the industrialists from my constituency Coimbatore, I would like to thank you profusely.

You have announced several incentive schemes to ensure an increase in the prevailing 6% of industrial growth rate. It is a welcome step to have permitted the exporters to retain 25% instead of 15% of the net foreign exchange they earn. It is a step in the right direction, to have reduced duty on the import of machinery as part of capital goods. I would like to state in this August House that my home town Tiruppur has fixed itself a target to export Rs.1000 crores worth of goods annually by 2000 A.D. It would be appropriate to establish an Export processing zone in a place centrally located between the industrial towns like Coimbatore, Erode and Salem. I welcome various incentives offered to promote exports. All these foresighted measures with far-reaching results are widely welcomed by the industrialists of these industries. In order to promote further export from Tiruppur you may kindly bring about a streamlined 'single window clearance' system.

Like the Export Processing Zone created near Madras, you may form another EPZ in the Kongu region. In order to step up exportation you may consider to make Coimbatore Airport an Air Cargo Transport Terminal. To handle Air Cargo Traffic,

Coimbatore Airport should be further expanded. Funds required for this can be mobilised from the private sector especially local industries over there. Air cargo traffic with international standards can be visualised for Coimbatore Airport to increase exports from the Kongu region.

I appreciate the steady Rupee rate in the currency exchange market. Inflation has touched a double digit figure again and I am hopeful that adequate measures would be taken to bring down the rate of inflation. We have redeemed the pledged gold and we have won credit worthiness winning international acclamation. Thereby we have made the country feel proud.

I am rather hopeful that the manufacturers and the tax payers would follow the guidelines of Dr. Manmohan Singh to overcome certain slippages in the fiscal deficit. At this juncture, I would like to thank Hon. the Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao for his ceaseless pursuit of New Economic Policy.

You have indicated the streamlining of Banking and Insurance sector. You have also indicated the increased availability of advance facilities to Industrial sector. The Government effort to lower the interest rate generates hope and confidence in your measures. While congratulating you, I wish to impress upon you that the Government must not let go its grip and effective control over these vital financial sector bodies.

This year's Budget shows that the overall expenditure for this year is to be about 11/2 lakh crores of rupees. The Budget deficit comes to about Rs.6000 crores. Further reduction in Government non-plan expenditure should be brought down. This would enable a balanced and uniformed social, economic, and industrial growth.

I welcome the setting up of a Fund for the Technological Development and utilisation making such technology commercially viable. This would help identifying young Scientists and to promote their discoveries in a commercially viable fashion.

Finance Minister's intention to review the functioning of Regional Rural Banks and to ensure their effective role to be on the reach out of agriculturists and rural artisans thereby ensuring increased productivity and generation of gainful rural employment is a heartening one. Various schemes for the rural poor should have monitoring mechanisms and should involve local people and people's representatives. You have announced the increase in Income Tax ceiling limit. I would like to suggest that you should evolve a method in such a way that wage and salary earners are not affected by the price rise. Hence you may revise the tax slabs once in a quarter according to the consumer price index.

I welcome the increasing of ceiling for Gift tax and request you to reconsider the levying of Service Tax.

The total tax exemption given to contributions made for Environmental preservation projects shows the Government's commitment to keep pollution under check.

Rural Development schemes will be carried out in 1994-95 with an increased allocation to the tune of about Rs.200 crores reaches and all time high of Rs. 7110 crores. Likewise, with 17% increase, education gets an allocation of about Rs.1541 crores. Considerable amount from this will go towards the setting up of an I.I.T. and two Central Universities in Assam.

National Poet Bharathi has preferred to

call Tamil Nadu as a State that excelled in Academic pursuits. So many educational institutions are there but there is not a Central University in Tamil Nadu. Hence I request the Finance Minister to announce in next year's Budget the setting up of a Central University in Tamil Nadu. I wish it be called Rajiv Gandhi Central University and it may be located in Kongu Region. I request the great educationist and economist Dr. Manmohan Singh and also our leader and erudite scholar Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao to consider favourably this proposal to set up a Central University in Tamil Nadu.

I have been repeatedly drawing the attention of the Union Government to take up Parambikulam-Aliyar Scheme. This would help saving water going waste in the West flowing rivers found in Kerala. It was one of Late Shri Kamaraj's dreams. Even after Kamaraj's rule in Tamil Nadu, increasing water requirements both for drinking and irrigation due to population increase is not attended to. I would like to bring to the notice of the Finance Minister that this scheme if implemented would benefit both Kerala and Tamil Nadu. It would provide water and would also help generating power.

Acute drinking water problem and unannounced power cuts are rampant in our industrial city Coimbatore. Industrial productivity is adversely affected. Hence I humbly request our dynamic Finance Minister and our able Prime Minister to implement this scheme and make announcement in this regard in the next Budget.

When Late Kamaraj was Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and when Shri R. Venkataraman was our Industries Minister in Kamaraj's Cabinet, Tamil Nadu witnessed industrial progress and prosperity. Now there is a declining trend. The present rulers there claim that there is no power cut. But facto-

[Sh. C.K. Kuppuswami]

ries and Mill owners are badly hit by incessant power shut downs that may haunt them any time during the day. Long winding queues for fetching drinking water is a common sight in the streets of my Constituency. It is a common thing now in entire Tamil Nadu.

Whenever I visit my Constituency, people come and complain to us about their sorry plight. Of the 800 and odd Textile industrial units in India more than half of them are in Tamil Nadu and 246 of them are in and around Coimbatore. Raw material requirements of cotton mills and Textile mills are not met. If wasteland development is made with the implementation of Parambikulam-Aliyar project, Cotton could be grown and it would help the Textile mills over there. This will also solve irrigational and drinking water needs of the people of my area. About 25 lakhs of people would be directly getting the benefits through this scheme.

Of course, we find the prices of certain consumer goods coming down. It is unprecedented. Excise reliefs are passed on to the consumers. But the prices of essential commodities show an upward trend. Hon. Member Shri Indrajit Gupta also mentioned that sugar prices have gone up. It is true that they are sold at different places and the prices also vary from place to place. Not only sugar, but also kerosene and edible oils and cereals and pulses cost more. You must have a control mechanism. Like Mrs. Gandhi, you must ensure that all the retail outlets display the prices of essential commodities. During her rule late Smt. Gandhi implemented this strict measure and prices were put under a check. It must be followed now if need be. Price rise should not rob the ben-

efits of economic reforms. Black marketeering and hoarding should be curtailed. There should be some effective measures to bring out all the black money. You can form Vigilance Committees all over the country involving people at the local level to unearth these criminal misdeeds which hamper our economy.

Again I reiterate that Parambikula-Aliyar scheme should be taken up at the earliest and it should be named after late Shri Kamaraj.

Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you were kind enough to call me to speak on this Bill yesterday itself. Presuming that my name may not be called early, I was not present in the House then. It has appeared in the papers also that Kuppuswami was found among the missing members. I would like to say that I do not take this House lightly. As a member of this August House for the past 10 years completing three tenures, I always hold it high. Seeking apology for my absence expressing my regret over the incident, I wind up my speech thanking you again.

[English]

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMMAM (INNER MANIPUR) : Sir, I rise to support the Finance Bill but on some conditions. One of my conditions is that the Government should write off the debts borne by the smaller States in the country. I term them as non-viable States.

I do appreciate the attitude shown by the Finance Minister by responding to the proposals made in this House in many respects. They are mentioned in his statement, so I need no mention all those because the time available to me is very limited.

I do appreciate that the Government of India has now realised the difficulties of the small-scale sector and the Finance Minister is prepared to redress all the grievances suffered by the small-scale industries. So, I appreciate that also.

Some of the proposals made by the hon. Members in this House for the exemption of duties on soap made without the aid of power, umbrellas and so on, are also accepted by the Finance Minister and I do appreciate that and I consider that the hon. Finance Minister will consider other proposals also.

My humble request would be for withdrawal of taxes imposed on small scale industries particularly the handloom industry in the small States. I do not generalise it. I ask for those small-scale industries which are set up in the small States. By small States I mean the States in the North-Eastern region - Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Arunachal, Tripura, Sikkim and so on. These small States cannot afford to set up big industries. They live on the small-scale industries. So, I earnestly request the Finance Minister to look into it.

My other appreciation is for reduction of duty from 40 percent, as proposed earlier, to 25 percent, on rural transport vehicles. It is very much appreciated because it is for the benefit of the rural transport vehicles.

I also appreciate the Government for taking remedial measures for extremely backward districts. The hon. Finance Minister has assured that action has been taken for the identification of those extremely backward districts in the country.

Now I come to another point. Just now my friend, the hon. Member from Meghalaya

asked for freezing the overdrafts for ten years.

.....incurred by the small States in the North East region. It includes States like Mizoram, Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Tripura. I demand that those debts, incurred by these States, should be written off. Our demand is that the States are not viable; they were established as States only on political considerations. They are not viable States. The debts must be taken as bad debts and I demand for writing off these debts and to start a new under strict financial discipline.

At the moment also, the present position in Manipur is very bad. It might be so in the case of Nagaland or Mizoram also. At the moment the State is under President's rule. The Advisors to the Governor are spending money without any financial disciplines. They do anything and they promise anything and they execute any programme without any sanction. They made some indiscipline in financial matters. It must be stopped. Otherwise the overdrafts etc. have to be borne by the Government that will be replacing the President's rule. I object to that also.

My next point would be in favour of setting up a national rural bank of India. Just now hon. Member Shri Peter also proposed for it. I support it strongly because these banks are serving the cause of the rural population in the small States. In Manipur these rural banks are serving the cause of the rural people there. So, without any discrimination, I support strongly for setting up this national rural bank of India. It is my sincere proposal.

While funding for the small States in the North East region, most of the funds are spent on the law and order situation and for

[Sh. Yaima Singh Yumnam]

deployment of security forces even at the risk and expense of development. Lots of money have been spent on taking up security measures. On account of that the development programmes have to suffer. While funding these States, I would request the hon. Finance Minister to take this aspect into account also.

My last point would be for allowing the States to raise funds by starting local loans etc. We understand that certain countries like Japan also want to invest money for the development of Manipur.

It is my information that the Japanese Government wants to take up some developmental works in Manipur and they want to invest money there. But the Central Government is not in favour of it.

Lastly, I would like to request our Finance Minister for writing off debts of the small States in the North Eastern Region and for providing more funds.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would submit that the Budget presented by the hon. Finance Minister is neither employment oriented nor it will be able to bring down prices. The hon. Finance Minister will not be able to fulfil any of these two promises. I would like to submit that the Government increased the prices of petrol, diesel, foodgrains sugar and hiking rail fare as well as freight charges before presenting the General Budget and has tried to gain popularity by showing that there is no increase in the prices of these items in the Budget. At the end, the Finance Minister has added one more line which says that the exemp-

tion given to 394 industries in excise duty is being withdrawn. The hon. Members did not catch up this line and started applauding the budget proposals. In these 394 industries, all types of industries are covered. I think that this applause was unwarranted. With this Budget, the rich will become richer and the poor will become poorer. This whole budget will give a severe blow to small-scale industries and there will be increase in inflation and unemployment. What I mean to say is that we are opposed to the conditionalities put by the foreign lending agencies and Government's acceptance thereto, in as much as we are opposed to liberalisation.

Sir, my point is that there has been increase in inflation, decrease in growth rate, slump in industrial field and increase in public borrowing. Further, the value of rupee has come down from 9.6 paise in 1991 to 7.8 paise in 1993. Now, you can yourself make the comparison. The non-plan expenditure has increased by Rs.90.020 crores over the expenditure of Rs.76.198 crore but capital expenditure has come down from Rs.31800 crore to Rs.29,484 crore.

I would further submit that today we are indebted by a foreign loan of Rs. 3,54,964 crore and the Government has not been able to contain the Budget deficit. Due to reduction in subsidy, the prices have increased. You have already effected an increase of 20 percent on wheat and rice. This has resulted in an extra burden of Rs.5000 crore on the poor people because it is the poor only who consume these items. On the other hand, you have tried to give maximum benefit to the rich.

Today, about 22 lakh small and large-scale sick industrial units are lying closed in India. The Government had envisaged 6 percent increase in gross domestic product during the current financial year but now it

has come down to 3.5 percent. Similarly, the rate of industrial growth was expected to rise by 6 or 7 percent but now it has come down to 1.5 percent. The target for bringing down the rate of inflation by 5 or 6 percent could not be achieved and now it has crossed the double digit figure. The Government has not been able to control it. Foreign debt is increasing continuously and you are claiming that there is a boom in the share market. After stabilisation of the share market, of course, the Government has been able to increase the foreign exchange reserves. You have made a special mention of these two things in your Budget speech.

19.00 hrs.

There has already been a scandal in the share market and hence the success could not be measured merely on the basis of boom in the share market. I would like to say that the process of economic liberalisation should be initiated within the country so that domestic industries could compete with foreign industries and counter their challenges.

Similarly, the problems related to agriculture should be resolved so as to increase production. When production increases, then only poverty can be removed. Therefore, we must pay attention to all these things.

During the tenure of this Government, headed by Shri Narasimha Rao, with Shri Manmohan Singh as the Finance Minister, there has been continuous rise in the prices of various commodities and simultaneously, unemployment has also increased. This Government is going to complete 3 years in office but it has failed to solve these problems. I would request that plan expenditure should be increased and non-plan expenditure should be reduced so that the economic condition of the country could improve and the production could increase.

I would also like to speak about women. There is a need to set up a national organisation to ameliorate their economic and social condition. Similarly, new employment oriented schemes and training programmes should be launched to give employment to the youth. Under these schemes and programmes, rural workers, craftsmen, youths engaged in cottage industries and Adivasis should also be included. For the development of rural areas, it is very necessary to link villages by roads. Village land should be fully utilised. Drinking water facility should be provided in villages and waste land should be developed. All these things should be taken care of, only then development of villages is possible.

Further the income limit of HUF has been fixed at Rs. 18000 which is not adequate. Instead of giving encouragement to joint families, you are making a discrimination. Similarly income tax exemption limit has been raised to Rs. 35,000 which is equivalent to Rs. 2628 only based on the value of rupee in 1981. People have to meet the expenses of education for their children, house-rent, water and electricity charges, scooter maintenance etc. therefore, income tax exemption limit of Rs.35,000 and Rs. 18,000 limit of HUF are not reasonable. Both these limits should be increased to Rs. 50,000. Your name is Manmohan Singh which means one who casts a spell of charm. Therefore, I am sure that tomorrow you will definitely make an announcement for increasing income tax exemption limit to Rs. 50,000. I would also like to say that the income tax limit should be linked with inflation in the years to come.

The corporate expenses which are at present 51.75 percent should be reduced to a maximum of 40 percent in a phased manner.

[Sh. Girdhari Lal Bhargava]

We have always been opposing surcharge. You have abolished individual surcharge but company surcharge has not been abolished. Therefore, I request that company surcharge should also be abolished. Similarly, excise duty should also be reduced from 50 percent to 20 percent. It should be decreased on raw material and machine parts. It could be increased in finished goods. Similarly, custom duty should also be reduced by 10 percent. Disparity in tariff rates should be removed so that the benefits could reach the consumers.

To relieve the country of foreign debts, a National Debt Liquidation Fund should be set up through which the nation could be relieved of debt. Similarly, a National social security Commission should be set up in which mill workers, unemployed persons, women, unorganised labourers, Agriculture labourers etc. should be included.

Similarly, the practice of imposing taxes before Budget should also be done away with. An Administrative Price Review Commission should be appointed and no prices should be increased without its recommendations and without a discussion in the Parliament on the same. The exemption limit on small scale industry should be increased from Rs. 30 lakh to Rs. 75 lakh because the rate of interest in India is 18 percent whereas in USA it is only three percent. Otherwise, small scale industries will vanish in India. I would like to thank you for giving concession in taxes on soap, umbrella, paper, medical instruments and charitable associations. But what about abolition of excise duty on 393 items. A person of 65 years of age or more is a senior citizen. He is given exemption in income tax when he earns an income upto Rs. one lakh. One lakh twenty thousand is also included in his

individual assessment. Therefore, I demand that senior citizens should be given exemption upto Rs. 1.5 lakh.

In hotel business expenditure tax should be reduced from 10 percent to 8 percent. Except for Jammu and Kashmir, this Finance Bill hints at policy of separatism. It should be done away with. Because Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India. Raising income tax exemption limit to Rs. 50,000 will help check the cases of tax evasion and also to increase collection. If the rate of income tax is reduced from 40 percent to 30 percent, that would help in curbing tax evasion. When the surcharge has been abolished on individual income tax, then company surcharge should also be abolished. In case of wealth tax a provision should be made for seven percent in place of five percent.

Section 32-A still exist in the income tax Act. Earlier concessions were given under this section in the name of development rebate and later on in 1976, 25 percent rebate was given in the name of investment allowance. But no rebate was given for the purchase of new machinery in industries in 1989-90. This rebate has totally been stopped in 1991-92 whereas section 32 still exists in the Act. Under section 234 (A) two percent interest per month is charged in case of delay in submitting income tax return. Under section 234-(B) 1.5 percent interest is charged in case of delay in advance tax return. But under section 244 (A), in case of refund the rate of interest has been reduced to one percent from October, 1991. Therefore, I demand that this disparity of paying and charging interest should be removed.

The gifts received by minor children from their maternal Grand fathers, maternal

uncles or paternal Aunts should not be included in the income of their parents.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I hope that the hon. Finance Minister would consider my suggestions and include them in his reply. This Budget will neither increase employment opportunities nor curb price rise, instead it will further aggravate them. Even then I hope that he will seriously think over my suggestions and accept them.

Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI M. KRISHNASWAMY (VANDAVASI): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Finance Bill moved by the hon. Finance Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh. Yesterday, the hon. Finance Minister announced certain concessions to small-scale sector and full duty exemptions given to umbrella, soap produced in the cottage industry, common footwear are very much welcomed and I thank the hon. Minister for making such an announcement yesterday. Excise relief has been given to corrugated boxes and cartons which are used in the packaging industry. The hon. Finance Minister has also promised to consider to exempt some more medical equipments meant for life saving from the tax net. This would benefit the common people at large.

The Finance Minister has also made 40 percent increase in rural development allocations. This would increase employment opportunities. There are schemes like Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana for educated unemployed; Minimum Needs Programme, IRDP and others. The measures taken to strengthen the rural credit system must be streamlined since the money-lenders exploit the poor and needy people in the rural areas.

There should be some monitoring system, otherwise even though we are spending thousands of crores of rupees for rural development, it is not reaching the poor people. So, there must be some monitoring system to regulate these things.

In the banking sector, though the reform process has started, it must be activated with greater vigour and banks should be more liberal in lending money to small and marginal farmers and medium farmers. The interest rates must be lowered so that they would be able to produce the agricultural products at a lesser cost since the interest burden is more on the shoulders of farmers. There are thousands of farmers in my constituency who do not have even one-square meals to eat. I would, therefore, urge upon the Finance Minister to issue suitable guidelines to nationalised banks and cooperative banks to give adequate loans to farmers with marginal interest. Our farmers are not getting water from any river or canal and they have to depend on drip and underground water for irrigation and the seasonal rainfall. So, they are depending on the vagaries of weather. I have already brought this matter to the notice of the Central Government when I spoke on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Water Resources for inter-linking peninsular rivers.

Though the inflation had been brought down during the last year, again, it is going up, which should be checked by the Government. I request the hon. Finance Minister to see that the prices are under check and strong action should be taken against those who exploit the market situation.

Along with the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes Finance Corporation, the hon. Finance Minister has given exemption from income-tax from the income of the Backward Classes Finance Corporation. I

[Sh. M. Krishnaswamy]

thank the hon. Finance Minister for this. Now the State Governments should take advantage of this provision and should enlarge the activities of the Backward Classes Finance Corporation for promoting the interests of the members of the Backward Classes and the most backward classes.

Clause 7 of the Finance Bill provides for tax benefits to newly established one hundred percent export oriented undertakings. This would boost our export oriented industry.

I welcome the hon. Minister's statement for setting up a group to collect data and to fix criteria for identifying backward districts. The constituency from which I am coming, Thiruvannamalai-Samburayan District is the most backward district. For the information of the House I would like to just say that there is only one municipality in my constituency; the rest are all Panchayats. So there is no industry, not even a cottage industry in my constituency. My district is not having even a cottage industry worth the name. It is extremely backward. I would expect the AIADMK Government in Tamil Nadu would rise to the occasion and furnish all the relevant data to the Finance Ministry for identifying backward districts. In our area, we have got plenty of milk production. At least the Government can think of establishing some industry relating to the milk products. The Government can think of some dairy processing industry or some other industry. I would request the hon. Finance Minister to get the area surveyed for starting some industry in our area. The infrastructure is already available; raw materials like milk and milk products are available. I would request the hon. Minister to do something so that our people could get employment opportunities and some eco-

nomie activities may start coming up.

The hon. Finance Minister has reduced the estimated income for the purpose of income tax from Rs.2,000 to Rs.1,800 per truck per month for light and medium commercial vehicles and from Rs.2,500 to Rs.2,000 per month for heavy trucks. This would give some relief to the truck owners.

I would like to thank the hon. Finance Minister for exempting from income tax repayment of educational loans taken for students. I also support the concessions given in respect of income tax for the elder citizens. I would urge upon the hon. Finance Minister for raising income tax exemption limit to Rs.40,000 as against Rs.35,000 in view of the high inflation rate and erosion of rupee value. Similarly, standard deduction for salaried class has not been raised in the Finance Bill. I would request him to raise the standard deduction from Rs.15,000 to Rs.18,000 which would help many lower middle class salaried people whose income is always fixed.

The amendments made in the Finance Bill relating to foreign travel tax and inland air travel tax are welcome as the people who can afford to pay tax should pay the tax.

In conclusion, I would say that agriculture and irrigation should be given priority because our country is basically an agricultural country and 70 percent of the population live in rural areas. The farmers who are the backbone of the Indian economy should be helped in whatever way possible like lending short-term and medium-term loans with marginal interest and their interests should be protected.

With these words, I wholeheartedly support the Finance Bill and thank the hon.

Finance Minister.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Bhogendra Jha, you have sent a letter saying that you want to speak before 7.30 p.m. as you have to go somewhere. Your name is not there in the list as the time allotted to your party has been taken by other hon. Members. Because you happen to be a senior Member, you can speak for five minutes. Can you oblige for five minutes?

[Translation]

SHRI BHOGENDR JHA (MADHUBANI): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit certain points which have not been raised earlier and finish my speech in five minutes.

It is a fact that the Government and the hon. Minister of Finance have blindly adopted the path of Capitalism. Earlier also, this path was treaded along, but the former Prime Minister, Late Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru, at least used to say that the public sector will attain commanding heights. However, the present Hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Minister of Finance never utter or even perhaps thinks of these words now. I will be happy if they also utter those words to convert them into deeds also. I would like to make a submission regarding the situation prevailing at present in the whole world and in our country as well. Out of the five main sectors, let the opportunity be thrown open to the private sector, in public sector, large scale and medium scale sectors; we have no objection in allowing the private sector to enter the small scale industries also. However, in the matter of cottage industries, full utilisation of the manpower of 90. crore population of the country should be made. I have never stated in the past and I will not say it even now that people should be given employment for the sake of employment

only, because I do not think it to be correct. If just for providing employment anybody is employed, then this will defeat the very purpose of employment. Efforts should be made to utilise and channelise the talent and manpower available in the country for increasing production. Industrial policy should be the basis of our economic policy. Cottage industries, micro industries and small scale industries, medium scale industries and large scale industries should all be developed systematically and in coordinated manner. I would like to submit that as a result of throwing open the economy to the foreigners, the cottage industries are on the verge of closure. During the British period, weavers of Madhubani were very famous and they had won many awards. Soap and paper used to be manufactured by Charkha Sangh of Madhubani which was transported to Wardha, where Gandhiji used to write on that. Dyes also used to be manufactured in Madhubani, but after Independence, three-fourth of the building has been put on rent. The Government alone is not to be blamed for it, people also to be blamed. I would like to know whether nowadays yarn could be manufactured at such low rates and made available to handlooms and powerlooms though in near future can't be hoped that power will be provided to a State like Bihar. Earlier, only 55 percent of the installed capacity of power was being generated during the Congress Government in the State, but under the reign of the present Government there, instead of increasing power generation it has further declined to 20 percent. I would like to submit that in the absense of adequate supply of power, it will be better if old style handlooms are encouraged because there is no dearth of talent in Bihar. If requisitioned, artisans of Madhubani can manufacture such handlooms for anybody so that handloom cloth may be sent abroad to earn foreign exchange through export for ushering in prosperity.

[Sh. Bhogendra Jha]

However, the present policy is in deviance to that. Weavers are not getting yarn but at the same time they cannot purchase in black market also. This is the state of affairs in most of the wearers' cooperative societies and unfortunately, these societies themselves are exploiting the weavers more. The Government should arragne for making available yarn at cheaper rates to the weavers and also reasonably reduce excise duties for handloom products and for those products which are being produced by self-employed people. Presently, emphasis is being laid on creating a balance between excise and customs duties. Custom duties are being removed and excise duties are being further increased. This will leave the indigenous industries at the mercy of multinational companies. Custom duties should be withdrawn on import of very limited items like machine and techniques which are not available in India and are utmost necessary. I would like to submit that while replying to the discussion, the hon. Minister of Finance should announce increase in customs duties on items available in India, especially consumer goods.

I would like to submit that customs duty should not play a role in distorting the tastes of our people as is being done in the matter of items like cold drinks etc., and thus ruin the deomestic industries and help multinational companies.

It has been the objective of the hon. Minister of Finance from the beginning to raise production. However, what I have understood regarding import-export of agricultural products is that instead of increasing rate of production during the last 3 years despite all the efforts, it is around 2 to 2.5 percent. If this is the scenario then claims of

pursuing the goal of increasing production will not be acceptable. I urge the hon. Minister of Finance to throw light while replying to the discussion as to how to increase production.

My submission is especially regarding giving concessions for self employment industrial sector. I am making this submission so that concessions are given only to industries and not to others. Wholesale traders do not need these concessions. They have got enough black money. However, they borrow money from the banks and purchase foodgrains from the farmers on cheaper rates and indulge in hoarding. Later on they well them at high profit margins, thereby fueling inflation. Then, the Government resorts to import of sugar and other items to check prices. The Government should abandon this policy. If imports are resorted to control prices then agriculture will be adversely affected. This policy is not right for increasing production.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I urge the hon. Minister to give all incentives for developing appropriate techniques and not to copy foreign techniques blindly. Only the essential techniques should be adopted. For development of appropriate techniques, workers and technicians in all the spheres should be exhorted to develop appropriate techniques for agriculture and other fields. Though everything cannot be done, yet though fiscal policy, at least something can be done.

Sir, for the last three years difficulties are being faced by the people of Madhubani and Darbhanga. Educated youths selected for self-employment are not getting loans from the banks. Not to speak of those who have been selected this year, even those youths who were selected two years ago or last year, have not got sanctioned loans. I

am not in favour of disbursing funds blindly. I am also not in favour of waiving off of loans, because due to this policy started in 1989-90, the banks are in dire straits financially as recovery of loans is becoming increasingly difficult. The Government should understand this scenario and grant 3 or 6 months time for repayment of loans on the promise that repayment within this time frame will result in waiving off of interest portion of loans. This will result in enhanced recoveries and the majority of the farmers will feel the relief to some extent and will be able to further borrow money from the banks. Even now, many leaders while touring the villages, keep on announcing that during the next elections again interest will be waived off.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with these words in conformity to my commitment I would like to conclude by submitting that the grievances against the Public Sector of the Government are not correct. By doing this, you are following the example of that gentleman who in the hope of getting the Noble Prize had acted wrongly in Soviet Union. Therefore, the hon. Minister of Finance should not be lured into liquidating the Public Sector. The correct position will come to light when the Government tells the country about the extent of bank money swindled and misappropriated by the private sector. The Government should be strict both to the Public Sector, as well as to the Private Sector. Both these sectors constitute the national property and need full protection against the foreigners' onslaught. Keeping the fact in mind the Government should strive hard and commit itself to increase industrial output. We believe that capital will definitely increase in the Public Sector but it should happen with a unanimous opinion. However, your policy and the Finance Bill are not in tune with this. You should take some bold steps. With these words, I conclude.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Anna Joshi.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: What about me Sir?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Madam, time was given to you. But you were very kind enough to accommodate Shri Bhogendra Jha. You have given your time to him. Now you have to wait for your chance. Let me make it very clear that I have to go by the time allotted to different parties as per the rules and regulations. Otherwise, I will be subject to bitter criticism.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: That is all right Sir, I understand your position.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am here to oppose the proposals put forward by the hon. Finance Minister in the Finance Bill. Many a times, both here and outside, it has been stated that this Government is out to kill SSI units, Tiny units, Kutir Udyog and all such units. Since the day the Budget was announced, so many associations have submitted memoranda to the Government. I myself have personally, along with my other colleagues, submitted memoranda from a number of associations, like the Tiny Industries Association, Pune, Mini Cement Manufacturers' Association, Calcutta, Indian Agro-Paper Mills Association, New Delhi, Mumbai Grahak Panchayat and Steel Rolling Mills Association, Calcutta. All these associations have come to this bitter conclusion that the budgetary proposals and the duties levied under the disguise of radicalism will ruin the industry.

The small scale sector has got a signif-

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ificant role to play in our economy. There are about 16-20 lakh small scale units which contribute to about 35 percent in the total production. And, almost 30 percent of the direct export is done by the small scale industry. Therefore, how can the Government ruin such an important sector which is playing a significant role in the economy of our country? It is the responsibility of the Government of India to create infrastructure for this sector. The Government should give some concession to the small scale sector so that they may improve their production capacity. This has the added advantage of creating employment for our vast numbers of unemployed people. Our aim should be to have maximum production by maximum hands because we have not only to feed the coming generations but we have to provide them work also. So, my first point is that the decision of the Government to merge the small scale units is not a good one and it should be reviewed.

Now, I would like to make a few suggestions. The Income Tax Section 80 HHB says that on exporting a project, you give 50 percent concession on the earning and if goods are exported, you give hundred percent concession. In my opinion the export of a project means export of goods only because the project is a bundle of goods only. Therefore, the export of project should not be marginalised that way by giving 50 percent concession only.

I had received a letter from the Minister of State for Finance wherein he had mentioned two points. Firstly, he said that these project exporters are making huge profits. Now you require foreign currency. So, why not bring all the profits into India? Why are you allowing them to keep the profits there and taxing them heavily? Secondly, he had

also said about concessions. I would like to quote a few lines here:

"Sufficient incentive in the shape of 100 percent conversion of foreign exchange at the market rate, reduction in the interest rate for export credit, exemption of export credit from Income Tax, general reduction in the tax rates etc., etc are given to them."

But you have also given the same concession to the goods for export purposes. Now, why are you giving 100 percent concession and why are you charging these project exporters 50 percent? What you want is the foreign exchange. If you want maximum foreign exchange to come into our country by exporting your goods, knowledge, expertise and labour, then you should encourage all these things also. That is why I once again appeal to you to bring these Sections 80 HHB and 80 HHC on an equal footing.

Sir, the Finance Minister has stated in his Budget speech that the interest on loans taken by the students, particularly, in the case of science faculty, for going in for higher education will be exempt from Income Tax. You have proposed, by way of an amendment now, that Rs.25,000 per year, upto eight years will be allowed. Is it not a deception? The students never take loans for the purpose of paying fees or for purchasing books. It is their parents who do all these things. The Finance Minister had only said that students who had spent or taken loans for paying fees for going in for higher studies, for them you have given this concession. Why don't you give this concession to their parents? Therefore, Sir, I would request the hon. Minister, through you, to amend this provision.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Joshi, you need not request him. You have im-

pressed the Finance Minister very much.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Sir, let him say so.

Another point which I would like to mention here is about the 5 percent service charges that had been proposed here. You want to charge five percent service charges on telephone, electricity, insurance and so on. What for are you going to charge? Now, you will be collecting that 5 percent service charge and then the Telephone Department will also collect. What is all this? You know how much labour you require for doing all these things and how much paper work will be involved in doing all these things. Therefore, I again request you to reconsider withdrawal of this 5 percent service charges.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : This is in the nature of excise. But he does not say that as excise that will be given to the States. The Telephone Department will collect, the service-givers will collect and he refuses to say that that will go to the States.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Sir, one thing I want to mention about the earthquake victims of Latur and Osmanabad. I would like to suggest that whatever amount is given for their rehabilitation, that amount should be fully exempted from Income Tax.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: I have already said in my speech that all contribution to the Chief Minister of Maharashtra's funds will have 100 percent tax reduction without limit.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Why are you so much narrow-minded in this case? Why should it be given to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund? People do not believe. For your information, even the Government servants have said that they are ready to pay one day salary; but they do not want to pay to the

Chief Minister's Relief Fund. There are so many voluntary organisations which are doing good work and which have got faith in it.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: I do not certify all these things. I do not know whether they are genuine or not.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Why are they not genuine?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: I do not know.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: It means you do not want to give it even for those earthquake affected people. I appeal to you to give 100 percent exemption in the income tax for the amount which has been spent for the rehabilitation of earthquake people in Latur and Osmanabad districts.

We have to pay interest for unutilized foreign loan. I had asked an Unstarred Q.No. 669 dated 25th February, 1993. In your answer, you had said: "A statement showing State-wise details of unutilized loan as on 31 December, 1992." And that loan has come out to be Rs.61,000 crores. I do not know whether the figure is correct or not. Since you have given it, we must believe that it should be there. Who is paying the interest? Why should we pay for it? Did you ask that money without any planning, without any requirement? Certainly, it is not like that. Therefore, somewhere something is lacking.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : The loan is disbursed over a period of time. The very fact that we take loan today does not mean that it can be disbursed overnight. During that period the amount is sanctioned and until it is withdrawn, there is a commitment charge which has to be paid.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: That is correct. At least, you will agree that it should go on decreasing gradually. But in your records it shows that it has increased. I agree with you that while taking it and then when you disburse it, it will take some time; till that period, that amount will remain unutilised. I understand that. But it should decrease as the time passes by and as you are going to utilise for something; but here the records show that amount was Rs.61,000 crores on 31st December, 1992; it had gone to Rs.64,940 crores on 31st March, 1993. There is an increase of Rs.3,000 crores. That is alarming. We are paying interest on this unutilised loan. That should make somebody's sleep disturbed. Of course, you are having sound sleep. So, there is no question of your feeling disturbed.

Now, I will read out what the consumers feel about all these concessions.

The Finance Minister has proposed considerable relief to the multinationals by reducing the Customs duties on various raw materials, plants and machinery, steel and other non-ferrous metals with which only the multinationals' benefit have been taken care of."

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: It is not true.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: You will have to deny that, of course. You will have to convince us also.

In the matter of central excise duty proposals the Finance Minister has bluntly by-passed the welfare of the common man where majority of them already suffer from financial inequalities. It is in the Directive Principles of State-Policy given in the Indian Constitution under which the Central Government is bound to take all precautions to

ensure that the people suffering from these financial inequalities from the weaker sections of the society have to be afforded all opportunities to minimise these inequalities."

That is the Directive Principles of the Constitution.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: That part can be amended because of GATT.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Till it is not amended, he should follow it.

"This time the Finance Minister has again chosen to lower the excise duties on products used by the affluent and rich classes. The poor people have nothing to do with cars, scooters, air-conditioners, refrigerators, cooking ranges, gysers, vacuum cleaners, televisions, juice extractors, etc. items by proposing to levy a uniform rate of excise duty on all types of various scores of consumer items whether these are used by the affluent classes or by the weaker sections, salaried and labour classes.

It is yet another significant aspect of the stand of the Finance Minister that under these proposals he has chosen to bring all types of petty items of daily need by the weaker sections under the uniform rate of excise duty which, in the past, were always kept free from excise levy."

Of course, all these things are given and therefore, the common man's reaction is that you have worked for multinationals. You have given concessions to the manufacturers, for the affluent society and not for the common man, who was considered really a common man in the eyes of Mahatma Gandhi

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: I am glad

that you started quoting Mahatama Gandhi.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: You should be happy, Sir. Swadeshi and self-reliance have been taught by Mahatma Gandhi only. You have forgotten that and we are trying to remind you.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: I am happy that RSS people also quote Mahatma Gandhi.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Why? Sir, what objection has he got that RSS people also quote Mahatma Gandhi?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : I am happy that you have a change of heart.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE(BOMBAY SOUTH-CENTRAL): You also change your heart!

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Regarding resources you have said that one part is increasing the taxes and all those things and second part is running the Government efficiently and accepting the money from them.

Lastly, I will ask two questions. I would like to know whether the articles, editorial and news appearing in a daily of Pune in the month of April, 1994 about the rampant corruption in Pune Central Excise and Customs Collectorate have been brought to your notice? And if yes, what deterrent exemplary punitive action has been ordered by you to be taken against the corrupt officers?

You must be getting some news. You must be having some arrangement what your collectorates and officers are doing. If you do not have this information, I will send you a copy of this. There is a large scale corruption going on these offices.

Therefore, I want to know if no action has been initiated for this reason that the names and designations are not disclosed.

I would like to ask whether the hon. Minister will take remedial steps to amend the relevant Sections of the Central Excise and Salt Act, 1944 and the relevant Rules of the Central Excise Rules, 1944 in such a manner that if the Registration Certificate is not issued within 15 days from the date of application and if the classification list or the R.T. 12 return is not finally approved within one month from the date of filing thereof, the same shall be deemed to have been granted or approved as per the say of the assessor or the manufacturer.

This amendment is necessary to curb corruption and therefore, either the Minister may take action against the corrupt officers or amend the laws in such a way that they are not taken advantage by corrupt officers.

My second question is whether the Finance Minister is aware that the activities of production and clearances of the excisable goods had almost come to a standstill all over the country for about one-and-a-half months, i.e. from 1-3-1994 to 15-4-1944 which also resulted in a considerable fall in the collection of duties of excise and that all this had happened only on account of the inordinate delay on the part of the Central Board of Excise and Customs in communicating to the Trade as to what is to be incorporated in "Invoice" contemplated in Rule 52 A of the Central Excise Rules, 1944, and thereafter in solving the difficulties and problems faced by the Trade from all over the country in implementing the new procedure coming into force with effect from 1st April, 1994, many of which difficulties and problems are still to be solved.

This is all due to red tapism. I do not

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know why the Budget has nothing to do with charges of this sort. The officers of the Finance Ministry or this organisation had issued some orders and the collection of the excise duty and production everything stopped for one and a half months. We are interested to know who is responsible for that and what action the Government is going to take.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: I will not tax the patience of the House. I will only speak on the Clause of the Finance Bill, i.e. Clause 55. It seeks to modify Section 5 of the Gift Tax Act.

Financially, the implication of this Clause is not very much. But its social implications are immense and that is why I want to speak on it. It relates to exemption of gifts made on the occasion of a marriage of a dependent relative. In 1993 this exemption limit was raised from Rs.20,000 to Rs.30,000. In 1994 it has been raised from Rs.30,000 to Rs. 1 lakh. So, in two years the exemption limit has been raised five times its earlier limit. I would demand from the Finance Minister that this Gift Tax exemption may be altogether withdrawn.

Although I have said this is rather a small clause financially, yet, in a way I think, that this reflects the tendency of the entire Budget. In the Budget a boost has been given to rank consumerism and for the sake of this rank consumerism the production of primary materials and capital goods has been ignored. Massive exemption has been given to consumer goods and then through a relaxation of custom duties foreign produced consumables are allowed to enter into the country to titillate a small section 10 crores or 15 crores of our population of middle class consumers. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : Foreign consumer goods are banned under the Im-

port Control Act. *(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: It is such a small matter and I feel very sorry about it. This particular Clause is not large. But it is strange that Bill shows an inability to refrain from boosting this consumerism. Not only that, here in this Clause, the purchase of consumer goods has been linked with the marriage of a dependent relative. And I charge the Finance Minister, Sir, with giving open incitement to giving and taking of dowry. Our Anti-Dowry Act prohibits giving of property or valuable security in connection with marriage. But at the same time it allows presents to be given at the time of marriage either to the bride or to the bridegroom. This we consider to be one of the biggest loopholes in the Anti-Dowry Act. In fact, it makes the greed for consumer goods, the explosive foundation for marital relations *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: No consumer goods are involved here.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: What is this Clause doing? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: No consumer goods are mentioned at all. *(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA : The parents will be encouraged to buy humiliation, even death for their daughters, at a tax free rate. This is what this Clause is doing. Do we have the right to sing the phrases of modernisation, globalisation and liberalisation when one of the budgetary fallouts is to aggravate the humiliation of women by encouraging dowry? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: It has nothing to do with women. *(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI MALINI MALINI

BHATTACHARYA : We are asking you a very small thing just to withdraw this exemption, to do away with this exemption. There is no need for it. Only today, I think, hon. Minister, Shri P.M. Sayeed, has said in the Parliament that there have been seven thousand dowry deaths last year in this country. I do not like to think of our Finance Minister being remembered by 7,000 dying women in their last breath as indirectly hastening their death. This is a very small Clause. It does not have much financial implication. Therefore, I earnestly request you to withdraw this exemption. I am going to bring an amendment on this tomorrow and I would urge upon the Finance Minister to think of the women of this country, the condition of the women of this country and to withdraw this exemption.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH (PARBHANI): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first of all I would like to express my regrets for not being present in the House yesterday and at the same time, would also like to thank you for giving me opportunity to speak.

It is my maiden speech on the Finance Bill. I support from the core of the heart the Finance Bill introduced in the House. S/Shri Madhu Dandavate and Yashwant Sinha in the past also presented Budgets, but I would like to submit that this Budget is very good in comparison to previous ones. Just as every drop of the available water is utilised for all, big or small, similarly the hon. Minister of Finance has tried to utilise all the available resources for the welfare of all and for the development of all the sectors. I once again would like to thank Dr. Manmohan Singh for his farsightedness.

20.00 hrs.

The policy of open economy for tapping resources is good. We should be tolerant in

this regard as it will be a give and take position. Raising hue and cry in anticipation of the implications of the Budget and the GATT that India is going to be doomed is not good, because we must first see the implications. Since, Dr. Manmohan Singh assumed office, foreign exchange reserves have increased. Will the hon. Members not appreciate the increase in gold reserves, which were in precarious condition three years back? Population is increasing and it is not possible for Dr. Manmohan Singh to check population growth. It is the responsibility of both the ruling and the opposition parties to control population for which a new policy needs to be brought forward. Shri George Fernandes says that funds are being utilised mainly in Bombay i.e. in Maharashtra, Gujarat and Karnataka. Everything he has said is on caste lines which has jeopardised the future of India. He is encouraging regionalism and it is totally wrong. Backbone of casteism has been broken by the policies of the Congress. Shri George Fernandes also said that even though large scale tax revenue is being collected from Bihar and West Bengal yet nothing is being given to see these States and instead it is being given away under GATT. Dr. Manmohan Singh is not going to do such discrimination.

He is an honest person who is having the interest of the country upper most in his mind and takes only one rupee. Even then you are mentioning him. What type of Finance Minister you require? The progress made during the last 2-3 years has been unprecedented in the country. You will see how the country progresses in future. We all have to work in the interest of the country. All have voted in favour of GATT agreement. The work has been done in accordance with the directions given with regard to GATT agreement. The discussion on GATT continued for 2-3 days in the House and the suggestions given by the hon. Members were accepted. Shri Pranab Mukherjee expressed his views boldly in Morocco. Bill

[Shri Ashok Anandrao Deshmukh]

Clinton tried to pressurise the Government of India for imposition of Super-301. Shri Pranab Mukherjee in the very presence of Bill Clinton clarified that a proper system will be implemented with regard to Patent, the Government of India will evolve a new policy which will pave the way for the development of the country. The farmers in the country had been suffering from the last 40-45 years as they were unable to export the foodgrains. Now they would be in a position to export the foodgrains. People say that sugar prices have been soaring but my submission is that sugar price in our country is still less than that of many other countries. Financial assistance has been provided to set up about 70-72 more sugar mills. Dr. Manmohan Singh has also promised to provide Financial assistance for food processing and horticultural development. All these developmental works are being done. There is no magic lamp with which Dr. Manmohan Singh will accomplish the works immediately. It takes at least 5-10 years to bring about a change. The results of the policy implemented today will be visible only after 5 years. I appreciate the measures taken by the hon. Minister of Finance. The entire country thanks him in unison. Whenever the country was in difficulty, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee played his role well. He has always been bold enough to put the Indian viewpoint clearly and thus earned name for the country. This clearly is indicative of our unity and integrity. The hon. Minister of Finance has no selfish motive and he proposes to bring about changes in the economic policies. God has sent him for us.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I sincerely wish that the economic condition of the country should improve. But unless agricultural development takes place and we earn money by exporting agricultural products, we will not be able to generate more resources in the country. Shrimati Malini has pointed out that the prices of sugar and vegetables are increasing. This will continue at least for some time. To solve this problem,

we should grow more sugarcane next year to increase the production of sugar and a target should be given to the farmers in this regard. So far as the question of oil seeds is concerned, farmers have achieved the targets but nobody has commented on this. If the hon. Minister of Finance has changed the policy at all, he has done so at your behest. He has accepted your suggestions more, it is not that all the issues raised by our party members were only taken into consideration.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Do you want to say something regarding drip irrigation?

SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Now, I come to agriculture. Funds allocated for horticulture are inadequate, more funds are required. Similarly, funds earmarked for forests are also inadequate, these should also be increased. For 2.2% population growth, we require food growth at the rate of 2.5%. Subsidy being provided to farmers is not sufficient, it should be increased, because farmers in Japan and America are provided more subsidy. We demand more subsidy with a view to compete with them. At present the rate at which subsidy is being provided is only 5-6% whereas under GATT agreement 20% subsidy is proposed to be provided which includes 10% subsidy on products and 10% subsidy on non products. The more the subsidy, the more benefits to the farmers. Thereafter, we would be in a position to provide sugar and foodgrains at lower prices to people. Therefore, subsidy must be provided on water, electricity, fertilizers etc. Last year the Government had provided subsidy to the tune of Rs. 340/- on single Super Phosphate and Rs.1000/- on Urea. Farmers got fertilizers at lower rates. The hon. Minister of Finance should see that this year too as much subsidy as possible is provided. Then, farmers would be in a position to increase the production accordingly and we can be proudly say that the economic policy adopted by India would certainly take the country ahead and the whole nation would be grateful to you.

Motion re: Contempt

20.101/2 hrs

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Fortieth Report

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): I beg to present the Fortieth Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

20.11hrs.

MOTION RE: CONTEMPT OF THE HOUSE BY A PERSON FROM THE VISITORS' GALLERY

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: As the House is aware, at about 1120 hours today, a visitor calling himself Prem Pal Singh Samrat, son of Shri Bajaji Lal, jumped from the Visitors' Gallery and attempted to shout slogans. The Security Officers took him into custody immediately and interrogated him. The visitor has made a statement and expressed regrets for his action.

I bring it to the notice of the House for such action as the House may deem fit.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK) : Sir, I beg to move :

"This House resolves that the person calling himself Prem Pal Singh Samrat, son of Shri Bajajaji Lal, who jumped from the Visitors' Gallery and attempted to shout slogans at about 1120 hours today and whom the Security Officers took into custody immediately, has committed a grave offence and is guilty of the contempt of the House.

This House further resolves that he be let off with a stern warning on the rising of the House today."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"This House resolves that the person calling himself Prem Pal Singh Samrat son of Shri Bajaji Lal, Who jumped from the Visitors' Gallery and attempted to shout slogans at about 1120 hours today and whom the Security Officers took into custody immediately, has committed a grave offence and is guilty of the contempt of the House.

This House further resolves that he be let off with a stern warning on the rising of the House today."

The Resolution was adopted.

20.13 hrs.

FINANCE BILL, 1994-CONTED.

[*Translation*]

PROF. PREM DHUMAL (Hamirpur):
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have risen to oppose the Finance Bill. The hon. Finance Minister who has presented three budgets earlier is reminding us that for him Mahatma Gandhi is symbol of indigenouesness but I would like to remind him that all his earlier three budgets started with the name of Shri Rajiv Gandhi. While presenting this year's budget you very conveniently forgot that leader this time and went on talking about Shri Narasimha Rao ji.

The hon. Finance Minister has overlooked one important sector while providing relaxation in Excise Quty. I would like to remind the hon. Finance Minister that the entire nation is committed to providing pure drinking water to every village. Excise Duty had been levied on pipe fittings once before also and some representatives had met the then Prime Minister late Shri Rajiv Gandhi and had reminded him of his promise of providing pure drinking water to every village. And this is a small sector because at some places only 2-3 people prepare pipefittings by iron-casting to ensure that people get pure drinking water. As several speakers have just pointed out you have mentioned only one sentence for so several items that excise duty is withdrawn from these items. But your levying a new Excise Duty on pipe fittings has created a big crisis before the small scale industries. If a person wants to get a tap installed in his house in the hill, you may imagine what difficulties he will have to face and what amount he will have to spend in order to

some items of pipe-fittings. This way the promise given by the former Prime Minister will remain unfulfilled which you have been remembering in all the earlier three budgets.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to make a submission to the hon. Finance Minister that while replying to the discussion on Finmance Bill tomorrow, he must make an announcement about withdrawing the newly levied central Excise Duty on the pipe-fittings. My next point releates to Hindu Undivided Family. I think India is the only country in the world which gives importance to joint families and it leads to solution of several social problems in themselves whereas it is not so in other countries.

[*English*]

"Here everyone is for all and all for one."

[*Translation*]

In a joint family everybody shares each other's happiness and sorrows and the social problems relating to housing, transport, electricity, water etc., which are commonly prevalent in other countries, get easily solved here because of our joint family system. The relaxation in Income Tax limit provided to individuals and Hindu Undivided Family was the same but now even that has been changed. As has been demanded by the entire House, it is my submission to the hon. Minister to raise the income-tax limit from Rs. 35,000 to Rs. 50,000 for the Individuals and from Rs. 18,000 to Rs. 50,000 in the case of the Hindu Undivided family.

Discussions have taken place at length on indiginisation and self reliance. The

small-scale industries seek your protection. Your intention may be good in having Indian Industries compete at international level but have our small-scale industries reached that level? Some big scale industries have been provided relaxation but your announcement has led to a financial burden on hundreds of small scale industries. Several small scale industries are on the brink of a closure due to the new Excise Duty imposed by you.

In any case, our small scale industries are not in a position to compete with multi-nationals and you have been compared with Lord Krishna. If you are genuinely interested in improving the economic condition of the country, then, the small-scale industries must be protected.

Since you had quoted many couplets while reading out the Budget, I would also like to quote a couplet which applies to the Indian economy and stresses that the indigenous industry is required to be encouraged. Its prosperity alone can improve economic condition of the country.

Mitti jab tak apna haque adaa naa kare
Hawaon ki sipharishon se ghulab khilte nahin.

The country needs to contribute to improve the economic condition of the small-scale industries. If you are planning to lead our country to prosperity with the help of World Bank and International Monetary Fund, it will not be possible. I am sure you will definitely pay attention to this aspect.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the matter of small savings is also an important one. People save money and deposit the same

in Banks and Post-Offices. Rural folks generally do that. A relaxation used to be provided on that which has been done away since last year. A demand has been repeatedly made but the Government has not accepted it. I would request you to give relaxation in taxes on small savings also and as several hon. Members have demanded, it would be profitable if the savings of a state are invested in industries there only.

I would like to say something about my State, Himachal Pradesh. Large scale savings are made by way of small savings in that State but only 30 per cent of the total savings are invested there. If the whole amount of savings is invested there only, then it would prove to be very beneficial.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister to my hilly, backward and small state. Though this State has been blessed with natural beauty, yet it is not prosperous economically. That's why, I request you to provide more facilities to Himachal Pradesh. If small and hilly states are developed, they will naturally contribute towards the national mainstream. It is my submission to you to make an announcement for special grants for Himachal Pradesh.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, every political party has its own slogans. The Congress Party also coined many slogans including 'Garibi Hatao' etc. but the percentage of people living below poverty line is not decreasing. The Finance Minister has said it on many occasions and has presented the fourth Budget but even now if you see the data you will find that the percentage of people living below the poverty line has not gone down. That's why, the need of the hour is to give attention to the lowest class.

[Prof. Prem Dhupal]

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the relaxation in Excise Duty has been announced on ayurvedic drugs provided a drug is prepared and with a single medicine but a drug is a mixture of different medicines then, no relaxation will be given. For example, if Chyawanprash, Sitopladi and Basant Malati etc. are sold individually as drugs then, relaxation will be given but if any energy-producing drug is prepared by mixing these drugs, then, relaxation will not be given. I request you to give relaxation on all Ayurvedic drugs to enable common, poor people, to get these medicines from 'Vaidyas' at cheaper rates.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir the hon. Minister made in announcement yesterday of providing relaxation to the tune of Rs. 30 lakh. It was available earlier also. You are well aware of the price hike on Ferrous and Non-Ferrous metals, I need not furnish data. Today, small scale industries have to bear the expenses of raw material workers' wages, electricity charges, water charges etc. If an equity capital to the tune of Rs. 65 lakh has been invested in machinery, it is considered a small scale industry. If the industry starts a production of Rs. 30 lakh, Excise duty is imposed on it. That's why, the relaxation limit should atleast be raised upto Rs. 75 lakh in view of the price hike in the cost of the raw material and labour etc., resulting in an increase in cost price, to enable the small-scale industries to produce items of good quality.

Hon'ble Finance Minister, once before also I had met you personally and had mentioned that since you have prescribed a limit of Rs 30 lakh, the industries capable of turning out production of 30 lakh in India can-

not complete and thus split into 2-3 units in order to avoid paying Excise Duty. Because of the fragmentation the work of research and development gets obstructed. Do you think, they will be able to produce good quality and compete with foreign companies? It is not possible so, in view of the increase in the cost value it is essential that this limit be raised upto Rs 75 lakh. And, thus, they would appoint good engineers also and compete with others also.

While replaying tomorrow he should take account of these things also. I know that he can ponder over it seriously and take action on the suggestions he considers to be correct. I hope that the Government will understand the pangs, pains and problems of small scale industries also.

The Government has propounded a new concept of the service charges. As some hon. Members stated earlier also that it was revealed in such a way that only the next day afflicted fellow could realise that some body in fact had slapped him the other day. The hon. Minister of Railways stated that the freights will be charged as per item number 34 and not 32. When one happened to go to railway station for booking one's goods, one found out that the freight charge was raised by 15 percent.

During the speech delivered on first day the hon. Minister assured to withdraw the once given exemption, and the industrialists of the country also responded that it was a salutary measure. When I went through, the contents, the truth was revealed. Excise duty was raised on soaps also. Similarly the Government has manoeuvred service charge also.

Imposition of tax on telephone service

will give way to a concept that the Government will impose tax on each and every commodities. The people of India will be adversely affected. The condition of the Department of Telephone is just pitiable. You might have gone through the report that appeared in the Janasatta today regarding telephone of an hon. Member of parliament. The telephone service is working there 's snailn pace. Who will be ready to pay the charges there ? The Government has imposed duty on the General assurance services also. Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee also stated that the Government did not mention about the shares of States. The won't get it. The services charges will be given to centre itself. Here the Government is adopting the policy of centralisation in place of decentralisation.

The Government should think over the above said three suggestions made by me. It should raise the income tax exemption limit and the limit for the Hindu undivided family should also be the same. The pipe-fitting should be made free and uninterrupted water supply should be ensured in every house so that the dream of Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi is materialised. The hon. Minister forgot refer to his name in his Budget speech this year ? The Government should raise the excise duty for small scale industries from Rs. 30 lakh to Rs. 30 to Rs. 74 lakh

With these words I conclude and thank you for giving me time to speak.

[English]

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN (CHIRAYINKIL) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir I would like to point out two or three important points which should attract the atten-

tion of the Finance Minister. Year after year, the resources of the States are depleted by the actions of the Central Government. The main income of the State is the Sales tax. Till 1956, States were levying sales tax on sugar, tobacco and textiles. But the Centre immediately encroached upon it and began to levy excise duty on these items from 1956 onwards. Kerala alone lost nearly Rs 2000 crores till date. In 1976, another structural change in tax was made and the States were denied the right to levy sales tax on export items like marine products and other items. In marine products alone, Kerala lost Rs. 1,856 crores. Now the Central Government is giving advice to the State Governments to collect tax arrears and to sell the shares of the public sector and to reduce the staff and make the savings. After encroaching upon the financial resources of the States, now the Centre is giving free advice to the States to reduce the work force. The plan allocation also is being reduced year after year while taking into consideration the reduction in money value. I appeal to the Finance Minister to end this attack on the resources of the States. the Central Government has got the Nasik press. But the State Government has no press like that to print notes. The Central Government has been talking about decentralisation of powers and resources day in and day out. But Centre is not prepared to depart the resources or the central power. And the panchayati-raj institution is not going to be a success unless the Centre gives more resources and powers to the States. Only then the State will be able to give power to the districts and the panchayats. So this attack on the State Governments should be stopped and also the loss made by the state Governments should be actually made up. Actually it is not done and the Finance Commission it-

[Smt. Suseela Gopalan]

self is asking them about several methods of generating revenue. What can be done ? And the wrath of the people is against the State Government. Prices of commodities through the PDS have gone up. I am not going into the details because of lack of time.

The Finance Minister has announced many tax relief. He might have received several letters from many women's cooperatives. There is assembling unit in electronics equipments. They have no marketing facilities, because of that they are using the brand names.

But now because of this excise levy what can be actually done by these small units ? Ten to twenty people are working in these cooperatives. I have sent to the Minister twelve to thirteen representations. These cooperatives should be saved at any rate. These cooperatives should be saved by some saving clause.

Thirdly I want to point out the stepmotherly attitude shown to the agency services in the Postal Department. The Postal system in the country today has millions of accounts and is mobilising crores of rupees as savings.

The Social Audit Panel itself has commented about it. They have said :

"The Social Audit Panel compliments the Postal Department for providing such complex agency services on such a wide scale and relatively on a least service cost basis (as compared to the nationalised banking system). The panel feels highly

about the contribution being made by the Postal Department with respect to the agency services like the National Savings, Public Provident Fund, Postal Insurance and a host of such services, which cater to a large segment of weaker sections of public, both in urban and rural India, as well as certain taxpayers. Postal system in the country today has some 100 million accounts in all and mobilise nearly Rs. 56000 crore as savings in one form or other. This accounts to nearly one-third of total savings through banking system in the country. The bonus on Postal Life Insurance is even higher than what LIC pays.

The panel feels that these services need to be appreciated in right perspective. This, however, in view of Social Audit Panel, should not mean that primary function of the Department with regard to mails be allowed to stagnate. In fact, such agency functions should facilitate expansion, development and competitiveness of primary functions. The panel feels that only when Postal Department is adequately compensated for these various agency functions and given credit by the Finance Ministry, some improvement could be expected in Postal Services. The compassion being allowed by the Finance Ministry now for undertaking this agency work and the system being followed in fixing the same need to be examined by a special committee of experts so that the agency functions of postal are serviced better and morale of the postal staff is restored.

Quite often post offices are short of formats, passbooks, certificates for various kind of deposits, including Indira Vikas Patra

and related stationery often leading to loss of receipts. There should be known procedure in all such instances."

This Department serves the common people in the country. But the Finance Ministry is actually showing a stepmotherly attitude to this Department and is saying that it is running at a loss. This will not be running at a loss if the Agency Services are paid properly. Now there is bifurcation of the Postal and Telegraph Departments. But hundreds or thousands of telephones are working in the Post Offices. Why are you not paying them? How more than half of the ED staff are actually being paid? They had a strike some time back, some three or five months back. For the last three days the postal employees are having *stayagraha* to invite the Government's attention on the issue of their promotions. Those people who are working, their promotions should be given. This was agreed upon by the Government, but this was not done because the Finance Ministry is asking them to reduce ten per cent of their staff strength. I do not know why the Ministry is so much enamoured about the ED work force. They are always against the work force. State Governments are also asked to reduce the staff strength. The Finance Ministry is also not coming to the rescue of them in postal service also. So much enmity is there against the work force in the country. You have to do justice to them. ED Workers are getting nearly Rs. 500 monthly and the Government do not think it wise to help them also. This is actually a disgrace to our Government. You have to change this attitude. Postal people should be given the due consideration. The Government should not wait for the staff strength to be reduced to give some promotion and it is a cruel joke of the Finance Ministry.

There are so many items on which to speak. But, I am coming to the edible oil import, as the last point. As soon as edible oil import was announced, the prices of coconut has fallen and the Centre is not coming to the rescue of them to procure more copra and to save the lakhs of coconut growers in Kerala. That is the mainstay of the lakhs of people. But, nothing is being done. Very little is done and the prices have fallen sharply. In the last one year actually, an amount of Rs 1200 crores is lost by the Kerala State.

If it is the case of multinationals, immediately our Finance Minister will go to their rescue; but if it is the common peasantry, he is not at all worried. So, this attitude of the Finance Minister should change and the common people in the country should be helped. This is my request and I hope that our Finance Minister will give due consideration to all these problems.

With this I oppose this Finance Bill I cut short my speech and conclude. Thank you very much.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY (VISHAKHAPATNAM) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir I thank you for the opportunity given to me to say a few words on this Finance Bill.

Everybody expected after the introduction of the Finance Bill that the productivity will improve; but I do not think that the desired result has been achieved. The sluggishness in the stock market itself shows that the industry by-far is not happy with some of the customs duties that have been reduced on finished goods. This is adversely affecting the Indian production line. Recently the prices of the commodities are

[Sh. M.V.V.S. Murthy]

increasing fourfold; and the rate of inflation has, I think crossed the double digit figure. They say that it is 10.8 per cent now. This is a tendency which has to be curbed by the hon. Finance Minister. Perhaps there must be some linkage between the deficit in the Budget and the inflationary tendency. This has to be looked into seriously. Ours is an agrarian State by far and our productivity in the agricultural sector has to be boosted up; and I am doubtful about this because the steps taken in this regard are not satisfactory.

Today we are trying to import sugar, raw cotton, edible oil, wheat, etc. These are the things that could be produced within the country, provided we give the farmer, the necessary tools. On the one hand we are not giving them the necessary back up and on the other hand the prices that are being given to them are also uneconomical.

Just now the lady Member has said that the copra prices have fallen drastically in Kerala. It is an indication that the farmer is not being supported in any way through the price structure. Added to these problems, he is also denied the infrastructure facilities needed by him.

Now I come to the taxation proposals. Many people have spoken about the tax on service charges which are increasing without any limit. Nobody is able to put an end to the charges with regard to telephone services which are being increased in an exorbitant way. On the top of it, there is a proposal to levy a five percent tax! Telephones are a monopoly business of the Government and at least if they run it economically, it would have been all right. But

levying a tax of five percent on an inefficient and costly service is very unfair and the consumer feels that he is being unduly charged. When there is no limit to the service charges, why should there be a tax on the top of it ?

The hon. Finance Minister has graciously given several concessions to the small scale sector people. But still there is scope to give some more concessions. Limiting the reduction from Rs. 75 lakhs to Rs. 30 lakhs is considered a step not in the right direction for the development of the small scale industries. As you are aware, small scale industries are highly labour intensive and they provide employment opportunities to intensive and they provide employment opportunities to millions of our youth. After the arrival of the multinationals into the country, employment generation will naturally be confined to the small scale sector alone. If we deprive small scale sector to grow and flourish, then we will be doing a great disservice to our unemployed youth.

From the time hon. Manmohanji became the Finance Minister, it became the order of the day to increase the prices prior to Budget and then to give some concessions in the Budget. This year also, prior to the presentation of the Budget itself, our Finance Minister has increased the prices of petroleum products. Again in the Budget, he has made some more increases. This sort of practice should be avoided. There should be a consistent policy so that people will look forward to the Budget proposals eagerly and they plan their line of economic activities accordingly. So, I appeal to the hon. Finance Minister to think about these aspects seriously and I request him to avoid this sort of ad hoc increases.

The debt burden is mounting up and whatever little money could be save, that is being utilised for servicing the debt, with the result, very little is being left for a planned budget. The Finance Minister should think seriously as to how to cut non-plan expenditure drastically. There is a thinking in the Government that billions and billions are in the reserves and that they can spend money as they wish. But I would like to make it clear that the money which is in the reserves is not trade surplus. It is there either because of borrowings or by way of deposits from the NRIs. So really speaking, we are only trustees of that money and we need not be jubilant at all about the reserves. The only alternative is to reduce the trade deficit and to give a boost to our exports in all possible ways. But till date, we have not been able to increase our exports beyond a certain limit.

We have been able to export to the extent of 20 per cent in dollar terms. The export has now become stagnant or it is declining. This should be seriously thought over.

Technologically we are a very strong country. Yesterday's ASLV's launch itself is a proof that India is competing internationally to achieve the technological advancement.

Today, we are asking the multinational companies to come and invest in our country at the cost of Indian industries. People here feel that there need not be level playing ground between the multinational companies and the Indian industries. I would say that there should be a level playing ground for all the industries from which ever quarter they come.

There is a lot of discussion on the public sector undertakings and their management. But I could not understand why the Government wants to give a bigger share of share holding to only a few individuals or a few banks. I think the Indian public should be involved much more so that the public can participate in the share holdings and we can also mobilise the fund from public. The participation of the Indian public will mobilise funds for the public sector undertakings which are being neglected for the last three years. Earlier, we used to give budgetary support to these undertakings for strengthening their capital structure, but now even that is stopped. Hon. Finance Minister is aware of the fact in my State there is a Visakhapatnam Steel Plant which requires capital restructuring. Like that, there is a Hindustan Shipyard Limited, which is one of the oldest but strategic company for the development of shipping industry in the country, is on the path of recovery. These two companies require capital restructuring. They are not asking for any budgetary support. Had this support of capital restructuring given earlier these companies would have survived and produced better results. So, my suggestion to the Government is that it should take an early action in such matters. Today the country is depending on rural development.

Unless we think of providing them good drinking water, we may not be able to survive as a nation. It is because 40 per cent of the poor people live in India and again 70 per cent of our population live in our villages. What are our plans? What are we doing? we are not doing any developmental activities which can reach the rural masses. Unless we take up this rural development programme on a massive scale, we may continue to remain as a poor coun-

[Sh. M.V.V.S. Murthy]

try in future also. There is something wrong in our planning itself. So, something has to be done to achieve our objective.

Now, I will come to another area and that is generation of power. This sector should be entrusted to the Indian companies. Many foreign companies are thinking of entering into this area. We should have a selective system. We should only allow them to invest in selective fields. So, you must exercise your discretion, otherwise, the Indian companies will suffer.

We have also not taken proper steps to control the population. Still, our population is increasing at the rate of 2.3 per cent. Unless we are able to control population, whatever we are able to achieve in other fields that will be nullified.

Now I will come to generation of employment. It is also decreasing, the reason being that we are encouraging only the large scale industries and not the small scale industries which are situated in the backward areas. Recently, the hon. Finance Minister had stated that the people who will be setting up industries in the backward areas, will be given tax holiday. It is a welcome sign and it should be extended to many more districts in the country. There should be dispersal of industries on a larger scale so that they can reach the rural masses. If it is done, then the country will benefit to a large extent.

I am sure the hon. Finance Minister will also consider increasing the Income Tax limit from Rs 35,000 to at least Rs. 50,000. It is because with this high rate of inflation, the common man will not be able to save any-

thing. If the common man is taxed more and more, he will not be able to participate in the development activities of this great nation.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO (TRICHUR) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to say a few words on the Finance Bill at the fag end of the debate. I have many points to make. As the other hon. Members have already spoken on those points, I will limit myself to only a few points.

First of all I would like to congratulate the Finance Minister for responding to the various suggestions that have been made by the hon. Members, irrespective of the parties they belong to subsequent to the presentation of the Budget, especially, regarding the small scale industries.

Sri without taking much time, I would like to compliment the Finance Minister because the background of the whole discussion of today is mainly concentrated on the Finance Minister.

21.00 hrs.

Whatever is the criticism from the Opposition, we are used to it. I don't think that it is to be taken on its face value, because nobody has ever criticised the Finance Minister as a heartless man or a cruel man. Even though there were so many charges that he had lent the country to a World Bank and all that, but at the fag end of the discussion today, Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya charged him with very serious charges; a mass murder charge is against him.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA : It is not a personal allegation.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : I know that. There is only one Finance Minister. You have said that he is responsible for 7000 dowry deaths in the country; that is what you have implied today in a very nice language.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (DUMDUM) : You a party to the unanimous Report of the JPC.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : I can understand that they are not able to find out anything substantial to criticise the Finance Minister, but it was very cruel that she had selected such a thing. From my experience I know that the Communists, especially the Marxists can be very unreasonable, but today only I understand that this is the limit.

This country today is having foreign exchange reserve of 15 billions; and nobody, apart from the Opposition, I saw today complimenting the Finance Minister, whatever be the policy or the direction which they do not agree or which they do not accept.

The Government which mortgaged that gold reserve of this country by taking it out to a foreign country and getting money, even those people who are sitting in the opposition are now blaming the Government, which could build up that foreign exchange reserve. I am very happy that my esteemed colleague, Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee said that we had a very detailed and elaborate discussion in the Standing Committee on this issue. They wanted to know how this was built up. They were very impatient how the Finance Minister could build up this much of foreign exchange reserve. Is it borrowed money? Is it from the IMF? Is it from the World Bank? All these questions were asked by them. It is true that a portion

of it was borrowed money. But there was a situation in 1991 when nobody, IMF or the World Bank or any agency in the world, was prepared to touch our country. We were in the queue with a begging bowl. Nobody was prepared to respond to us. But here is a situation when foreign agencies, international monetary organizations, the World Bank are now in the Queue to help our country. That shows the credibility of this country has gone up.

When you criticise the Finance Minister, we are happy; we want criticism; but, at the same time, you should compliment the Finance Minister also for taking the country out of gutter, out of the worst position, in which this country was in June 1991; and where we have reached between June 1991 and June 1994. so in the last three years, the path that we have travelled shows that this country, its leadership and especially the Finance Minister of this country is taking this country out of the morass.

It is very clear that there is a definite goal that this Government is planning and going ahead. I am not going into the details of that goal. But, still a country, which can reasonably be proud of its financial situation could achieve this thing in a very short time. Nobody should expect a miracle from the Finance Minister of the Prime Minister.

I remember the words of Finance Minister. When he presented the Budget, he said, "Good economy would lead to good politics also" He said, "This party the ruling party, which was a minority party when it came to power, is now a majority party" Now they are making all sorts of insinuations in that. But that is also an indication. Many of the friends who are sitting there are criticizing us also. I am also discussing with them

[Sh. P.C. Chacko]

privately because we are good friends also. There is a change of mind which is taking place also. The Government which was in minority has administered this country in a very excellent way. It has led this country to a better situation. I know that they are surely appreciating it.

They slightly started appreciating them and I know that. Of course, they cannot compliment the Government. I can understand their problems and weaknesses. Whatever it is, there is a criticism. I only want to deal with their criticism that this Government is against the small scale sector, that this Government is against the small scale industry or the development of small scale industry, because neither the Finance Minister nor the Government deserve that criticism.

Recently in an international conference convened in Delhi, our hon. Prime Minister made it very clear that the lifeline of the Indian industrialisation is in the small scale industry and that every encouragement would be given to the small scale industry. But I would like to devote a few minutes on this for the kind consideration of the Finance Minister.

We have made many suggestions after the presentation of the recent Budget. We have, irrespective of party politics, ruling party or opposition parties, all agreed on certain points. We went with representations to the Finance Minister. We spoke in the House saying that whatever hardships the small scale industry is facing due to this new Budget, these are to be discussed.

The Finance Minister has taken pains,

his entire Ministry was available even for the smallest man, the associations or organisations and understand their problems.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA :
Is it a speech on the Finance Bill or Finance Minister ?

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : I want to confine my self to the taxation proposals. I know I would be speaking on the Finance Bill but the provocation came because the discussion was almost on GATT and it had gone from GATT to Cargill. When senior Members were speaking, there were no boundaries, that is the problem. We are going to discuss GATT but we had a long discussion on GATT today. Without GATT and Cargill they cannot think anything today.

On the Finance Bill also when they were discussing, including Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya, it was more on GATT and Cargill. Anyway, I am not going to do that.

The successive Congress Governments have given a special priority to the small scale industries because we are a party rooted in the Gandhian ideology. We know, how the small scale industries in this country have developed; we know the historical perspective, the historical background of the handloom sector, unorganised sector the traditional sector and how the small scale industries of the present day assumed the structure and position. We are very well aware of that.

There are a number of decisions taken by this Government. Recently also a policy announcement was made by the Government. In an answer, the hon. Prime Minister made it very clear in this House that with-

out any ambiguity the Government will promote the small scale industries and will not do anything which hampers the growth of small scale industries.

Raja Chelliah Committee report was widely welcomed in this House as well as outside in this country. But a new duty regime called advalorem duties are being introduced from item specific to advalorem. I would like to request the hon. Finance Minister that while implementing this new taxation or the new system the background of the Indian industry specially the small scale industry also is to be considered in detail. I am not saying that this is not being considered but still I think that some more consideration but still I think that some more consideration is necessary because large number of industrial units are still in difficulty even after the announcement about the concessions during the last few days.

I was also in charge of the industries in a small State. I remember that so many women cooperative societies were organised during my time. My esteemed colleague Shrimati Suseela Gopalan knows that. These cooperative societies which are assembling various electronic equipment like boosters or antennae or various other electronic items do not have marketing organisation of their own. They cannot sell their products in their own name. It is supplied in branded name but as somebody has pointed out, it is not an international brand or national brand or even a State brand, it is circulated in one small district only.

This brand, means taking a shop, exhibiting their product, having the banking finance to hold stock and then selling and collecting and all this. They do not have this mechanism. These industries are not even

small scale industry, not even tiny industries. These are owned units where husband, wife and children, only 3-4 people are working. It is only soldering iron which they are using. That is only their capital machinery.

They are carrying on with some screw driver technology. It is such a small industry also because they cannot sell their products, they manufacture them under some popular brand, that is, some local brand which is sold in the local areas. Even that also is now not getting the benefit of being a small scale industry, whether it is Rs. 30 lakh or any amount, because they are producing in somebody else's factory. I understand the difficulty and the Finance Minister is very well aware. In fact, he has made it very clear in this House also. Many big industries are hiding behind the small or tiny industries and they are taking undue advantage. That I can understand. But I come from a place where dozens of women's industrial cooperative societies are manufacturing electronic goods. Whether it is the Shakur Basti of Delhi, or Dharavi of Bombay or Onnur of my constituency where these large number of women's industrial cooperative societies are manufacturing electrical items or electronic items, how will they sell them? I am sure the Finance Minister will definitely consider that point. I am not saying that this new structural change in the taxation is unwelcome. But I am only saying that we have to find a way out to remove their hardship.

I am coming from a State which is industrially very very backward. Large number of PVC pipe manufacturing units are there. It is only a blower and a few items if equipment they manufacture and the total capital investment comes to a few thousand

[Sh. P.C. Chacko]

rupees only because they manufacture low quality PVC pipes used for house wiring or even for drift irrigation. There are 43 units working in my State and half of them are closed down. Because of the new excise duty their margin of profits is very very less; so they cannot sell their products in the market. That kind of a problem is existing there. I am sure that the Finance Minister welcomed all these people, took hours together to study their problems. I know that. Even while introducing these new taxation reforms also, such problems can be found solutions.

There are mini cement factories which are having some problems. They have already been explained, I am not going into the details. If the big factories are using the tiny units as a sort of sub-agents, then I can understand the problem. But there are a large number of clinker powdering units are selling their products in the open market without a brand name or without any infrastructure of marketing. But such units are also at a disadvantage today and this aspect may kindly be considered.

For agro-based paper which is being manufactured some concessions have already been announced. For eco-friendly paper or the agro-based paper also some concession was announced but according to me, personally I felt that they really deserve more concessions. Because there is bagasse from wheat, rice or agricultural residue which is being used as raw material. That means that much wood is not being destroyed or that much forest is not being destroyed. So the agricultural residue is being converted. There is some background. In 1906 a policy was an-

nounced by the Government that when agricultural residue is converted into this eco-friendly paper, where forest is not destroyed, some concessions were given to those units. I request that the background how this industry developed may kindly be considered when we are doing this exercise. The price of paper manufactured in this industry was Rs 500 per tonne. Now when this *ad valorem* of 10 per cent is charged it comes to Rs 1500 or Rs 1600 per tonne. How can they sell it in the market? This is the only thing which I want the Finance Minister to consider. I am not against this.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: We have reduced it to five per cent.

SHRI P. C. CHACKO: I agree. If this five percent comes to 750, all on a sudden, per tonne, is it possible for any product which was sold in the market to sell at Rs. 250 more?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: But they wanted five percent. He has conceded it.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO: What I said is that 10 per cent *ad valorem* means Rs. 1600 per tonne. If it is five per cent it will be Rs 800. It was Rs 500 per tonne. That means it is costier by Rs. 300 per time. Is it possible all of a sudden to say that the price is increased by Rs 300. It think it is not a very major policy matter. I am only suggesting that this how a practical problem is faced by the industry.

There is a catalyst industry established in my place in Kerala. This catalyst unit is not a large scale industry by a medium size industry. For fertilizer, petro-chemicals and for various industries catalyst is a must.

So, we were importing catalyst from foreign countries, from outside. Now, catalyst industry is able to develop and they are supplying catalyst to the petro-chemicals and fertiliser industry. So, for finished catalyst, import duty was 85 per cent. In this Budget, this import duty has been slashed to 25 per cent from 85 per cent. In any industry, whether it is catalyst or others, for any product if the duty has been reduced all of a sudden from 85 per cent to 25 per cent, it becomes unviable. Sir, I understand that the import barriers should be reduced gradually. Whatever is the impact of Gatt, about which many people are propagating, the international trade is progressing in such a way that boundary tariff barriers are being reduced. It is a progressive step. I see it like that. But it can be done only in a phased manner, step by step. When the duty has been reduced from 85 per cent to 25 per cent, it means sixty per cent out all of a sudden in one fine morning, and no industry can survive. Such a situation is being faced by the catalyst industry in this country.

Sir we met the Finance Minister last year after the Budget was presented - (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Why do you not add that import has to be done by a company which is owned by Snam Pragetti? That is a fact.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO: I am not interested in insinuations and allegations. These are all old things and nobody can prove them and nobody is interested. This Government is not interested whether it is Snam Pragetti or somebody else. But the simple thing is that on a number of items, you have done this.

FACT was not other affected Company last year. Shrimati Suseela Gopalan also knows about this. We all had met the Finance Minister and then the duty which was raised had been slashed 60 per cent and the problem of FACT had been resolved. Similar issue is there for catalyst industry in the country.

I am afraid that I will be taking too much time if I elaborate on these matters. So, I am not going into that.

I would like to touch one more point. The newspaper industry in this country was given some concessions during the last year's Budget. I am also associated with the newspaper industry. Sir, the newspaper industry was enjoying some benefit last year and that was 25 per cent import duty for the offset press and other accessories in respect of printing of newspapers. And not that 25 per cent has been increased to 37.5 per cent, I think, This is a raw deal given to the newspaper industry. They really deserve, if not a better one, at least the existing benefit, which they were enjoying and that benefit should be allowed to continue to this industry.

Sir, I am only presenting all these things to know it is going to affect the existing industry when the Raja Chelliah Committee report is introduced and implemented. It is because of the peculiar background of the Indian industry and its evolution and development at stages. We should analyse as to why 483 items were put in the exempt list? Now, item-wise exemption has been taken away and *ad valorem* has been made. It is a good thing. But, when we are implementing this, we should analyse as to why these 483 items were exempted and what were the reasons? There were reasons and there

[Sh. P.C. Chacko]

were good logic in the past as to why they were exempted. Now if all these exemptions are taken away and all these exemptions are lifted, then how will it affect the industry? Since this Government gives importance to the small scale sector and this government is interested in encouraging and developing the small scale industry, sincere analysis has to be made as to how the steps, which are taken in the best interests of the country, in a progressive manner, are affecting the industry. I would like to bring this point to the notice of the hon. Finance Minister.

Whatever is the criticism from any quarters, this country is indebted to the Finance Minister because this country is now moving ahead with a purpose, with a goal, with a dedication and with a target and the people of this country by and large are thankful to the Finance Minister. This is the fourth successive Budget, which has been presented by the Finance Minister. After the presentation of the first Budget, many people had said that he would not even present the second Budget. All the prophets of doom are now being proved wrong and I sincerely congratulate the Finance Minister for this bold initiative and leadership. I support the Finance Bill.

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER: Still there are seven more Members who want to participate in this debate. If each of them takes five minutes, we can finish it by 10 p.m.

Now, Shri Mohan Rawale.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (BOMBAY-

SOUTH CENTRAL): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir the hon. Minister of Finance stated just now that while speaking he remembered Mahatma Gandhi. But he forget the principles of Gandhiji I did not intend to give instances here, but I am doing so here. Mahatma Gandhi had fought against Britishers in the British Parliament. One of the Parliamentarians Lord Machalay had stated then.

[English]

"mere extent of empire is not necessarily an advantage. It would be on the most, a selfish view of the case, far better for us that the people of India where we governed and independent of us than ill Governemnt and to us that they were ruled by their own kings, but wearing our broad cloth and working our cutlery than that they were performing their *Salams* To English Collectors and English Magistrates but were to ignorant to value or to poor to buy English Manufacturers."

[Translation]

Now we want to invite here the Insurance Companies also. The then 24 Insurance Companies turned bankrupt in 1944-45. The result was that the people who had had their claims could not withdraw their money. They were, therefore, nationalised during the tenure of Shri Cinta Mani Rao Deshmukh as a Minister of Finance.

The companies who lost their share-capital worth Rs. 50 crore in Japan and America are coming to India now. During the Seventh Five year Plan the Insurance Companies had their target of earning Rs. 10 thousand crore but they succeeded in earning Rs 15,733 crore. In the first month

of the Eighth Five Year Plan they earned Rs 12,596 crore. In 1956 every employee dealt with 220 Insurance policies but now he is dealing with 784 policies.

21.23 hrs.

[SHRI P.C. CHACKO *in the Chair*]

The private companies did never pay any bonus but they are paying now.

Today the NTC mills in Bombay are on the verge of closure. No funds were provided for those NTC mills whereas Rs.750 crore has been provided for 86 mills. Later on they allocated Rs. 877.74 crore and out of this amount Rs.765.72 crore was given to the Private sector. The Ministry of Finance was asked to arrange Rs 1500 crore but it was not done. An amount of Rs one crore has been provided for the NTC mills for the year 1994-95 whereas Rs.300 crore has been provided for the voluntary Retirement scheme. At the time of nationalisation the Government had promised to increase the productivity but the situation has come to such a pass that we started selling out the land meant for the mills. Why the nationalisation was not made? I would like to know whether the Government is granting permission to restart the mills which had been closed earlier under the modernisation Scheme of Rs. 2005 crore. It is said that the mills of city Bombay have surplus land and therefore that should be sold. The entire land of 18.05 acres of the Madhusudan mill has been sold.

The 14.48 acres of the Sitaram Mill is proposed to be sold. The number two and number 3 mills are proposed to be merged with the unit and it is also proposed to sell 14.33 acres of land. The entire land of 8.49

acres of the Elfiston Mill is going to be sold. 8.05 acre land of the Jam mill is also going to be sold in near future.

The hank yarn has been exempted from the excise duty. But hank yarn does not reach the handloom industry and the powerloom industries are grabbing its supply the Government should take stern action against the people who evade excise duty worth Rs one thousand crore a year. The oil Development cess was imposed to make available of funds for the development of various sectors. The rate of this less was gradually increased from Rs 60 per tonne in 1976 to Rs 600 per tonne in 1983. Thousand of crores of rupees were collected in the fund on this less but was not used for the development of oil industry. The Government rather utilised this fund to make good its Budget deficit. Only 10 percent of this fund was spent on the development of oil industry had this amount been handed over to the OADB and spent on the development of the oil industry, the prices of petrol would not have risen so steeply today. The prices of petroleum should be reduced.

About 50 lakh people in Bombay live in slum clusters. They have been provided nominal civic amenities. The Government of Maharashtra has no money to spend on their development. The Central Government does not allocate adequate funds to improve their conditions, whereas revenue of Rs 18 or 20 thousand crore is received by the Central Government from Bombay city.

Atleast 10 per cent of this amount should be spent on the development of Bombay. Further, the facilities being provided to slum dwellers are inadequate. The Government machinery can also be helpful

[Sh. P.C. Chacko]

in giving them maximum relief. Later on you can pay attention to the rich people.

The population of America is 22 crore and there are 1250 universities there whereas in India, there are only 250 universities for a population of 84 crore. Sir, through you, I would like to request the hon. Finance Minister that at least one university should be established in each district

Our hon. Minister of Youth Affairs and sports is sitting here and he is performing well. But, he has proposed cut in the sports budget. In the recent past we have not been able to win even a single medal be it olympics of any other event. Therefore, this budget should rather be increased to encourage sports activities.

Such retired Central of State Government servants who are not engaged in any business should be fully exempted from income tax. After all, the Government has a responsibility towards senior citizens of this country. The amount of pension, which is a token of regards to the services rendered by the retired person, and the income earned through other deposits and FDRs should be fully exempted from income-tax.

The technology is advancing with such a pace that there is a need to allocate more funds for education. We should give more stress on technical and professional courses and more new degree colleges should be opened.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, earlier I was not present in the House but with your permission, I want to clarify one thing. Shri George

Fernandes is our honourable Member. Shiv Sena is not against anyone in particular. Even my wife is a South Indian. He had said that it was not known to him and that he came to know of it only here.

[English]

MR CHAIRMAN: Please do not go into that. He is also not here. In fact, he did not make any allegation. Please wind up your speech now.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: In the end, I would like to submit that the Maharashtra Government had agreed to run these textile mills on cooperative basis. When I asked a question in this regard Shri Ashok Gehlotji had replied that no mill would be closed down. You do not even allow to sell these mills. Recently, the Government of Maharashtra has declared that it is ready to run these mill on 50 per cent cooperative basis. I do not know if it has written to you in this regard. However, the workers can also purchase 10 per cent shares. Today, about 70,000 workers have been rendered jobless. Therefore, I request that if the Central Government could keep 40 per cent shares with it, these mills can be saved from being closed down and the workers can also find, a job for themselves. The Minister of Textile, in his reply has stated that the Government is going to close down 10 mills. If the above mentioned proposal is accepted by the union Government, these workers can be saved from opting for V.R.S. I would therefore requested that if you can keep 40 per cent shares, these mills can be run on cooperatives basis and the workers can be saved from becoming jobless.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (DEOGARH): Mr. Chariman, Sir at the outset I would like to thank you for calling me to speak at this fag of the marathon debate on the Finance Bill. This is the last leg of the budgetary process of 1994-95.

I would like to make one point clear. Yesterday my name was called and today also my name was called. I was not here. I regret for that. But I wonder for it. I am a person always present in the House or in the lobby or in the Central Hall. I was not here when my name was called. I am sorry for that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please speak on the Finance Bill.

SHRI SRI BALLAV PANIGRAHI : I thank you for calling me at the end of the debate.

Sir now the debate on the Finance Bill is going on and debate on the Finance Bill, as you know is supposed to be different from the debate on the General Budget. But a seasoned and experienced Member Shri George Fernandes also I do not say he does not know the difference - during the course of his speech has deliberately dwelt at length on extraneous matters other than the provisions of the Finance Bill and some other Opposition Members also did not fail to see the ghost of Dunkel, GATT, IMF etc.

Sir, I support the Finance bill, 1994 after the passing of which, will enable the Government to give effect to the financial proposals of the Government set out in the Budget. This year's Budget is a positive step taken in the right direction to acheive

the targets or the purposes set out in our economic policy which aims to globalise our economy. This year's Budget of our government aims at growth with social justice and naturally both these aspects have been taken care of. The Union Budget has introduced far-reaching reforms in the tax system. Of course, the size of the revenue deficit is a worrisome aspect. The Budget is no doubt a positive step; it is a growth-oriented Budget and there is a lot of emphasis on the rural development. I am amazed today that in the course of the Debate - as your goodself also would have found praises were heard from the Opposition benches, particularly from the BJP friends. They took the name of Gandhiji and they even referred to Mr. Rajiv Gandhi in the context of providing drinking water to all the villages in our country. On the one hand, they demand speedy allround development, water for irrigation, drinking water for all the villages in the country, schools, colleges, roads, factories and everything and on the other hand, they are asking not to tax anybody and not to borrow. They are also asking the Government to spend more money on all these things. How is this possible? All the BJP Members who spoke in the debate, in a parrot-like fashion all of them demanded that income tax exemption limit should be raised to Rs 50,000/-. Where will the money come from? Of course, we will, all, be happy if everybody is exempted from the payment of income tax. There are historical reasons and there are reasons which are beyond our control and mostly our society is an imbalanced society with full of inequalities.

In such a society, differential treatment has to be meted out. Some concessions have to be given to weaker sections; to minorities, to economically backward people.

[Sh. Sriballav Panigrahi]

als.

But at the same time we have also to take the affluent people in the society. About forty percent people in our country are living below the poverty line. So, naturally those who are getting handsome salary, good income have the duty to give may be a small fraction of their income for the overall welfare of the unfortunate, down-trodden people. We have to take in that spirit.

When our Finance Minister took the office of the Finance Ministry, our economy was in shatters. Somebody was saying, "what have you achieved?" Probably, if that state of affairs continued till now, some States like West Bengal, probably, the Government of India would have to knock at the doors of Peerless to clear the monthly bills of their employees. Now some private, financial institutions like Peerless are not able to discharge their minimum obligation of paying monthly salary to their employees. This is the situation. I am not going to list out the achievements of the Government of India, particularly through the initiative of the Finance Minister. As you know, he is an expert, an economist of international repute and who has been to our credit adjudged as the best Finance Minister of the world.

On the Industrial sector, several concessions have been announced by the hon. Finance Minister while initiating debate on the Finance Bill. That shows how sympathetic he is. This Government is quite responsive after the Budget was presented and the Budget was welcomed, by and large, by all sections.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Leave out the general matter. Come to the specific propos-

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: I am coming to the proposal.

As I said, deficit gap is frightening. It should be brought down to two per cent of our GDP for which very strict monitoring of our expenditure is needed. I suggest that there should be Expenditure Monitoring Committee Under Jawahar Rozgar Yojna and other schemes, huge money is going to the States. That should also be properly menetered.

About income-tax, it was Rs 15,000 in 1984-85. Now the exemption limit is Rs. 35,000. There is always the problem of erosion in rupee value consequent to inflation. I would suggest that in some other countries, the system of indexing tax system has already been introduced. We have also our technology and computer Technology is available in our country. We should not feel hesitant in indexing in the tax field and doing the adjustment for inflation.

Section 80 (g) of the income-tax Act is for exemption for charitable purposes etc. That should be a general provision. This time Maharashtra Chief Minister asked for its deletion. The Act has got to be amended. Generally, there should be a provision authorising the Chairman of CBDT. He can do all these things, ofcourse, with the prior approval of the Finance Minister so that for every genuine matter, the hon. Finance Minister need not come before this House for the purpose of amendment. There should be a level playground. The complexities of our society and small sector need special treatment. Therefore, these concessions etc., have to be continued in respect of the Section.

There is long delay in BIFR public sector sick units.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have discussed that subject many times in the House.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Another very important matter is fertiliser imbalances. In 1990-91, there was decontrol of fertiliser nitrogenous potash and phosphatic fertiliser. There is reduction of price of nitrogen. Thereafter, the balance of fertiliser has been tilted. That is disastrous from the utility point of view and from agriculture point of view. That has to be corrected. In this year's Budget, till today there is no indication about the level of fertiliser subsidy to be made available to the farmers. This is a serious situation. At least, last year level has got to be maintained in respect of P&K phosphate and potash fertiliser.

I have a suggestion about black-money. It is common knowledge that there is a parallel economy going on centering round this black-money. It is said that there is black-money of Rs. 30,000 crores or Rs. 60,000 crores or Rs. 3 lakh thousand crores. Anyway, we are not in a position to control this black-money, this parallel economy. But there is black-money, and black market is going on. There should be an opportunity given to these people who are possessing immense amount of black-money to bring out the black-money and spend it for the purpose of housing for poor people and for irrigation projects and for power.

The tax reforms envisage a moderate tax rate, broadened tax base and pay your tax policy. Our policy is persuasion not persecution.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why don't you send those suggestions to the hon. Minister?

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: I have to say that just persuasion is not going to help us. There should be compulsion also. We know that in our country only during Emergency, employees were coming to office well in time and the trains were running in time. Therefore, I feel that nobody wants to pay voluntarily only very few people volunteer to pay.

These are my observations. The points I mentioned may be considered by the Government.

With these words, I support the Finance Bill and I thank you.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU (SECUNDERABAD): Mr. Chairman, Sir several members had a complaint as to why the opposition is not appreciating or complimenting the Finance Bill or the Budget? In this connection, I would like to present my views.

Sir, there has been sharp rise in the prices of essential commodities. Though there is a large stock of rice in Andhra Pradesh, but it is being sold at Rs. 12 per kg. Similarly, edible oil is being sold at Rs. 35 per kg and onion at Rs. 4-5 per kg. On account of this, the common man is bearing the brunt. This budget is not able to check the price rise. This congress party, in its manifesto, had promised to bring down the prices within a specific period.

[*English*]

There is 30 per cent increase in rail-

[Sh. Dattatraya Bandaru]

way fares. That is why we strongly oppose this from the common man's point of view.

[Translation]

In this budget, a provision of Rs 800 to Rs 900 crore has been made for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under Special Compliment Plan. However, it should have been made proportionate to their population. I can say it assertively that up to the 7th Five Year Plan, only 8-10 per cent of the budget was being spent on the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, whereas they account for 22 percent of the total population. I would request the hon. Finance Minister that a provision of at least Rs 2000 crore should be made for them. Recently, Backward Class Finance Corporation has been set up but the people belonging to backward classes are getting less amount of loan from them. Although, the Prime Minister's Rojgar Yojna was Launched with great fanfare, yet nothing is being done to give jobs to the unemployed. In my constituency, 450 persons were selected under Prime Minister Rojgar Yojna but only 220 persons could coming forward to give small amount of loan. My submission is that in the absense of any bank assistance, even 50 per cent of the amount allocated in the budget is not being spent. Therefore, you should give directives to the banks that they should achieve the target fixed for this scheme. As a result, alongwith the people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the people of backward classes are also lagging behind.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Prime Min-

ister has also launched a scheme on a large scale for the welfare of the scavengers (safai karmacharis) but we find that its budget allocation is also going down. So far as the farmers are concerned, I do not want to repeat different points but I would like to say that the farmers of Andhra Pradesh have produced 5 lakh tonnes tobacco. However, due to slump in the market the farmers are suffering losses.

Further, with the disintegration of Soviet Union export of this product has been stopped. You should do something to protect these farmers an initiative can be taken in this direction by making provision of a capital amount Rs. 100 crore for them. There are about 10-15 lakh tobacco growers in 7 districts of Andhra Pradesh who are suffering losses. Moreover, about 38 lakh agricultural labourers are also in crisis. Therefore, the Government should help the farmers out through setting up Of Tobacco Corporation with a capital of crore. One of our hon. Colleague had also mentioned about setting up of a Coconut Board. There are many coconut growing areas in Andhra Pradesh also but their prices are falling down. I would request the hon. Finance Minister to give encouragement to agro based industries by making adequate provision in the budget. There was a proposal to set up a Food processing plant at Rajamundari in Andhra pradesh to Produce coconut cream and powder but in the last 8-10 years, nothing has come out. Today, there is no sense of accountability in public-Sector Undertakings.

[English]

Accountability is the most important thing in any field of life both to the higher authorities and to the workers.

[Translation]

The unit of IDPL functioning in my constituency has been bailed out by the BIFR. Today, 8000 workers are working there. The unit is running in profit but taking all other units of IDPL together, it has also been declared a non profit unit. In this regard we have requested the Prime Minister and he has agreed to make a provision of special budget for this purpose. I would request you that such units may be handed over to the workers engaged there. Today Hyderabad Unit of IDPL is running in profit. You should lay a condition before the State Governments that they would have to purchase the medicines from IDPL units. Though IDPL manufactures life saving drugs, yet it is suffering losses. On the other hand, small industries in private sector are competing with the industries of America. I would, therefore, urge that at least Rs. 35 crore may be provided for its revival so that it may find itself worthy to compete with other industries. Not taking much time of the House, I would like to say something about H.M.T. I would not repeat what Shri Venkatagiri Gowda ji has said earlier. You go there and see the contribution of workers. Thereafter, you should refer this industry to BIFR for revival.

Now, I would like to say something about the weavers. Today handloom industry is facing a crisis. Due to non-payment of wages, many people have died in Andhra Pradesh. I would like to tell the hon. Finance Minister that in the given circumstances textile industry and handloom industry cannot compete with other industries. A levy may be charged from hand-yarn producing spinning mills on their 50 percent production, as is done in the case of rice mills which is subsequently passed to PDS weavers may be given yarn,

dyes and colours on subsidised rates. If they are not given subsidy, they would not be able to compete with others industries.

I would once again request that the amount of Rs. 800 crore provided in the budget for SCs, STs and weaker sections may be increased to Rs. 2000 crore. I would not argue against the popular schemes of the Government but if they do not get the benefits, it is all useless. Even Planning Commission is raising objections.

[English]

Instead of giving loans, I request you to see that every mandal should have a *pathshala* so that they are able to stand on their own legs.

[Translation]

You are launching many popular schemes including disbursement of loans through banks, but our Planning Commission is coming in the way of advancement of SCs and STs. I would submit that we should recommend to the Planning Commission to make arrangements for allocating sufficient funds so that the people belonging to SCs and STs could become more educated and stand on their own feet. I oppose such a Budget or a Finance Bill, in which there is no sufficient budgetary provision for the poor, SCs and STs.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have a request to make to the hon. Members. Please conclude your speeches within five minutes and also I request them to remain in the House after their speech is over. The hon. Finance Minister will start the reply today.

SHRI LAETA UMBREY (ARUNACHAL EAST): Thank you so much Mr. Chairman. I rise to support the Finance Bill 1994-95. First of all I extend my hearty congratulations to the hon. Finance Minister and the hon. Prime Minister for bringing the economy back on the right track from the brink of disaster. I remember when the Finance minister presented his first Budget in 1991 and again in 1992, 2nd Budget. There were hue and cry within and outside the Parliament. There were protests and criticism against the budget and against the Finance Minister. But the hon. Finance Minister has shown bold determination and strong conviction and he became the darling of the world economists, industrialists, intellectuals and the people of India. So you rightly deserve worldwide acclaim and honour which you have received.

We are young and optimists. We want to see this country as one of the most developed countries in the world. We feel the future of our country is safe in the hands of the present Finance Minister. We also feel that we have regained our last honour and dignity under the dynamic leadership of Shri P.V. Narasimha rao. Dr. Manmohan Singh and Shri Rao you must go ahead; the entire country is with them. As I have said, you have brought back the economy on the right through during the last three consecutive budgets. However you have not stopped giving tax concessions till yesterday - one after another you have given. Even this year's budget has been widely welcomed by the people of all walks of life and termed it as growth oriented.

To be very frank, I am extremely very happy as a Member of this august House particularly sitting on this side of the House. Your three conservative budgets. But I also

see quite a contrasting one in relation to some areas as a representative of one of the youngest and the most backward States of the country, Arunachal Pradesh. So I want to draw your kind attention to some of the points. I am sure I will get the attention of the hon. Finance Minister because he also comes from the same region

In the last year's budget you have made a room for the northeastern States. But the room was too small and you are so kind that everybody who pleaded with you as backward state or district, you have accommodated them.

Now, there is no space left for the North-Eastern States. What I mean to say is that you have given the tax holidays and so many concessions to all the States which have come to you. The same tax holidays and Eastern States. I will cite certain examples. The concessions which you have extended to the North-East, you have extended to Himachal Pradesh. In that case, if someone wants to set up some industries, and want to take the advantages of the concessions; they will not like to come to places like Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Mizoram; they will always like to go to Himachal Pradesh and such other places because it is adjacent to industrial giants like Punjab, Haryana, Western UP and Delhi. Likewise, you have extended the same tax concessions to Dadra and Nagar Haveli and some other smaller States; they are also quite adjacent to Maharashtra, Karnataka and Tamilnadu. If the same concessions which you have given to the North-Eastern States, are given to these States, I am sure, nobody would like to come to Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and other North-Eastern States for investment. Even within the North-Eastern States - since are

coming from Assam and you know about Assam - Assam has all the infrastructural facilities. It has railways; it has roads; it has waterways; it has power and everything. The other North-Eastern States do not have them. If you give equal concessions to all these States, nobody would like to put up their factories in other States; they would like to put all their factories or industries only in Assam.

So, I hope that you will understand the magnitude of the problem will come out with totally new tax policies for the backward States like Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Mizoram, Tripura, Meghalaya or Manipur. If this is not done with urgency at the earliest, the growing imbalance will not be bridged. So, this needs the hon. Finance Minister's utmost attention.

Another thing that I would like to bring to his kind notice is this. That is, income tax is being exempted to our State. But what happened to the wealth tax and gift tax? When the people do not have anything to pay, why should they have the wealth tax and the gift tax provisions? This also should be exempted for the States like Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and other smaller and poor States.

Sir, even after three years of the economic liberalisation and the announcement of the tax holidays by the Finance Minister, nobody has so far come forward to set up industries and factories in the North-Eastern States. We have certain small and medium scale industries which were enjoying all the transport and capital goods subsidies have been stopped suddenly and these units have not been given any subsidies for the last so many years. This has

greatly demoralised the entrepreneurs. When those entrepreneurs who were getting these facilities before the liberalisation are not getting the same now, I don't think any new investors will come forward to set up new enterprises. When the private sector is not coming forward, public sector should, at least, have stepped in to set up such factories. I am very sorry to say that we are not getting any positive response even from the public sector.

Sir, I come from Arunachal Pradesh, which is one of the youngest and most backward States in the country. Of course, every Member who spoke before me, invariably stated that his or her constituency is the most backward. But when I refer my State as 'backward', I hope every one will understand the extent of backwardness. What I meant by backwardness is that there are no railways, no waterways, no airways and not and not even roads. Two districts in my constituency are not even linked by road and there are no communication facilities whatsoever! Now, you can very well imagine the extent of backwardness of my constituency and my State.

The most important thing in the North East is improvement of infrastructure. Until and unless sufficient government funds are spent for developing infrastructure facilities, there will be no hope of development in North East.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please wind up. You have already taken thirteen minutes. As you represent a very backward area, as a special case, time limit is not made applicable to you. Please conclude in two minutes' time.

SHRI LAETA UMBREY : I cannot complete in two minutes. I required at least another ten minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is not possible. You have to conclude in two minutes.

SHRI LAETA UMBREY : I have to bring so many points to the notice of the hon. Finance Minister with reference to the backwardness of my State. I will continue to speak. You may not record it, if you so wish. But I have to express my concern.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You cannot defy the Chair. I have given you extra time as you are making some special points about your State. You must understand that other hon. Members are cooperating with you. You have made your points very effectively and all of us are convinced. Please wind up. There are others who want to speak.

SHRI LAETA UMBREY : Sir, I come from a State, where by the grace of God, we have got everything. God is kind enough to give us all good things. Our soil is fertile, we have good rains and we have very good climate. We can grow everything. If certain scientific inputs are made available to us, our State will be in a position to feed the entire country. But we remain most neglected. Since we do not have any infrastructure, whatever is produced in our state cannot be marketed outside. There is an organisation called the TRIFED- Tribal Co-operative Marketing Federation of India. But I am constrained to mention here that it is not at all known in my State. Our tea gardens are now coming. Remy is one of the important textiles which our textile industries are importing from China and Malaysia. It grows very well in Arunachal. But the Government is not taking any interest in

promoting Remy cultivation. Similarly, there is a vast potential for generation of power. So far, about 36,000 mega watts of power generation potential has been identified in the State. But no one is coming forward either from the public sector or from the private sector to tap this potential. Whereas there is acute shortage of power in the whole of the country. Sir, we have huge reserves of minerals, oil and gas but, those are not exploited.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat.

SHRI LAETA UMBREY : Though I have not been able to completely project the problems of my State, I hope the hon. Finance Minister is fully convinced with the problems faced by the people of my State and he will definitely look into problems which I have raised.

With these words I support the Bill and oppose all the cut motions.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI (Jhansi) : Mr. Chairman, sir, I would not like to raise those issues which have already been raised by some Members belonging to my party, but I join myself with them on those issues.

Finance Bill should have removed imbalances in the development of backward areas, but it has widened this gap, so I oppose this Finance Bill. This Finance Bill will force the people of backward areas to demand a separate state for them and fight for their right. 35 percent of the total area of the country is backward. I have much more anguish for those backward people

than what has been described by my colleagues here.

I belong to Bundelkhand region which is spread over two states, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. Even after 45 years of Independence, out of total 20 districts of our area, only two have industries and remaining 18 districts do not have any industry. These areas have plenty of natural resources. It has fertile soil and can produce good crop and industries can also be set up here.

The Finance Bill has not paid any attention towards improving the purchasing power. Backwardness cannot be removed without raising the production capacity and it can be increased through industrial and agricultural development. Industries should be set up and investment should be made on the basis of availability of natural resources. You have provided facilities and infrastructure for already industrialised and developed areas.

Farmers do not have strong support today. They do not have resources to get water for irrigation, electricity, improved seeds and fertilisers. Their purchasing power is low. How they can produce good crop without sound purchasing power. Why industrial units could not be set up in most of the districts. Keeping in view the liberalisation policy formulated by the Government, I would like to know whether any industrial development has taken place. What facilities are given to a person who wants to set up his own industry. They are not getting bank loans because the rules are very strict and they do not get loan on low rate of interest either. How then the people of these backward areas can prosper and how can the regional imbalance be re-

moved. So I request you to make amendments in the policies for providing special facilities for these areas to remove imbalance. For removing imbalance and improving economic condition of these areas, loan facility should be provided. Schemes to improve the agricultural production should be formulated. Fertiliser, irrigation facilities and small tractors should be provided on low prices. Then we will not try to escape from paying taxes. We wish to make the funds available for development of the country at any cost. We wish to help you but we have nothing with us. So far, the liberalisation policy has not shown any results in removing this imbalance. The development of backward areas has received a set back. So, I request you to make some announcement to this effect.

We want to get bank loans on easy and low rate of interest. We should be given licences to set up industries. Big industries should be set up in these areas, as small industries will grow through it. You should invest capital in these areas, otherwise the resentment that is growing among the people due to this imbalanced development, will prove dangerous for the country and you will have to face its consequences later on. So I would like to say that you should set up industries and agro-based industries in these areas for making 45 percent of total population prosperous, and for improving their purchasing power. We should follow such a policy for capital investment in these areas so that we could exploit its natural resources properly, increase the income of this area and provide employment to unemployed youth.

I would also like to say about income tax. The exemption limit for income tax has been raised upto Rs. 35,000. I would like to

[Shri Rajendra Agnihotri]

know from the Finance Minister whether it is proper that salaried staff, small shopkeepers and teachers should pay Rs. 4000 from their income as income tax when on the other hand there is high inflation. The hon. Minister should think over this issue seriously. The deficit will not be considerable in this budget, even if the exemption limit is raised from Rs. 3500 to 50 or 60 thousand. So I request the hon. Minister to raise it upto Rs. 60,000/-

Uniform taxation system should be introduced in the country to reduce black-marketing. There is huge difference in sales tax and other taxes imposed in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and various other States throughout the country and another. So I would like to say that Finance Minister should convene a meeting of Chief Ministers of all the States and formulate a uniform taxation system so that small traders could raise their income sources through competition.

I request the hon. Finance Minister to pay attention towards small scale industries. Small scale industries set up in backward areas cannot compete. These are not sick but on the verge of closure. I am telling about the backward areas where the small scale industrial units' owners have not only lost the money borrowed from financial institutions but also the capital of their own. I would like to say that this money should be raised upto Rs. 1 lakh. It is essential to remove imbalances in the development of small scale industries in backward areas. You should pay special attention towards it.

Hon. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI (SHIMLA) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to congratulate the hon. Finance Minister for the steps taken by him to bring back country's economy on the right track. I would like to submit a few points. I represent Shimla constituency in Himachal Pradesh. I congratulate him for the provisions made for the gardening in our State. Besides it, I request him that both the previous and the present State Governments used to provide the supporting price for the vegetables, apples and potatoes. My submission is that the State Government should be provided more grant so that it can give more supporting price to the farmers and the fruit growers of the State so that they may be benefitted.

Sir, it has been said by the opposition many times that the farmers may be prosperous, if provided more supporting price for sugarcane and other items. On one hand the opposition demands for such things and on the other hand it is said that the Union Government is increasing the prices. On one hand they (farmers) are exploited and on the other hand they are exploited in another way. I think that the opposition always oppose the Government policy as a result they win the votes. If they do not oppose none is going to vote for them. They said that Dunkel will be harmful for the country but I do not think so. The farmers of our country are very intelligent and those 'Jagirdars' who want to sell inferior quality of seeds will not be able to do so now. If our farmers get good quality of imported seeds, they will be prosperous. Many rumours are being spread among the farmers. I have also the experience that at the time of the construction of the Bhakhra Dam it was said that the Government will extract power from the dam water and the remaining water in

the dam will not be useful for the agriculture purpose and it will be an obstacle in the development of the country. Such an agitation was launched by the opposition but at that time Shri Pratap Singh Kairon was the Chief Minister of Punjab who changed the minds of the people and today we can see that Punjab is leading in agriculture and the green revolution has come in the country.

Sir, earlier Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana were a Single State, called Punjab. Some small and big princely states were merged and three different States were constituted and Himachal Pradesh was allocated 7.19 percent power under the Reorganisation Act. I would like to submit that Himachal Pradesh provides electricity to States like Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan etc. Apart from it, it has the capacity to generate 20,000 MW electricity by Hydro-Power projects, but on the afore-said basis our over due on these States is 1000 crore rupees and these states are not paying this amount, on account of which the hinderances are coming in the way of the development of Himachal Pradesh. The eighth Finance Commission has also pushed us backward. My submission is that either these States should be asked to make the balance payment of the Union Government should give us long term interest free loan so that the developmental work, here can be taken up smoothly. When these States make the payment, the loan will be paid, since it is the only source of income of our state. Due consideration should be given to my suggestion so that the State Government may not suffer.

Secondly, I would like to submit that due to the deforestation the soil is flowing down. On account of it the Garhwal and other

hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh are suffering from soil erosion and dams are also being damaged. Therefore, more allocation should be made for plantation to check the problem of soil erosion.

Regarding industries, I would like to say that those industries which produce good qualities of items and which are beneficial for both people and the farmers should be encouraged but those industries should be punished which produce poor quality of items. Such people set up industries in Haryana, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and in other States and are earning profits by unfair means. Stern action should be taken against those persons and also the income tax evaders. The Union Government have issued 330 licenses to set up industries in the State. All of these have been given to NRIs but my suggestion is that the NRI's should also be sent to the backward and hilly areas. The previous State Government had waived off loans of farmers upto 10,000 rupees the farmers did not get any benefit from it but only those took advantage of it who are used to the habit of swallowing public money and keep the matters pending in the courts for years.

I want to submit that the circumstances of Laddakh area are similar to that of Kashmir. The previous State Government had imposed income tax on the people. It is a border area and people have been deputed here to safeguard the border. The Government should think over it seriously and relief should be provided to the people living in the hill areas of Laddakh.

The hon. Prime Minister has announced some good schemes for the unemployed youths and women. These should

[Shri Rajendra Agnihotri]

be implemented and the banks should be instructed to keep such cases pending. The target should be fixed, so that the amount which the Government have announced should be provided to them. Targets should be fixed for each area so that they can have the advantage of it. At present more grant should be provided to our State Government. The previous State Government had emptied the coffers but I would like to submit that we have not done so. Every penny was spent for the upliftment of the people. The centre should make every possible effort for Himachal Pradesh. Further, I would like to thank the Government for the exemplary work and maintaining co-ordination. Both the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Finance Minister are doing good work and under their stewardship the country will definitely progress.

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH (DOMARIAGANJ): Mr. Chairman, Sir, prior to the presentation of this budget, prices of the sugar and petro products were revised. I, therefore, oppose this budget. Many hon. Members have raised the issue of small scale industries. The small scale industries are growing in rural areas. 70 to 75 per cent of our population is rural. If employment opportunities are not available in rural areas, then people migrate to cities. Therefore, small scale industries should be given protection. Tax system should be streamlined to check migration to urban areas. Only a few farmers have surplus production. Some farmers own only one hectare of land. This year budget allocation for agriculture has been reduced. According to a report food grains production will be increased to 210 million tonnes by 1997. Present production is about 180 million. I urge the hon. Minister of Finance to

increase allocation for agriculture and provide subsidy on fertilizers. Rice mills should be made licence-free and levy should be withdrawn. When restrictions on many items have been withdrawn. Why restrictions have been imposed on agriculture. In my constituency there is a town called Siddharth Nagar on Indo-Nepal boarder. Not a single industry is there in this district. Sugarcane is grown there. Though a sugar mill was sanctioned in 1990, yet it has not been set up so far. Foundation stone for a 132 K.V. Power Station's was laid by the then Minister of Power Shri Kalpnath Rai in Dumariaganj. Even after five years it has not been completed. This backward area is being grossly neglected. A fertiliser plant for the entire area was there in Gorakhpur, but we, the hon. Members demanded a fertiliser within the periphery of 4-5 districts. A delegation by Mahant Abdeva Nath met the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Minister of Finance and Fertilisers but no decision has been taken in this regard so far.

Sir, rural areas can not develop till industries are set up there. Unemployment will go on increasing and youth will go astray. Therefore, I urge the hon. Minister of Finance to set up industries in the areas, where raw material is available but having no sugar factory. For this purpose provision should be made in the budget.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is the common complaint of the salaried people that businessmen evade income tax but there is no such scope for them. I urge the hon. Minister of Finance to increase income tax exemption limit from Rs. 35000 to Rs. 50000 to provide relief to the wage earners.

Sir, with these words I conclude and

thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[*English*]

SHRI P.P. KALIAPERUMAL (CUDDALORE) : Hon. Chairman, Sir, at the very outset, I salute this Government for its remarkable achievements in the past 34 months. I also salute our hon. Finance Minister for he has brought our Indian economy out of the woods. These achievements are the results of the New Economic Policy, which has been courageously launched and navigated without any fear despite the onslaught of the Opposition.

Sir, I support this Finance Bill. The objective or the basic goal of the Finance Bill is 'growth with equity'. Hence, I support this Finance Bill. In addition to that, there are very many best characters that adorn this Bill, Simple tax structure, wider tax base, no scope for evasion, no scope for litigation - these are the welcome features or the characters of this Finance Bill.

Sir, the success of the New Economic Policy demands attenuation of the accelerated fiscal deficit. The attenuation of the fiscal deficit can be achieved either by austerity measures or by augmentation of additional revenue. In India, there are about 25 crores of people, who are engulfed in eternal poverty. And 48 percent of the people are illiterate. There are 30 million unemployed youth. So we have to provide home; we have to educate the people; we have to provide employment and we have to pull the poor above the poverty line. In addition to that, hon. Chairman, Sir, there are about 44.5 million working children. We have to provide education to them. So, in this pathetic scenario, we cannot cut our

development expenditure. then, what is the next alternative? We have to cut the tax expenditure and not the development expenditure.

Our tax expenditure is very high. The present Finance Bill, I want to submit, offends none and defends all. That is the characteristics of this Finance Bill. There are innumerable reductions, permission, tax holidays and what not. Everybody wants more money, every ministry demands more outlay and every hon. Member wants more funds for his Constituency. But where is the money? So, Sir, we have to identify the additional source of revenue and without that we cannot implement or achieve our objectives. So, my submission is that we have to spread our tax net and collect more resources and implement the resources in the war against poverty.

22.46 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the chair*]

Sir, now I come to Clause 55 of the Finance Bill which is relating to Gift Tax. The exemption limit has been raised from Rs. 30,000/- to Rs. 1,00,000/-. Some hon. Members have expressed their grievances. So, this exemption will impress the people that we are encouraging dowry. Hence, I humbly request the hon. Finance Minister to reconsider this exemption. In the year 1992, there were 4962 cases of dowry deaths, in the year 1993 there were 5,374 cases of dowry deaths. These are all registered cases. In this miasmic milieu the raising of exemption limit to Rs. 1 lakh is unreasonable and unjustifiable.

Now, I come to Clause 57 regarding expenditure tax. The expenditure tax has

[Sh. P.P. Kalliaperumal

been reduced from 20 percent to 10 percent. Who are the persons residing in five star hotels? They are affluent persons, industrial magnets and foreigners. They are spending Rs. 2000/- per night for their stay. What is the wrong in collecting Rs.120/- from them for expenditure tax? So, I humbly request the hon. Finance Minister to reconsider this raising of exemption limit.

The ratio of direct taxes is very low and indirect taxes is very high. It comes to 25 percent of direct taxes and 75 percent of indirect taxes.

In other countries, the share of direct taxes is very high and that of indirect taxes is very low. In the United States of America, the share of direct taxes is 72 percent and that of indirect taxes is 28 percent. In Japan, direct taxes are 73 percent and indirect taxes are 27 percent. In Italy, it is 73 percent and 27 percent. In Belgium, it is 74 percent and 26 percent. In Germany, it is 70 percent and 30 percent. In Sweden, it is 79 percent and 21 percent. But in India, it is 25 percent and 75 percent. So, I plead for increased share of direct taxes and decreased share of indirect taxes. Then only we can achieve the objectives of our Constitution.

[Translation]

SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA (SALUMBAR) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir since less time is being allotted to me I would like to draw the attention of the House and the Government to some specific problems I have risen to support the Finance Bill presented by the Finance Minister on 28th February, 1994. Besides, I would put forth my

views on the Finance Bill and also raise some of the problems of my areas.

The Union Government has started a Tribunal Development Sub-plan in each State for the development of tribal areas. Some staff has also been appointed to run it, horse driven vehicles have been provided and administrative expenditure is also being incurred. As per my knowledge, the amount spent on administrative works is several times more than the amount spent for the development of tribal areas. It is also surprising that though this Department has been constituted for the development of Tribals has been appointed on any post in the Department. In fact, non-Tribal people have been provided jobs in the name of tribal development. Not only this crores of rupees are misused in the name of tribal development in revenue department, forest department, panchayat, etc. Work is not done as per the advise of the representatives of the Tribal areas. The schemes for the people of tribal areas are formulated in Delhi and that is the main reason for their turning into fiasco. The Forest Department spends crores of rupees on forest works by the entire responsibility is left to an ordinary employee i.e. forester. The high forest officials protect the forests sitting in offices in cities. The employees of the forest department harrass those tribals who have slogged to turn noncultivable land into cultivable land and who have been in possession of that land for the last 15-20 years. They have sunk wells on it, irrigated it and put in their hard labour. But they are harrassed by the employees of the Forest Department. When the Government is making plans for the upliftment of the tribal people, why then are they being harrassed in this way? I request the Government to be very specific about its views and tell the

House as to what measures are being taken to improve the standards of living of landless farmers and tribals to enable them to feed their families.

Recently, the Central Forest Minister had visited Madhya Pradesh. He made an announcement that those tribals who have been in possession of forest land for the last 10-15 and 20 years will be given ownership rights. I feel that all the tribals throughout the country should similarly be given ownership rights of that forest land which have been in their possession for the last 10-15 years. I demand that the rights of those tribals be regularised who have been in Udaipur, Doongarpur, Banswada, Chittorgarh, Sirohi etc. because very less land is available for cultivation in tribal areas and the tribals are not able even to produce foodgrains for four months. In such circumstances they have to wander from place to place to earn their livelihood. That is why, it is my submission to the Union Government that small scale industries be set up in tribal areas, especially in Udaipur, Doongarpur and Banswada etc. in Rajasthan. I would request the Finance Minister to accept the proposal which I have already submitted. The funds be approved for the development of the tribal areas as per that scheme. Then, the poor people will not have to run from pillar to post for livelihood.

If the development of the Tribal areas is to be taken up in real terms, then proper fencing of their land should be done. As canals are not available for irrigation there irrigation should be done through small ponds. The tribals should be given plots of land in the forest areas and the whole responsibility of protecting forest land should be given to them.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit that I am associated with labour movement also and as our colleagues have also mentioned that the income-tax limit which has been fixed is just not rational. Today an ordinary worker who earns Rs 3000 to Rs 3500 per month has to pay income tax. Today, any hon. Member had mentioned in the morning that if the black money is unearthed, then, we can have an income to the tune of Rs 200 crore whereas the income earned through imposing income-tax on employees is only Rs. 60-70 lakh. It is therefore, my submission that the black money should be unearthed and taxed. Imposition of Income-Tax on employees leads to resentment among them. Hence income tax should not be imposed on employees.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Forest Department has acquired land from the tribals in the name of forest conservation but actually the tribals are being harassed in the name of forest conservation. They have spent crores of rupees in the name of forest conservation but in fact, the forests are not being protected. The Forest Department is not doing anything to protect the forest. The forest Department erects a wall around the forest but dismantles it after a gap of a few years and then erects a new wall and this process of erecting and dismantling walls goes on less forests are not protected.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, while speaking here on Finance bill, I would like to say something on railways also that development of Railways has not taken place. All the States have broad gauge and there are double lines at some places. All kinds of railway facilities are there but there is only one line in Rajasthan and that too a metre,

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gauge where and express train runs which never reaches its destination on time. It takes 24 hours in place of the scheduled 12 hours. I would like to make a submission, through you, that Rajasthan should be provided more and more funds for the development of Railways there and double line should be laid.

Mr deputy Speaker, Sir, with these words, I conclude and thank you for allowing me to speak.

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA (KOLAR) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Finance Bill for the year 1994-95. The Hon. Finance Minister has proved that he is the best Finance Minister in the World. India's dealings with International Monetary Fund, World Bank and other international financial institutions have been very good and the credit worthness has risen. The centre's industrial liberalisation policy has helped many industries to revive. Job opportunity has increased in the country. The revolutionary steps taken by the Hon. Minister have enable the country to attain economic stability in the country.

In the coming years, we will be able to solve the problem of unemployment in the country. I thank the Hon. Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh and the Hon. Minister of state Shri M.V. Chandrashekara Murthy for this.

Farmers are getting all kinds of facilities foreign countries. They get remunerative prices for their produce. Subsidy is always available to them in many ways. In our country more than 70% of the people are depending upon agriculture. Even then

they are not encouraged to the desired extent. Dr. Manmohan Singh is aware of these facts. I urge upon him to protect the farming community.

Big farmers are cornering the major chunk of the subsidy. They apply in the name of workers, small

farmers etc. and get all the subsidy. Officials also favour them in this manipulation.

In have seen these things happening in my constituency Kolar district in Karnataka. The Centre is providing about 5000 crores of rupees as subsidy. I request the centre to increase this amount to Rs. 10000 crores. The Centre should also see that all farmers receive subsidy.

It should not be monopoly of big farmers. Small farmers should also get their share. there should not be any disparity. The farmers should get about Rs 1000 as Subsidy for every tonne of fertilizer. Farmers also should get remunerative proces. Farmers is the backbone of our economy.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. muniyappa you can make a mention about drip irrigation facilities to farmers because it is very important.

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Yes, sir, I agree with you. I request the Hon. Minister to provide drip irrigation facilities to farmers throughout the country.

Sir, Hindustan Machine Tools (HMT) manufactures watches. Unfortunately, the affairs of HMT are in doledrums. There is one factory in Tumkur and the employees there were on strike for many days. The

Srinagar Branch of HMT is incurring huge losses. I request the Centre to provide financial assistance to HMT and enable it to revive.

Bharat Earth movers Ltd. (BEML) is also facing lot of problems. The railways were placing orders for railways coaches every year. Unfortunately this year so far no orders have been placed with BEML. Kapurthala Coach Factory is getting increased orders. If this tendency continues then what will happen to BEML? This has affected the trained engineers, Mechanics and many other employees of BEML. BEML has a capacity to manufacture about one thousand coaches each year. Hence the Centre and particularly the Ministry of Railways should come to the rescue of BEML.

Bharat Gold Mines Ltd. is in my constituency. It is functioning for the last 112 years. This industry is also in crisis. BGML has got a very big modern workshop. Hence orders should be placed with BGML for manufacturing of wagons. BGML was taken over several decades ago from the Government of Mysore. Its losses are mounting every years. Standing Committee Members of the Ministry of Industry visited BGML and they have expressed the hope of revival of BGML. Experts also have the same opinion.

Gold ore is available towards north of Kolar Gold Field (KGF) upto Srinivasapura which is about 80 kms from KGF. Better grade gold can be extracted from the ore available in the above mentioned area. From each tonne of ore, 36 grams of gold can be extracted. Some persons are of the opinion that only 100 gms of gold per tonne is profitable. This issue has to be exam-

ined and urgent steps should be taken immediately in this direction.

Steel Authority of India should also be told to place orders with BGML. There is also a land of 1200 acres which belongs to BGML. This land is unutilised for the last several years. Concerned authorities should take step to utilise this land appropriately for the benefit of BGML. The cases are on the increase because management is not functioning efficiently. BGML can be revived if an amount of Rs. 50 crores is sanctioned to BGML. This is also opinion of many MBs. experts, engineers and others. The total strength of employees of BGML is about 10000. About 3 lakh workers are also engaged in various activities of BGML. Many of them are depending upon BGML for the last several decades. Today where can they go?

Sir, I am a student of History. Gupts's era is known as Golden Era. I feel that our Hon'ble Finance Minister is also leading our country to Golden Era. Our Hon. Prime Minister Shri. P.V. Narasimha Rao is like Chandra Gupta and our Hon. Finance Minister is like Chanakya. I am sure that they will lead our country to an era of progress and prosperity. Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak and with these words, I concludes my speech

[English]

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir I have listened with great interest and respect all the speeches made on both the sides of the House on the Finance Bill.

In some way, the debate on the Finance Bill turned out to be a re-play of what was

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discussed during the General Debate on the Budget itself.

Perhaps this was inevitable. Nevertheless, there were certain broad themes and these related to concern about internal debt, concern about external debt, concern about inflation and concern about the impact of tax measures, particularly of small-scale sector.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You can con-

tinue your reply tomorrow.

I thank you very much for the excellent patience that you exhibited in the House.

The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow, the 6th May, 1994.

23.11 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till
Eleven of the Clock on Friday, May 6,
1994/Vaisakha 16, 1916 (Saka)*