

of employers' and employees' organisations on the payment of Interim Relief should be sought by 30th June 1995.

In the third meeting it was decided to fix Oral Hearings to hear the views of the employers & employees organisations etc. on the issue of Interim Relief. The Oral Hearings would be held from 22nd August 1995 to 25th August 1995. As many as 22 organisations have requested for oral hearing.

[English]

ASSETS OF PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS

*180. **Shri Chetan P.S. Chauhan :**
Shri Balraj Passi :

Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the public sector banks have excess Statutory Liquidity Ratio assets;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to raise the Statutory Liquidity Ratio further;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken in that direction so far ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has intimated that public sector banks (excluding regional rural banks) had excess holding of Government and other approved securities over the prescribed Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) amounting to an estimated Rs. 22,000 crores in the fortnight ended 23rd June, 1995.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[Translation]

PROPOSALS FOR F.P.I.

*181. **Dr. P. R. Gangwar :**

Shri Lakshman Singh :

Will the **Minister of Food Processing Industries** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposals for Food Processing Industries awaiting clearance from the Union Government, State-wise;

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to clear them at the earliest; and

(c) the scheme of the Government to promote food processing industries keeping in view the increasing production of vegetables and fruits in the country ?.

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (Shri Tarun Gogoi) : (a) and (b) Under the Industrial Policy of July, 1991, all food processing industries except for distillation and brewing of

alcoholic beverages, sugar and those items reserved for small scale sector have been delicensed. However, approvals are accorded to the proposals for setting up of joint ventures, foreign collaborations, 100% EOU's, and industries requiring industrial licence on examination of the merit of the proposal and the policies in vogue on a continuing basis.

(c) Besides providing fiscal incentives, and incentives for export, the Government has formulated and is operating various Plan. schemes for assisting establishment/modernisation/upgradation of the fruits and vegetable processing industries, creation of facilities for training of rural entrepreneurs, establishment of postharvest infrastructure, generic publicity, establishment of quality control laboratories, research and development, establishment of backward linkages, etc.

[English]

FIRE IN HIGH RISE BUILDINGS

*182 **Dr. Krupasindhu Bhoi :**
Dr. Chinta Mohan :

Will the **Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of incidents of fire that occurred in the skyscrapers in New Delhi during 1994-95 and 1995-96 till date;

(b) whether such incidents are on the increase;

(c) whether several high rise buildings in Delhi are not equipped with sufficient fire safety equipments;

(d) if so, the names of such buildings and the number of buildings among them which are Government or semi-Government;

(e) the reasons for lack of provisions for fire safety arrangements in these buildings;

(f) whether the Government propose to take any steps to provide adequate fire safety arrangements in all those buildings in the near future; and

(g) if so, the time by which such arrangements are likely to be made ?

The Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shri Sheela Kaul) : (a) to (g) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

RECONSTRUCTION OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

*183 **Shri N. J. Rathva :**
Shri Phool Chand Verma :

Will the **Minister of Surface Transport** be pleased to state :

(a) the total length of National Highways in various States of the country State-wise;